

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

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

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

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

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

War Diary.

1.11.1941.
Saturday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

C.S.18 in EDINBURGH with SHEFFIELD sailed from Scapa this evening for Iceland (C).

Destroyers.

Changes in the allocation of "A" and "F" class destroyers between the Home Fleet and Western Approaches were ordered by the Admiralty today.

Dover.

Enemy coast batteries fired 2 rounds at Dover at 1422 and 1439 today. 1 naval rating was killed, but no damage was caused to naval property.

Enemy Transports.

10 large transports passed Helsingborg at 0950 and 3 more at 1050 today, going south.

PRINZ EUGEN.

The camouflage recently covering the superstructure of PRINZ EUGEN at Brest has been removed, and there are rumours of the impending sailing of the ship.

E.N. convoys passing through Pentland Firth.

E.N. convoys are to be sailed so as to pass through the Pentland Firth in daylight, but may do so in the dark hours if necessary to avoid missing an ocean convoy. The exhibition of lights in the Firth is undesirable in regard to the defence of the Fleet anchorage, but C. in C. Rosyth considers it must be accepted to avoid delay to shipping.

B.B. Convoys.

A revised schedule of sailing for B.B. Convoys (Belfast to Western U.K. ports) is to begin with B.B.97.

British Air Operations.

77 aircraft of Bomber Command attacked targets at Hamburg last night. Bremen, Dunkirk and Boulogne docks were also attacked.

/Attacks ...

War Diary.

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SITUATION REPORT.

British Air Operations - contd.

Attacks
on
Shipping.

Coastal Command aircraft last night attacked enemy convoys off the Dutch West Frisian Islands; a 7000 ton tanker and 4 merchant vessels were bombed and hit off Ameland, a 7800 ton merchantman, possibly of the REICHENFELS class was hit by a salvo of bombs and is claimed as sunk and a smaller ship was hit off Terschelling. Off the coast of Norway 4 ships and a Flakship were hit, and a tanker of the ALTMARK class, 18,000 tons, is believed to have been torpedoed at La Pallice.

Enemy Air Operations.

An enemy aircraft dropped 8 bombs near a fishing trawler north of Mygganaes at 1159 today without causing any damage.

At 1300 an enemy aircraft passed over Scapa Flow at 20,000 feet and would have had a good view of the Flow.

^{Yacht}
A/P ~~Trawler~~ TYRANT was attacked at 2230 today when 8 miles East of St. Govans Light Vessel. No damage or casualties were caused, but S.S. PORTHMONA, attacked a few minutes later by the same aircraft, had two casualties.

Mining.

Operation
S.N.83 A.

R.A.M. in MENESTHEUS with WELSHMAN and PORT QUEBEC arrived at Port Z.A. and SHEFFIELD returned to Scapa, this evening (see 30/10).

/7 aircraft ...

War Diary.

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SITUATION REPORT.

Mining - Contd.

7 aircraft laid mines last night off the Frisian Islands, 5 in Kiel harbour and 5 in the Jade and Weser rivers.

Bristol Channel.

All Bristol Channel ports were open to traffic from 1400 to 2100 today. Normal working from Cardiff, Penarth and Barry will be resumed from 0500/2, but Watchet, River Parret ports, Newport and ports East of Newport will continue to be subject to restrictions.

Vichy Ships.

Additional instructions for the recruiting for Free French Forces of personnel from captured Vichy French ships were promulgated today by the Admiralty.

North Atlantic.

S.O. Force H. transferred his flag to MALAYA today.

Portuguese Naval authorities are still considering the proposal made on 22/10 to base the rescue tug SALVONIA at the Azores or Funchal, but are rather alarmed at a possible German protest.

War Diary.

1.11.1941.
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SITUATION REPORT.

South Atlantic.

Operation
"Bellringer".
Boarding
Operation
"Mud".

At 1800B today SOUTHERN BARRIER, Auxiliary M/S vessel of the Seaward Defence Force, Union of South Africa, sighted the convoy of 5 ships escorted by the sloop D'IBERVILLE which sailed from Tamatave on 24/10, in 36.04 S., 34.44 E. (about 450 miles south of Durban) proceeding on a course of 250° at about 8 knots. COLOMBO and CARTHAGE were ordered to shadow until the arrival of DEVONSHIRE and CARNARVON CASTLE, (which left Simonstown at 1005B/1) when a boarding operation was to begin. These four ships are to form Force F.

Mediterranean.

CENTURION.

C. in C. Med. has been asked if he sees any useful purpose for which CENTURION can be used. If the reply is negative, S.O. Force G. is to report any proposal he may have for using CENTURION to confuse our possible enemies as to the strength of our capital ship force in Eastern waters.

R.A.C.S.15.

The flag of Rear Admiral P.L.Vian D.S.O. as R.A. Commanding C.S.15 was hoisted in NAIAD today.

Attack on
Naples and
Palermo.

8 Wellingtons from Malta attacked Naples last night and 6 Palermo. The torpedo factory, airframe factory and railway station at Naples were hit, and the main power station at Palermo.

Wellingtons at 2120 today attacked two merchantmen escorted by a destroyer 110 miles west of Derna and dropped a salvo of six bombs directly on to one of the two ships.

Libya and
Western
Desert.

9 Marylands bombed Derna harbour and aerodrome this afternoon.

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SITUATION REPORT.

America and West Indies.

Wabana
Convoys.

Commodore, Newfoundland, in view of present U-boat dispositions and for other reasons, strongly urges that Wabana convoys be discontinued and ships sailed to Sydney C.B. or Halifax for convoy.

U.S.
Submarines.

Of the 2 U.S. submarines for transfer to Britain, R.3 will be renumbered P.511 and manned by British naval crew and S.25 will be renumbered P.551 and manned by Polish naval crew. They are to be taken over on 4/11 and are due to sail from New London for U.K. on 11/11.

Degaussing.

American ships can be accepted for convoy to Iceland or Archangel undegaussed if they would otherwise miss convoy.

U-Boat Campaign.

O.S.10.

At 1650N today GORLESTON and VERBENA, escorting O.S.10 attacked and probably destroyed a U-boat in 48° 35' N. 25° (?) 15' W.

BUXTON.

The ex-American destroyer BUXTON reported she was attacked by a U-boat 15 miles astern of H.X.156, in 54.30 N., 22.40 W. at 1023A today.

The U.S. fleet tug CHEROKEE obtained contact with a U-Boat at 1715 G.C.T. today in 47.12 N., 43.30 W.

War Diary.

1.11.1941:
Saturday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Policy.

COMMANDANT
DETROYAT,
COMMANDANT
DROGOU,
LA MOQUEUSE.

It is intended that COMMANDANT DETROYAT shall be available to you for escort duty in Western Approaches until the completion of work up of COMMANDANT DROGOU.

2. It is anticipated that DROGOU will be ready about the end of January when she will be allocated, with DETROYAT, to French Equatorial Africa.

3. It is anticipated that ^{LA}MOQUEUSE will be required to tow one of two Chasseurs intended for Pointe Noire when the latter are ready. In the meantime, MOQUEUSE may be employed on escort duty in Western Approaches.

(A.C.N.S. H., 1224A/1)
Admiralty's 1224A/1. LA MOQUEUSE is to be employed in the Irish Sea Escort Force.
(C. in C. W.A., 1659A/1)

Allocation
of A and F
class
Destroyers.

The following changes in allocation of A and F class destroyers are to take place.

ARROW, ANTELOPE, ACTIVE, ANTHONY, ACHATES from H.F. to W.A. on completion of present and forthcoming refits.

2. FAULKNER, FORESTER, FORESIGHT, FURY to Home Fleet, the former on completion of refit about 7th November, the three latter about end of November on completion of special duties for which they are at present detailed.

3. FORTUNE, FOXHOUND, FIREDRAKE and FAME to W.A. on completion of refits as already arranged.
(A.C.N.S. H., 1327A/1)

Co-operation with Russia.

NORMAN.

My 1911A/31. The 6 Russians are not now expected. The 6 British delegates will probably proceed direct by air. (A.C.O.S. 1124A/1)

See also p 8.

Russians for
U.K.

Understand you are giving passage to Kouznetsov and 5 other men and Ouspenskaia and another woman.

Request rank and details of these travellers and reasons for their visit. Signals from Admiral Miles giving this information have arrived corrupt. (N.I.D., 1456A/1 to NORFOLK).

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HOME COMMANDS.

Movements.

DUKE OF YORK,
BERWICK,
TARTAR.

Scapa departure BERWICK, PUNJABI, and ESCAPADE.
(A.C.O.S., 0431A/1)
C. in C. Nore's 1020A/31. R/V with DUKE OF YORK off May Island at 0900 tomorrow. DUKE OF YORK escorted by BERWICK, PUNJABI, ESCAPADE pass Oxcars at 0800/2. When met provide additional escort to Scapa and for exercises to westward. (R.A.D.H.F., 1200A/1 to TARTAR). DUKE OF YORK is to take BERWICK, PUNJABI, and ESCAPADE under his orders and sail from Rosyth at 0715 tomorrow proceeding to Scapa carrying out 14 inch firing and trials on passage to arrive 1430/3. TARTAR will R/V off May Island at 0900/2 and act as additional escort in accordance with R.A.(D) H.F. 1200/1. (C. in C. Rosyth, 1521/1)
Arrivals BERWICK, PUNJABI, ESCAPADE.
(C. in C. Rosyth, 1601/1).

SHEFFIELD,
EDINBURGH.

Scapa arrival SHEFFIELD.
(A.C.O.S., 0837A/1)
C. in C. H.F. 1836A/31. Intend to sail in EDINBURGH with SHEFFIELD in company passing Hoxa Gate at 2030A/1. Route to approach channel E.T.A. 1200A/3. (C.S., 1005A/1)
Scapa departure C.S.18 in EDINBURGH with SHEFFIELD E.T.A. Hvalfjord 1200/3.
(A.C.O.S., 2036A/1)

P.36.

P.36 leaves patrol after dark 2nd. diving by day through the following positions, to R/V South Eastern end of Q.Z.S. 169 at 0730A/6th. (Capt. S.5., 0915A/1)
S.B.R. arranged as follows.
(Capt. S.5., 1600A/1 to P.36.)

P.35.

Intend sailing P.35 escorted by LEICESTER CITY at 0800A/2nd routed as follows passing east of Orkneys and Fair Island to patrol area C.3. LEICESTER CITY to part company in latitude Muckle Flugga and return to Scapa. P.35 to proceed independently diving by day after parting company with LEICESTER CITY.
(A.C.O.S., 1240A/1)

/Destroyers....

War Diary.

1.11.1941.
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SITUATION REPORT.

Movements. - Contd.

Destroyers
in North
Russia.

The possibility exists that conditions at Archangel may be unsuitable for Destroyers and they should be prepared to go on to Murmansk for fuel. Using one boiler only with second at 15 minutes' notice for majority of passage they have ample endurance without fuelling at sea.

(F.O. 1st C.S., 1713C/1 to C. in C. H.F.)

MAORI.
(Norwegian
Officers).

A.M. 2153/14. Rear Admiral H.E. Diesen K.C.B. late C. in C. Royal Norwegian Navy and his Flag Lieutenant, Lieutenant Tore Holthe will embark in MAORI at Clyde on 12/11 for passage to Gibraltar. (A.C.N.S. F., 1936A/1)

UNA.

(i) Intend to sail UNA escorted by CUTTY SARK at 1800A/4 for position 270° Wolf Rock 3 miles E.T.A. 1900A/6.

(ii) Thence CUTTY SARK returns to Holy Loch.

(iii) Thence UNA through following positions to patrol in Bay of Biscay South.

(iv) UNA if available leave patrol after dark on 12th.

(vi) N.O.I.C. Greenock, is requested to arrange fighter co-operation as follows.

(Capt. S.3., 2201A/1)

NORMAN

A.C.O.S., 1911A/31 and my 1730C/26. Arrived 3 hours early.

(NORMAN, 2330A/1 to N.O.I.C. Thurso)

See p. 6

Operations.

Operation
"Table".

Arrivals T.H. Vessels BEACON and DISCOVERY II escorted by A/S Trawler PHILOMENA. Weather unsuitable. Intend sailing vessels for operation "Table" at 0900 tomorrow.

(F.O.I.C. Harwich, 1003A/1)

Operation
"Pantaloon".

ARGUS.
ATHENE.

Request A/C protection for one aircraft carrier, one aircraft transport, and one destroyer from daylight 2nd, to limit of endurance.

Leave Clyde Boom 2340A/1 to I.C. 8392 at 0900A/2 thence to westward course (?210°) speed of advance 15 knots. 3 destroyers join I.C. 8392.

(N.O.I.C., Greenock, 1006A/1 to H.Q. 13 and 82 Groups)

My 1004A/1. Sailed.

(N.O.I.C. Greenock, 2348A/1)

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HOME COMMANDS.

Operations. - Contd.

Archangel.

Offer of Home Fleet ships to assist any tasks arranged by S.B.N.O. Murmansk. (C. in C. H.F., 1341A/1 to S.B.N.O. Archangel - see U-boat Campaign)

Dover Shelled.

Enemy coastal batteries fired two single rounds at 1422 and 1439 today. One fell in the town and one in the sea. One naval rating, one soldier, and one civilian killed. Two naval ratings and two soldiers wounded. No damage to naval property. (V.A. Dover, 1609A/1)

Exercise L.3.

To implement agreed policy for training Communication Ratings for combined operations it is necessary for C.Q.2 to loan signal ratings required by V.A.C.T.C. for course starting A.M./3 The minimum number of signal ratings required for forthcoming Exercise L.3. is to be provided for that Exercise. In the event of an operation being ordered requisite communication ratings will be provided. (D. of P. 1907A/1 to V.A. C.T.C.)

British Air Activity.

Patrols.

My 1839/31. "Stab" 0%, "Bert" 65%, "Stand" 65%. (C. in C. Rosyth, 0015/1)
P.R.U. of Bergen, Haugesund, Stavanger, Kristiansand, and Aalesund now in operation. "Hornli" taking off shortly. (C. in C. Rosyth, 1023/1)
My 1023/1 "Hornli" - 100%. (C. in C. Rosyth, 1857/1)

Enemy Convoy attacked. One Tanker hit.

10 Merchant vessels bearing 080° distance 1 mile, course 060°. My position 3030. (A/C, L, 407, 0022/1 to Chatham).
Convoy attacked in 53° 20' N., 4° 48' E. (A/C L.407, 0040/1 to North Coates).
8 Merchant vessels bearing 340° distance 6 miles from Ameland Light. (A/C 0045/1 to Chatham).
Bombed and hit Tanker. Own aircraft damaged, hydraulic system destroyed. (A/C 2 of S. Squadron 0115/1 to North Coates).
8 M/Vs in 53° 25' N., 4° 55' E., attacked. (A/C H/407, 0220/1)

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HOME COMMANDS.

Enemy Air Activity.

Convoy
F.N.539
NICOLAOS
PIANGOS.
(Greek,
4499 tons)
sunk.
BRITISH
FORTUNE.
(British
Tanker,
4696 tons)
sunk.

About 1900/31 NICOLAOS PIANGOS bombed and set on fire, later grounded on North End of Shipwash Bank and broke in two. Still burning. Survivors landed by GUILLEMOT at Harwich. 8 men missing.
At time at present unknown BRITISH FORTUNE bombed and sunk in about 265° Aldeburgh Light buoy one mile. 23 survivors in steamship CORCHESTER. (C. in C. Nore, 0043A/1) Master and crew of nine from BRITISH FORTUNE landed Grimsby. Uninjured. Master states ship bombed off Aldeburgh Buoy at 1900/31, sank in same position at 1930/31. (F.O. Humber, 1440A/1)

Faeroes,
Trawler
Attacked.

1 enemy aircraft dropped 8 bombs near fishing trawler North of Mygganaes at 1159 today. No apparent damage. Subsequently reported flying east of Nolso and off Sumbo lighthouse. (N.O.I.C. Faeroes, 1250A/1)

?Condor
A/C.

RR. One (?Condor A/C or Cruiser) in 52° 55' N., 12° 48' W. (AC. Group 15, Duty P., 1315/1)

Scapa.

At 1300 enemy A/C was seen to pass over the Flow height 20,000 feet west to East. Ground defences engaged. Fighters failed to contact. Enemy aircraft would have had good view of Flow. (A.C.O.S., 1315/1)

Murmansk.

Two enemy R/C A/C over Murmansk. No bombs dropped. Russians claim one Ju. 88 shot down into sea off Fisherman's Island by Hurricane. (151 Wing, 1800/31).

Mining.

32nd
Oropesa
Group.

Sailed. E.T.A. 1730. (N.O.I.C. Leith 0730/1 to N.O.I.C. Dundee).

Bristol
Channel.

All Bristol Channel Ports without exception will be open to traffic from 1400 until 2100 today. Normal working from Cardiff, Penarth, and Barry will be resumed from 0500/2 but Watchet, River Parret ports, Newport and Ports East of Newport will continue to be subject to restrictions. (F.O.I.C. Cardiff, 1028A/1)

S.N.83A.

Arrival R.A.(M) in MENESTHEUS, WELSHMAN, PORT QUEBEC, BRIGHTON. (N.O.I.C. Port Z.A. 2201/1)

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HOME COMMANDS.

Enemy Intelligence.

13 Transports
in
The Sound.

Ten large transports passed Helsingborg at 0950 hours and three more at 1050 hours today all going south. Ships directly observed by British Consular official.
(British Consul, Goteborg, 1233/1)

PRINZ
EUGEN.

A detailed examination of photographs taken on 30 October shows that the camouflage recently covering the superstructure of the PRINZ EUGEN at Brest has been removed. The white camouflage over the bow and stern remains in place. There are rumours of the impending sailing of this ship. (D.D.I.C., 2235A/1)

Casualties & Defects.

LAGUNA
BELLE.

My 1600/31. ^{SEA GIANT} Returned with P.M.S. in tow.
(F.O.I.C. Tyne, 0705/1)

SNOWDROP.

Returned Sunderland with engine room defects. Will not be ready for sea for at least six days. (F.O.I.C. Tyne 1101/1)

DUNDEE.

N.C.SO. Reykjavik 0847/27. Firth of Forth fish carrier DUNDEE due Scrabster 1700/28 has not arrived. (A.C.O.S., 1235A/1)

ALEX WATTS

(Crail torpedo recovery wooden drifter). Collided with jetty in Anstruther Inner Harbour at 0050 today. Considerable damage to stem and vessel is not seaworthy. Vessel is beached in Anstruther Harbour. (N.O.I.C. Methil, 1258/1)

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HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping & Convoys.

C.T.5.

Following ships sailed U.K.30/10. Composition and details. (D. of S.T., 0720A/1) See Lion Copy.

C.T.6.

My 0314/31. Sailing of C.T.6 has been postponed by 48 hours. Embarkation of A.10 and A.18 will be delayed correspondingly. Arrangements for W.S.12 Z are not altered. (D. of S.T., 0722A/1, to P.S.T.O. W. of Scotland).

W.P.60.

Ships for "Steward" and "Sapper" Group are to proceed independently to Swansea Bay and to be sailed therefrom at 0900/2 and 1000/2., respectively. (F.O.I.C. Cardiff, 1028A/1).

E.N.1. and
E.N. Convoys
in Pentland
Firth.

A.C.O.S. 1822/31/10. Sailing of E.N.1. will be adjusted so as to pass through Pentland Firth in daylight. It appears necessary that on some occasions E.N. convoys must pass through the Pentland Firth in dark hours in order that ships shall not miss the sailing of an ocean convoy. I appreciate that exhibition of lights in the Pentland Firth is generally undesirable having regard to the defence of the Fleet anchorage but I consider this must be weighed against the necessity of East Coast Shipping connecting with ocean convoys with least possible delay. I therefore propose that, in general, E.N. convoys should be sailed so as to pass through the Pentland Firth in daylight, but that when this is impracticable for other considerations the passage of the Pentland Firth should be made in the dark hours with the necessary exhibition of lights. (C. in C. Rosyth, 1519/1)

Stranraer -
Larne and
Stranraer -
Belfast
Ferries.

Codeword "Gamma". Additional sailings will leave Stranraer 1100A for Larne and 1400A for Belfast on each of following dates, 2/11, 3/11, 5/11, 8/11, and subsequently daily until 22/11. Ships conveying military personnel, S. of A. approx. 22 knots. Request air co-operation already provided for codeword "Gamma", may be extended to cover these additional sailings. (N.O.I.C. Greenock, 1614A/1)

/BB.....

MOST SECRET

MOST SECRET

MESSAGE

OUT

0720A/1st November.

TO: N.S.H.Q. Ottawa.
Repeated: C.O.A.C. Halifax.
C. in C. America & West Indies.
B.A.D. Washington.

Date: 1.11.41.

Naval Cypher D.

FROM: Director of Sea Transport.

Following ships sailed U.K. 30.10. in Convoy
C.T.5.

Code No.	Ship	Personnel	Baggage in tons d.w.
A.1	ANDES	3169	262
A.7	DUCHESS OF ATHOLL.	3128	250
A.13	ORCADES	3279	276
A.15	ORONSAY	3124	294
A.16	REINA DEL PACIFICO	2452	184
A.17.	SOBIESKI	2108	138½
A.19.	WARWICK CASTLE	1475	88
A.20.	DURBAN CASTLE	1222	38.

2. All personnel are for Middle East except following for Canada. REINA DEL PACIFICO 1 DURBAN CASTLE 497. Personnel for Middle East will transfer to vessels of W.S.12.X.

3. My 0744/22 not to all addressees following numbers of blankets are on board. DUCHESS OF ATHOLL 20,000 SOBIESKI 20,000 WARWICK CASTLE 30,970. Total 70,970. 60,000 of these are for transfer to W.S.12.X. Ships. Balance of 10,970 should be taken on charge by HUBAND for bedding establishment at Halifax.

4. Vessels of C.T.5. will return to U.K. in convoy T.C.15.

0720A/1.

D. of S.T. M.W.T.Extn.2187

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

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HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping & Convoys - Contd.

B.B. Convoys.

The following revised schedule of sailing of B.B. convoys is to be brought into force commencing with B.B.97.

2. B.B. convoys are to leave Belfast between the hours of 0001 and 0200Z days. They will thus arrive off position "X" between 1400 and 1600 and off Milford Haven between 0800 and 1000 Z + 1 day.

3. Position "X", the R/V for the Holyhead ships, is to be moved 3 miles to the westward to a position 270° South Stack 11 miles.

4. Until further orders all convoys, whether north or southbound, are to use the alternative route, which is 3 miles either side of a line joining positions "G" and "K".

(C. in C. W.A., 1702A/1)

Warmest congratulations on bringing home another convoy safely. (C. in C. W.A., 1829A/1 to Rear-Admiral F.B. Watson).

Convoy
S.C.49.

Warmest congratulations on the safe arrival in the U.K. of your convoy S.C.49.
(C. in C. W.A., 1833A/1 to Commodore C.M. Ford, R.N.R.)

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FOREIGN STATIONS.

General.

Vichy
French
Ships.

My 2217/28/6 and C.A.F.O. 1372/41. Following additional instructions for recruiting for Free French Forces of officers, crews and passengers from captured Vichy French ships are notified. (Head of M., 2103A/1 to Cs in C. etc.) See Lion Copy.

North Atlantic.

O.S.9 G.

Arrivals STONECROP, LEITH, FOWEY, WILD SWAN, ISAAC SWEERS, escorting O.S.9 G. (F.O.C.N.A. 0716A/1.)

TETRARCH.

Report your P.C. and S. forthwith. (F.O.C.N.A. 0938A/1 to TETRARCH.)

Rescue Tug,
Azores.

Your 195CA/31. Question of rescue tug still being considered by Portuguese Naval Authorities who are rather alarmed at possible German protest. (N.A. Lisbon, 1051/1 to Admty.)

SARASTONE
(sunk 29/10)

My 2340A/30. Following signals from Consul Huelva passed for information, 0330/30, 1500/30, 1200/31, Cadiz Navigation warning. LOCH OSKAIG has been instructed to try to fix position of wreck and report result by W/T. (V.A.C.N.A. 1102A/1 to Admty.)

S.L.91 G.

Sailed convoy S.L.91 G. CARNATION. Local escort SIKH, VIDETTE, AZALEA, STELLA CARINA, LADY HOGARTH. (F.O.C.N.A. 1732A/1 to Admty. etc.)

SURVILLE
(French)

My 1019/31. Sailed 1700 today. (N.A. Lisbon 1921/1 to F.O.C.N.A.)

H.G.76.

Request you will issue necessary orders for DEPTFORD, AUDACITY, SAMPHIRE, PENTSTEMON, CONVULVULUS, VETCH, MARIGOLD, COWSLIP, RHODODENDRON, to bring back H.G.76. (C. in C. W.A. 1943A/1 to F.O.C.N.A.)

/s.S.COURDONNE ...

SECRET

MESSAGE

2103A/1st Nov. 14^A
OUT.

To: C. in C. America & West Indies 970. Date: 1.11.41.
C. in C. South Atlantic, 926.
F.O.C. North Atlantic, 870.
N.O.i/c Durban.
F.O.i/c Simonstown, 829.
Repeated C. in C. China 217.
C. in C. Mediterranean 673.
N.S.H.Q. Ottawa 696.

Naval Cypher (X)

From Admiralty.

BASEGRAM. NITE.

My 2217/28 June and C.A.F.O. 1372/41. The following additional instructions for recruiting for the Free French Forces, the officers, crews and passengers from captured Vichy French ships are notified:-

- (a) all sailors under thirty should be informed that they would join the Free French Navy in the first place. It would later be decided whether they should continue in the Free French Navy or be sent to the Free French Merchant Navy which decision would depend upon requirements as assessed by the Admiral Commanding the F.N.F.L;
- (b) men over thirty would have the right to opt either for the Free French Navy or for the Free French Merchant Service, but any seamen who turn out to be French Naval ratings should definitely not be allowed to opt for the Merchant Service;
- (c) no seaman should be allowed to join any other fighting force but the Free French Navy without the concurrence of the Free French authorities.

The following supplementary instructions are also to be brought into force:-

(i)/

- (i) attention is to be drawn to necessity for all officers and officials concerned to realize the importance of obtaining every possible recruit for the Free French Navy and Mercantile Marine;
- (ii) examination of officers and men from Vichy ships to be undertaken whenever possible by representatives of Free French Forces, British authorities giving them every possible facility as regards boats, and boarding of ships generally, etc. In the absence of the above representatives British Officers to be guided by the instructions outlined in the following paragraphs;
- (iii) ratings to be segregated from officers during interviews. Each individual officer, man and passenger to be interviewed separately. The Master of the ship, unless favourably disposed to the Free French, not to be present at any of the interviews. Any personal papers which may be taken for examination by the British authorities from men who volunteer must be returned to their individual owners, and not kept or entrusted to a third party;
- (iv) as soon as a Vichy ship reaches an Allied port, officers, officials and passengers showing strong Vichy sympathies to be taken off the ship and kept out of her for such time as is required for the necessary propaganda to be effected among those left on board;

- (v) as soon as practicable after a Vichy ship has been intercepted the names of her Master and principal officers to be signalled to the Admiralty for transmission to the F.N.F.L. authorities;
- (vi) unless there are urgent reasons for doing otherwise, the French flag not to be lowered when the vessel is seized but to remain flying until the disposal of the crew has been settled and the ship definitely taken over for service under the Ministry of War Transport;
- (vii) as soon as possible after recruiting for Free French Forces has been completed, all who have not volunteered, whether crew or passengers, to be finally disembarked;

Reference (1) and (4) of telegram quoted:-

Any amount due by way of arrears of wages on current French articles and in lieu of Vichy Government bonus should be paid, where the personnel concerned join (A) Free French Merchant Service or (B) the Free French Navy. The Ministry of War Transport should make payments for (A) and Naval Authorities for (B).

Please communicate above to local Ministry of War Transport representative.

2103A/1.
for Head of M. (808)

1st Lord	D. of P. (3)	Approved by A.C.N.S. (T)
1st S.L.	D.T.D. (4)	2nd Sea Lord.
2nd S.L.	D.T.D. (M)	
V.C.N.S.	N.A. (F) 2nd S.L.	
A.C.N.S. (F)	D. of S.T. (2)	
A.C.N.S. (T) (2)	I.P. (3)	
Naval Sec.	W.D.	
N.A. 1st S.L.	M. (40) (French distribution plus M/W.T.,	
Ops. (4)	C.O., D.O., W.O. and F.O. for issue	
O.D. (5)	to local authorities as necessary.)	
D.N.I. (4)	M. 34 (M. 013485/41) (for C.A.F.O.) -	
	Admiral Chalmers.	

War Diary.

1.11.1941.
Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic - contd.

S.S.
COURDONNES.
(French)

Arrived Pasajes from Bayonne 30/10 Cargo detected to be wood pulp. Left for Bilbao same date. (V.C. San Sebastian 2100/1 to M.E.W.)

BARON
NEWLANDS.
(Bombed 29/10)

Messages 0330/30 and 1500/30 from Gibraltar only received in Admty. 1730/1. Messages 2322/30 referred to in Gibraltar 1200/31 cannot be traced and latter only received 1527/1. In view of Gibraltar's 1200/31, request you will sail BARON NEWLANDS at your discretion. (A.C.N.S.(T) 2318A/1 to F.O.C.N.A.)

South Atlantic.

21 Military
survivors ex
SHARISTAN.

Your 1058/30. DESIRADE has accommodation and could do this. (C. in C. S.A. 1116N/1 to Admty.)

AQUITANIA.

Your 2219/27 Para.3. (? Dept. of Defence, Union of S. Africa) (? are not) in favour of using AQUITANIA for embarking troops in Table Bay. Reasons. If it is decided to utilise ships 2 tankers will have to be provided, one for fuel and one for water and from past experience risks of damage to these from unfavourable weather will have to be accepted. Request early decision. (N.O.I.C. Simonstown 1259B/1 to Admty.) See also East Indies 1507A/1.

Operation
"Bellringer".

SOUTHERN BARRIER, S.D.F. Minesweeper, has sighted 5 ships and Sloop in 36° 04' S. 34° 44' E. at 1800/1. COLOMBO proceeding to make contact. F.O.I/C Simonstown plan is to shadow with COLOMBO and CARTHAGE until DEVONSHIRE and CARNARVON CASTLE join and then to start boarding operation. (C. in C. S.A. 1941N/1 to Admty.) Simonstown departures 1005B/1 DEVONSHIRE and CARNARVON CASTLE, speed 17 knots, to R/V with COLOMBO and CARTHAGE to form Force F. for operation "Bellringer". (N.O.I.C. Simonstown, 2333B/1 to Admty.)

/Convoy ...

War Diary.1.11.1941.
Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic.Operation
"Bellringer"
contd.

Convoy of 5 ships and one sloop sighted by Seaward Defence Force vessel at 1800B/1 in 036° 09' S. 034° 44' E. course 250° speed about 8 knots. Force F. is endeavouring to intercept.

(N.O.I.C. Simonstown, 2353B/1 to Admty. etc.)

W.D. Note.- Latitude here given (09' S) differs from 1941N/1 (04' S).

R.A.S.A.D.
Visit to
Falklands.
in BIRMINGHAM.

Your 1458Z/27. Concur in your visit to Falkland Is. after ASTURIAS joins your flag on completion of escort of DERWENTDALE, but would rather you waited till DEVONSHIRE leaves Cape northbound, date of which is not yet settled. Will communicate this as soon as known.
(C. in C. S.A. 2337N/1 to R.A.S.A.D.)

Mediterranean.M/V
damaged.

Malta reports that Wellington aircraft attacked an enemy convoy 110 miles W. of Ras Aamer, near Derna, at 2120/1. Convoy consisted of 2 M/Vs of 5000 tons and 6000 tons escorted by a destroyer. 6 direct hits were scored on the 6000 ton M/V which was left stationary emitting clouds of black and white smoke. (D.O.R. 3/11 D.S.790. No signal in W.D.)

CENTURION.

Request whether any useful purpose for which CENTURION can be used in near future. If report is in the negative, S.O. Force G. should report any proposal he may have for using CENTURION in such a manner as to confuse our possible enemies as to the strength of our capital ship force in Eastern Waters.
(1st S.L. 0044A/1 to C. in C. Med.)

/Enemy ...

War Diary.1.11.1941.
Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean - contd.Enemy Shipping routes.

TRIUMPH reports all ships in Gulf of Athens use searched channels Eastward of Phleva. Trawlers patrol Area Eastward St. Georgio. Regular Caique traffic Mandri and Euripo Channel. (Capt. S.1, 0201B/1 to PROTEUS.)

TAMPICO (Italian)

My 1005B/? 17. TAMPICO passed in transit for Trieste 830 G.M.T. with 5000 tons of gas oil. (S.O.I. Istanbul, 1045B/1, to S.O.I. Med.) This tanker passed into Black Sea on 30/8. There are still 2 Italian tankers, ALBARO and SUPERGA in Black Sea, though there have been unconfirmed reports that SUPERGA was sunk by the Russians. (D.S. 789, 2/11.)

Bardia bombed.

2 F.A.A. Albacores on offensive night R/cs of area Bardia-Gambut-Oersa Lukk attacked building near Bardia and dump 3 miles East of Gambut causing violent explosion at latter. (H.Q., M.E., 1111/1)

U/Boat.

Sighted 1220B/1, near miss by 1 bomb. (Capt. S.1, 1531B/1) See U-Boat Campaign.

Axis Shipping.

Departure 31/10 COETLOGON French, MAURO CROCE, Italian, Valencia; ATLAS, Sagunto. (Barcelona, 1333/1, to Admty.)

UNIQUE.

My 1123A/31. UNIQUE route altered to 035° 20' 014° 14' and 034° 30' 015° 00' to arrive 032° 45' 019° 12' at 0001B/5. (Capt. S.10, 1625A/1 to THRASHER)

Naples and Palermo bombed.

(A) 14 Wellingtons dispatched attack factory Naples with merchant shipping Palermo alternative target. Bombs dropped 3 x 4,000 lbs., 4 x 1,000 lbs, 29 x 500 lb. G.P.4 x 500 lb. S.A.P.12 x 100 lbs and 7200 lbs. incendiaries. 8 Wellingtons attacked Naples, 6 attacked Palermo after finding Naples under low cloud. Time over target Naples 1850-0055 hours, Palermo 2155-0034 hours. Results, Naples 4,000 lb. bomb hit torpedo factory, other bombs area airframe factory and railway station. Palermo hits main power station, etc. (H.Q., Malta, 2156/1.)

Flag of R.A.C.S.15.

See 2/11. p. 39.

War Diary.

1.11.1941.
Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

C.M.22.

Your 1835/29. Escort will be available on 16th at Durban. Convoy will be known as C.M.22. (C.in C.E.I. 0806Z/1 to Admty.).

AQUITANIA.

As AQUITANIA cannot be delayed if she is to reach Capetown in time to comply with my 1835A/29 she should be sailed from Colombo for Capetown as soon as fuelling is completed.(2). If report from F.O.I.C.Simonstown called for by A.M. 2219A/27 is unfavourable she should be diverted at sea to Singapore. (D.O.D.(F) 1507A/1 to C.in C.E.I.).

China.

Axis Shipping.

Shanghai. Departure 1300Z/31 German QUITO with general cargo, including copper lead, motor car tyres, and drum paint and oil. Loading was done from Japanese Charter Lighter under Japanese supervision.

Yugo Slavia ship TOMISLAV boarded by 3 officers and 26 men from CONTE VERDE (Italian) on 28/10. -Italian Consular Officer informed master that ship now LLOYD TRIESTINO. Kobe departure about 22/10 Italian CORTELLAZZO. Arrival 27/10 German MUNSTERLAND.(476). (C.O.I.S.Singapore 0301Z/1 to Admty.etc.).

NORVIKEN.

Norwegian NORVIKEN left Hong Kong 23/10 for Singapore. Overdue three days. (S.O.I.)Singapore 0741Z/1 to C.in C. China.).

War Diary.1.11.1941.
Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies.PANDORA.

My 1718R/9/10 and my 1022R/16/10. If trials and working up practices proceed according to programme PANDORA will sail from New London for Bermuda on Wednesday 3/12.
(B.A.R.M. 0918R/1 to Admty.).

Suspicious tanker.

On 21/10 a 3,000 ton tanker with Portuguese colours painted aft and XOSANTA PRINCESSA-Portugal amidships was sighted stopped in 44° 24' N. 49° 42' W. Description. Possible tanker may have been a German supply ship.
(D.D.I.C. 1234A/1 to Opnav, C.in C. A.W.I.).
? X SANTA PRINCEZA intended

Refits of corvettes.

Your 1245Z/8/10 and N.S.H.Q. 1559/21/10. Intended that MAYFLOWER should follow DIANTHUS and EYEBRIGHT arriving about 14/11. DIANTHUS will probably complete about end of November. Four corvettes can be accepted simultaneously commencing late November. Free French Corvettes themselves are not objected to but State Dept. prefers they should not be sent, owing to nationality of crew over desertions and difficulties with Vichy Gov. and fact that they have no diplomatic representative in U.S.A.
(B.A.R.M. 1334R/1 to Admty.).

Repair base, Port Sudan.

Maxwell mission requires following information, (?Light) craft repair base Port Sudan.
(B.A.D. 1341R/1 to Admty. amended 1831R/3).

Reporting of Convoy Positions.

Instructions have been received from Comtask Force 4 to notify Canadian Escort Units that Admty. 1149A/13/10 573 A.Z, does not apply West of 22° W. Before I promulgate to Canadian Escort Units request confirmation that Canadian Escort Units are not to comply with 573 A.Z., as it was understood that such reports would be of great value to Opnav in estimating situation in N. Atlantic.
(C.C.N.F. 1401Z/1 to B.A.D.).
Your 1401/1. Matter still under active consideration by Navy Dept. Suggest you delay action pending further signal from B.A.D.
(B.A.D. 1529R/1 to C.C.N.F.) See also 1155/2.

/ R/C.....

War Diary.1.11.1941.
Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies. -Contd.R/C
Patrols.

Admty. 0159/1. E.A.C. have arranged for R/C patrols weather permitting. No. R.C.N. ships are immediately available for Belle Isle patrol. (N.S.H.Q. Ottawa 1436Z/1 to Admty. etc.).

Wabana
convoys.

In view of present dispositions of U-boats off Newfoundland and reasons given below, strongly urge Wabana convoys be discontinued forthwith and ships be sailed to Sydney (C.B.) or Halifax for convoy.

(1) Wabana anchorage has no A/S protection. Undesirable to keep ships waiting there for convoy.

(2) St. John's N.F. quite unsuitable as convoy assembly port due to congestion and lack of means to enforce proper control over Merchant ships.

(3) On several occasions ships have missed S.C. convoys due to failure to effect junction owing to heavy weather, etc.

(4) Additional R/V off St. John's N.F. most desirable, particularly if convoys are re-routed before they reach the prearranged Wabana junction. In the case of S.C. 52 this resulted in making it impossible to sail W.S.C. 52 with any hope of effecting a junction. In the long run time would be saved if ships proceed when loaded direct to Sydney (C.B.) or Halifax. The majority of ships normally join S.C. convoys. (C.C.N.F. 1509Z/1 to N.S.H.Q. Ottawa). See also 1531Z/2.

DELHI.

Will work up in U.S.A. waters and then return to U.K. Ratings to complete ship to approx. full complement will be sent so as to arrive by end of November. (V.C.N.S. 1612A/1 to B.A.R.M.).

Tugs for
PETUNIA.

Your 1153A/30/10 para. (2) Both tugs leaking badly and definitely unsuitable for attempting ocean passage before major overhaul. Huband is informing M. of W.T. of situation regarding all Lease--Lend tugs in Canada. Also giving crew and repair reasons for delay in sailing tugs referred to in your 2150A/20/10. (N.S.H.Q. Ottawa 1627Z/1 to Admty.).

/U.S.....

War Diary.

1.11.1941.
Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies. -Contd.

U.S. Ships
and D/G.

Your 1327R/31. Ships can be accepted for convoy to Iceland (C) or Archangel undegaussed, if they would otherwise miss convoy. Degaussing should be completed at first available opportunity. Names of ships sailing undegaussed should be reported. (D.T.D. 1717A/1 to B.A.D.).

Submarines
from U.S.A.

Your 1048A/1. (N.T. in W.D.). Submarine to be numbered P.511 is now U.S. No. R.3. Submarine to be numbered P.551 is now U.S. No. S-25. (B.A.D. 1725C/1 to Admty.).

Casablanca.

Shipping Intelligence, 19/10 to 29/10, A.1. (B.A.D. 1733R/31 to S.O.I.Freetown.) See Lion Copy.

INDOMITABLE.

Bermuda. Departure INDOMITABLE in accordance with my 1602Q/27/10. E.T.A. Kingston, Jamaica, P.M./3. (C.in C. A.W.I. 1803Q/1 to Admty.).

H.X.159.

Recommended route, concur. (Opnav 2255/1 to Admty.).

Australia and New Zealand.

LE
TRIUMPHANT.

A.T. 1412A/15. LE TRIUMPHANT has defects which necessitate dockyard assistance at Wellington and subsequently dry docking at Sydney after 6/11. LE TRIUMPHANT is to signal proposed onward programme when date of completion at Sydney is known. (D.O.D. (F) 1251A/1 to C.in C's A.C.N.B. etc.).

War Diary.1.11.1941.
Saturday.U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.Enemy Tactics.

It is probable that a U-boat recently detected by hydrophonic (?contact) at night dived unobserved and was overrun by escort who lost contact. Attention is drawn to C.B.4097 (2) para. 134 (f). An occasional transmission might have warned escort of close range of U-boat. (C. in C.W.A., 1909A/1, W.A. Gen. Message N.225.)

Ships Attacked.BUXTON.

Attacked by enemy submarine in 054° 30' 022° 40', 15 miles astern H.X.156.
(BUXTON, 1023A/1, to C. in C.W.A.)
BUXTON counter-attacked, negative result.
(D.S. 789.)

Submarines Reported.

- 1725 G.M.T./31 D/F Bearings of several transmissions since 1725 G.M.T./31 indicate that Convoy H.X.156 is being shadowed by more than one U-boat.
(D.D.I.C. 0142A/1 to Escort H.X.156.)
- 0957 G.M.T. D/F Bearings at 0957 G.M.T. indicate that H.X.156 is still being shadowed.
(D.D.I.C. 1145A/1 to Escort H.X.156.)
- 1229Z. D/F Bearings at 1229Z/1 indicate U/Boat in vicinity of Convoy "Cargo" and possibly reporting convoy.
(D.D.I.C. 1400Z/1, to (Alusna for Opanav for Safford.)

Archangel Area.

Your 1310C/30 (report of U/B). I hope you will not hesitate to arrange direct with S.O.Home Fleet at Archangel if there are any tasks, operational or otherwise, in which Home Fleet ships can assist, subject to the performance of their other duties.
(C. in C.H.F., 1341A/1, to S.B.N.O. Archangel.)

Estimated approx., positions.
(D.D.I.C. 1443A/1, 1444A/1.)

1100Z.

U.S. aircraft sighted s/m in 051° 55' N., 045° 02' W., course 038°, but stopped, at 1100Z/1.
(A.C.I.C., 1735/1, to Admty.)

/1620Z.....

War Diary.1.11.1941.
Saturday.U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.Submarines Reported. Contd.

1620Z. D/F Bearings at 1620Z/1 indicate there is still a U-boat in your vicinity.
(D.D.I.C. 2058A/1 to Escorts of O.S.10.)

1734Z. D/F Bearings on at 1734Z/1 indicate U-boat still in your vicinity.
(D.D.I.C. 2313A/1 to Escorts H.X.156.)

Submarines Attacked.

By CHEROKEE. CHEROKEE contacted U-boat 47.12 N., 43.30 W., at 1715 G.C.T/1.
(Opnav, 1939/1.)
CHEROKEE, fleet tug, 1250 tons, 1 3-in H.A./L.A., and 1 M/G. (C.B., 01815(U))

1220B. Position of U-boat sighted at 1220B today,
Mediterranean. 033° 44', 024° 48' 000°, 4, near miss by 1 bomb.
(Capt., S.1, 1531B/1, to TRIUMPH.)

War Diary.

2.11.1941.
Sunday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

In view of the rumours of impending sailing of PRINZ EUGEN from Brest P.36 is to be routed to pass through 47° 30' N. 10° 0' W.

British Air Operations.

A force of 134 aircraft of Bomber Command was despatched to attack targets at Kiel, 13 to attack dock installations at Le Havre and 17 to attack the enemy naval units at Brest. Many of the aircraft failed to find their objectives, owing to bad weather.

4 Hampdens detailed to attack shipping off the Frisian Islands found 2 convoys, one of about 20 ships and one of 8. One ship received a direct hit and others near misses.

6 Hudsons of Coastal Command bombed the docks at St. Nazaire last night, and Coastal Command aircraft carried out successful attacks on shipping off Terschelling in the early hours of today, off Ameland at early light and after dark, and, also after dark, off Norway and off Borkum.

War Diary.

2.11.1941.
Sunday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Enemy Air Operations.

Attacks
on
Shipping.

One enemy aircraft dropped 3 bombs in Skaale Fiord at 1802 today. No damage or casualties were caused.

Shipping off Aberdeen was attacked after dark this evening. No damage or casualties occurred.

Convoy F.S. 636 was attacked at 1645 in 53° 33' N. 0° 47' E., and S.S. MARIE DAWN was sunk. The convoy was attacked again at 1855 near the East Dudgeon and S.S. BRYNMILL was damaged and is presumed sunk.

It is reported that Dutch tanker OCANA in F.N. 540 was damaged by air attack on the convoy at 1746 today off Spurn Point.

Danish S.S. THYRA III was damaged tonight and the small tanker AGILITY is also reported to have been damaged at 1900 by bombs dropped in Yarmouth Roads.

Fishing trawler CALIPH was sunk at 1740 B.S.T. today whilst fishing with 14 other trawlers 10 or 12 miles South of the Old Head of Kinsale.

Mining.

4 aircraft laid mines last night in Kiel harbour and one off Sassnitz.

Enemy aircraft were engaged in minelaying in Liverpool Bay last night.

/Bristol.....

War Diary.

2.11.1941.
Sunday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Mining-Contd.

Bristol
Channel.

Further minelaying in the Bristol Channel was suspected last night and mines were detonated today. All Bristol Channel ports were open from 1500 to 2200 today; certain ports remained closed after 2200. A hopper was sunk in 51° 21' N. 3° 17' W. this afternoon.

North Atlantic.

RODNEY left Gibraltar at 2215 today, escorted by 4 destroyers.

South Atlantic.

SURCOUF.

On completion of refit and working up in U.S.A. SURCOUF is to be employed on the South Atlantic, and should occasion arise the East Indies Stations, to destroy enemy units using refuelling areas.

War Diary.

2.11.1941.
Sunday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Mediterranean.

Air operations.

Six Blenheims this morning attacked and hit an escorted 3,000 ton merchantman in 062° Melita 45 miles. This would appear to be the French S.S. SENNEVILLE, and the Vichy authorities protested against the attack.

A nuisance air raid on Naples last night by aircraft from Malta was curtailed on account of bad weather.

Libya and Western Desert.

Aircraft bombed the Cathedral Mole and petrol dumps at Benghazi last night.

Operation "Glencoe".

ABDIEL and 10 destroyers commenced operation "Glencoe" p.m. today (transport of a division of 11,000 Indian and 3,400 British troops from Egypt to Cyprus and 15,500 British troops from Cyprus to Palestine). R.A. (D) is in charge of the operation.

Force K.

Force K was at sea last night without result.

Suez Bay and Gulf.

3 or 4 enemy aircraft dropped bombs between 2347/1 and 0340/2 near Suez and near CARLISLE escorting a convoy about 100 miles south of Suez. No damage or casualties are reported.

Aden Force.

From 1200 today, the following ships will be addressed as the Aden Force and will come under the operational control of N.O.I.C. Aden: INDUS, HINDUSTAN, SAVORGNAN, DE BRAZZA, RATNAGIRI, NETRAVATI, BATHURST, LISMORE.

Sevastopol.

German aircraft bombed Sevastopol today.

War Diary.

2.11.1941.
Sunday.

SITUATION REPORT.

China.

It is reported that S.S. FRANCOIS L.D. sailed from Saigon ostensibly for Kobe on 15/8 with 7000 tons of rubber which represents one third of estimated present German deficiency of raw rubber. It is believed likely that S.S. PIERRE L.D. which has now passed the Sunda Strait for Saigon will carry a further 6000 tons of rubber which will be ready for shipment to Germany via France during this month.

War Diary.2.11.1941.
Sunday.HOME COMMANDS.General.Strike
on Clyde.

A number of Stokers and Fitters from Rosyth Dockyard have left A.F.D.4 without permission during last week, some of them since ROYAL SOVEREIGN docked. Proposed permanent complement from southern yards for work in Dock have not yet reported. Possibility of obtaining local labour is being examined.
(F.O.I.C. Glasgow 2225/2.)

Co-operation with Russia.Archangel.

Your 2359/29. I do not understand Russian Ambassador's optimism regarding numbers of ships per mensem. 50 Ships of present size and nature of cargo could not be handled at Archangel per mensem even if there were 50 ice breakers available. Lack of port facilities and unskilled labour quite apart from ice are causing anxiety regarding possibility of even handling numbers of ships indicated in my telegram 1 2000/18 para.(2) although new railway line at Bakharista quay plus most competent assistance from S.T.Os and Movement Control will assist November discharge position. Mr. Papanyin advised me on 30/10 of only 3 heavy ice breakers ¹⁰⁵²LENIN, ¹⁰⁵²STALIN, and ¹⁰⁵²LITKE plus 2 auxiliary ice breakers and 3 ice clearing tugs. I asked him specifically about possibility of bringing 5 extra ice breakers from Northabout route but received a negative reply. I am meeting Papanyin again on Monday to advise you immediately if he has any further information regarding extra ice breakers.
(S.N.O. Archangel 1120/2 to Adty.)

Iokanga.

HUSSAR's report on Iokanga.

(a) Submerged and unmarked nets at Northern entrance make it difficult to enter and impossible without pilots. Latter are available.

(b) Capacity of anchorage for British ships as in my 1312C/24/10 confirmed. This takes into account needs of Russians.

(c) Fuel and provisions could be provided in emergency (corrupt group). Minor repairs can be carried out.

(d) S.B.N.O. North Russia has forwarded details of defences and chart in NORFOLK.

War Diary.2.11.1941.
Sunday.HOME COMMANDS.Co-operation with Russia.Iokanga
contd.

2. Recommend Iokanga should be used only as
 - (a) Temporary anchorage for minesweepers.
 - (b) Emergency anchorage for part of convoy and necessary escort when ice conditions prevent icebreakers taking whole convoy through White Sea together.
3. When Archangel no longer usable consider escort should always fuel at Murmansk as (? opposed to) sending oiler to Iokanga.
4. Admiralty pass to C. in C. H.F. and S.B.N.O. North Russia.
(S.B.N.O. Archangel 1645C/2.)

Movements.P.35.

S/M P.35 and LEICESTER CITY sailed in accordance with my 1240A/1. (A.C.O.S. 0757A/2.)
P.35 sailed from Scapa 0800A/2 routed East of Orkneys as follows to patrol. Escorted by LEICESTER CITY to latitude of Muckle Flugga. (A.C.O.S. 1000A/2.)

DUKE OF YORK.
BERWICK.

Departure DUKE OF YORK, BERWICK, PUNJABI, and ESCAPADE. (C. in C. Rosyth 0845/2.)
Repeat my 1529/31 (not received in W.R.) on passage north between 1120 and 1326. BERWICK pass 1529/31 to DUKE OF YORK and TARTAR. Report by signal results obtained.
(C. in C. Rosyth 1015/2 to BERWICK.)
As BERWICK is required for fuel trial p.m. tomorrow, ship is not to complete fuelling tonight unless an emergency arises. GREY RANGER is to be in A.4 berth before dark ready to fuel BERWICK if latter is ordered to have steam at less than 2 hours notice.
(C. in C. H.F. 1109A/2 to BERWICK.)

LANOLA.

Your 1556A/31. ^{MT and W.D.} Intend sailing Q.V.1, ^{Not identified} LANOLA to Hamble 0900/4. E.T.A. 1230/4. C. in C. Portsmouth is requested to supply appropriate aerial protection. (N.O.I.C. Poole 1005/2.)

P.36.

In view of Admiralty 2235A/1, P.36 is to be routed to pass through 47° 30' N. 10° W. (F.O.S. 1022A/2.)
Cancel my 1600A/1st except paras.3 and 4 of bombing restrictions. Leave Patrol after dark 2nd diving by day routed as follows to R/V in 050° 31' N. 000° 41' at 0730A/6. S.B.R. as follows. (Capt. S.5. 1107A/2 to P.36.)

/Cancel ...

War Diary.2.11.1941.
Sunday.HOME COMMANDS.Movements.P.36 contd.

Cancel para. A to E of my 0915/1st and substitute following route to R/V Q.Z.S 169 at 0730A/6. (Capt. S.5 1145/2 to C. in C. Plymouth.)

NORMAN.

Scapa arrival. (A.C.O.S. 1051A/2.)

MINERVE.

Amend route as follows to R/V with EQUERRY 90° out Skerries 8 miles 0700A/3 for escort direct to Dundee. (Capt. S.9. 1127A/2 to MINERVE.)

Ex U.S.A.S/MS
P.511.
P.551.

B.A.D. Washington 1905 /31.

A. Intend British-manned R. Class submarine designated P.511 and Polish-manned S. Class submarine designated P.551 should be commissioned on 4/11 as tenders to TITANIA for service in 3rd S/M Flotilla.

B. Intend both should be sailed for Holy Loch. If sailed together routes should be about 60 miles apart, routes on Home Station to be indicated by C. in C. W.A. Suggested R/V should be off Barra Head with an escort provided by S.3. (F.O.S. 1311A/2.)

SPEEDY.

Left Kandalaksha 1400C/2. E.T.A. Dvina Light-ship 0700C/3. (SPEEDY 1400C/2.)

KING GEORGE V.
VICTORIOUS
KENT
BERWICK
SUFFOLK.

Intend to sail from Scapa at 1730/3 in KING GEORGE V. with VICTORIOUS, KENT, BERWICK, SUFFOLK and 7 destroyers, and proceed Hvalfiord. Route through 058° 45' N. 008° W. and thence direct to Reykjanes Passage. Speed of advance 17½ knots. (C. in C. H.F. 2337A/2.)

Operations.Operation
"Pantaloon".

Sailed HAVELOCK, HARVESTER and HIGHLANDER in accordance with your 1130A/31. (N.O.I.C. Liverpool 0710/2 to C. in C. W.A.)

Operation
"Table".

Postponed a further 24 hours. (F.O.I.C. Harwich 0808A/2.)

War Diary.2.11.1941.
Sunday.HOME COMMANDS.British Air Activity.Bombing
operations.
One M/V hit.

On Night 1/2, 102 A/C attacked Kiel, 12 attacked Havre, and 2 attacked Naval Units at Brest. One A/C obtained a direct hit on a large M/V in Convoy and near misses were seen on M/Vs in another convoy. (H.Q.B.C. 1515/2.)

Patrols.

"Bert" in operation. "Trost" due to take off 2100. (C. in C. Rosyth 1724/2.)

T.B.R.

My 1050/30. Cancel T.B.Rs south of 062° N. (A.C.O.S. 1835A/2 to H.Q.C.C.)

Enemy Air Activity.BRITISH
FORTUNE.
(Bombed
31/10.)

BRITISH FORTUNE (Tanker) set on fire and sunk at 1850/31 off Cromer Light Vessel. Low level bombing 500 ft. Number of bombs 3 direct hits. Help messages sent S.O.S. from boat by torch. Guns mounted 12 pounder, 2 Lewis, 2 Marlin, 2 Hotchkiss. All armament engaged A/C, result not observed. (N.C.S.O. Blyth 0601A/2.)

A/C over
Scapa on
1/11.

My 1315/1/11. No R.D/F warning was received. Although plots of this E/A approaching were received it was confused with a Mosquito A/C which was expected on return flight from P.R.U. off Norwegian Coast. (A.C.O.S. 1101/2.)

TYRANT
(A/P Trawler)
PORTHMORNA
(British.
596 Tons)
attacked.

TYRANT reports being attacked by one enemy aircraft at 2230/1st when 8 miles east of St. Govans L/V. No damage no casualties. At 2245 S.S. PORTHMORNA was attacked by same A/C and sustained one dead one slightly wounded. PORTHMORNA has proceeded alone to Cardiff. (F.O.I.C. Milford Haven 1301/2.)

Convoy F.S.

Help "Booty" 53° 33' N. 0° 47' E. (LIDDESDALE 1645/2.)

Convoy.

Fighters have been despatched to Convoy "Arena". (Rosyth 1728/2.)

Faroes
bombed.

One enemy A/C dropped 3 bombs in Skaale Fjord at 1802 today. 2 fell on land and one in the Fjord. No damage or casualties. (N.O.I.C. Faroer 1858/2.)

War Diary.2.11.1941.
Sunday.HOME COMMANDS.Enemy Air Activity - contd.ST. DOMINICA
(Examination
Vessel)
attacked.

Cancel my 2107/2. Enemy aircraft machine gunned ST. DOMINICA off entrance Aberdeen Harbour at 1903/2. Examination vessel engaged aircraft which made off seawards chased by fighter. Enemy A/C circled and came in again dropped bombs in Nigg Bay. A/C engaged by ships and shore batteries. No casualties or damage. (F.O.I.C. Aberdeen 2348/2.)

THYRA S.III
(Danish.
818 Tons)
damaged.

Enemy A/C dropped bombs in Yarmouth Roads 1859A, 2018A and 2022A. Straddling Danish S.S. THYRA III at 2022A. Vessel damaged by near miss. Crew abandoned ship and landed at Yarmouth. Tugs DIVERSION and KROOMAN with Salvage Officer on board bringing vessel into harbour. (F.O.I.C. Yarmouth 2355A/2, 2357A/2, 2359A/2).

Mining.Mines off
Scarborough.

Mines in sight in 54° 18' N. 0° 10' W.
(A/C U.1 1120/2 to H.Q. 18 Group.)

Bristol
Channel.

Further minelaying may have occurred night 1/2. All Bristol Channel Ports will be open from 1500 until 2200 today. Ports east of Cardiff, River Parrett Ports, and Watchet will remain closed from 2200/2 until p.m./3 except for local traffic between Bristol and Sharpness. Ships may be undocked from Cardiff (including Penarth) and Barry from 0500/3 and are to be anchored in Cardiff and Barry Roads respectively until 1100 when they may proceed. No ship is to anchor in Walton Bay until further orders. (F.O.I.C. Cardiff 1148A/2)
Exploded Red Mine 1110/2 in 175° 8 cables Flatholm Light. Probably laid 26/27 or 28/29 October. (Capt. M/S Bristol Channel 1501A/2.)
(i) At 1006/2 one Red Mine detonated by Sweeper 123° 2.3 miles Wells Point P.W.S.S. Probably laid 26/27 or 28/29 October. Details. (Capt. M/S Bristol Channel 1506A/2.)

Explosions
off Hebrides
on 16/10.

My 1200/18 and your 2309/17. I would be grateful to receive the following information.
A. Time interval between explosions.
B. Estimated spacing between explosions.
(R.A.M. 1152/1 to C. in C. W.A.)

War Diary.2.11.1941.
Sunday.HOME COMMANDS.Mining - contd.S.N.83 B.
S.N.7 C.

My 1146A/29 October. Supply will not allow of sailing for S.N.83 B. and S.N.7 C. before 7/11 at earliest. Propose therefore to sail a.m./8 and lay as follows.
 (i) S.N.83 B. between $062^{\circ} 50' N.$ $009^{\circ} 53' W.$ and $063^{\circ} 03' N.$ $010^{\circ} 37' 30'' W.$
 (ii) S.N.7 C. between $063^{\circ} 20' N.$ $009^{\circ} 06' W.$ and $063^{\circ} 26' 30'' N.$ $009^{\circ} 17' W.$
 (R.A.M. 1403/2.)

Mines off
Kinnaird
Head.

Drifting mines reported $057^{\circ} 52' N.$ $000^{\circ} 47' W.$
 (C. in C. Rosyth 1624/2.)

FOREMOST 45.
(Hopper)
sunk.

(2) FOREMOST 45 sunk in $51^{\circ} 21' 6'' N.$ $3^{\circ} 17' 24'' W.$ (F.O.I.C. Cardiff 1637A/2)

Enemy Intelligence.Brest.

R/C of Brest at 1020A/2. Cloudy photographs show three main units apparently present in usual docks. (D.D.I.C. 1506A/2.)

Technical.S.W.G. and
S.G. sets.

My 2218A/2. Destroyers and certain cruisers have no S.W.G. sets. EDINBURGH and certain destroyers have no S.G. sets.
 (C. in C. H.F. 2221A/2 to Home Fleet.)

Casualties and Defects.Workington.

My 0938A/21. Vessels of 1000 tons gross can be accepted in fair weather, 2000 tons in calm weather. (F.O.I.C. Liverpool 1127A/2.)

VIVIEN.

My 1016. Defect in steering engine has not yet been found. Am proceeding to Humber steering by main engine. E.T.A. Humber Light Vessel 1530. Request tugs meet me there. (VIVIEN 1145/2.)
 Cancel my 1145. Temporary repairs have now been effected and consider I should now be able to make Rosyth. Am rejoining convoy.
 (VIVIEN 1305A/2.)
 Cancel my 1244/2. VIVIEN alright. (WHADDON 1353/2.)

/CATERINA ...

War Diary.2.11.1941.
Sunday.HOME COMMANDS.Casualties and Defects - contd.CATERINA.
OTTILIE.

H.M. Yacht CATERINA was in collision at 0615 today with Grimsby Fishing Trawler OTTILIE about one mile east from Largo Buoy. CATERINA is seaworthy but sustained slight damage to bulwarks. OTTILIE sustained apparently slight damage to stem. OTTILIE sails from Methil at 1230 today for Grimsby with cargo of fish, and it is submitted that the damage may be surveyed at that port. (N.O.I.C. Methil 1158/2.)

SUNFISH.

C. in C. Nore's 1650/28 and C. in C. Rosyth's 1113/29. In view of E.T.A. of F.N.543 at 20 C. Buoy 2330/4, it is intended to sail SUNFISH in tow of CHAMPION and escorted by GARTH at 2100/4. CHAMPION will have orders to burn Navigation Lights until clear of F.N.543, and to adjust speed of R/V with F.S.438 at 0900/5 near 18 C. Buoy. (F.O.I.C. Tyne 1805/2.)

BRYNMILL.
(British.
743 Tons)

BRYNMILL has damaged engine. Have left MALLARD and trawler standing by. Request tugs. Approximate position 2 miles S.W. of Dudgeon Bell buoy. (SLEIPNER 2111A/2.)
BRYNMILL sinking in approximate position 270° 4 miles from Dudgeon bell buoy. Crew being picked up by BASSET. (MALLARD 2228A/22.)
Entire crew of Steamship BRYNMILL picked up by BASSET. Wreck still afloat 275 6 miles from Dudgeon Bell Buoy. Leak in engine room. Consider salvage tug should be sent. (MALLARD 2310A/2)
Immingham departure at 2315 Tug SCOTSMAN to assist S.S. BRYNMILL. (F.O. Humber 2321A/2.)

A.F.D.4.

Until dock has been thoroughly examined and defects made good, it is considered that no further dockings should take place. Refit of dock will commence when ROYAL SOVEREIGN undocks. It may be expected that tanks in A.F.D.4 other than those reported will be found defective. (F.O.I.C. Glasgow 2225/2.)

War Diary.2.11.1941.
Sunday.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping and Convoys.W.P.594038 escorted by NOTRE DAME DE FRANCE arrived.
(N.C.S.O. Dartmouth 0413/2.)C.W.
Convoys.Vessels in C.W. convoys bound for Poole may be instructed by S.O. escorts on approaching Nab to steam out of convoy and be passed through examination area first.
(C. in C. Nore 1026A/2.)F.S. 35.
TOLWORTH.TOLWORTH missing F.S.No 35. Have swept back 20 miles without results. TURQUOISE reports sighting unidentified ship in vicinity number 7 Buoy at 0800 today.
(VERDUN 1241A/2.)H.X.154.

Met as arranged. No breakdowns or stragglers. All ships now arrived. (D.T.D. 1411A/2 to Opanav.)

Convoys
P.Q. and
Q.P.Your 1932A/31. Consider with additional 10 trawlers arrangements can be made accordingly. (A.C.I.C. 1737N/2 to C. in C. H.F.)
Until a Russian translation of Mersigs is produced Consigs. is to continue in use with P.Q. and Q.P. Convoys. 2. A pamphlet is being forwarded for the use of escorts giving extracts from Consigs which have been translated into Russian and which is in the possession of Russian ships sailing in P.Q.4.
(A.C.N.S.(T) 2012A/2.)S.C.49.Convoy delayed by strong South-Westerly gales, one straggler. All ships now arrived.
(D.T.D. 1900Z/2 to Opanav.)Q.P.2.

Q.P.2 sailed from the mouth of the Dvina L/V 2214C/2. (S.B.N.O. Archangel 2130/2.)

(sup. 58)

War Diary.

2.11.1941.
Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

BARON
NEWLANDS
(Bombed
29/10).

Your 2318A/1. V.A.C.N.A.'s 2322/30 to Huelva only does not now apply. Ship expected Gibraltar shortly. (V.A.C.N.A., 0629A/2 to Admty).

→ S.S. PONTET
CANET.
(French).

Arrival from Setubal in ballast. (R.O. Oporto, 1049Z/2.)

MARSDALE.

S.O.W.P. 1040A/3. (1040A/31 intended) From position (a) pass through positions (b) 030° 30' N., 025° 00' W., (c) 030° 28' N., 019° 57' W. thence to Funchal to complete to capacity with water. Subsequently proceed Gibraltar by direct route. (F.O.C.N.A., 1120A/2 to MARSDALE).

JOAO PESSOA
(German).

Sailed for unknown destination (believed to be Nantes) 1/11. (Consul, Bilbao, 1224/2, to Admty).

→ PONTET CANET.
(French).

Arrival 1/11 from Setubal in ballast. (R.O. Oporto, T.H.I., 1230/2 to M.E.W.)

South Atlantic.

Shipping
Routes.

Reply to Admty 1100A/30/10. (C. in C. S.A., 0505N/2) See Lion Copy.

NEW YORK.

Overdue shipping. Panama ship NEW YORK due Durban 28/10 from Curacao not arrived. (S.O.(I) Capetown, 0925B/2 to Admty etc). Cancelled, 0855B/3).

T.L.C.
Derelict.

B.A.D. Washington's 1259R/31, derelict in question cannot be T.L.C. 130 but is probably bow section of T.L.C. 103 believed lost overboard from S.S. GER-Y-BRYN on passage from U.K. to Freetown where she arrived on 17/10. (D.T.S.D. (Approved by A.C.N.S. (W)) 1322A/2 to C. in C. S.A.) *See 29/10-p 715.*

/R. D. F.....

MOST SECRET

37^A

0505N/2 Nov.
IN

MOST SECRET

M E S S A G E

From C.in C. South Atlantic.

Date 3.11.41.

Recd. 0712.

NAVAL CYPHER X by W/T.

~~Addressed Admiralty.~~

~~25.~~

Your 1100A/30/10. Reasons for discontinuing these reports are:-

1. Instructions in A.M.0001/1/5'41 section 4 paragraph 12 were issued before the sector system was introduced at Freetown. Diversions through the sectors are made before ships are within 300 miles and estimated positions are usually sufficiently accurate for this purpose. Moreover, ships are generally identified by daily air patrol of sector almost as soon as receipt of W/T reports. Owing to limited and variable reception conditions in this area merchant vessels often have to break W/T silence several times before their reports are heard by Freetown. For security reasons disadvantages of breaking W/T silence considered greater than any advantage gained. Independent traffic to Freetown has greatly increased since the 15th September and several ships a day making W/T signals from same vicinity tends to compromise security.

2. My 2031N/26. It will not be possible to continue these convoys and they will only be formed if U-boats are known to be operating in gulf.

3. If necessary particular ships E.G. tankers will be instructed to break W/T silence to report their position.

0505N/2

Refers to instructions re routing of convoys and independent ships.

Advance copy sent to Duty Captain, D.O.D.(F) and D.T.D.

1st Lord	D.T.D.(2)
1st S.L.	D.T.D.(M)
V.C.N.S.	D.D.I.C.(2)
A.C.N.S.(H)	D.S.D.9
A.C.N.S.(F)	I.P.(2)
A.C.N.S.(T) (2)	Duty Captain (2)
N.A.1st S.L.	D.A/S.W.
D.O.D.(H)	Head of M.
D.D.O.D.(H)	W.D.
D.O.D.(F)	
D.D.O.D.(F)	

War Diary.2.11.1941.
Sunday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic. - Contd.R.D.F.

South Atlantic R.D.F. Instructions, Article 4. The Rules for R.D.F. silence apply to R.D.F. Transmission only. Ships fitted with type 79, 279, 280, 281, 282, 284 and 285 should maintain a continuous R.D.F. listening watch for enemy R.D.F. transmissions in any area where it is possible enemy minelayers warships, supply ships or U-boats may be operating, with object of obtaining a bearing of them. (C. in C. S.A., 1515N/2 to S.A. Stn).

Task Force 3.

(a) OMAHA, SOMERS. Cancel A.M. 0855/31 and 1243/31. Movements are as originally given in A.M. 2127/30.
(b) MEMPHIS, DAVIS, JOUETTE. Amend Opanav's 1911/29. Left Lagos 29/10 direct for position equator 30° W., thence equator 43° W., on 7/11 thence Trinidad 11/11.
(D.O.D. (F) 1723A/2 to C. in C. S.A., R.A.S.A.D.)

Operation
"Bellringer".

French Sloop D'IBERVILLE as anticipated will not consent to order convoy to Port Elizabeth and affirms that it only carries foodstuffs destined for people of France. Intend to start boarding operation "Mud" as soon as CARNARVON CASTLE has joined me tomorrow morning. (Weather) (DEVONSHIRE, 1928B/2 to N.O.I.C. Simonstown).
DEVONSHIRE 1928B /2 is passed to you for information. Have replied concurring. (N.O.I.C. Simonstown, 2320B/2 to C. in C. S.A).
On receipt of signal to carry out operation ordered - (?COLOMBO) assisted by STELLENBERG board BANGKOK. CARNARVON CASTLE assisted by NIGELLA board COMPIEGNE. CARTHAGE assisted by TERJE board CAP PADARAN and BELLE ISLE. DEVONSHIRE Watch Fr. Sloop D' IBERVILLE until her attitude is clear and then board CAP TOURANE assisted by STEENBERG. (DEVONSHIRE, 2145B/2 to Force F).
W.D. Note:- Ship referred to as BELLE ISLE should be COMMANDANT DORISE, see 1653/3/11 and 2310/3/11.

NIGELLA

War Diary.2.11.1941.
Sunday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean.TRUANT.

Estimate your position 1200B/2 035° 52' 020° 40' E., Amend route to pass through Antikithera Channel thence through Kaso Straits and direct to arrive Sanctuary, A.M./6. Considerable traffic has been reported between Piraeus and Suda Bay and Candia.

(Capt. S.I., 0917B/2 to TRUANT.)

My 0917B/2. Endeavour to pass through 034° 32' 027° 02' at about 0001/5.

(Capt. S.I., 2251B/2 to TRUANT).

CAPO PINO
ABBAZIA
(Italian).

My 1658/23. CAPO PINO from Trieste and ABBAZIA from Salonica expected very shortly.

(S.O.(I) Istanbul, 1119B/2 to S.O.(I) Med).

R. A. C. S. 15.

Flag Rear Admiral P.L. Vian, D.S.O. as R.A.C. C.S.15 is to be hoisted in NAIAD on his arrival on board P.M. today, 1/11, Saturday.

(C. in C. Med., 1144B/1 to S. & A. Med., Stn).

Ships to be in - 1.17.

Force K.

Force K out last night with a S.V. Wellington. No luck, nothing at sea in large area covered. (V.A. Malta, 1205B/2 to C. in C. Med).

Benghazi,
Bardia,
Gazala
bombed.

Night Oct. 31/Nov.1. 11 Wellingtons bombed hangars and barracks on North side of Berka Aerodrome, Benghazi. One further Wellington prevented by damage from reaching Benghazi bombed Bardia starting fire in officers' quarters, One F.A.A. Albacore lighted up Gazala North landing ground with flares for 11 Blenheims attacking stores dumps and repair shops there. Further one Albacore on offensive night R/C of area west of Bardia bombed stores dumps 5 miles south of Gambut without visible effect. Day 1/11 1 Blenheim bombed enemy submarine 80 miles south of Crete bombs falling clear it. (H.Q., R.A.F., M.E., 1218/2).

TORCELLO
(Italian),

Arrived 2/11 from Aegean in ballast bound Basra (Corrupt group).

(S.O.(I) Istanbul, 1220/2 to S.O. (I) Med).

/Suez Raid.....

War Diary.2.11.1941.
Sunday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean. - Contd.Suez Raid.

Ref. C.A.F.O. 587. (a) Air Raid night 1/2 (b) high level attack by three possibly four enemy aircraft 2347 - 0340 on Suez Bay and Gulf no illuminants, bright moon (c) H.E. (d) 12 bombs vicinity of Suez, four in Gulf near CARLISLE escorting convoy about 100 miles South Suez (e) No damage or casualties reported (f) one enemy aircraft engaged by A.A. defences Port Said, three enemy aircraft by Suez and one enemy aircraft by CARLISLE results unknown, fighters up, no interception. (g) balloons up. (S.B.N.O. Suez Canal, 1317B/2 to Admty etc).

[See also 1309/3. Page 64]

Merchant ships at Malta.

Admiralty's 0012A/29/10. Confirmed remaining ships are sufficient. (C. in C. Med., 1243B/1 to N.O.I.C. Malta).

Russian Ships from Black Sea.

My 1259D/27 para. 1. Have been informed Turkish Govt. have now agreed to co-operate. Details not yet given. (Adm. Miles, 1716D/2 to Admty).

Air Operations.

Day 2/11. Patrol sighted 0655 hours 1 M/V 3,000 tons 1 D/R 115°. Melita 22 miles, course 070° 10 knots. 0808 hours same Convoy sighted by another Patrol 075°. Melita 35 miles, course 020° Speed 6 knots, 1104 hours attacked by 6 Blenheims 062°. Melita 45 miles. 24 250 G.P. Bombs dropped. 1 hit on M/V stern causing column of smoke. Heavy A/A from D/R. All returned. Patrol sighted 0915 hours 2 M/Vs. 4,000 tons 1 D/R 41°. Keliba 5 miles course 164° Speed 8 knots.

M/V hit.Naples and Marineo.

Night 1/2. Nuisance Raid Naples curtailed owing bad weather. 2 Wellingtons took off, 1 bombed Naples, 1 bombed Marineo, Palermo being under cloud. All bombs seen explode Naples. Fire caused Vigliena Mole. No results observed Marineo. Both Aircraft returned. (H.Q. Malta, 1720/2).

Crimea.

Situation (?Forces of) enemy have occupied Backchisari, 35 k/m N.E. of Sevastopol, but as far as I know not Simferopol. Frequent air raids on Sevastopol. Latter town quiet and at present intention is to hold on. (N.L.O. Black Sea, 1733C/2 to Admty).

War Diary.

2.11.1941.
Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean - Contd.

R.M. Group
A.A. Units.

Ref. "Overt" 1230/29, your 1832B/30 and Admty. 1931A/20, it is assumed that you are arranging with C. in C. M.E., notice at which R.M. A.A. units should be held to meet possible fleet requirements, so that he can arrange for suitable operational deployment until such eventuality arises.

2. It would appear from first part of "Overt" signal quoted that O.C. R.M. Group does not fully appreciate that until these units are required for special service, they form an integral part of A.A. defences of Middle East under operational control of C. in C. M.E. Admty 2333/4/3/41 refers. You will appreciate that present position both as regards supply -of A.A. equipment and trained personnel does not permit of either being employed anywhere except in operational role.

3. You may consider it desirable to make this point clear to O.C.R.M. Group, M.N.B.D.O.

4. Para, 2 of "Overt's" 1230/29 is being dealt with separately.

(D. of L.D., 1938A/2 to C. in C. Med).

THRASHER.

Proceed through following positions 031° 30' 018° 00' 031° 30' 016° 29' and 045° Ras Khara, 18 to patrol within 25 miles Ras Zarug during daylight/6 thence through 034° 30' 014° 42' to Malta as ordered by Capt. (S) 10.
(Capt. S.1., 2231B/2 to THRASHER)

War Diary.2.11.1941.
Sunday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies.Aden Force.

Following ships of Red Sea Force will be addressed as the Aden Force and will from noon today 2/11 come under operational control of N.O.I.C.Aden :- INDUS, HINDUSTAN, SAVORGNAN-DE-BRAZZA, RATNAGIRI, NETRAVATI, BATHURST, LISMORE.
(F.O.C.Red Sea Force 1122Z/2 to N.O.I.C.Aden, Red Sea Force.).

Delays to
U.S. Ships.

U.S.Maritime Commission complain of delays at Mombasa and Aden to their ships awaiting orders. Presumably delays at Aden are due to routeing instructions being required and ships being held until berths are available in Suez area. Request your remarks concerning delays at Mombasa. (D.T.D. 2005A/2 to C.in C.E.I.).

China.

FRANCOIS L.D.
PIERRE L.D.
LOUIS L.D.
(FO/MALHAUT)
(French).

Following information has been passed to British Mission Washington. Saigon reported that FRANCOIS L.D. sailed ostensibly for Kobe on 15/8 with 7000 tons of rubber, Master instructed not to call Madagascar or Dakar. Please ascertain (1) route followed by vessel.(2) Where she bunkered en route. (3) Further details of cargo. FRANCOIS L.D. bunkered at Manila on 16/7. By bunkering Manila Louis Dreyfus ships can reach Casablanca via Cape or Cape Horn without fuelling. Believed likely PIERRE L.D. now passed Sunda Strait for Saigon, will carry further 6000 tons rubber which will be ready for shipment to Germany via France during this month. Endeavour keep us informed of her movements and in particular whether she bunkers Manila. Matter is of utmost importance as 7000 tons carried by FRANCOIS L.D. represents one-third of estimated present German deficiency of raw rubber.

/FO/MALHAUT.....

War Diary.2.11.1941.
Sunday.FOREIGN STATIONS.China.FRANCOIS L.D.
PIERRE L.D.
LOUIS L.D.
(FORMALHAUT)
(French).
-Contd.

FORMALHAUT, which is LOUIS L.D. under new name, sailed Dakar for Madagascar on 26/10 in convoy escorted by two Submarines and a sloop. C.in C. China please inform N.E.I. C.in C. S.A. pass to S.O. Force G on arrival. (A.C.N.S.(F) 1636A/2 to C.in C. China, E.I., A.W.I., S.A. etc.).

America and West Indies.O.N. 27.

Serial 8, disperse Convoy after passing 055° W. (U.S.C.N.O. 0035/2 to Comtask Unit. 4.1.15).

Suspicious
Tanker
reported
21/10.

My 1612Z/31. N.C.S.O. St. Johns N.F. reports *SANTA PRINCESSA is possibly new Portuguese Fishing Trawler which sailed from St. Johns fishing to Greenland banks 24/8. Owing to weather is now likely to be coming South. (N.S.H.Q. Ottawa 0351Z/2 to Adnty.).
? X SANTA PRINCESSA intended

ABBEYDALE

R.A.S.A.D's 1923Z/27. Oiler ABBEYDALE will be given quick docking at Bermuda but no other defect can be taken in hand and docking is not to exceed 48 hours maximum. ABBEYDALE is to load for Bermuda on arrival at Trinidad. N.O.I.C. Trinidad is requested to sail ABBEYDALE as soon as ready reporting E.T.A. at Bermuda as soon as possible. (C.in C. A.W.I. 0942Q/2 to N.O.I.C. Trinidad, etc.).

BURNHAM

My 1034R/30. BURNHAM defects satisfactory, ship has sailed for Halifax. (B.A.R.M. 1014R/2 to Adnty.).

/CALIFORNIA.....

War Diary.2.11.1941.
Sunday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies. -Contd.→ CALIFORNIA.

Your 2110/30. Additional alterations approved will delay CALIFORNIA's sailing from Boston to about 17/11. (B.A.R.M. 1122R/2 to Admty.) See 1759A/2.

Reporting of
convoy
positions.

My 1529/1. Comtaskforce 4 appears to have misunderstood Cinclant's orders on this subject. Cinclant's 0315/2 to Comtaskforce 4 which states that Admty. 1149/13/10 (573AZ) does apply to both U.S. and Canadian escorts should clarify the situation. (B.A.D. 1155R/2 to C.C.N.F.).

O.N. 31.

Serial 3 Air report indicates Convoy ahead of schedule, new M.O.M.P. time 0900Z/4. (Opnav, 1245/2 to Comtask Unit 4.1.7.).

Corvette
refits.

Your 1334R/1. Following are approx. proposed dates arriving Charleston: EYEBRIGHT 14/11, ARROWHEAD, SNOWBERRY 26/11. MAYFLOWER, early December on completion of DIANTHUS. BITTERSWEET on completion of EYEBRIGHT. (C.C.N.F. 1336Z/2 to B.A.R.M.).

T.C. 15
C.T. 6.

Your 1943/31/10. Para 3 confirmed. (B.A.D. 1531R/2, to Admty.).

Wabana
convoys.

^{C.C.N.F.}
C.N.F.F. 1509Z/1. Concur under present circumstances. Consider however that decision as to whether any particular ship or ships loading in Newfoundland should proceed in regular convoy assembly or be sailed to join a passing convoy should be made by C.C.N.F. in order that as much shipping time as possible can be saved. (N.S.H.Q. Ottawa 1531Z/2, to Admty.).

→ CALIFORNIA
CATHAY.

Your 1906/1. (N.T. in W.D.). Yes. Acting-Captain Tuck will bring CALIFORNIA home to U.K. where she will return in accordance with A.M.1657/21/10 before relieving CATHAY on S. Atlantic Station. (D.O.D. (F) 1759A/2 to B.A.R.M.).

/SURCOUF.....

War Diary.

2.11.1941.
Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies. -Contd.

SURCOUF.

Following instructions issued with concurrence of Adm. Com. F.N.F.L.

(1) When ready for sea B.A.R.M. is requested to arrange for sailing of F.3. SURCOUF to New London to carry out full work up.

(2) On completion of working up submarine should be sailed to Bermuda.

(3) C.in C. A.W.I. and C.in C. S.A. are requested to route ship to Capetown via Trinidad. On arrival in S.A. Station SURCOUF is to come under operational control of C.in C. S.A.

(4) Intended that submarine should operate from Capetown with object of destruction of enemy units using refuelling areas, normally in South Atlantic but she may be similarly employed should the occasion arise in Indian Ocean as arranged between C.in C. E.I. and C.in C. S.A.

(5) Intended ship should refit at Singapore when necessary.

(A.C.N.S.(F) (P.D. 0471/41) 1941A/2 to B.A.R.M. etc.).

S.C.54.

Recommended Route, concur.
(Opnav, 2230/2 to Admty.).

Australia and New Zealand.

OISEAU
DES ILES
(French).

Arrival 2/11.
(Suva, 0645M/2, to D.of S.T.).

War Diary.

2.11.1941.
Sunday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Ships Attacked.

ARIGUANI
(torpedoed
26/10).

Arrival 0645 DUNCAN, JONQUIL, HELIOTROPE,
CAMPION, ARIGUANI.
(F.O.C.N.A. 0600A/2 to Admty.etc.).

Submarines Reported.

2323 G.C.T/1. R.D.F. bearing 2323 G.C.T./1 indicates
submarine approx. 4720 N 4900 W.
(Opnav 0312/2 to Admty.etc.).

1410

Am over enemy submarine in 53.55 N 10.28 W.
(A/C F., T.O.R. 1346/2 to 15 Group).
Am investigating air bubbles in 53.88 N?
10.24 W. (A/C K.1 1410/2 to 15 Group).
If fuel permits detach two vessels preferably
destroyers to hunt U/B reported by A/C in
53° 55' N 10° 28' W at 1410/2. A/C will
co-operate. (C.in C. W.A. 1459A/2 to
ROCHESTER).

Estimated approximate positions.
(D.D.I.C. 1417A/2 1428A/2).

Submarines Attacked.

By
GORLESTON
VERBENA
1/11.

O.S.10. At 1650N/1 GORLESTON and VERBENA attacked
and probably destroyed U/B in 048° 35' N 025°
(?) 15" W. At 0730N/2 U/B sighted on surface
chased and result unknown. Re-sighted 1030,
chase given but contact not established. At
1310N during hunt one Focke Wulf aircraft
approached from N.E. while in 046° 4' N 024°
36' W. Am rejoining convoy.
(LANDGUARD 1428Z/2 to C.in C. W.A.).

By
A/C.

Am over enemy submarine in 54.30 N. 12.10 W.
Periscope only was sighted. Have attacked with
depth charges. No hits. (A/C S.2. 1515/2,
1545/2 to 15 Group).

War Diary.

3.11.1941.
Monday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

C. in C. Home Fleet sailed from Scapa for Hvalfiord this evening in KING GEORGE V with VICTORIOUS, KENT, BERWICK, SUFFOLK and 6 destroyers

Departure
of raiders
believed
imminent.

Various pointers tend to confirm the impending departures of the ADMIRAL SCHEER and possibly a raider from the Baltic. (ADMIRAL SCHEER was not seen in floating dock at Hamburg on 25/10) Owing to the weather P.R.U. reconnaissance was not possible today.

P.55 was ordered at 1701A to proceed to patrol near 59° 18' N. 4° 25' E. to attack and report enemy cruisers and above and merchant ships in company with cruisers and above.

M.T.B. and
M.G.B.
operation.

3 M.T.B's and 2 M.G.B's from Dover attacked an escorted enemy convoy off Gris Nez at 2217. A large Merchant ship was torpedoed by M.T.B. 218 and was either sunk or beached. The M.G.B's subsequently engaged the escort vessels (1 fast vessel, possibly a minesweeper, one trawler and some 4 R. boats) and M.G.B. 42 was damaged and returned to Dover. M.G.B. 43 was also damaged and was towed back to harbour on 4/11.

British Air Operations.

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

Spitfires of Fighter Command which attacked shipping off the Cherbourg Peninsula today damaged or sank an E-boat.

War Diary.

3.11.1941.
Monday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Enemy Air Operations.

Convoy E.N.1. called for help at 1800 near Aberdeen. No damage has been reported.

VERSATILE reported Convoy F.N.543 being bombed at 1354 today in 51° 52' N., 1° 35' E. (off Harwich). No damage is reported.

Mining.

Liverpool was closed this morning until 0815A/4.

Patrol vessel OUZEL was blown up and completely disintegrated at 1212 near Mablethorpe.

South Atlantic.

Operation
"Bellringer".

(H 90)

SADF —

At 0759B today DEVONSHIRE reported that the convoy of 5 French ships escorted by D'IBERVILLE was stopped in 37° 43' S. 30° 16' E. and that boarding was in progress, D'IBERVILLE having refused to order the convoy to proceed to Port Elizabeth. The French merchant ships attempted to scuttle and CAP TOURANE and CAP PADARAN put their engines out of action. By 1315B COMPIEGNE and BANGKOK were on their way to Port Elizabeth at 7 knots, escorted by COLOMBO and NIGEL, and COMMANDANT DORISE was proceeding to Port Elizabeth escorted by CARNARVON CASTLE and FLORIDA. At 2310B DEVONSHIRE WAS escorting CAP TOURANE at 2½ increasing to 5 knots and at 1601B DEVONSHIRE reported that CARTHAGE was taking CAP PADARAN in tow. At 1648B orders were sent for the ships to be brought to East London. D'IBERVILLE, after shadowing for a while was last seen steering westward at 13 knots.

/Fuelling.....

War Diary.3.11.1941.
Monday.SITUATION REPORT.South Atlantic-Contd.Fuelling.

The Admiralty have replied to C. in C. S.A.'s message of 30/10 re the insecurity of St. Helena as fuelling port for ships of limited endurance between Freetown and the Cape. There are advantages in Pointe Noire for vessels of small endurance, but when circumstances permit C. in C. S.A. is to consider stationing an oiler at a sea R/V within reasonable distance of St. Helena, which could be ordered there when required to provide fuel under the lee of the island.

Mediterranean.

Last night, 4 naval aircraft attacked the sulphur factory at Licata, obtaining hits on it and possibly on the power station. A successful attack was made by 22 Wellingtons on Castel Benito aerodrome.

Operations
by S/M's.

C. in C. Med. reports that URGE sank a 1,500 ton southbound escorted merchant ship at 0750/22/10 in 35° 45' N. 11° 6' E. and a 4,000 ton merchant ship at anchor in 35° 50' N. 11° 5' E. at 1834/22/10; the latter ship was possibly already damaged by Blenheims. URSULA obtained two hits on a southbound merchant ship in convoy at 0800/18/10 in 35° 25' N., 11° 39' E., the ship apparently sinking later. From 1419 to 1429/22/10 she bombarded two bridges in 38° 0' N. 16° 8' E. at 1500 yards range.

Red Sea.

The Suez Escort Force has been reinforced during the full moon period and consists of CARLISLE, AVON VALE, ERIDGE and 5 sloops. The Flag of F.O.R.S. has been transferred to Suez.

War Diary.

3.11.1941.
Monday.

SITUATION REPORT.

America and West Indies.

INDOMITABLE and CLARKIA grounded this afternoon at the entrance to Kingston, Jamaica. Both ships got off during this night. INDOMITABLE will have to dock for examination.

acc 671
172

Experience is showing that the peace and plenty of the U.S.A. is unsettling for ships' companies after the rigours of more active war zones.

U-Boat Campaign.

S.C.52.

At 0328Z BROADWAY reported that Convoy S.C.52 had been attacked off the Straits of Belle Isle and that 2 ships (S.S. FLYNDERBORG and GREVALE) were torpedoed, at 1558Z she reported thick fog and that the convoy had scattered and returned to Sydney C.B.

S.S. LIBERIAN was attacked today in 4° 31' N. 1° 54' E. but eluded the torpedoes.

A ship was reported to have been torpedoed at 0730 in 22° 50' S. This was apparently S.S. BRADFORD CITY.

Convoy T.C.5.

Torpedoes were sighted at 0835 G.C.T. today by Task Group 1.4.3 escorting convoy C.T.5.

Convoy O.S.10.

Enemy aircraft this evening were homeing probably 6 U-boats on to a convoy which from the bearing appears to be O.S.10.

War Diary.3.11.1941.
Monday.HOME COMMANDS.Policy.Spitzbergen.

Your 1553/28 and 1722/30/10. Until present situation clears I do not intend taking any further action.
(C. in C. H.F. 0921A/3 to Adty.)

Promulgation
of W.A. Rules
restricting
Gunfire.

Naval Air Stations Secret and Confidential Memorandum No. 225 indicates existence of Special Rules for restricting A/A gunfire within Western Approaches Command.
(2) As ships of other commands have often to operate or pass through this area I consider it most important that the rules if established should be generally promulgated by C.A.F.O. or "A" message and that S.P. 02323 (2) are amended.
(C. in C. H.F. 1501A/3 to Adty.)

NEWPORT.

My 2219A/15 Oct. and 1244A/23 Oct. NEWPORT is allocated to Liverpool in place of BROADWATER. Allocation to Londonderry is cancelled.
(C. in C. W.A. 1534A/3.)

Movements.P.37.

Intend to sail P.37 escorted by WHITE BEAR for Clyde 1200A/4. E.T.A. 0800/5.
(N.O.I.C. Barrow 0929A/3.)

KING GEORGE V.
VICTORIOUS
KENT
BERWICK
SUFFOLK.

Expect to arrive in KING GEORGE V. with VICTORIOUS, KENT, BERWICK, SUFFOLK and 6 destroyers in company at 0950N/5th. Request gate 1050N. Concur cruisers for whom no berths are available in harbour anchoring North West H. of D.I. (C. in C. H.F. 0949A/3 to A.C.I.C.)
Scapa departure C. in C. in H.F. in KING GEORGE V, VICTORIOUS, BERWICK, SUFFOLK, KENT, SOMALI, MATABELE, PUNJABI, ASHANTI, OFFA, ORIBI.
(A.C.O.S. 1732A/3.)
2 hours 20 minutes early on my 0949A/3.
Request Engey Light 0645 to 0745N/5th.
(C. in C. H.F. 1921A/3 to A.C.I.C.)

AUSONIA.
MONTCLARE.
HIGHLAND
PRINCESS.
HILARY.

Admiralty's 1401A/25 and 1616A/30. Request I may be informed when AUSONIA, MONTCLARE and HIGHLAND PRINCESS will be ready to sail in company.
(C. in C. W.A. 1029A/3 to F.O.I.C. Greenock.)
C. in C. W.A. 1029A/3. Subject to confirmation that MONTCLARE can comply with Admiralty's *2149A/26 AUSONIA, MONTCLARE and HILARY (Latter for Southampton) and S.S. HIGHLAND PRINCESS will be ready for sea at 0800A/5th.
(S.O.W.P. 1830A/3.)

*N.T. & W.D.

/DUKE OF YORK ...

War Diary.3.11.1941.
Monday.HOME COMMANDS.Movements - contd.DUKE OF YORK. Scapa arrivals DUKE OF YORK, ESCAPADE, TARTAR.
(A.C.O.S. 1609A/3.)ALAUNIA
ASCANIA. My 1139A/27/10. ^{N.T. W.D.} No further information.
(S.O.W.P. 1645/3 to Adty.)Information
for LAMERTON,
etc. RORQUAL escorted by LA CAPRICIEUSE Northbound
in Irish Sea. May be met during the night.
(C. in C. W.A. 1710A/3 to LAMERTON, etc.)ARETHUSA. Your 1240 ^{N.T. W.D.} to C. in C. Rosyth. Time of sailing
not approved, sail 0630/5th and proceed to
Scapa so as to arrive before dark. Carry out
4 inch gun trials when East of May Island speed
in Firth as laid down in R.S.C.M.70. Fighter
protection will be arranged.
(C. in C. Rosyth 1715/3 to ARETHUSA.)ALBURY. When ALBURY is ready for sea request you will
sail her to Thorshavn Faroes to join S.O.M/S
Flot. 4. She should be sailed in convoy to May
Island, thence independently to Aberdeen for
coal, thence as arranged by N.O.I.C. Aberdeen.
(C. in C. Nore 1746A/3 to N.O.I.C. Humber.)TARTAR.
ESKIMO. Proceed passing Switha 1730 tomorrow to
Hvalfjord. On arrival act under orders of
Capt.(D) 6. You will be required to embark
ratings and mail before sailing.
(R.A.D. H.F. 1803A/3 to TARTAR, ESKIMO.)ROYAL
SOVEREIGN. My 1826/1. Will now undock at 1500/6.
(F.O.I.C. Glasgow 1851/3.)EDINBURGH.
SHEFFIELD. Arrived F.O.C. 18th C.S. in EDINBURGH and
SHEFFIELD 1100. (A.C.I.C. 1906N/3.)Operations.Exercise
L.3. Admiralty's 1907A/1st. Minimum number required
for L.3 3 is 26. Only 10 ratings now remain to
C.Q.2. Request therefore V.A.C.T.C. release 26
ratings for period of L.3 from a.m./10th to
p.m./13th. (C.Q.2 1220A/3 to V.A.C.T.C.)

/Asdic sweep ...

War Diary.3.11.1941.
Monday.HOME COMMANDS.Operations - contd.Asdic sweep.

Is to be carried out by escort by day under normal Asdic and visibility conditions.
(C. in C. W.A. 1529A/3 to BLACK SWAN.)

KENYA.

KENYA, BEDOUIN and INTREPID are to remain at Seidisfiord in readiness to proceed on patrol in Iceland - Faroes passage.
(C. in C. H.F. 1601A/3 to C.S. 10., Adty.)

Operation E.L. postponed.
Patrol off Haugesund.
P.35 to patrol
to enemy cruisers.

(A) Operation E.L. postponed. Proceed to patrol in vicinity of position 059° 18' N. 004° 23' E. Object to attack and report enemy cruisers and above.
(B) If you need to withdraw do not proceed North of 059° 50' N. unless absolutely necessary. (F.O.S. 1701A/3 to P.35.)
After passing 062° N. 002° E. proceed through 061° 46' N. 004° 08' E. thence keeping about 18 miles off the coast to patrol position ordered in my 1701A/3. R.A.(D) H.F. pass to Capt. (D) 6.
(F.O.S. 1836A/3 to P.35.)

British Air Activity.T.B.R.

My 1050/30th October. Cancel T.B.Rs south of 65° N. (A.C.O.S. 1201A/3 to H.Q.C.C.)

Patrols.

P.R.U. of Kristiansand, Oslo, Copenhagen in operation. (C. in C. Rosyth 1239/3.)
"Bert" and "South Stab" in operation.
-(C. in C. Rosyth 1945/3.)

A/C to M/V signalling.

Pass to N.C.S.Os. Masters of Merchant Ships are to be informed that aircraft wishing to obtain the names of single Merchant Ships encountered in the Western Approaches will flash the International signal "S C" (what is the name of your vessel?) and Merchant Ships are to reply by flashing their signal letters. This procedure simplifies signalling and saves time, but provides no guarantee of the friendly character of the aircraft and A/A precautions are not repetition not to be relaxed merely because "S C" is received.
(D.S.D. 1642A/3.)

War Diary.3.11.1941.
Monday.HOME COMMANDS.Enemy Air Activity.

Convoy
F.S. 636
BRYNMILL
(British
743 Tons)
damaged.
MARIE DAWN?
(French, *British*
2157 Tons)
sunk.

S.S. BRYNMILL in F.S. 636 damaged by 5 near miss bombs at 1855/2 in position 4 miles 210° from 59A buoy. All of crew saved by BASSET and being landed at Harwich. Ship is presumed to have sunk about 5 miles West of East Dudgeon Bell Buoy. S.S. MARIE DAWN damaged apparently in same attack and sank 2 miles S.W. of H.2 Buoy. All of crew saved by M/S Trawlers and landed at Humber. (C. in C. Nore. 1049A/3.) Total crew S.S. MARIE DAWN landed Grimsby. Master states vessel bombed and damaged by near misses at 1645/2 between H.2 and H.3 Buoys and sank 2 miles S.W. of H.2 Buoy. (F.O. Humber 1220A/3.)

Faroes
bombed on
2/11.

Single enemy aircraft attacked Skaalefjord 1800/2. Bombs presumably aimed at shipping fell on east shore. No casualties or damage. (O.C. Troops, Faroes 1200/3.)

CALIPH
(Trawler)
sunk on 2/11.

The CALIPH understood to have been attacked and sunk by 2 German aircraft 10 miles south of the Old Head of Kinsale between 1730 and 1830/2. (ARCHER 1309/3.)

F.N. 543.

Enemy aircraft bombing convoy "Pilot" position 51° 52' N. 1° 35' E. (VERSATILE 1354/3.)

Convoy.

Help "Mission" 56° 57' N. 1° 56' W. 019° - 8. (? Origin 1800/3 to Rosyth W/T.)

Shetlands.

At 0635 today an unidentified aircraft approached Shetlands from Eastwards, Aircraft remaining over an area 30 miles in diameter with centre 15 miles West of Muckle Flugga for 25 minutes. Then circled, plotted position of MINERVE and EQUERRY (090° out Skerries 8 miles) from 0731 till 0735. Aircraft then circled over ~~301201-402~~ and ~~YBEL 4.11~~ ~~30043~~ from 0745 until 0755 before flying out S. Eastward. Last plotted 45 miles East of Bressay at 0806. Aircraft was plotted and heard but not seen. Estimated height throughout 2500 to 4000 feet. Cloud 10/10 at 2500 feet. I consider this was an enemy aircraft which was either uncertain of its position and endeavouring to make a (?landing) at daylight or enemy had prior intelligence of S/M R/Vs which have recently all been in the vicinity Muckle Flugga, Bressay and Out Skerries. (A.C.O.S. 1810A/3.)

/Convoy ...

War Diary.3.11.1941.
Monday.HOME COMMANDS.Enemy Air Activity - contd.

Convoy F.N.540 Damaged by Bomb at 1746/2 off Spurn Point.
OCANA Proceeding to port for repairs.
 (Dutch Tanker, (D.S.790.)
6256 Tons.
Damaged on
2/11.

Mining.Liverpool.

Your 2021A/2. Port of Liverpool including
 Q.Z.S.298 will be closed until 0815A/4th.
 Adjust speed accordingly. (N.O.I.C.
 Liverpool 1012A/3 to ROCKINGHAM and 1524/3 to
 HESPERUS.)

S.N.83 A.
S.N.7 C.

R.A.(M)'s 1403A/2. Concur. (2) R.A.(D) is
 requested to provide one destroyer.
 (C. in C. H.F. 1133A/3.)

OUZEL.
(Patrol
Vessel)
sunk.

OUZEL blown up at 1212 half mile E. of
 Mablethorpe. No sign of any part of Vessel
 or Survivors. (F.O. Humber 1231A/3.)

White Sea
Approaches.

Your 1833/20/10. As a first action it is
 desired to establish whether the Russians have
 any minelayers available in North Russia and if
 so whether they can lay British Mark Nineteen
 mines or be adapted to do so. Brief details
 of these mine units are as follows.
 (V.C.N.S. 1232A/3 to S.B.N.O. North Russia.)

Sweep off
Faroes.

My 2245A/30. S.O. 4th M.S.F. intends operating
 from 0730 until 1200 tomorrow and until 1300/5,
 returning each day to Fugle Fiord. Request air
 protection. (N.O.I.C. Faroos 1642A/3.)

Bristol
Channel.

Exploded Red Mine 1145/3 017° 3.2 miles Watchet
 Pier Light.
 (Capt. M/S Bristol Channel 1730A/3 and 0930A/4.)

WELSHMAN.
MANXMAN.

WELSHMAN and MANXMAN are to embark outfits of
 Mark XVII mines with flooders and 200 fathom
 moorings as soon as possible and are to be sailed
 for Scapa when ready. (V.C.N.S.1916A/3 to
 R.A.M.)

War Diary.3.11.1941.
Monday.HOME COMMANDS.Enemy Intelligence.ADMIRAL
SCHEER and
Possible
Raider.

At 0710/3 a new German W/T service on 7180 kc/s replaced the N. Sea Operational wave of 7130 kc/s and has amalgamated N. Sea, South Norwegian and Baltic Stations. Similar procedure was introduced immediately prior to the sailing of LÜTZOW in June 1941 and the two Battle Cruisers in 1940. This reorganisation following other pointers tends to confirm the impending departures of SCHEER and possibly a Raider from the Baltic. (D.D.I.C. 1650A/3.)
My 1650A/3. P.R.U. unable to carry out R/C today owing to weather. No further information, but weather on Norwegian Coast is improving. (D.D.I.C. 2344A/3.)

Navigational.Sheringham
Buoy.Extinguished and adrift.
(HOLDERNESS 2250A/3.)Ice at
Archangel.

See Shipping.

Technical.H/F D/F
gear in
A.class
Destroyers.

Admiralty 1327/1/11. Require all A. class eventually fitted H/F D/F also R.D.F. type 271 in lieu of director and rangefinder. Proposals. (C. in C. W.A. 1149/3 to F.O.I.C. Humber.)

Setting of
Torpedoes
for shallow
running.

Your 1709B/24/10. As emergency measure, proceed as follows. Details. (D.T.M. 1950A/3 to Ad. Miles.)

R.D.F.

As an aid to R.D.F. identification the following procedure is to be carried out by Home Fleet vessels when a R.D.F. contact is obtained and the tactical situation is involved and warrants the use of W/T. Details. (C. in C. H.F. 2218A/2.)

Casualties and Defects.THYRA III
(Bombed
2/11.)

Arrival tugs DIVERSION and KROOMAN towing S.S. THYRA III at 0044A. (F.O.I.C. Yarmouth 0046A/3.)

NOTTINGHAM.

Engine defects in motor vessel NOTTINGHAM. Trial postponed. Propose to carry out programme a.m. 4th November. (? KINGFISHER 1405A/3 to N.O.I.C. Greenock.)

/BASSET

War Diary.3.11.1941.
Monday.HOME COMMANDS.Casualties and Defects. - Contd.BASSET.

Departure Tug DIVERSION to assist H.M.T. BASSET vicinity North Cockle buoy. (F.O.I.C. Yarmouth 1530A/3.)
Arrival tug DIVERSION with H.M.T. BASSET in tow. (F.O.I.C. Yarmouth 1810A/3.)

CORMARSH.

Departure tug KENIA to assist S.S. CORMARSH. (F.O.I.C. Harwich 2005A/3.)

CAPE ARGONA.

Your 1006A/3. ^{NTNWD.} Arrived. (N.O.I.C. Belfast 2350A/3.) *to whom?*

Shipping and Convoys.Escorts of Ocean Convoys.

My 1542A/30. Paragraph 1 (A) add:-
Names of ships detailed to be reported to authorities concerned. Paragraph 1 (B) delete :-
"Unless ocean escort is provided by Greenock group". (C. in C. W.A. 1010A/3.)

Independent Ships.

Homeward and Outward Independents. Names and P.C.S. (D.T.D. 1124A/3.)

H.X.155.

Met as arranged. No stragglers. All ships now arrived. (D.T.D. 1140A/3 to Opnav.)

F.N543.

Your 0954A/3. ^{NTNWD.} M.L.146 S.O., 145, 149, 150, 151, 152. (N.O.I.C. Yarmouth 1310A/3 to C. in C. Nore.)

P.Q. Convoys.

Soviet Authorities can not give at present fighter protection to ships northward of 68° North. Hours of daylight will soon be few but recommended as general principle that inward convoys should reach 68° N. at daylight and outward convoys at dark. This would entail passing through S/M area to northward in darkness. Recommended that point 'Z' in every case shall be 68° N., that British local A/S escorts shall meet incoming convoys during daylight on day previous to arrival at point 'Z' so as to provide additional escort in submarine area. C.S.1 and Russian Admiral concur. Admiralty pass to C. in C. Home Fleet. (S.B.N.O. North Russia 1444C/3 to Adty.)

/GRASLIN ...

SECRET

MESSAGE

1201/3rd Nov. IN

From C. in C Rosyth

Date 3/11/41

Recd, 1419

P/L BY T/P

Addressed Admiralty C. in C Nore S E E C C D H.Q.F.C H.Q.C.C. 11, 12, 13
Groups.

NOTWT

966. Forecast of convoy sailings.

F S641 (M)	ATTACHE	1200	Friday seventh	VERSATILE, WINCHESTER.
F S642 (S)	BREAST	0730	Saturday eighth	WHADDON, VERDUN.
F S643 (F)	MERIT	1930	Sunday ninth	VALOROUS, VIMIERA.
F S644 (M)	PARALLEL	1200	Tuesday eleventh	WESTMINSTER, WOLSEY.
F S645 (S)	BOOTY	0730	Wednesday twelfth	WALLACE, VANITY.
F S646 (F)	ARENA	1930	Thursday thirteenth	LEEDS, SLEIPNER.
F N547 (M)	ATTEMPT	0800	Friday seventh	WESTMINSTER, WOLSEY.
F N547 (F)	LUNCH	0800	Saturday eighth	WALLACE, VANITY.
F N548 (S)	PRIZE	0600	Sunday Ninth	VIVEN, QUANTOCK.
F N549 (M)	RADIO	0800	Monday tenth	VERSATILE, WINCHESTER.
F N550 (F)	PILOT	0800	Tuesday eleventh	WHADDON, VERDUN.
F N551 (S)	CONSEQUENCE	0800	Wednesday twelfth	VALOROUS, VIMIERA.

Time table as in my 1121/26/10.

1201/3

Advance copy sent Ops Trade.

N.A 1st S.L.

Ops (3)

C.D. (3)

O.L.S

D of S 2A

D.T.D. (4)

D.T.D. (M)

D of S.T

I.P. (3)

D.A/S.W.

W.D.

War Diary.3.11.1941.
Monday.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping and Convoys. - Contd.GRASLIN
MARIE.

Have searched for two missing ships pendant T 11 L GRASLIN M 15 L MARIE 20 miles in rear of convoy. Ships not found. (SLEIPNER 1540/3.)
Proceed to Sheerness forthwith. Report present position. (C. in C. Nore 1727A/3 to SLEIPNER.)

P.Q.3.

No Ocean Escort is available for Convoy P.Q.3. (C. in C. H.F. 1601A/3.)
P.Q.3 is not to sail until ordered by Adty. (A.C.N.S.(H) 2318A/3 to A.C.I.C.)

Ice at
Archangel.

Ice report number 5. Ice thickens. Escorts can only proceed in river with assistance of tugs but are in no danger. Minimum temperature at night only 0028 degrees F. Admiralty pass to C. in C. H.F. and F.O. 10th C/S. (S.B.N.O. Archangel 1732C/3.)

W.S.12 Z.
W.S.14.

It is intended that ROYAL SOVEREIGN and RAMILLIES should act as ocean escort for W.S.12 Z leaving U.K. 12/11 and W.S.14 leaving U.K. 30/11 respectively.
2. Owing to their limited endurance it will be necessary to route these ships south of Ireland (R) at economical speed completing to full stowage of fuel at Milford Haven and joining the convoy about the northern limit of the North Atlantic command.
3. After joining convoy battleship to steam as economically as possible at convoy speed, consequent delay in raising steam for full speed being accepted.
4. Under normal conditions with ship recently docked it is expected that passage to Freetown could be made without refuelling, but to allow for contingencies, an oiler should be available in the vicinity of the Cape Verde Is. By the time of arrival in vicinity Azores battleship should know whether fuelling at sea will be necessary and is to report accordingly.
5. C. in C. S.A. is requested to make the necessary preliminary arrangements to meet these requirements. (A.C.N.S.(F) 1836A/3.)

Q.P.2.

Cancel my 2130C/2. Convoy delayed 24 hours owing to bad weather. (S.B.N.O. Archangel 2345C/2.)

War Diary.3.11.1941.
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic.French shipping.

Passings 2/11. Westward PORT DE BUUC, ST. MAXIME, both full. Eastward, OUED TIFLET, ILE ROUSSE, ILLINOIS. All full, SURVILLE in Ballast. (V.A.C.N.A. 0917A/3 to Admty. for M.E.W.).

CLYDE.

CLYDE is available for patrol in Bay of Biscay west area leaving Gibraltar 9/11. Request area desired. Your 2249A/13/8, (2249/15 intended) refers. (F.O.C.N.A. 1306A/3 to Admty.).

O.21.

Unless area is required by 10th S/M Flot. intend to sail Netherlands S/M . O.21 9/11 for patrol in area 040° 50' 012° 50' between Port Drepana 130- 40. O.21 will return to Gibraltar 28/11. Admiralty pass to F.O.(S). (F.O.C.N.A. 1310A/3, to C.in C. Med.). [Exp. 224]

STAD HAARLEM damaged.

Your 0946A/30 and 41 (?) to Admty. During gale 2/11 STAD HAARLEM dragged buoy S moorings and grounded. Fear number 2 and 4 hold are (?holed). Diver will make examination as soon as weather moderates. (N.C.S.O. Ponta Delgada, 1445/3 to F.O.C.N.A.).

French Shipping.

Gibraltar 0815 Armed Trawler L'AJACCIENNE, S.S. ALGERIE, deck cargo casks, GRAND QUEVILLY, deck cargo twelve red cross vehicles, trawler TACIANA, westbound. (S.O.I.)Gib. 1711A/3 to C.in C. Med. etc.).

INDRA.

Have you any news of Panamanian INDRA due Huelva from Barry? (D.T.D. 1735A/3 to S.O.I.Gib.).

/Enemy.....

War Diary.3.11.1941.
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic. -Contd.Enemy shipping

List A.A. number 6 arrived Valencia from Cartagena with iron ore 31st. List B.B. number 2 arrived Valencia in ballast 1st. (F.O.C.N.A. 2208A/3 to OLYMPUS).
W.D. Note. According to F.O.C.N.A. 0938/31/8 No. 6 should be Italian MAURO CROCE and No.2. is German HANS SCHMIDT.

Gibraltar.

There were 5 day raids and 10 night raids during October. Casualties, civil damage. (details). (Gov. Gib. No. T.O.O./3).

South Atlantic.Operation "Bellringer" boarding.

Convoy is stopped in 037° 43' S 030° 16' E. Boarding is in progress. Scuttling has been attempted. Weather report. (DEVONSHIRE. 0759B/3 to N.O.I.C. Simonstown).
Ships in the convoy:- CAP PADARAN 8009 tons. CAP TOURANE, 8009 tons. COMPIEGNE, 9,986 tons. COMMANDANT DORISE, 5529 tons. BANGKOK 8,056 tons. Sailed from Tamatave 24/10 for France. (D.O.R. 3/11).

3 ships sabotaged.

My 0759B. No ships sunk. CAP TOURANE and CAP PADARAN engines out of action. COMMANDANT DORISE steering gear blown up, hand gear is being rigged. How many tugs are available? One is required for CAP PADARAN. French Sloop D'IBERVILLE is still here. Important to maintain air A/S patrol. Weather report. (DEVONSHIRE, 0945B/3 to N.O.I.C. Simonstown).

COMPIEGNE BANGKOK proceeding.

My 0945B. COMPIEGNE and BANGKOK proceeding to Port Elizabeth at 11 knots escorted by COLOMBO and NIGELLA. (DEVONSHIRE 1150B/3 to N.O.I.C. Simonstown).

/COMMANDANT.....

War Diary.

3.11.1941.
Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic. -Contd.

COMMANDANT
DORISE.

My 1150B/3. COMMANDANT DORISE now proceeding Port Elizabeth escorted by CARNARVON CASTLE and FLORIDA. S of A. uncertain owing to disabled steering arrangement. CARNARVON CASTLE report progress as necessary. (DEVONSHIRE, 1315B/3 to N.O.I.C. Simonstown).

CAP PADARAN
CAP TOURANE

My position 037° 36' S. 030° 25' E. course 262° 8 knots, shadowing French sloop D'IBERVILLE 13 miles astern. CARTHAGE is taking CAP PADARAN in tow. CAP TOURANE expected to proceed at 1730 and will remain in company with CARTHAGE. Intend to return to CARTHAGE at 1900 if situation unchanged. Passed to Admiralty for information. (DEVONSHIRE 1601B/3 to N.O.I.C. Simonstown).

Ships to
proceed East
London.

Authorities have agreed to vessels being brought into Port. All 5 vessels are to be brought into East London. Escorts are to report (1) probable E.T.A. and amend subsequently as necessary (2) number and category of passengers (3) nature of cargo (4) any other items of interest.
(N.O.I.C. Simonstown 1648B/3 to Force F.).

COMMANDANT
DORISE,
cargo
sabotage.

Your 1648B/3. (i) A.M./5 with COMMANDANT DORISE and FLORIDA. (ii) 1st Class one man, wife, child, 3rd class 5 men. (iii) Cargo tons dead weight for † Marseilles leather 260 Wax 65 Graphite 420 Rice 400 Bark Extract 145 Ricine Oil Grain 110 Mica 75. For Dakar, Coffee 300, Tinned food 530, also General cargo. Crew offered passive resistance, prize crew taken over all duties. Steering gear damaged by explosion and steering very erratic so tugs are essential on arrival. (CARNARVON CASTLE 1901Z/3 to N.O.I.C. Simonstown).

Identity of
French ships.

Your 2145/2 states F.N.L.Y. CAP VARELLA was one of 2 vessels (? to be) boarded by CARTHAGE. This name does not appear in other messages. Should F.N.L.Y. (CAP VARELLA) have read FNYE (COMMANDANT DORISE) which is mentioned in your 0945/3 and your 1315/3?. (N.O.I.C. Simonstown 1653B/3 to DEVONSHIRE).
Your 1653B/3. Yes. For FNLY (CAP VARELLA) read FNYE (COMMANDANT DORISE). (ii) CARTHAGE now making good 6 knots. Am escorting CAP TOURANE present speed 2½ knots increasing to 5 knots. (DEVONSHIRE, 2310B/3 to N.O.I.C. Simonstown).

Repair of
damaged
engines.

Your 0945B/3. It can be expected that replace parts for damaged engines are hidden on board. Admty 2222/15/3/1941. to C. in C.S.A. refers. (A.C.N.S. (F) 1843A/3 to DEVONSHIRE).

/Situation.....

War Diary.

3.11.1941.
Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic. -Contd.

Situation.

"Bellringer" situation at 1315B/3. COMPIEGNE and BANGKOK proceeding to Port Elizabeth at 7 knots escorted by COLOMBO and NIGELLA. COMMANDANT DORISE proceeding Port Elizabeth escorted by CARNARVON CASTLE and FLORIDA speed uncertain, CAP TOURANE and CAP PADARAN engines out of action. No further information regarding D'IBERVILLE. (C.in C. S.A. 1941N/3 to Admty.).

French W/T Report.

Monitoring Station has intercepted from ship D'IBERVILLE P/L message via Diego-Suarez radio. Concerns interception of convoy near Madagascar and mentions four cruisers and six patrol vessels. Full text will be passed later. (N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 2238Z/3 to Admty.).

NEW YORK.

Overdue shipping cancel my 0925/2, NEW YORK arrived Durban. (S.O.I. Capetown 0855B/3 to Admty. etc.).

AQUITANIA.

Your 1830/2 para 2. Consider Union Gov. will accept disadvantages and do their best to overcome them but rapidity of turn round will depend on weather and ship might have to lie exposed in Table Bay for (?some) days partly loaded with troops. (ii). C.in C. E.I. 0520/3 para 2. Request boiler cleaning be carried out at Colombo. (N.O.I.C. Simonstown, 1036B/3 to Admty.).

ANTWERP
MALINES.

Your 2133A/12/9. Endurance of 2000 miles by ANTWERP and MALINES can only be obtained at speeds of 13.5 and 10.5 knots respectively. (C.in C. S.A. 1411N/3 to Admty.).

Petrol at
C. Verde Is.

Spanish sailing ship name unknown now anchored at Petmolume Sal Island loaded with Aviation Petrol for Lati. May be sent to Santa Maria Sal before discharge to shore. (B.C. Sierra Leone 1517/3 to Admty.).

/EGRET.....

War Diary.

3.11.1941.
Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic. -Contd.

EGRET.

One cutter to fuel Ponta Delgada on return voyage in order that one vessel in escort group may be ready for any emergency. (EGRET 1712N/4 to C.in C. W.A.).

W.S.12.

Position 3/11. W.S. 12 arrived and all ships provisioning, ~~earge~~ ORMONDE (B) disembarking and discharging cargo. HIGHLAND BRIGADE (B and C) disembarks fuels and sails for Plate 4/11. STRATHNAVER sailed for Port Elizabeth. (S.S.T.O. Durban 1726Z/3 to D. of S.T.).

Naval Units at Dakar.

Dakar 1/11. Eleven Submarines are at Dakar. B.2. Source Petty Officer. The following cap ribbons have recently been seen - ^{LE}GLORIEUX, ^{LE}HEROS, FRESNEL, PASCAL, ACTEON, CERES, VENUS, IRIS, HENRI-POINCARÉ, PALLAS, ^{LE}DIAMANT. A.1. ARIZONA has unloaded 4,000 tons military equipment, CAPITAINE PRIEUR is unloading military supplies and general cargo. *GUSTAVE GUISTLEAU has arrived with general cargo. CAPITAINE LUGI has left for Casablanca. RHEA has arrived. A.1. (B.A.D. Washington 1937R/3). * ? GABRIEL GUIST'HAU.

Fuelling St. Helena.

Your 1601N/30 and Admty. 1452/1. The use of St. Helena as a fuelling base has strategic advantages over ports on West African Coast. I appreciate that for vessels of small endurance whose speed may be seriously reduced by head wind and sea the use of a fuelling port such as Pointe Noire will avoid the S.E. Trades. (2). When circumstances permit request you will consider stationing an oiler which will remain at sea R/V within reasonable distance of St. Helena and which could be ordered there when required to provide fuel under the lee of the island. (4th S.L. 2000A/3 to C.in C. S.A.).

War Diary.3.11.1941.
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean.Derna,
Benghazi
bombed.

Day 1/11. 9 Marylands bombed Derna Harbour and Aerodrome during afternoon bombs burst on Mole near Power station and in dock area starting one fire, 4 unidentified aircraft destroyed on ground on Aerodrome and three large fires started including one at stores dump, violent explosions followed by three small fires at building north of hangar - further bombs burst among dispersed aircraft. Night 1/2/11. Three Marylands bombed Cathedral Mole Benghazi two hours after dark, majority of bombs burst on Mole and in Inner Harbour but two overshot in town, damaged unobserved ground defences completely surprised and late in opening fire. One Blenheim dropped incendiary bombs on North Headland Bardia Harbour. 13 Wellingtons took off to attack petrol dumps at Benghazi. 7 aircraft bombed objective obtaining many hits. 3 Wellingtons developed engine trouble of which 2 bombed stores dumps at Berka causing explosions, third aircraft bombed Derna without visible result.
(H. Q. R. A. F. M. E. 1132/3).

CENTURION.

Your 0044/1. I have no project in view for CENTURION in near future. (C.in C. Med.1241B/3 to Admty.).

Gambut
bombed.

My A.862, 2/11. 2 F.A.A. Albacores on offensive night R/C of Bardia Tobruk road bombed large number M.T. parked east of Gambut South of road, results unobserved.

Suez raid
night 1-2/11.

(2) Following are amplifying details. 3 aircraft flew down Gulf of Suez, 1 of them attacking CARLISLE off Ras Gharib ineffectively. Same 3 returned up Gulf and dropped 12 bombs on Suez no damage or casualties. 8 Hurricanes on patrol between Suez and Port Said made no sightings. Bombs on Prisoners of War Camp Helwan by single aircraft caused neither damage nor casualties. (H. Q. R. A. F. M. E. 1309/3).

Enemy
units.

Aircraft R/C 3/11. One destroyer, 2 merchant ships, 037° 30' 019° 50' course 330° 12 knots at 1030B. One submerged submarine 036° 50' 020° 15' course 270° at 1006B. (Capt. S.10, 1353B/3 to TRUSTY).

/ E. H. FISSER.....

War Diary.3.11.1941.
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean. -Contd.E. H. FISSER.
MAURO
CROCE.

Arrival 31st. ELIZABETH HENDRIK FISSER from Cartagena with iron ore. Arrival 1st MAURO CROCE in ballast. (Valencia 1355/3).

PROTEUS
TAMPICO.

For information (i) A submarine was sighted in your area by enemy destroyer at 1030B/3. (ii) Italian tanker TAMPICO entered Aegean from Dardanelles at 1230B/2 carrying 5,000 tons gas oil probably for Trieste via Corinth canal. (Capt. S.1. 1451B/3 to PROTEUS).

PERSEUS
UNIQUE.

Request you will sail PERSEUS p.m./5 to operate initially in Gulf of Sirte west of 018° E until p.m./10 when UNIQUE will be ordered to leave area and PERSEUS will relieve her off Benghazi. (Capt S.1. 1521B/3 to Capt. S.10.).

STOCKHOLM

Danish broadcast of 3/11 states that Swedish American Line, owing to difficulty of taking delivery, has sold its 28,000 ton ship STOCKHOLM, built at Monfalcone and launched there on 10/3/1940, to Italy. (D.S. 793, 6/11).

JUPITER.

(7C.in C. Med.) 0926/3 (N.T.in W.R.). Proceed Haifa so as to arrive by 0800/4. (R.A.D. Med. 1702B/3 to JUPITER.).

Ships
building
for Turkey.Following from Admiral Kelly. Your 2006A/31. Proposal was made to meet Turkish objection to taking over ships which had been used by us on active service. It means that with the delay of one year in delivery we could use Turkish ships already fit for service, and replace them by ships which will be ready for delivery one year later. (N.A. Ankara 1720B/3 to Admty.). Following for Admiral Kelly:- ~~15~~ 2006/31 and Ambassador Angora's 2468 Foreign Office now agree to your informing Turkish Authorities as follows:-

- (1) We agree to the proposals in principle.
- (II) Steps are being taken to provide crews for the delivery of two destroyers to Turkey now.
- (III). One submarine will be delivered as soon as the after-trial modifications have been completed. A crew for the second submarine is not immediately available but will be provided in January.
- (IV). We concur that the alteration of the date of delivery in the contract is a suitable method of implementing the agreement.
- (V). The names of the four ships being retained will be changed. (Hd.of M. 2319A/3 to N.A. Angora).

/PORPOISE.....

War Diary.

3.11.1941.
Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean. -Contd.

PORPOISE.

PORPOISE leaves end of searched channel at about 2200B/3 and proceeds through 033° 24' 025° 00'. (Capt. S.1. 1845B/3 to TRIUMPH).

Turkish
harbour
defences.

Following from Admiral Kelly.
Your 1602B/30. As value of loops depends principally on efficiency patrol service fitted with latest devices working in conjunction with them, and there is not the faintest possibility of Turks. allowing British Naval Vessels to work in Turkish Harbours in peace time, do you think worth raising this question(?). Ryder seems satisfied with ability of Turks to man loop stations under British supervision, which moreover would be situated in places difficult for British ratings to live. The H.D.A. apparatus could perhaps be postponed until Turkey enters the war, when there should not be much difficulty in Britain taking over whole defences, which it is essential should be under same authority. I suggest we concentrate on establishment of A/T defence, shore batteries, and deep minefields as soon as possible, and in laying of loops, and leave remainder until our position is more established. There can be no question of establishment of a British Base at present time in any Turkish Port. They are most sensitive about any suggestion of this sort, and Germans are watching. Please when may I expect plan of proposed system of defences. (N.A. Angora. 1901B/3 to C.in C. Med.).

Survivors
landed in
Algeria.

Algiers 30/10 B.2. On 28 or 29/10 twenty survivors among whom were six Officers from an unidentified ship of British registry landed near Cap de Fer about 37° N. 7' E. Admiralty authorities Bona have taken charge of them. Twenty five survivors landed about the same time in Philippeville Bay and are in charge of the Admiralty authorities Philippeville. Some survivors are ill. No information that any are wounded. Investigations are being made. (B.A.D. Washington 1935R/3).

/Situation.....

War Diary.3.11.1941.
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean. -Contd.Situation
report
163.

ABDIEL and ten destroyers are employed in operation "Glencoe". Operation begun p.m./2 to transport a division of 11,000 Indian and 3,400 British troops from Egypt to Cyprus and 15,500 British troops from Cyprus to Palestine. Operation is under command of R.A.D.

2. Western Desert. Spasmodic shelling at Tobruk by battery to eastward and some minor air raids.

3 Red. Sea. Suez escort force has been reinforced during full moon period and consists of CARLISLE, AVONVALE, ERIDGE, and five sloops. Flag of F.O.R.S. has been transferred to Suez.

4. Enemy U/B activity continues. One U/B near missed by aircraft in 33° 44' N 24° 48' E at 1220/1. Another unreliably reported and attacked without result 22 miles West of Alexandria at 1220/2.

5. Malta. Force K again at sea night 1/2 without result. Wellington attack Benghazi convoy see H.Q. Malta 2045/1.

Western Desert striking force were unable to intercept same convoy.

6. Submarines. URGE sank 1,500 ton Southbound escorted M/V at 0750/22/10 in 035° 45' N 011° 06' E. and also sank 4,000 ton merchant ship at anchor in 035° 50' N 011° 05' E at 1834/22/10. Ship was possibly already damaged by Blenheims.

7. URSULA scored two hits on Southbound medium size M/V in convoy 0800/18/10. in 035° 25' N 011° 39' E. Ship apparently sank later. URSULA also bombarded two brick bridges on 22/10 in 038° 00' N 016° 08' E from 1,500. 77 rounds fired from 1419 to 1439 in spite of ineffective machine gun and rifle fire. Request no mention of bombardment. (C.in C. Med. 2019B. 2025B/3).

Malta Raid.

Night 2/3. 2 alarms 2016-2103 hours 0407-0444 hours. Total 13 bombers approached. 5 crossed coast. All bombs in sea. Hurricanes up no illuminations or interceptions.

Night 2/3. Two special Wellingtons shipping sweep. 4 x 250 lb. bombs on 2 M/Vs one probable D/R 1930 hours 117° Catania 255 miles. Results unobserved.

Air
Operations.

Night 2/3. 4 naval aircraft attacked sulphur factory Licata. Hits sulphur factory and possible power station. All returned. 22 Wellingtons attacked Castel Benito aerodrome.

(Details of damage). A most successful and determined attack by Wellington crews.

(H.Q. Malta 2100/3, 2115/3).

Crimea.

N.L.O. Black Sea reports Crimea situation obscure enemy have occupied Backchisari but as far as he knows not Simferopol. Sevastopol bombing commenced yesterday. Please inform Admiralty. (No.30 M.M. 2201/3).

War Diary.3.11.1941.
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies.AQUITANIA.

Your 1830/2 and 1507/1. AQUITANIA is delayed at Colombo until a.m./6 with condenseritis. Master definitely states unable to sail. Ship could not therefore reach Capetown until 16th. Master also states 8 days boiler cleaning is essential either Colombo or Capetown. Ship cannot therefore comply with your 1835/29. Pending further instructions am detaining her at Colombo. (C. in C. E.I., 0520 Z/3 to Admty).

Russians and
Bandar Gulf.

I have been unofficially asked whether we have a S.N.O. at Bandarshahpur. If so the Russians would like to send one there too.
2. This does not seem necessary to me and may politically be undesirable. Request your views.
3. I do not intend answering this question unless I am asked officially.
-(Adm. Miles, 1309D/3 to Admty). *Reply = 0912/12.*

W.S.12 X.

Admty 1300A/25. Convoy W.S. 12 X is expected to arrive Capetown 2/12. (D.O.D. (F) 1912A/3 to C. in C. E.I.)

China.CORTELLAZZO,
RAMB II
WINNETOU*
PIETRO
ORSEOLO.

Kobe. Arrival 25/10 Italian CORTELLAZZO painted grey with black funnels; on 26/10 she was alongside German WINNETOU. Italian ship RAMB I was alongside WINNETOU on 30/10. and has not been sighted since. Italian PIETRO ORSEOLO alongside WINNETOU on 2/11. Comment. Presumed all 3 ships were bunkering. (C.O.I.S. Singapore, 0302Z/3 to Admty).

French
Shipping.

Arrival 2nd D'ARTAGNAN 3rd LECONTE DE LISLE. (Manila, 0626Z/3 to M. of W.T.)

/French.....

War Diary.

3.11.1941.
Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

China. - Contd.

French
Ships.

Arrival 2/11 CAP VARELLA, SI-KIANG, PIERRE L.D.,
VILLE DE VERDUN. Departure 1st Nov. BOUGAINVILLE
Haiphong.
(Saigon, 0932Z/3).

Free French
Movement.

Your 1025/21, it is not proposed to appoint
Col. Burkhardt pending arrival of Chancellor's
report. Request you will carry on with the
work as hitherto for the present and report on
nature of the work of officer to be appointed
if later approved. (Head of M., Approved by
A.C.N.S. (F) 2321A/3 to C. in C. China).

America & West Indies.

Suspicious
Tanker.
21/10.

My 1234A/1. Ship may have been new Portuguese
Fishing Trawler^X SANTA PRINCESSA.
(D.D.I.C., 1048A/3 to Opnav, C. in C. A.W.I.)
? X SANTA PRINCEZA intended

DIDO
Morale
of ships'
companies
in U.S.A.

Experience is showing that peace and plenty
of U.S.A. is unsettling for ships' companies
after rigours of more active war zones. This
lowering of morale would be corrected by brief
visits to England and a short leave.
DIDO will be first ship whose crew has remained
intact. Though the attitude of her very good
ship's company has remained entirely correct
it would be beneficial if there should be an
opportunity of a home bound convoy requiring
escort allowing her a short time at home before
proceeding to her war station. Her Captain
considers morale so gained would be greater
than advantage of working up at Bermuda.
(B.A.R.M., 1308R/3 to Admty). *Reply 1552A/12.*

O.N. 28.

Serial 15, ON. 28 disperse at discretion.
(Opnav, 1345Z/3 to Com Task Unit 4.1.6).

/LIVERPOOL....

War Diary.3.11.1941.
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America & West Indies. - Contd.

- LIVERPOOL. Your 2217A/3/9 (2217A/3/10 intended). (a) and (b) all armament on board is manned except one 6" gun in each turret. (c) Torpedo armament on board can be fully manned battle. (d) Two lines manned in four watches. (e) and (g) as stated. (f) and (h) None. (i) Sufficient. (B.A.R.M., 1502R/3 to Admty).
- ARROWHEAD,
SNOWBERRY. C.C.N.F., 1356/2. It is assumed that it is intended that ARROWHEAD and SNOWBERRY should be refitted under lend lease. Please confirm. They can be accepted at Charleston on Wednesday 26/11. (B.A.R.M., 1508R/3 to N.S.H.Q. Ottawa) Your 1508/3 this is confirmed B.A.D. pass to C.N.A. (N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 1721Z/3 to B.A.R.M. Washington).
- CATHAY. Your 1232A/30/10. Request outline requirements by message. Is ship to be fitted as troop transport? Early information essential in order to reduce dislocation of work in Navy Yard. (B.A.R.M., 1546R/3 to Admty).
- H.X.158. Task Unit 4.1.8 designated escort H.X.158 Composition BUCK (S.O.) LUDLOW, SWANSON, McCORMICK, COLE. (Opnav, 1616Z/3 to Admty).
- LIVERPOOL. Following is intended programme. Leave San Francisco P.M./3. Arrive Balboa P.M./11. Leave Balboa A.M./12. Arrive and leave Colon P.M./12. Arrive Bermuda 16/11. Supply of 1100 tons fuel at Balboa has been arranged. (B.A.D., 1629R/3 to C. in C. A.W.I.)
- ILEX. A.M.1650/21/8. Arrival of ILEX in U.S.A. will be delayed until approx. 6/1/1942 owing to necessary temporary repairs to ensure seaworthiness. (D.O.D. (F) 1649A/3 to B.A.R.M.)
- Convoy T.C.
14A. In view of U-boat situation request you will consider provision of local escort to vicinity of 50° W., in addition to PIORUN and GARLAND. (A.C.N.S. (H) 1703A/3 to C.O.A.C. Halifax.)

/INDOMITABLE..

War Diary.

3.11.1941.
Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies. - Contd.

→ INDOMITABLE
aground off
Kingston.

Regret to report ship grounded at 1621R/3 with stem in position 174° 600 feet from Rackum Cay Beacon. Way was nearly off but ship is fast from stem for about 100 feet. Am lightening ship. No tug available here. Weather sea calm, no wind. (INDOMITABLE, 1716Q/3 to C. in C. A.W.I.)

INDOMITABLE's 1716Q/3. Salvage Ship WILLET ordered from Miami left for Kingston at 2030R today. Speed about 13 knots. Captain Davis Head Salvage Officer requested fly from New York first opportunity all possible steps being taken locally lighten both ships. Intend keeping Canadian minesweepers until situation clears. (Capt. I/C Jamaica, 2130R/3 to C. in C. A.W.I.)

OMAHA,
SOMERS.

My 1701/29 and 1749/30 and 2030/1 your 2127/30A and 0855/31A, 1723/2 and 1243/3A. Correct route OMAHA, SOMERS pass point 15° N., 26° W. 3/11 arrive Recife 8/11 leave 9th then patrol to northward and westward arriving Trinidad 15/11. (Opnav, 1725Z/3 to Admty).

C.T.5
W.S.12 X.
T.C.15.

Opnav 2044/2, D. of S.T. 0720A/1, my 2043Z/27/10 and relevant signals, Admty 0217A/24/10 para. (3). If you agree that probable arrival C.T.5. at Halifax will be late 7th or A.M./8, it is now proposed transshipment will be carried out 8th and 9/11 to sail W.S.12 X A.M./10. This delay of one day it is expected will delay sailing T.C.15 to A.M./14. Request approval to delay all movement of troops to seaboard one day and complete embarkation by late P.M./13 (N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 1833Z/3, to Admty).

→ CLARKIA
aground.

CLARKIA grounded in position 196° Rackum Cay beacon 500 yards about 1230R/3 and is still fast. (INDOMITABLE, 1841R/3 to C. in C. A.W.I.)

ROODE ZEE.

Early release of ROODE ZEE is of such importance that some inconvenience at Bermuda must be accepted. Request you will arrange to replace ROODE ZEE on conclusion of ST. BLAZEY's refit by two of the tugs mentioned in NS.H.Q. 1843Z/20 pending availability of more suitable relief. Arrangements will be made to dock ROODE ZEE elsewhere. (A.C.N.S. (F) 1922A/3 to C. in C. A.W.I.)

B.A.D. Washington 1935R/3 See Mediterranean.

B.A.D. Washington 1937R/3 See S. Atlantic.

War Diary.

3.11.1941.
Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies. - Contd.

CITY OF ALBERTA.

Schooner CITY OF ALBERTA^{MS} due Vancouver 20/10
APIA has not arrived. (N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 2109Z/3)
*APIA * see P. 96*

BROADWAY.

Proceed forthwith with ^{?T.U.} 4.1.12 to Belle Isle and cover passage of convoy through Straits till dusk/4. Further orders follow. (C.C.N.F., 2146Z/3 to BROADWAY).

INDOMITABLE. CLARKIA.

INDOMITABLE and CLARKIA are aground at entrance Kingston Jamaica. Request nearest U.S. tug may proceed Kingston in case required. (C. in C. A.W.I., 2222Q/3 to B.A.D.) Request KILLERIG if free may be sent from Trinidad and any available tugs from Curacao. (C. in C. A.W.I., 2332Q/3, to N.O.I.C. Trinidad, S.N.O. Curacao).

Task Groups C.T.5.

8 DDS. designated Task Group 14.9 departed Casco Bay towards 045° N., 035° W., to relieve D.D.S. of Task Group 14.3 escorting C.T.5. (Opnav, 2305Z/3 to Admty).

New Zealand.

LE TRIOMPHANT.

Your 0500Z/30. Request you will proceed direct to ^{*Kilias} Kilias. Docking can be arranged at Sydney after 6/11. Please signal E.T.A. at Sydney. (N.Z.N.B., 0925M/3 to LE TRIOMPHANT).

* ? Cocos.

War Diary.

3.11.1941.
Monday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Ships Attacked.

S.C.52.
FLYNDERBORG
GRETAVALE
torpedoed.

My 0328Z/3. (N.T. in W.R.) Ships sunk were FLYNDERBORG (corrupt group) survivors only. GRETAVALE all but 3 picked up all in WINDFLOWER. (BROADWAY 0435Z/3 to Opnav.) FLYNDERBORG, British, 2022 tons, from Parrsboro for London with lumber; GRETAVALE, British, 4586 tons, from Baltimore to Loch Ewe with steel. (D.S. 791, 5/11.)

EMPIRE
GEMSBUCK.
British.
MICHAEL L.)
EMBIRICOS.)
Greek.)

Also reported torpedoed in S.C.52. (D.S.791.) No. signal in W.D. BROADWAY reports S.C.52 attacked in 51° 21' N., (?51°)45' W. 2 ships torpedoed. T.O.O. 0328Z/3. (Ends.) Request air escort forthwith. (C.C.N.F., 0439/3, to O.C.No.1, Group, R.C.A.F., Comtask 4 etc.) Nos. 83 and 84 of S.C.52 torpedoed and sinking in 052° 06' N., 052° 50' W. All but one survivor picked up. Convoy has (?scattered) and proceeded Sydney C.B. Thick fog. Intend hunting in vicinity until dusk returning to St. Johns' N.F. with all despatch. (BROADWAY, 1558Z/3, to Opnav.) Following has been read:- S.O.S. DEBRAAF (part missed) torpedoed 22.50 S., (part missed.) (Slangkop W/T, 0730/3, to Whitehall W/T.)

LIBERIAN.

Following has been read: S S S S LIBERIAN 4° 36' N., 02° 09' E., enemy submarine sighted 1427/3 G.M.T. stop, ship near. (LIBERIAN, T.O.R. 1520/3.) Following has been read, 004° 31' N., 001° 54'E., attacked by S/M, torpedoes eluded, no further attack since last message. (LIBERIAN, 1630/3.)

Submarines Reported.

2345G.M.T./2.

Your 1113A/2. (W.R. message calling for repetition of 0043/31 not prev. recd.) At 2345 G.M.T. German submarine bearing 269/2. Traffic 28 groups of G.N.E. T.O.O. 0043/31. (F.O.C.N.A. 0942A/3, to Admt.)

0446 G.M.T.

By D/F at 0446/3 G.M.T. U-Boat was within 60 miles of 56° 30' N., 15° 30' W. (D.D.I.C. 1030A/3, to S. and A., W.A., H.Q.C.C.)

/0511 G.M.T.....

War Diary.3.11.1941.
Monday.U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.Submarines Reported. Contd.

- 0511 G.M.T. D/F at 0511/3 G.M.T. indicates that Convoy H.X. 156 or O.N.31 was reported by a U/Boat. (D.D.I.C. 1041A/3 to Escorts O.N.31, Opnav, etc.) (Opnav 1145/3 to Comtask Unit 4.1.7.)
- 0827 G.M.T. Inconclusive D/F at 0827/3 G.M.T. suggests that a Convoy C.T.5. U-boat may be in the vicinity of Convoy C.T.5. (D.D.I.C. 1106A/3, to Escorts. C.T.5.)
- 0835 G.C.T. Torpedoes were sighted at 0835 G.C.T./3 by Task Convoy C.T.5. Group 14.3 escorting C.T.5. (Opnav, 1329Z/3, to Action Admiralty. D.T.D. 1806A/3, to C. in C.W.A.)

Estimated approximate positions.
(D.D.I.C. 1331A/3, 1408A/3.)

1427. Ref. Admty., message A.F., position 4.36N., 2.09E., at 1427. (C. in C.S.A., 1622 G.M.T./3, to Area 6 A-D.)
- 1802A. Enemy aircraft are homeing probably 6 U Boats on to convoy. Only convoy on approx., bearing is O.S.10. (F.O.C.N.A., 1802A/3, to O.S.10.)
- 2026Z/3. Indications that a probable U-boat was within 60 miles of 001° 30' S., 005° E., at 2026Z/3. 50% reliable. (C. in C.S.A., 2315N/3, to PHOEBE.)

Submarines Attacked.By BRANDON.

Sighted and attacked enemy submarine steering east at 2220Z/2 position 046° 13' N., 054° 56' W., ships in company MIMOSA SHEDIAC. (H.M. Ship, ? BRANDON, 0005Z/3, to C.O.A.C., Halifax, C.C.N.F.) MIMOSA and SHEDIAC met BRANDON at 2200Z/2 in 046° 09' N., 054° 38' W. BRANDON reported sighting S/M on surface proceeding at high speed, course approx., 090°. BRANDON made enemy sighting report. S/M believed to have submerged immediately. Search was carried out. BRANDON had to leave for Halifax at 0100Z/3. Am continuing search with SHEDIAC but fuel does not permit remaining after 0900Z/3. (MIMOSA, 0130Z/3, to C.C.N.F.)

/By A/C.....

War Diary.

3.11.1941.
Monday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Submarines Attacked. Contd.

By A/C
1313 G.M.T.

In 12° 28' N., 17° 38' W., 2 D.C. dropped result unknown. 1 Hudson search submarine 1515 to 1830 nothing sighted. (A.H.Q., West Africa 0810/3.)

By A/C.

My 1604. (N.T. in W.R.) Aircraft attacked submarine with depth charges, estimated no hits. Enemy course and speed are 300° 2 knots. (C. in C.S.A., 1512N/3, to S.A.Stn.)

By BUCTOUCHE.

Following from BROADWAY, begins, BUCTOUCHE has attacked submarine in 052° 10' N., 052° 50' W., much oil. (C.C.N.F., 2316/3rd to Cmdr., Task Force 4, C.O.A.C. Halifax.)

War Diary.

4.11.1941.
Tuesday.

SITUATION REPORT.

British Air Operations.

Two Wellingtons attacked the battle cruisers at Brest last night; 2 - 4,000 lbs. bombs were dropped.

Attacks were made by Coastal Command A.M. today on shipping off the north coast of Holland.

Special patrols were flown today to the southern Norwegian coast by aircraft of Coastal Command.

Bomber Command carried out no operations today, on account of unsuitable weather.

Enemy Air Operations.

N.O.I.C. Faeroes reports that one enemy aircraft dropped bombs near Thorshavn Oil Tanks at 0844 today. No Naval damage was caused. O.C. Faeroe Islands Force, however, states that the attack was made on the A.A. gun site or civilian hospital.

Mining.

Thames
Estuary.

A wooden sailing barge was reported blown up this morning just off the Maplin.

Bristol
Channel.

Dutch M/V MADJOE was mined and sunk in 51° 34' 38" N., 3° 50' 30" W. Port Talbot was closed at 0922A.

War Diary.

4.11.1941.
Tuesday.

SITUATION REPORT.

North Atlantic.

It is reported that a French convoy bound for Casablanca to load rubber passed Tangier early this afternoon.

South Atlantic.

OLWEN
attacked by
S/M.

Oiler OLWEN reported that she was attacked by a merchant ship raider at 0530Z today in 3° 5' N. 22° 35' W. The message was cancelled at 0545/4, but it was considered that the cancellation was probably made by the raider, as OLWEN again made QQ at 0630. DORSETSHIRE, CANTON, DUNEDIN, QUEEN EMMA and PRINCESS BEATRIX were despatched to search, and Task Group 3.6 also searched. Later, OLWEN reported that she made her Q signal on being fired at in dawn light by an unseen attacker, probably a S/M on the surface. OLWEN was undamaged. She received a message in P.L. from callsign NERK to Steer S.W. and that NERK was coming to assist her, but OLWEN disregarded this.

S.S.
BRADFORD CITY.

Walvis Bay Radio this morning intercepted an S.O.S. message from S.S. BRADFORD CITY indicating that the crew had abandoned ship and were making for shore.

Mediterranean.

TARN
attacked
by S/M.

French Naval Oiler TARN reported that she was attacked by a British Submarine in 36° 40' N., 2° 30' E., at 0340 today. The submarine, if any was not British, however.

/Air.....

War Diary.

4.11.1941.
Tuesday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Mediterranean - Contd.

Air
Operations.

2 out of 5 naval aircraft despatched bombed Augusta Submarine Base last night.

Suez.

A few bombs were dropped last night near the entrance to the Canal at Suez and an abortive attack took place on a convoy about 100 miles south of Suez. Traffic is suspended in the Canal at km. 137 pending investigation of a suspected U.X. object. No damage or casualties are reported.

Black Sea.

The evacuation of women and children and unnecessary gear from Sevastopol is in progress.

The Soviet cruiser VOROSHILOV has been damaged by bombs in Novorossisk.

War Diary.

4.11.1941.
Tuesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Policy.

Combined
Signal
School.

Admiralty's 1907/1 and C.Q.2. 1220/3. To allow Combined Signal School to function as planned it is essential that no dislocation on scale required by C.Q.2. should be allowed. Surrender of ratings as requested will destroy whole sequence of instruction for winter's training. It is strongly urged that ratings under instruction at Combined Signal School be not interfered with before December.
(F.O. C.T.C., 1001A/4 to Admty.)

F.O.S. 1309A/4. See Mediterranean.

V.A.2.
R.A.D.

V.A.2. has been directed to proceed to Scapa to take over Home Fleet Duties in absence of C. in C. H.F. As soon as V.A.2. has taken over, R.A.(D) is to proceed to Admiralty.
(1st S.L., 1918A/4.)

Co-operation with Russia.

Murmansk.

There is no truth in Finnish claim to be advancing on Murmansk as announced B.B.C. today. Military situation as follows. Details.
(S.B.N.O. North Russia, 1159C/4.)

Russian
Trawlers
for U.K.

My 1259D/27, para. 2.
Informed that after personal investigation Kugnetsov has decided that there are no trawlers available.
(Ad. Miles, 1637D/4 to Admty.)

Movements.

PETUNIA.

Arrived.
(N.O.I.C. Londonderry, 0805A/4.)

BELMONT.

Sail BELMONT to Hvalfjord when ready.
(C. in C. W.A., 1016A/4 to F.O.I.C. Greenock.)

/AUSONIA.....

War Diary.4.11.1941.
Tuesday.HOME COMMANDS.Movements - Contd.AUSONIA.
MONTCLARE.
HILARY.
HIGHLAND
PRINCESS.
BLANKNEY.
CHELSEA.

Sail AUSONIA, MONTCLARE, HILARY, HIGHLAND PRINCESS, BLANKNEY from Clyde. CHELSEA from Londonderry to R/V arranged by F.O.I.C. Greenock. (2) Destinations AUSONIA Cardiff. HIGHLAND PRINCESS Avonmouth. MONTCLARE Falmouth. HILARY Southampton.

(3) CHELSEA part company off Falmouth and proceed to Londonderry.

(4) BLANKNEY part company off Needles and proceed to Londonderry.

(C. in C. W.A., 1112A/4.)

Admiralty's 1401A/25/10, C. in C. W.A. 1029A/3, and my 1830A/3.

AUSONIA, MONTCLARE, HILARY, and S.S. HIGHLAND PRINCESS will be ready to leave Clyde at 0800A/5.

(S.O.W.P., 1230A/4.)

Intend sailing AUSONIA, MONTCLARE, HILARY, and HIGHLAND PRINCESS for Cardiff, Falmouth, Southampton and Avonmouth respectively escorted by BLANKNEY passing Clyde Boom at 0800A/5 to R/V with CHELSEA at number 5 Channel buoy at 1200A/5 thence by standard route to 270° Smalls 10 miles. Routes thereafter.

(S.O.W.P., 1600A/4.)

C. in C. W.A. 1112A/4. Request you will sail CHELSEA to R/V Clyde Number 5 Channel Buoy at 1200A/5.

(N.O.I.C. Greenock, 1646A/4 to N.O.I.C. Londonderry)

P.37.

My 0929A/3. P.37 escorted by WHITE BEAR sailed. (N.O.I.C. Barrow, 1243A/4.)

RORQUAL.

E.T.A. 1800A/4 with RORQUAL. (LA CAPRICIEUSE, 1350A/4 to N.O.I.C. Greenock.)

DUNCAN.F.O.C.N.A. 1724A/3. ^{N.T. in W.D.} Route to Plymouth.

2. In order that fighter protection may be arranged as far West as possible you should pass through position (b) at 0800 if practicable.

(C. in C. Plymouth, 1612/4 to DUNCAN.)

SEAWOLF.

From 73° 40' N. 24° E. proceed through following positions to R/V with SHFORM class destroyer in position (d) 69° 34' N. 34° 10' E. at 1000C/9. T.B.R. 20 miles either side of your route from 0001/7. (3) Teriberski and Kildin Island northern lights will be shown for 5 minutes every quarter of an hour from 0500C/9.

/(4) Escort.....

War Diary.4.11.1941.
Tuesday.HOME COMMANDS.Movements.SEAWOLF
(Contd.)

(4) Escort will return to harbour after 4 hours if contact is not made, repeating R/V 24 hours later.

Admiralty pass to SEAWOLF on H.S. routine.
(S.B.N.O. North Russia, 1819C/4 to SEAWOLF.)

UNA.

Sailed UNA and CUTTY SARK in accordance with S.3. 2201A/1.
(F.O.I.C. Greenock, 1908A/4.)

MONTROSE.

Proceed when ready to Rosyth. On arrival you will be required to embark V.A.2. and staff for Middle Scapa as ordered by RENOWN.

2. Speed West of Fidue Island - Eliness is not to exceed 9 knots except in emergency.

(R.A.D. H.F., 1911/4 to MONTROSE.)

Sailed MONTROSE for Rosyth. E.T.A. 0700A/5.
(R.A.D., 2030A/4.)

RODNEY.
ONSLow.
IMPULSIVE.
ANTELOPE.

On completion of serial 51 tomorrow ONSLOW with IMPULSIVE, ANTELOPE proceeds to Londonderry. On arrival complete with fuel. Leave Londonderry as necessary to R/V with RODNEY in position Y at 1100Z/7.

3. When met take over A/S screen from HIGHLANDER, HAVELOCK, HARVESTER and provide escort to Scapa in accordance with C. in C. W.A. 1116A/4.
(R.A.D. H.F., 2145A/4.)

Operations.Action off
Griz Nez.
One M/V hit.
M.G.B. 42
and M.G.B. 43
damaged.

M.T.B's 38, 218, and 220 with M.G.B's 43 and 42 were sailed at 2113/3 to intercept enemy shipping plotted 3 miles North of Calais steering to Westward.

Interception was made at 2217 just South of Griz Nez and enemy found to consist of 1 large M/V 1 fast vessel possibly M class minesweeper 1 trawler and about 4 R-boats.

The large M/V was hit by 2 torpedoes from M.T.B. 218 and has either sunk or been beached. R/C will be made at dawn. No casualties or damage to M.T.B's. M.G.B's 43 and 42 subsequently engaged escort vessels.

/M.G.B. 42.....

War Diary.

4.11.1941.
Tuesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operations.

Action off
Gris Nez.
One M/V hit.
M.G.B. 42 and
M.G.B. 43.
damaged.
Contd.

M.G.B. 42 hit in engine room and has returned to Harbour with 2 ratings wounded. M.G.B. 43 reported at 2300 that she was returning with several wounded but she has not arrived and is not on the plot or in W/T touch. Search is being made by M.T.B's 45 and 48 and at daylight by M.G.B's 9 and 11 in co-operation with aircraft.
(V.A. Dover, 0231A/4.)
My 0231. M.G.B. 43 located at daylight stopped in mid-Channel bows badly damaged. Now being towed back to harbour. Casualties one officer and three ratings wounded.
(V.A. Dover, 0941A/4.)

CLYDE.

~~F.O.C.N.A. 1603/3.
In order to make use of air R/C for reporting likely eastbound targets propose CLYDE should operate between 044° and 045° N. and 006° and 008° W.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 1734/4 to Admty.)~~

See below

Interception
of enemy
heavy units.

Failing further information proceed with BEDOUIN and INTREPID on Iceland Faroes Patrol. Assume enemy warship may (? pass through) on night 5th/6th.
(C. in C. H.F., 2055N/4 to C.S. 10.) (KENYA)
My 1701A/3, para. A. Add subsidiary object. To attack and report northbound merchant ships if in company with cruisers and above.
(F.O.S. 1244A/4 to P.35.)

P.35

Biscay
S/M Patrol.
CLYDE.

F.O.C.N.A.'s 1306/3. In order to make use of air R/C for reporting likely eastbound targets, propose CLYDE should operate between 044° and 045° N. and 006° and 8° W.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 1734/4.)

British Air Activity.

Patrols.

"Stand" in operation.
(C. in C. Rosyth, 0205/4.)
"Stand" by two aircraft in operation.
(C. in C. Rosyth, 0939/4.)

/ A/C.....

War Diary.4.11.1941.
Tuesday.HOME COMMANDS.British Air Activity - Contd.A/C
Recognition
Signal.Trial by convoy patrol (details.)
Request that Naval Authorities report results to H.Q.F.C.
(H.Q. 11 Group, 1015/4.)Brest
bombed.
One M/V
7 to 10,000
tons hit.On 3/11 no operations took place owing to weather. On Night 3/4 SCHARNHORST and GNEISENAU at Brest were attacked by 2 A/C. No results were seen.
One A/C sighted a convoy off the North coast of Holland and scored a direct hit on a ship estimated 7-10,000 tons.
(H.Q.B.C., 1330/4.)Interception
of enemy
heavy units.My 2055N/4th. (see Operations). Request covering air patrols and "Polar" may be established.
(C. in C. H.F., 2135N/4 to Admty.)Enemy Air Activity.Faroes
bombed.Single enemy aircraft attacked Thorshavn 0840 hours today, objective A.A. Gun Site or civilian hospital. No casualties or damage, only 2 bombs exploding, A.A. gunfire effectively keeping aircraft high.
(O.C. Faroos, 1117/4 to War Office.)
One enemy aircraft dropped 4 bombs in the vicinity of Thorshavn oil tanks at 0844 today. Slight damage to civilian property. No casualties.
(N.O.I.C. Faroos, 1120A/4.)AGILITY
(British
Tanker,
522 tons)
damaged
on 2/11.Damaged by A/C at 1900/2 in Yarmouth Roads. No casualties. Ship will be dry docked at Yarmouth.
(D.S., 791.)Mining.Bristol
Channel.Port Talbot is closed until further orders.
(F.O.I.C. Cardiff, 0922A/4.)
My 1148A/2nd and 1049A/3. Similar procedure will be carried out today. ~~Swansea~~ group will leave Swansea Bay 0930/5. Reference my 0922A/4
Port Talbot will be open from 1500 to 1800 today.
(F.O.I.C. Cardiff, 1223A/4.)

War Diary.4.11.1941.
Tuesday.HOME COMMANDS.Mining - Contd.S.N.83A.
S.N.7C.

Your 1403/2. Concur, but in view of my 1916/3 it may not be possible to lay S.N.7C. (A.C.N.S. (H), 0955A/4 to R.A.M.)

MADJOE
(Dutch.
249 tons)
sunk.(II) MADJOE sunk in 51° 34'38" N. 3° 50'30" W.
(III) Port Talbot closed. Incoming traffic will be stopped by examination vessel. (F.O.I.C. Cardiff, 1008A/4.)Thames
Estuary.

At 1053A/4 one Green Mine detonated in 51° 28.9'N. 0° 55' E. Details. (HOLDERNESS, 1059A/4.)

Milford
Haven.

At 0837/4 one Green Mine detonated by Sweepers in 076° St. Anne's Head Light 9.85 cables. Details. (F.O.I.C. Milford Haven, 1743/4.)

Firth of
Forth.

Blue mine detonated 1150/4 by single "L" in 56° 01'06" N. 03° 06'40" W. (C. in C. Rosyth, 1851/4.)

Humber.

At 1325 today L.L. Sweepers detonated one Magnetic Mine 330° 57D 2 miles. (F.O. Humber, 2030A/4.)

BRITISHER
sunk.

(Sailing Barge). Reported blown up at 1115 today just off Maplin. No survivors. Report made by skipper of sailing barge WILL EVERARD which was about 200 ft. away at time of explosion. (N.C.S.O. Thames, 2058A/4.)

Enemy Intelligence.Norwegian
Coasts.
MINERVE.

MINERVE reports carrying out patrol between Jaederens and Egero. Many very small Norwegian ships close inshore mostly southbound. Details and events. (F.O.S., 1754A/4.)

E-Boats.

E-Boat activity suspected from Yarmouth northwards. (C. in C. Nore, 2237A/4.)

War Diary.4.11.1941.
Tuesday.HOME COMMANDS.Navigational.Ice.

R.A.F. report numerous large icebergs between 067° 58' N. 031° 51' W. and Greenland coast, and similar conditions up to 068° 19', 029° 20'. In 067° 55' N. 022° 45' W. observed stretches of Brash with clear water between running East and West, biggest 2 miles long and 70 yards wide. (A.C.I.C., 0351N/4.)

Whitestone Bank.

Lightboat has been run into and damaged. It is hoped to place her on her station again tomorrow. Meantime there is nothing marking the Whitestone Bank position. (Marthen Lighthouse Board, 1255/4.)

Shipping and Convoys.P.Q.Convoys.

1. After P.Q.3 what is the approx. sailing date and their number of ships in the next two convoys?
 2. Will the cargo be approx. similar quantity and description as previous convoys?
 3. Will all the ships be able to handle all cargo with own gear?
 4. TEMPLEARCH and QUEEN CITY arrived at Archangel requiring bunkers homeward passage. Please do utmost to avoid this.
 5. Can you arrange to place interpreter in each ship future convoys as local ones insufficient (group omitted) ice conditions now making communication difficult. (Maclay, Archangel, 1530C/4 to Min. of War Transport.)
- Is time of arrival P.Q.3 at position Z known. (S.B.N.O. Archangel, 1602C/4.)
- C. in C. Northern Fleet offers to supply 3 pilots to embark in Commodore's ships of Q.P. and P.Q. convoys remaining on board throughout voyage. Although not considered necessary perhaps proposal might be worth a trial. If approved first pilot could embark Q.P.3. (S.B.N.O. North Russia, 1814C/4.)

Timber Ships.

Following for Min. of War Transport from Robinson 5. With last move sailed CHERNYSHEVSKI 1165 standards, STEPHAN KHALTURIN 1110, IJORA 1067. (Archangel, 1640/4 to Admty.)

SECRET IN

85A

1340/4th November

M E S S A G E

IN

SECRET

Date 5.11.41

From S.S.T.O Archangel

Recd. 1809

INTERDEPARTMENTAL CYPHER (ONE TIME TABLE) BY T/P

Addressed Admiralty for Ministry of War Transport

24 For D of S.T.

Following points have arisen with storage of P Q 2 which should be brought to your notice.

Aircraft cases are proving too light structure to (?stand) up to heavy rolling experienced this route unless particular care taken?(securing) planes on deck also more substantial dunnaging when heavy cargo stowed on top or between plane cases in holds. Four planes are damaged by bales and cased goods going through top and sides of aircraft cases. In EMPIRE BAFFIN 5 lower (?hold) 2 planes were (?stored on) top other planes without any lashings and upper cases fell over during heavy weather (?damaging) contents. In HARTLEBURY caterpillar treads stowed between aircraft cases smashed through cases damaging aircraft.

2. In ORIENT CITY EMPIRE BAFFIN and HARTLEBURY tanks and Bren carriers (?although) properly secured latter with brakes off and out of gear and (?in) first vessel crew had to secure (?but) after considerable personal risk.

3. In QUEEN CITY Tetra Ethyl fluid stowed one and 2 between decks on bilge which is wrong. Drums broke loose causing serious trouble to secure Suggest (?such) cargo should be stored on deck.

4. In ORIENT CITY D oil stowed round mast 4 and 5 between deck stowed anyway on side edge upside down with absolutely no regard to proper stowage. 2 inch mortar bombs were stowed on in and around this oil with other ammunition

6. Experience of between deck accommodation Arctic astern shows single one and half inch steam pipe totally inadequate for heating. Suggest supply paraffin stoves also all bulk heads be lined view of heavy condensation

6. View of complete absence of fire fighting precautions very often careless handling unskilled this end recommend 4 2 gallon Foamite extinguishers and 12 2½ gallons ditto next convoy.

7. Strongly emphasize that planes tanks Bren carriers and other heavy lifts be most carefully secured view of probability of weather conditions.

8. Please pass copy to Sea Rail War Office and Air Ministry message ends.

1340/4

V.C.N.S

M(12) for W.O & A.M

D.N.I.(4)

A.C.N.S(H)

D of S.T(2). for action

D of S 2A

A.C.N.S(F)

D.T.D.(4)

I.P(3)

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

D.T.D.(C)

W.D

D of P(3)

D.T.D.(M)

E.P.S

VEH.

War Diary.

4.11.1941.
Tuesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping and Convoys. - Contd.

H.X. 157,
CAPE WARWICK,
ANGLE.

Have 8 ships for U.K. and only one trawler available for escort. Intend sailing H.M.S. CAPE WARWICK with one 10 knot ship to join H.X.157. Use own trawlers to escort (? 2) fast fish carriers to Scrabster. Use ANGLE to escort 5 7-knot ships Minches. (A.C.I.C., 1917N/4.)

E.N.2A.
(Fast)
O.N.34.

Special Convoy E.N.2A (Fast) is to be sailed from Methil at 1500/5. (C. in C. Rosyth, 2251/4.) O.N.34 not passing through Minches. Request you will sail a fast E.N.2A convoy p.m. tomorrow and that the trawlers may wait in Loch Ewe to take the convoy on to the R/V off Oversay. (D.T.D., 2327/4 to C. in C. Rosyth.)

SECRET

86A

SECRET

MESSAGE

1022A/4th. November IN

From F.O.I.C. Harwich

Date 4.11.41.
Recd. 1138

P/L BY T/P

Addressed C. in C. Nore, 1st. Division Corvettes,
Repeated Admiralty, F.O.I.C. Humber C. in
C. Busby, D 21 N.C.S.O. Southend

~~N.T.K.W.D.~~
My 2052A/3/11 amend to read

F N	F S	
547	642	SHEARWATER
548	643	KITTIWAKE
549	644	SHELDRAKE
550	644	WIDGEON
551	645	GUILLEMOT
551	646	SHEARWATER

For KITTIWAKE leaves F N 549 read SHELDRAKE leaves
F N 549.

For GUILLEMOT leaves F N 551 read SHEARWATER leaves
F N 551.

1022A/4
Advance Copy Ops O.D.

V.C.N.S.
A.C.N.S. (H)
A.C.N.S. (T) (2)
N.A. 1st. S.L.
Ops (3)
O.D. (5)
O.D. 8
O.I.C. (3)
I.P. (3)
D.S.D. 9
D.A/S.W.
W.D.

A.C.N.S. (T) (2)
Mails
Movts
M (2)
Capt. Pim.
D.T.D. (4)
D.T.D. (M)
D.T.D. (C)
E.P.S.
D.P.S.
A.H.Q.H.F.

D.H.

War Diary.4.11.1941.
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Raider Situation.

My 2142A/28.

1. On 30/10 4 rafts and House Flag of U.S. Scantic Line washed ashore near Pernambuco. Not more than 7 days in water, so probable that Ship was sunk by raider. Possible ships are MORMACREY, Santos 26/10 for New York or MORMACRIO, Trinidad 22/10 for B.A.
2. Further description shows Ship sighted by PATOKA was not a Tanker and may have been a raider.
3. OLWEN reported being attacked by raider at 0530/4 in 03° 05' N. 22° 35' W. Message cancelled at 0545/4 but this probably by raider as OLWEN again made Q.Q. at 0630.
4. 0010 to 0040/29/10 NARINGA sighted searchlight beam in estimated position 32° 25' S. 09° 22' E. No British Warships in Area.
5. Now known no reason for OLIVIA's distress message and no evidence, therefore of raider in Indian Ocean.
6. EMPIRE STARLIGHT arrived Panama safely. (D.D.I.C. 1915A/4).

North Atlantic.French ships.

Passings 3/11. Westward ALGERIE ?GRAND QUEVILLY, both full TATIANA. (V.A.C.N.A. 0921A/4). Gibraltar passings on 2/11. (D.O.R. 4/11).

TETRARCH.

Report P.C. and S. forthwith. (F.O.C.N.A. 1236A/4 to TETRARCH).

TARN.

French tanker, reported attacked by S/M off Algiers. See Mediterranean.

Flag of F.O. Force H.

My Flag was transferred to MALAYA a.m./1. (F.O. Force H. 1115A/4).

/S.S. INDRA.....

War Diary.4.11.1941.
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic-Contd.S.S. INDRA.Your 1735A/3 No. (S.O.(I) Gibraltar
1549A/4 to Admty.)CHEF
MECANICIEN
ARMAND
BLANC.Intercepted southbound in territorial waters.
Keeping in company. Request instructions.
(LOCH OSKAIG 1745A/4 to F.O.C.N.A.)
Your 1845A/4. Take no action. Resume patrol.
(F.O.C.N.A. 2015A/4 to LOCH OSKAIG).French
shipping.Arfar 304/4. My tel. 296. French convoy
escorted by destroyers passed Tangier bound S.W.
early this afternoon. (2) Mr. Eccles has been
informed by a friendly member of French colony
that ships are bound for Casablanca to load
rubber. (Consul-Gen., Gibraltar 1850/4 to M.E.W.)South Atlantic.OLWEN
attacked
by raider.British Steamer OLWEN heard by commercial
station Wim Chatham on 36 meters making QQQ
attacked by surface raider 0530 G.M.T., position
03° 04' N. 22° 42' W. (B.A.D. Washington,
0240R/4 to Admty.) (Freetown T.O.R. 0531/4 to
Whitehall).OLWEN, 6470 tons, Freetown for New Orleans.
(D.S. 791).QQQQ received from oiler OLWEN attacked by surface
raider 003° 04' N. 022° 42' W. at 0530 G.M.T./4.
Investigate. (C. in C. S.A., 0503N/4 to
DORSETSHIRE, CANTON).Force Q
to search.Oiler OLWEN attacked in 003° 05' N. 022° 35' W.
at 0530/4. Take QUEEN EMMA and PRINCESS BEATRIX
under your orders, proceed search for the raider
in areas H.34.B and G.34.C. (C. in C. S.A.
0621N/4 to DUNEDIN, QUEEN EMMA, PRINCESS BEATRIX).
Following has been read. QQQQ OLWEN. Amend
position 03° 05' N., 22° 35' at 0630.
(Freetown W/T, 0630 G.M.T/4 to Whitehall).

/Disguised....

War Diary.4.11.1941.
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic.OLWEN
attacked
by raider
- Contd.

Disguised merchant ship raider reported attacking British S.S. OLWEN in 03° 04' N. 22° 42' W. at 0530Z/4. (D.D.I.C. 0640Z/4 to Opanav). Following has been read. Cancel my RRRR 0531/4. (Port Patrick Radio, T.O.R. 0647/4). Oiler OLWEN attacked by surface raider 003° 05' N. 022° 35' W. at 0530 G.M.T./4. (C. in C. S.A., 0723/4 to B.A.D. Washington 0915N/4 to Commandant, 15th Naval District, Balboa) Intercept 0655 G.M.T. DE NERK. Addressed GLBB (Unread) 12(Unread) West I am coming to your Assistance, speed 30 knots. This may be intended for OLWEN. (Lands End Radio, 0758/4). My 0723/4. British Force proceed to search area between bearings 125° and 205° from last reported position. (C. in C. S.A., 1045/4 to B.A.D.) At 0545 G.M.T. Port Patrick W/T Station intercepted cancellation of QQQQ 0531/4 from Station using call sign V.P.U. Was this genuine cancellation? (D.D.I.C. 1328A/4 to C. in C.S.A.) Your 1328A/4/11. Message was not genuine. No cancellation was made as far as is known at Freetown). (C. in C. S.A. 1421N/4 to Admty. amended 1204N/5). Cancellation of QQQQ message 0530/4 from Oiler OLWEN made at 0545 G.M.T. by Station using call sign V.P.U. was not genuine. (C. in C. S.A. 1500N/4 to S.A. Station). My 0640Z/4. Distress message by OLWEN was cancelled by station using call sign V.P.U. at 0545/4 G.M.T. This cancellation was not genuine. (D.D.I.C. 1753Z/4 to Opanav). Admiralty deliver to C. in C. S.A. also. Following received from Comtask for 3 with reference 2037Z/4 action Comtask Group 3.6.I.N.F.O. Opanav Cinclant and Comtask Group 3.8. Nothing revealed on investigation of point of attack on OLWEN. Visibility only fair. At 1900 G.C.T. this group changed course to 258 speed 15. Task Group 3.6 continue course to 0305 N. 2235 W. keeping lookout for survivors Wednesday morning. Then to a point 5° S. 34° W. (Opanav 2224/4 to Admty.)

Search by
Task
Group 3.6.AFRICAN
PRINCE.
CLYDEBANK.

Overdue shipping AFRICAN PRINCE, CLYDEBANK due Capetown 31/10 and 1/11 respectively from Freetown not arrived. (Capetown 0925/B/4)

/BRADFORD.....

War Diary.

4.11.1941.
Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic-Contd.

BRADFORD CITY.

Following received 0950/4 S.O.S. BRADFORD CITY 23 S. 39.43 E. 0500/1 4? Boats adrift and rowing for Mainland D/F bearing 288°. (Walvis Bay Radio 1000B/4 to Admty.)

BRADFORD CITY has been abandoned about 260 miles west of Walvis Bay. Ship may have been torpedoed. She was bound for Freetown from Mauritius independently with a cargo of sugar. (D.S. 791, 5/11)

Operation "Bellringer".

Your 1648B/3, reply from CAP TOURANE.

- (i) A.M. November (corrupt group)
 - (ii) Passengers 345. Military Officers 31, Other Ranks 141. Civilians men 70 women and children 103. Crew Officers 12 Ratings 80.
 - (iii) Cargo 5700 tons for Dakar Casablanca and Marseilles 65% of sugar remainder general. Bags of mail 51.
 - (iv) Junior Officers including engineer assisting Army. Suspects include 12 army officers reported to be anti-British 26 German Legionaires. All quiet. (DEVONSHIRE 1139B/4 to N.O.I.C. Simonstown)
- Your 1941/3 DEVONSHIRE reports that when last seen D'IBERVILLE was making 13 knots to westward. (N.O.I.C. Simonstown 1157B/4 to C. in C. S.A.)
- Your 1648B/3. (i) 0800Z/5. Particulars COMPIEGNE.
- (ii) Crew 285. Passengers mostly (?embarked) Saigon include 282 naval and military personnel 80 women, 57 children, 80 men civilians including political prisoners and 10 Greeks ex merchant ship. 1 American Legionaire under protective custody believed to have valuable information. Enemy nationals suspected.
 - (iii) Cargo alleged to include coffee, cereal, fibre, blankets, tinned meat, hides, beeswax, bark and beryl stone. Suspicion that cargo largely discharged and contraband embarked. Particulars of BANGKOK. (ii) 5 men students.
 - (?iii) sugar, rice, tapioca, coffee. Small quantities graphite polish, raffia, rum, cocoa. (iv) Officers and men of both ships generally co-operative (??full stop) Military guard is on naval personnel.)

S.L. 580 not received. (COLOMBO 1227Z/4 to N.O.I.C. Simonstown).

Your 1648B/3, reply from CAP PADARAN.

- (1) 6/11).
- (2) Passengers. Civilians 125, military 24, marines 4. All passports examined. Military and marines have no papers.
- (3) Cargo consists of sugar, peas, beans, raffia, rice, and hides. Ports of discharge Dakar, Casablanca and Marseilles.
- (4) A member of the crew reports that there were 2 sloops and 2 submarines at Tamatave. Weather report. (DEVONSHIRE 1450Z/4 to F.O.I.C. Simonstown)

/A Admiraute....

War Diary.

4.11.1941.
Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic.

Operation
"Bellringer".
-Contd.

A Amiraute Française Nr. 61704 avants derouté convoi sur Madagascar à quatre heures dix. Malgré déroutement avants, reçue ultimatum à cinq heures sept. Quatre croiseurs et six patrouilleurs sur les lieux. Convoi saboté visité et pratiquement capturé 0922/3/11 FBIL. (N.S.H.Q. Ottawa 1559Z/4 to Admty.)

BIRMINGHAM.

Your 0503/4. BIRMINGHAM is proceeding Trinidad area until about 10/11. (R.A.S.A.D. 1219Z/4 to C. in C. S. A.)

DERBYSHIRE.

Your 0376 (2 corrupt groups) In view of congestion and consequent delay at Durban it has been arranged for repairs to DERBYSHIRE to be carried out at Port Elizabeth. Ship is being sailed for Port Elizabeth accordingly. (N.O.I.C. Simonstown 1303B/4 to C. in C. S.A., N.O.I.C. Durban 1644Z/4).

COLOMBO.

On arrival East London COLOMBO is to proceed Durban to fuel and if possible retrieve her own boarding parties if any before sailing. (?Failing) this N.O.I.C. East London is to arrange to entrain COLOMBO party for Durban as soon as they can be released. (N.O.I.C. Simonstown 1843B/4).

Liaison.

Plans for better liaison between British and U.S. Naval forces on S.A. Station. (N.A. Rio de Janeiro 1941Z/4) See Lion Copy.

Reply: Admty 1046 A/18.

91

MOST SECRET

MOST SECRET

MESSAGE 1941Z/4th November

IN

From N.A. Rio de Janeiro. Date 5.11.41
Recd. 0210
INTERDEPARTMENTAL CYPHER (19) BY CABLE.

Addressed D.N.I. Repeated R.A.S.A.D. B.A.D. Washington.
S.O.(I) Montevideo. Copy to S.O.(I) Rio de Janeiro.

During visit to Rio de Janeiro R.A.S.A.D. discussed liaison between British and U.S. Naval Forces on this Station stating that he wished for improvement. In addition I have been preparing plans for better liaison at shore posts where need was growing acute owing to increasing number of U.S. Naval Observers. U.S.N.A. Rio de Janeiro is always helpful and eager to co-operate but is kept totally uninformed by Washington about all operational questions.

Following proposals are submitted for approval and will be covered in Furse's report with proposals concerning Naval Intelligence organisation in Brazil but request action may be taken without waiting for report since R.A.S.A.D. concurs.

(1) An Officer who is possible should speak Portuguese or Spanish to be appointed to act as liaison between British and American Naval Authorities in North Brazil where large American concentrations are in progress.

(2) If no suitable officer is available request covering approval may be given for appointment and I will submit proposal for utilization most suitable man I can find in Brazil. It would be preferable however to have an officer from outside Brazil who has some knowledge of Naval Intelligence and Operations and of Anglo-American plans for co-operation.

(3) R.A.S.A.D. would welcome appointment now of U.S. Naval Observer to his ship and considers such an appointment will become essential if American patrol activities are likely to extend further south than Recife.

(4) /

91B

MOST SECRET

(4) Appointment of British Naval Liaison Officer to flagship of American Force operating from Recife is desirable. Ambassador and R.A.S.A.D. both concur generally with proposals.

1941Z/4

Advance Copy M.

1st. Lord.

1st. S.I.

2nd S.I.

V.C.N.S.

A.C.N.S. (F)

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

N.A.L.S.

D. for PI (2)

D.C.D. (F)

D.D.O.D. (F.)

D.D.I.C.

D. (1) for action.

I.P.

W.D.

Ad. of H.

D.T.S.D.

E.P.S.

Admiral Bellairs.

Admiralty Bailey.

DF

War Diary.4.11.1941.
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean.TARN (French
Naval Oiler)
attacked
by S/M.

Intercepted 0341 G.M.T. de FBKH. Attaqué par un sous-marin britannique par 36.40 N., 2.50 E. 0340. Message not rebroadcast. (Burnham on Sea Radio, Recd. 0458/4). FBKH=TARN French Warship. (Naval oiler).

Intercept 0454 G.M.T. Addressed C.Q. (as previous signal) Continues:- Touche me dirige vers la terre 0345/4/11 FBKH. (Lands End Radio, 0555/4). TARN, 4600 tons, passed Gibraltar westward on 23/10 and returned eastward on 29/10. (D.S. 791). Signal received from French Tanker TARN stating that she has been attacked by a British submarine off Algiers at 0341/4. Confirm to N.A. Madrid that no British submarine could have made this attack so that he can inform French N.A. (V.C.N.S. 1114A/4 to F.O.C.N.A.)

Enemy
Intelligence,
Turkey.

Ref. Adty. 1244/17/10.

(a) Istanbul Trieste service at present (?spasmodic): regular service not materialised. Since July 17th only 7 enemy cargo ships carrying 25,000 tons and 3 tankers with 13,000 tons of fuel have sailed from Istanbul for Aegean. BALCIC remained here 41 days before proceeding to Trieste with BALKAN. ^{PINO} Only ABBAZIA and CAPO PINIER now expected and no indication of arrival of other Adriatica ships. German insurance rate issued by Trieste raised from 7 per cent to 10 per cent; with transshipment of 12 per cent. Italians cannot undertake insurances without referring to Italy.

(b) Bulk of traffic between Turkey and Germany carried out by means of Turkish Caiques (average about 50 tons capacity) which have transported to Bourgas during this period approximately 60,000 tons Turkish produce and Persian cotton.

(c) During past 2 months considerable steamer traffic with troops and war material through Piraeus but information regarding destinations almost entirely lacking here. (S.O.(I) Istanbul 1055B/4 to S.O.(I) Med.)

/TRUSTY.....

War Diary.

4.11.1941.
Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.-Contd.

TRUSTY.
P.31.

TRUSTY proceed through 035° 51' 15" 15' and 036° 00' 14" 53' to arrive Marsamxett 0730B/6. P.31 leave patrol to pass through 38° 00' 16" 00' and 1st two positions to arrive 0730B/9. (S.10. 1130B/41 to TRUSTY, P.31.)

THRASHER.

Capt. (S) 1's 2231B/2. Proceed through 035° 20' 014° 14' and 035° 30' 014° 14' to arrive Marsamxett 0730B/8. URSULA leaves Malta P.M./6 through 035° 30' 014° 14' and 034° 10' 014° 14' thence Misurata. Estimated her position 0630B/7 033° 48' 014° 25'. (S.10. 1135N/4 to THRASHER).

Black
Sea.

Enemy forces closing in on Sevastopol. Fighting in progress along line of outer defences. No penetration as yet. Evacuation of women and children and unnecessary gear from Sevastopol in progress. Cruiser VOROSHILOV damaged by bombs in Novorossisk. (N.L.O. Black Sea, 1216C/4 to Admty.)

Air
Operations.

3/11. Maryland on reconnaissance of Crete sighted large patch of oil and floating debris 100 miles North of Sullum. (H.Q. R.A.F. M.E. 1227/4).

KURKULUS.

Following is a repetition of my 1259B/4. My 1935/30. KURKULUS expected to clear Dardanelles 1500/9 for Piraeus and to leave Piraeus on reverse route November 15 or 16. Route as in my 1028/13. Ship is not to be molested at sea. (C. in C. Med. 1301B/4 to S/M's on Patrol).

ORUC REIS.
MURAT REIS.

Re passage to Mediterranean. (F.O.S. 1309A/4)
See Lion Copy.

PERSEUS

Your 1521B/3 PERSEUS delayed 48 hours as engine trial unsatisfactory. (Capt. S.10 1320B/4 to Capt. S.1.)

Air Raid
on Suez.

Ref. C.A.F.O. No. 587. (a) Air raid night 3/4 November calm clear (b) high level attack by 2 E.A. on shipping Suez and Gulf of Suez no illuminant bright moon (c) H.E. (d) 5 or 6 bombs near entrance to Canal at Suez and abortive attack on convoy about 100 miles South Suez one suspected U.X. object at Kilo 137 in Canal traffic suspended this point pending investigation (e) No damage or casualties reported (f) A.A. barrage 4 fighters patrolled no interception (g) balloons up. (S.B.N.O. Suez Canal Area 1329B/4).

/Russian.....

93A.

MOST SECRET

MOST SECRET

MESSAGE

IN
1309A/4th November

From:- F.O.S.

Date. 4.11.41.

Recd. 1327

P/L BY T/P

Addressed:- Admiralty.

Submarines for Turkey

AIDAC

255. The following observations and proposals are made concerning the passage of the Turkish submarines ORUC REIS and MURAT REIS to the Mediterranean.

2. Bearing in mind that these submarines are only provided with one outfit of torpedoes each I had originally considered that their object while on passage should be their safe and timely arrival at their destination. I am not now satisfied that this is the best object they can be given.

3. Much of their passage will be through waters where enemy forces may be encountered and in order to achieve the above object it is evident that they may be obliged to use their gun armament in self defence and if hostile action in this form is a possibility it is but a short step to the taking of offensive action with the torpedo armament.

4. It seems to me after full consideration that in the event of these submarines encountering an enemy cruiser or larger ship, or a convoy or if in a sink at sight zone a single large merchant ship it would be quite unacceptable to allow such ships to go unattacked. It is accordingly proposed that the object of these submarines should be attack and then report enemy cruisers and above enemy convoys and if in a sink at sight zone single large

merchant/

merchant ships over say 3,000 tons.

5. If this proposal is approved it must of course be accepted that the submarines may be delivered with a proportion or all their torpedoes expended.

6. The forthcoming working up practices of these two submarines will be affected by the decision as to whether or not they will be permitted to fire torpedoes and it is requested therefore that this matter may receive very early consideration.

1309A/4

Advance copy sent D.C. D.O.D. (H) D.O.D. (F)
D.D.I.C. Hd. of M.

1st Lord	
1st S.L.	Hd. of M (2) for action
2nd S.L.	E.P.S.
3rd S.L.	D.G.D.
V.C.N.S.	D.T.S.D.
A.C.N.S. (H)	D.A./S.W.
A.C.N.S. (F)	D.D.O.D.M)
A.C.N.S. (T) (2)	Admiral Herman Hodge.
A.C.N.S. (W)	D.T.D. (2)
N.A. 1st S.L.	W.D.
P.A.S. (S)	I.P. (2)
D.O.D. (H)	N.I.D. 10. Payr. Cdr. Wilson.
D.D.O.D. (H)	
D.O.D. (F)	
D.D.O.D. (F)	
D.C.	
D.D.I.C.	
D.N.S. (4)	
D. of P. (3)	

War Diary.

4.11.1941.
Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean-Contd.

Russian
ships from
Black Sea.

My 1504A/29. Further from Admiral Miles to Admiralty begins. Have been informed that Turkish Government have now agreed to co-operate. Details not yet given but will signal as soon as known. Ends. (D.N.I. 1440A/4 to C. in C. Med.)

Air
Operations.

3/11. 6 Blenheims despatched attack convoy see my I.218 failed to find as convoy not in position anticipated it having changed course after sighting report had been made later Ionian Sea recco 1320 hours 4 convoy 280° Cape Skinani 25 miles course 060° 8 knots.

Night 3/4 November. 5 Naval aircraft despatched attack submarine base Augusta owing bad weather only 2 reached target bombs dropped 3,500 lb. 4 250 G.P. 16 20 lb. incendiaries submarine base results not observed fire caused Military Barracks visible 12 miles. (H.Q. Malta 1645/4).

Enemy
minelayer
off
Benghazi.

Shipping from northward keeping to eastward of Q.B. 51. 311° channel apparently not used. Italian Minelayer CROTONE class operating in area within following positions all from Benghazi lighthouse 009° 19.6 011° 20.9. 032° 17.4. 031° 15.8. (THRASHER 2017B/4 to S.1).

War Diary.4.11.1941.
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies."Q"
Report.

BADARPUR made Q distress message at 1525Z/3 in 005° 07' N., 049° 48' E., Message cancelled at 1645Z/3. Cancellation considered genuine, cause of message probably U.S.A. EXIRIA.
(C. in C.E.I., 0350Z/4, to E.I.Sqdn.)

Port "T".

My 1146/16. Delays in work, and amendment of programme of CLAN FORBES.
(C. in C.E.I., 1050Z/4, to C. in C. China.)
See Lion Copy.

China.Japan.

Political. Professed Policy of new government is to continue talks with America and to liquidate China Incident. Increased pressure on Indo China and Thailand is evident.
Naval. ZUIKAKU, Japan's latest aircraft carrier reported Formosa area on 18/10, possibly on "Shake Down" cruise. On 27th ZUIKAKU with RYUJO in Formosa probably being joined by SORYU and HIRYU. Also indications that ASHIGARA, 2 sea-plane carriers, 3rd Fleet Submarine Force and a Base Force are returning to South China.
(D.N.I., 1104A/4 to S.O.Force G.)

Station
organisation.

Proposals. (S.O. Force G. 2248/4.)
See Lion Copy.

America & West Indies.INDOMITABLE
and CLARKIA
aground.

Your 2222Q/3.
Comm. 10 has been ordered to send tugs and inform you of action taken.
(B.A.D., 0115R/4 to C. in C.A.W.I.)
My 1716/3. Have got off and anchored East of Gun Cay. Proceeding into harbour at daylight for examination by divers.
(INDOMITABLE 0140Q/4 to C. in C.A.W.I.)
My 2222Q/3. INDOMITABLE refloated. Tugs not now required.
(C. in C.A.W.I., 0653Q/4 to B.A.D. Washington, 0703Q/4 to N.O.I.C., Trinidad, S.N.O. Curacao.)

/Comm. 10.....

MOST SECRET

MOST SECRET

MESSAGE

IN

1050Z/4th November.

FROM: C. in C. East Indies.

Date: 5.11.41.
Recd: 1612.

Naval Cypher D by W/T.

ADDRESSED: C. in C. China, Repeated Admiralty,
S.N.O. Port T.

121. My 1146 16. Various unexpected delays have occurred in work at Port T, and I regret that I am consequently obliged to alter GPCB (CLAN FORBES) programme as follows:

(d) November 8th arrive Colombo embark one water boat, one motor boat (if possible), miscellaneous stores and provisions for Addu Atoll and 2 six inch guns for Diego Garcia.

(e) November 10 leave Colombo

(f) November 12 arrive Addu Atoll. Land Indian Army advance party and stores. Embark M N B D O personnel and equipment for (?Nancowry)

(g) Leave Addu Atoll as ordered by S N O Port T who is to inform C. in C. East Indies by signal

(h) Arrive Diego Garcia. Land 2 six inch guns and 2 30 cwt. lorries. Disembark stores from H.M.S. LAONEDON. My 1010 1st to S.N.O. Port T only refers.

(i) Sail on completion to Nancowry. S. Officer M N B D O is to report time of sailing and expected time of arrival Nancowry to C. in C. East Indies (who will inform C. in C. China) using (?Diego Garcia) shore W/T Station. It is important that unloading of both ships at Diego Garcia should be as expeditious as possible.

1050Z/4.

Advance Copy Duty Capt. D.O.D. (F) D.T.D.

- 1st Lord.
- 1st 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.
- Duty Capt.
- D.O.D. (F)
- D.D.O.D. (F)
- D.D.I.C. (2)
- E.P.S.
- D. of P. (2)
- D.N.I. (4)
- D. of S.T.
- D.T.D. (2)

- D.T.D. (M)
- D.A/S.W.
- D.C.O.
- D.T.S.D. (C.O.)
- Hd. of M. (12)
- I.P. (2)
- W.D.
- D. of L.D. (2)
- D.G.D.

MOST SECRET

From S.O. Force G

Date 5.11.41

Recd. 0245.

NAVAL CYPHER Q.T.T.

BY W.T.

Addressed Admiralty.

10. Request following be passed begins. Addressed C. in C. China, repeated Admiralty from S.O. Force G Your 0453Z 22 October to Admiralty.

I had been thinking on very similar lines and owing to short time available had made certain tentative arrangements. The Staffs and Office personnel now on China Station together with those I am bringing will I hope suffice when re allocated provided the three Paymasters Lieutenants you wish to take with you can remain until reliefs arrive.

The following are the main differences from your proposals and I should like to discuss these points on arrival.

3. I concur as to the necessity for a separate superintendent of dockyard once a state of war exists but had felt possible that extra appointment could wait until then.

4. I had envisaged a maintenance Commander instead of a Maintenance Captain for (?R.A.) Malaya

5. I consider the organisation of convoys and possible trade protection within China Station should be the responsibility of R.A., Malaya.

(?Proposed that) C.O.S. will act as the C. in C's deputy during the absence of the Fleet, thus covering duties in your para. one. (iii). I visualize however relieving C.O.S. of direct responsibility for duty of maintenance

95c

MOST SECRET

maintenance and administration shown in your para one (iii) (e) and that maintenance and administrative staff referred to in your para. 2 (ii) (c) will work under Captain of Fleet. When Captain of Fleet is afloat his representative would remain with C.O.S. Ends.

2243/4

/ Action taken by War Registry.

- 1st Lord.
- 1st S.L.
- 2nd. S.L.
- 3rd. S.L.
- 4th S.L.
- 5th S.L.
- V.C.N.S. (6)
- A.C.N.S. (F)
- A.G.N.S. (H)
- A.C.N.S. (T) (2)
- A.C.N.S. (W)
- Secretary.
- Naval Sec.
- N.A. 1st S.L.
- N.A. 2nd. S.L.
- D. of P. (2)
- D.O.D. (H)
- D.D.O.D. (H)
- D.O.D. (F)
- D.D.O.D. (F)
- D.N.I. (4)
- D.S.D.
- D.N.A.D.
- D.A/S.W.
- D.M.S.
- I.P. (2)
- W.D.
- D.C.
- Hd. of M.
- D.T.S.D.
- D.D.I.C.
- E.P.S.
- D.T.D. (2)
- N.I.D. 10.
- D.C.D.
- D. of L.D.
- C.E. II Bath.
- Hd. S.W.R. Bath.

War Diary.4.11.1941.
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies.INDOMITABLE
and CLARKIA
aground.
(Contd.)

Comm. 10 reports no tugs immediately available. N.O.B. Guantanamo ordered send available vessels and plane. Comm. 15 informed.
(B.A.D. Washington 0751R/4 to C. in C. A.W.I.)
Kingston arrivals INDOMITABLE, CLARKIA, and TULIP.
(N.O.I.C. Kingston, 0800R/4 to C. in C. A.W.I.)
INDOMITABLE will need docking for examination request early information where this can be arranged. Suggest Opnav be consulted.
(A.C.N.S. (F), 1637A/4 to B.A.R.M.)

HARDWICKE
GRANGE.

Your 2332Q/3 (N.T. in W.D.) HARDWICKE GRANGE is now afloat and inflow of water under control. Captain will not move without direct orders from owners New York. Salvage vessel WILLET same ownership stationed Key West Miami may be available.
(N.O.I.C. Trinidad, 0935Q/4, 1125Q/4 to C. in C. A.W.I.)

Suspicious
tanker.

Your 1234A/1. Suggest this may be Portuguese Trawler SANTA PRINCEZA.
(C. in C. A.W.I., 1019Q/3 to Admty.)

S.S.
EVEROSA.

H.M. Rescue Tug PRUDENT sailed 1000Z/4 to assist S.S. EVEROSA off Belle Isle Straits.
(C.C.N.F., 1114Z/4.)
My 1114Z/4. PRUDENT now returning to St. Johns.
(C.C.N.F., 1857Z/4.)

SURCOUF.

My 0858R/19/10. Expect SURCOUF will be delayed five days and sail about 23/11 from New London for Bermuda.
(B.A.R.M. Washington, 1206R/4.)

Operation
"Bellringer".

N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 1559Z/4 see South Atlantic.

CARTIER.

Ref. N.S.H.Q.'s 1340Z - 17/10/41 (ships taken in hand in Canada.) (A) CARTIER; (B) Pictou, Nova Scotia; (C) 3/11; (D) 12/12.
(C.O.A.C. 2101Z/4.)

CITY OF
ALBERNI.

Following is a repetition of my 2109Z/3. Schooner CITY OF ALBERNI due Vancouver 20/10 from Apia has not arrived.
(N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 2107Z/4 to Admty.)

SECRET

IN

96A

SECRET

MESSAGE

2238Q/4th Nov. IN

Date 5.11.41

From C.in C. America & West Indies

Recd. 1519

NAVAL CYPHER (X) BY W.T.

Addressed C.in C. South Atlantic.

Following is a repetition of my 1242Q/1 begins. C.in C. South Atlantic from C.in C. America & West Indies, America & West Indies Fleet state 1/11. At Bermuda ~~DESPATCH~~, R.F.A. WAR BRAHMIN. - Due Bermuda from Jamaica 3/11, R.F.A. BISHOPDALE. On patrol North half of GF 32 VAN KINSBERGEN and CIRCASSIA. On patrol West of Galapagos Islands DIOMEDE and R.F.A. ORANGELEAF. Refitting, CARADOC at Brooklyn, PRINCE DAVID at Halifax, CALIFORNIA at Boston. On passage to United Kingdom AUSONIA, MONTCLARE, WORCESTERSHIRE, CHITRAL. At Halifax PRINCE HENRY. Due Honolulu 2/11, Escorting AWATEA from Esquimalt, PRINCE ROBERT. Due Jamaica from Trinidad 3/11. *CLARKIA and *TULIP. Due Jamaica from Bermuda 3/11 *INDOMITABLE 1242Q/1 Ends. * See previous page.

2238Q/4

Controller
Vice Controller
V.C.N.S.
A.C.N.S. (F)
N.A. 1st S.L.
Capt. Pim Admiralty House
Ops. (2)
R.D. (5)
O.D. 8
M. (2)
O.I.C.
Mails
Movts.
I.P. (3)
D.A/S.W.
W.D.

D. of S. 2A
D.T.D. (4)
D.T.D. (M)
D.T.D. (C)
D. of P. (3)
N.A.S. (4)
D.57 O.B.
D.N.C.
E.in C.
Depty. Contr. (3)
D. (4)
D.N.C.
E.in C.
S.W.R.

Bath by Courier

War Diary.

4.11.1941.
Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

New Zealand.

CHEVREUIL.

My intended programme is as follows: Leave
Papeete 5/11, Makatea 6/11, Papeete 7/11,
Suva approx., 16-19/11. Sydney arrive 25/11
approx.
(CHEVREUIL, 1600W/4 to N.Z.N.B. etc.)

War Diary.

4.11.1941.
Tuesday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Ships Attacked.

BRADFORD CITY. Abandoned west of Walvis Bay. May have been torpedoed. See South Atlantic.

TREVERBYN.

British, 5281 tons, which was reported missing from Convoy S.L.89 on 21/10 after the Convoy had been attacked by U-boats, has been overdue at Cardiff since 27/10. She sailed Freetown on 5/10 and had a cargo of pepel ore. (D.S. 791, 5/11.)

Submarines Reported.

2026Z/3. By D/F within 60 miles of 004° N., 001° E., 75% reliable. (C. in C.S.A., 1003N/4.)

1044C. Bearing by D/F at 1044C/4 position enemy U-boat was 069° 14' 042° 24', reliable fix. (S.B.N.O. North Russia 1141C/4 to NORFOLK.)

Estimated approx., positions of U/B's. (D.D.I.C. 1414A/4, 1415A/4, U.S.C.N.O., 2111/4.)

1427. One enemy submarine on surface, P.C. and S., 46° 45' N., 7° 30' W., 180° 3 knots. (A/C N., Sqn., 1427/4.)

Submarines Attacked.

Have attacked enemy submarine in 46° 45' N., 7° 30' W., sighted on surface and observed to submerge. Estimate no hits. (A/C N/19 1315/4, 1905/4.)

War Diary.5.11.1941.
Wednesday.SITUATION REPORT.Home Commands.Operation
Q.N.

4 M.T.B's left Harwich at 1140A today to carry out this operation but had to return on account of the weather.

Dispositions
to intercept
enemy heavy
units.

PRINZ EUGEN *
was seen,
however, in
her usual dock
at Brest at
1440/14 and
1250/15.

The U.S. C.N.O. appreciates the situation as follows (c.f. 3/11). The movement of enemy units may be for the purpose of raiding Atlantic convoys or convoys to Russia, for passing naval or merchant raiders into the South Atlantic, or for raiding lightly defended naval and air bases in the North Atlantic. It is thought that any or ~~all of~~ the following may be involved: TIRPITZ, ^{ADMIRAL} SCHEER, PRINZ EUGEN*, other cruisers, merchant raiders and supply vessels. The continued success of the movement is dependent upon the continued availability of supply vessels. The closest possible direct co-operation between striking groups plus shore based air units, whether U.S., U.K. or Canadian is called for. C. in C. H.F. in KING GEORGE V with BERWICK, KENT, SUFFOLK, PUNJABI, MATABELE, SOMALI arrived at Iceland at 0730 today and VICTORIOUS, ASHANTI, OFFA and ORIBI at 1130.

The following dispositions have been agreed upon.

(a) KING GEORGE V, VICTORIOUS, KENT and BERWICK with 6 armed trawlers (?destroyers) left Hvalfjord at 1800 G.M.T. to pass through 62° 40' N. (730°) W. at 1200/6, and 63° 41' N. 35° W. at first light each day, following up patrol by (b) EDINBURGH, SHEFFIELD and SUFFOLK south of Denmark Strait (to leave Hvalfjord at 1700 G.M.T.)

(c) KENYA and 2 destroyers are covering the northernmost patrol trawler lines in the Iceland-Faeroes passage.

(d) U.S. Battleships IDAHO, MISSISSIPPI and 3 destroyers to leave Hvalfjord at 1600 G.M.T. to pass through approx. 62° 30' N. 30° W. at first light and patrol to N.N.E. by day.

(e) U.S. cruisers WICHITA and TUSCALOOSA to leave Hvalfjord at 1400 to patrol N.E. of Denmark Straits minefield on the line Skago Fiord to Cape Barclay. In the event, C. in C. H. F. signalled at 2143Z that he was delayed and he returned to Hvalfjord at 2330/5. C.S.18 was also ordered to return to Hvalfjord, and C. in C. H.F. asked the Admiralty to pass to the U.S. C.N.O. his suggestion that the U.S. force should conform.

/P.35.....

War Diary.

5.11.1941.
Wednesday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

Dispositions
to intercept
enemy heavy
units - Contd.

P.35 has been ordered to patrol off the northern part of the exit from the Skagerrak. Special air patrols were flown to the south coast of Norway last night by aircraft of Coastal Command. Air patrols have been arranged today East and Northeast of Iceland and across the western exit of the Iceland-Faroes passage (N.W. of Rockall). P.R.U. of Bergen and Trondheim were flown, but rain and snow storms rendered them abortive.

British Air Operations.

Bad weather affected operations last night, minor attacks were made on harbour installations at Ostend and Dunkirk and the Kiel area.

Aircraft of Coastal Command attacked shipping off the Frisian Islands after dark this evening but no definite results are reported.

Enemy Air Operations.

S.S. GLEN CREE was attacked at 1830 today 10 miles N.W. of the Bishops and had one slight casualty but no damage.

5.11.1941.
Wednesday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT.

Mining.

17 aircraft laid mines successfully last night in Kiel harbour in spite of bad weather.

All Bristol Channel ports were opened from 1500 to 2300 today.

South Atlantic.

Lati
Air Line.

The Admiralty are very seriously concerned at the continued delay in action to abolish the Brazilian Lati Air Line, the aircraft of which are assisting the enemy by R/C. The U.S.A. Navy Dept. concur in the necessity of suppressing the Air Line, but will not press their views, on the State Dept. until they can do so without prejudicing negotiations which are in progress for the use of bases for naval flying boats in Brazil.

Mediterranean.

S/M
Operations.

Captain S.10 reports that on 25/10 TRUSTY torpedoed and sank one of two 5,000 ton south-bound merchant vessels escorted by a destroyer in 38° 24' N. 20° 15' E.

Air
Operations.

At 0954 today 8 aircraft from Malta engaged on a shipping sweep in the Gulf of Sirte attacked two 3,000 ton escorted merchantmen 92 miles west of Benghazi, and left one sinking after 4 direct hits and straddled the second. Two Blenheims were shot down. The convoy was attacked again at 2010 15 miles S.W. of Benghazi, only one merchantman with one destroyer being seen, but results were not observed.

/Suez.....

War Diary.

5.11.1941.
Wednesday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Mediterranean-Contd.

Suez
Canal.

Traffic has been resumed.

Black
Sea.

The Turkish Navy state that the Turkish caique
X KAYMOTHDERE was attacked and sunk in the Black
Sea today off Midye inside Turkish territorial
waters while on passage north, by a Russian
submarine. (In broadcasts on 9/11 the Russians
denied that the sinking was done by a Russian S/M)
Caiques are believed to carry a considerable
proportion of the Turkish - German trade.

X *not identified*

U-Boat Campaign.

S.C. 52
4 or 5
ships
torpedoed.

N.C.S.O. Sydney C.B. reports that the ships of
S.C. 52 have returned or are returning with the
exception of four ships torpedoed (and sunk)
viz. FLYNDERBERG and GREVALE (reported 3/11),
and EVEROJA and EMPIRE GEMSBUCK (date of
torpedoing not known) and EMPIRE ENERGY and
MAROUKA PATERAS which have gone ashore.

War Diary.

5.11.1941.
Wednesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Policy.

Flag of
V.A.2.

Flag of V.A.2 will be transferred from
RENOWN to DUKE OF YORK at 0900/6.
(V.A.2. 1346/5.)

A.F.D.4.
absentees.

Your 2225/2 concerning absences of men from
floating dock. The position is obscure in
that some men stated to have not reported at
Rosyth. Intend sending an officer to the
dock tomorrow to investigate.
(A.S. Rosyth 1636/5 to F.O.I.C. Glasgow.)

Allocation of
Destroyers.

A.M. 1327A/1. Captain D. Greenock is the Co-
ordinate authority for ships referred to in
paras. 1 and 3 of A.M. 1327A/1.
(C. in C. W.A. 1635A/5.)

Destroyer
Escorts of
Atlantic
Convoys.

Procedure in event of attack by Raider.
See Shipping.

Co-operation with U.S.A.

Information
requested.

Admiralty 2308A/16. Request information present
location and composition of H.M.S. heavy units
in U.K., Iceland, and Gibraltar areas during
present situation.
(Opnav 1801Z/5 to Adty.)

Recognition
Signals.

Following is Summary of British-United States
Recognition. (D.S.D. 2336A/5.)

Co-operation with Russia.

Iokanga.

I concur in recommendation contained in
S.B.N.O. Archangel's 1645/2nd.
(S.B.N.O. North Russia 1821C/5.)

Defence of U.K.

Floating
Gun
Platforms.

Admiralty 1929A/23/9. Having obtained reports
on Phillips Floating units consider they are
unsuitable for employment in Scapa Flow as are
also dumb Barges. Question of Maunsell Towers
still under consideration.
(A.C.O.S. 1835A/5 to Adty.)

War Diary.5.11.1941.
Wednesday.HOME COMMANDS.Movements.RENONCULE
RANUNCULUS
ROSELYS
HEARTSEASE.

Proceed Iceland to refuel.
(A.C.I.C. 0640N/5 to RANUNCULUS, ROSELYS.)
AMAZON has ordered HEARTSEASE to Iceland to refuel. Has asked for RANUNCULUS and ROSELYS to refuel also.
(A.C.I.C. 0644N/5 to C. in C. W.A.)

SUNFISH.
GARTH.

SUNFISH in tow of Tug on passage to Harwich with F.S.638. (C. in C. Nore 0939A/5.)
SUNFISH in tow of STALWART is to be sailed for Sheerness to arrive by 1600/9. She will sail for Portsmouth with C.W. 57. GARTH is to be sailed for Sheerness as soon as possible after arrival of SUNFISH and CHAMPION.
(C. in C. Nore 1016A/5 to N.O.I.C. Harwich.)

PRETORIA
CASTLE.

Crossed 25° West. E.T.A. Belfast 1200 G.M.T./7th.
(PRETORIA CASTLE 1000Z/5.)

RODNEY.

Proceed at best speed retaining escort.
(1st S.L. 1032A/5 to RODNEY.)
RODNEY has been ordered to R/V with 3 destroyers in 55° 40' N. 17° 45' W. at 0900A/7. Intend to order her to Iceland unless you wish otherwise. (V.C.N.S. 2330A/5 to C. in C. H.F.)

KING GEORGE V.
BERWICK
KENT
SUFFOLK
VICTORIOUS.

Arrived C. in C. H.F. in KING GEORGE V, BERWICK, KENT, SUFFOLK, PUNJABI, MATABELE, SOMALI at 0730. VICTORIOUS, ASHANTI, OFFA, ORIBI at 1130. (N.O.I.C. Iceland 1117N/5.)

P.38.

(1) Intend to sail P.38 escorted by LA CAPRICIEUSE at 1800A/7 for 342° Bishop Rock 7 miles. E.T.A.1900A/9.
(11) Thence LA CAPRICIEUSE return to Holy Loch.
(111) Thence P.38 diving by day through 050° N. 015° W. to patrol in area enclosed by 050° and 051° N. and 015° and 017° W.
(iv) P.38 will leave patrol area after dark/15 and proceed as ordered by Capt. (S) 5.
(vi) N.O.1/c Greenock is requested to arrange fighter co-operation as follows.
(Capt. S.3. 1151A/5.)

TRINIDAD.

Intend sailing TRINIDAD for Scapa p.m./6th.
(N.O.I.C. Greenock 1356A/5.)

SEALION.

Your escort will be SHTORM or STREMITELNI class destroyers (2) U-boat reported in position 69° 55 N. 33° 30 E. at 1254C/ 5th. (3) No movements affecting you. Admiralty pass to SEALION on H.S. routine.
(S.B.N.O. North Russia 1429C/5 to SEALION)

War Diary.5.11.1941.
Wednesday.HOME COMMANDS.Movements - contd.FOXHOUND.

Intend to sail FOXHOUND for Greenock by Swept Channels at 1300 tomorrow.
(C. in C. Nore 1452A/5.)

MONTCLARE.
CHELSEA.

Your 1600A/4th. If MONTCLARE requires to disembark ammunition, request she may be ordered to Plymouth by Q.Z.S.278 and that CHELSEA may remain in company as far as Q.Z.S.278. Ship should arrive before dark if practicable.
(C. in C. Plymouth 1512/5 to S.O.W.P.)

K.1.
SEAWOLF.

(1) K.one leaves patrol. (?zone) 2 A p.m. Nov. 5th. route 72° 30' N. thence by route X to R/V R.one 1200C/7th.
(2) SEAWOLF from northward estimated 72° 30' N. 31° 40' E. at 2000C/7th by route X to R/V R.one 1000C/9th. Admiralty pass to TRIDENT.
(S.B.N.O. North Russia 1849C/5.)

P.36.

My 1145A/2. Will be 24 hours late.
(Capt. S.5 2036A/5 to C. in C. Plymouth.)

Operations.Operation
Q.N.

Prepare to carry out Operation Q.N.
(C. in C. Nore 1028A/5 to BEEHIVE.)
Departure M.T.B's 34, 32, 31, 30. E.T.A. Yarmouth 1345. (F.O.I.C. Harwich 1140A/5.)
M.T.B's 34, 32, 31 and 30 returned to Harbour owing to weather.
(F.O.I.C. Harwich 1356A/5.)
Cancel my 1028A/5. (C. in C. Nore 1537A/5.)

Dispositions
to intercept
Enemy Heavy
units.

Following dispositions have been agreed upon
(a) KING GEORGE V, VICTORIOUS, KENT, BERWICK and 6 armed trawlers passing through 063° 41' N. 035° W. at first light each day following up patrol in para (b) below.
(b) EDINBURGH, SHEFFIELD, SUFFOLK line abreast patrol 15 miles apart leaving datum line 145° from 065° 15' N. 032° 13' W. at beginning of morning (corrupt group) twilight. Direction of patrol 055° making good 18 knots till end of evening (corrupt group) twilight, then returning to datum line the following morning.
(c) KENYA and 2 destroyers cover (?northernmost) patrol trawler lines in Iceland - Faroe Islands passage.

/(d)

War Diary.5.11.1941.
Wednesday.HOME COMMANDS.Operations.Dispositions
to intercept
Enemy Heavy
units contd.

(d) IDAHO, MISSISSIPPI and 3 destroyers pass through approximate position $062^{\circ} 30' N.$ $030^{\circ} W.$ at first light proceeding N.N.E. by day.

(e) WICHITA and TUSCALOOSA patrolling North East of Denmark Straits minefield.

2. Ships leaving Hvalfiord for these dispositions at following approximate times today (all G.M.T.)

(a) 1800 (b) 1700 (c) On Patrol now (d) 1600 (e) 1400. Admiralty pass to U.S. Chief of Naval Operation. (C. in C. H.F. 1221Z/5.)

A. Proceed to patrol in vicinity of a line joining $58^{\circ} 30' N.$ $05^{\circ} 16' E.$ and $57^{\circ} 56' N.$ $6^{\circ} 21' E.$

B. My 1244A/4. Supplement to W.I.R. No.64 dated 30th May 1941 Page 12 refers.

C. S.B.R. arranged in area 13 North of latitude $57^{\circ} N.$ forthwith until further notice. (F.O.S. 1241A/5 to P.35.)

Afternoon 5 November IDAHO, MISSISSIPPI, GRAYSON, MEREDITH, MONSSEN, ~~GRAYSON~~ conducting patrol of area northeast of $62^{\circ} 30' N.$ $30^{\circ} 00' W.$

TUSCALOOSA, WICHITA patrolling line Skago Fjord to Cape Barclay. Maintaining strict radio silence. (Opnav 1732Z/5 to Adty.)

I intend steering to Southward, altering course to pass through $062^{\circ} 40' N.$ ($?030^{\circ}$) $W.$ at about 1200/6th, thence patrol as in my 1221N/5.

2. British cruisers continue patrol as previously. (C. in C. H.F. 1917N/5.)

With respect to current movements of German surface vessels and deployment of U.S. and U.K. striking groups, C.N.O. estimates situation as follows. Movement may be for (A) raiding North America, Gibraltar, or Freetown convoys or convoys to Russia. (B) for passing Naval or Merchant raiders into South Atlantic. (C) for raiding lightly defended Naval and Air bases in North Atlantic. Movement may involve any or all of following - TIRPITZ, SCHEER, PRINZ EUGEN, other cruisers, merchant raiders, and supply vessels possibly concentrated but more likely in detachments. Continued success of movement is dependent upon continued availability of supply vessels. Escape of raiders into South Atlantic would be particularly unfortunate in view large merchant trade and weakness of Naval defences in that region.

C.N.O. considers present situation requires closest possible direct co-operation between striking groups plus shore-based air units whether U.S., U.K., or Canadian. Prompt information should be supplied in time to permit emergency diversion or dispersal of convoys. (Opnav 2005/5 to Cinclant, Spenavo.)

War Diary.5.11.1941.
Wednesday.HOME COMMANDS.Operations.Dispositions
to intercept
Enemy Heavy
unit contd.

AMAZON is being retained at Hvalfiord in view of possible operational requirements by C. in C. H.F. (N.O.I.C. Iceland 2011/5 to C. in C. W.A.) See Shipping.

C. in C. H.F. 1221N/5. Ships sailed as in para.2. (A.C.I.C. 2029N/5 to Adty.) Movements delayed. Am returning to Hvalfiord to conserve fuel. (ii) C.S.18 return to Hvalfiord. (iii) Suggest U.S. Force conform. (iv) Admiralty pass to U.S. C.N.O. (C. in C. H.F. 2143Z/5 to H.F. (except ships refitting or temporarily detached to another Command or Station), C. in C. W.A., A.C.O.S., C. in C. Rosyth, F.O.C.N.P., Admy.)

C. in C. H.F. in KING GEORGE V., KENT, BERWICK, SOMALI, PUNJABI, MATABELE, ASHANTI, ORIBI, OFFA, returned 2330. (A.C.I.C. 2348/5.)

East Coast
Patrols.

CAMPBELL and 2 M.G.Bs will be operating ahead and to seaward of F.S.638 during last 3 hours of darkness.

(C. in C. Nore 1239A/5 to WESTMINSTER.)
(1) 2 M.G.Bs Q.E.(12) with CAMPBELL. (2) 2 M.G.Bs Q.E.3 A. (3) 2 Examination Steamers Q.E.6 A.
(C. in C. Nore 1611A/5.)

Patrol off
Portland.

My 1533A/5. Amend positions of M.L. Patrol to read 50° 23' N. 2° 05' W. 50° 20' N., 2° 50' W.
(C. in C. Portsmouth 1757A/5.)

British Air Activity.Patrols.

"Stab", "Bert", "Stand" in operation.

(C. in C. Rosyth 0603/5.)

R.A.F. will institute Patrol "Polar" by Northrops from 1230N/5 to last light, and Patrol "Bear" by Wellingtons from 1200N/5 to last light, daily.
(A.C.I.C. 1116N/5.)

Admiralty have assumed responsibility for ordering and keeping C. in C. H.F. informed of further air R/Cs in connection with Fleet movements. (A.C.N.S. H. 1128A/5.)

Patrols "Sentry" 2 and 3, also P.R.U. of Bergen and Trondheim will be flown today.

(C. in C. Rosyth 1145/5.)

/Following ...

War Diary.5.11.1941.
Wednesday.HOME COMMANDS.British Air Activity.Patrols
contd.

Following patrols are being flown from U.K.

(a) "Sentry" 2 and 3.

(b) "Rovik" 1 and 2, both moved 240 degrees 90 miles.

2. All above patrols will be in force by 1545 today.

3. "Rovik" 1 and 2 will revert to normal positions after 0100 tomorrow when "Rovik" 2 will be taken over by Iceland (C).

4. Following patrols have been ordered to be flown from Iceland. (a) "Polar" (b) Cross over patrol centred on position 65° N. 30° W.

5. P.R.U. of Bergen and Trondheim are also being flown. (A.C.N.S. H. 1356A/5 to C. in C. H.F.)

Following from H.Q.C.C. to R.A.F. Iceland.

Begins :- Patrols ordered are not now required.

Ends. In view of Admiralty's 1801A/5 and very bad flying conditions, night cross over patrol is not being flown tonight.

(A.C.I.C. 2009N/5.)

Bombing
operations.

On day 4/11 no operations took place. On night 4/5 Ostend and Dunkirk were bombed.

(H.Q.B.C. 1520/5.)

Own A/C
shot down.

Reported that one of three Spitfires escorting three Blenheims shot down by convoy escort twelve miles off Cromer at 1545/27/10. Request investigation with a view to identifying ship which fired and cause of incident.

(Air Ministry 1546/5 to Adty.)

A/C of 821
Squadron.

Six Swordfish of 821 Squadron are to proceed to Hatston at first light tomorrow to arm with torpedoes and then to fly to Sumburgh where they will operate under the orders of 18 Group.

(A.C.O.S. 2140A/5 to Hatston)

Signalling
of letter of
the day by
final Convoy
Patrol.

Addressed H.Q. 11 Group from C. in C. Portsmouth.

Your 1015/4. (Proposal by C. in C. Portsmouth)

(C. in C. Portsmouth 2223A/5 to Adty.)

War Diary.

5.11.1941.
Wednesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Enemy Air Activity.

CALIPH
sunk.

(Trawler) When fishing 12 miles S. of Old Head of Kinsale at 1740 B.S.T/2nd in company with 14 other trawlers was sunk by near misses from two enemy planes believed to be Heinkel 111. Casualties 1 killed, three wounded. (F.O.I.C. Milford Haven 1041/5.)

Convoy.

Fighters have been sent to the assistance of convoy "Pattern". (Rosyth W/T 1716/5.)

Mining.

Falmouth.

At 1628/4 one red Mine detonated in 50° 06' 12" N. 05° 0' 08" W. (F.O.I.C. Falmouth 1000/5.)

Bristol
Channel.

All Bristol Channel ports including Port Talbot will be open from 1500 until 2300 today. (F.O.I.C. Cardiff 1132A/5.)
At 1310/5 one Red Mine detonated by Sweepers 056° 6 miles from Watchet Pier Light. Details. (Capt. M/S 1617A/5.)

BRITISHER.
(Mined 4/11)

N.C.S.O. Thames 2058A/4. Information received that BRITISHER was a wooden sailing barge with no motor and cargo of empty wooden boxes. Skipper of barge WILL EVERARD which was about one or two miles away at time states that BRITISHER was to the northward of the West Mouse Buoy and on edge of Maplin Sands. BRITISHER had disappeared when effects of explosion subsided. It seems probable that this was the mine reported by HOLDERNESS's 1059A/4 to Admiralty and Capt. M/S Sheerness and that it is more likely that the final actuation of the mine was caused by the barge herself perhaps due to vibration of Lee Board. (C. in C. Nore. 1154A/5.)

PORT QUEBEC.

A.L.M.08129/41 of 16th September. Intend to lay fields with PORT QUEBEC on 11 and 12/11 while on passage to refit at Southampton. (R.A.M. 1636/5.)

War Diary.

5.11.1941.
Wednesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Technical.

Steaming performances.

Steaming performances of WELLINGTON, MARIGOLD, and DEPTFORD during past seven months are most noteworthy. Steaming performances of WITCH, FOLKESTONE, LONDONDERRY, WESTON, SANDWICH, EGRET, BANFF, FISHGUARD, CARNATION, HELIOTROPE and LA MALOUINE during past three months reflect great credit on all concerned.
(C. in C. W.A. 1932A/5.)

Navigational.

White Sea Lights.

Following changes in character of White Sea Lights. Admiralty pass to all addressees.
(S.B.N.O. Archangel 2211/5.)

Casualties and Defects.

HASTINGS.

HASTINGS can be taken in hand for repairs to intermediate shafting at Devonport forthwith. Request you will sail HASTINGS accordingly.
(F.O.I.C. Belfast 0951A/5 to F.O.I.C. Milford Haven.)

HAZEL.

Arrived HAZEL in tow of Rescue Tug RESTIVE.
(F.O.I.C. Greenock 1023A/5 to A.C.I.C.)

ENID MARY.

MADELAINNE CAMILLE was in collision with S.S. ENID MARY at 1215/4th in Methil Roads. No damage to MADELAINNE CAMILLE. ENID MARY damaged above waterline but is seaworthy and proceeded immediately afterwards in convoy.
(N.O.I.C. Methil 1508/5.)

ENGLISH TRADER.
(Grounded 26/10)

Salvage Officer reports he inspected wreck of ENGLISH TRADER in position 52° 52' 40" N. 1° 55' E. Salvage of ship or cargo impracticable. Gun awash at low Water Springs. Consider salvage of gun impossible except in calmest weather and then only at considerable risk to vessel undertaking operation. (F.O.I.C. Yarmouth 1700A/5.)

Unknown Ship.

Intercept 1729 G.M.T. D.E. unknown weak spark Station begins S O S ends. Bearing Northerly. No reply to requests for repetition.
(C. in C. Plymouth 1833/5.)

CURACOA.

Docked in No.3 dock today. (A.S. Rosyth 1935/5.)

War Diary.5.11.1941.
Wednesday.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping and Convoys.Pilots at
Tyne.

Masters of ships bound for the Tyne should be informed that no restrictions is imposed by the Naval authorities on ships entering the port without a pilot if the port is open and no pilot is available.
(D.T.D. 1238A/5.)

EMPIRE
BARRACUDA.
EMPIRE
PANTHER.

My 1526A/3. COLTSFOOT will act as additional escort to EMPIRE BARRACUDA and EMPIRE PANTHER proceeding to Gibraltar in accordance with C. in C. W.A. 2019A/4.
(N.O.I.C. Greenock 1248A/5.)

Destroyer
Escorts of
Atlantic
Convoys.

In the event of Atlantic convoys being attacked by surface raiders of cruiser category or above, it is the primary duty of destroyers to shadow and report until enemy can be brought to action by heavier forces. It is not considered any useful purpose is likely to be served by daylight attack. With the advent of darkness, however, if the number of destroyers available permits, opportunity for night attack with torpedoes should be taken only provided that the effective shadowing of the enemy is not jeopardised thereby.
(C. in C. W.A. 1548/5 and 1739/5.)

Zig-zag
instructions.

Admiralty Message "HD". In Area 6, when northward of 35 degs. South and between 20 degs. East and 10 degs. West, merchant ships routed independently or after dispersal from convoy are to zig-zag by day and on moonlight nights. Instructions in C.A.M.S.I. 487 remain in force.
(D.T.D. 1755Z/5.)

Sailings
from
Iceland.

My 1917N/4th. Have cancelled sailing of 7 knot ships. CAPE WARWICK, ANGLE will escort 10 knot ship to H.X.157. Fish Carrier LIVERPOOL ready to sail. AMAZON (?is) being retained at Hvalfjord in view of possible operational requirements by C. in C. H.F.
(N.O.I.C. Iceland 2011/5 to C. in C. W.A.)

War Diary.

5.11.1941.
Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

CLYDE.

Your 1306/3. CLYDE should be sailed on 9/11 for patrol in Bay of Biscay West area.
2. Limits of longitude in para. 2 of A.M.2249/15/8 should be amended for this patrol to 06° W., and 08° W. (A.C.N.S. (H) 1134A/5 to F.O.C.N.A.)

LEITH,
S.L.91 G.

P.C. and S. at 1200A/5, 036° 24' N., 016° 06' W., 280° 10.2 knots. Do not expect to contact S.L.91 G. before 7th. Weather report. (LEITH, 1204A/5 to F.O.C.N.A.)

French
Shipping.

Passing Gibraltar westbound at 0815/3. (D.O.R., 5/11)

Suspicious
Tanker,
Destroyers.

R.A.F. reports at 1300 unidentified 10,000 ton tanker escorted by small destroyer ten miles off Burline Island, course S.S.W. At 1540 two destroyers from Cadiz, P.C.S. 300° six miles, 300° 20 knots, and 230° five miles 325° 18 knots respectively. (S.O.(I) Gib., 1831A/5 to Admty).

DUNCAN,
SIKH.

Return to Gibraltar with despatch. (A.C.N.S. (F), 1950A/5 to DUNCAN, SIKH). Modified by 1755A/6.

South Atlantic.

OLWEN
(raider
report 4/11)

Departures 0956/4 DUNEDIN, PRINCESS BEATRIX, QUEEN EMMA. (S.O.(I) Freetown, 0431N/5). (Following has been received from Portishead Radio)
My 0530/4. Amended position my 0630/4. One shot fired from 2 points abaft port beam. Our position and course 003° 05' N., 022° 35' W., 260°. Evading action taken, no further shots fired, no ship sighted dark, dawn, daylight. Suspect S/M on surface. W/T message thought vicinity repeatedly received from callsign NERK. Message begins: Steer S.W. coming to your assistance, speed 30 knots. This message ignored, not coded. NERK also called Freetown W/T Stations. (OLWEN, 1030/5 to C, in C. S.A.)

/My.....

War Diary.5.11.1941.
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic.OLWEN
(raider
report 4/11).
Contd.

My 1421/4. (Cancellation of QQQQ) Add to second sentence, "As far as is known at Freetown" (C. in C. S.A., 1204N/5 to Admty).
 U.S. Cruiser MEMPHIS, destroyers DAVIS and JOUETT searched vicinity of attack on Oiler OLWEN till 1900/4 with no result, then proceeded course 258° 15 knots. U.S. Cruiser OMAHA and Destroyer SOMERS looking for survivors in position of attack A.M./5, then proceeding to 005° 00' S., 034° 00' W. (C. in C. S.A., 1401N/5 to DORSETSHIRE, CANTON, DUNEDIN, QUEEN EMMA, PRINCES\$ BEATRIX.)
 If no further news by dusk tomorrow, (i) -DORSETSHIRE and CANTON search on northerly course between 26° 30' W., and 30° W., to lat. 2° N., then DORSETSHIRE return to Freetown CANTON continue patrol in H.34 C.
 (ii) DUNEDIN with QUEEN EMMA and PRINCES\$ BEATRIX search on northerly course to lat. 5° N., thence returning Freetown.
 (C. in C. S.A., 1703N/5 to DORSETSHIRE, CANTON, DUNEDIN).

PHOEBE.

Departure 5th PHOEBE, Freetown 0800/7.
 (N.O.I.C. Lagos, 1130Z/5 to Admty).

M. Ls.
Monrovia
ACADIA.

M.L.s. 272 and 242 arrive off Monrovia 0600/6 to patrol to seaward during stay of ACADIA. (C. in C. S.A., 1147N/5 to VIMY).
 My 1147/5. A Sunderland will also be patrolling off Monrovia and in sector A.
 (C. in C. S.A., 1857N/5 to VIMY)

Operation
"Bellringer".

Your (?602) (N.T. in W.R.). After recovering your personnel from COMMANDANT DORISE on arrival East London, CARNARVON CASTLE is to proceed Simonstown. Report E.T.A. when known. (N.O.I.C. Simonstown, 1159B/5 to CARNARVON CASTLE).

Request details of any acts of resistance to boarding and search by each ship of French Convoy by name, including summary of damage to any ship and estimated time to repair. (D.E.W.D., 2034A/5 to F.O.I.C. Simonstown).

/BEVER.....

War Diary.

5.11.1941.
Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic - Contd.

BEVER.
BOKSBURG.

Request permission be obtained for H.M. South African ships BEVER and BOKSBURG, L L whale catchers on loan to Admiralty for service in Mediterranean, to fuel at Beira on passage. (2) Vessels will be ready to sail 7/11 from Durban, maximum endurance 1200 miles. (N.O.I.C. Simonstown 1650B/5 to Admty).

CINCINNATI.
Task Force 3.

A.T. 2115A/11/10. CINCINNATI only left Trinidad 4/11 to arrive Pernambuco 12/11. (D.O.D. (F) 1657A/5 to C, in C. S.A., R.A.S.A.D.)

AFRICAN
PRINCE.

Overdue shipping, my 0925/4, AFRICAN PRINCE arrived Capetown. (S.O.(I), Capetown, 1715B/5 to Admty etc).

O.S. Convoys.
Freetown.

The number of ships in O.S. Convoys makes it necessary for the convoy to enter Freetown in two halves in order to prevent unnecessary movements of ships whilst in submarine waters and innumerable signals. Request A.l. forms be so arranged by N.C.S.O. Liverpool that convoy can be split into fast and slow sections with a minimum of signalling and for alterations of positions. (C. in C. S.A., 1755N/5 to Admty) Reply 2207/8.

SHAHRISTAN
survivors.

Your 1058A/30/10 and my 1116N/1. Is DESIRADE required to call at Ponta Delgada? (C. in C. S.A., 1901N/5 to Admty).

* Force G. ~~Row 4~~ Arrivals 5/11 Force G, BRILLIANT, HOLLYHOCK, O.S.9. CLOVER, BURDOCK with convoy O.S.9. (S.O.(I) Freetown, 2351N/5 to Admty etc).

* PRINCE OF WALLS, ELECTRA 7 EXPRESS.

War Diary.5.11.1941.
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean.PORPOISE.

Capt. (S) 1's 1229B/3. (Following to) movement of 10th S/M Flotilla cancel second position and proceed through 035° 00' 018° 00', 035° 20' 014' 14' and 035° N., 014° 14' to arrive Grand Harbour 0730B /9. (Capt. S.10, 1020B /5 to PORPOISE.)

S/Ms.

Your 1310A/3 to C. in C. Med., (Netherlands S/M Q21. to patrol if area not required by 10th S/M Flotilla) Future commitments indicate no S/M of 10th S.F. will be operating north of Sicily during dates mentioned. (Capt. S.10 1037B/5 to F.O.C.N.A.)

Jewish Immigrants.

My 1850/11/9. Unlikely that any suitable shipping will be available in near future to move 793 illegal Jewish immigrants ex Palestine to Mauritius unless (a) returning vessel of W.S. or C.M. convoy can proceed Mauritius, or (b) they are shipped to South Africa for onward passage provided vessel can be allocated for oncarriage. Request instructions. (P.S.T.O. Egypt, 1150B/5 to D. of S.T.)

SENNEVILLE. French protest.

My (?1216)/27. I have received protest concerning attack by aircraft 2/11 off Tunisian coast (?on) French steamship SENNEVILLE escorted by torpedo boat. Translation of note telegraphed to F.O. by Charge d'Affaires. (N.A. Madrid, 1157/5 to Admty).

Free French at Djibouti and Zeila. Use of Tugs.

Your 1931/19 and C. in C. E.I. 1910/17. Concur that establishment of Free French Naval Base at Zeila is most undesirable in present circumstances. Ref. Para. (ii) (c) of C. in C. E.I. 1910/17, vessels captured by British warships are at your disposal. The primary consideration is, of course, to use these vessels where they will best serve the common war effort. You may, therefore, employ them as your requirements dictate, handing them over for operation by Free French Forces if this suits your purpose, but not otherwise. (Head of M. (86) Approved V.C.N.S., 1215A/5 to C. in C. Med).

/DIVONA.....

War Diary.5.11.1941.
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean - Contd.DIVONA
(attacked by
A/C 21/10).

My 1216/27/10 (N.T. in W.D.)
V. Admiral Derrien commanding Bizerta reports attack on DIVONA involved three torpedo attacks and could not have been mistake.
Request instructions whether I can say we will attack all vessels sighted in declared areas irrespective of nationality unless voyage previously advised.
Also whether presence of escort affects position. (N.A. Madrid, 1233/5 to Admty).

Suez Canal
U. X. B.
Report.

Ref. Para. (d) my 1329B/4, suspicion of U.X. object not confirmed, canal traffic has therefore been resumed.
(S.B.N.O. Suez, 1243B/5 to Admty etc).

Air Operations. Night 2/3. Visibility bad. 3 F.A.A. Albacores bombed enemy M.T. park near Gambut starting several fires. One Blenheim bombed Derna aerodrome starting small fire south of hangars.
Day 3/11. At midday 6 Marylands dropped 12,000 lbs. bombs on stores dumps on coast road 10 miles North of Benghazi.
Night 3/4. Weather and visibility bad. F.A.A. Albacore dropped flares to light up dumps South of Tobruk Bardia Road for attack by 6 Blenheims. Bombs straddled dumps causing explosions and fires shortly after dark.
Approx. 10 enemy aircraft bombed landing grounds in Fuka Area in 2 waves with an interval of an hour seriously damaging 1 Blenheim, 2 Hurricanes. 3 Hurricanes, 3 Blenheims slightly damaged. No casualties.
Day 4/11. In early afternoon 9 Marylands dropped 16 - 500 lb and 14 - 250 lb bombs on workshops and buildings North West of Berka aerodrome Benghazi. (H.Q., R.A.F., M.E., 1303/5).
Day 4/11 (continued) 6 Marylands attacked dumps and M.T. near Gazala starting several small fires.
(H.Q. R.A.F., M.E., 1304/5).

Enemy
Destroyers.

P.C. and S. of 3 enemy destroyers, line abreast 37.30 N., 16.20 E., 300 19.
(Malta, 1341B /5 to Med., Fleet).

War Diary.

5.11.1941.
Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean. - Contd.

GLAUCOS.

GLAUCOS sails 1630B/5 and proceeds end of searched channel through 035° 28' 026° 35' thence carry patrol in the vicinity of Candia and Lampedusa, Suda Bay, until p.m./14, when she is ordered to proceed Malta, passing through 035° 47' 02, 0° 10' or 00' at approx. noon/16 to arrive a.m./19 as routed by Capt. (S) 10. (Capt. S.1., 1421B/5 to C. in C. Med).

TORCELLO,
(Italian)

My 1220/2 TORCELLO left for Varna 5/11.
-(S.O.(I) Istanbul, 1545/5, to S.O.(I) Med).

2 M/Vs
attacked.

Night 4/5. Eight (Blenheims?) on shipping sweep Gulf of Sirte found and attacked two M.Vs. 3,000 tons escorted by one destroyer 0954 hrs. 264°. Benghazi 92 miles. 27 250 lbs. bombs dropped mast high. DR. machine gunned. Four direct hits, one left sinking rapidly with black and white smoke covering the whole vessel. -Second M.V. straddled by two aircraft. 2 Blenheims missing hit by A.A. and dived into sea. (H.Q., R.A.F., Malta, 1700/5) See also 1700/6.

M/V sunk by
TRUSTY.
25/10.

C.A.F.O. 1278/41. 25/10/41. 2 5,000 tons laden southbound M/Vs. escorted by 1 destroyer in 38.24 N., 20.13 E., 3 torpedoes at each M/V by TRUSTY. Missed first ship hit second 2 torpedoes, M.V. sank in about 12 minutes. (Capt. S.10., 1725B/5 to Admty).

Intelligence.

My 1219/18/10, Para. 10. Following re-arrangement of intelligence organisation is to take place. (C. in C. Med., 1731B/5, to Med., Stn. etc) See Lion Copy.

FRONSAC.
French.

Departure 4/11 Sete.
(Barcelona, 1821/5 to M. of W.T.)

SECRET.

MESSAGE.

1731B/5th November.

117^AFrom C. in C. Mediterranean.Date. 6. 11. 41.

Recd. 0605.

NAVAL CYPHER D BY CABLE.

Addressed. Mediterranean Station, C. in C. East Indies.
 Repeated. G.H.Q. Middle East, H.Q. R.A.F. Middle East,
 Admiralty, F.O.C. North Atlantic.

My 1219/18 / October Para 10. The following rearrangement of intelligence organization is to take place:
 (a) Sub-centres to be established at Suez and Aden. Lieut. Coma. Finter is appointed for this duty at Suez and will be known as S.O. (I) Red Sea. Lieut. Coghil is appointed as S.O. (I) Aden.

(b) The area of these intelligence centres will conform with paras one and two of my 1219/18 October and will form part of the Mediterranean Intelligence organization.

(c) Reporting Officers Red Sea are to report to S.O. (I) Mediterranean and S.O. (I) Red Sea repeating as necessary to other S.O.(I)'s.

(d) All pilots signals to be addressed to S.O. (I) Mediterranean and S.O. (I) Red Sea repeating as necessary to adjacent commands.

(e) Movements of H.M. Ships to be reported to Admiralty, C. in C. Mediterranean, F.O.C. Red Sea Force and N.O.I.C. Aden only, except arrivals from and departures to East Indies Station which will in addition be reported to C. in C. East Indies.

(f) C B 3000 (38) article 104 is to be complied with by S.O. (I) Red Sea and S.O. (I) Aden.

1731B/5.

/ Re changes in Intelligence and communications organization.

1st Lord.
 1st S.L.
 2nd S.L.
 3rd S.L.
 Vice Controller.
 4th S.L.
 5th S.L.
 V.C.N.S.
 A.C.N.S. (H)
 A.C.N.S. (F)
 A.C.N.S. (T) (2)
 A.C.N.S. (W)
 Sec.
 Nav. Sec.
 N.A. 1st S.L.
 P.A.S. (S)
 N.A. 2nd S.L.

D.N.I. (4)
 O.D. (5)
 Ops. (3)
 M. (10)
 D. of P. (3)
 O.I.C. (2)
 I.P. (3)
 W.D.
 D.S.D. (2)
 O.D. (8)
 H.W.R. (2)
 Ad. Palliser.
 C.W. (2)
 N.I.D. 10. (2)
 File X.

B.

War Diary.5.11.1941.
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies.Addu
Atoll.

- (1) Addu Atoll will shortly be established as defended port.
- (2) Until Port War Signal Station and War Signal Station are established following instructions for entry and approaching are to be observed.
- (a) Ships are to approach Atoll within sector formed by lines 050° and 130° from centre Gan Island.
- (b) Ships are not to approach within 15 miles of Atoll until within above sector.
- (c) Ships are to be prepared to carry out challenge and reply procedure with S.N.O. Ship anchored near Gan will be passed.
- (3) Chart Z 14 late C.B. 04042 refers.
- (4) S.N.O. is established in one of H.M. Ships stationed at Addu Atoll. CORFU is at present S.N.O.
- (5) S.N.O. is responsible for defence port T and will administer port notwithstanding seniority.
- (6) H.M. Ships visiting anchorage are to comply as far as possible with local instructions issued by S.N.O. but are to act independently as regards notice for steam, W/T watch and operation outside precincts of ports.
- (C. in C. E.I., 0742Z/5, to E.I. Sqdn.)
My 0742/5.
- (i) Existence of anchorage is to be kept as secret as possible.
- (ii) Anchorage is also known as Port T, which name should generally be used. The 2 names should not both appear in same communication.
- (iii) Messages for S.N.O. Port T should be made to C. in C. E.I. for onward transmission.
- (C. in C. E.I., 0744Z/5, to E.I. Sqdn.)

China.AQUITANIA.

Your 1456A/4 (N.T. in W.D.). AQUITANIA can be taken in hand provided period clear QUEEN (MARY ?) vide Admty. 0139A/30/10.
(R.A. Malaya, 0321Z/5 to D. of S.T.)

/TOMISLAV.....

War Diary.

5.11.1941.
Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

China - Contd.

TOMISLAV.

Columbia American broadcast states Japan has forced the Italians to hand back the Yugoslav ship TOMISLAV to its own crew at Shanghai. It was recently reported that this ship had been taken over by officers and men from the Italian CONTE VERDE on behalf of Lloyd Triestino. (D.S. 791, 5/11.)

French Shipping.

Arrival 4/11 KHAI DINH, KINDIA.
(Saigon, 1019Z/5 to D. of S.T.)

America and West Indies.

S.C. 54,
escort.

In view of return to Sydney (C.B.) of S.C. 52 I presume S.C. 54 will be largely augmented. I hoped to be able to produce a larger escort but best I can foresee is 2 destroyers and 7 or 8 corvettes.

(C.C.N.F., 0048Z/5 to Com. Task Force 4.)

W.D. Note: S.C.52 was attacked by S/Ms. 3/11, scattered and made for Sydney.

C.T.5.
W.S.12X.
T.C.15.

My 1833Z/3. Request approval as immediate revised instructions for whole operation and for railways of paramount importance.

(N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 0201Z/5 to Admty.)

INDOMITABLE.
Aircraft.
(Ship
grounded
3/11.)

INDOMITABLE 1903R/4 being passed to B.A.D. Washington. Propose INDOMITABLE disembark all aircraft at R.N.A.S. Palisadoes and proceed to U.S. for repair.

(C. in C. A.W.I., 0932Q/5 to Admty.)

Your 1637A/4. INDOMITABLE can be accepted for docking at Norfolk. Job number S.139. She can probably be docked on arrival provided she arrives by 11/11, otherwise docking will be delayed until 16/11.

(B.A.R.M., 1202R/5 to Admty.)

/Your.....

War Diary.5.11.1941.
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies.INDOMITABLE.
Aircraft.
(Ship
grounded
3/11.)
Contd.

Your 0932Q/5. U.S. Authorities concur A/C remaining on board and being landed at the operational base Norfolk where training can continue.

(B.A.R.M., 1436R/5 to C. in C. A.W.I., INDOMITABLE.)

Request you will sail INDOMITABLE as soon as practicable for Norfolk (Va.) at which port American Authorities in London anticipate dock will be available.

(A.C.N.S.(F), 1750A/5 to N.O.I.C. Jamaica.)

A.M. 1750A/5. Intend to sail 1600R/6. E.T.A. Norfolk, Virginia, 1200R/10. B.A.R.M.

Washington's 1436R/5, request instructions for disembarkation of Squadrons on arrival be signalled.

(INDOMITABLE, 2008R/5, to C. in C. A.W.I.)

In view of B.A.R.M.'s 1202R/5 and 1436/5 intend INDOMITABLE should retain aircraft on board and sail so as to arrive Norfolk p.m./10.

(C. in C. A.W.I., 2142Q/5 to Admty., INDOMITABLE.)

CIRCASSIA.

On arrival at Trinidad complete with fuel and await further instructions.

(C. in C. A.W.I., 1052Q/5 to CIRCASSIA.)

T.C. 15.

Your 1833/3. Ships of T.C. 15 have to turn round very quickly after arrival U.K. Essential therefore that T.C. 15 should sail as early as possible. 2. Delay in embarkation must be accepted if unavoidable but request if possible convoy sails p.m./13/11 instead of a.m./14/11.

(D.S.T., 1213A/5 to N.S.H.Q. Ottawa.)

Your 1213/5. T.C. 15 will be sailed not later than 2200Z/13 and every effort will be made to anticipate this time. C.O.A.C. will report as soon as possible definite time of departure.

(N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 2021Z/5 to D. of S.T.)

DESPATCH.

DESPATCH leaves Bermuda p.m./7, and proceeds to Trinidad via Sombrero channel so as to arrive a.m./11. Completes fuel on arrival.

(C. in C. A.W.I., 1232Q/5 to Commodore, West Indies.)

Otter
Trials.

Request early information of the results the Americans obtain in their trials of the ~~Sea~~ Sea Otter ~~II~~ II.

(V.C.N.S., 1338A/5 to B.A.D.)

/CATHAY.....

War Diary.

5.11.1941.
Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies - Contd.

CATHAY.

Your 1232A/30/10. As machinery repairs in hand have immobilised ship it will expedite her return to trade if conversion work is carried out concurrently in Navy Yard, Brooklyn. Under the terms of Lend Lease for repairs to ships under B.A.R.M., CATHAY must retain Naval status otherwise she will have to be handed over to M. of W.T. and the work carried out by the Maritime Commission. If conversion is to be undertaken in U.S.A. in the Navy Yard a reasonable crew for security etc. must be retained. M. of W.T. New York has been consulted and concurs. (B.A.R.M., 1432R/5 to Admty.)

CLARKIA
(grounded
3/11.)

Diver's examination of CLARKIA is incomplete but she does not appear to be damaged other than loss of asdic dome and superficial scoring. Hull is not leaking.
(INDOMITABLE, 1705R/5 to C. in C. A.W.I.)
INDOMITABLE 1705R/5. CLARKIA is to be sailed for Bermuda for examination as soon as possible. (C. in C. A.W.I., 2212Q/5 to N.O.I.C. Kingston.)

INDOMITABLE.
CLARKIA.

Report of grounding, K.R. and A.I. 1170.
(INDOMITABLE, 2025R/5.) See Lion Copy.

W.S. 12X.
fuelling.

My 2328/26/10 tanker SCOTTISH CHIEF due about 11/11 may be retained for fuelling.
(D. of S.T., 1802A/5 to N.O.I.C. Trinidad.)

P. 511.
P. 551.

My 1905R/31 and Admty. 1151A/11. P. 511 and P. 551 can only proceed direct to U.K. by utilization of ballast tanks for fuel. This is not considered desirable in the North Atlantic in winter. Propose ships call at St. Johns, N.F. for fuelling and water.
(B.A.D., 1935R/5 to Admty.)
Approved. (1933A/7.)

U.S.
Transports.

United States Transports MOUNT VERNON, WEST POINT, WAKEFIELD, ^{Jr}DICKMAN, LEONARD WOOD, ORIZABA arrived.
(C.O.A.C. Halifax, 1942Z/5 to N.S.H.Q.)

/CITY OF ALBERNI...

SECRET

MESSAGE

2025R/5th Nov.

IN

~~SECRET IN~~

From: H.M.S. INDOMITABLE

Date 6.11.41
Recd 2358

12/A.

Naval Cypher A1 by W/T

~~Passed to Admiralty for information.~~Addressed: C. in C. America & West Indies, Repeated:
H.M.S. CLARKIA, N.O.I.C. Kingston (Jamaica). From
H.M.S. INDOMITABLE.

Your 1044 Q 4th. H.M.S. CLARKIA with TULIP in company arrived East Channel Jamaica at 1200 R 3rd and passed north of East of Middle buoy.

Compass being unreliable Lime Cay was mistaken for Gun Cay and passed to starboard. Engines were stopped clear of Lime Cay shoal to ascertain position of Beacon and buoy then ship steered for West Middle buoy grounding easily at 1220 on Rackham Cay 1 cable northwards of B 3 beacon. This was not, repetition not reported to H.M.S. INDOMITABLE.

H.M.S. INDOMITABLE entered East Channel at 1600 R 3rd passing 3 cables north of Lime Cay at 12 knots.

Rackham Cay Beacon was mistaken for Gun Cay Beacon and ship grounded at 1621 at north east corner of Rackham Cay. Ship was going virtually astern and had about one knot head-way on grounding.

I was misled by H.M.S. CLARKIA who appeared to be at anchor on side of fairway though really aground: also by small scale chart 456 and difficulty of recognising beacon. Owing to several previous days of calm weather Rackham Cay appeared to be clear water until within 2 cables of fore bridge.

It was 4 hours before Highwater and according to chart Rackham Cay should have been clearly visible.

K.R. and A.I. 1170. H.M.S. CLARKIA (a) 6 knots (b) 17½ hours (c) (? AMPIRE) CORAL (d) towed by TULIP. Lightened (e) Loss of asdic dome and some hull scoring (h) 10¾ feet forward 14½ feet aft (i) 12 feet at stern 12 feet at bow 9 feet amidships.

.... amidships....

-2-

K.R. and A.I. 1170. H.M.S. INDOMITABLE (a) one knot, (b) 9 hours (c) mud and soft coral (d) transfer weight aft. Stern anchor. Slew and pull by 3 mine sweepers. Engine astern (e) As in my 1903R 4th (f) E.S.E. force 2 (g) Fine sea smooth (h) 27½ feet forward 28½ feet aft (i) 90 feet at stern 17 feet at bow 50 feet amidships (j) 2 feet above datum (k) nil.

2025/5

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

1st Lord
1st S.L.
2nd S.L.
Contr.
Vice Contr.
4th S.L.
5th S.L.
V.C.N.S.
A.C.N.S. (H)
A.C.N.S. (F)
A.C.N.S. (W)
Parl. Sec.
Nav. Sec.
N.A. 1st S.L.
M (2)
Movts.
I.P. (3)
Ops (3)
O.D. (5)
O.D. 8
O.I.C.
D.
N.L.
S. Branch
D.N.I. (4)

Hydrog.
Press Div.
Salvage Dept.
C.C.R.T.
W.D.
D.A./S.W.
D. of N.
N.A. 2nd S.L. (2)
D.N.D.
Staff Charts
D.N.C.
D.C.D. Slough
T/P for Dep. Contr (3)
D (4)
P.
D.A./S.W. (2)
D.N.C. (2)

} Bath

War Diary.

5.11.1941.
Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies - Contd.

CITY OF
ALBERNI.

My 2109Z/3rd arrived Esquimalt.
(N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 2007Z/5.)

TULIP.

Is to be sailed for Trinidad as soon as convenient. Stores may be embarked for transport to Curacao en route if desired. (C. in C. A.W.I., 2202Z/5 to N.O.I.C. Kingston.)

Lati
Air Line.

Urgency of closing this service, in view of Lati planes reporting shipping to U-Boats, etc. (Head of M., 2325A/5 to B.A.D.)
See Lion Copy.

New Zealand.

LE
TRIOMPHANT.

Admty. 1251+A/31/10 and your 2227/30/10. Defects to LE TRIOMPHANT cannot be affected in New Zealand. The principal defects are (list). Can these defects be undertaken at Sydney? (N.Z.N.B., 0256Z/5 to A.C.N.B.)

MOST SECRET

MESSAGE

2325A/5 November.
OUT.

To: B.A.D. Washington. 263.

Date 5.11.41.

NAVAL CYPHER ONE TIME TABLE.

From Admiralty.

Please see Ambassador's telegrams to F.O. Nos. 3606, 3797, 4731 and 4834, F.O. telegrams to Ambassador Nos. 4484 and 5644 and Boxes No. 122 concerning suppression of Lati Air Line.

2. Admiralty are very seriously concerned at continued delay in action to abolish Lati.

- (a) Because closing of Vladivostock route has greatly increased importance of this service.
- (b) Especially for the Naval reasons set out in paragraph 5 of F.O. telegram to Ambassador No. 4484.

3. There have been several reports of Lati planes carrying out reconnaissance flights off Brazil on behalf of enemy shipping and Lati were fined last April for such a flight. When the enemy began to devote part of their submarine effort to attacking our Freetown and Middle East convoys Lati became a serious menace particularly to our slow convoys. They are not only known to have sent reports of the details of our convoys to Rome via Seville but it cannot be doubted that all shipping intelligence picked up by Lati planes is passed to U-Boats and enemy aircraft by the quickest route available.

4. Losses in the Cape Verde Freetown area have at intervals been serious and a heavy strain is in consequence being imposed upon our A/S forces. U.S. ships are now proceeding in increasing numbers through the areas covered by Lati flights and it is indeed suspected that the "I.C. WHITE" may have been sighted by Lati when off Brazil.

5. You should therefore create an early opportunity of representing informally to the U.S. Naval Staff the sinister part played by Lati in the Battle of the Atlantic and our common interest in its early suppression

You should urge them -

- (a) To assist in hurrying on the establishment of the new service.
- (b) To induce the State Department to take action at once with the Brazilian Government.

6.....

6. Before taking the above action you should of course ask the Embassy whether they have any objection to representations on these lines being made through Naval channels. Embassy can also provide you with an outline of the previous negotiations.

2325A/5.

for Head of M.(86)

Approved V.C.N.S.

- 1st Lord.
- 1st S.L.
- 5th S.L.
- V.C.N.S.
- A.C.N.S.(H)
- A.C.N.S.(F)
- A.C.N.S.(T)(2)
- Secretary.
- N.A. 1st S.L.
- P.A.S.(S)
- D.O.D.(H)
- D.D.O.D.(H)
- D.O.D.(F)
- D.D.O.D.(F)
- Duty Captain.
- D.N.I.(4)
- D.D.I.C.
- D. of P.(2)
- E.P.S.

Head of M. (M.017082/41) (12) Copy for Capt Norfolk, W.C
 " " Mr. Steel, F.O.
 " " "Reilly, M.E.W.
 " " "Herbertson, A.M.
 " " "Herbert, Censorship.

W.D.
 I.P.(2)
 N.I.D.10.(Pay.Cdr.Wilson)

5.11.1941.
Wednesday.

War Diary.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Ships Attacked.

S.C.52.
FLYNDERBORG
GRETAVALE
EMPIRE
GEMSBUCK
EVEROJA
(torpedoed
3/11.)

Request immediate report of whereabouts and number of ships accounted for.
(D.T.D. 1850A/5 to C.C.N.F., N.C.S.O.Sydney C.B.)
FLYNDERBORG, British, 2022 tons, cargo of lumber.
GRETAVALE, British, 4586 tons, cargo of steel.
EMPIRE GEMSBUCK, British 5626 tons, general cargo. EVEROJA, British, 4830 tons, cargo of wheat.

(D.O.R., 5/11.)

Your 1850A/5. Returned from Convoy S.C.52 United States, *BUMPWALK, EMPIRE ZEPHYR, BRITISH PROGRESS, CIRCE SHELL, Greek, ANNA MAZARAKI, EMPIRE HARTEBEESTE, DALFRAM, MARYLYN, EMPIRE WILDBEESTE, DENPARK, GUIDO, ESKDALEGATE, Greek MOSCHA D.KYDONIEFS, MERCHANT, BRITISH RENOWN, EMPIRE BRUCE. Remainder returning less EVEROJA, FLYNDERBORG, GRETAVALE and EMPIRE GEMSBUCK, torpedoed; EMPIRE ENERGY and MAROUKO PATERAS ashore.

(N.C.S.O. Sydney C.B., 2151Z/5, to Admty.)

**not identified.*

MICHAEL L.
EMBRICOS

Greek, 5202 tons, with a cargo of sugar, also torpedoed in S.C.52 at 1558/3. (D.O.R. 5/11.)
Torpedoing doubtful (D.O.R. 6/11.)

BRADFORD
CITY.

Walvis ?

British, 4953 tons. From incomplete intercepted messages it appears that this vessel was torpedoed about 300 miles W. of Walfisch Bay, S.W. Africa, at 0730/3, while on passage from Mauritius to Freetown with a cargo of sugar. (D.O.R., 5/11.)

Submarines Reported.

Estimated approx., position of U/B's.
(D.D.I.C. 1445A/5, 1446A/5.)

1045.

P.M.S. GLENAVON sighted ship's wake 100 yards long 1-1/2 miles distant when near 20 T Buoy at 1045/5. Suspected submerged submarine.
Estimate C.4.

(F.O.I.C. Tyne, 2045/5, to Admty.)

War Diary.

6.11.1941.
Thursday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

The Flag of V.A.2 was transferred from RENOWN to DUKE OF YORK at 0900 today.

EDINBURGH, SHEFFIELD and SUFFOLK arrived at Iceland at 1026N today.

North
Russia.

In view of ice conditions arrangements have been made for the normal base for destroyers and minesweepers to be Molotovsk.

SEALION arrived at Polyarno this morning.

British Air Operations.

21 aircraft of Bomber Command attacked Cherbourg last night. A convoy was attacked South of Terschelling and one ship, believed to be a tanker, was hit and set on fire from stem to stern.

Mining.

4th M/S F.
Operation.

In view of the importance of the operation of the 4th M/S F, clearing a passage in the minefield N.W. of the Faeroes, not being reported by enemy aircraft, and since increased enemy air R/C is probable in connection with the present situation (see Home Commands 3/11) the C. in C. H.F. ordered the 4th M/S F. to remain in the Faeroes. Bad weather and tides have hindered the work greatly.

War Diary.

6.11.1941.
Thursday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Mining - contd.

Last night, 20 Hampdens laid mines in Kiel harbour, one in the Great Belt and one off the Frisian Islands.

South Atlantic.

Task Group
3.6
intercepts
German
Supply ship.

At 0845 G.C.T. Task Group 3.6 consisting of U.S. cruiser OMAHA and U.S. destroyer SOMERS intercepted in 0° 35' N. 27° 45' W. the German Supply ship ODENWALD disguised as S.S. WILLOW or WILMOTO. The ship attempted to scuttle and a salvage party is trying to save her. Task Group 3.6 is short of fuel and DORSETSHIRE and/or CANTON have been ordered to close and render assistance; in the event, however, their assistance was not needed. (See DORSETSHIRE, Vol 24)

Mediterranean.

5 Naval aircraft last night attacked Augusta and Licata, obtaining hits on the submarine base at Augusta.

Italian
blockade
runners.

There are indications that Italian ships pass across the Mediterranean successfully flying false colours and sailing either in company with or in close proximity to French ships.

Greek Naval
personnel.

The two ex-U.S.A. S/Ms are to be manned by Greek naval personnel.

/TETRARCH

War Diary.6.11.1941.
Thursday.SITUATION REPORT.Mediterranean - contd.TETRARCH
overdue.

S/M TETRARCH, which left Malta on 26/10 for U.K., is considerably overdue and must be presumed lost. This makes a total of 33 British submarines lost, of which 16 have been in the Mediterranean.

S/M
Operations.

C. in C. Med. reports that at 1315/15/10 TRIUMPH obtained 3 hits with torpedoes on a 6000 ton merchant ship escorted by 2 destroyers in the Gulf of Athens, but was prevented by counter attack from seeing the result. Two small caiques; one flying the Nazi flag were sunk on 23/10 in Petali Gulf.

At 2300/1 UTMOST shelled and saw 50 hits on a merchant ship torpedoed by URGE (apparently on 22/10) as salvage activities were in progress.

At 1050/28 SOKOL obtained one hit on an A.M.C. of the CITTA DI PALERMO class escorting a north-bound convoy in 40° 42' N. 13° 47' E. At 0200/2 SOKOL attacked an unescorted eastbound ship in 38° 5' N. 12° 3' E; the torpedoes missed, but the crew abandoned ship and SOKOL sank it by gunfire. At 0530/2 SOKOL sighted a large 2 gun U-boat abeam, 2000 yards distant in 38° 0' N. 11° 40' E, but having no torpedoes and only 5 rounds of ammunition she evaded.

TRUSTY sank one of two southbound laden ships in convoy in 38° 24' N. 20° 13' E. at 0640/25. Three other convoys were intercepted off the western coast of Greece but TRUSTY was unable to attack.

Libya and
Western
Desert.

22 Wellingtons attacked targets at Benghazi last night. Marylands attacked stores dumps near Benghazi today. 6 Blenheims bombed a dump at Derna last night.

Black Sea.

An unconfirmed report states that the Italian tanker TORCELLO was sunk today by a Russian S/M.

War Diary.

6.11.1941.
Thursday.

SITUATION REPORT.

China.

Hong Kong.

Hong Kong has been reinforced and is to be regarded as an outpost and held as long as possible.

French ships carrying rubber to Germany.

Germany is making strenuous efforts to ship rubber from Indo-China in Vichy ships. In future all possible steps are to be taken to intercept all Vichy shipping whether escorted or unescorted in the Sunda Straits or other passages through the Malay barrier, and if this should result in denunciation of the Decoux Agreement the Admiralty are prepared to accept the consequences. It is hoped that C. in C. E.I. may be able to co-operate with C. in C. China in intercepting ships in the Sunda Strait. The LOUIS DREYFUS vessels, which have very long endurance constitute a special problem, and a concerted effort is to be made to prevent the sailing of these vessels from Saigon to Dakar. U.S. are being asked to deny bunkers at Manila, but the possibility of supplies from Japanese sources cannot be ruled out.

A U.S.A. ship sighted a vessel acting suspiciously at 1900Z today in 3° S. 177° E.

America and West Indies.

Convoy S.C.53.

New route instructions sent to S.C.53 at 0550 today were apparently not received. At 1156Z BURNHAM reported that the convoy was scattering in fog South of Cape Race and he was endeavouring to collect the ships.

U-Boat Campaign.

A Hudson on patrol in the Bay of Biscay depth charged a U-boat at 1015 today about 100 miles N.E. of Cape Ortegal. After the attack air bubbles came up for 20 minutes and a large patch of brown oil.

War Diary.

6.11.1941.
Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Policy.

Rosyth
Escort
Force.

On completion of working up of EXMOOR request you will sail one WAIR to rejoin Rosyth Escort Force. (A.C.N.S. (H), 1753A/6 to C. in C. W.A.)

WIVERN.

WIVERN is urgently required for escort duty from U.K. to Gibraltar. Request you will report earliest date when vessel can leave Portsmouth. (D.O.D.(H), 1846A/6 to C. in C. Portsmouth).

ROBERTS,
EREBUS,
for
Mediterranean.

ROBERTS and EREBUS will be required to sail in company from Lough Foyle for passage to Mediterranean via Cape.
2. EREBUS should be ready to leave on 27/11.
3. ROBERTS is to carry out such working up practices as can be arranged in the time available.
4. C. in C. Nore is requested to sail EREBUS for Lough Foyle and to arrange the necessary escorts. (A.C.N.S. H., 1919A/6).

Co-operation with Russia.

North
Russian
Ports,
EULIMA
(Tanker).

Your 2359/29, my 18 of 1120/2 (1) Mr. Papangin confirms only 3 heavy ice breakers available, with possibility later of KRASSIN now repairing America. Only other ice craft are 3 auxiliary ice breakers of 2500 H.P. and 7 ice tugs about 1200 H.P. ¹⁰⁵²⁷ STALIN unable to come inside the bar.
(2) Russians state ~~EREBUS~~ ^{EREBUS} will be ready by 15/12 with 2 quays 1500 feet and 1000 feet with 22 feet fresh draft alongside, also 2 fixed cranes of 30 tons each. The quays will probably be ready but personally doubtful of the cranes.
(3) ~~MOLTOVSK~~ ^{MOLTOVSK} expect ready first half of December for 3 cargo ships draft 22 feet fresh, about 3 cranes 6 tons each.
(4) Both ports will have double track railway lines along whole length of quays and small amount weatherproof storage. Stores, water, bunker, repairs possible but difficult.
(7) Your 1949A/3 Tanker EULIMA. Can arrange, but advise earliest name of ship containing cylinder heads. (Maclay, Archangel, 1240C/6)

KITM W.D

/River.....

War Diary.

6.11.1941.
Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Co-operation with Russia.

North
Russian Ports.
EULIMA
(Tanker).
Contd.

River now solid ice up to one foot deep except fairly clear centre Channel. Escort cannot proceed up to Ekonomia without icebreaker but with latter can do so without danger. Minimum temperature 20° F. at night. Admiralty pass to C. in C. H.F. and C.S.10. (S.B.N.O. Archangel, 1350C/6).

White Sea
Swept
Channels.

See Mining.

Molotovsk
Floating
dock.

In view of ice conditions arrangements have been made for normal base for destroyers and minesweepers to be Molotovsk. Re. Charts, App. Channel, Fuel, Provisions. Repairs not involving docking can be carried out.
3. Floating dock has been moved to Ekonomia and should be usable in emergency throughout winter.
4. Admiralty pass to all addressees. (S.B.N.O. Archangel, 1520C/6 to Admty, Repeated S.B.N.O. N. Russia, Admiral Miles, C. in C. H.F., 1st M/S F, 10th C.S.)

S/Ms. for
Caspian.

Following from British N.C.O. in Charge of Mission Cars evacuated from Gorki to Kuibeshev. "Our tow consisted of two oil lighters and in between them two half floating dock sections each containing one submarine astern of first tow a single small type submarine". The two large submarines are probably "S" Class boats recently completed at the Sorkovo works at Gorki transit on floating cradles or dock sections essential to pass such large draught boats over the shallow Volga Delta Canal and Northern reaches of the Caspian. Significant that action now being taken to station submarines in the Caspian to counter German action in these waters should Baku be occupied. Unlikely these submarines are ex-Baltic as although Marin-ski system dimensions would not preclude passage of dock sections time of transitting complicated locks liable to take anything from five to eight weeks. Possible that some Baltic submarines may have been evacuated by this route before Schusselburg was captured. (Ad. Miles, 1539D/6 to Admty).

War Diary.6.11.1941.
Thursday.HOME COMMANDS.Movements.ONSLOW,
IMPULSIVE,
ANTELOPE.

Delayed by weather. E.T.A. Londonderry 1300.
Unless conditions improve destroyers cannot
reach position Y by 0900/7.
(Capt. D.17, 0913A/6)
Arrived fuelled sailed ANTELOPE, IMPULSIVE,
ONSLOW. (N.O.I.C. Londonderry, 1710A/6).

H. 34,
H. 50
H. 33,
O. 9
Z. 5.

At 2000A/9 intend to sail H.34 and H.50 escorted
by Z.5 from Rothesay to Londonderry, arrive
Lough Foyle 0800A/10. S. of A 8 knots.
N.O.I.C. Greenock is requested to arrange
fighter protection N.O.I.C. Londonderry is
requested to sail H.33 and O.9 escorted by
Z.5 to arrive Rothesay A.M./11.
(Capt. S.7., 1126A/6).

P. 36.

Due E.A.4 at 0830/7 routed through 50° N.,
2° W., 50° 25' N., 0° 23' W., and E.A.5.
(C. in C. Portsmouth, 1203A/6).

SEALION.

Arrived. Admty pass to all addressees except
Admiral Miles. (S.B.N.O. North Russia, 1149C/6)

MONTCLARE.
CHELSEA.

Your 0609A/6. Proceed at best speed with
CHELSEA. Lights arranged.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 1256/6 to MONTCLARE).
At best speed amended time of arrival 2030A/6.
Expect to pass Gaspar Strait 2145.
(MONTCLARE, 1738A/6).

LOWESTOFT.

Subject to satisfactory completion of working
up intend to sail LOWESTOFT for Rosyth joining
convoy W.N.2 P.M. tomorrow.
(R.A.D., 1310A/6).

WRESTLER.

Route to 50° N., 12° W., C. in C. Plymouth
is requested to issue onward route.
(C. in C. W.A., 1915A/6 to WRESTLER)

War Diary.

6.11.1941.
Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operations.

Interception
of Heavy
Unit.

E.T.A., 0830 (?Z). Request ^{Grotta} GROTTA Light from 0730Z and Boom for 3 Cruisers inward at 0910Z. (C.S., 18, 0241Z/6 to A.C.I.C.) Arrived EDINBURGH, SHEFFIELD, SUFFOLK 0830. (A.C.I.C., 1026N/6).

KENYA (?BEDOUIN) and INTREPID are to return to Seidis Fiord and complete with fuel. They are subsequently to sail as necessary to R/V with R.A.(M) and provide cover for operation S.N.83 B. while 1st M.L. Squadron is north of (?062°) North.

2. On completion of this duty they are to return to patrol as in my 1221N/5.

3. R.A.(M) is requested to arrange. (C. in C. H.F., 1201Z/6).

My 1221N/5 para. one (b).

This patrol is intended to cover what appears to be the most likely route to be taken by ships breaking out under present conditions of ice visibility etc.

(ii) If for any reason you consider it advisable to shift datum line or direction you have authority to do so, only breaking W/T silence to inform me if you consider it essential.

(C. in C. H.F., 2305Z/6 to F.O.C.18 C.S.)

Stumour
STUMOUR.

My 1241. ^{"Stumour"} STUMOUR postponed 24 hours. (F.O.I.C. Harwich, 1505A/6)

TUNAHOLM,
VASAHOLM,
(Swedish)
intercepted.

TUNAHOLM and VASAHOLM intercepted by KINGSTON AGATE in 061° 38' N., 014° W., at 1550A/6. M/Vs. are proceeding to Skopen Fiord through 062° N., 013° W. (S.O.N.P. 1857A/6 to A.C.O.S.)

British Air Activity.

Patrols.

"Stab" "Bert" "Stand" now in operation. (C. in C. Rosyth, 0815/6)

Own A/C shot
down.

Air Ministry reports that one of three Spitfires from 152 Squadron while escorting three Blenheims was shot down by convoy escort off Cromer at 1545/27/10. Request matter may be investigated. (D.G.D., 1413A/6 to C. in C. Nore). Reference to report of convoy proceedings for F.N.537 from LIDDESDALE para. (C) Requested that C.O. may be further interrogated and result communicated to Admiralty. (C. in C. Nore, 1620A/6 to C. in C. Rosyth).

War Diary.

6.11.1941.
Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

British Air Activity - Contd.

T.B.R.

To safeguard Submarines working from North Russia request T.B.Rs. may be instituted in area to north of 066° N., east of 007° E., forthwith until further notice.

(2) It may be possible to raise this restriction on request if it is required to operate shore based or shipborne aircraft against Submarines in this area at some future date.
(F.O.S., 1426A/6 to H.Q.C.C.)

Enemy Air Activity.

GLEN CREE.

S.S. GLEN CREE when 10 miles N.W. of Bishops was bombed and machine gunned by enemy plane at 1830/5. No damage, one slight casualty.
(F.O.I.C., Milford Haven, 1045/6.)

O.G. 76

Indications considerable F/W activity vicinity O.G. 76. Take all necessary measures protect this convoy.
(H.Q.C.C., 1625/6 to 200 Group)

Mining.

S.N. 83 B.

Intend to carry out with MENESTHEUS, PORT QUEBEC, BRIGHTON, NEWARK, CHARLESTOWN from 62° 50' N., 9° 53' W., to 63° 3' N., 10° 37' 30" W., sailing 0800/8, laying 1445/9, returning Port ZA 0030/11. Details.
(R.A.M., 0942A/6). See Lion Copy.
KENYA, BEDOUIN, INTREPID to provide cover north of (762°) North. (C. in C. H.F., 1201Z/6)
See Operations.
C. in C. H.F. 1133/3. Request destroyer may arrive Port ZA before dark 7th.
(R.A.M., 0946/6 to R.A.D. H.F.)
Your 0946/6 and C. in C. H.F. 1133/3.
Destroyers will not be sailed A.M. tomorrow for S.N. 83 B until it is known that efficient A.A. Cruiser escort can be made available.
(V.A. 2., 1824A/6 to R.A.M.)

4th M/S
Flotilla.

My 1409 October 19. Probable increased enemy air R/C in connection with present situation makes further sweeping undesirable until situation clears. 4th M.F. should remain in Faeroes. (C. in C. H.F., 1107Z/6 to A.C.O.S.)
My 2022A/5. Operation cancelled for today Thursday owing to weather. (N.O.I.C. Faeroes, 1212A/6 to A.C.O.S.)

MOST SECRET

132A

MOST ~~SECRET~~ MESSAGE 0942A/6th Nov. IN

From R.A.(M)

Date 6.11.41.

Recd 1320.

Naval Cypher (A1) by W/T

Addressed Admiralty, C. in C. Home Fleet,
C. in C. Rosyth, repeated A.C.O.S., C. in C.
Western Approaches, R.A.(D) Home Fleet, F.O.(S).,
Air Ministry, H.Q.C.C., H.Q.F.C., Group 18.

IMPORTANT.

Intend to carry out operation S N 83 B
as follows:-

(a) Surface minefield from South East to
North West.

(d) One H.M.S. MENESTHEUS, H.M.S. PORT QUEBEC,
H.M.S. BRIGHTON, H.M.S. NEWARK, H.M.S. CHARLESTOWN.

(e) Air anti-submarine escort is requested
during daylight hours starting at 1400 November 8th.

(f) From 062 degs 50' North 009 degs 53' West
to 063 degs 03' North 010 degs 37' 30" West.

(g) 0800 Nov.8th

(j) Through position
one 059 degs 44' North 005 degs 28' West
2 060 degs 27' 007 degs 00'
3 061 degs 56' 007 degs 33'
4 062 degs 48' 009 degs 07'

(k) 13 knots

(i) 1445 Nov. 9th

(n) through position
one 062 degs 44' North 008 degs 44' West
2 060 degs 10' 008 degs 15'
3 058 degs 00' 006 degs 03'

(o) Port Z A 0030 Nov. 11

(w) 24 miles 13½ knots

(x) Mark 22/~~17~~ 3 star set to 17 feet.

(y) Full outfit standard line

(z) For 2 line ships in area B.

0942A/6.

1st Lord.

1st S.L.

V.C.N.S.

A.C.N.S.(H)

N.A. 1st S.L.

D.O.D.(H)

D.D.O.D.(H)

D.N.I.(4)

D.N.A.D.

D.S.D.

D of L.D.

D.A/S.W.

D.D.O.D.(M)

Advance Copy sent Ops., O.D.,

D.N.I.

D.D.O.D.(M)

I.P.

W.D.

Duty Capt (2)

Hd. of M.

MOST SECRET

132B.

From War Registry.

Date 6.11.41.

Operation SN 83 B.

Correction to R.A. (M)'s 0942A/6.

For "(x) Mark 22/22" etc.read "(x) Mark 22/17" etc.

1st Lord.
1st S.L.
V.C.N.S.
A.C.N.S.(H)
N.A. 1st S.L.
D.O.D.(H)
D.D.O.D.(H)
D.N.I.(4)
D.N.A.D.
D.S.D.
D. of L.D.
D.A/S.W.
D.D.O.D.(M)
D.N.I.
I.P.
W.D.
Duty Capt.(2)
Head of M.

War Diary.6.11.1941.
Thursday.HOME COMMANDS.Mining - Contd.Thames
Estuary.

1 S.A. Mine detonated at 1050/4. Details.
(Capt. M/S Sheerness, 1142/6).
One Red mine detonated in 51° 48.7' N., 1° 31.7' E., at 0730. (F.O.I.C. Harwich, 1337A/6).

Biscay
minelaying.
RUBIS,
RORQUAL.

RUBIS will be available shortly for minelaying Biscay area.

Propose 40 day flooder mines be scattered within half a mile of line joining position

(a) 043° 25' 20" N., 001° 40' 30" W.

(b) 043° 27' 35" N., 001° 36' 20" W.

(c) 043° 31' 40" N., 001° 33' 45" W.

Date of laying approximately 28/11.

(F.O.S., 1657A/6).

RORQUAL will be available for minelaying in Biscay area before being taken in hand for refit. Propose 40 day flooder mines be scattered within one mile of following positions

(a) 045° 56' 20" N., 001° 47' 40" W.

(b) 046° 05' 25" N., 001° 57' 35" W.

Date of lay approx. 21/11.

(F.O.S., 1659A/6).

White Sea
Swept
Channels.

Following is a repetition of My 2327C/6 to S.B.N.O. Archangel. MS 1 0901C/3. You should inform Russian Admiral that unless very special reasons exist it is not practicable for our M.Ss. to (?word omitted) a second swept channel into White Sea and that to attempt to do so will certainly prejudice the efficiency of sweeping of both. Moreover the route mentioned entails undue vagaries to both M.Ss. and ships following them. Admiralty pass to C.S.l. ends.

(S.B.N.O. North Russia, 2331C/6 to Admty).

Enemy Intelligence.Rocket.

Am investigating one green rocket from surface bearing 292° 4 miles, 62° 20' N., 16° 07' W. Dr. (VASCANIA, 0707A/6). ? VASCAMA

Norwegian
Coastal
Shipping.

Following German orders proceeding Norwegian Coast Northwards (a) ORION left Scon October 29th with 1200 tons Diesel Oil from Norway and 7800 tons Deisel and Solar oil from Germany. Believed that this vessel will replace TIGER as U-boat Oiler.

(b) EUROSTADT should have left shipping ILENE October 31st with 1500 cubic metres Benzine ? for North Norway. B.2. repeat B.2.

(N.A. Stockholm, 1251/6).

War Diary.

6.11.1941.
Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Navigational.

E.A.5.

2 trawlers will mark position E.A.4 in Q Z S 169 from 0730/7. E.A. 5 is adrift from its mooring.
(C. in C. Portsmouth, 1203A/6 to HILARY)

Technical.

GRAPH.

Your 1632/31/10. Pending test of internal main ballast tank and diving trial diving depth of GRAPH may be assumed 400 feet normal and 600 feet in emergency.
(D.N.C., 1304A/6 to C. in C. W.A.)

Identification Strips. Following copy of surface ship recognition by identification strips received from S.O.P.A. Iceland. Request promulgation.
(A.C.I.C., 1947N/6).

Casualties & Defects.

s.s.
MANXMAN.

Now afloat. Isle of Man Steam Packet Company hope to sail her a.m.Sunday.
(VALKYRIE, 1043/6).

LEMNOS.
THE MARQUIS.

N.C.S. Steam Drifter LEMNOS was in collision with steamship THE MARQUIS at 0830 today in Methil Roads. Both vessels seaworthy and damage is apparently slight.
(N.O.I.C. Methil, 1116/6).

M.A/S B.1

My 1510/6. KKG M.A/S B.1 sprung leak due to weather. Engine room and after compartment flooded, water kept under by A.R.P. pump. Ship will be placed under 40 ton crane. Request slings for lifting may be sent Methil by lorry immediately. (N.O.I.C. Methil, 1554/6).

H.M.T. FLOTTA
sunk.

My 1125/29/10. FLOTTA refloated. Now in tow of rescue tug ABEILLE IV, proceeding Aberdeen. (F.O.I.C. Aberdeen, 1710/6)
FLOTTA sank whilst in tow of ABEILLE IV position 3 miles 090 Buchan Ness approx. 2109/6. One dead and five believed missing. Lifeboat and escort continuing search.
(F.O.I.C. Aberdeen 2335/6).

/GALLANT....

War Diary.6.11.1941.
Thursday.HOME COMMANDS.Casualties & Defects. - Contd.GALLANT
FOX.

S.C. 51 S.S. GALLANT FOX steering gear broken down. Request tug routed through 56° N., 08° W. thence 260° to meet GALLANT FOX with ARABIS (standing by). ARABIS report position at 2100. (S.O. 8th E.G., 1728A/6).
Sail forthwith to assist GALLANT FOX. Approx. position at 1730A/6 055° 54' N., 010° 50' W. (F.O.I.C. Greenock, 1939/6 to FRISKY).
Your 1939/6. Sailed FRISKY.
(N.O.I.C. Londonderry, 2224A/6).

Shipping & Convoys.A. 28.

Is required for voyage commencing from Liverpool, about 18/11. She will be filled to capacity on leaving Liverpool, Total outward voyage will be about five weeks duration but 900 personnel will disembark after about eight days and remainder after a further eight days. Rest of voyage will be made empty of personnel.
2. Request report of firm sea speed vessel will be able to maintain when ready to sail.
(D. of S.T., 0339A/6 to D.S.T.O. Liverpool).

D.S. 16
LEINSTER.

D.S. 16 will sail Clyde 12.11 Vessel to be used is not yet decided. LEINSTER will sail with D.S. 16 but will remain in Iceland for coastwise service pending orders to return. LEINSTER will probably not take any personnel on outward voyage from Clyde.
(D.S.T., 0340A/6).

O.N. 32.

Serial number 4. Expect convoy 5 hours late at M.O.M.P. (U.S. Chief of N. Ops. 0630/6.)

P.Q. 3.

A.M. 2318/3. Convoy P.Q. 3 may sail at C. in C. H.F.'s discretion. (A.C.N.S. (H), 1008A/6 to A.C.I.C.)
Your 1008A/6. I do not consider the cruiser and 2 destroyers required for ocean escort can be spared unless it can be confirmed that ADMIRAL SCHEER will not be accompanied by VON TIRPITZ. (C. in C. H.F., 2303Z/6 to Admty).

/P. Q. 2.....

War Diary.

6.11.1941.
Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping & Convoys. - Contd.

P.Q.2.

Cargo being cleared by railway average 2,000 tons cargo per day. Anticipate all ships discharged by 8/11 and loaded by 14/11 with 6,000 tons chrome, 5,000 magnesium, balance timber. (Maclay, Archangel, 1240C/6).

→ H.X.157.

Unable to maintain necessary speed for R/V. Am proceeding to position (H). P.C.S. 062° 53' N., 022° 32' W., 117°, 5 knots. (ANGLE, 1435Z/6). Sailed CAPE WARWICK, ANGLE and 1 (one) Motor Ship at 0009/6th for H.X.157. (A.C.I.C., 1848/6). S.N.O. reports via Aircraft H.X.157 10 hours late. (A.C.I.C., 2240N/6).

C.W.55.

Completed passage without incident. (C. in C. Nore, 1509A/6).

→ H.X.157,

→ H.X.158,

S.C.53,

O.N.30.

O.N.31,

O.N.32,

O.N.33,

C.T.5.

Estimated positions at 1900 G.M.T./6. (U.S. Chief of N. Ops, 1631/6).

→ H.X.158.

Opanav believes that escorts have not received diversion signals and estimates that convoy is following original route. (D.T.D., 1842A/6 to C. in C. W.A.)

Pr-Q-3.

Your 1008A/6. I do not consider the cruiser and 2 destroyers required for ocean escort can be spared unless it can be confirmed ADMIRAL SCHEER will not be accompanied by VON TIRPITZ. (C. in C. H.F., 2303Z/6 to Admty).

See previous page.

War Diary.

6.11.1941.
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

→ RODNEY,
ARGUS.

Your 1032A/5 not received by Gibraltar W/T until 0110/6. It was then re broadcast for ARGUS and RODNEY. Estimate RODNEY entered home (? station) at 1800A/5 and may not have received signal. Exchange of escorts with ARGUS was expected at 0900A/5.
(F.O.C.N.A., 0322A/6 to Admty.)

GRETE
(Danish)

GRETE, now at Valencia reliably reported from secret source taken over by Union Navale (? Levantino) and due to sail any moment. May she be attacked?
(Gibraltar, 1018A/6 to Admty.)
Your 1018/6. GRETE may be attacked outside the sink at sight zone provided Consul Valencia confirms crew is mainly enemy and that Spanish Flag is not being worn.
(A.C.N.S.(F), 1714A/6 to F.O.C.N.A.)

→ ARGUS.

E.T.A. 0030A/8. ATHENE, LAFOREY, LIGHTNING, GURKHA, ZULU and ISAAC SWEERS in company.
(ARGUS, 1055A/6 to F.O.C.N.A.)

S.L. 91G.
AZALEA,
etc.

Return Gibraltar by direct route at best speed at limit of prudent endurance or as follows: AZALEA as soon as any one ship of (? LEITH) CAMPION and HELIOTROPE has joined S.L. 91G; LADY HOGARTH and STELLA CARINA in company as soon as the other two ships have joined S.L. 91G.
(F.O.C.N.A., 1204A/6 to AZALEA, LADY HOGARTH, STELLA CARINA.)

DUNCAN.

Arrived.
(F.O.C.N.A., 1302A/6 to Admty., C. in C. W.A.)

COMMANDANT
DUBOC.

Important defects, one engine, obliged proceed Gibraltar arrive 1400/7.
(COMMANDANT DUBOC, 1345/6 to F.O.C.N.A.)

SCYTHIA,
CORINTHIAN.

Situation 2001A/6. SCYTHIA 23°20', 29°40', 348°15. CORINTHIAN Patrols G X 2.
(F.O.C.N.A., 1428/6 to N.A. Stn.)

/HERMIA.....

War Diary.6.11.1941.
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic - Contd.HERMIA.
Use of
Tunisian
Flag.

My 1208A/24/10.
Further evidence indicates that this was the Tunisian flag the red background of which was not evident in the air photograph. ? French S.S. CARTHAGE is similarly marked. *Tunisian.*
(S.O.I. Gib., 1502A/6 to Admty.)

Tactics for
Destroyers
in raider
attacks on
Convoys.

Following action is to be taken by destroyers in event of attack on our convoys by surface raider of cruiser or heavier type. It is their primary duty to shadow and make continuous and accurate reports of enemy until he can be brought to action by our heavier units. It is considered no useful purpose can be served by daylight attack. During dark hours or in very low visibility when number of destroyers available permits, the opportunity of attacking with torpedoes should be taken, only providing effective shadowing of enemy is not jeopardised thereby.
(F.O.C.N.A., 1630A/6 to N.A. Stn.)

Axis
Shipping.

Amend list P No. 12 to Genoa 5/11. No 25 to West 6th. ? Add Levy 35 GUILLERMO SCHULZ to Genoa 6th.
List C C Levy 3 left Barcelona for Sete 846.
(F.O.C.N.A., 1708A/6 to OLYMPUS.)

French
Shipping.

Gibraltar 0800 Sloop M/S LA SURPRISE, S.S. PLATON, KEROMAN, CAPITAINE ARMAND all laden Westbound.
(S.O.I. Gib., 1755A/6 to Admty., etc.)

DUNCAN.
SIKH.

Request you will consider Admty. 1950/5 as cancelled when arrival of ARGUS convoy increases the destroyers available for screening Force H.
(A.C.N.S.(F), 1755A/6 to F.O.C.N.A.)

See p. 112.

War Diary.6.11.1941.
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic.OLWEN
(Raider
report
4/11.)

Opnav has been informed of OLWEN's 1030/5.
(A.C.N.S.(F) 0131A/6 to C. in C. S.A.)
In view of Oiler OLWEN's 1030Z/5 which indicated that attack was certainly not by raider and may have been by U-Boat, act on my 1703/5 forthwith.
(C. in C. S.A., 1133N/6 to DORSETSHIRE, CANTON, DUNEDIN.)
My 1915A/4. OLWEN reports that she is proceeding and is undamaged. She made QQQQ on being fired at in dawn light by unseen attacker probably a U-Boat on surface.
(D.D.I.C., 1231A/6 to C. in C. H.F., etc., etc.)

Force G.
(PRINCE OF
WALES Jc.)

Force G sail from Freetown p.m./6 for Capetown by following route: (A) 003° 50' N. 011° 20' W. (B) 006° 50' S. 001° 30' E. (C) 018° 50' S. 007° 50' E. EXPRESS and ELECTRA may require to fuel Walvis Bay for which purpose diesel oil will be acceptable. Request you will arrange necessary quantity to be available and for replacements in due course.
(C. in C. S.A., 0947N/6 to N.O.I.C. Simonstown.)
Proposals for movements of Force G after arrival at the Cape.
(S.O. Force G., 1200N/6 to Admty.)
See Lion Copy.
Departure 1615/6 Force G.
(S.O.I. Freetown, 1931N/6 to Admty., etc.)

ROBIN GRAY.

Overdue shipping. ROBIN GRAY due Durban 31/10 not arrived.
(S.O.I. Capetown, 1225B/6 to Admty., etc.)
Reply: Ottawa 2034/7.

DESIRADE.

Your 1116N/1. It is not desirable to send this ex-Vichy Ship into Azores. Is there any other ship suitable?
(D.T.D., 1616A/6 to C. in C. S.A.)

German
Supply Ship
Captured.
(OPENWALD)? WILMOTO
see p. 149

Task Group 3.6 consisting of U.S. Cruiser OMAHA and U.S. Destroyer SOMERS encountered German supply ship in 000° 35' N. 027° 45' W. at 0845 G.C.T./6. Scuttling attempted, salvage party trying to save ship which was disguised as S.S. WILLOW. Task group short of fuel and wishes to proceed Recife with rescued crew. DORSETSHIRE and/or CANTON close and render assistance. Report your position.
(C. in C. S.A., 1845N/6, to DORSETSHIRE.)
See also America and West Indies, p. 149

/MY.....

139A

MOST SECRET

MOST SECRET H M S 5 3 4 3 2 1200N/6 Nov.

IN

From. S.O. Force G.

Date. 6.11.41.
Time. 2344.

NAVAL CYPHER ONE TIME TABLE BY W/T & T/P

Addressed. Admiralty.

12. Following are my proposals for movements of Force G after arrival at the Cape.

2. I am assuming that it remains the intention to give publicity to arrival of Force G at the Cape and accordingly propose to remain in that area from 17 to 24 November. Should early arrival at Singapore be more important than publicity, this time could be reduced to 48 hours at some inconvenience to engine-room and store departments.

3. Following is the form of publicity it is intended to grant at Cape.

Facilities to be given to press photographers and controlled interviews to be given by selected officers and men on BISMARCK action and Atlantic meeting. No mention to be made of destination of ship. Result to be released when decided by Admiralty.

4. Programme after leaving Cape depends on need for early arrival Singapore.

5. If earliest possible arrival at Singapore is desired, H.M.S. PRINCE OF WALES could arrive there 12 days after leaving the Cape, destroyers being left behind when clear of the Cape area.

6. If earliest arrival at Singapore is not essential, it would be of advantage to meet C. in C., E. Indies, at Ceylon, remaining 3 days. H.M.S. PRINCE OF WALES could then arrive at Singapore 16 days after leaving the Cape, destroyers rejoining at Ceylon.

7. If destroyers remain in company throughout H.M.S. PRINCE OF WALES could arrive Singapore 19 days after leaving Cape.

8. In any case propose H.M.S. ~~REGULUS~~ ^{REPULSE} arrive Singapore (?independently of) H.M.S. PRINCE OF WALES.

9. Request Their Lordships instructions as to (a) policy concerning stay at Cape and publicity at that place. (b) need for early arrival Singapore after leaving Cape.

1200N/6
Advance Copy Duty Capt. D.O.D.(F).
D.D.I.C.

- | | |
|------------------------|------------|
| 1st Lord. | D.N.I.(4). |
| 1st S.L. | D.D.I.C. |
| V.C.N.S. | E.P.S. |
| A.C.N.S.(T)(2). | Hd. of M. |
| A.C.N.S.(F). | D.C.(2). |
| N.A.1st S.L. | N.I.D.10. |
| D.O.D.(F)(for action). | I.P.(2). |
| D.D.O.D.(F). | W.D. |
| D. of P.(2). | |

War Diary.

6.11.1941.
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic.

German
Supply Ship
Captured.
Contd.

My 2145Z/6 (N.T. in W.D.) Am proceeding 24 knots so as to reach position before dark 7th. (DORSETSHIRE, 2330Z/6 to C. in C. S.A.)

Operation
"Bellringer".

Your 2034/5. - p 113
1. COMMANDANT DORISE.
(A) Passive resistance only.
(B) Damage. Relief valve thrown overboard, Condenser doors opened and attempt made to scuttle. Steering gear - 2 charges placed under rudder head quadrant, Port fair lead blown completely away. Starboard side track blown away. Hole in Deck.
(C) Expected time repair four days.
4. COMPIEGNE.
(A) No resistance.
(B) No damage. Demolition charges not fired. L.O.O. discloses attempt was made to run bearings hot without result.
3. BANGKOK.
(A) No resistance.
(B) No damage. Determined efforts at scuttling prevented by machine gunning boats in attempt to abandon ship.
(F.O.I.C. Simonstown, 2209B/6 to Admty.)
Your 2034/5. CAP TOURANE (a) Passive resistance. Capt. and Chief Engineer put under arrest for sabotage.
(b) $\frac{1}{2}$ cwt. nuts and bolts put into double reduction gearing between O P pinion intermediate wheel.
(c) Time to repair will be reported later.
(N.O.I.C. Simonstown, 2318B/6 to Admty.)

S.L.92.

Departures 0525/6 with Convoy S.L.92, VANSITTART, VELOX, MARGUERITE, STARWORT and BURDOCK. (S.O.I. Freetown, 2347N/6 to Admty., etc.)

ANTWERP.
MALINES.
BRIGAND.

Left Freetown a.m./6 for Simonstown via Pointe Noire for fuel thence direct. E.T.A. Simonstown 24/11. On arrival 4-inch H.A. mounting in ANTWERP requires lifting for examination of rollers. BRIGAND requires to boiler clean. Destination all 3 ships Mediterranean. Passage to be expedited as much as possible. (C. in C. S.A., 2359/6 to F.O.I.C. Simonstown.)

War Diary.

6.11.1941.
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

TETRARCH
overdue.

TETRARCH having failed to report and being considerably overdue is now presumed lost. (D.O.R., 7/11 - no signal in W.D.)

Suez
Raid.

Egypt. My A.866, 4/11, para. 2. 2 enemy aircraft which operated in Gulf of Suez night 3/4 bombed convoy off Ras Gharib but were driven off by A.A. fire, their bombs falling in sea well clear of ships. One aircraft released bombs on Suez on return journey without causing damage or casualties. 12 Hurricanes on patrol between Suez and Port Said did not sight enemy.

Benghazi,
etc. bombed.

2. Western Desert. Night 4/5. Weather and visibility had over whole area. 12 Wellingtons attacked petrol dumps at Benghazi, Berka and Benina and 3 Wellingtons bombed stores dumps at Derna. 1 Wellington unable to reach Benghazi owing to engine trouble bombed Bardia. Of 10 Blenheims despatched to attack stores dumps at Gazala and Derna only 3 located targets. 1 Albacore on offensive night R/C of N.W. of Bardia bombed M.T. and stores near town. (H.Q. R.A.F., M.E., 1149/6.)

Attack of
all M/V's.
in declared
areas.

N.A. Madrid 1233/5. Unless some such arrangement is made as in para. 2 there is danger Italian ships flying false colours will get through. There are indications here that this does occur at present, Italian ships sailing either in company or in close proximity to bona fide French ships. (V.A. Malta, 1314B/6 to Admty.)

TORCELLO
(Italian)
sunk.

Turkish S.N.O. Upper Bosphorous informed Assistant N.A. TORCELLO sunk by Russian S/M 0100 this morning. Seeking confirmation. (S.O.I. Istanbul, 1559B/6 to S.O.I. Med.) Confirmed see 1629/7.

Odessa
Evacuation.
N.L.O. to
proceed
Tuapse.

Your 1726A/24 and my 1203C/1/10. Crimea garrison then consisted of 51st army comprising 4 divisions. In addition there were about 20,000 home guard etc. After fall of Odessa two more depleted divisions arrived Crimea. Present situation obscure but Russians are defending Sevastopol and entrance to Kerch peninsula. Simferopol (corrupt group).

War Diary.6.11.1941.
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean.Odessa
Evacuation.
N.L.O. to
proceed
Tuapse.
Contd.

(2) 800 motor transports and about 50 tanks were evacuated from Odessa. Everything not removed was destroyed. (3) Believed warships were moved in time from Spilupol to Tuapse. (4) Local authorities wish me to leave shortly for Tuapse. (5) Army have taken over defence of Sevastopol. (6) I anticipate fleet will move shortly further east.
(N.L.O. Black Sea, 1604C/6 to Admty.)

Malta
Raid.

Night 5/6. Total 2 bombers crossed coast, bombs land, no damage. 1 JU.87 shot down on land by A/A medium barrage. Italian crew both dead.

Day 6/11. 6 enemy aircraft approached did not cross coast.

Convoy
Attacked.
Augusta,
Licata,
Castel Benito
bombed.

Night 5/6. Special Wellington bombed and machine-gunned convoy, attacked by Blenheims previous afternoon. 2010 hours 240° Benghazi 15 miles. Only 1 M/V and D/R seen 4,250 lb. GP bombs dropped mast high. Mist prevented observation. Results photos yesterday's attack show ship hit very hard and on fire and will probably sink.

5 aircraft F.A.A. attacked Augusta and Licata. Hits submarine base military barracks Augusta. Factory Licata fire clouds smoke visible 15 miles. Other bombs on viaduct West Bovalino. 18 Wellingtons attacked Castel Benito aerodrome for 5½ hours. Bombs burst among administration buildings workshops hangars fires and explosions ammunition dumps, Barranu buildings machine-gunned.

Pozallo
bombed.

Day 6/11. Total 10 Hurricanes sweeps over Sicily. Attacks railway Station, machine Factory, East Pozallo. All aircraft returned from these operations.

(H.Q. R.A.F., Malta, 1700/6.)

GLAUCOS.

Did you have an encounter with our patrols off Alexandria about 2215/5? Reply immediately.
(C. in C. Med., 1730B/6 to Greek S/M GLAUCOS.)

/Employment.....

War Diary.

6.11.1941.
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean - Contd.

Employment
of Greek
Ships.

Your 2201/27. Proposed employment of Greek ships is concurred in.
2. Please inform Adm. Sakellariou -
(a) Admiralty will arrange for 2 or 3 HUNT Class destroyers to be manned by Greek naval personnel in about 6 months' time.
(b) Two submarines ex U.S.A. will also be made available.
(c) The HUNTS and submarines will eventually operate in Eastern Med.
(d) We suggest that necessary personnel for these ships should be sent to U.K. as soon as practicable.
(e) We suggest that any surplus personnel which cannot be employed locally should also be sent to U.K. with a view to manning further ships, the types of which will have to be decided later. (1st Lord, 1737A/6 to C. in C. Med.)

MAURO CROCE
(Italian)

Arrival 6th.
(Barcelona, 1759/6 to M. of W.T.)

Turkey.

Re warships for and situation of interned French ships.
(N.A. Angora, 1837B/6 from Adm. Kelly, to C. in C. Med.) See Lion Copy.

German
Forces.

Present disposition of German Forces (air and military) in Russia, Central Europe, Western Europe, and Libya.
(N.A. Ankara, from Adm. Kelly, 1845B/6 to C. in C. Med.) See Lion Copy.

Turkish
Ship
torpedoed.

Ankara radio announced last night (5/11) that the Turkish motor-boat KENAH DERE was shelled, torpedoed and sunk by an unknown submarine in the Bosphorus. The crew were landed safely. No Turkish naval vessel named the KENAH DERE^x appears in "Jane's Fighting Ships". It is possible, however, that the vessel is a recent addition to the Turkish Fleet.
(Daily Telegraph, 6/11) Also spelt KAYNAK DERE, see 7/11. *x KAYMOTH-DERE p.102*

/The.....

143^A

~~SECRET~~ 1837B/6 on Nov. **MOST SECRET**

MOST SECRET.

I N.

From N.A. Angora.

Date. 7.11.41.

Recd. 0901.

I.D.V. 15 by Cable.

Addressed C. in C., Mediterranean. Repeated
Admiralty. H.M. Ambassador Angora.

AIDAC.

Following from Admiral Kelly.

Informed General Asim Gunduz of proposal to substitute harbour defence minelayers for submarine chasers, which Turks will consider when details are known, and are grateful. Also that Admiralty have informed Foreign Office they are prepared to accept Turkish proposal about ships building. He said the effect of arrival of any of these ships in (?Turkey) would be very great, both politically and nationally.

French had complained of dangerous anchorage at Erdek, and C. in C. of the Turkish Fleet had been called on to report. Advantage was taken of the presence of Admiral Okan to discuss this. Impossible to move them to Ismit as it is a prohibited zone; as they have no motive power, only alternative was Golden Horn, which Marshal had refused on account of promise to me that they should not be moved without my approval. I pointed out our original objection, but if the C. in C. of the Turkish Fleet considered the movement absolutely necessary I would approve. The Admiral did not think it essential after certain steps proposed by him had been taken, they will therefore remain.

Turks will repair torpedo damage to /DOUR(?) as soon as possible as they wish to use her when entering the war. Istinye floating dock engaged for months ahead, probably to be repaired at Golcuk, or else Golden Horn if this is not (?group omitted).

1837B/6

Advance copy sent D.C., D.O.D. (F)
& Hd. of M.

1st Lord,

1st S.L.

3rd S.L.

V.C.N.S.

A.C.N.S. (F)

A.C.N.S. (H)

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

N.A. to 1st S.L.

P.A.S. (S)

D.O.D. (F)

D.D.O.D. (F)

D.O.D. (H)

D.D.O.D. (H)

D.C.

D.D.I.C.

D.N.I. (4)

D. of P. (2)

D.A/S.W.

D. of L.D.

D.T.D. (2)

Hd. of M. (6)

E.P.S.

Admiral Herman Hodge.

W.D.

I.P. (2)

N.I.D 10. Paym. Cdr. Wilson.

MOST SECRET

MOST SECRET MESSAGE 1845B/6 November IN

From N.A. Ankara.

Date 7/11/41

Recd. 0841

I.D. V. 15 BY CABLE.Addressed C. in C. Mediterranean. Repeated Admiralty,
H.M.A. Ankara.AIDAC

Following from Admiral Kelly.

Present disposition of German forces as follows:
160 divisions and 3 air armies in Russia, 60 divisions
and one air army in Central Europe, 45 to 50 divisions
and one air army in Western Europe. Central European
troops mostly new entries, Western European mostly
reserves.

700 fighters in France.

2 Armoured, 2 motorised, and one infantry divisions
in Libya. One air division, about 350 machines, in
Sicily and Islands. 12 Italian divisions in Libya.

Reliable information just received from Military
Attache in Budapest, confirmed from Vichy, that Germans
intend to raise Libyan force to 40 divisions in near
future, including possible further 5 German divisions.

This reinforcement is to prevent possibility of
any large (?British Forces) being sent to Caucasus
front.

1845B/6
Advance copy D.D.I.C.

1st Lord.	D.D.O.D. (F)	D.D.I.C. (2)
1st S.L.	D.C.D. (H)	E.P.S.
5th S.L.	D.D.O.D. (H)	N.I.D.10
V.C.N.S.	D.N.I. (4)	
A.C.N.S. (H)	D.N.A.D.	
A.C.N.S. (F)	I.P. (2)	
N.A. 1st S.L.	W.D.	
D. of P. (2)	D.C.	
D.O.D. (F)	Hd. of M. (8)	

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War Diary.6.11.1941.
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean.Turkish
Ship
torpedoed.
Contd.

The sinking of the Turkish cargo ship KENAH DERE, 145 tons was explained by a statement issued at Ankara 6/11. A Russian submarine, it is stated, stopped the KENAH DERE off Cape Midia while she was proceeding from the Bosphorus to Rumania with a load of cotton on Nov. 2. After the crew had been ordered to take to the boats, the vessel was sunk with its cargo by five gun shots. An inquiry is proceeding, for the Turks affirm that the incident took place in Turkish territorial waters.
(Daily Telegraph, 7/11.)

Situation
Report 164.

Operation "Glencoe" continues.

2. Unconfirmed report of U-Boat 32 miles W. of Alexandria at 2220/5. 3 Destroyers, 4 A/S Craft and Aircraft have hunted since without success.
3. Red Sea. Air attack on shipping in Gulf of Suez night 3/4, see S.B.N.O. Suez Canal 1329/4. Hunts and CARLISLE engaged Aircraft which jettisoned bombs and may have been hit.
4. TRIUMPH encountered heavy A/S activity during patrol of Gulf of Athens and Aegean. Two small Caiques, one flying Nazi flag, sunk 23/10 in Petali Gulf. At 1315/15 in Gulf of Athens three torpedo hits scored on 6000-tons M/V escorted by two Destroyers. TRIUMPH sighted and bombed by A/C and D/C's unable to observe result. Investigation of several harbours produced no suitable gunnery targets. TRIUMPH surfaced alongside E-Boat at 0220/28 but was not detected.
5. At 2300/1st UTMOST shelled merchant ship torpedoed by URGE Friday my 2025/3 as salvage activities seen. 50 hits seen.
6. SOKOL scored one hit on (? A.M.C.) CITTA DI PALERMO Class in 040° 42', 013° 47' at 1050/28 escorting Northbound Convoy. At 0200/2 in 038° 05', 012° 03' SOKOL attacked 3000 ton laden Eastbound ship unescorted. Torpedoes missed but crew abandoned ship and SOKOL sank it by gunfire. At 0530/2 in 038° 00', 011° 40' large 2 gun U-Boat sighted abeam 2000 yards but SOKOL having ? no torpedoes and only 5 rounds of ammunition decided not to ram and evaded.
7. TRUSTY scored 2 hits and sank 1 of 2 Southbound laden ships in Convoy in 038° 24', 020° 13' at 0640/25. TRUSTY intercepted 3 more Convoys while on Patrol off Western Coast of Greece but unable to gain attacking position.
(C. in C. Med., 1926B/6.)

/Yugoslav.....

War Diary.

6.11.1941.
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean - Contd.

Yugoslav
naval
personnel.

Admty. 1642/3/10. Proposals re Yugoslav personnel are concurred in. Written report which is that referred to in Capt. S. One's 1137/3/11 (to F.O.(S) only) is being forwarded by fast air mail. Copy to F.O.(S). (C. in C. Med., 2301B/6, 1012B/7 to Admty.)

War Diary.6.11.1941.
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies.CLELIA
CAMPANELLA
salved.

Have (? Salved) refloated and (?today) seized S.S. CAMPANELLA as lawful prize. Expect to remove bomb and shift from (?quay) on 8/11. Report on state of ship will be sent after thorough examination.
(N.O.I.C. Massawa, 0901Z/6, to S.N.O. Red Sea.)
CLELIA CAMPANELLA, 3245 tons, sunk by external charges at the Main Quay, Massawa Island, and listing over quay, April, 1941. (D.S., 601, 28/4.)

Disposal of
Aircraft.

C. in C.E.I., 1206Z/18/10, para. III. Subject to agreement of C. in C., S.A., the transfer of up to 10 Swordfish and 4 Walrus by HERMES from Wynberg to Colombo is concurred in. This should leave 6 Swordfish and 3 Walrus at Wynberg. At Freetown there are 5 Swordfish and 2 Walrus with 13 Swordfish and 7 Walrus en route. These latter aircraft may be transferred to Wynberg if so desired by C. in C.S.A. No further reserves can arrive Wynberg before March, 1942. It is not considered desirable to transfer engines from Wynberg to Colombo but arrangements for shipment of additional engines to Trincomalee are in hand.
(A.C.N.S. (F) (O.D.1288/41.) 1215A/6 to C. in C. E.I., C. in C.S.A.)

China.Hong Kong.

Policy re defence. To be regarded as an outpost and held as long as possible. Reinforcement.
(W.O., 0345/6 to C. in C. Far East.)
See Lion Copy.

W.S.11X.

Convoy W.S.11 X arrived with MAURITIUS.
(N.C.S.O. Singapore, 0445Z/6, S.O.I., Singapore 1001Z/6, to Admty.)
7 ships, totalling 88, 576 tons, with troops and supplies for Far East. (D.S., 794, 7/11.)

Darkening
Ship.

Master of Hospital Ship ORANJE informs me that he has had conflicting instructions re darkening ship. Request early information of current policy as ship sails tomorrow Friday for Batavia and Middle East.
(C. in C. China, 0731Z/6, to Admty.)

MOST SECRET

From War Office

Date 6.11.41

Recd.

MOST SECRET

CIPHER

Addressed: C. in C. Far East. Repeated C. in C. China,
G.O.C., Hong Kong.

IMMEDIATE

50152 cipher (M.O.10) 6/11.

Following from Chiefs of Staff No. F.E. 39.

Your 385/5 cipher 20/10.

Our policy regarding defence of Hong Kong remains unaltered. It must be regarded as outpost and held as long as possible.

2. It has now become possible for U.S.A. and ourselves to take a more forward line in the Far East. U.S.A. have on their part recently displayed greater interest in this theatre and have despatched reinforcements to garrison of Phillipines. Our reinforcement of Hong Kong will show China that in spite of other commitments we intend to fight it out at Hong Kong and it will also have salutary effect on Japanese. Moreover the reinforcement will provide strong psychological stimulus to garrison and to colony and will assist in defence plan. Canada, by providing these troops, will be accepting wider commitment in imperial defence similar to that assumed by Australia in Malaya.

3. In view of slender air resources now available in Far East or likely to become available in near future we cannot repeat not agree to reversal of existing policy of not stationing air forces in Hong Kong. This policy will be reviewed later in the light of your recommendations when our Air resources have improved. Air Ministry communicating direct regarding aerodrome development. (Telegram No. X 949 of 24/10 refers). In the meanwhile you should do anything you can out of local resources to improve the protection of Kai Tak aerodrome.

4. C. in C. Far East please pass to C. in C. China.

0345/6

Received from War Office PM/6

War Office Distribution:-

1st Lord.	D. of L.	S. of S. (2)	Plans 3, Air Min. (2)
1st S.L.	D.A/S.W.	C.I.G.S. (2)	Sec. Joint Planning Staff (4)
2nd S.L.	D.M.S.	V.C.I.G.S. (2)	Lt. Col. Cornwall Jones (2)
3rd S.L.	I.P. (2)	D.M.O. & P.	For. Off. (Mr. Stornedale Bennett)
4th S.L.	W.D.	D.P. (2)	Dominions Off. (Mr. Jones)
5th S.L.	D.C.	D.D.M.O. (0)	Col. Office. (Lt. Col. Barlow (4))
6th S.L.	Hd. of M.	M.O. 1. 10.	
7th S.L.	D.D.I.C.	D.M.I.	Lt. Col. E.I.C. Jacob (5)
8th S.L.	E.P.S.	D.D.M.I. (1)	
9th S.L.	Adml. Affairs.	M.I. 2 (3 copies)	
10th S.L.		C.N.S. Admiralty (6)	
11th S.L.		D. of Plans Admty. (2)	
12th S.L.		C.A.S. Air Min. (1)	
13th S.L.		D. of Plans, Air Min. (1)	

War Diary.6.11.1941.
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.China.Darkening
Ship.
Contd.

Your 0731/6. Each case must be considered on its merits. Although unilluminated hospital ships do not forfeit immunity reasonable complaint can not be made if they are attacked. Up to present attacks have been confined to areas of considerable belligerent activity where A/C and shore batteries have ignored convention. Hospital ships should darken ship if illumination would betray operational information.
(Head of M. Approved by A.C.N.S.(F) 2243A/6 to C. in C. China.)

Free French
Movement.

Reply to Admty 2321/2. (C. in C. China, 0827/6.) See Lion Copy. *Ref: 1437A/20/11.*

Interception
of Vichy
Ships.

The fact that Germany is making strenuous efforts to ship rubber from Indo-China in Vichy ships makes it necessary for us to reconsider our attitude towards the Decoux Agreement.

2. There seems now little hope of U.S. obtaining any rubber or of the French obstructing the Japanese advance. Nevertheless, it is recognised that the agreement still has some general advantages.
3. But the uninterrupted passage of Vichy ships from Indo-China to Madagascar and beyond, which may develop into a most serious leak in the blockade, cannot be tolerated any longer. Request therefore, that in future all possible steps are taken to intercept all Vichy shipping whether escorted or unescorted in the Sunda Straits or other passages through Malay Barrier.
4. Interception within the China Station of Vichy shipping trading to the ports outside the station is not contrary to the letter of the Decoux agreement. But if Decoux chooses to react to interception in Sunda Straits by himself denouncing the agreement we are prepared to accept the consequences.
5. Dutch Authorities have been presented with memorandum exposing unneutral activities in Vichy, and it is hoped that they will shortly agree to co-operate in the interception of escorted convoys.
6. As interception in Sunda Straits will, probably, relieve C. in C.E.I., of commitments such as operation "Snip", it is hoped he may be able to co-operate with C. in C. China in intercepting ships in the Sunda Strait.
7. C. in C.S.A., pass to S.O. Force "G" on arrival.
(Head of M. Approved by 1st Lord 1630/6, to C.'s in C. China and E.I.)

/My 1630/6.....

SECRET IN

147^A

0827/6. November.

SECRET.

MESSAGE.

IN.

Date. 7.11.41.

From C. in C. China.

Rec'd. 0622.

NAVALCYPHER (X) BY W/T.

Addressed. Admiralty.

568. Your 2321/2.

As stated in my ⁺1025 of 21st. October Chancellor supports my request for B. during early stage Free French Movement was small and there were few major issues requiring my personal attention. With assistance of D.D.M.I.F.P.C.B. and a junior Army Liaison Officer I was able to control activities of Free French without extending much time. Movement has now greatly expanded and found it's feet and much more time required for solving political and other problems which, with existing personnel, cannot safely be left in hands of F.F. leader. These and complicated financial and other questions vis - A - vis local Government Officials beyond scope and experience of present Liaison Officer. Formation by De Gaulle of Political Council has enhanced status of movement with consequent increase in political importance. Present Far Eastern crisis naturally giving me and F.E.C.B. much extra work and certainly no less work on F.F. matters. Work for which B. is required is. - (A) Active control and guidance of movement under my general direction, for which experience and knowledge of present Liaison Officer is now insufficient (B) Liaison on more equal terms between movement and senior local Government Officials. (C) To act as my Staff Officer on all questions affecting movement and this relieve D.D.M.I, F.E.C.B. of much extraneous work.

0827/6.

1st. Lord.
1st. S.L.
V.C.N.S.
A.C.N.S. (F)
N.A. 1st. S.L.
P.A.S. (S)
Ops. (3)
O.D. (5)

D.N.I. (4)
N.A. (F) 2nd. S.L.
O.I.C. (3)
D. of P. (3)
M. (6) for action.
I.P. (3)
W.D.

Ad. Bellairs.
Ad. Chalmers.

Reply:
Adm 1637A/50

6.11.1941.
Thursday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

China.

Interception
of Vichy
Ships.
Contd.

My 1630/6, and my 1636/2. LOUIS DREYFUS vessels constitute special problem and concerted effort must be made to prevent sailing of these vessels from Saigon to Dakar.
2. U.S. are being asked to deny bunkers at Manila but possibility of supplies from Japanese sources cannot be ruled out.
3. Attachment for debt of French vessels calling at Manila is also under consideration but unfortunately we have no claims against DREYFUS vessels.
4. Without knowledge of route taken it is not possible to issue definite instructions for the interception of these vessels. Authorities addressed are requested to use every endeavour to obtain and exchange intelligence of movements and to concert such operations as intelligence indicates might be fruitful, C. in C. China making as much use of Dutch co-operation as possible.
5. C. in C.S.A., pass to S.O. Force "G" on arrival. (Head of M. Approved 1st., Lord, 1631A/6 to C's in C. China, E.1, S.A., A.W.I., etc.)

America & West Indies.

OLWEN.
(R Report,
4/11.)

OLWEN reports that she is proceeding and is undamaged. She made her QQQQ on being fired at in dawn light by an unseen attacker probably a S/M on the surface. She received assistance signal from NERK.
(A.C.N.S. (F) 0132A/6 to Opnav.)

S.C.53.

Serial number 4. Change route from new (z) 042° 30' N., 057° 00' W., then to (Y) and new (a) 037° 30' N., 029° 00' W., to new (b) 037° 50' N., 027° 00' W., new (c) 039° 40' N., 025° 00' W., new (d) 054° 00' N., 020° 00' W., thence to new (e) 055° 30' N., 008° 00' W. New M.O.M.P. to follow.
(U.S.C.N.O., 0550/6, to Cmdr., Task Unit 4.1.14.)

/Convoy.....

War Diary.6.11.1941.
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America & West Indies.S.C.55.(Contd.)

Convoy is scattering in fog south of Cape Race. New route instructions apparently not received. Am endeavouring to collect ships of convoy, weather report.

(BURNHAM, 1156Z/6, to Com. Task Force No.4.)
BURNHAM has found S.C. (?53) scattered in (?fog) 20 miles South Masirah. Convoy apparently received no (?altered) routing instructions. BURNHAM now endeavouring to reassemble convoy. (C.C.N.F. 1443Z/6, to U.S.C.N.O.)

INDOMITABLE.

Your 0932Q/5. In view of B.A.R.M.'s 1436R/5, aircraft should be retained on board INDOMITABLE and landed at the operational base Norfolk.

(A.C.N.S.(F) 0746A/6, to C. in C.A.W.I.)
INDOMITABLE 2025/5, which is being passed to you and Admty. INDOMITABLE will send you a copy of written report on arrival. Request you will appoint a Board of Inquiry and forward findings and minutes to me. N.O.I/C Kingston's copy of written report is to be forwarded to me.

CLARKIA's grounding will be dealt with at Bermuda.

(C. in C.A.W.I., 1124Q/6, to B.A.R.M.)
Kingston departure - INDOMITABLE in accordance with B.A.D. Washington 1056R/6. Departure CLARKIA due Bermuda 1630R/10.
(N.O.I.C. Kingston, 1730R/6 to C. in C.A.W.I.)

German
Supply Ship
Captured,
(ODENWALD.)

Task group 3.6 reports German supply ship in 00.35 N., 27.45 W., at 0845 G.C.T., disguised as S.S.WILMOTO. Salvage Party aboard making every effort to save ship which attempted scuttle by exploding bomb in after hold. If successful will probably need tug. Taskgroup 3.6 has fuel for Recife only and will proceed there with rescued crew.

(Opnav, 1134/6, to Admty.)
Your 1134/6. Congratulations. This is a tremendous help and may have a far reaching effect.

(1st. S.L. 1842Z/6, to Opnav.)
Cancel my 1701/29, 1911/29 and 2030/1.
Refer to my 1134/6. JOUETT directed to join OMAHA, SOMERS, which will proceed from vicinity 00.35 N., 27.45 W., to Recife. JOUETT joins CINCINNATI at Recife for Patrol duties. At 2000Z/5 MEMPHIS, DAVIS, ~~at~~ 01.15 N., 28.55 W., proceeding on course 275° speed 13 to Trinidad. (Opnav, 2149/6, to Admty.) *see p 139*

/C. in C.South A's...

War Diary.6.11.1941.
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America & West Indies.German
Supply ship
Captured,
(ODENWALD.)
Contd.

C. in C. South Atlantic's 1845/6. Following received from Task Group 3.6. Flooding now believed under control. ODENWALD in 000° 43' N., 028° 30' W., at 2200Z/6, proceeding at 9 knots to Trinidad.
(B.A.D. 2309R/6, to Admty., etc.)

H.X. 158.

Serial 5. Believe local escort did not receive my serials 2 or 3. Estimate convoy is following original route. C.O.A.C. pass to ANNAPOLIS.
(Opnav, 1245Z/6, to Com. Task Unit 4.1.8, C.O.A.C.)
Serial 6. When R/V effected report P.C. and S.
(Opnav, 1322Z/6, to Com. Task Unit 4.1.8.)

O.N.33.

Unit 4.1.11 consisting of ST. LAURENT (S.O.) POLYANTHUS, PRIMROSE, CHILLIWACK, SNOWBERRY, TRAIL, ARROWHEAD, designated escort O.N.33.
(Opnav, 1707Z/6, to Admty.)

TULIP.

Ref. 2202Q/5 from C. in C.A.W.I., TULIP will carry out following programme, Kingston, leave a.m./7, Aruba, a.m./9-a.m./10, Curacao, p.m./10, p.m./11, Trinidad, arrive a.m./13.
Aruba and Curacao informed.
(N.O.I.C. Kingston, 1709R/6 to N.O.I.C. Trinidad.)

BISHOPDALE.

Oiler BISHOPDALE is to be sailed from Bermuda on 8/11 for Kingston (Jamaica) to adjust crew, thence to Curacao and Trinidad to load, returning to Bermuda on completion.
(C. in C.A.W.I., 1735Q/6, to N.O.I.C. Bermuda.)

CALIFORNIA.

My 1122R/2. CALIFORNIA sails from Boston 0600 zone 3 16/11. E.T.A., Halifax 1300 zone 5.
(B.A.R.M., 1737R/6 to Admty.)

ABBEYDALE.

My 0942Q/2. Do not intend Oiler ABBEYDALE should proceed to Bermuda if arrangements in A.M. 1715A/3 meet your requirements. Request early decision as loading programme of other oilers is affected.
(C. in C.A.W.I., 1743Q/6, to R.A.S.A.D.)

/EMPIRE.....

War Diary.

6.11.1941.
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies.Contd.

EMPIRE
CURLEW.

TC 14A. BR. EMPIRE CURLEW not safe under 20 fathoms.
(C.O.A.C. Halifax, 1826Z/6, to Admty.)

O.N.31.

Recommend Commodore be directed to hold ships for Newfoundland Ports and not to detach ships routed through Belle Isle Strait pending further instructions. Destination of MAPLEWOOD is changed to Philadelphia.
(D.T.D. 1826Z/6 to Opanav.)

Task Unit.
4.1.14.

Your 0008/5. Not to Admiralty. Request confirmation that necessary diplomatic and other arrangements are being made for Canadian draft proposal of unit 4.1.14 to refuel at Azores. B.A.D. Washington pass to C.N.A.
(N.S.H.Q., Ottawa, 1858Z/6 to Opanav.)

PRINCE
ROBERT.

Your 0553A/24 and C. in C. China 0531Z/25. Request H.M.C.S. PRINCE ROBERT may be returned to Esquimalt at your early convenience. B.A.D. Washington pass to Canadian Naval Attache.
(N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 1935Z/6 to Admty.)

Lati
Air Line.

A.M. 2325A/5. Navy Dept., are in entire agreement with Admty., views on suppression of Lati but will not take action to press their views on State Dept., for a few days as they are reaching conclusion of negotiations with Brazilian Govt., for use of bases for Naval Flying boats (? in) Brazil. As soon as they can do so without prejudicing these negotiations they intend to press State Dept., to take action regarding Lati. I think this is satisfactory so far, am keeping Embassy informed.
(B.A.D. 1945R/6 to Admty.)

T.C.16.

Your 1541/29/10 and 1833/27/10. Following vessels are proposed for convoy T.C.16:-
3. Sailing date not yet definite but will be as soon after 6/12 as possible.
(D. of S.T., 2039A/6, to N.S.H.Q. Ottawa.)

War Diary.

6.11.1941.
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Australia.

MANOORA
WESTRALIA
KANIMBLA
MONTCLARE.

Your 1232A/30. Request confirmation that A.M.C's ?MANOORA, ?WESTRALIA, KANIMBLA and MONTCLARE will all be attached to Australian station. Request 5.5 inch ammunition reserves and practice requirements and base spares of ordnance and gunmounting stores for MONTCLARE be sent to Sydney as none held here.

(A.C.N.B., 0149Z/6 to Admty.) Confirmed.
(D.O.D(F), 1602A/7.)

War Diary.

6.11.1941.
Thursday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Ships Attacked.

S.C. 52.
(attacked
3/11)

Further to my 2151Z/5, all ships S.C. 52 now returned less FLYNDERBORG, GREVALE, EVEROJA and EMPIRE GEMSBUCK torpedoed, EMPIRE ENERGY and MAROUKO PATERAS, ashore.
(N.C.S.O. Sydney C.B. 1426Z/6 to Admty.).
MICHAEL L. EMBIRICOS definitely returned to Sydney. S.C. 52 casualties as stated in N.C.S.O. Sydney (C.B.) 2151Z/5.
(N.O.I.C. Sydney C.B. 2001Z/6 to Admty. etc.).

Submarines Reported.

1025.

Am over enemy submarine in 45.30 N. 6.55 W. sighted on surface and observed to submerge, course 100° speed 8 knots.
(A/C 1025/6 to 19 Group).

Estimated U/B dispositions.
(D.D.I.C. 1412A/6, 1423A/6, Washington, 2100/6 to Task Units).

War Diary.

7.11.1941.
Friday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

A merchant ship of about 3,000 tons was sighted by A/C in 58° N., 6° 38' E., course 300° at 1240A today.

Dispositions to intercept enemy units.

At 1319A today RODNEY, proceeding to Aultbea (from Gibraltar) was ordered to be refuelled and sailed with the utmost despatch. Extra air patrols were flown from 1600 today north of the Shetlands and Faeroes and east of Iceland, but the weather today greatly reduced the efficiency of air R/C. BERWICK is to proceed P.M. today to patrol the Denmark Strait north of the minefield, joining the C. in C. H.F. if he proceeds to sea.

TRINIDAD.

The cruiser TRINIDAD, which was damaged by air attack at Plymouth on 30/4 whilst completing, arrived at Scapa today to join the 10th C.S.

British Air Operations.

Minor attacks were made on the docks at Le Havre and ports in N.W. Germany last night by aircraft of Bomber Command.

Enemy Air Operations.

Two A/S Trawlers were unsuccessfully bombed at 0915 today in Skopen Fiord (Faeroes)

S.S. EMPIRE BUNTING in F.N545 reported at 1123 G.M.T. today being attacked off Farn Isle. It is stated that she was damaged and proceeded to Blyth.

/ALBURY.....

War Diary.

7.11.1941.
Friday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Enemy Air Operations - Contd.

ALBURY (4th M/S.F.) reported being bombed at 1842 in 56° 53' N., 1° 58' W. 4 bombs fell 30 yards astern, causing slight damage to machinery but none to the hull.

Dover was attacked by dive bombers between 2255 and 2301 today. No naval damage or casualties occurred.

It is reported that an Eire Govt. fishing patrol vessel shot down one of two aircraft which attacked her after unsuccessfully attacking a British coasting vessel near Coninbeg L.V. at 1945/30/10.

A Belgian trawler also reports being attacked by 3 enemy aircraft in the same vicinity at 1845/30.

Mining.

9 aircraft laid mines in Oslo Harbour last night.

Minelaying by enemy aircraft is suspected last night in the Thames Estuary and after dark this evening between the Tyne and Yarmouth. Hartlepool and Middlesborough were closed at 2253 owing to suspected minelaying.

Bristol Channel.

Owing to weather conditions being unsuitable for minesweeping all Bristol Channel ports were closed at 0143A. All were re-opened during the forenoon.

War Diary.

7.11.1941.
Friday.

SITUATION REPORT.

South Atlantic.

C. Verde Is.

The coal situation in Cape Verde Islands is reported to be serious and the Govt. and military authorities may consider it necessary to requisition the Admiralty reserve stock.

Operation
"Bellringer"
Force F.

All ships of the Vichy convoy have now arrived in port as follows:- BANGKOK, COMMANDANT DORISE and COMPIEGNE at East London; CAP PADARAN and CAP TOURANE at Port Elizabeth. Force F was cancelled at 1524N and ships have dispersed.

The excellent work performed by vessels of the Seaward Defence Force and long range aircraft of the South African Air Force formed an essential part in the interception of this convoy.

Mediterranean.

5 Naval aircraft attacked the Augusta submarine base last night, 2 Wellingtons attacked Naples, and 3 Blenheims Apollonia.

Libya and
Western
Desert.

15 Wellingtons bombed Derna last night. During this morning 12 Marylands in 2 waves of 6 aircraft at 1 - hour interval bombed M.T. workshops at Derna.

Suez Canal
Area.

Slight damage was caused to the quayside installations at Port Tewfik by bombing last night

7.11.1941.
Friday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT.

America & West Indies.

In reply to the Admiralty request made a month ago that U.S. merchantmen should make reports of raiders, the Navy Department considers it inexpedient to instruct them to do so, but firmly believes that a U.S. master expecting to be attacked would voluntarily broadcast information.

Australia.

At 0130Z today a suspicious ship of about 8,000 to 9,000 tons was sighted approximately 15 miles east of Norfolk Island heading south.

U-Boat Campaign.

A Hudson attacked a U-boat in approx. $46^{\circ} 35'$ N., $2^{\circ} 38'$ W., at 0745 today achieving complete surprise and dropping a bomb which exploded 10 ft. before the conning tower, after which the stem of the U-boat rose out of the water at an angle of 45° and disappeared, bubbles and oil came up for some time.

British ^{mlv} S.S. NOTTINGHAM bound independently from Glasgow for New York, reported at 2042 G.M.T. that she had been torpedoed in $53^{\circ} 24'$ N., $31^{\circ} 51'$ W.

/BENNEKOM.....

War Diary.

7.11.1941.
Friday.

SITUATION REPORT.

U-Boat Campaign. - Contd.

BENNEKOM
sunk
(O.S.10)

FREESIA, at Ponta Delgada, reports that the ship of O.S.10 sunk on 31/10 was the Dutch BENNEKOM. LULWORTH attacked one U-boat on that date with 27 depth charges and considers it may have been sunk. GORLESTON also probably sank a U-boat in 48.45 N., 25.00 W., at 1851Z/1.

War Diary.

7.11.1941.
Friday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Policy.

Proposed
attack on
French
Fishing
Craft.

H.Q.C.C.'s A.P./267 of 4/11. As French fishing craft have been allowed to fish unmolested during the past summer, I consider that a suitable warning should be given before commencing the attack.

As soon as the warning has been sufficiently promulgated it is proposed that the attack should be carried out by any surface craft that can be spared and by any S/MS. in the area in addition to aircraft to ensure that the threat is made effective in keeping fishing craft clear of the area. (C. in C. Plymouth 1234/7).

Co-operation with Russia.

Iokanskie.

S.B.N.O. Archangel's 1455/31/10 and 1645/2. Request you will investigate forthwith the possibility of the Russians providing the necessary tanker supply to Iokanskie if it is decided to use this anchorage for refuelling P.Q. convoy escorts. (A.C.N.S. (H) 1834A/7 to S.B.N.O. North Russia).

Movements.

RENONCULE.
ROSELYS.

Your 1848A/6. Is anything known of whereabouts of RENONCULE and ROSELYS. (C. in C. W.A. 1016A/7 to N.O.I.C. Iceland).
Your 1016A/7. ROSELYS sailed as in my 0001N/7^{N.I.H.}
B.N. 465. RENONCULE sighted by aircraft in 59°^{0' W}
45' N. 28° 44' W. at 1250/6 patrolling in accordance with your 0049A/3. (A.C.I.C. 1105N/7 to C. in C. W.A.)

WOOLSTON.

Admiralty's 1753A/6. Request you will sail WOOLSTON to join Rosyth Command not later than 15/11. (C. in C. W.A. 1021A/7 to F.O.I.C. Belfast).

MALCOLM.

Admiralty's 1605A/24/10. Intend to sail MALCOLM on 10th for Cardiff to refit. (Capt. D. Londonderry 1231A/7).

/RODNEY.....

War Diary.7.11.1941.
Friday.HOME COMMANDS.Movements - Contd.RODNEY.

RODNEY is to be refuelled and sailed with utmost despatch.

(A.C.N.S. (H), 1319A/7.)

Your 1319A/7. Can an E.T.A. be given.

(N.O.I.C. Aultbea, 1545A/7 to Admty.)

Your 1545A/7. E.T.A. daylight 8th.

(D.O.D. (H), 2241A/7 to N.O.I.C. Aultbea.)

TRIDENT.
SEAWOLF.
K.21.

Following received from TRIDENT. Begins. All torpedoes expended. In order to avoid crossing

SEAWOLF am returning along latitude 72° to 30°

40' E. Thence for R/V R one at 1601C/8th by

route TK. S.O.A. 8½ knots. T.O.O. 0934C/7.

Ends. Admiralty pass to SEAWOLF.

(S.B.N.O. North Russia, 1503C/7.)

TRIDENT (0934C/7.)

K.21 sailed Polyarno 1500C/7 routed as follows to Zone 2A.

2. TRIDENT is to proceed by 072° N. to 33° 30' E.

thence 130° to 071° 37' N. 035° E. and through

69° 50' N. 35° E. to R/V 69° 34' N. 34° 10' E.

at 1000C/9.

3. SEAWOLF is to proceed through following positions to R/V in 69° 34' N. 034° 24' E. at 1000C/10.

4. T.B.R. arranged accordingly.

(S.B.N.O. North Russia, 1731C/7.)

P.38.

My 1151A/5 para. one. For 1800A/7th read 2000A/7th.

(Capt. S.3., 1528A/7.)

P.38 and LA CAPRICIEUSE sailed in accordance with S.3's 1151A/5.

(F.O.I.C. Greenock, 2102/7.)

1st and 6th
M/S. Flotillas.

Request (a) I may be informed of general intended movements of ships of 1st M/S. Flot. and 6th M/S. Flot. at present in home waters.

Subject to (a), propose to sail GOSSAMER and HUSSAR for U.K. with Q.P.3 and LEDA and SEAGULL with Q.P.4.

Your 1245C/1st this was done by all ships before leaving U.K. but has negligible effect in severe ice. Removal weed trap strainer assists.

(S.O. 1st M/S. F., 2135C/7 to Admty.)

War Diary.7.11.1941.
Friday.HOME COMMANDS.Operations."Stumor".

My 1241/6. "Stumor" postponed a further 24 hours.
(F.O.I.C. Harwich, 1129A/7.)

Interception of Heavy Unit.

On completion of exercise today proceed to patrol Denmark Strait North of minefield in vicinity of ice limit. Object to intercept and shadow enemy surface vessel breaking out into Atlantic.

(ii) If dispositions in my 1221N/5 are ordered proceed to join me passing North of 067° N. and West of 027° W.

(C. in C. H.F., 1251Z/7 to BERWICK.)

Weather has greatly reduced efficiency of air R/C. Other intelligence entirely lacking.

(A.C.N.S. (H), 2341A/7 to C. in C. H.F.)

British Air Activity.Patrol.

"Bert" in operation.

(C. in C. Rosyth, 0546/7.)

"Stab" in operation. "Stand" is being flown at six hour intervals weather permitting.

(C. in C. Rosyth, 1041/7.)

"Sentry" one, two, and three are required by 1600 today and should thereafter be maintained.

(A.C.N.S. H., 1200A/7.)

P.R.U. of Haugesund, Oslo, and Kristiansand now in operation.

(C. in C. Rosyth, 1331/7.)

My 1331/7. Aircraft returned owing to weather.

(C. in C. Rosyth, 1529/7.)

"Sentry" two withdrawn at 1935 today on account of icing.

Anticipated that "Sentry" one and three will have to be withdrawn at midnight 7th/8th.

R/C of Norwegian coasts have been and are being maintained, but weather conditions are unfavourable.

(A.C.N.S. (H), 2242A/7 to C. in C. H.F.)

Bombing operations.

On 6/11 there were no operations. On Night 6/7 seven A/C attacked the Docks at Havre, and one A/C each attacked Wilhelmshaven and Hamburg Docks.

(H.Q.B.C., 1315/7.)

War Diary.

7.11.1941.
Friday.

HOME COMMANDS.

British Air Activity. - Contd.

821 Squadron.

Your 1225A/5. 821 Squadron is to cease operating on 9/11. Personnel are to report to F.O.I.C. Greenock p.m./11th. (D.N.A.D., 1835A/7 to R.A.N.A.S.) Admiralty's 1835/7. 821 Squadron is to fly to Arbroath a.m./9th. (Hatston, 2309/7.)

Enemy Air Activity.

Unknown Ship.

Rec. at 0755/7 G.M.T. De unknown station. Automatic A.A.A.A. Signal heard at 0755 G.M.T. strength 2 bearing from Port Patrick Radio 140° approx. (Port Patrick 0855/7.) GNF states that the bearing of automatic A A A A at 0755 G.M.T. is 308° from North Foreland radio. (Port Patrick, 0909/7.)

Yarmouth bombed.

Gt. Yarmouth attacked by single enemy aircraft 2030/6. 4 bombs fell in marshes vicinity of town. (F.O.I.C. Yarmouth, 0931A/7.)

STELLA PEGASI, PRESTON, NORTHEND attacked.

STELLA PEGASI and PRESTON NORTHEND were attacked by one Heinkel III in Skopen Fiord at 0915 today. All bombs missed. No damage or casualties. (N.O.I.C. Faroes, 1121A/7.)

EMPIRE BUNTING (Convoy F.N.545.)

Following received 1123 G.M.T. from Cullercoats DE EMPIRE BUNTING begins A A A A attacked. Positions unknown at present. Please take bearing. Ends. (C. in C. Rosyth, 1232/7.)

Off Waterford on 30/10, Irish Govt. Fishing Patrol Vessel attacked. British Coaster and FRANK attacked.

Information received that 2 enemy aircraft attacked British Coaster, name unknown, owner believed Kelly of Belfast, near Coninbeg light vessel at 1945/30/10. Aircraft were driven off and then attacked Eire Government fishing patrol vessel which returned fire and brought one aircraft down. Lifeboat from Kilmore called out and searched for survivors without result. Publication in Southern Irish papers suppressed. Grade A/2. Belgian trawler FRANK, H.32 also reports encounter with 3 enemy aircraft same vicinity 1845/30. (F.O.I.C. Milford Haven, 1507A/7.)

? Dutch

See also 14.11.41 p. 350

/Convoy.....

War Diary.

7.11.1941.

Friday.HOME COMMANDS.Enemy Air Activity - Contd.Convoy.

Enemy aircraft bombing 56° 54' N. 1° 58' W.
(ALBURY, 1905/7.)

Mining.4th M.S.
Flotilla.

Comply with C. in C. H.F. 1107Z/6.
(A.C.O.S., 0107A/7 and 0227A/7 to M.S.4.)
Your 1107Z/6th. Can estimate of period during
which sweeping must be suspended be given so
that I may organize boiler cleaning of ships
in my flotilla.
(S.O. 4th M/S. F., 1030A/7 to C. in C. H.F.)
S.O. 4th M/S. Flotilla's 1030A/7th. No estimate
can be given until situation clears. Propose
4 ships should remain in Faroes in case I have
to pass through mine barrier, and remainder
should boiler clean at Scapa or Aberdeen.
(C. in C. H.F., 1556/7 to A.C.O.S.)
On suspending operation in accordance with C. in
C. H.F.'s 1107Z/6 total area so far cleared is
062° 22' N.(15") 006° 55'42" W., 062° 19'24" N.
007° 03'30" W., 062° 22'00" N. 007° 07'40" W.,
062° 25'30" N. 007° 00'10" W. Severe gales
have prevented all sweeping during last 48
hours and tides only allowed 3 hours sweeping on
all available days after recommencement of
operation. One mine detonated in FITZROY'S
kite while getting it in, but no damage sustained
by ship or personnel although explosion was only
10 yards from stern.
(S.O. 4th M/S. F., 1805A/7.)

Bristol
Channel.

Owing to weather being unsuitable for mine-
sweeping, all Bristol Channel Ports are closed
until further orders.
(F.O.I.C. Cardiff, 0143A/7.)
Cardiff, Penarth, Barry, Swansea, and Port Talbot
are open forthwith. All other Bristol Channel
ports open from 1100.
(F.O.I.C. Cardiff, 0923A/7.)
Exploded red mine 1402/7 in 010° 1.8 miles from
Watchet Pier Light.
(Capt. M/S. Bristol Channel, 1729A/7.)

/S.N. 83B.....

War Diary.7.11.1941.
Friday.HOME COMMANDS.Mining - Contd.S.N. 83B.KENYA.
BEDOUIN.
INTREPID.
OTDERS-4000V.

C. in C. H.F. 1201/6. R/V 0900/9 in 270° Mygganaes Light 4 miles. Squadron will approach R/V through position 060° 27' N. 007° W. and 061° 56' N. 007° 33' W. course and speed onward from R/V 320°, 14 knots.
(R.A.M., 0931/7.)

PORTQUEBEC.
Tobermory
and
Londonderry
Minefields.

F.O.I.C. Southampton's 1756/24/10 and my 1636/5. Intend to sail PORT QUEBEC escorted by NEWARK and CHARLESTOWN at 1130/11 to lay Tobermory Field and thence to Loch Indail, Islay, for the night.

2. Ships will leave Loch Indail at 0800/12 and after laying Londonderry Field will pass Rathlin West Light at 1030, routed as follows.

3. E.T.A. Needles 0800/14.

4. C. in C. W.A. is requested to arrange fighter protection in Irish Sea and fighter escort in Channel during daylight hours.
(R.A.M., 0946/7.)

N.P.7.

Intend to carry out operation N.P.7 tonight or as soon as weather permits.
(V.A. Dover, 1052A/7.)

RUBIS.
RORQUAL.

Your 1657A/6 and 1659A/6. Concur.
(A.C.N.S.(H), 1138A/7 to F.O.S.)

Hartlepool.
Middlesbrough.

Owing to suspected minelaying ports of Hartlepool and Middlesbrough are closed. All ships affected.
(N.O.I.C. Hartlepool, 2253/7.)

Enemy Intelligence.Off
Lister.

Merchant Ship of about 3000-tons was sighted by A/C in position 058° N. 006° 38' E., course 300°, speed 8 knots at 1240A/7.
(F.O.S., 1416A/7 to P.35.)

Navigational.62 A Buoy.

Light extinguished.
(VIVIEN, 2000A/7 and 2005A/7.)

War Diary.7.11.1941.
Friday.HOME COMMANDS.Technical.Steaming
Performance.

The maintenance of escort forces as reflected in steaming performance of ships attached Londonderry reflects credit on all concerned. (C. in C. W.A., 1143A/7.)

U.S. Warships
Identification
Marks.

1. All U.S. Warships in Atlantic Fleet including submarines employ following deck marks as identification signals to aircraft. Details. (D.S.D., 1903A/7.)

Casualties and Defects.GALLANT FOX.

My 1728A/6. GALLANT FOX steering gear repaired and rejoining. In view of repeated breakdowns intend GALLANT FOX (is to ?) proceed to Oban for investigation. Tug standing by. (S.O. E.G.8., 0628A/7.) Arrived FRISKY with S.S. GALLANT FOX. (N.O.I.C. Oban, 2359A/7.)

COMMODORE.

My 0939/6. COMMODORE is delayed with engine trouble at Yarmouth. (F.O.I.C. Southampton, 1500/7.)

EAGLE.

A.M. 1217/29/10. Date of completion postponed to 30/12. (D.O.D. F., 1703A/7.)

Shipping and Convoys.Pilots for
P.Q. and Q.P.
Convoys.

Your 1814C/4. Please gratefully accept kind offer of C. in C. Northern Fleet and embark first pilot in Q.P.3. (A.C.N.S.(T), 0005A/7 to S.B.N.O. North Russia.) C. in C. Northern Fleet is supplying 3 pilots to embark in Commodores' ships of Q.P. and P.Q. convoys, remaining on board throughout voyage. First pilot embarks in Q.P.3. S.B.N.O. North Russia has been informed. (D.T.D., 2155A/7.)

A.12.

In order to guarantee that A.12 is ready to sail from Clyde by 12/11, propose that she definitely leaves Glasgow on p.m. tide 11/11. If necessary embarkation could be completed at tail of bank. War Office agree. (D. of S.T., 0312A/7.)

War Diary.7.11.1941.
Friday.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping and Convoys. - Contd.→ D.S. 16.
S.D. 16.

LANCASTER and CASTLETON detailed for D.S.16. F.O.I.C. Greenock is requested to issue necessary orders to CASTLETON who shall return to Port ZA on completion of duty with S.D.16. (R.A.M., 0959A/7.)

STEWARD, "Steward"
SAPPER, "Sapper"
W.P.M. 63.

Ships for ^{"Steward"}STEWARD 8/11 are to be sailed independently to Swansea Bay and as a group therefrom at 0930/8. W.P.B.63 (~~SAPPER~~) will leave Barry Roads 1000/8, Swansea Bay 1200/8, R/V with W.P.M.63, 1715/8. Normal working is to be resumed at Swansea and Port Talbot. (F.O.I.C. Cardiff, 1026A/7.)

P.Q.2.
Q.P.3.

P.Q.2 at Archangel will be discharged by 8/11 and loaded ready to sail as Q.P.3 by 14/11. (A.C.N.S.(H), 1252A/7.)

O.N.34.

1. VOLUNTEER, CALDWELL are to sail from Londonderry at economical speed to overtake convoy at daylight/10 in about 18° W.
2. SHERBROOKE, CHICOUTIMI are to sail from Greenock to fuel at Londonderry and overtake convoy at daylight/11. (C. in C. W.A., 1559/7.)

Escorts of
Homing
Convoys.

Procedure to ensure meeting of Homing Convoys by Trawler Escorts from Liverpool and Oban. Details. (C. in C. W.A., 1831A/7.) See Lion Copy.

DOUGLAS.
H.X.157.

Not met. LEAMINGTON, SKATE, AMAZON, GEORGETOWN, ANEMONE, ABELIA in company. Position 060° 03' N. 024° 38' W. (DOUGLAS, 1600Z/7.)

→ D.S.16.

S.S. BANFORA (13 kn.) and S.S. LEINSTER will form Convoy D.S.16 leaving Clyde p.m./12th. (D.O.D.(H), 1841A/7.)

P.Q.3.
P.Q.4.

A.M. 1008A/6. In consequence of the delay to P.Q.3, it has been decided that P.Q.3 and P.Q.4 should be combined.
2. Ships for P.Q.4 now in O.N.(S).33 are expected to arrive Hvalfjord on 11/11. (A.C.N.S.(T), 2018A/7.)

SECRET. MESSAGE. 1831A/7th November.
 IN.
 From. O. in C. Western Date. 8. 11. 41.
 Approaches. Recd. 0050.

P/L BY T/P.

Addressed. Captain D. Londonderry, Capt. D. Liverpool,
 Capt. D. Greenock. Pass to S.O. Escorts
 Groups.
 Repeated. Admiralty, N.O.I.C. Oban, F.O.I.C. Belfast,
 F.O.I.C. Liverpool, F.O.I.C. Greenock.
 NITL. 860. Cancel my 1549A/29/9/41.

In order that the local trawler escorts from
 Liverpool and Oban may meet incoming convoys and escort
 their respective portions to their destinations, the
 following procedure is to be carried out by S.O. of Escorts:-

- (1) Convoys homing by the North Channel. S.O. of
 Escort to signal E.T.A. Dhubartach of Oban portion,
 and E.T.A. 55 35 N, 07 00 W of Clyde, Belfast
 and Liverpool portions, on passing 10 degrees West.
 Signal to be addressed to F.O.I.Cs and N.O.I.Cs
 concerned Repeated C. in C. Western Approaches.
- (2) Convoys homing by the Minches. S.O. of Escort to
 signal E.T.A. 55 35 N, 07 00 W after convoy has
 passed Loch Ewo. Signal to be addressed F.O.I.Cs
 concerned Repeated C. in C. Western Approaches.
- (3) N.O.I.C. Oban to sail one A/S Trawler as detailed
 in my 1511A/2/9 to meet and escort Oban portion.
 S.O. of Escorts will still detail Oban Escort in
 case of not met. On meeting, Ocean Escorts proceed
 to Base.
- (4) One A/S Trawler from the Liverpool Local Escorts will
 be waiting in Londonderry to meet the incoming
 convoy. N.O.I.C. Londonderry is to sail this
 Trawler in time to make a daylight R/V with the
 Convoy somewhere between 55 35 N, 07 00 W and
 position Q (54 57½ N 05 33 W).
 S.O. Escorts will still detail an escort for these
 portions in case of not met. On meeting, Ocean
 Escorts to proceed to Base.

(5)

166^B

- (5) Loch Ewe portion of S.C. and H.X. Convoys homing through North Channel will have to be escorted by escort detailed from the escort group.
- (6) Cancel W.A.C.I. part 100 item 30.

1831A/7
Advance copy sent Ops., O.D.

A.C.N.S.(T)(2)
 N.A.1st S.L.
 Ops.(5)
 O.D.(5)

D.H.I.(4)
 D.of S.2A
 D.T.D.(4)
 D.T.D.(M)
 D.T.D.(C)
 D.of S.T.
 I.P.(3)
 D.A/S.W.
 O.I.C.
 W.D.

AS

War Diary.

7.11.1941.
Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

COMMANDANT
DUBOC.

Is returning Gibraltar owing to engine defects.
(F.O.C.N.A. 0015A/7 to Escort S.L. 91 G., LEITH)

CLYDE.
JONQUIL.
COREOPSIS.
DINGLEDALE.

My 1658/6 (N.T.in W.D.) Departure CLYDE, JONQUIL, COREOPSIS escorting R.F.A. DINGLEDALE. CLYDE keeping normal watch on area broadcast shift to read G.A., (S.Ps carried).
(F.O.C.N.A. 0040A/7 to Admty.)

→ French
Shipping.

Passings 6/11 Westward ^{PLATON} ~~PLAY ON~~, KEROMAN, CAPITAINE ARMAND all full.
(V.A.C.N.A. 0911A/7 to Admty. for M.E.W.)

S.L.91 G.
AZALEA.

My 1204A/6. AZALEA is to remain with convoy until further orders.
(F.O.C.N.A. 1030A/7 to AZALEA.)
My 1030A/7. Leave convoy S.L.91 so as to arrive Ponta Delgada at (?1200)A/12 to (?complete with) fuel. Further orders will be (?signalled).
(F.O.C.N.A. 1828A/7 to AZALEA.)

Boundary.

A.L.M. 014142/41 dated 3/11. Amend longitude given in para 6 (iii) of enclosure to read 06° W. (Hd. of M. 1407A/7 to A.I.G.21, F.O.C.N.A. S.O. Force H., F.O.S.)

→ French
Shipping.

Gibraltar 1655 Armed Trawler SERGENT GOUARNE, S.S. ROUBAISIEN, full, CAP BLANC, full, with deck cargo, trawler MEN GWEN, Eastbound.
(S.O.I. Gib., 1813A/7 to Admty., C. in C. Med.)

DUNCAN.

Intend sailing DUNCAN for Chatham via Plymouth at 0800A/8 routed (?through) (c) 043° 00' N. 016° 00' W. (d) 45.00 16.00 (e) 49.30 11.00 (f) 180° Bishop Rock and thence as directed by C. in C. Plymouth. S. of A. 15 knots. (ii) E.T.A. at position (f) is 0800A/12.)
(F.O.C.N.A. 1818A/7 to C. in C. Plymouth.)

MIRROR.

Your 1242/27/10. What is intended sailing date for MIRROR? Small alterations to her programme are under discussion with Cable and Wireless.
(D.S.D. 1927A/7 to F.O.C.N.A.)

ZULU.

E.T.A. 0400/8. GURKHA, ISAAC SWEERS and ATHENE in company. (ZULU, 1936A/7 to F.O.C.N.A.)

War Diary.

7.11.1941.
Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic - contd.

O.G.76.
ARGUS.
DINGLEDALE.

202 Squadron. 1 Catalina Escort O.G.76 noon to dusk, area covered 16.00 W. to 14.00 W. 1 Catalina Escort ARGUS from N.W. 1300 to dusk, area covered 09.20 W. to 06.00 W. 1 Catalina Escort Tanker DINGLEDALE to S.E. dawn to dusk, area 06.40 W. to 08.50 W.
(200 Group, 1945/7.)

South Atlantic.

DORSETSHIRE
CANTON.

DORSETSHIRE return to Freetown forthwith. CANTON continue to act in accordance with my 1845/6. (C. in C. S.A., 0029N/7 to DORSETSHIRE, CANTON.)
In view of B.A.D. Washington's 2039R/6 act on my 1703N/5. Report fuel remaining.
(C. in C. S.A., 0957N/7 to CANTON.)

CARNARVON
CASTLE.

C. in C. S.A. 1713/6 (i) practice programme is deferred. (ii) Proceed Capetown to fuel and report E.T.A. (iii) C. in C. S.A. 1943/30/10 has been passed to you.
(N.O.I.C. Simonstown 0503Z/7 to CARNARVON CASTLE)
See also next page.

CLYDEBANK.

Overdue shipping my 0925/4, CLYDEBANK arrived Capetown. (S.O.I. Capetown, 0945B/7 to Admty. etc.)

Coal Shortage,
St. Vincent
C.V.

Coal situation serious. Coal Companies present stock 250 tons sufficient only to supply water ferry, domestic purposes, etc. Government may consider it necessary to requisition present Admiralty reserve of 1240 tons.
(Consul, St. Vincent, C.V., 1130/7 to Admty.)

/ODENWALD ...

War Diary.

7.11.1941.
Friday

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic - contd.

ODENWALD
(intercepted
by Task Group
3.6.. 6/11)

At 0900Z/6 a message from Norddeich to an unknown unit ordered the ship to be scuttled before the enemy came on board. If this was addressed to ODENWALD request information on what frequency ODENWALD's signal which gave rise to it was sent as it was not intercepted by any South Atlantic station.
(C. in C. S.A., 1259N/7 to Admty.) Reply: 1523/8.

SHAHRISTAN.
Survivors.

Your 1616A/6/11. There is no other ship in S.L.92 with necessary accommodation, but anticipate accommodation will be available in S.L.93 with necessary speed.
(C. in C. S.A. 1307N/7 to Admty.)

Task Force 3.

Situation report at 1200 G.M.T./7.
(a) Group 3.6, OMAHA, SOMERS, JOUETT, 02° S. 30° W. to Recife.
(b) Group 3.7, MEMPHIS, DAVIS, 01° N. 37° W. to Trinidad.
(c) Group 3.8, CINCINNATI, 05° N. 50° W. to Recife. JOUETT joins CINCINNATI at Recife for patrol duties.
(D.O.D. (F) 1321A/7 to C. in C. S.A., etc.)
See also America and West Indies, 2045/7. *for earlier pgs.*

Force F.
disbanded.

Ships addressed no longer form Force F.
(C. in C. S.A. 1524N/7 to DEVONSHIRE, CARNARVON CASTLE, COLOMBO, CARTHAGE.) *See also next page*

ALCANTARA.
CARNARVON
CASTLE.

N.O.i/c Simonstown's 0730B/6 not to Admiralty. Following stores for ALCANTARA are in BIRMINGHAM. Anticipated no opportunity forwarding to U.S.A. until return Oiler ARNDALE to Trinidad in about 3 months. Suggest ALCANTARA should proceed U.S. via S.A.D. area where stores could be transferred to her. Otherwise it appears necessary duplicates should be sent from U.K. Most desirable CARNARVON CASTLE should carry out full practice programme before rejoining S.A.D. (R.A.S.A.D., 1542Z/7 to N.O.I.C. Simonstown, C. in C. S.A.) * *See previous page*

BEVER.
BOKSBURG.
fuelling.

Your 1650B/5, permission granted.
(N.A. Lisbon 1546/7 to Capt. i/c Simonstown.)

/Minesweepers ...

War Diary.

7.11.1941.
Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic - contd.

Minesweepers.

No arrival signals for following ships have been received. Request information :- BALTA left Freetown 15/9, HOXA left Lagos 10/10, ROMEO left Lagos 18/10, FIRMAMENT (late KOS 9) left Lagos 10/10.

(D.M.S. 1547A/7 to C. in C. S.A.) Reply: 2208/8. My 2359B/3/6 para. 4 (b). Request information when 93rd M/S Group will sail for Mediterranean. (D.M.S. 1550A/7 to C. in C. S.A.)

Operation
"Bellringer".

(1) All ships of Vichy convoy have now arrived in port as follows: East London: BANGKOK, COMMANDANT DORISE, COMPEIGNE. Port Elizabeth: CAP PADARAN, CAP TOURANE. Force F. is cancelled and ships have disposed as follows: DEVONSHIRE, COLOMBO and CARTHAGE to Durban. CARNARVON CASTLE to Capetown to fuel and to depart a.m./9 for Escort Duties.

(N.O.I.C. Simonstown, 1557B/7 to Admty. etc.)

W.S.12 X.

Admty. 1912/3. As convoy W.S.12 X. will probably sail from Capetown without calling Durban request I may be informed if East Indies (?will) provide escort from Cape onwards. In this case escort may be able to provide Liaison Officer asked for by B.A.D. Washington 1733/10/10 para. (iii) C, and convoy Conference at Capetown can be attended by all Officers concerned.

(N.O.I.C. Simonstown, 1600Z/7 to C. in C. E.I.)

PRINCE
BAUDOIN.

My 1307/2. Hoped PRINCE BAUDOIN will be ready to leave Capetown p.m./16/11.

(N.O.I.C. Simonstown, 1603B/7 to C. in C. S.A.)

St.Helena,
Ascension,
shipping.

Intend following policy for ships taking supplies to St. Helena and Ascension.

(1) Ships of not less than 11 knots to be employed if possible.

(2) Duration of visit not to exceed 8 hours, ships to arrive about 0809 and leave 2 hours before sunset.

(3) Ships to zig-zag and not to use wireless within 200 miles of either island.

(C. in C. S.A. 1831N/7 to Admty.)

/M.L.Cs

War Diary.

7.11.1941.
Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic. - contd.

M.L.Cs.

My 2132A/27/9 and your 1158N/24. Regretted that 2 M.L.Cs cannot be retained at Freetown for use of S.S.T.O. These valuable craft together with their crews are required for operational duties elsewhere. Request therefore you will arrange for their shipment to Gibraltar in accordance with my 2132A/27/9. 2. Provision of alternative craft is under investigation, and in the meantime you are authorised to make limited use of 2 M.L.Cs from Force 'Q' so long as they are at Freetown.
(A.C.N.S.(F) 1842A/7 to C. in C. S.A.)

Independent Routes.

Routeing of homeward bound Independent ships between Capetown and Freetown appears to be restricted to an unnecessarily narrow lane particularly between Capetown and Latitude 20° S. Request you will employ wider dispersal.
(A.C.N.S.(T) 2021A/7 to N.C.S.O. Capetown.)

Mediterranean.

Turkish Vessel sunk.

The Ajence Auatolie has announced the sinking of a Turkish motor vessel, the KAYNAKDERE, of 143 tons, in Turkish territorial waters in the Black Sea between Midia and Igneada by a submarine the nationality of which is not mentioned. (Istanbul 7/11, to The Times, 8/11)

SUTLEJ JUMNA.

Is there any objection to employing SUTLEJ and JUMNA in Mediterranean intermittently? Their presence in Red Sea during no moon periods is not necessary and they would be a valuable addition to Mediterranean Escort Forces at these times. (C. in C. Med., 1115B/7 to Admty.)

/Norwegian ...

War Diary.7.11.1941.
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean - contd.Norwegian Sweepers.

Understood Norwegian POL and GLOBE groups of Whalers now fitting L.L. and S.A. in India are modern 14 knot ships. It is not known whether these ships are likely to come to Mediterranean, but in any case it is strongly urged that such fast seaworthy vessels are wasted if only fitted as sweepers and should be fitted A/S as well if possible. Corvettes prove very satisfactory in dual role.
(C. in C. Med., 1117B/7 to Admty.)

UPHOLDER
URGE
PORPOISE.

UPHOLDER and URGE leave 035° 51' W, 015° 15' E on course 60° at 2200B on 8/11 and 9/11 respectively. PORPOISE due Grand Harbour 0730B/9 by S.E. Channel. P.31 due Marsamxett (Marsamuscetts) 0730B/9 from 036° 00' 014° 53'.
(Capt. S. 10 1121B/7 to P.31, PORPOISE.)

Suez Raid.

Night 6/7. 2 enemy aircraft came in over the Delta west of the canal and entered the Gulf of Suez apparently in search of shipping. 1 stick of bombs dropped on Suez on their return by the same route caused slight damage, 1 person missing 6 injured. Fighter up at Port Said and Suez, no interceptions.

Benghazi bombed.

Night 5/6. 22 Wellingtons attacked stores dumps at Benghazi and petrol depot on Juliana Mole. Large petrol fire started at Mole, other results unobserved. 1 Wellington bombed Martuba landing ground causing a number of white explosions.
Day 6/11. Marylands attacked stores dumps near Benghazi.
(H.Q. R.A.F. M.E. 1156/7.)

"Landmark".

Propose "Landmark" shall consist of BRECONSHIRE, SYDNEY STAR, AJAX, CLAN FERGUSON, Oiler PLUMLEAF. (V.A. Malta, 1245A/7 to C. in C. Med.)
Approved. (C. in C. Med. 1105B/9.)

Enemy Convoy.

2 Merchant Ships and 1 Destroyer sighted in 038° 39' N. 019° 12' E. course 165° at 1030/7.
(Capt. S. 10, 1259B/7 to S/Ms on Patrol.)

/Suez Raid ...

War Diary.7.11.1941.
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean - contd.Suez Raid.

Ref. C.A.F.O.587. (a) Night 6-7/11 calm clear. (b) 2 enemy aircraft 0100 to 0445, one of which attacked at high level Port Tewfik. No flares (c) H.E. (d) 5 bombs (e) slight civilian damage to quayside installation, Army casualties one killed 2 wounded, Naval damage and casualties nil (f) 9 fighters patrolling area, no interceptions (g) balloons up. (S.B.N.O. Suez Canal, 1309B/7 to Admty. etc.)

REGENT
TRUANT.

REGENT leaves harbour 1630B/7 and carries out diving for trimming in Alexandria submarine exercise sanctuary within following limits. Destroyers and Trawlers are hunting U-Boat sighted in 031° 30' 029° 15'. They have been warned of your arrival. Exercise sanctuary available for you to dive a.m./8 before entering harbour. Do not overtake mine-sweepers met in searched channel. You should not pass shoulder buoy before 1000B/8. (Capt. S.l. 1501B/7 to TRUANT.)

Warships
For Turkey.

From Adm. Kelly. In absence of Marshal, sick, I handed to Asim Gunduz Aide Memoire accepting verbal proposal of Turkish Govt. concerning delivery of ships in accordance with Admty. 2319A/3. He was delighted and at once read paper to M. of F.A. and M. of Defence. Turks will take immediate steps to approach Council of State to have original contract altered, to permit of delivery in two series, half now, and half after a delay of one year, on account of difficulties of construction in England in War Time, and of assembling necessary crews for voyage. Alteration in contract will be announced in the meantime and taking over of ships by Turkish crews already available will be carried out with ceremony. British crews can return by ship or rail. (N.A. Angora, 1608B/7 to Admty.)

PROTEUS.

Amend limit (?of) area A. (?as follows) East of (?Cape Matapan) and West of 025° 40' between 036° 20' and 038° 30'. PROTEUS will be required to remain on patrol until p.m./11 when she will be recalled to (?arrive) Alexandria a.m./15. (Capt. S.l, 1615B/7 to PROTEUS.)

War Diary.7.11.1941.
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean - contd.TORCELLO
(sunk 6/11)

N.S.O.(I) Istanbul's 1559B/6. Information confirmed by Turkish General Staff. (N.A. Angora 1629B/7 to S.O.I. Med.)

Malta Raid.

Night 6/7. 4 Bombers approached, 1 crossed coast, bombs in sea and Grand Harbour. No damage or casualties. A.A. fired and damaged enemy bomber. (H.Q. R.A.F. Malta, 1711/7.)

Augusta,
Naples,
Tripoli
bombed.

Night 6/7 Nov. 5 F.A.A. Aircraft attacked submarine Base Augusta. Hits target buildings east of target and wharf fire visible 10 - 15 miles. Bad weather curtailed nuisance raids; Tripoli and Naples. 2 Wellingtons attacked Naples. Hits area Central Railway, Cesario Console Mole, fire North Airframe Works, Capo Di Chino Aerodrome machine gunned. 1 Wellington attacked Tripoli. Bombs from 300 feet burst Petrolibia Depot Area. Special Blenheim search 7/11 sighted 0702 hours 55° Melita 47 miles 2 Schooners 800 tons. 4 250 lbs G.P. bombs dropped, near miss schooner. (H.Q. R.A.F. Malta, 1713/7.)

Schooners
bombed.ELISABETH
HENDRIK
FISSER.
(German)Sailed tonight 7th.
(Valencia 1945/7 to D. of S.T.)Warships
Building
for
Turkey.Following for Adm. Kelly:- N.A. Ankara's 1720B/3 and A.T. 2319A/3. We are anxious to commence conversion work on Monday 10/11 on destroyers we will be retaining. Can you now state when decision on this offer is likely to be received?
(Hd. of M. Approved by V.C.N.S. 2002A/7 to N.A. Ankara.)

/Enemy ...

War Diary.

7.11.1941.
Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean - contd.

Enemy Shipping.

(a) At 1515B, 2 M/Vs 3 to 5000 tons and one destroyer P.C. and S. 038° 40' N. 019° 13' E. 160° 3 knots. (b) At 1602B, 3 M/Vs 5000 tons each and one escort ship P.C. and S. 038° 57' N. 017° 14' E. 000° 4 knots. (c) At 1648B, one M/V 4000 tons P.C. and S. 036° 00' N. 017° 25' E. 165° 10 knots. 2. (a) Above attacked by Blenheims today near misses claimed. Being attacked by Wellingtons tonight and Blenheims tomorrow. (c) Swordfish attacking tonight. (V.A. Malta, 2005B/7 to C. in C. Med.) At 1602B/7 3 medium M/Vs 1 escort vessel, 038° 57' N. 017° 14' E., course north, speed 4 knots. (Capt. S. 10, 2015B/7 to P.31.)

War Diary.

7.11.1941.
Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

Red Sea
Area.

My 1314/21/10 para. 4. (i) The area recently transferred to Mediterranean Station will also form part of the Mediterranean Intelligence Organization. A.S.O.(I) is remaining at Aden and an additional S.O.(I) has been appointed to Suez to be known as S.O.(I) Red Sea.

(ii) The area to east of 045° 05' E., which had been in Aden sub centre area will now be incorporated in area controlled by S.O.(I) Kilindini.

(iii) E.I. War Memorandum 201 will be amended accordingly. (C. in C. E.I., 0600Z/7).

REPULSE.
REVENGE.

WS12

Please pass following to S.O. Force G in accordance with Admty 1554/27/10 para.(b) (begins) Admty 1948/6.

(1) It is my present intention to have REPULSE at Trincomalee currently with your visit on 1/12. She is at present on E. African Coast and should be available to leave Mombasa 16/11.

(2) REVENGE is working on E. African Coast in accordance with Admiralty instructions. She is due to reach Aden with W.S.12 on 19/11 and would normally return to Mombasa unless you propose other employment. (Ends)
(C. in C. E.I., 0752Z/7 1320Z/7 to C. in C. S.A.)

BENALDER.
STREEFKERK.

Have you any news of BENALDER due Port Okha 29/10 from Aden and Dutch STREEFKERK due Bombay 30/10 from Durban?
(D.T.D., 1907A/7 to S.O.(I) Colombo).

China.

RAMB II
(Italian).

My 0302Z/3. RAMB II has returned Kobe.
(C.O.I.S. Singapore, 0221Z/7 to Admty etc).

/AQUITANIA....

War Diary.7.11.1941.
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.China - Contd.AQUITANIA,
QUEEN MARY.

Your 0321/5. AQUITANIA has been ordered to leave Colombo for Singapore as soon as ready so that she should arrive shortly. QUEEN MARY will not arrive Singapore until about 5/12. 2. A.C.N.B. should advise R.A. Malaya of date when AQUITANIA should arrive in Australasia for U.S.14 so that overhaul in Singapore can be completed accordingly. (D.S.T., 0311A/7 to R.A. Malaya).

W.S.11 X.

Convoy W.S.11 X ORION, NIEUW ZEELAND, JOHANN DE WITT, LARGS BAY, RANGITIKI, GLAUCUS arrived Singapore 6/11. (R.A. Malaya, 0710Z/7 to D. of S.T.) W.D. Note - D.S. 794 and D.O.R. mentioned 7 ships in this convoy, not 6 as in above list.

Suspicious
Ship 6/11.

Cavite reports U.S.A. Ship sighted vessel acting suspiciously in 3° S., 177° E., at 1900Z/6. Further details have been requested. (Capt. O.S. Singapore, 0817Z/7 to Admty).

DIOMED.

Have you any news of DIOMED due Singapore 2/11 from Bombay? *Arrived 1/11 P.206.*
(D.T.D., 1906A/7 to S.O.(I) Singapore).
Reply 0503Z/8.

Ammunition.

Following scale of reserves of ammunition for the Eastern Fleet is approved. (D.G.D., 1926A/7 to S.O. Force G) See Lion Copy.

Louis
Dreyfus
ships.

My 1631/6. Following received from B.A.D. Washington (begins).
1. Confirmed FRANCOIS L.D. sailed Saigon ostensibly for Kobe. It is reported, ungraded, that she took Cape Horn route and was met by French Cruiser off Ascension.
2. L.D. Ships are now believed unable to bunker at Manila.
3. Report from Casablanca, dated 5/11 states that CHARLES L.D. is expected Casablanca 1st to 5th/12 carrying 6,000 to 7,000 tons rubber, and has been told to follow same route as FRANCOIS L.D.(ends).
Comment. CHARLES L.D. is in British hands and information presumably refers to PIERRE L.D. It is not considered PIERRE L.D. could arrive Casablanca before middle of January by Cape Horn route. There are six ships of this line. Following is their position as far as is known:
(i) CHARLES L.D. and JEAN L.D. in British hands.
(ii) LEOPOLD L.D. now at Casablanca normally used in New York/Casablanca route.
(iii) PIERRE L.D. Arrived Saigon 2/11. (iv)

/FRANCOIS L.D...

SECRET.

MESSAGE.

1926A/7 November.

OUT

To: S.O. Force G. 24.
Repeated: C. in C. East Indies. 617.
 C. in C. China. 267.
 C. in C. Mediterranean. 816.

Date. 7.11.41.

177^A

NAVAL CYPHER (X)

From Admiralty.

The following scale of reserves of ammunition for the Eastern Fleet is approved.

- (a) Low Angle:
 - Capital Ships One outfit
 - Cruisers, destroyers, sloops,
Corvettes, M/S and A/S vessels 2 outfits
- (b) High Angle:
 - Long Range for H.M. Ships 3 outfits
 - Long Range for auxiliary
vessels and D.E.M.S. 2 outfits
 - Close Range 2 outfits

2. Reserves for ships operating on trade routes or in areas remote from the China Sea will be maintained at half the above scale.

3. Torpedo reserves for the Eastern Fleet will be maintained on a basis of 100% for surface ships (including aircraft carriers) and 150% for submarines.

4. A separate message is being sent regarding additional shore storage at Trincomalee and Singapore. Until this becomes available it may be necessary to take up additional A.S.I.S's. The increased reserves immediately required will be sent to Singapore where new underground magazines will be shortly be ready.

5. C. in C. East Indies, is requested to report the estimated storage space remaining available at Trincomalee, including A.S.I.S's. HERON and COLON.

6. For the purposes of Calculating Ammunition and Torpedo Reserves the Eastern Fleet is assumed to consist of seven Capital Ships, One A/C Carrier, ten Cruisers, Thirty-two Destroyers, ten Submarines and forces on the Trade Route to consist of types and numbers of Ships (other than Capital Ships) at present serving on the China and East Indies Stations. It will not be possible to dispatch the full scale of reserves given in paras. 1 and 3 until ships are sent to the Far East.

1926A/7.

D.G.D.

Approved by Controller.

1st S.L.	D.A.S.	Dop. Contr (3)	} Bqth.
Controller.	D.N.O. (W.O.)	D.A.S. (3)	
Vice Controller.	D. of S.T. (2)	D.N.O. (4)	
V.C.N.S.	D.N.A.D.	S.W.R.	
A.C.N.S. (T) (2)	D.T.S.D.		
A.C.N.S. (H)	D.T.D. (4)		
A.C.N.S. (F)	D.T.D. (M)		
A.C.N.S. (W)	D.T.D. (C)		
N.A. 1st S.L.	M. (3)		
D.G.D.	I.P. (3)		
D. of P. (3)	W.D.		
O.D. (5)	D.M.W.D.		
Ops. (3)			

VES.

War Diary.

7.11.1941.
Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

China. - Contd.

Louis
Dreyfus
Ships.
- Contd.

(iv) FRANCOIS L.D. Arrived Casablanca 20/10.
(v) LOUIS L.D., renamed FOMALHAUT, proceeding in convoy to Madagascar, having left Dakar 26/10.
(D.N.I., 2243A/7 to C. in C. China, etc).

America & West Indies.

ODENWALD
(intercepted
6/11).

Your 2039R/6. CIRCASSIA now at Trinidad is available to proceed to take over escort of ODENWALD if desired by Opanav.
(C. in C. A.W.I., 1012Q/7 to B.A.D.)
Your 1012Q/7th. Navy Dept. does not immediately desire to take advantage of this offer but would appreciate it if CIRCASSIA could be kept available until a further decision is made.
(B.A.D., 1615R/7 to C. in C. A.W.I.)
For 1st S.L. Ref. capture of ODENWALD by Task Force 3 Navy Dept. sent for N.A. on receipt of an Admiralty congratulatory message and informed him that Col. Knox stressed greatest importance of incident to be kept secret as it was not a defensive measure. I understand that U.S. attitude to this matter and disposal of ship is now under consideration.
(B.A.D. 1233R/7 to Admty).
For 1st S.L. My 1233/7. Navy Dept. now ask that all British Naval authorities concerned may be warned to keep incident secret.
(B.A.D. 1801R/7 to Admty).

DIOMEDE.

Your 1552Q/17/9 and my 1017/13/10 (N.T. in W.D.) Intend patrolling until a.m./21 then proceeding -DIOMEDE to Talara and Oiler ORANGELEAF to Port Payta for fresh provisions arriving 24/11 and sailing for patrol 25/11. (DIOMEDE, 1101R/7 to C. in C. A.W.I.)

/LIVERPOOL.....

War Diary.7.11.1941.
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America & West Indies. - Contd.LIVERPOOL.

LIVERPOOL reports she was unable to complete degaussing and deperming tests at San Francisco and proposes carrying them out at Bermuda where I understand there are no facilities. Consider ship should be depermed and degaussed before reaching U.K. This could be carried out at Norfolk Virginia. Will you instruct ship as considered desirable and repeat to me? (B.A.R.M., 1158R/7 to C. in C. A.W.I.) B.A.R.M. Washington 1158/R/7. LIVERPOOL is to proceed from Colon to Norfolk Virginia, route via Windward Passage, for deperming and degaussing range, before proceeding to Bermuda. LIVERPOOL report E.T.A. at position 2½ miles North of Cape Henry to B.A.R.M. Washington, and signal revised programme as soon as practicable. (C. in C. A.W.I., 1652Q/7 to LIVERPOOL).

CATHAY.

Your 1232A/30. Request permission to transfer two-pounder guns and mountings from CATHAY to QUEEN OF BERMUDA. (B.A.R.M., 1204R/7 to Admty).

Vichy Intelligence.

Dakar 5/11 A.1. French Cruiser PRIMAUGUET arrived 3/11 for dry docking and PORTHOS cleared for Conakry. Casablanca 6/11 A.1. Danish HEBE ~~FF~~ under British registry is at Port Lyautey and has 31 men on board from Greek POLEMIS and ELISE. French Admiralty has (?is) reported to have seized POLEMIS and ELISE. (B.A.D., 1323R/7, to S.O.(I) Freetown).

Convoy Escort fuel.

Will escorts for T.C.15 W.S.12, and C.T.5 require fuel or any services at Halifax? E.T.A. C.T.5 Halifax afternoon 8/11. (Opnav, 1451Z/7 to Com Task 4 etc).

French Shipping.

Algiers 4/11. A.1. Arrivals 28th Oct. SIDI AISSA from Marseilles 30th Oct. SAINTE DENISE from Marseilles 30th Oct. O.L.M.12 (OLM 12) from Caronte 1st Nov. ARTESIEN from Marseilles 2nd Nov. SAINT ALAIN unknown. Departures 30th Oct. BRETOIS for Casablanca 30th Oct. CAP FIGALO for Port Endres 30th Oct. DUNKERQUE for Marseilles 31st Oct. SIDI AISSA for Marseilles. (B.A.D., 1511R/7 to Admty).

O.N. 34

Your dispatches 1222Z/7 and 1347Z/7 (N.T. in W.D.) concur proposed route O.N. 34. (Opnav, 1604Z/7 to Admty).

/DESPATCH.....

War Diary.

7.11.1941.
Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies. - Contd.

DESPATCH.

Bermuda departure DESPATCH in accordance with my 1232Q/5. E.T.A. Trinidad 0800Q/11. (C. in C. A.W.I., 1613Q/7 to Admty).

P. 511
P. 551.

B.A.D. Washington's 1935P/5. Concur. (F.O.S., 1629A/7 to Admty). Your 1935/5 Approved. (D.O.D. (H) 1933A/7 to B.A.D.)

N. Z. Ships.

Ref. Admty 2059A/7/10 and 2020A/23. Request you instruct New Zealand ships that on arrival at Newfoundland or Bermuda they should despatch to B.A.D. a statement of fuel and naval stores required from U.S. Early intimation is necessary to enable arrangements to be made with U.S. authorities. (B.A.D., 1659R/7 to C. in C. W.A.)

SEA OTTER trials.

Your 1338/6 addressed B.A.D. Progress of trials with SEA OTTER I and II. (N.A. Washington, 1705/7 to Admty).

"R" Reports from U.S. M/Vs.

Your 0640A/7/10. Navy Department considers it is inexpedient to instruct U.S. merchantmen to report as suggested for following reasons: (ii) Use of radio particularly if disclosing a raider's position would subject the merchant ship to jeopardy by immediate destruction in accordance with German policy. (iii) Navy Department firmly believe that a master of a U.S. merchantman meeting an axis warship and expecting to be attacked or sunk would, if evasive tactics were considered useless, broadcast complete information probably in P/L on 500 kc/s without having been given specific instructions. (B.A.D. 1705R/7 to Admty).

QUEEN OF BERMUDA.

It is proposed to sail QUEEN OF BERMUDA to Bermuda on completion of refit to pick up aircraft. Request confirmation. (B.A.R.M., 1736R/7 to C. in C. A.W.I.)

/ILLUSTRIOUS...

War Diary.

7.11.1941.
Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies.- Contd.

ILLUSTRIOUS.
FORMIDABLE.

B.A.D. Washington's 2101R/27/10. On completion B.A.R.M. is requested to sail ILLUSTRIOUS to Jamaica to embark all 12 T.S.R. aircraft and 20 Mark XII 18" torpedoes transferring 6 T.S.R. aircraft and 10 torpedoes to FORMIDABLE on return to Norfolk. 2. Approved for ILLUSTRIOUS and FORMIDABLE to carry out 7-day work up at Norfolk.

3. B.A.R.M. is requested to report date on which ILLUSTRIOUS and FORMIDABLE should be ready to sail in company for U.K.

4. Ships to be manned in accordance with A.M. 2217A/3/10.

5. Intended that on arrival in U.K. both ships shall circumstances permitting, give 14 days leave to those ratings who remained in the ship during refit and thereafter recommission.

6. A.M.'s 0032A/4/10 and 2319A/22/10 refer. (A.C.N.S. (F), O.D. 1292/41, 1802A/7 to B.A.D. B.A.R.M., etc) See also 1912/8 for amendment of para 1.

GUDMUNDRA
(Swedish).

Rescue Tug PRUDENT sailed at 1400Z/7 to assist S.S. GUDMUNDRA aground St. Pierre Island. (C.C.N.F., 1853Z/7 to Admty).

AGIOI
VICTORES(?)
grounded.
sunk.

Following received for Lemos Pateras, Biliter St. London (begins) 1800/3 having foggy weather lost touch convoy 10 P.M. run aground Double Island. Steamer refloated remained afloat till 0800/5 then sunk. Impossible proceed her own power, engine room filled water. Assistance called immediately not arrived. All crew saved, instruct. George Pateras. (ends). (N.C.S.O. St. John's N.F., 1855Z/7 to Admty). W.D. Note- Only ship L.P. owns is AGIOI VICTORES, but she arr. Rio 28/10.

ROBIN GRAY.

Your 1225B/6 ROBIN GRAY arrived Rio de Janeiro 25/10. (N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 2034Z/7 to S.O.(I) Capetown).

/Task.....

War Diary.

7.11.1941.
Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies - Contd.

Task Groups,
ODENWALD.

Your 1321/07 to C. in C. S.A. etc.

(a) Group 3.6 OMAHA, SOMERS, escorting ODENWALD to Trinidad 0800Z/07 position 01.20 N., 29.35 W. course 264° speed about 9, proceeding via point at Equator in 43.00 W.

(b) Group 3.7, MEMPHIS, DAVIS, 2000Z/05 lat. 01.15 N., long 28.55 W., course 275° speed 13, for Trinidad. (c) Group 3.8 Correct as given. (Opnav, 2045Z/7 to Admty). *See p. 169 for later pres.*

C.T.5.

Will arrive Halifax forenoon 8/11. Escorts propose fuel base sail. (Opnav, 2356Z/7 to C.O.A.C. Halifax, etc).

Australia.

Suspicious
Ship.

Ship about 8,000 to 9,000 tons approx. 15 miles east Norfolk Island at 0130Z/7 heading south, (description) Visibility poor, difficult to establish accurate data. (Adminstrator Norfolk Island, 0300Z/7 to Admty).

A.M.C's.

Your 0149Z/6. Confirmed.

2. Ammunition and ordnance requirements for MONTCLARE will be arranged. (D.O.D. (F), 1602A/7 to A.C.N.B.)

War Diary.

7.11.1941.

Friday.U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.Ships Attacked.

EMPIRE
GEMSBUCK.
(torpedoed
3/11.)

Master EMPIRE GEMSBUCK ex S.C.52 reported ship torpedoed in dense fog in 52.13 N. 53.25 W. Forepart of ship cargo T.N.T. blew up, after part was not observed to sink but probably did. Master remained on board two hours while crew were taken off but C.Bs. were left in Chart Room (list).
(N.C.S.O. St. John's, N.F., 1413Z/7 to Admty.)

EVEROJA
(torpedoed
3/11.)

British EVEROJA ex Latvian torpedoed 90 miles from Straits of Belle Isle, sunk. Master rescued all C.Bs. and handed them to me.
(N.C.S.O. St. John's, N.F., 1531Z/7.)

NOTTINGHAM.

Intercepted from Cape Race at 2042 G.M.T., NOTTINGHAM, 53° 24' N. 31° 51' W. torpedoed. (Halifax N.S., T.H.I. 1717/7 to Admty.)
NOTTINGHAM, 8532 tons, independent from Glasgow for New York with general cargo and Government stores. (D.S. 795, 8/11.)
Following intercepted at 2043 G.C.T. NOTTINGHAM 053° 24' N. 031° 51' W. torpedoed.
(U.S. C.N.O., 2240/7 to Admty., C. in C. A.F. etc.)

O.S.10
BENNEKOM
(sunk 31/10)

My 2130Z/31. Dutch BENNEKOM was sunk. 25 survivors including Captain in CULVER, 22 in LULWORTH. C.B's. were destroyed. One or two submarines attacked, no moon. LULWORTH attacked one submarine dropping 27 charges. There are indications that submarine may have been sunk. GORLESTON joined company 1000Z/31 and STANLEY at 1830Z/1. GORLESTON probably sank one U-Boat in position 048° 45' N. 025° 00' W. at 1851Z/18 (? 1851Z/1 intended). FREESIA and VERBENA parted from convoy p.m./4/11 to fuel but were weather-bound off Ponta Delgada. FREESIA and VERBENA sail Ponta Delgada to rejoin convoy a.m./8.
(FREESIA, 1849Z/7 to C. in C. W.A., Admty., etc.)
BENNEKOM, 5998 tons, Dutch, under British charter, from Liverpool to Table Bay with Government stores and general cargo.
(D.S., 796, 9/11.)

War Diary.

7.11.1941.
Friday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Submarines Reported.

Estimated dispositions of U-Boats.
(D.D.I.C. 1400A/7, 1401A/7.)

1942
G.M.T.

Ref. Admty. Message A.F.
53° 24' N. 31° 51' W. at 1942 G.M.T./7.
(D.D.I.C. 2245Z/7 to G.B.M.S. Area 1.)

Submarines Attacked.

By A/C.

Have attacked enemy S/M with bombs estimated hits one. My position 46.35 N., 2.38 W. course 120° height 6,000 feet, am returning to base, E.T.A. 1030.
(A/C "A", 0900/7 to 19 Group)
Details of attack. (Hudson A/233, 1310/7 to 19 Group.) See Lion Copy.

By LULWORTH
By GORLESTON.

On 31/10. At 1851Z/18 (? 1851Z/1).
See FREESIA, 1849Z/7, in Ships Attacked.

By VETERAN.
LEAMINGTON.
U. 207.

T.L. consider that your attacks on 11/9/1941, probably achieved the destruction of a German U-Boat. Congratulations.
(1st S.L., 1826A/7 to VETERAN, LEAMINGTON.)

SECRET IN

184^A

SECRET

MESSAGE

1310/7th Nov.

IN

From: Hudson A/233.

Date 7.11.41
Recd 1552

P/L BY T/P

~~Addressed: 19 group. Repeated. H.Q.C.C., O.I.C. Admiralty.~~
~~IMMEDIATE~~

0745 ~~IMC 3620~~ sighted and attacked U boat on
surface - ~~46°35'N 2°03'W~~ ~~120 degs T~~ - 6 Kts. 1 gun
observed in turret forward of conning tower - conning
tower dark grey. Crew were unable to observe further
details.

Hudson was flying at 20 feet on Co. 147 degs T when U boat was sighted on surface 3 miles away on course of 120 degs T speed 6 kts. Hudson immediately climbed to 1000 feet and achieving complete surprise made dive bombing attack releasing A/S bomb from 500' which exploded 10 feet in front of conning tower on port side. Bomb was dropped at an angle of 45 degs across U boat and from port to starboard. Stern of U boat rose out of water at an angle of 35 degs to 45 degs disappearing from sight and immediately afterwards a patch of air bubbles and oil rose to the surface covering an area 25 feet in diameter which persisted until A/C left scene of attack then did right turn to starboard and 20 seconds after release of bomb dropped three D/cs along track of U boat which all exploded throwing up huge column of water 30 feet high. A brownish vapour rose to the surface after D/cs exploded. Hudson then S/C for base as it was within 10 miles of French coast with no cloud cover.

1310/7

1st Lord
1st S.L.
5th s.L.
V.C.N.S.
A.C.N.S. (H)
A.C.N.S. (T) (2)
A.C.N.S. (W)
Naval Sec.
N.A. 1st S.L.
Ops (3)
C.P. (5)

O.I.C. (3)
D.N.I. (4)
D. of P (3)
D.A/S.W.
D.T.D. (4)
D.T.D. (M)
D.N.A.D.
M (2)
C.C.L.S.
E.P.S.
Press Div.

W.D.
I.P. (3)

War Diary.

8.11.1941.
Saturday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

Dispositions
to intercept
enemy units.

RODNEY left Loch Ewe with 3 destroyers at 1611A today, to cover the Iceland - Faeroes passage from first light 10/11.

Air patrols north of the Shetlands and Faeroes and East of Iceland were not flown, but R/C of the Norwegian Coast was maintained today.

At 1115A the Admiralty gave orders that Convoy P.Q.3 was to be sailed.

British Air Operations.

19 aircraft of Bomber Command attacked Ostend last night and 18 (including 3 Manchesters) Boulogne.

Enemy Air Operations.

Faeroes.

A low level attack by a Junkers 88 on the Norwegian whaler HORTEN (Faeroes Local Defence Force) at Thorshavn caused 2 casualties and the ship is temporarily out of action. Shipping in Klaksvig Harbour was also bombed at 1210 today and one fishing vessel was damaged and beached.

Tyne.

Convoy F.S.642 was attacked about 1804 off Coquet Island and S.S. CHLORIS was slightly damaged but proceeded with the convoy. About 1950 S.S. GASLIGHT was damaged off Sunderland whilst waiting to join up with a southbound convoy.

Trawler CRADDOCK was reported bombed and sunk at 1830 today off St. Abbs.

/Humber ...

War Diary.

8.11.1941.
Saturday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Enemy Air Operations - contd.

Humber.

S.S. BRABO in F.N. 546 was slightly damaged by air attack at 1805 today, 2 miles south of 62 D Buoy (off Scarborough) and proceeded to Immingham.

Norwegian S.S. VICTO in the same convoy was sunk at 2330 near 18 B. buoy.

Cromer.

Convoy F.S. 641 was bombed off Cromer at 1815, but no damage has been reported.

Dover.

Dover was attacked between 1755 and 1805 today and again at 2310. Superficial damage was caused to Abbotscliffe R.N. W/T Station.

Western Approaches.

Auxiliary aircraft carrier AUDACITY escorting O.G. 76 reports that one of her Martlets was shot down by F.W. 200 in 41° 27' N. 15° 18' W. Two F.W. 200 were shot down in (?41°) 4' N. 14° 30' W. and (?41°) 18' N. 14° 18' W. respectively, and one escaped undamaged owing to poor visibility.

Mining.

S.N. 83 B.

R.A.(M) in MENESTHEUS with PORT QUEBEC and 4 destroyers left Port Z.A. at 0810 today to lay mines N.W. of the Faeroe Islands. KENYA, -BEDOUIN and INTREPID are to provide cover whilst R.A.(M) is north of 62° N.

6 aircraft laid mines last night in Oslo harbour and one at the mouth of Skudesnes Fiord.

Thames Estuary.

Harwich armed trawler sank 42 floating mines in the vicinity of Q.Z.S. 306 between 3/11 and 5/11, most of them British. Vessels of Yarmouth Sub-Command have sunk 51. WINDSOR sank 8 mines in vicinity of Q.Z.S. 287 on 3/11.

/Enemy ...

War Diary.

8.11.1941.
Saturday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Mining - contd.

Enemy aircraft last night laid mines off the Tees and Tyne and between Spurn Head and Yarmouth.

Hartlepool and Middlesbrough were opened at 1510 today.

North Atlantic.

Fuel shortage. Portuguese Admiralty state that the stock of good quality fuel oil in Ponta Delgada is now down to 700 tons.

Operation "Pantaloon". ARGUS, ATHENE and 5 destroyers arrived at Gibraltar from U.K. at 0600 today, one of the destroyers, LAFOREY, will join Force H.

South Atlantic.

French Reaction to "Bellringer". The U.S. Consul at Dakar reports to his Government "informal intimations" from French authorities at Dakar that as 5 merchant ships with cloth and rice for Dakar and French North Africa were intercepted, French warships may have to be dispatched from Dakar to intercept British ships for U.K. from Freetown. As a precaution, DUNEDIN and DORSETSHIRE are to cover S.L.92 and subsequently O.S.10.

O.S. Convoys.

Starting with O.S.12, a Vice Commodore will be appointed to each O.S. convoy so that it can be split into a slow and a fast portion, as was suggested by C. in C. S.A. on 5/11.

War Diary.8.11.1941.
Saturday.SITUATION REPORT.Mediterranean.S/M
Operations.

Capt. S. 10 reports that THRASHER destroyed an 800 tons schooner bound N.E. from Benghazi on 28/10, apparently laden with petrol. The torpedo missed, but ship was abandoned and sunk by gunfire.

U-boat
sunk.

UPHOLDER sank a southbound U-boat about 0400/8 in 36° 19' N. 16° 22' E. *Not confirmed by C.M.D. 6843.*

Search for
Enemy
Convoy.

A convoy of 6 M/Vs and 4 destroyers were reported by aircraft in 37.54 N., 16.58 E. at 1400B/8 steering 90° at 11 knots. Force K. left Malta at 1730B at 28 knots to endeavour to intercept.

Air attack
on
Brindisi.

21 Wellingtons last night attacked Brindisi dropping 4½ tons of I.Bs and 28½ tons of H.E. (including 3 x 4000 lbs and 7 x 1000 lbs.) Subsequent photographs showed hits on the Torpedo Boat Base, Cant airframe factory, railway station and barracks.

Air attacks
on shipping.

2 destroyers and 2 M/Vs were attacked by aircraft at 1010Z-2 in 35.20 N., 19.45 E. One merchant ship was abandoned.

Blenheims today attacked a convoy of 2 (2000 and 3000 ton) merchant vessels and one destroyer which was sighted yesterday at 1515B in 38° 40' N. 19° 13' E. steering 160° at 3 knots and attacked by Blenheims. After a second attack at 1400 today the smaller ship was seen low in the water in 35° 7' N. 19° 45' E. having been hit in the first attack. The larger ship was also left on fire.

Libya and
Western
Desert.

26 Wellingtons took off to attack Benghazi last night but owing to very bad weather 18 were recalled. One 4000 lb bomb was dropped on Bardia. Two Fortresses attacked Benghazi and Sollum this morning.

War Diary.

8.11.1941.
Saturday.

SITUATION REPORT.

East Indies.

25% of the M.N.B.D.O. personnel at Addu Atoll are reported to be on the sick list: C. in C. E.I. intends to send hospital ship VITA as soon as possible and he proposes, if delay to the base can be accepted, to sail CLAN FORBES to Colombo after landing guns and stores at Diego Garcia and to give 14 days leave to M.N.B.D.O. at Colombo.

America and West Indies.

ODENWALD.

The U.S. Naval authorities have asked that the interception of the German supply ship ODENWALD by a U.S. Task Force on 6/11 may be kept secret. It is considered that the ship and her U.S. escort can make Trinidad without further assistance.

Belle Isle Straits.

Ottawa estimates that Belle Isle Straits will begin to close to shipping on 28/11, but on average weather over the past year it is considered that safety from ice is assured up to 10/12.

War Diary.

8.11.1941.
Saturday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Policy.

DEMIRHISAR.
SULTANHISAR.

A.M.1752/6. DEMIRHISAR will be manned from Portsmouth. SULTANHISAR with a Devonport crew to be withdrawn from MISTRAL on reduction and adjusted by depot. Navigating crews are to be full E.R. and half upper-deck complement and available to commission ships by 21/11 approximately or as required by F.O.I.C. It is intended to fill the available accommodation in these ships with suitable ratings awaiting passage. (D.P.S. 1156A/8 to F.O.I.C. Glasgow.)

CUMBERLAND.

Report if you consider CUMBERLAND is fit for R/C duties. (C. in C. H.F. 1512/8 to V.A.2.) Your 1512/8. Yes. R.D.F. and A/C as yet untrained. (V.A.2. 1835A/8.)

ENGADINE.

ENGADINE is due to complete as an aircraft transport on the Clyde about 17/11 ex trials. 2. It is intended that ENGADINE should be employed in the same way as ATHENE. A.M. 1713/22/9 refers. 4. C. in C. W.A. is requested to arrange for the working up of ENGADINE on the Clyde and to report when she will be ready for service. (A.C.N.S. H. 1646A/8.)

EMPIRE ORIOLE,
EMPIRE PEREGRINE.
PINTAIL.

Are these ships to wear the white ensign. They arrived wearing the red ensign. (F.O.I.C. Greenock 1839/8.)

LA MOQUEUSE.

Request your opinion as to the suitability and seaworthiness of LA MOQUEUSE if required to proceed to St. Johns Newfoundland during winter months. She would be required to act as escort to an O.N. Convoy. (D.O.D. H. 1845A/8 to C. in C. W.A.)

French
Fishing
Craft.

H.Q.C.C. 1755/4 and C. in C. Plymouth 1234/7. This is under consideration in the Admiralty. Request no action be taken against fishing vessels for the present. (V.C.N.S. 1916A/8.)

War Diary.

8.11.1941.
Saturday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Co-operation with Russia.

Admiral
Isakov.

My 1144D/27. Admiral Isakov is now in charge here. He was C.N.S. until June 24 and since then has been with the Baltic Fleet. (Ad. Miles, 1153D/8.)

Iokanskie.

Your 1834C/7. C. in C. Northern Fleet states no tanker available for ships at Iokanskie. Only suitable tanker with stowage 1200 tons is required for duties in Kola Inlet. (S.B.N.O. North Russia 1740C/8.)

Movements.

RODNEY.

Arrival RODNEY with IMPULSIVE, ANTELOPE and ONSLOW. (N.O.I.C. Aultbea 0815A/8.)

WRESTLER.

C. in C. W.A. 1915A/6. Onward route as follows. 2. Speed is to be adjusted so as to pass the Needles at 0800. (C. in C. Plymouth 1024/8 to WRESTLER.)

DUNCAN.

F.O.C.N.A's 1818A/7. Onward route 180° Lizard 5, thence by Q.Z.S.278 to Plymouth. (C. in C. Plymouth 1028/8 to DUNCAN.)

BOADICEA.

Intend to sail BOADICEA to Greenock. Expected time of departure Needles 1800/8. Route. E.T.A. Greenock 0900/10. (C. in C. Portsmouth 1057A/8.)

RAMILLIES.

RAMILLIES 1556A/30 and A.M. 2300A/2. On completion of her refit C. in C. W.A. is requested to sail ship for Scapa to work up under C. in C. H.F. who is requested to sail her for the Clyde to arrive 29/11. 2. C. in C. H.F. is requested to provide necessary escorts. (A.C.N.S.(H.) 1643A/8.)

RESOLUTION.

On completion RESOLUTION will proceed to Scapa to work up. 2. C. in C. Plymouth is requested to report when ship will be ready to sail. (Controller 1645A/8.)

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War Diary.8.11.1941.
Saturday.HOME COMMANDS.Operations.Interception
of Enemy
Heavy Unit.
(RODNEY).

My 1203Z/6, para.2. Proceed from Loch Ewe to pass through approx. position 060° N. 022° W. at first light 10th.

(C. in C. H.F.1005Z/8 to RODNEY.)

Intend to sail at 1600, speed of advance 16 knots commencing patrol as in C. in C. H.F. 1203Z/6 first light tenth.

(RODNEY 1155A/8.)

Departure RODNEY with ONSLOW, IMPULSIVE and ANTELOPE in company.

(N.O.I.C. Aultbea 1611A/8.)

BRADFORD
to search for
A/C survivors.

Search in 041° 50' N. 014° 58' W. for Pilot of Martlet and in 041° 14' N. 014° 30' W. for survivors of Focke Wulfe and rejoin by dark. My P.C.S. at noon 041° 30', 015° 34', 136°, 6. (AUDACITY 1225Z/8 to BRADFORD.)

Patrols.

2 Chasseurs patrolling Q.Z.S.271 returning to St. Helens at dawn.

(C. in C. Portsmouth 1503A/8.)

Patrol tonight. (1) 2 M.G.Bs. Q.E. (3).

(2) 3 M.Ls Q.E.4 A. Rest shift to Q.E.5 at 0100/9. (C. in C. Nore 1537A/8.)

For night of 8th/9th. Two trawlers on O.D.1 and two on O.D.5. Two M/Ls on O.D.6 and 7 combined. Two M/Ls leave Dover 2300 returning at about 0600/9 route each way via No.1 buoy. (V.A. Dover 1714A/8.)

British Air Activity.Bombing
restrictions.

My 1201/3rd. Cancel all bombing restrictions requested in para. three of my 1050/30. (A.C.O.S. 1000A/8 to H.Q.C.C.)

Patrols.

Cancel A.M.1200A/7. "Sentry" one, two and three will not be required until further orders.

2. R/C of Norwegian coast should be maintained. (A.C.N.S. H. 1116A/8 to A.O.C. in C. C.C.)

P.R.U. of Haugesund, Oslo, Kristiansand South in operation. (C. in C. Rosyth 1129/8.)

Protection
for RODNEY.

Request A/S Air protection may be arranged from first light tomorrow in accordance with RODNEY's 1155/8.

(D.C. 1348A/8 to C. in C. W.A.)

Your 1348A/8. Regret no long range aircraft are available.

(C. in C. W.A. 1855A/8 to Adty.)

War Diary.8.11.1941.
Saturday.HOME COMMANDS.Enemy Air Activity.ALBURY.
(4th M/S
Flotilla)
damaged.

ALBURY attacked by Heinkel 111 at 1842/7 in 056° 53' N. 001° 58' W. A/C dropped 4 bombs 30 yards astern. Slight damage to machinery, no damage to hull. Probable time required to make good defects 36 hours. (N.O.I.C. Aberdeen 1010/8.)

Dover
bombed
on 7/11.

Enemy A/C dropped about 8 H.E. and some incendiary bombs between 2255 and 2301 yesterday. 3 fell in Grand Shaft Barracks and remainder in the town. No fatal casualties reported but some civilians injured. Considerable damage to house property. No Naval casualties or damage. (V.A. Dover 1152A/8.)

Attack
on 30/10 off
Waterford.

Report graded A.2 begins. Repeats F.O.I.C. Milford Haven 1507A/7. Can you confirm please. (D.N.I. 1355A/8 to N.A. Dublin.)

Faroes
attacked.
HORTEN
(Norwegian
Naval Whaler)
damaged.
One Fishing
Smack
damaged.

One Junkers 88 carried out low level bombing and machine gun attack H.N.M.S. HORTEN anchored off Thorshavn at 1155 today. Bombs missed but one rating killed, one injured by machine gun fire. Ship temporarily out of action. Shipping in Klaksvig Harbour and approaches bombed at 1210. One Faeroese Smack damaged and beached. No casualties or other damage. (N.O.I.C. Faroos 1515A/8.)

Convoy F.S.642

Enemy aircraft bombing "Breast" in 55° 26' N. 1° 24' W. (VERDUN 1804/8.)

Convoy.Enemy aircraft bombing "Attempt" in 53° 58' N. 0° 7' E. (WOLSEY 1809/8.)
Enemy aircraft bombing my position 54° 23' N. (?longitude) (WOLSEY 2343/8.)Convoy F.S.641.

Help convoy "Attack" position 52° 40' N. 0° 40' E. course 150°, speed 7 knots. (SCORPION 1815/8) (VERSATILE 1816/8)

GASLIGHT.
(British,
1696 Tons)
damaged.

Received 1950 G.M.T. from GASLIGHT near S.one buoy. Bombed, engines disabled, making water, require tugs immediately. Ends. (Cullercoats W/T 2050/8.)

BRABO.
(Belgian,
3658 Tons)
damaged.

Departure at 2110 tug IRISHMAN to assist S.S. BRABO. (F.O. Humber 2330A/8.)

War Diary.8.11.1941.
Saturday.HOME COMMANDS.Mining.S.N.83 B.

Sailed R.A.(M) in MENESTHEUS, PORT QUEBEC, BRIGHTON, NEWARK, CHARLESTOWN and MONTROSE. (N.O.I.C. Port Z.A. 0810/8.)
Seidisfjord. KENYA, BEDOUIN, INTREPID sailed 1300Z to R/V with R.A.M. (C.S.10 1305Z/8.)

Thames Estuary.

One S.A. mine detonated at 2347/7. Details. (Capt. M/S Sheerness 1103/8.)

Bristol Channel.

All Bristol Channel ports will be open from today from 1000 until 2300. (F.O.I.C. Cardiff 1112A/8.)

Hartlepool Middlesbrough.

My 2253/7. Ports of Hartlepool and Middlesbrough now open. (N.O.I.C. Hartlepool 1510/8.)

East Coast Floating Mines.

My 1632A/3. Harwich Armed Trawlers sank 42 Floating Mines in vicinity of Q.Z.S. 306 in period 3rd to 5th November inclusive. The majority of these were identified as British Marks XIV and with a few exceptions the mines looked old. Three exploded whilst being fired at. Vessels of Yarmouth Sub-Command have sunk 51 floating mines. Humber have reported separately (Humber No.06714 to D.T.M.) WINDSOR reported sinking 8 mines in vicinity of Q.Z.S. 287 on 3/11. Probably other Convoy escorts have sunk mines, of which reports have not yet been received. Rendered safe on coast during week-ending 2/11, 12 Mk.14, 1 Mk.16, 1 Mk.17, 1 Mk.19, 9 conical floats. A much larger number have been rendered safe on coast during present week. (C. in C. Nore 1752A/8, 1843A/10.)

Enemy Intelligence.

DAGMAR
CLAUSEN
damaged.
PETER Sunk.
2 Patrol
Vessels
Sunk.

Mining results Denmark.
(1) Danish DAGMAR CLAUSEN mined 7/10 in Nyborg Fjord. Vessel brought into port.
(2) German motor barge PETER mined and sunk south south east of Omo 29/10.
(3) Two German patrol vessels stranded at Halsbarre 29/10. Graded A.2. (N.A. Stockholm 1252/8.)

War Diary.8.11.1941.
Saturday.HOME COMMANDS.Navigational.Derelict.

(1) Derelict with mast and derrick six feet above water reported in 54° 57' N. 5° 30' W. at 1315A/8. Being broadcast for 48 hours. (Hydrographer 1915A/8.)

Elbow Buoy.

Reported one mile South of charted position. Request Q.Z.H. message. (C. in C. Nore 2253A/8.)

East Dudgeon Buoy.

Light reported extinguished. (Hydrographer 2255A/8.)

Casualties and Defects.ANGLE.

Unidentified boiler trouble. Speed 3 knots uncertain. Position 060° 44' W. 019° 20' W. unreliable. Making for position (J) in hope of increasing speed and joining convoy. (ANGLE 1120Z/8.)

HARTLAND.

My 1218A. HARTLAND delayed by grounding. (N.O.I.C. Londonderry 1452A/8.)

AQUAMARINE.

Has sustained damage due to dropping depth charges on suspected submarine contact. Ship requires docking. (F.O.I.C. Milford Haven 1519/8.)

EDOUARD VAN VLAANDEREN.

Admiralty's 1636A/5. As no salvage attempt made by firm mentioned in my 1831/10 September authority given to Ragnar Olafsson of (?Akureyr) to carry out immediate operations. Work commenced 5/11. Apparatus recently arrived from abroad being used. (A.C.I.C. 1729N/8 to Adty.)

MONARDA.
(LL.Drifter)

Cdre. Sheerness reports MONARDA beached and filled in approx. position 182° Outer Bar Buoy 1.3 miles. Damage as far as known is only to stem, slightly damaged on leaving Queenborough and appears to have opened up while steaming. Salvage considered possible next convenient tide. (C. in C. Nore 1844A/8)

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War Diary.8.11.1941.
Saturday.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping and Convoys.C.T.6.

My 0722/1. Sailing date and embarkation of C.T.6. Ships delayed by a further two days. (D. of S.T. 0606A/8.)

DOUGLAS.
H.X.157.

P.C.S. 60° 14' N. 21° 51' W. 90°, 6.
(DOUGLAS 0800Z/8.)
Admiralty's 0800A/8. Anticipate meeting H.X.157 by 1400Z/8. DOUGLAS and SKATE will then have to proceed to Iceland for fuel. My 1600Z/7 add ANEMONE. My P.C.S. are 060° 02' N. 020° 40' W., 270°, 12 knots.
(DOUGLAS 1130Z/8.)

P.Q.3.
P.Q.4.

Cancel A.M. 2018A/7. In view of: (a) Admiralty 0815A/8. (b) Urgency of getting convoys through to Russia. (c) No indication of TIRPITZ's movements. Convoy P.Q.3 should be sailed now and arrangements made to sail P.Q.4 as soon after its arrival in Iceland (C) as possible. (A.C.N.S.(H) 1115A/8.)

→ O.S.11.

Sailed IBIS, ENCHANTRESS, ABERDEEN, CLARE, STORK, WALNEY for O.S.11.
(N.O.I.C. Londonderry 1218/8.)

C.E.56.

Convoy C.E.56 completed passage without incident. (C. in C. Nore 1541A/8.)

W.S.14.

RAMILLIES will be required to sail with W.S.14 about 1/12. (A.C.N.S. H. 1643A/8.)

S.C.50.

Met as arranged. Two ships straggled on 21/10 one of which KING MALCOLM not yet reported, other ships arrived.
(D.T.D. 1724A/8.)

O.S.
Convoys.

Vice-Commodore to be detailed so that convoys can be split. (D.T.D. 2207A/8 to C. in C. S.A.)
See South Atlantic.

→ O.S.11.

Request you will investigate why five ships failed to sail with O.S.11.
(C. in C. W.A. 2241A/8.)

ST. ZENO, (?VIZALMA) and convoy returning to Reykjavik owing to heavy gale.
(A.C.I.C. 2331/8.)

War Diary.

8.11.1941.
Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

ARGUS.
ATHENE,
destroyers.

Arrival ARGUS, LAFOREY, LIGHTNING, GURKHA,
ZULU, ATHENE, ISAAC SWEERS.
(F.O.C.N.A., 0602A/8 to Admty etc).

WRESTLER.

Left Ponta Delgada 0900Z/8. E.T.A. Plymouth
0700Z/12. (WRESTLER, 0916/8, to F.O.C.N.A.)

Ponta Delgada
Fuel.

Portuguese Admiralty states stock of good
quality fuel oil in Ponta Delgada now down to
700 tons. (N.A. Lisbon, 1118/8 to Admty).

O.G. 76

Departure WISHART, VIDETTE as additional escort
to O.G. 76. (F.O.C.N.A., 1132A/8 to Admty etc).

MIRROR.

Your 1927A/7. Date cannot yet be given as no
escort is at present available.
(F.O.C.N.A., 1746A/8 to Admty).

French
Shipping.

Gibraltar 0915/8 French survey ship ESTAFETTE,
FORMIGNY French westbound, 1715/8 French
Destroyer SIMOUN, OREGON, and CALEDONIEN both
French eastbound.
(S.O.(I) Gib., 1949A/8 to Admty etc).

Enemy M/V.

List B.B. number 2 left Barcelona 1800/8th
for Genoa. (F.O.C.N.A., 2136A/8 to OLYMPUS).

South Atlantic.

CARNARVON
CASTLE,
DERWENTDALE.

CARNARVON CASTLE arrived Capetown A.M./8
and will now sail P.M./10 to R/V with DERWENTDALE
in accordance with C. in C. S.A. 1713/6.
My 1557/7 para. 2 refers.
(N.O.I.C. Simonstown, 0948Z/8 to Admty etc).

/Operation.....

War Diary.

8.11.1941.
Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic. - Contd.

Operation
"Bellringer".

Their Lordships congratulate you and all who took part in "Bellringer" on successful conclusion of this operation and they desire that you will convey to Union Authorities their appreciation of the valuable co-operation of the Seaward Defence Force and the South African Air Force.
(1st S.L., 1029A/8 to N.O.I.C. Simonstown).

ALCANTARA.

Sail ALCANTARA on completion of docking to join S.A.D. temporarily as required by R.A.S.A.D. (C. in C. S.A., 1033N/8 to N.O.I.C. Simonstown).

Task Force 3.

A.T. 1321A/7. Situation Report 1200 G.M.T./7. Amend Paras. (a) and (b) to read:-
(a) Group 3.6. OMAHA, SOMERS escorting German ODENWALD to Trinidad, estimated position 01° 15' N., 30° 15' W., course 264° 9 knots passing through position Equator, 43° W.
(b) Group 3.7 MEMPHIS, DAVIS estimated position 02° 05' N., 37° 30' W., course 275° 13 knots, for Trinidad.
(D.O.D. (F) 1107A/8 to C. in C. S.A., C. in C. A.W.I. etc).

Navigation
Lights.

Ref. CAMSI 463. Consider Navigation lights should not be burned in areas six A, six B and nine North of 35° S., between Longitude 20 East and 50 West. If you concur request you will initiate necessary action.
(C. in C. S.A., 1115N/8 to Admty).

Force G.
P.O.W.
ELECTRA.
EXPRESS.

Your 0947/6. Arrangements have been made for up to 258 tons diesel fuel being available for destroyers at Walvis Bay. C. in C. S.A. pass to Force G. (F.O.I.C. Simonstown, 1158B/8 to C. in C. S.A.)

ACADIA.
DUNEDIN.

Intend to sail ACADIA 10/11 for Trinidad escorted by DUNEDIN as far as 026° W. route
(a) 007° 00' N., 020° 00' W.
(b) 007° 00' N., 026° 00' W.
(c) 007° 00' N., 045° 00' W. thence to Trinidad.
Your 1145R/4 (N.T. in W.R.) Understand Cmdr. Task Force 3 intended to provide onward escort from 026° W. (C. in C. S.A., 1207N/8 to B.A.D.)

/DEVONSHIRE....

War Diary.

8.11.1941.
Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic - Contd.

DEVONSHIRE.

My 2337/1. Expect DEVONSHIRE will leave Capetown for Freetown on 11/11. You could therefore leave for Falkland Is. about 15th provided situation unchanged.
(C. in C. S.A., 1341N/8 to R.A.S.A.D.)

French Hint of Reprisals for "Bellringer".

U.S. Consul, Dakar, has reported to U.S.A. as follows:- (begins) - "Informal intimations" from Admiralty Authorities Dakar that considering 5 French merchant ships were in convoy from Indo-China and Madagascar with cloth and rice for Dakar and French North Africa, French warships may have to be dispatched from Dakar to intercept British Ships making U.K. from Freetown. - (Ends).
(V.C.N.S., 1351A/8 to C. in C. S.A., F.O.C.N.A., F.O. Force H).

ODENWALD (intercepted 6/11).

Your 1259N/7. ODENWALD's signal was not intercepted in United Kingdom.
(D.D.I.C., 1523A/8 to C. in C. S.A.)

CALIFORNIA.

A.M. 1232A/30/10. As CILICIA and CHESHIRE complete 19/11 and 30/11 respectively it is intended that CALIFORNIA on completion of refit in U.S.A. about 17/11 should give 14 days leave in U.K. to each watch before proceeding to South Atlantic station.
(A.C.N.S. (F), 1914A/8 to C. in C. S.A.)

BALTAVIA.

Arrived 1800 G.M.T. and will go on floating dock first thing Monday, no labour being available before this. Full details of damage to starboard propeller shaft will be made as soon as possible after docking.
(N.A. Rio de Janeiro, 2025Z/8 to C. in C. S.A.)

O.S. Convoys, Vice-Commodores.

Your 1755/5. Starting with O.S. 12 Vice-Commodore will be detailed so that convoy can be split into a slow and a fast portion and ships will be detailed for each portion before sailing. Commodore will be told your requirement. Other considerations must still govern the cruising order of the convoy.
(D.T.D., 2207A/8 to C. in C. S.A.)

Minesweepers.

Admty 1547/7. HOXA, ROMEO, and KOS XI arrived Capetown 29/10. BALTA sailed from Capetown for Durban 3/11 (my 1623/7).
(F.O.I.C. Simonstown, 2208/8 to C. in C. S.A.)

See FULL MOON

War Diary.8.11.1941.
Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean.UPHOLDER.

Well done, proceed on patrol
(Capt. S.10, 0640B/8 to UPHOLDER).
Apparently refers to sinking of U/B, see p. 229.

Enemy Shipping.

Wellington reports 3 ships at 0425B/8 040° 12' N., 017° 40' E., course Southerly.
(V.A. Malta, 0824B/8 to C. in C. Med).

Turkish Caique sunk 5/11.

Turkish Navy state Turkish Caique KAYMOTHDERE^x attacked 5th and sunk in Black Sea off Midye inside Turkish Territorial waters while on passage North by Russian submarine.
(N.A. Angora, 0947B/8 to ? C. in C. Med).
Comment by N.I.D. Caiques are believed to carry a considerable proportion of the Turkish-German trade. In broadcasts of 9/11 the Russians deny that this sinking was done by a Russian submarine. *x Not identified.*

Movements.

Summary 221. (C. in C. Med., 1032B/8) See Lion Copy.

Italian Ships sunk ?TRUANT.

Most reliable source reports 3 Italian ships in convoy attacked by S/M in Southern Adriatic recently. 2 sunk, one damaged and reached Brindisi. Cargo consisted of empty wooden barrels for shipment of olive oil from Turkey. Comment. Although no definite date was reported report considered reliable in view of cargo of damaged ship confirms expectations in local commerce circles. (N.A. Angora, 1120B/8 to S.O.(I) Med).
Comment by N.I.D. This presumably refers to the attack by TRUANT on 23/10 though TRUANT claims only to have sunk one ship and damaged an A.M.C. (Ref. C. in C. Mediterranean 2141/9).

ANTWERP.

Your 2359N/6 Para. 2. Consider lifting of 4" mounting should be deferred until arrival in Mediterranean. These ships are urgently required. (C. in C. Med., 1134B/8 to C. in C. S.A.)

/TORCELLO.....

SECRET

MESSAGE

1032B/8th. November IN

From C. in C. Mediterranean.

Date 8.11.41.

Re cd, 2305.

NAVAL CODE L BY CABLE.

Addressed Mediterranean Fleet Admiralty, Repeated
 201 Group 202 Group Air Headquarters W. Desert
 H.Q.R.A.F. Middle East, H.Q. R.A.F. Palestine,
 and Trans Jordan, N.O. i/c Haifa,
 N.O. i/c Famagusta, N.O. i/c Syria, R.A.
 Alexandria, S.O. Force "I", Force "II" B.S.N.O.
 Tobruk, V.A. Malta, F.O.C. North Atlantic,
 Destroyers in company E. Mediterranean Fleet
 S.O. Force "H" S.B.N.O. Suez, N.O.I.C. Port
 Said, N.O.I.C. Suez.

IMPORTANT

Movements Summary 221 part A.
 R.A. (D) Mediterranean in H.M.S. ABDIEL with
 10 destroyers due Alexandria 0800 9th from
 Haifa. H.M.Ships KIPLING, ENCOUNTER, HOTSPUR
 covering H.M.S. NEPTUNE during exercises
 bombardments about area then A/S escorts to
 outer end Alexandria searched channels.
 H.M.S. NEPTUNE returns to Alexandria P.M. 8th.

Last definite U-Boat report at 2243
 5th in position 277° Ras-el-Tir 32. Greek
 Destroyer NIKI due Haifa 1500 8th with convoy
 from Alexandria. H.M.S. PRIMULA due Haifa
 1630 8th convoy. H.M.S. PEONY continues thence
 with convoy due Port Said 1000 9th. Alexandria
 1130 10th. H.M.S. FAREHAM due Beirut 1500
 8th, H.M.S. ABERDARE then returning to Alexandria.

Part B. SOUTHERN SEA due Mersa Matruh
 1130 9th returning to arrive Alexandria 0600
 10th. 2 M.T.B's. 2 Motor Launches operating
 from Mersa Matruh. 3. A/S trawlers sweeping
 Alexandria to Mersa Matruh night of 8th 9th.

Part C. and D. nil.

N.C.I.C. Haifa pass to H.Q. R.A.F.
 Palestine and Trans-Jordan.

1032B/8

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

- V.C.N.S.
- A.C.N.S.(F)
- N.A. 1st S.L.
- Capt. Pim, Admiralty Hse.
- Ops. (2)
- O.D. (5)
- O.D. 8
- M. (2)
- O.I.C.
- Mails
- Movts.
- I.P. (3)
- D.A./S.W.
- W.D.
- D.D.O.D. (M)
- H.P.S.

- D.P.S.
- D.N.I. (4)
- D.T.D. (4)
- D.T.D. (M)
- D.T.D. (C)
- D.M.S.
- D.M.S. Basement
- D.D.O.D. (C) (2)
- D. of L.D. (2)

War Diary.

8.11.1941.
Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean. - Contd.

TORCELLO
(sunk 6/11)

N.A. Angora's 1629/7, sinking of TORCELLO confirmed from independent A sources; 17 miles off Bourgas, 3 of crew killed remainder landed. (S.O.(I) Istanbul, 1159B/8 to S.O.(I) Med).

Benghazi
→ Derna
Bombed.

My A.871, 6/11 para. 1. 3 Wellingtons returning Egypt from Malta night 5/6 dropped 10,500 lbs. bombs on Benghazi Harbour, direct hits on Juliana Mole and on searchlight. Night 5/6. 6 Blenheims bombed dump at Derna. Night 6/7. 20 Wellingtons despatched to attack M.T. and Workshops at Derna found 6/10 cloud at 3,000 feet over whole area, 12 aircraft dropped bombs through holes in clouds on M.T. and Workshops Derna Aerodrome. 3 Wellingtons dropped bombs on workshops and M.T. concentration West of Town - Remaining 5 aircraft unable to locate either objective dropped bombs on Derna Town. (H.Q., R.A.F., M.E., 1209/8).

→ Derna,
Bardia
bombed.

Day 7/11. During morning 12 Marylands in 2 waves of 6 Aircraft at 1 hour interval bombed M.T. Workshops at Derna from 18000 and 13000 ft. Night 7/8. 26 Wellingtons 3 carrying 4,000 lbs. bombs took off to attack Benghazi, very bad weather encountered over Cyrenaica, 18 Wellingtons were recalled to Base, one 4,000 lb. bomb was dropped on Bardia. (H.Q., R.A.F., M.E., 1211/8 amended 0950/9)

Enemy
Shipping.

Ref. SOKOL attack off Ischia. Is there anything to indicate whether shipping routes pass inside or outside Ponza? (Capt. S.8., 1343A/8 to Capt. S.10)

R.D.F.

Your 1444/20/10. Desirability of fitting R.D.F. Type 281 to deal with this problem is fully realised. Type 281 gives far better results than Type 279 against low flying aircraft, and steps are being taken to effect replacements of the latter as ships and sets become available WARSPITE, ILLUSTRIOUS, FORMIDABLE, DIDO and PHOEBE are being fitted.

/2....

War Diary.8.11.1941.
Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean.- Contd.R.D.F.
Contd.

2. Shortage of sets and personnel available to fit them preclude their being sent out to Mediterranean or to Durban for fitting there at present; hoped that situation will permit of their being despatched to arrive by the Spring of 1942. Replacing Type 279 by Type 281 necessitates ship being in Dockyard hands for about 3 weeks (A.C.N.S. (W) 1510A/8 to C. in C. Med).

Schooner
sunk by
THRASHER
28/10.

C.A.F.O., 1278/41. On 28/10. 800 tons schooner N.E. bound from Benghazi, sunk by THRASHER. Conflagration indicated laden petrol. Torpedo missed, but ship abandoned and sunk by gunfire.
(Capt. S.10, 1542B/8 to Admty).

Enemy Units.

6 M/Vs 4 destroyers, P.C. and S. 037° 54' N., 016° 58' E., 090° 11 knots at 1400 B/8. (V.A. Malta, 1555B/8 to C. in C. Med). Force K leaving harbour 1730B approx. course 064° 28 knots. (V.A. Malta, 1720B/8 to S/Ms on patrol).
Aircraft R/C 8/11, 4 destroyers, 6 Merchant ships 037° 55' 017° 00' 090° 11 knots, at 1350. Expected to turn South. Force K endeavouring to intercept. 2 Destroyers, 2 Merchant ships attacked by Aircraft at 1010 in 035° 20', 019° 45' one merchant ship abandoned. Time zone minus 2.
(Capt. S.10, 1849B/8, to UPHOLDER).

Air
Operations
Malta Raids.

Night 7/8. 6 Bombers approached, 2 crossed coast. Bombs land sea. No damage.
Day 8/11 0736 hours 2 R/C aircraft crossed coast. A/A in action, 0955 hours, 4 Cant 1007 escorted 18 Macchi 202's crossed coast 22000 ft. Bombs land and sea. No damage 3 Macchis destroyed, 1 probable, 1 damaged, 1 fell on Island with dead pilot. 1 Hurricane lost pilot safe 1 pilot wounded.
7/11 Ionian sea R/C saw 1402 hours 3 M/Vs 5000 tons, 1 escort vessel, 090° Cape Rizzto 10 miles course north, 4 knots. 1315 hours sighted 2 M/Vs 2000 and 3000 tons 1 D/R 105° Cotrone 122 miles, course 160° 3 knots. 12 Blenheims out to attack, see my 1.225. 6 did not find owing thick cloud and error in reporting by sighting patrol. Remainder attacked 1326 hours 279° Ardiani Island 45 miles with 16 250 G.P. bombs from mast height. Very near misses by 2 Blenheims on large M/V, ship's machine gun silenced by Blenheim rear gunner, other results

Enemy Convoy
Attacked.

/unobserved....

War Diary.8.11.1941.
Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean.Enemy Convoy
Attacked -
Contd.

unobserved. Intense accurate A/A from D/R and M/Vs killed one rear gunner. All Blenheims returned. 0225/8/11 sighted by special Wellington 36° 41' N., 19° 49' E., course south, 8 knots. 0635 hours sighted by Kalmata Zante R/C 129° Spartivento 198 miles, course 160°, 10 knots. (H.Q., R.A.F., Malta, 1740/8).

Brindisi
and other
Raids.

Night 7-8/11, 4 aircraft attacked railways and factories in Sicily. At Ragusa a fire was started at a bitumen factory and a large explosion and fire at the railway station. -At Olscari, what was believed to be a gunpowder factory was hit and much flying debris and an explosion were seen. A cork factory at Gela was also hit. On the same night, 21 Wellingtons attacked Brindisi, where hits were made on marshalling yards, railway station, barracks, torpedo boat base and the Cant aircraft factory. 1 Wellington bombed the landing ground at Augusta, where a large fire was caused. (D.S., 797, 10/11 - no signal in W.D.)

R.M. Group
A/A Units.

Admty 1938/2. Policy proposed by General Weston and approved by C. in C. M.E. and C. in C. Med., in June, 1941, confined R.M. Anti-Aircraft Units to the Nile Delta during the period of reorganisation required after Crete until 15/9/1941, when units would be at 14 days' notice for withdrawal if required for fleet purposes. (2) O.C. R.M. Group does fully appreciate that units form part of Middle East A/A defences under the control of C. in C. M.E. Force, but present situation in Middle East is such that no guns are available for M.N.B. A/A Units to M.N. (?man) Overt's 1131/29/10 requesting 32 guns was made in order to bring these units up to establishment with a view to being ready for fleet requirements and available to assist in A/A defence of the Delta. (C. in C. Med., 1810B/8 to Admty).

/Enemy.....

War Diary.

8.11.1941.
Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean. - Contd.

Enemy Convoy,
UNIQUE.

Southbound Convoy probably passes vicinity 032° 32', 019° 55' on S.S.E. course to enter Benghazi half hour before sunrise. Destroyers sweep area same night and intensive air patrol previous to daylight. Coastal traffic to N.E. by Schooners keep close inshore. (Capt. S.10, 1927B/8 to UNIQUE).

A/C attack
on Convoy.

WX 4201. 1232 8/11. My 1230/8/11 (N.T. in W.D.) Blenheim attack convoy 1015 (or 1815 corrupt) hours G.M.T., 1 M/V stationary, crew abandoning, other M/V on fire. (H.Q., R.A.F., Malta, 2110/8 to Air Ministry).

Enemy
M/Vs
Candia.

3 Merchant ships reported in Candia Harbour P.M./7. (Capt. S.1., 2201B/8 to GLAUCOS).

War Diary.8.11.1941.
Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies.Seychelles.

Temporary Beacons as anchorage marks have been erected as follows.
(S.O.I., Colombo, 0532Z/8 to Admty.)

C.M.18.X.

CERES escorting C.M.18X, arrived Aden 0300Z/8.
(N.O.I.C. Aden, 0800Z/8, D.O.R., 9/11.)

YARRA.
aground
21/10.

H.M.A.S. YARRA grounded at 0612Z/21/10 in 26° 11' 40" N., 50° 41' 40" E., near Bahrein.
No damage except to Asdic gear, full report follows in due course.
(C. in C.E.I., 1004Z/8, to Admty.)

ATREUS
minelaying.

My 1246/29/10. ATREUS reports perturbations on M.6 minelap amounting to 3 to 6 divisions on screen and when merlswell is heavy the light swings off board. If these perturbations do not settle down I intend ATREUS should relay loop and mines in position where there is less disturbance.
(C. in C.E.I., 1116Z/8, to Admty.)

Addu Atoll.

I have today received report from S.N.O., and Defence Commander, Addu Atoll which gives me anxiety concerning health of M.N.B.D.O. personnel. Defence Commander states that troops are run down and their resistance to disease has been lowered. The chief complaint is form of fever which medical officers cannot recognize. Defence Commander recommended, and I support his recommendation, that troops should be sent to a rest camp before proceeding to Nancowry. If you can accept the delay I propose to amend programme in my 1050/4 as follows:
(a) CLAN FORBES to sail for Colombo after landing guns and stores at Diego Garcia (about 30/11.)
(b) M.N.B.D.O. be given 14 days leave at Colombo.
(c) CLAN FORBES to sail for Nancowry about 19/12.
(C. in C.E.I., 1202Z/8, to C. in C. China.)
My 1202/8. I have now been informed 25% of personnel at Addu Atoll are on sick list. I, therefore intend to send Hospital Ship VITA there as soon as possible. She should arrive 16/11.
(C. in C.E.I., 1250Z/8, to Admty.)

/A.M. 1504/24.....

War Diary.8.11.1941.
Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies.Addu Atoll.
Contd.

A.M. 1504/24.
I have arranged with C. in C. China to retain BARMILL, TEAL, and JAN/DE WABLE at Addu Atoll. F.O.I.C. Simonstown informs me that they are due Capetown 10/11. They are therefore, unlikely to arrive Addu Atoll until late December. 2. Consequent delay must be accepted as I have no other Boom vessels suitable or available.
(C. in C.E.I., 1232Z/8, to Admty.)

RAHMANI.

Have you any news of RAHMANI due Bombay 31/10 from Aden?
(D.T.D. 1743A/8 to S.O.I., Colombo.)
Reply: 0326Z/10.

PRINCE OF WALES.

Please pass following addressed C. in C. East Indies from S.O. Force G., Your 0752Z/7. If PRINCE OF WALES visits Ceylon would you recommend proceeding Colombo or Trincomalee? (S.O. Force G., 1746Z/8, to Admty.)

China.DIOMED.

Your 1906/7^{p.177}. DIOMED arrived Singapore 1/11, reported to Fairmiss in N.C.S.O. Singapore 0353/2.
(S.O.I., Singapore, 0503Z/8, to Admty.)

French Shipping.

7/11 arrival D'ARTAGNON, Departure 6/11, VILLE DE VERDUN, Haiphong, PIERRE L.D. Haiphong, GOUVERNEUR GENERAL PASQUIER, Singapore.
(Saigon, 0648Z/8, to M. of W.T.)

French Shipping.

Your 1636/2. Departures Saigon 6/11, French ships VILLE DE VERDUN, 7/11 PIERRE L.D., both ostensibly for Haiphong. No escort reported. Embassy Z.M. informed.
(Capt. O.S., Singapore 1131Z/8, to Admty.)

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War Diary.8.11.1941.
Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America & West Indies.PRINCESS
MARGUERITE.
PRINCESS
KATHLEEN.

Your 1142A/23/9.
Esquimalt departures PRINCESS MARGUERITE and PRINCESS KATHLEEN in company due to arrive Honolulu 14/11, Suva 22/11, speed 15 knots. Alexandria C.C.O. pass to P.S.T.O. Egypt. (C.O.P.C., 0159Z/8, to Admty.)

ODENWALD.
(intercepted
6/11.)

U.S. Naval Authorities have asked that the interception of German supply ship ODENWALD by U.S. Task Force may be kept secret. (1st. S.L. 0201A/8, to C. in C.H.F., C. in C.A.W.I., etc.)

Guatemala,
signals by
M/V's.

Following message received through G.P.O. from International Telegraph Office, Berne, is passed to you for information. (Begins.) In territorial waters of Guatemala it is forbidden to foreign ships with the exception of warships to effect any radiotelegraphic or radiotelephonic communications whatever except the emission of signals aiding vessels in distress or when disembarkation of passengers baggage or cargo is difficult. (Ends.) (Head of M. 1056A/8 to C. in C.A.W.I.)

AGAMEMNON
CALIFORNIA.

When ready for sea AGAMEMNON should be sailed for Halifax. 2. Intended that AGAMEMNON and CALIFORNIA should be sailed in company from Halifax to Clyde. 3. N.S.H.Q., is requested to report the date on which they will be ready to sail. (D.O.D.(H) 1117A/8, to B.A.R.M., N.S.H.Q., Ottawa.)

ALCANTARA.

My 1402R/25/10. ALCANTARA is allotted to Newport News Shipbuilding Co., Newport News. (B.A.R.M. 1134R/8, to Admty., C. in C.S.A.)

RANPURA.

Is allotted to Bethlehem Steel Company, Baltimore. (B.A.R.M. 1206R/8, to Admty.)

Belle Isle.

Can estimated date of closing of Belle Isle Straits to shipping be given? (A.C.N.S.(T) 1231A/8, to N.S.H.Q., Ottawa.) Your 1231A/8. Present estimated date closing Belle Isle Straits to shipping 28/11, but on average weather over past year it is considered sufficient safety from ice is assured up to 10/12. (N.S.H.Q., Ottawa, 1711Z/8, to Admty.)

War Diary.8.11.1941.
Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America & West Indies.Contd.P.511.
P.551.

My 1905R/31, and my 1935/5 and Admiralty 1933A/7 and F.O.(S) 1311A/2. Request you will signal sailing instructions and route for P.511 and P.551 from New London, informing B.A.D. of route in order U.S. Authorities may be advised. (B.A.D., 1237R/8, to C. in C.A.W.I.)

ODENWALD
Escort.

My 1615R/7. Navy Department now consider ship and U.S. escort can make Trinidad without further assistance. (B.A.D., 1343R/8, to C. in C.A.W.I.)

W.S.12X.

W.S.12X report direct C. in C. Lant information Opnav and Com task group 14.4 at what time and date convoy will reach rendezvous (B). (Opnav 1525Z/8, to C.O.A.C. Halifax.)

ABBEYDALE.

Cancel my 0942Q/2. Oiler ABBEYDALE will refit in U.S.A. (C. in C.A.W.I., 1542Q/8, to N.O.I.C's Trinidad, Bermuda.)

MERRIMACK.

Have you any news of American MERRIMACK due Philadelphia 20/10 from Halifax? (D.T.D. 1822A/8, to D.N.I., Ottawa.)

ILLUSTRIOUS
FORMIDABLE.

A.M. 1802A/7, Para. 1. Cancel reference to embarkation of 20 torpedoes unless the 10 torpedoes sent from U. K. direct to each ship have not arrived. (D.N.A.D. 1912A/8, to B.A.D., B.A.R.M. etc.)

CATHAY.

Ref. your 1432/5 offer to fit CATHAY as trooper at Navy Yard, Brooklyn accepted with thanks, work to be carried out in accordance with Sea Transport Regulations. Removal and disposal of armament, equipment and stores items not required for new service to be arranged by Admiralty representatives concerned. Request details of party to be retained on board may be reported. (Hd. of M. 1959A/8 to B.A.R.M.)

CIRCASSIA.

Sail for Bermuda via Sombrero passage as convenient 9/11. (C. in C.A.W.I., 2142Q/8 to CIRCASSIA.)

War Diary.8.11.1941.
Saturday.U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.Ships Attacked.NOTTINGHAM.
(torpedoed
7/11.)

Go to assistance of S.S. NOTTINGHAM torpedoed 053° 24' N., 031° 51' W., at 1942Z/7. (Com. Task Force 4, 0545/8, to A.M.C. AMHERST.) My 0545/8 addressed AMHERST. Use of AMHERST not mandated. Assignment any corvettes your unit satisfactory to Comdr. Task Force No.4. (Com. Task Force 4, 1045/8, to Com. Task Unit 4.1.13.)

FLYNDERBORG
GRETAVALE.
(torpedoed
2/11.)

Master of British ex-Danish FLYNDERBORG ex S.C.52 reports torpedoed about 250 miles N.E., Belle Isle at 2358/2/11. 3 men killed in Engine room, remaining 21 survivors brought to St. Johns Newfoundland by WINDFLOWER. C. Bs., thrown in weighted bag by Master himself in deep water. British GRETAVALE, Ex S.C.52, ship ahead of FLYNDERBORG, torpedoed same position a few minutes earlier and sank immediately. C. Bs., may be assumed to have gone down with ship. 5 survivors only picked up by WINDFLOWER'S boats. (N.C.S.O., St. John's N.F., 1526Z/8, to Admty.)

Submarines Reported.1000 G.M.T.

Track of a submarine sighted 1000 G.M.T. 053° 13' North. (ALACRITY, 1101/8, to Whitehall W/T.) Note. No longitude given.

1212A.

Enemy aircraft shadowing a convoy at 1212A/8, probably S.L.91 or possibly O.G.76. May draw on U/Bs. (D.D.I.C. 1303A/8, to Escorts of S.L.91, O.G.76.)

Caribbean.

R.N.O. St. Lucia reports (a) U.S. Army plane ordered patrol radius 100 miles St. Lucia accounts for report of submarine in Caribbean Sea. (b) U.S. Navy Intelligence have no information. (S.O.I., Kingston, 1448R/8, to Admty., etc.)

Estimated approximate positions of U/B's. (D.D.I.C., 1507A/8, 1508A/8.)

/1620.....

War Diary.

8.11.1941.
Saturday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Submarines Reported. - Contd.

1620. Training aircraft reported S/M in 058° 46' N.,
004° 58' W., at 1620. No details and no further
report received.
(A.C.O.S., 1705A/8.)
- 1338 G.M.T. By D/F Bearings U-Boat estimated within 60 miles
of 041° N., 020° W., at 1338 G.M.T.
(F.O.C.N.A., 1733A/8, to Admty.)
- A.M./6. Following from C.C. Newfoundland (begins) -
Report C2 of submarine sighted from shore a.m./6
proceeding east on surface from vicinity
Horn Bay about 52-10N 55-35W., and approaching
Battle harbour - (ends).
(N.S.H.Q., Ottawa, 1851Z/8, to Opnav.)

War Diary.

9.11.1941.
Sunday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

Iceland (C). In response to request from the Americans who wish gradually to relieve our troops in Iceland (C) further British troops are to be withdrawn and it is hoped that the relief will be completed by the end of April 1942.

Operations
by TRIDENT.

TRIDENT has returned to Polyarno from patrol in Svaerholthavet and reports that on 3/11 she attacked an eastbound convoy in 70° 56' N. 26° 10' E. and obtained one certain hit, after which the convoy scattered and returned westward and TRIDENT estimates having obtained a hit on another of the ships. Ships were attacked also on 4/11 and on 7/11, one certain hit being obtained on the latter day in 71° 6' N. 26° 51' E., though the vessel was not seen to sink.

TIRPITZ.

The TIRPITZ and EMDEN were seen by P.R.U. today to be alongside at Kiel. LÜTZOW is in dry dock.

Weather.

Bad weather caused some disorganisation of shipping today.

British Air Operations.

15 aircraft (including 4 Manchesters) attacked Dunkirk last night and 8 attacked Ostend.

Enemy Air Operations.

Faeroes.

A single enemy aircraft flew over Thorshavn at 1000 today and dropped bombs in the sea off the town. It was engaged and 3 hits are reported.

/Tug.....

War Diary.

9.11.1941.
Sunday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Enemy Air Operations. - Contd.

Tug BUCCANEER with B.P.T. in tow was bombed and driven ashore at 1815 today in Montrose Bay. BUCCANEER is considered to be salvable.

A few bombs were dropped on Ramsgate at 2345 today. Insignificant naval damage was caused.

Thames Estuary.

Enemy aircraft were over the Thames Estuary early tonight and several bombs were dropped between 1935 and 1945. There is no definite report of mines being dropped.

Mining.

Mining in the Thames Estuary by enemy aircraft is suspected last night and tonight from 1800.

Mediterranean.

Destruction of two Enemy Convoys by Force K.

An enemy convoy of 4 destroyers and 6 M/V's was sighted by Maryland A/C at 1355B/8 in 37.53 N., 16.56 E.

Force K (cruisers AURORA, PENELOPE, destroyers LANCE, LIVELY) left Malta at 1730B/8 at 28 knots to intercept.

Contact was made at 0040B/9, when the convoy was found to consist of 4 destroyers and 8 M/V's, with a second convoy of 2 destroyers and 2 M/V's joining.

/Fire.....

War Diary.9.11.1941.
Sunday.SITUATION REPORT.Mediterranean.Destruction
of two Enemy
Convoys by
Force K.
Contd.

Fire was opened at 0057, at 5700 yards and the first salvo hit the rear escorting destroyer.

As a result of the engagement, 2 destroyers were sunk in a few minutes and one was badly damaged; 9 M/V's were set on fire and sunk, including an ammunition ship which blew up. In addition, a 10,000-ton tanker was left ablaze, and air R/C reported her still burning at 1038B/9; she is considered a total loss.

UPHOLDER
sinks one
destroyer.

S/M UPHOLDER was in the area and reported 2 TRENTO class cruisers (apparently endeavouring to cover the convoys) and 6 destroyers, with 1 damaged destroyer in tow, at 1040B/9 in 37.12 N., 18.33 E. UPHOLDER sank one destroyer and torpedoed a second which was last seen in tow with stern under and fore foot out. Air R/C subsequently indicated that the enemy force had withdrawn to Messina.

Force K sustained no damage or casualties. The enemy probably fired 12 torpedoes but obtained no hits. Force K was attacked by torpedo bombers a.m./9 without any hits being made, and returned to Malta at 1344B today.

The final summing up of the operations of Force K and UPHOLDER was that 4 destroyers and 10 merchant ships were sunk.

Operations
by TRUANT.

TRUANT has returned from patrol in the Adriatic. A.M./23/10 she attacked a south-westbound convoy of 3 merchant ships and one A.M.C. and sank one ship of 3500-tons and hit the A.M.C. which was, however, able to rejoin the convoy at 10 knots. After an unsuccessful attack on a 3500-ton ship in ballast off Monopoli TRUANT engaged with gun-fire at 0739/24 and set the ship on fire: the ship was still burning at 1600. At 1500/31/10 TRUANT obtained one hit on a convoy consisting of 3 tankers and a destroyer close inshore off Punta Penna: TRUANT was in only 10 fathoms when the destroyer passed directly overhead; the destroyer searched but TRUANT was not discovered and got clear later. On 27/10 she successfully carried out a special landing operation.

/Air.....

War Diary.

9.11.1941.
Sunday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Mediterranean - Contd.

Air attack
on Naples.

17 Wellingtons were despatched to attack Naples last night, but owing to very bad weather being encountered some aircraft attacked Palermo, Catania and Syracuse as alternatives. About 15½ tons of H.E. and 3 tons I.Bs. were dropped at Naples.

Libya &
Western
Desert.

Operation "Glencoe" has been successfully completed and R.A.D. and destroyers have returned to Alexandria. Minor air raids and shelling of Tobruk continue but the routine work of the port has not been interrupted.

Suez
Canal
area.

Two enemy aircraft attacked the Suez Canal area in the early hours of this morning. No naval damage was reported, but a D.A. bomb destroyed a Canal Company's slip. CARLISLE engaged and drove off aircraft.

China.

French ships
carrying
rubber to
Germany.

C.Z.M. has established air R/C and is sending 2 destroyers to Sunda Strait. C. in C. China has no cruisers available. (see 6/11.)

War Diary.9.11.1941.
Sunday.HOME COMMANDS.Policy.LA
MOQUEUSE.

Your 1845A/8. LA MOQUEUSE is not considered suitable or sufficiently seaworthy to stand up to Atlantic winter conditions. (C. in C. W.A., 1003A/9 to Admty).

NESTOR.

NESTOR is required for escort duty leaving U.K. about 1/12.

2. Request you will report whether it is expected that vessel will be ready to leave Plymouth not later than 29/11. (D.O.D. H., 1659A/9 to C. in C. Plymouth)

Iceland
Garrison.

In response to request from Americans who desire gradually to relieve our troops in Iceland (C) it has been approved that further withdrawal of our troops should begin. I hope the relief will be completed by the end of April. (V.C.N.S., 2222A/9 to A.C.I.C.)

Co-operation with Russia.Iokanskie.

Following received. Repeats S.B.N.O. North Russia 1740/8. (D.O.D. (H), 1112A/9 to C. in C. H.F.)

Russian
Naval
Transport
Officer.

A.M.1115/8. It was intended that Captain Chekin, Soviet Naval Transport Officer, now in London, should have taken passage in escort of P.Q.4 as liaison officer.

2. As this appears now to be impracticable arrangements are being made for him to go in next P.Q. convoy in which Russian ships are included. (A.C.N.S. (H), 1306A/9).

Movements.PYTCHLEY.

Intend to sail PYTCHLEY for Scapa at 0900/10 calling at Methil, remaining there that night and proceeding at 0300/11. Request fighter protection. (F.O.I.C. Tyne, 1108/9).

/ESCAPADE.....

War Diary.

9.11.1941.
Sunday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Movements. - Contd.

ESCAPADE.

Sail at 0800/10 for Scapa, observing speed restriction as in R.A.(D) H.F's 1348/3/11. (C. in C. Rosyth, 1229/9 to ESCAPADE.)

WRESTLER.

Your 0916/8. Unless you require fuel at Plymouth, comply with my 1024/8. (C. in C. Plymouth, 1255/9 to WRESTLER).

O.9
H.33,
→ Z.5

At 1900A/10 intend to sail O.9 and H.33 escorted by Z.5. from Lough Foyle to Rothesay in accordance with S.7's 1126A/6. E.T.A. Rothesay 0800A/11. (N.O.I.C., Londonderry, 1302A/9).

TRIDENT.

Intend to sail TRIDENT for U.K. P.M./15th routed as follows to arrive at position (d) at 2000A/22. Thence as ordered by F.O.(S) Speed of Advance 7 knots. (2) TRIDENT proceeding on surface at C.O's discretion. Request T.B.R. 30 miles either side of this route when West of 15° E., from 1200A/18. (S.B.N.O. North Russia, 1809C/9).

see also next page

H.34,
H.50,
→ Z.5.

My 1126/6. Rothesay Z.5. escorting H.34 and H.50 sailed for Londonderry. (Capt. S.7., 2002A/9).

Operations.

Interception
of Enemy heavy
Unit.
CUMBERLAND.

Request you sail CUMBERLAND at 0800Z/10 for Hval Fiord. (ii) During passage CUMBERLAND is to be prepared to act on reports from surface or air patrols in Iceland - Faeroe Is. passage. (C. in C. H.F., 1029/9 to V.A.2).

Proposed
attack on
French
Fishing
Craft.

C. in C. Plymouth's 1234/7. F.O.S. remarks on this subject are contained in his 1331/SM 4000 of 31/7/41 and 1603/S/M 0400 of 4/9/41. (ii) If it is decided these fishing vessels are to be attacked, request suitable safeguards be established to cover the area concerned in operation "Function" contained in F.O.S. number SM 04318/25 of 7/11/41 (copy in transit to C. in C. Plymouth) and future similar operations. (F.O.S., 1203A/9).

/TRIDENT.....

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War Diary.9.11.1941.
Sunday.HOME COMMANDS.Operations - Contd.TRIDENT
Patrol.
3 M/Vs.
hit.

TRIDENT (?arrived from Patrol Svaerholthavet. Patrol report. Following attacks: 1 at (?0920) C/3 in 70° 56' N., 26° 10' E., eastbound convoy, unknown number of M/Vs with escort trawlers. 1 hit certain. (2) at 0947C/3 attacked one 2,000 tons vessel from convoy previously attacked proceeding westward. Estimate one hit. (5) At 0240/7 in 71° 06' N., 26° 57' E., fired three mark eight torpedoes at one M/V escorted by two trawlers. One hit certain. Vessel turned away but was not observed to sink. (S.B.N.O. North Russia, 1326C/9).

*See previous page*Reported
M/Vs.
(see Enemy
Intelligence)

C. in C. Rosyth 1538A/9. Attack only in accordance with my 1701A/3 and my 1244A/4. (F.O.S., 1624A/9 to P.35).

British Air Activity.

P.R.U. of Bergen, Haugesund, Stavanger, Kristiansund, and Oslo now being flown. (C. in C. Rosyth, 1125/9).

151 Wing
and Polish
Personnel
for U.K.

It has been decided to withdraw the R.A.F. personnel of 151 Wing comprising 30 officers and 505 airmen from Murmansk to U.K.

2. In addition to the above there are a number of Polish airmen and naval ratings believed to number about 800.
3. No troopship can be spared for the above and the accommodation available in the storeships is limited.
4. Request you arrange for their embarkation in escorts of returning convoys as follows. (1st S.L., 2328A/9 to C. in C. H.F.)

Enemy Air Activity.Faeroes.

One Junker's 88 approached Thorshavn at 1016 today and jettisoned bombs in sea when engaged by shore defences. It is considered that aircraft was damaged. Own Fighter Patrol thought to be near South Island at the same time. (N.O.I.C. Faeroes, 1124A/9).

/Enemy.....

War Diary.

9.11.1941.

Sunday.HOME COMMANDS.Enemy Air Activity. - Contd.Faeroes
Contd.

Enemy aircraft made low flying attack on Thorshavn harbour also town and harbour of Klaaksvig yesterday at midday. 2 naval casualties from Cannon fire in former and Faeroes fishing vessel sunk by bomb in latter with no casualties. (O.C. Troops, Faeroes, 1223/9).

Convoy O.G. 76
2 F.W. A/C
shot down.

On 8/11 one Martlet shot down by F.W. 200 in 41° 27' N., 15° 18' W. 2 F.W. 200 shot down in (?43°) 04' N., 14° 30' W., and (?43°) 18' N., 14° 18' W., respectively. One F.W. 200 escaped undamaged owing to poor visibility Convoy probably seen only by first F.W. 200 shot down. (~~EMPIRE~~ AUDACITY, 1215A/9).

Dover
bombed on
8/11.

Between 1755 and 1805 yesterday enemy aircraft dropped six H.E. Bombs and some Incendiaries in Dover area. Incendiaries fell on Admiralty Pier but were quickly extinguished. At 2310/8 three H.E. Bombs; superficial damage to Abbotscliffe R.N. W/T Station, Water and Electrical supplies and telephone communications cut off. No naval casualties. (V.A. Dover, 1311A/9).

Convoy F. N546.
BRABO
bombed on
8/11.

BRABO (Belgian) bombed 2 miles south of 62D Buoy at 1805/8. Slight damage by near misses. Docked Immingham, 1330/9. (F.O. Humber, 1540A/9)

BUCCANEER.

Proceed forthwith to assist Tug BUCCANEER with battle practice target in tow, bombed and in difficulties 035° 2 miles from Usan. Report situation. (C. in C. Rosyth, 1856/9 to ECHO)
Lifeboat is reported to be standing by BUCCANEER. (C. in C. Rosyth, 2000/9 to ECHO)
Fleet Tug BUCCANEER has drifted ashore. Battle Practice Target probably still adrift in vicinity. Proceed in execution of previous orders. (C. in C. Rosyth, 2114/9 to ECHO)

Convoy F. S642.
CHLORIS
damaged on
8/11.

CHLORIS (British 1180 tons) slightly damaged by A/C at 1804/8 N.E. of Coquet Island, but proceeded under her own power. (D.S., 796)

War Diary.

9.11.1941.
Sunday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Mining.

Bristol
Channel.

Normal conditions will be resumed at all Bristol Channel Ports from A.M./11 unless further minelaying takes place. Except Walton Bay anchorage remains closed. (F.O.I.C. Cardiff, 1201A/9).

S.N. 83 B.

Completed. (R.A.M., 1509/9).

North
Russian
waters.

My 1509C/29 and Q.Z.R. 22. Mines have also been laid between 70° 56' 10" N., 25° 45' E., -and 70° 54' 40" N., 25° 46' E. Mageroy Sund to westward a line drawn 30° from 70° 52' 30" N., 25° 55' E., to Mageroy Island is considered to be dangerous due to mines. (S.B.N.O. North Russia, 1529C/9).

Mines
believed to
be British
sunk.

Details. (A.C.I.C., 1814N/9).

Sweep by
4th M/S.F.

My 1030A/7 and your 1556A/7. I cannot guarantee that Area so far reported cleared by me is in fact 100% clear without further high percentage search, as weather conditions have been so bad that it has not been possible to obtain accuracy required for a clearance. If it is desired to use Gap so far swept I consider it is essential all ships should be swept through it. Submit FITZROY (S.O.'s Ships) and 1 other should proceed to Boiler Cleaning at Aberdeen forthwith if there is no immediate prospect of sweeping. If sweeping is likely to be resumed before 16/11 suggest FITZROY carries out her own temporary Boiler Cleaning here. (S.O. 4th M/S F. 1645A/9 to C. in C. H.F.)

White Sea
Approaches.

Your 1232A/3. C. in C. Northern Fleet considers due to approaching ice conditions the laying of this field should now be deferred. Only destroyers are available for minelaying and information is still awaited whether British mines are suitable for laying from these vessels. Admty. pass to C. in C. H.F. (B.S.N.O. North Russia, 2210C/9).

War Diary.

9.11.1941.
Sunday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Enemy Intelligence.

12 M/Vs.

Aircraft reports 12 merchant ships 270°
Listergle, steering 270° 5 knots at 1520/9.
(C. in C. Rosyth, 1538/9 to P.35)

Norwegian
Coastal
Traffic.

Reported that convoys between Tromso and
Kirkenes are now continuing passage during
dark hours. (B.2)
(D.D.I.C., 1548A/9 to S.B.N.O. Murmansk).

German
Destroyer.

Reported that at least one German destroyer
has returned to North Norwegian waters.
Graded B.2. (D.D.I.C., 1219A/9 to S.B.N.O.
Murmansk).

Technical.

H/F D/F
Gear for
W.A.
Destroyers.

H/F D/F has been reported as of the greatest
value to BROKE and ROCHESTER in their recent
periods of escort duty. Request every effort
be made to hasten supply of equipment to A
and F class destroyers joining this command.
It is requested that H.M. ships should always
be given preference of supply over Merchant
Ships. (C. in C. W.A., 0029A/9 to Admty).

Faeroes.
Proposed
additional
W/T set.

My 1515/8. During both attacks enemy aircraft
and own Fighter Patrol were both in sight at
the same time and this has occurred on previous
occasions.
W/T report was immediately broadcast on 1570
k.c's but was apparently not received by our
aircraft in time for her to make contact with
the enemy. It is felt that similar delay
resulting in failure to engage the enemy
is bound to recur until a suitable wireless
set can be provided near operation room at
Thorshavn with the necessary R.A.F. personnel
to work it. My 1122A/2 refers.
(N.O.I.C. Faeroes, 1028A/9).

War Diary.9.11.1941.
Sunday.HOME COMMANDS.Casualties & Defects.VIVACIOUS.

Anchored in Southern examination anchorage with jammed rudder. (F.O. Humber, 1101A/9).

ANGLE
(Engine
defect 8/11)P.C.S. 060° 08' N., 016° W., 180° 1 knot.
(ANGLE, 1110Z/9).

My 1120Z/8. Am now unable to maintain head steam. Drifting before Easterly wind unable to steer. Will require a tow. (ANGLE, 1240Z/9 to C. in C. W.A.)

Detail 2 corvettes not ROSELYS to assist ANGLE. (C. in C. W.A. 1547A/9 to BELMONT)
Sail a tug from Stornoway escorted by ST. APOLLO to assist ANGLE. (C. in C. W.A., 1603A/9 to F.O.I.C. Greenock).

FREEBOOTER escorted by ST. APOLLO is to be sailed with despatch.

(F.O.I.C. Greenock, 1623A/9 to N.O.I.C. Stornoway).

Have been detailed with HEARTSEASE and we are proceeding to ANGLE's assistance.

(RENONCULE, 2100 Z/9).

FRISKY.

Your 1058/9. (Reporting engine trouble)

Return to Campbeltown.

(F.O.I.C. Greenock, 1159A/9 to FRISKY).

EMPIRE
CURLEW.

A.M. 1752A/31/10 and C.O.A.C. Halifax 1826Z/6.

EMPIRE CURLEW is to proceed to Belfast for repairs to D.G. before proceeding to Liverpool. (D.O.D. (H), 1320A/9).

BOY ANDREW
sunk.

H.M. Drifter BOY ANDREW lost with all hands near No. 7 Reflector Buoy in Firth of Forth today after collision with S.S. ST. ROGNVALD. (N.O.I.C. Leith, 1540/9 C. in C. Rosyth, 1610/9).

MONARDA
(collision
8/11)

Commodore I/C Sheerness reports attempt to float MONARDA today unsuccessful. Intends make further attempt next springtide about 19/11. (C. in C. Nore, 1747A/9).

SHERWOOD.

My 1323A. SHERWOOD returned to Clyde with engine defects. (F.O.I.C. Greenock, 1847A/9).

/LARS KRUSE....

War Diary.

9.11.1941.
Sunday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Casualties & Defects. - Contd.

LARS KRUSE.

S.S. LARSKRUSE beached close off Grain Pier Sheerness after striking submerged object. Intend to put vessel on higher ground on to-night's high water. Arranging immediate discharge into lighters.
(A.S.O. Sheerness, 1945/9).

STANLAKE.

Received at 1903 G.M.T. S O S from STANLAKE. Unmanageable 54° 50' N., 5° 30' W., position dangerous, require assistance. (Port Patrick Radio, 2003/9).

Following received by Port Patrick from STANLAKE. Here making towards Cosewall Point from position given. Still need assistance. (Rosyth, 2045/9).

Following received from Port Patrick:-

From N.O.I.C. Stranraer to STANLAKE.

Assistance coming with all speed from Larne. (C. in C. W.A., 2046/9).

Proceed with all despatch to assist STANLAKE.

(F.O.I.C. Greenock, 2059 A/9 to ZWARTE ZEE).

Sailed ZWARTE ZEE in accordance with F.O.I.C. Greenock's 2059A/9.

(N.O.I.C. Campbeltown, 2255A/9).

Shipping & Convoys.

PASTEUR.

Due Clyde 12/11 has following personnel on board. (D. of S.T., 0128A/9).

H.X.157

My P.C.S. at 1200A/9 60° N., 16° 25' W., (320°?) 8 knots. HEARTSEASE astern of me but not in contact. At 1300/8 ordered CAPE WARWICK with 1 merchant ship who were to westward of convoy to proceed independently via Minches.

(BELMONT, 1131Z/9).

Your 1115A/9. My P.C.S. are 060° 13' N.,

(015°?) 46' W., 108°, 3 knots.

(HEARTSEASE, 1710Z/9 to C. in C. W.A.)

O.N.34.

My 1222Z/7. Following received from F.O.I.C. Greenock, begins SHERBROOKE returned to Clyde with defects, ends.

(D.T.D., 1201Z/9 to Opnav).

/H.X.....

War Diary.9.11.1941.
Sunday.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping & Convoys. - Contd.H.X.156.

Three stragglers at M.O.M.P. All ships now arrived. (D.T.D., 1205A/9 to Opanav)

P.Q.3.

Sailed P.Q.3 consisting of WANSTEAD, TREKIEVE, CAPE CORSO, BRIARWOOD, SAN AMBROSIO, CAPE RACE, EL CAPITAN, and COCLE at 1400N/9. S.of A. 7 knots. (A.C.I.C., 1444N/9).

P.Q.3 H Y Para. 4. B.1 (one) MACBETH, HAMLET. B.3. position L at 1000Z/14. D.2. 0900Z/20. (A.C.I.C., 1601N/9).

SOURABAYA.
GLENARTNEY.

S.S. SOURABAYA with passengers including 100 Naval personnel is due to sail from Glasgow for New York soon after 12/11.

2. S.S. GLENARTNEY due to sail from Glasgow about 14/11 has important stores on board.

3. Request you will arrange for them to be afforded special protection in the appropriate convoys. (D.O.D. H., 1531A/9 to F.O.I.C. Greenock).

BENCLEUCH.

S.S. BENCLEUCH due to sail approx. 14/11 from Leith has important stores on board.

2. Request you will arrange for her to be afforded special protection in the appropriate convoys. (D.O.D. H., 1532A/9 to C. in C. Rosyth).

W.S.12 Z.

Part company with convoy after dark 10th and proceed Greenock. You will be required to act as A.A. escort to W.S.12 Z and to embark Admiral Kharmalov and party at Greenock on 12/11 in accordance with Admty 2259A/8. (C. in C. W.A., 1625A/9 to CAIRO).-

W.N.3.

Commodore and leading ships crossing 270° Cape Wrath making good seven knots. Convoy probably scattered owing to bad weather. (VELETA, 2050A/9).

S.P.10.Cancelled. ~~SHEL~~~~BRIT~~ 11 not sailing owing to weather. (R.N.O. Shoreham, 2145/9).F.S.643.

In present weather F.S.643 will be 5 hours late at 20 C. buoy. (VALOROUS 2239A/9 to N.O.I.C. Tyne).

War Diary.

9.11.1941.
Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

French Shipping.

Passings 8/11. Westward FORMIGNY full. Eastward OREGON, CALEDONIEN both full. (V.A.C.N.A., 0919A/9 to Admty. for M.E.W.) Escorts to these, see D.O.R.10/11.

OLYMPUS.
→ O.21.

W.M.P.10 para 16. For passing through (b) read on crossing 002° 00' E. (2) Netherlands S/M O.21 leave Gibraltar 1830/9 through 036° 25' 002° 00' W. and 038° 25' 002° 00' E. 13 knots. (F.O.C.N.A., 1338A/9 to OLYMPUS). My 1338A/9 for 038° 25' read 038° 35'. (F.O.C.N.A. 1906A/9 to OLYMPUS).

AZALEA.
S.C.91

If fuel permits return forthwith direct to Gibraltar. Fuel at Ponta Delgada if lack of fuel necessitates. Acknowledge when 100 miles clear of convoy and report action taken. (F.O.C.N.A., 1634A/9 to AZALEA).

→ O.21.

Sailed Netherlands S/M O.21 in accordance with my 1310A/3 passing through 38.35 N. 02.00. E. about 0600/12 Q.B.Q. 57, Q.B.B. 215. (F.O.C.N.A. 1836A/9 to C. in C. Med.)

CLYDE.
JONQUIL.

From position B. steer to pass through 35.00 N. 19.00 W. and thence to position A. (F.O.C.N.A. 1948A/9 to CLYDE, JONQUIL).

South Atlantic.

HOXA,
ROMEO,
reason for
call at
Ponta
Delgada.

Your 1323/23/10. C.O. of HOXA states that he was ordered by C. in C. ?South Atlantic on 8/9 to proceed to Ponta Delgada for bunkers in company with ROMEO, KOS VII and *KOS IX. Message was passed by loud speaker from ENCHANTRESS. (2) During passage it was necessary to tow KOS VII and KOS IX owing to engine room defects and shortage of fuel. (F.O.I.C. Simonstown 0940B/9 to Admty.)

* WILD FIRMAMENT.

/BEVER.....

War Diary.

9.11.1941.
Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic.- Contd.

BEVER
BOKSBURG.

H.M. South Africa Ships BEVER and BOKSBURG will sail from Durban p.m./10 E.T.A. Beira a.m./14 S. of A.8. (group omitted) knots routed in shore direct.
(N.O.I.C. Durban 1108Z/9 to N.O.I.C. E.Africa etc.)

O.S.9.
Weather
damage to
T.L.C's.

Following vessels in convoy O.S.9. sustained damage and loss of part deck cargo in heavy weather:- REMBRANDT lost forward and after sections of T.L.C.105. MADRAS CITY lost after section of T.L.C.110. ITTERSUM some damage to cargo. Cargo has been secured and all vessels can proceed to destinations but REMBRANDT and MADRAS CITY will require repairs before loading homeward. (S.S.T.O. Freetown 1415N/9 to D.of S.T.)

Force G.
P.O.W.
ELECTRA.
EXPRESS

Urgency of F.O.Force 'G's arrival at Singapore necessitates stay of PRINCE OF WALES being as short as possible over 48 hours. Request air passage for Adm. Phillips to Pretoria to be ready as soon after his arrival as he may require it.

2. Facilities for Press photographers and controlled interviews will be afforded on board. Date of release will be communicated to you by F.O. Force 'G'.
(1st. Sea Lord 1945A/9 to F.O.I.C. Simonstown.)

Possible
Vichy
reprisals
for
"Bellringer".

Your 1351A/8. As a precaution am sailing DUNEDIN at dawn/10 and DORSETSHIRE as soon as fuelled to cover S.L.92 and subsequently O.S.10 from possible trouble. This leaves no cruiser escort for ACADIA returning to U.S.A. via Trinidad but I think this can be accepted.
(C. in C.S.A. 2049N/9 to Admty.)

Force Q.

Arrival 0840/9. DUNEDIN, QUEEN EMMA, PRINCESS BEATRIX. (S.O.I. Freetown, 2101N/9 to Admty.)

93 M/S
Group.

Your 1550A/7. Hope 3 out of 4 of 93rd M.S. Group will sail from Lagos shortly. Delay caused by defects and sickness of crews for which no reliefs of right type are available on S.A.Station. Latest set back has been sickness of group Commander, relief for whom is being sought from Station resources.
(C. in C.S.A. 2152N/9 to Admty.)

War Diary.9.11.1941.
Sunday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean.General.S/Ms.Arrivals 9/11 PORPOISE, P.31.
(V.A. Malta 0930B/9 to Admty.)"Landmark"Your 1245A/7. Approved.
(C. in C. Med. 1105B/9 to V.A. Malta.)MAURO CROCE
(Italian)Departed 8/11 Genoa.
(Barcelona 1215/9 to M. of W.T.)Air
Operations.

Western Desert, night 6/7. 3 Blenheims which carried out night sweep for shipping off coast of Cyrenaica made no sightings and subsequently attacked harbour works Apollonia and barge in harbour with bombs and M/G fire, damage unobserved. My A.875, 8/11, Para.2. Following are amplified details Wellington operations night 7/8. In very bad weather 3 Wellingtons carrying 4000 lb. bombs took off with 5 others to attack Benghazi. 2 Wellingtons only reached Benghazi where 1 claims to have dropped its 4000 lb. bomb. Second Wellington dropped 2500 lbs. bombs in neighbourhood of Benghazi. Second 4000 lb. bomb was jettisoned in sea and third dropped in Bardia. 2 Wellingtons bombed Martuba landing ground and lights seen on route. Of 14 Wellingtons which took off subsequently 7 were recalled, 2 other jettisoned bombs, and further 1 returned with engine trouble. 3 of remaining 4 reached Benghazi where weather cleared after 0300 hrs. and dropped 7500 lbs. bombs without visible effect, fourth Wellington bombed Bardia.

Night 7/8. F.A.A. Albacore abandoned offensive night recco of area north-west of Sollum owing cloud over which area Albacore dropped bombs through cloud gaps on dispersed M.T. and stores near Sollum. 6 Blenheims despatched to attack M.T. repair depot at Derna found objective covered 7/10 cloud. 1 bombed repair depot, 3 attacked dump north of landing ground. Remaining Blenheims attacked M.T. west of Derna and A/A gun positions at Ras El Qin.

Day 8/11. 9 Marylands were despatched to attack Berka aerodrome with Benina as alternative objective Marylands arrived over Benghazi area at midday and finding both objectives obscured by 8/10 to 10/10 cloud at 4000 feet dropped 72 250 pound bombs west of Benina. 2 Fortresses which

/left

War Diary.

9.11.1941.

Sunday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean - contd.Air
Operations
contd.

left in the early morning to attack Benghazi Harbour found objective covered by 9/10 cloud on arrival there about 1300 hours. 2000 pound bombs dropped, results unobserved. 2000 pound bombs also dropped on Sollum. (H.Q. R.A.F. M.E. 1222/9.)

Suez Raid.

Ref. C.A.F.O. 587.

(A) Night 8/9, 0129-0534, calm cloudy.
 (B) High level attack by two E/A on Suez and Gulf of Suez. (C) H.E. (D) About 8 bombs all in Suez area including one D.A. (E) Army canteen club hit, no other damage, no casualties.*
 (F) 5 fighters patrolling, no interceptions, A/A barrage results unknown. (G) Searchlights active and balloons up.
 (S.B.N.O. S.C.A., 1301B/9 to Adty.)* See also 1307B/11, page 280.

Tobruk
navigation.

Following is a repetition of T.O.O. 1403/5 (N.T. in W.R.) Med.1022/586/19 of 13/7/1941. Request early reply. In view of fact that 28 known wrecks now exist at Tobruk in the anchorage area of 1½ square miles request that O.U.5254/38 be amended to allow pilotage for this port to ships drawing more than 14 feet. All pilotage, invariably at night, is now carried by Naval Officers. (Ends.) (C. in C. Med., 1325/9 to Admty.)

Black Sea,
situation.

Extract from 1604/6 from N.L.O. Black Sea to Admiralty (quoted). (D.N.I. 1434A/9 to C. in C. Med.)

ABBAZIA.

Now expected Istanbul from Piraeus next 72 hours. Graded C.5. (S.O.I. Istanbul 1705B/9)

3 Malta
Night Raids.

3 alarms night 8/9. 1740 hours, 12 raiders approached singly 2 over Island. Bombs Ta Kali Rabat area and sea, no damage or casualties. 2343 hours, 1 raider circled Gozo, bombs in sea. 0350 hours, 3 raiders approached singly did not cross coast no illumination or interceptions, 2 alarms.
 Day 9/11, R/C aircraft flying great height 0829 hours, 2 crossed coast, no interceptions. 1146 hours, second R/C, 2 over Island, A.A. fired.

/Convoy

War Diary.9.11.1941.
Sunday.FOREIGN STATIONS.MediterraneanConvoy
(attacked
by Force K.)

Day 8/11 p.m. R/C Gulf Kalamata, Zante, nothing seen. P.M.R/C Kerkennah, Zuara, Tripoli, and same R/C 9/11 saw nothing. 1400 hours shadowing Convoy 6 M.V. 4 D/Rs sighted by R/C 1150 hours (see my 1230, 8/11) failed find owing very low cloud bad visibility. Special Wellington despatched 1930 hours same mission and failed owing electrical effects. Cephalonia, Corfu, R/C. 0905 hours, white Hospital ship seen 135° Cape Spartivento 35 miles, course 085° 9 knots. 0615 hours 1 large D/R 1 medium D/R stationary 148° Cape Rizzuto 94 miles. 0803 hours seen same position, course 330°, 6 knots. Kalamata, Zante, R/C 1023 hours 106° Cape Spartivento, 130 miles, 1 tanker 4000 tons burning, 1 stationary M/V 5000 tons, 2 cruisers, 3 D/R, escorted 3 large 2 small aircraft. This Convoy part of above 6 M/V 4 D/R attacked by Naval Force.
(H.Q. R.A.F. Malta, 1755/9)

Augusta,
Syracuse,
Lecce,
Messina,
Naples,
Palermo,
Catania
bombed.

Night 8/11. 5 naval aircraft attacked submarine base Aurumta (?Augusta), time over target 2010 hours to 2038 hours. Large fire started oil tanks, growing immense blaze visible 25 miles. 1 aircraft attacked Syracuse in error, bombs burst quayside. 4 Wellingtons to Brindisi failed to find owing bad weather, bombed Lecce. Messina. Other results not observed as bombs dropped through cloud gaps. 17 Wellingtons to Naples, very bad weather obscured target and some aircraft attacked alternative targets Palermo, Catania, Syracuse. Results, Naples. etc.
(H.Q. Malta 1758/9, 1800/9.)

PROTEUS.

Leave patrol p.m./11 passing through 036° 02' 023° 37' and 035° 08' 023° 07' 15, latter at approx. noon/12 and thence through 032° 32' 028° 33' and direct to end Alexandria searched channel arriving in Sanctuary at 0500B/15. THORN will be routed to pass through Kaso Straits p.m./12. (Capt. S.1, 1851B/9 to PROTEUS.)

/Situation

War Diary.9.11.1941.
Sunday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean. - Contd.Situation
Report 165.

Central Mediterranean. Force K. intercepted and destroyed two convoys at 0047/9 in 036° 59' N. 018° 07' E. from D/F bearings. Enemy cruisers were apparently endeavouring to cover convoys.

See A.M.1510/9. (Refer to Vice Adm. Malins 1510/9, para 231)

2. A.M. 2005/7 para A. Blenheims attacked convoy during day 8/11. After second attack at 1400/8 the smaller ship was reported abandoned and low in water position 035° 07' N. 019° 45' E. having been hit in first attack. Larger ship was also left on fire.

3. Submarines. UPHOLDER sank enemy U-Boat at 0400, in 036.17 N. 016.22 E. 4. TRUANT returned from successful patrol in Adriatic (A) attacked south-west bound convoy of three M/Vs and one A.M.C. a.m. 23/10 (?79) miles 105° from Santa Maria Di Leuca. Leading ship 3500 tons torpedoed and sunk. A.M.C. 8000 tons also hit but able to rejoin convoy at ten knots.

(B) After unsuccessful attack on 3500-ton ship in ballast off Monopoli, TRUANT engaged with gunfire at 0739/24 until ship in flames.

Aircraft forced TRUANT to dive but at 1600 ship still seen burning. (C) At 1500/31 October in position 080° Punta Penna 4.5 miles, scored one hit on convoy of three tankers and one destroyer close inshore. TRUANT was in only 10 fathoms and destroyer passed directly overhead when at 50 feet. Submarine bottomed and buried bows in mud 4° down while destroyer steamed around but was able to get clear later and proceeded seaward undamaged. (D) Special landing operation carried out successfully on 27/10

5. Operation "Glencoe" successfully completed. R.A.D. and destroyers have returned to Alexandria.

6. Red Sea. Further minor air raids on Gulf of Suez Area night 8/9. CARLISLE engaged aircraft. No damage reported.

7. Western Desert. Minor air raids and shelling continue but routine work of Port has not been interrupted.

8. My 1926/6, para 2 (U.Boat 32' W. of Alex. at 2220/5) report confirmed and U-Boat thought to have been damaged in subsequent attack. (C. in C. Med., 2141B/9 to Admty.)

War Diary.

9.11.1941.
Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

Action of Force K. with Italian Convoy.

Commanding Officers.

List of C.Os of ships in action, from Admiralty announcement 9/11 to Press and B.B.C :-
AURORA - Captain W.G. Agnew R.N.
PENELOPE - Captain A.D. Nicholl R.N.
LANCE - Lieut.Comdr. R.W.F. Northcott R.N.
LIVELY - Lieut.Comdr. W.F.E. Hussey R.N.

See p. 256

Position.

6 Merchant Vessels 4 Destroyers bearing 060°. Distance 5 miles. Course unknown. My position 36.59 N., 18.07 E. (S.O. Force K. 0047/9.)

Numbers sunk.

Following received from S.O. Force K (Begins) Estimated 2 destroyers and 10 merchant vessels sunk, 2 destroyers escaped. T.O.O. 01 (?53)B/9 (Ends). Convoy was previously reported as 4 destroyers and 6 merchant vessels. (V.A. Malta, 0330B/9 to Admty.)

UPHOLDER report of enemy force.

2 Trento class Italian cruisers, 6 destroyers, P.C. and S. 037° 12' N., 018° 33' E. 340°, 6, one damaged destroyer being towed. Weather report. (UPHOLDER 1040B/9 to V.A. Malta.)
2 enemy cruisers 3 destroyers 2 merchant ships 037° 20' N. 018° 45' E. circling one merchant ship on fire at 1038B/9.
(Capt. S. 10, 1145B/9 to S/Ms on Patrol.)

Press Reports.

Any press stories on action by Force K. are to be held until permission is given to release by Admiralty. Stories are to give no indication (a) of composition of force (b) that force is operating from Malta. Stories should be unsigned and have no Malta dateline. Desirable to suggest that Force K. operates from Alexandria and that encounters are fortuitous.
(D.P.D., 1338A/9, to V.A. Malta) Cancelled, see 2011A/9.)

Return of Force K.

Arrival 9/11 AURORA, PENELOPE, LANCE, LIVELY. (V.A. Malta, 1344B/9 to Admty.)
Force K. has returned to harbour.
(Capt. S. 10. 1615B/9 to S/Ms on Patrol.)

/Report

War Diary.9.11.1941.
Sunday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean.Action of Force K. with Italian Convoy contd.Report of
Action.

Your 0830A/9.

(i) Enemy convoy sighted by Maryland at 1355B/8 consisting of 4 destroyers and 6 merchant vessels in 037° 53' N. 016° 56' E.

(ii) Force K. sailed from Malta at 1730B/8 and intercepted at 0040B/9.

(iii) Convoy then found to consist of 4 destroyers and 8 merchant vessels with a second convoy 2 destroyers and 2 merchant vessels joining.

(iv) Result of engagement. 2 destroyers (W.D. Note.- UPHOLDER 1901B/9 says 1 destroyer) sunk and one damaged. 9 Merchant vessels set on fire and sunk, including one ammunition ship which blew up. In addition 10,000 ton tanker left furiously ablaze and air report still burning at 1038B/9. Considered total loss.

(v) UPHOLDER reports 2 TRENTO class cruisers, 6 destroyers with one damaged destroyer in tow 037° 12' N. 018° 33' E. at 1040B/9.

(vi) No damage or casualties to Force K. No prisoners taken.

(vii) Force K. attacked by torpedo bombers a.m./9. No hits.

(viii) Attack under command Captain Agnew of AURORA was carried out with great skill and determination, reflects the very greatest credit. (V.A. Malta, 1510B/9 to Admty.)

Note. For report of R/C aircraft, see H.Q. R.A.F. Malta, 1755/9.)

Enemy
Withdrawal
to Messina.
Orders to
UPHOLDER.
URGE.

Air R/C 9th indicates enemy naval force withdrawn to Messina. UPHOLDER proceed in execution of previous orders. Choice of following targets for URGE before proceeding to patrol: one Merchant ship 037° 16' 017° 56' stopped at 1341. One Merchant ship 037° 26' 018° 06' 095° 3 knots at 1456.

(Capt. S. 10. 1813B/9 to UPHOLDER, URGE.)

My 1813B/9. Proceed to patrol M.

(Capt. S. 10. 2103B/9 to URGE.)

Torpedoes expended. E.T.A. 0631B/11. Keeping well clear southward of URGE. One destroyer sunk and one damaged but cruiser escaped. Weather report. (UPHOLDER, 1901B/9 to V.A. Malta.)

Give brief estimate of what destroyed and what escaped during Force K's action.

(V.A. Malta, 1926B/9 to UPHOLDER.)

/Press

War Diary.

9.11.1941.
Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

Action of Force K. with Italian Convoy contd.

Press
Reports.

Cancel Admty. 1338A/9. It is now clear that the enemy must realise the identity and base of the force that attacked the convoy. Press stories may be transmitted at your discretion, for final censorship at Admiralty.
(V.P.D. 2011A/9 to V.A. Malta.) See p. 230

Admty.
Commendation.

Congratulations on your brilliant and most successful action against such a strongly escorted enemy convoy.
(1st Lord 2103A/9 to S.O. Force K.)

9.11.1941.
Sunday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

AUSTRALIA
W.S.12 X.
~~MAURETANIA~~
COURT
COLOMBO.

Your 1600/7. (i) Intend AUSTRALIA shall escort W.S. 12 X and provide liaison officer.
(ii) Following are revised arrangements for escort of MAURETANIA. COLOMBO will escort from Durban to vicinity of Mombasa relieved by CERES thenceforward. The delay to MAURETANIA if bad weather is met must be accepted.
(C.in C. E.I. 0826Z/9, to F.O.I.C. Simonstown).

REPULSE.

C.in C. Home Fleet's 1359B/14/7. Report by signal. (a) Whether you now consider that extensive refit before the end of the year is essential. (b) When you assume ship must be withdrawn from service for this refit. (c) Any defects the repair of which by Singapore would assist to maintain efficiency.
(A.C.N.S.(F) 1343A/9 to REPULSE).

China.

French
shipping.

C.O.I.S. Singapore's 1131/8. C.Z.M. has established air R/C and is sending 2 destroyers to Sunda Strait. I have no cruisers available.
(C.in C. China 0303Z/9 to C.in C. E.I.).

M.N.B.D.O.
Nancowry.

Your 1202/8. In view of unhealthy conditions at Nancowry consider it essential that personnel should be in good health on arrival. Concur therefore in your para (v). Delay will allow for further progress with anti-Malaria measures. Effort will be made to clear site before CLAN FORBES arrives. M.N.B.D.O. representatives, E.T.A. Colombo 18th, are bringing proposals.
(C.in C. China 0305Z/9 to C.in C. E.I.).

/A.M.....

War Diary.

9.11.1941.
Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

China.

M.N.B.D.O.
Nancowry
-Contd.

A.M. 1939 of 21/8. Para C. M.N.B.D.O. R/C parties from Nancowry recommend closing western entrance to harbour possibly by contact mines as they consider it will be impracticable to instal guns and D.E. minefields within a reasonable time owing to steep slopes and dense jungle. They propose site 2 guns on Naval point and 2 guns near Reids Point. I concur in this revised lay out which has many advantages including eliminating one area from anti-Malaria measures reducing requirements for tonnage and simplifying administration. I consider obvious disadvantages are acceptable.
(C.in C. China. 0309Z/9 to Admty.).

VILLE DE
VERDUN
PIERRE L.D.
(French).

My 1131/8. Chesor R.N. 0730/7 indicates VILLE DE VERDUN will shortly proceed Tamatave. Now reported PIERRE L.D. in ballast, hence this was probably genuine destination.
(C.O.I.S.Singapore, 0317Z/9 to Admty.).

CORTELLAZZO
(Italian).

My 0302/3. Departure approx. date 6/11. Possible she is trading under Japanese Charter.
(C.O.I.S.Singapore 0401Z/9 to Admty.).

America and West Indies.

W.S.12 X.

Opnav's 1525Z/8. W.S. 12 X. E.T.A. R/V position B 1200/10 G.M.T. This will be confirmed when time of departure is known. Opnav pass to C.in C. Atlantic Fleet and Cmdr. Task Group No.14.4. (C.O.A.C. Halifax 0345Z/9 to C.in C. A.F. etc.). Cancel my 0345Z/9. Amended time of R/V will be signalled direct by Cdre. W.S. 12 X. Opnav pass to C.in C. Lant Cmdr. Task Group No. 14.4. (C.O.A.C. Halifax 1939Z/9 to C.in C. Lant.etc.).

/PHOEBE.....

War Diary.

9.11.1941.
Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies. -Contd.

PHOEBE.

Left Freetown 7/11 E.T.A. Trinidad 14/11. Leaves Trinidad 16/11. E.T.A. New York 20/11.
(C.in C. A.W.I. 0959Q/9 to DESPATCH PHOEBE).

P.511.
P.551.

B.A.D.'s 1237R/8. Request C.O.A.C. issue instructions for route from New London to St. Johns N.F., and C.C.N.F. sail submarines when ready in accordance with F.O.(S). 1311A/2. B.A.D. pass to B.N.L.O. Portsmouth N.H. (C.in C. A.W.I. 1042Q/9 to C.O.A.C. C.C.N.F.). My 1237R/8 P.551 delayed 3 days. Propose ship sails in company on 11/11.
(B.A.D. 1401R/9 to C.in C. A.W.I.).

DESPATCH.

Leave Trinidad 14/11 and carry out following programme:-
Barbados, 15-16 /11.
St. Lucia, 16-18 /11;
Antigua, 19-20 /11;
St. Kitts, 20-22 /11;
St. Thomas, 22-23 /11.
Complete with fuel St. Thomas. Request B.A.D. notify U.S. authorities of visit to St. Thomas and arrange fuel.
(C.in C. A.W.I. 1222/9 to S.O. W. Indies Force).

War Diary.

9.11.1941.
Sunday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Submarines Reported.

2054 G.M.T/8. By D/F at 2054/8 G.M.T. U/Boat estimated to be to the Westward of Freetown and between 22° 00' W., - 25° 00' W.
(D.D.I.C. 0438A/9 to C. in C.S.A.)

Estimated approx., positions of U/Bs.
(D.D.I.C. 1431A/9, 1432A/9.)

2018 G.M.T. D/F bearings at 2018 G.M.T. indicate Italian U/Boat in area 46° to 47° N., 6° to 8° W., inward bound.
(D.D.I.C. 2207A/9, to UNA.)

War Diary.

10.11.1941.
Monday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

Watch
for
enemy
units.

CUMBERLAND sailed from Scapa this ^{afternoon} morning for Hval Fiord (due 1500A/12) RODNEY having refuelled, left Loch Ewe on the evening of 8/11 to cover the Iceland-Faeroes passage from first light this morning.

Weather.

A gale is blowing and the movement of ships and convoys has been interrupted. The ports of Aberdeen, Peterhead and Blyth were closed this evening.

Damage to
A/C for
U.S.S.R.
by
carelessness.

S.B.N.O. Archangel reports that in P.Q.2 11 Hurricanes in addition to other stores were damaged solely due to improper stowage and securing.

Enemy Air Operations.

East
Coast.

Convoy F.N.548 was attacked near 18D Buoy at 1725A today. QUANTOCK shot down a DO 215. No damage to ships is reported.

The Hartlepool Examination Vessel LONGSCAR was damaged by air attack this morning.

One bomb was dropped on Kings Lynn docks at 0500A today. No damage was caused.

Yarmouth Roads were bombed at 1518 and 1724; no damage or casualties occurred.

Convoy F.S.642 was bombed at 1245 today in 52° 43' N. 2° 0' E.

North Atlantic.

Operation
"Perpetual".
(Hurricanes for
Kalla.)

MALAYA, ARK ROYAL, ARGUS, HERMIONE and 7 destroyers sailed from Gibraltar at 0230A today.

War Diary.

10.11.1941.
Monday.

SITUATION REPORT.

South Atlantic.

The Brazilian Govt. have purchased from Italy 7 ships which are refuging in their ports.

DEVONSHIRE reports a case of sabotage on board between 1200/9 and 0800/10. The damage has only nuisance value.

Mediterranean.

Malta.

Enemy aircraft made 6 attempts to attack Malta last night and some bombs were dropped. No naval damage is reported.

Air operations.

3 Albacores bombed Augusta last night and Wellingtons carried out nuisance raids on Naples and Messina, bad weather having ruined their proposed programme.

Libya and Western Desert.

Last night, 19 Wellingtons bombed Benghazi.

Black Sea.

The Russian Naval authorities report that a Soviet S/M recently sank one of two large Roumanian liners believed to be KING CAROL and KING FERDINAND whilst they were northbound off the Bulgarian coast.

War Diary.

10.11.1941.
Monday.

SITUATION REPORT.

East Indies.

There are 26 vessels, mostly Italian merchant ships lying sunk in the Red Sea and on the adjacent north east coast of Africa. A good proportion of these are hopeful salvage cases, and preparations are being made to salve them. This does not include ships inside Massawa harbour, for salving of which the U.S. Navy will be called on if the operation should prove to be beyond British capabilities.

War Diary.

10.11.41.
Monday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Policy.

ST. MELLONS.

Request that arrangements may be made for H.M. Tug ST. MELLONS as soon as ready to be sailed for Greenock and thence to Gibraltar at first convenient opportunity.
H.M. Tugs SEAMAN and SUPERMAN will not be sent to Gibraltar.
(C.C.R.T. 1126A/10.)

Holyhead Anchorage Patrol.

Request you employ 19th M/L Flotilla to patrol as requisite when heavy concentration in Merchant Ship anchorage.
(C. in C. W.A., 1644A/10 to N.O.I.C. Holyhead.)

SULTANHISAR DEMIRHISAR (Turkish)

Propose (a) to bring both ships up river as soon as weather moderates (b) to retain the date proposed in my 2258/9 for commissioning with those ratings now in Glasgow. This will enable ships to be stored and ready in all respects by the time Messrs. Denny have completed their work, when remainder of crews can join.
(F.O.I.C. Glasgow, 2210/10.)

Co-operation with Russia.

Ice in White Sea. Ports.

(A) White Sea. Broken ice up to 10 miles to N.W. of North Dvina L.V.
(B) Archangel. Two M/S berthed Ekonomia without ice breakers 9/11. Above Ekonomia ice will soon be too heavy for escorts even with 9 ice breakers. Minimum temperature at night minus 11° F.
(C) Molotovsk. Assisted by tugs escorts could berth easily. Admiralty pass to all addresses except S.B.N.O. North Russia.
(S.B.N.O. Archangel, 0912C/10.)

Method of withdrawing Russian Forces.

Proposed procedure for achieving withdrawal of Russian Forces in areas to East of 15° E.
(A.C.N.S.(H), 2014A/10.)
See Lion Copy.

Movements.

CELIA, WINDERMERE.

CELIA and WINDERMERE sailed 2315, in accordance with C. in C. H.F. 1546Z/7th. ^{N.T. N.W.3.}
(A.C.I.C., 0017N/10.)

/CITY OF.....

MOST SECRET

2014A/10th November.

MOST SECRET

MESSAGE

OUT

To C. in C. Home Fleet. 61.
S.B.N.O. North Russia. 71. Date. 10.11.41
Repeated. F.O.S. 902.
Admiral Miles 39.
V.A. 2. 417
R.A.D. 281.

Naval Cypher (D)
Inter Departmental Cypher (02392)39.

From Admiralty.

S.B.N.O. North Russia has pointed out objections to the present method of achieving withdrawal of Russian forces in areas to the East of 15 degs East.

2. In future endeavour should be made to inform S.B.N.O. North Russia of proposed date and area of any projected operation of H.M. Ships in North Russia.

3. On receipt of such information S.B.N.O. North Russia is requested to signal latest local intelligence and any suggestions he may wish to make.

4. When date and area of operation are finally decided S.B.N.O. North Russia is requested to make arrangements with C. in C. Northern Fleet for such restrictions on Russian Force as S.B.N.O. North Russia may consider necessary.

5. The following points should be borne in mind :-

- (a) Restrictions should be adequate to cover approach and withdrawal of H.M. Forces as well as the actual operation.
- (b) Possible compromise of Russian cyphers makes it desirable not to signal details of the operation to Russian submarines.
- (c) Local atmospheric conditions and inability to receive while submerged may involve considerable delay in transmission of messages to Russian submarines.

1st Lord.

2014A/10

1st S.L.

D.O.D. (H)

5th S.L.

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

V.C.N.S.

A.C.N.S. (H)

D.N.A.D.

A.C.N.S. (W)

D.A./S.W.

N.A. 1st S.L.

I.P. (2)

D.D.I.C.

D.O.D. (H)

E.P.S.

D.D.O.D. (H)

W.D.

N.I.D. 10

D.N.I. (4)

Duty Capt.

(Pay. Cdr.

D.S.D.

Hd. of M.

Wilson)

War Diary.

10.11.1941.
Monday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Movements - Contd.

CITY OF
DURBAN.

Subject to trials CITY OF DURBAN should complete refit 14/11. Following proposed sailing programme.
(F.O.I.C. London, 1155/10.)

O.9., H.33,
Z.5.

My 1302A/9. Postponed for 24 hours owing to weather.
(N.O.I.C. Londonderry, 1452A/10.)

UNA.

UNA leave patrol after dark 12th proceed diving by day through 046° 01' N. 005° 30' W. and 047° 59' N. 006° 00' W. to R/V with CUTTY SARK in 270° Wolf Rock 3 miles at 0800A/14. Light, S.B.R., and T.B.R. arranged as follows.
(Capt. S.3., 1453A/10 to UNA.)

→ CUMBERLAND.

Scapa departure CUMBERLAND. E.T.A. Hvalfjord 1500A/12 without fail 1600A.
(A.C.O.S. 1535A/10.) *see also next page.*

CILICIA.

My 1645/3. Anticipate CILICIA will be leaving Clyde towards end of November for Freetown.
(S.O.W.P., 1620A/10.)

BLANKNEY.

In view of C. in C. W.A. 1601A/10. ^{N.T.N.W.D.} Cancel my 1426A/10. ^{N.T.N.W.D.}
(Capt. D. Londonderry 1821A/10.)

ALBURY.

My 1522/10. ^{N.T.N.W.D.} ALBURY will not now sail.
(C. in C. Rosyth, 1848/10.)

SHARPSHOOTER.

Request you will sail SHARPSHOOTER to Scapa. On arrival at Scapa SHARPSHOOTER is to act under orders of C. in C. H.F.
(C. in C. W.A., 1906A/10 to F.O.I.C. Cardiff.)

Operations.

Interception
of Heavy
Unit.

KENT is to pass boom at 1900Z/12 to carry out patrol to Westward Northern Patrol trawler lines covering Iceland Faroe Islands Passage.
(C. in C. H.F., 1228Z/10 and 2254Z/10.)
Scapa departure CUMBERLAND. E.T.A. Hvalfjord 1500A/12. *See also next page.*
(A.C.O.S. 1535A/10.)

/Troop.....

War Diary.10.11.1941.
Monday.HOME COMMANDS.Operations. - Contd.Troop
Embarkation
Exercise.

(a) Request permission as S.O. ships referred to in Admty. 2053/7 to arrange the following. (PRINCE CHARLES, 1243A/10 and 1244A/10 to V.A.C.T.C.)

British Air Activity.RODNEY.A/S escort will be provided when weather conditions permit.
(A.C.I.C., 0018N/10 to RODNEY.)
Expect Hudson A/S escort from 0815N at R/V.
(A.C.I.C., 0701N/10 to RODNEY.)Patrols."Stand" in operation.
(C. in C. Rosyth, 0522/10.)
"Bert" in operation.
(C. in C. Rosyth, 1216/10.)
My 1041/7. It is no longer possible to fly patrol "Stand" every 6 hours owing to weather.
(C. in C. Rosyth, 1907/10.)Gear for
VICTORIOUS.

Your 1506/9. Owing to uncertainty of flying conditions greater part or all gear will be embarked CUMBERLAND who will sail about 1400A to-day Monday. (V.A., 2 1109A/10 to C. in C.H.F.)

CUMBERLAND sailed 1535A.
*See previous page.*R.A.F. and
Polish
Airmen for
U.K.Following are awaiting passage to U.K. from Murmansk (a) 50 R.A.F. Officers and about 500 airmen (b) 800 Polish airmen and Naval ratings. (iii) After arrival of P.Q.3 at Archangel or in White Sea, ocean escort is to proceed Murmansk and embark as many personnel as practicable priority being given to R.A.F.(?) (iv) Sailing of Q.P.3 and R/V for ocean escort are to be arranged with S.B.N.O. Archangel.
(C. in C.H.F., 1423Z/10 to C.S.10.)Enemy Air Activity.Ramsgate
bombed.4 H.E.s and a few incendiary bombs were dropped on Ramsgate at 2345/9. (Civil damage and casualties.) Slight damage to R.N. Sick Quarters windows. No other damage to Admiralty property or personnel reported.
(N.O.I.C. Ramsgate, 0740/10.)

/CRADDOCK.....

War Diary.10.11.1941.
Monday.HOME COMMANDS.Enemy Air Activity - Contd.CRADDOCK
sunk on
8/11.

R.N.O. Berwick reports Trawler POLAR PRINCE arrived at Berwick at 1730 with crew of Trawler CRADDOCK. Skipper of CRADDOCK reports that his vessel was bombed and sunk by two near misses about 3 miles east of St. Abbs at 1830/8 by German twin-engined plane probably Junkers. Crew of 9 were able to get into ship's boat and after 8 hours got aboard Trawler POLAR PRINCE which was anchored off Eyemouth. Same German plane dropped flares and bombed and machine-gunned other vessel but damage if any, not known. One man suffering from exposure.
(C. in C. Rosyth, 1002/10.)

LONGSCAR
damaged.

Hartlepool Examination Vessel LONGSCAR attacked by A/C a.m. today. Damaged by near miss. No casualties.
(N.O.I.C. Hartlepool 1030/10.)

Faroes
bombed
on 9/11.

Single enemy aircraft made flight over Thorshavn at 1000/9. Effectively engaged by fire. Three hits observed. Plane dropped bombs at random in sea off town.
(O.C. Faroes, 1130/10.)

Convoy
F.S.642.

Enemy aircraft bombing convoy "Breast" in 52° 43' N. 2° 0' E.
(VERDUN, 1245/10.)

Kings Lynn
bombed.

Enemy aircraft dropped one bomb on Kings Lynn docks 0500A/10. A. to D. Nil.
(F.O.I.C. Gt. Yarmouth, 1310A/10.)

BUCCANEER
damaged
on 9/11.

Tug BUCCANEER with B.P.T. in tow was attacked by hostile aeroplane off entrance to Montrose at 1815/9. 1 bomb penetrated deck and ship's bottom without exploding and fires were started in ship by tracer bullets from machine guns. Vessel drove ashore in Montrose Bay at mouth of Northesk River at about 2100, B.P.T. standing about 200 yards away. All 43 of crew of BUCCANEER were safely landed today by rocket apparatus: some are slightly injured but hoped none seriously. BUCCANEER considered salvable when weather moderates.
(N.O.I.C. Dundee, 1716/10.)

/Convoy.....

War Diary.10.11.1941.
Monday.HOME COMMANDS.Enemy Air Activity - Contd.Convoy
F.N. 48.
A/C shot
down.Have shot down one Dornier 215 in flames.
My position 18D Buoy.
(QUANTOCK, 1725A/10.)Convoy
"Prize"Enemy bombing Convoy "Prize" whose position
is (indecipherable).
(VIVIAN, 1726/10.)Yarmouth
bombed.Yarmouth Roads bombed 1558 and 1724. No
damage or casualties.
(F.O.I.C. Gt. Yarmouth, 1845A/10.)Mining.North
Russian
waters.Your 1529C/9 para. 2. Request Western limit.
(D.M.S., 1018A/10 to S.B.N.O. North Russia.)
Your 1018A/10. Western limit a line drawn
000° from 70° 54'30" N. 25° 37'30" E.
(S.B.N.O. North Russia, 2201C/10 to Admty.)Thames
Estuary.Enemy aircraft were over the Estuary early last
night and several bombs were dropped and exploded
on Maplin Sands in area South Shoebury Buoy to
mid Shoebury Buoy between 1935 and 1945. Two
heavy explosions with flashes at 1933 and one at
1940 reported in Foulness Area.
(X.D.O. Sheerness, 1544/10.)Blyth.Port of Blyth closed.
(C. in C. Rosyth, 1914/10 to VIVIAN.)Mines in
Rosyth
Command.28th October to 4th November. The following
drifting mines and German explosive floats have
been dealt with in this Command. Details.
Cancel my 1823/7/11.
(C. in C. Rosyth, 2203/10.)Enemy Intelligence.German
Main Units.Latest known positions.
(D.D.I.C. 1715A/10.) See Lion Copy.TIRPITZ,
EMDEN,
LUTZOW.Photographic R/C Kiel on 9/11 shows TIRPITZ and
EMDEN alongside, LUTZOW in dry dock.
(D.D.I.C. 1141A/10.)

SECRET.

M E S S A G E.

1715A/10th November. OUT.

Date 10.11.41. 244A

To A.I.G. 62.
A.I.G. 21.
F.O.S.
H.Q.C.C.
H.Q.B.C.

NAVAL CODE (L one) BY W/T & P/L by secret T/P

From Admiralty.

IMPORTANT.

German Main Units:-

TIRPITZ }
EMDEN } At Kiel, alongside, 9th November.

LÜTZOW At Kiel in dock 9th November.

SCHARNHORST)
GNEISENAU } At Brest, in dock, 7th November.
PRINZ EUGEN)

HIPPER Left Kiel between 24th October and
9th November. Reported in Sassnitz area
5th November (B2).

SEYDLITZ At Bremen, completing 21st October.

LEIPZIG In Kiel Bay, 20th October, believed to
be still in Baltic.

NÜRNBERG }
KÖLN } At Gdynia, 29th September, believed
be still in Baltic.

SCHLESWIG-HOLSTEIN At Hamburg, 9th November.

SCHLESIEN Reported in Central Baltic,
7th October (B2)

ADMIRAL SCHER Reported in Sassnitz area
5th November (B2).

1715A/10

for D.D.I.C. (Green Line 9)

1st Lord	Capt. Pim Admiralty Hsq.	I.P. (3)
1st S.L.	Ops. (3)	W.D.
4th S.L.	O.D. (5)	D.P.D.
5th S.L.	D.N.I. (4)	D.S.D. (2)
V.C.N.S.	D.T.D. (4)	M. (2)
A.C.N.S. (H)	D.T.D. (M)	E.P.S.
A.C.N.S. (F)	D.T.D. (C)	D.N.A.D.
A.C.N.S. (T) (2)	O.I.C. (4)	C.C.L.S.
A.C.N.S. (W)	D. of P. (3)	
Nav. Sec.	D.A/S.W.	
N.A. 1st S.L.		

War Diary.10.11.1941.
Monday.HOME COMMANDS.Navigational.Lights.

A.4253 10/11. Request information as to whether North Foreland Light No.355 was illuminated night of 17/10 also Haisboro L.V. No.499 night of 25/10. If neither was illuminated request details of any lights illuminated in close proximity of Nos. 355 and 499 on nights in question. Information should include buoys stating colour of light.
(A.S.4 Air Ministry, 1130/10 to Admty.)

Aberdeen.

Port of Aberdeen closed, on account of weather.
(F.O.I.C. Aberdeen, 1630/10.)

Peterhead.

Peterhead Harbour closed on account of weather.
(F.O.I.C. Aberdeen, 1710/10.)

Elbow
Buoy.

Elbow Light Buoy approx. 1 mile south of its charted position.
(V.A. Dover, 1858A/10.)

Area 6.

Admiralty Lettered Message H.F.
Reference C.A.M.S.I. 463. Navigation lights should not be burned in area 6A.
(A.C.N.S. T., 2358Z/10.)

Technical.R.D.F.

identification. My 2218A/2. Add to para. 2 (B). Position of detecting ship must be normal. (C) All such reports must be cancelled or amplified. If amplified as suspicious complete report must be made in fleet code for benefit of U.S. Ships. Para. 4 when practicable, detecting ship should subsequently confirm bearing of apparently friendly transmission by (Air Station?).
(C. in C. H.F., 1906/10 to H.F.8Z.)

Casualties and Defects.STANLAKE

(Broke
down 9/11.)

Coastguard Port Patrick. Received at 2316 G.M.T. Cancel assistance vessel now holding her own.
(Port Patrick, 0016/10.)

/WINONA.....

War Diary.10.11.1941.
Monday.HOME COMMANDS.Casualties and Defects - Contd.WINONA.

WINONA off A buoy urgently needs aid.
(N.L.O. Fighter Command, 0235 G.M.T./10.)
Departure Tugs KROOMAN and DIVERSION to meet
WINONA between Number 5 Buoy and Yarmouth.
(F.O.I.C. Gt. Yarmouth, 1410A/10.)
Arrival tugs DIVERSION and KROOMAN with S.S.
WINONA. Vessel now anchored in Roads with
tugs standing by.
(F.O.I.C. Gt. Yarmouth, 1805A/10.)

VOLLRATH
THAM
(Swedish)

Intercepted. 0151 G.M.T. approx. from VOLLRATH
THAM (Swedish) begin - S O S. We are sinking
 $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles from Hubert Gat. Ends.
(C. in C. Rosyth, 0251/10.)
Your 1128N/10. Message intercepted by
Cullercoats W/T at 0151/10 G.M.T. from S.S.
VOLLRATH THAM in distress off North Coast of
Holland.
(D.D.I.C., 1909A/10 to C. in C. S.A.)

XP257

DALCROY.

Following received from DALCROY. Require
naval assistance shutting off steam. Is
DALCROY in company.
(N.O.I.C. Liverpool, 0816/10 to CAIRO.)

ANGLE
(Broke
down 8/11.)

My position 0800Z, 060° 18' N. 017° 04' W.
Have succeeded in starting at slow speed, course
122°, 1 knot.
(ANGLE, 0934Z/10.)
Am standing by ANGLE, approx. P.C.S. 060° 17' N.
017° W., 150°, 2 knots.
(RENONCULE, 1318Z/10.)

SUNFISH.

Sheerness arrival SUNFISH in tow tug STALWART
at 0850.
(C. in C. Nore, 1016A/10.)

CAPE ARGONA.

Again developed serious boiler trouble on return
to Tobermory. Probably caused by leaking tubes.
Ship sailed for Belfast for repair at 1300 today.
(WESTERN ISLES, 1343A/10.)

War Diary.10.11.1941.
Monday.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping and Convoys.S.C. 53.

S.C. 53 is about 4 days late.. Detach 3 corvettes forthwith to return to Londonderry. They will sail with VOLUNTEER and CALDWELL about 15/11 to meet S.C. 53. When relieved at M.O.M.P. remaining escorts return to Londonderry.

(C. in C. W.A., 0103A/10 to VANOC.)

Informing Opnav.

(D.T.D., 0838Z/10.)

Wabana
convoys.

Proposed abolition.

See America and West Indies.

W.N. 3.

My 1230A/9. Ships did not sail owing to weather.

(N.C.S.O. Kirkwall, 0900A/10.)

W.N. 31.

Am in 058° 45' N. 003° 50' W. with one ship. COTILLION 10 miles astern with 8 ships, I am not in touch, Commodore suggests attempt to re-organize convoy in Thurso Bay.

(VELETA, 0930A/10.)

P.Q. Convoys.

Following for War Transport from S.S.T.O.

View discharging conditions and strict control exercised by Russians consider any further time I spend here completely wasted. Having observed weather conditions outward passage damage done due to unsatisfactory stowage lashing and tonning strongly feel I can do better and more important work at loading ports. In P.Q.2, 11 Hurricanes in addition to other stores damage solely due to improper stowage and securing. Maclay concurs I should return next convoy to make personal report please advise if approved. Ends.

(S.B.N.O. Archangel, 1000C/10.)

F.S.646,
F.N.549,
F.N.550.

Amend my 1201/3/11.

1. Escorts for F.S.646 LIDDESDALE, SLEIPNER.

2. Times of sailings from Methil should be amended to conform to new timetable, vide C. in C. Rosyth's 1241/7/11.

3. F.N.549 is postponed 24 hours, escorts VERSATILE, WINCHESTER, and WHADDON. VERDUN transferring from F.S.642.

4. F.N.550 is cancelled.

(C. in C. Rosyth, 1019/10.)

/F.N.548.....

War Diary.10.11.1941.
Monday.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping and Convoys - Contd.F.N.548.

My 1745/9. No ships sailed from Humber on account of weather.
(N.C.S.O. Humber, 1020/10.)

F.S.642.

Will not be arriving today.
(N.C.S.O. Thames, 1141A/10.)

→ F.S.643.

No ships sailed from Humber on account of weather.
(N.C.S.O. Humber, 1503/10.)

Owing to bad weather am out of touch with convoy.
(ST. KENAN, 1540Z/10 to N.O.I.C. Iceland.)

Speed of
Ships for
Archangel.

Your 0100A/9. NEVASTROI had previously been refused despatch to Archangel in view of speed being insufficient for slow $7\frac{1}{2}$ knot convoy. Please say if minimum speed $8\frac{1}{2}$ is necessary for all ships for Archangel particularly as Sparks is now loading WAZIRISTAN with concurrence of Ministry War Transport, London. Speed of WAZIRISTAN $7\frac{3}{4}$ knots.
(N.C.S.O. New York, 1700Z/10 to Admty.)

E.N.
Convoys.

Forecast of Northbound sailings from Methil.
(C. in C. Rosyth, 1707/10.) See Lion Copy.

→ F.S.643.
CORMORANT.

F.S. No.643. CORMORANT in $057^{\circ} 28' N.$ $001^{\circ} 25' W.$ reports heavy wrought iron cargo adrift and in danger of holing ship's side. Wind S.E. force 9. Master states unable to turn round to return Firth of Forth without danger of capsizing. Have instructed him to lie head to wind until daylight. Am standing by.
(VIMIERA, 1729/10.)

F.S.643 at 20 E Buoy. 11 ships making 3 knots. CORMORANT hove^{to} off 20 T Buoy. Wind force 10 from S.E. Sea 77. Floating mine sighted in vicinity. 20 E Buoy extinguished.
(VALOROUS, 1847A/10.)

H.X.157.

P.C.S. $061^{\circ} 57' N.$ $021^{\circ} 07' W.$, 130°, 6. Wind veering and moderating.
(DOUGLAS, 1800Z/10.)

/P.Q. Convoys.....

SECRET IN

248^A

SECRET

M E S S A G E

1201/10th November IN

From C. in C. Rosyth

Date 10.11.41.

Recd. 1355

P/L BY T/P.

Addressed Admiralty, C. in C. Nore, S.E.E.C.C.D., H.Q. F.C.,
H.Q.C.C., Q/11, 12, 13 Groups.

NOT WT

Forecast of Convoy sailings.

F.S647	(M)	Ocean	1000	Friday 14th	LEEDS, LOWESTOFT.
F.S648	(S)	Plumb	0600	Saturday 15th	WHADDON, QUANTOCK.
F.S649	(F)	Evidence	1830	Sunday 16th	VIVIEN, VALOROUS.
F.S650	(M)	Attache	1000	Tuesday 18th	WOLSEY, WINCHESTER.
F.S651	(S)	Breast	0600	Wednesday 19th	WALLACE, VERDUN.
F.S652	(F)	Merit	1830	Thursday 20th	LIDDESDALE, VIMIERA.
F.N552	(M)	Agent	0800	Friday 14th	WESTMINSTER, WOLSEY.
F.N553	(F)	Prize	0800	Saturday 15th	WALLACE, VANITY.
F.N554	(S)	Radio	0800	Sunday 16th	LIDDESDALE, SLEIPNER.
F.N555	(M)	Casing	0800	Monday 17th	LEEDS, LOWESTOFT.
F.N556	(F)	Pilot	0800	Tuesday 18th	WHADDON, QUANTOCK.
F.N557	(S)	Lunch	0800	Wednesday 19th	VIVIEN, VALOROUS.

Timetable as in my 1241/7.11.

1201/10

Advance copy Ops., O.D., Trade

V.C.N.S.

D.A/S.W.

A.C.N.S. (H)

W.D.

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

D.T.D. (4)

N.A. 1st S.L.

D.T.D. (M)

Ops. (3)

D.T.D. (C)

O.D. (5)

Mails

O.D. 8

Movts.

O.I.C. (3)

I.P. (3)

D.S.D. 9

SECRET

MESSAGE

1707/10th November IN

From C. in C. Rosyth.

Date 10. 11. 41. 248B

Recd. 211i

P/L BY T/P

Addressed. Admiralty. C. in C. Nore. C. in C. Western
Approaches. H.Q.F.C. H.Q.C.C. 13 14 Groups
F.O.I.C. Aberdeen. N.O.I.C. Invergordon.
N.O.I.C. Leith. N.O.I.C. Dundee. N.C.S.O's
Methil. Kirkwall. Lyness. Loch Ewe. Oban. Capt.
M/S Granton. Repeated. H.M.S. GLEANER. JASON.

NOTWT

126 Forecast of Northbound sailings from Methil (E.N. Convoys)

E.N. 5 (fast) 0900 twelfth November
E.N. 6 (medium) 1300 fifteenth November
E.N. 7 (slow) 0600 seventeenth November
E.N. 8 (fast) 1700 eighteenth November
E.N. 9 (slow) 1000 twentieth November
E.N. 10 (Medium) 1400 twenty second November
E.N. 11 (fast) 0900 twenty fourth November.
E.N. 12 (slow) 1600 twenty sixth November.
Amend my 1617/25/10+accordingly in respect of E.N. 5,6 and
E.N.7

1707/10

Advance copy to Ops., Trade
+ Forecast of North bound sailings.

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

D.T.D. (4)
D.T.D. (M)
D. of S.T.
I.P. (3)
D.A/S.W.
W.D.

War Diary.10.11.1941.
Monday.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping and Convoys - Contd.P.Q. Convoys.
Return of
Airmen from
Russia.

Admty. 2328A/9 propose that destroyers of P.Q. 3 turn back in Gorlo and proceed Murmansk. Cruiser fuel Archangel and then proceed Murmansk. Cruiser and Destroyers R/V with P.Q.3 off Ponoï.

(2) In subsequent convoys cruisers could turn back with destroyers provided no passengers and/or stores for Archangel on board.

(3) Propose (? journeys) be adjusted so that operation be completed by escort of Q.P.5.

(4) S.O. 1st M.S.F. concurs.

Admiralty pass to all addressees.*

(S.B.N.O. Archangel, 1852C/10 to S.B.N.O. North Russia.)

* Action taken by War Reg.

MANXMAN.

Sailing of MANXMAN postponed owing to weather. (N.O.I.C Isle of Man, 1930A/10.)

Oban.

No arrivals no sailings and discharge at any ports owing to bad weather. (Embarkation Officer, Oban, 2210/10 to War Office.)

F.S644.

F.S644 cancelled. (C. in C. Rosyth, 2251/10.)

RANGITATA,
escort.

RANGITATA carrying service personnel to Gibraltar and Freetown will be ready to sail from Liverpool on 21/11.

2. Escort to Gibraltar will be provided by HURWORTH and 2 destroyers. The latter may be used as additional escort for H.G.76 on return voyage.

5. C. in C. W.A. is requested to provide 2 destroyers mentioned in para. 2.

6. F.O.C.N.A. is requested to arrange with C. in C. S.A. for escorts from Gibraltar to Freetown.

7. HURWORTH may be employed as escort as far as Freetown after which she should proceed to Mediterranean via the Cape at best speed or as ordered by C. in C. Mediterranean.

(A.C.N.S.(H), 2245A/10 to C. in C. W.A.,

C. in C. S.A., F.O.C.N.A.)

A.M. 2245A/10. This convoy will be referred to as "Gearbox".

(A.C.N.S.(H), 2300A/10.)

SECRET

MESSAGE

1612A/10th November IN

From F.O.I.C. Harwich.

Date 10.11.41. 249A

Recd. 1700

P/L BY T/P

Addressed C. in C. Nore 1st. Division Corvettes,
Repeated N.C.S.O. Southend Admiralty F.O.I.C.
Number C. in C. Rosyth D. 2†

1st. Division Corvettes acknowledge

My 2052A/3/11 and 1022A/4/11

Amend to read -

F N	F S	
549-50	644	SHELDRAKE
551	645	WIDGEON
551	646	GUILLEMOT.

1612A/10

Advance Copy Ops O.D. Trade.

V.C.N.S.
A.C.N.S. (H)
A.C.N.S. (T) (2)
N.A. 1st. S.L.
Ops (3)
O.D. (5)
O.D. 8
O.I.C. (3)
I.P. (3)
D.S.D. 9
D.A/S.W.
W.D.

Mails
Movts.
M (2)
Capt. Pim, Admiralty House.
D.T.D. (4)
D.T.D. (M)
D.T.D. (C)
E.P.S.
D.P.S.
A.H.Q.H.F.

D.H.

War Diary.10.11.1941.
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic.→ Operation
"Perpetual".

Sailed for "Perpetual" 1st phase, MALAYA, ARK ROYAL, ARGUS, HERMIONE, LAFOREY, LIGHTNING, LEGION, ZULU, GURKHA, SIKH, ISAAC SWEERS. (F.O.C.N.A. 0230A/10 to Admty.)

OLYMPUS

Attacked Derna (? unsuccessfully). My P.C. and S. 040° 09' N. 007° 01' E. 230° 10. Weather report. (OLYMPUS, 0957A/10 to F.O.C.N.A.)

French
shipping.

Armed trawler L'AJACIENNE escorting French M/V's MAROC, LIEUTENANT DE LA TOUR, CAPITAINE LUIGI and SCHIAFFINO FRERES, with trawlers ROSEMONDE and JOSEPH ELISE, all loaded, passed Gibraltar eastbound 1400/10. (D.O.R., 12/11).

SHEAF
CROWN.

Your 1729/7. Provided that SHEAF CROWN can maintain a speed of 7½ knots she can be included in a H.G. convoy as a special case. (D. of S.T. 2030A/10 to N.C.S.O. Lisbon).

→ O.G.76.
Operation
"Perpetual".

Daily Summary Ops. 202 Sqn. 2 Catalinas escort O.G. 76, 0730 - 1800 daylight operations only due to adverse sea conditions. Area covered 10° 45' W. to 09° 45' W. 1 Catalina escort Force H in operation "Perpetual" 0720 - 1800. Area covered 02° 30' W. to 0° 40' W. (200 Group, 2136/10).

JAY,
MYRLAND.
KENNET.

Your 1245/10 not to C. in C. S.A. and Admiralty. Sail in company MYRLAND and after R/V KENNET proceed Freetown in accordance C. in C., Western Approaches' 0018A/17/10 to MYRLAND. (F.O.C.N.A. 2324A/10, 2342A/10 to N.C.S.O. Ponta Delgada).

War Diary.

10.11.1941.
Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic.

Transport
of
Prisoners.

Arrangements must be made to move 2,000 prisoners of War from South Africa to U.K. as soon as possible. W.O. signal to 203 M.M. Pretoria No. 98593 of 29/10 refers. 2. Troopships available appear to be NEA HELLAS, INDRAPOERA, ORONTES, VICEROY OF INDIA, DUCHESS OF YORK, OTRANTO, JOHAN VAN OLDENBARNEVELT, MOOLTAN and NIEUW HOLLAND. 3. Request you arrange accordingly within limits of Admty. 1936/25/9. Service personnel other than air crews returning to U.K. in these ships may be used as guard. (D.S.T., 0423A/10 to P.S.T.O Simonstown).

CANTON.

Leave patrol and proceed towards Freetown at 15 knots. Report position and percentage fuel remaining. (C.in C. S.A., 0901N/10 to CANTON)

HAZELSIDE.

Due Durban 4/11 from Freetown, not arrived. (S.O.I. Capetown, 0905B/10 to Admty. etc.)

EGRET.
O.S.10.
S.L.92.

My P.C. and S. 0600N/10 013° 27' N. 019° 45' W. 270° 14 knots altering to 277° at 1700N/10. Non receipt of 439 was reported. Advisable Q.G.B.71 and 72 be passed to escort of O.S.10. Expect to join S.L. 92 1200N/11 with 86% of oil fuel remaing. (EGRET 1008Z/10 to C. in C. S.A.)

Operation
"Bellringer".

Your 2103A/1 Para 5. Principal officers Vichy French ships (List in COMPIEGNE, BANGKOK, COMMANDANT DORISE). (N.O.I.C., East London, 1024B/10 to Admty.)

S.O.S.
VOLLRATH
THAM.

Following received by Ascension W/T on 0205/10 (begins) S.O.S. DE SFON (VOLLRATH THAM) were sinking losin (Portion missed) Michtgehost (ends) Request information whether this message was heard any other station. (C. in C. S.A., 1128N/10 to Admty.) W.D. Note. In distress off Ems River.

ROBIN
GRAY.

S.O.(I) Capetown's 1225B/6. Confirmed that ROBIN GRAY is now at Rio de Janeiro. She has engine defect and is expected to sail about end of month. (S.O.I. Montevideo 1142Z/10 to Admty.)

/Aircraft.....

War Diary.10.11.1941.
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic-Contd.Aircraft
for
Colombo.

C. in C. East Indies 1206Z/18/10 and A.M. 1215A/6/11. If ten Swordfish and four Walrus are transferred by Wynberg to HERMES it will leave at Wynberg two Swordfish and nil Walrus serviceable vide My A 10 rendered on 4/11. (F.O.I.C. Simonstown 1145B/10 to C. in C. S.A.) Your 1215/6. Concur in sending 10 Swordfish and 4 Walrus from Wynberg to Colombo in HERMES. (ii) Intend to transfer 10 Swordfish and 3 Walrus to Wynberg from those en route to Freetown and ex Ribera. (C. in C. S.A. 1527N/10 to Admty.)

BULOLO.
ASTURIAS.
BIRMINGHAM.
ALCANTARA.

BULOLO remain in J.33 (c) and (d) till P.M./15, then proceed patrol K 32 K 33 fuelling Rio de Janeiro about 21 ?/11. ASTURIAS on completion of escort duties proceed J 33 (c) and (d). Intend BIRMINGHAM after fuelling P.O.Z. 13/11 visit Montevideo 17/11 then if situation permits proceed Falkland Islands returning to trade route (?before the) end of Nov. N.O.I.C. Simonstown is requested to sail ALCANTARA when ready for anchorage F., Reporting E.T.A. I will arrange visit. (R.A.S.A.D. 1303Z/10 to S.A.D.)

CAP
PADARAN.
CAP
TOURANE.

My 2000/6, CAP PADARAN, estimated time for repairs increased to one month. My 2318/6, CAP TOURANE, estimated time for repairs two to three months. (F.O.I.C. Simonstown, 1417B/10 to Admty.)

SEMIEN.

There are indications Italian Ship SEMIEN now at Dakar may attempt to sail under Vichy flag or in French Convoy. (D.D.I.C. 1535A/10 to C. in C. S.A.)

DEVONSHIRE
? sabotage.

(corrupt group) table was tampered with between 1200/9 and 0800/10. Screws and cover plates were removed and left on deck, 2 cover glasses on Hunters were removed and cannot be found, electric leads to 2 Hunters were left disconnected and it is possible that one Hunter was removed from its casing and afterwards replaced. Table has been examined internally as thoroughly as possible without stripping. No foreign matter has been discovered. Tests have subsequently been carried out with table running with satisfactory results. Missing parts have nuisance value only. (DEVONSHIRE 1619B/10 to Admty.)

/BRADFORD.....

War Diary.10.11.1941.
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic - Contd.BRADFORD
CITY.Survivors from.
(F.O.I.C. Simonstown, 1626B/10, Consul-Gen.
Loanda, 2345/10.)
See U-Boat Campaign.ACADIA..
BRILLIANT.My 1207N/8th. DUNEDIN not available. ACADIA
sailed 1000N/10 escorted by BRILLIANT until
1800/11.
(C. in C. S.A., 1715N/10 to C. in C. A.W.I.)Zigzagging.Cancel previous instructions re zigzagging in
South Atlantic Station and substitute as
follows: All ships are to conform to C.A.M.S.I.
number 487 except between longitudes 010° (?West)
and 020° E. where zigzagging is to be continued
to lat. 035° S.
(C. in C. S.A., 1759N/10 to N.O.I.C. Simonstown.)7 Italian
Ships for
Brazil.Brazilian Government have purchased from Italy
following ships: PAMPANO, TERESA, LAURA LAURO,
AUGUSTA, AUCTORITAS, AEQUITAS, LIBRATO. Will
signal when transfer of flags takes place.
(N.A. Rio de Janeiro, 1922Z/10 to Admt.)
This leaves following ships in Brazil still
belonging to Italy:-

AIDA LAURO	- 6,067 tons	at Pernambuco.
ANTONIO LIMONCELLI	- 4,574 "	" " Maranhão.
CONTE GRANDE	-23,861 "	" " Santos.
LIANA	- 6,400 "	" " Bahia.
TEBRO	- 4,310 "	" " Santos.

(D.S., 798, 11/11.)

Uruguay and
Axis Ships.The Axis ships taken over by the Uruguayan
Govt. have been renamed as follows:-
Ex-Danish LAURA renamed ROCHA.
" CHR. SASS renamed COLONIA.
Italian FAUSTO " MALDONADO.
" ADA MELLO " MONTEVIDEO.
(D.S., 797, 10/11.)ST. STEPHEN.Finnish Ship ST. STEPHEN proceeding Chile to
Buenos Aires expected to arrive in fortnight
to be sold, price 1100,000 dollars (sic).
(N.A. Rio de Janeiro, 2006Z/10 to S.O.I.
Montevideo.)

/Norwegian.....

War Diary.10.11.1941.
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic - Contd.Norwegian
Whalers.

Re charter of 23 of about 250 tons each for conversion to A/S and M/S craft. Names and conversion ports.
(A.C.N.S.(F), 2220A/10 to C. in C. S.A.)
See Lion Copy.

Air R/C.

For information in case of Press reports. R.A.F. F/B will be carrying out R/C of Islands in Gulf of Guinea on 12/11 and to seaward of coast of Angila as far as Lobito on and about 14/11. Request Air Ministry be informed. (C. in C. S.A., 2137N/10 to Admt.)

Mediterranean.OIL SHIPPER
(Panamanian)

Endeavours being made by U.S. Authorities to have this tanker requisitioned. Has been lying idle at Istanbul since April. (D.S. 798, 11/11.)

Force H.
R/V.

A/S Trawler will be in position 250° Cape San Dimitri 20 miles (? at) dawn 11/11. (V.A. Malta, 1022B/10 to F.O. Force H., F.O.C.N.A., ARK ROYAL.)

UNIQUE,
PERSEUS,
REGENT.

UNIQUE leave patrol p.m./12 and make a short area report addressed to UPRIGHT when safe to do so and proceed through 032° 40' 018° 00', 034° 30' 015° 00', 035° 20' 014° 14' and 035° 30' 014° 14' to arrive Marsamxett 0730B/16. PERSEUS leave 035° 51' 015° 15' about 1800B/11 direct for 032° 55' 019° 00' to arrive Benghazi 13/11. REGENT proceed through 035° 51' 015° 15' and 036° 00' 014° 53' to arrive Grand Harbour 0730B/13. (Capt. S.10, 1050B/10 to REGENT, UNIQUE.)

BARON
RENFREW,
ERICA.

Your 1915C/9 (not to Admt). Intend to sail BARON RENFREW for Port Said with ERICA. (N.O.I.C. Haifa, 1103C/10 to N.O.I.C.'s.) Cancelled, see 1055C/11.

/THORN.....

22204/10th November.

MOST SECRET

MOST SECRET

MESSAGE

CUT

To C. in C. South Atlantic. 144. Date. 10.11.41
 Repeated. F.O.I.C. Simonstown. 942
 R.A.S.A.D. 508.
 N.C.S.O. Montevideo.
 C. in C. East Indies. 662.
 C. in C. China. 294.

Naval Cypher (D)
 Inter Departmental Cypher (One time table)

From Admiralty.

NITE

Arrangements are now in hand to charter 23 Norwegian whalers of about 250 tons each for conversion to A/S and M/S craft.

2. Names and conversion ports are as follows:

- (a) VESTFOLD 1)
 " 2)
 " 3)
 " 5) to Singapore.
 " 6)
 " 10)

- (b) SOBRA))
 SOLVRA))
 SONDRA) to Durban.
 SORSRA))

- (c) SIGFRA))
 BUSEN 10) to Capetown.
 VESTFOLD 8))

- (d) SIMBRA))
 VESTFOLD 9) to East London
 HELIER 1))

- (e) SEMLA))
 BUSEN 6))
 " 11))
 SANTA) to Ceylon.
 SAHRA))

- (f) SARKA))
 SATSA) to Dar es Salaam.

/ 3.....

MOST SECRET

3. The 8 VESTFOLD class are at Montevideo the remainder at South Georgia.
4. Whalers at Montevideo should proceed to South Georgia as soon as ready in pairs taking with them some 50 additional men to man some of the whalers at South Georgia.
5. The whalers are then to proceed in suitable groups from South Georgia to the Cape and onward to their destinations as given in para.2, which they should reach as soon as possible.
6. Request you will make the necessary arrangements to bring the above instructions into effect.
7. Conversion details will be signalled later.
8. Endurance of all these whalers is considered ample for the voyage - South Georgia to the Cape. Economical speeds 9 to 10 knots. All are oil fired.
9. D. of S.T.'s representative at Buenos Aires (nearest to Montevideo) has in hand the general supervision and arrangements for getting the VESTFOLD whalers away to South Georgia.

2220A/10

for D.O.D.(F) 164
 approved A.C.N.S.(F)
 (S.V.P.921/41)

1st Lord.

1st S.L.

2nd S.L.

3rd S.L.

4th S.L.

V.C.N.S.

A.C.N.S.(F)

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

A.C.N.S.(W)

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.

D.M.S.

I.P.(2)

W.D.

Duty Capt.

Hd. of M.

D.T.S.D.

D.D.I.C.

E.P.S.

D.G.D.

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

D.D.O.D.(C)

D. of S.T.

D.S.V.P.

D.T.D.(2)

D.T.D.(M)

War Diary.10.11.1941.
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean - Contd.THORN.

THORN sailed 1200B/10 and after carrying out exercises in Sanctuary proceeded from end of searched channel, through 035° 28' 026° 34' and 036° 12' 024° 42' thence area A as amended in my 1615B/7.

(Capt. S.1., 1121B/10 to C. in C. Med.)

Force K.
Convoy
Action 9/11.

(AURORA.
PENELOPE.
LANCE.
LIVELY.)

Your 0830A/9. Following is descriptive account from S.O. Force K:- Acting on information received from R.A.F. R/C, Force K sailed from Malta shortly before dark on evening of 8/11/1941. Course was set to N.E. at 28 knots so as to intercept an enemy convoy believed to be bound for Libyan coast. Bright moonlight and a light wind made conditions ideal for interception. At 0040/9 when in a position 100 miles E.S.E. of Spartivento Cape, darkened ships were sighted 7 miles away on port bow, steering to Southward. Course was at once altered to Northward so as to work round to stern of convoy and silhouette the ships against moon now to Eastward. As the range slowly closed the convoy appeared to consist of at least 8 large M/Vs. escorted by 4 destroyers one of which was later identified as of Italian CLIMENE Class.

When a favourable position had been achieved, S.O. led round towards destroyers in the rear of the convoy now 5 miles distant. As convoy was approached, other darkened ships were sighted to N.W; these were identified as 2 more large M/Vs. escorted by 2 destroyers.

As Force was committed to attack the main convoy was closed until 0057. The range was now 5700 yards and fire was opened with forward turrets. The first salvo hit rear escorting destroyer. The action then became general. 2 of escorting destroyers were sunk in a few minutes. The merchant ships were then engaged and suffered severely. Large explosions and fires were caused, probably in part due to drums of oil which were seen stowed on upper deck.

A 10,000 ton petrol tanker was set on fire with a broadside; another broadside struck an ammunition ship which blew up. The force of explosion was so great that many damage control parties thought their ships had been torpedoed. Torpedoes were in fact fired by both sides. The enemy probably fired 12 or more but scored no hits. Force K fired 4 of which 3 hit enemy M/Vs., one immediately sinking.

The other enemy destroyer escort took little part in action, firing only spasmodically and finally retiring under cover of smoke.

/At.....

War Diary.10.11.1941.
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean.

Force K.
Convoy
Action 9/11.
Contd.
(AURORA.
PENELOPE.
LANCE.
LIVELY.)

At completion of engagement 8 ships were seen to be blazing furiously, low in water and with no chance of salvage and 2 had already been sunk. After an hour of the homeward passage the officer of the after turret reported that ship's rear gunner could still see fires from a distance of 25 miles.

Final results of action, so far as they can be ascertained, were 2 destroyers and 10 M/Vs. of between 4 and 10,000 tons destroyed and 1 destroyer badly damaged.

There was no damage nor casualty in Force K. (V.A. Malta, 1135B/10 to Admty.)

* Your 1338/9. The announcement of names of ships and C.O's of Force K by Reuters and B.B.C. is not understood. So far as can be ascertained no leakage occurred from Middle East. Presume therefore leakage occurred in U.K. unless a sudden change of policy took place at Admiralty. In any case it is particularly unfortunate in view of precautions taken to conceal the facts here.

(C. in C. Med., 1502B/10 to Admty.)* See p 230

Fortress
Raid on
Benghazi.
8/11.

Following are amplifying details Fortress operations 8/11. 2 Fortresses each carrying 8, 500 lb. bombs left Shallufa at 0726 and 0806 hours respectively following route direct to Maddalena and on to point 80 miles S.E. Benghazi at 27,000 feet, then out to sea with run into Benghazi from west. First Fortress did not return but second Fortress saw moisture trail at 25,000 feet about 15 miles S.S.E. Benghazi. Second Fortress dropped 4, 500 lb. bombs on Benghazi, results obscured by 5/10th cloud, no A/A or fighter opposition encountered, no shipping seen in harbour. This Fortress returned as arranged to landing ground between Sidi Barrani and Matruh to refuel. Missing Fortress was reported forced-landed about 70 miles west of Maddalena on 8/11 but subsequent search failed to locate it. Search of area by 2 Marylands on 9/11 and sweep by 22 fighters to destroy aircraft if located unsuccessful. Crew were located by air R/C on morning 10/11 just south of point 70 miles due west of Maddalena but Fortress was not seen aircraft dropped water and supplies for crew.

(H.Q. R.A.F. M.E., 1244/10.)

/AGHIOS.....

War Diary.10.11.1941.
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean - Contd.AGHIOS
NICOLAOS.

My 1540/17. Greek Auxiliary Sailing vessel AGHIOS NICOLAOS arrived from Piraeus with 170 tons of Chemicals.
(S.O.I. Istanbul, 1523B/10 to S.O.I. Med.)

Roumanian
liner
reported
sunk.

C.N.S. told me that Soviet Submarine which recently returned from patrol reported having sunk one of two large Roumanian liners believed to be KING CAROL and KING FERDINAND whilst they were Northbound off Bulgarian Coast.
(Adm. Miles, 1604D/10 to Admty.)

Enemy
Convoy.
UNIQUE.

Small convoy may be expected from Westward arriving shortly after daylight 11th.
(Capt. S.10, 1735B/10 to UNIQUE.)

Malta
Raids.

6 Alarms night 9/10. Total 25 aircraft approached, 7 crossed coast. Bombs land, sea. 3 civilians killed, slight damage houses. 4 bombers illuminated, 2 probable BR.20's engaged by Hurricanes, 1 damaged and another so badly damaged probably did not return. Debris from one aircraft hit Hurricane throwing it out of control but aircraft landed.
Day 10/11. 0900 hours 2 enemy aircraft crossed island great height, no interceptions.
(H.Q. R.A.F., Malta, 1820/10.)

Augusta
bombed.

Night 9/10. 5 F.A.A. aircraft attacked Augusta. Two returned engine trouble. Hits near Nasta tank, small fire. Other bombs north end submarine bases fire visible 10 miles.

Messina
bombed.

Wellington programme ruined bad weather. 2 Wellingtons despatched attack Brindisi diverted to Messina. Power station straddled causing large explosion. Other bombs near railway station, Citadel, centre of town and harbour.
3 Wellingtons nuisance raid Naples 2007 to 0225 hours. Bombs dropped town and dock areas.
(H.Q. R.A.F. Malta, 1831/10, 1843/10.)

Naples
bombed.Destroyer
sunk by
UPHOLDER.

UPHOLDER was in the area of force K's action during 9th and reports at 1901/9 having sunk one destroyer and damaged another. UPHOLDER now returning to Malta all torpedoes expended.
(C. in C. Med., 1910B/10 to Admty.)

/Augusta.....

War Diary.10.11.1941.
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean. - Contd.Augusta
bombed.

M.C.I.R. 9/11.
 (i) R/C Palermo and Syracuse, no warships seen.
 (ii) Offensive night 9/10. Albacores bombed Augusta. Wellingtons nuisance raid Naples, Messina.
 (V.A. Malta, 1920B/10 to S.O. Force H.)

Destroyers,
dispositions,
A/S Forces.

Your 1810/30 and 1021/31.
 A. The two destroyers from Mediterranean for Eastern Fleet, one of which may be KELVIN, to arrive Trincomalee by 1/12, are essential, vide Admt. 0155A/29/10.
 B. NORMAN and NESTOR should be ready to leave U.K. with W.S.14 on 1/12. Do you wish them to be passed through the Western Mediterranean and await your further orders at Malta or to proceed round the Cape?
 C. Two TRIBALS will be kept available for you to be passed through Mediterranean when you consider that that passage can be made from Malta to Eastward. Request 10 days warning of this possibility.
 D. Not intended that the two Ls. now in Force 'K' at Malta should join Mediterranean destroyer force. They will be required to rejoin their flotilla at Gibraltar.
 E. DULVERSTON and SOUTHWOLD leave with W.S.12Z on 12/11. HURWORTH as in A.T. 2245/10 and BEAUFORT with W.S.14 on 1/12. They must accompany their convoys as far as Freetown. Do you wish them then to be passed through to Malta or to proceed round the Cape?
 F. As regards A/S Forces, SNAPDRAGON has joined you. 2nd Trawler Group should join you during December.
 (1st S.L., 2338A/10 to C. in C. Med.)

War Diary.

10.11.1941.
Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

STREEFKERK
RAHMANI
BENALDER.

Your 1907/7 and 1743/8 STREEFKERK, RAHMANI arrived Bombay 31st. Inquiries re BENALDER being made. (S.O.I. Colombo 0326Z/10 to Admty.).
Your 1907/7. (1) BENALDER 7 Port Okha 8/11 for Singapore.
(2). This was not previously reported to me.
(3). As Port Okha is a minor port S.O.(I) Bombay is being requested to make arrangements for reporting ships there.
(S.O.I. Colombo 1040Z/10 to Admty.).

CLELIA
CAMPANELLA
(Italian).

My 0901/6. CLELIA CAMPANELLA has been shifted today. 300 feet extra quay space now available Massawa for ships drawing up to 20 feet.
(N.O.I.C. Massawa 0603Z/10 to S.N.O. Red Sea.).

Wrecks

List of ships lying sunk Red Sea and adjacent N.E. African Coast. (Head of S. 1215A/10 to B.A.D. See America and West Indies).

French
M/Vs
Intelligence.

Your 1631/6 para. 4. (1) Most of my intelligence regarding movements of French merchant ships is obtained by Mauritius radio interception service (all messages intercepted are also passed to Blanketing from Chesor, Mauritius). Chesor, at present in Colombo, reports his information is definitely limited by (a) lack of equipment for intercepting high speed wireless traffic (b) delays due to press censorship of traffic (c) Lack of necessary decyphering tables for French marine cyphered messages. Regarding (a) Chesor is endeavouring to obtain necessary gear in India or South Africa. He has referred the matter to Governor, Mauritius, regarding additional expenditure and I trust financial considerations will not cause any delay. It may be possible to eliminate (b). Messages referred to in (c) are probably those giving exact dates for convoys or single ships arriving or departing and is thus the very information required. I therefore consider it most desirable for Chesor, Mauritius, to be provided with requisite decyphering tables.
(C.in C. E.I. 1750Z/10 to Admty.).

/M.L's.....

War Diary.

10.11.1941.
Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies. -Contd.

M.L's.
Addu Atoll.

My 1145A/4 and 1147A/17. 110th Flotilla 72Ft. H.D. M/L's awaiting shipment. Request early reply as to Ports to which you wish boats should be shipped. 2. My 1832/23. Has L.D. 002487/41 of 21.8.41. containing plans of defences of ports been received?. (D.of L.D. 2008A/10 to C.in C. E.I.).

China.

PRINCE
ROBERT.

N.S.H.Q. Ottawa's 1946/6 (1935/6 intended). Arrange accordingly. (C.in C. China 0417Z/10 to N.O.I.C.Hong Kong).

America and West Indies.

Wabana
Convoys
continuance.

Owing to (a). Absence of A/S protection at Wabana anchorage and increases risk of U/B attack in that area. (b) Liability of Wabana Convoy to fail to make R/V with H.X. or S.C. convoy on account of heavy weather or a prior change of route by the latter. (c) Unsuitability of St. Johns N.F. as convoy assembly port, C.C.N.F. has suggested that the sailing of ships in Convoy from Wabana should be discontinued and that ships should proceed independently to Halifax or Sydney (C.B.) to join Convoy.
(2) N.S.H.Q. Ottawa concurs, but considers that decision whether ships loading in Newfoundland should be sailed to join a passing convoy or proceed to assembly port should be made by C.C.N.F. in order to save shipping time.
(3) Admiralty consider this procedure would be advisable in certain circumstances and concur with N.S.H.Q. Ottawa that decision should depend on circumstances.
(4) Request you will discuss question with Opnav and request him to make arrangements in consultation with N.S.H.Q. Ottawa.
(A.C.N.3.(T) 0158A/10 to B.A.D.).
Your 0158/10 to B.A.D. Opnav approves and that decisions be made by C.C.N.F. By this despatch

/N.S.H.Q.

War Diary.

10.11.1941.
Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies.

Wabana
Convoys
continuance.
-Contd.

N.S.H.Q. requested to issue necessary directives. (Opnav 2107/10 to Admty.).

JEANNE D'ARC.
(French
Cruiser).

Following from Master PLOW CITY, MONT VISO left Guadaloupe p.m./5 for Martinique and Casablanca. Carried 50 to 60 seamen ex JEANNE D'ARC returning to France. Latter ship now apparently skeleton crew. (A.1.). (N.O.I.C. Trinidad 0955Q/10 to S.O.(I) KingstonJ).

P.511
P.551.

Your 1401R/9 (sailing of P.511 and P.551) concur. B.A.D. pass to B.N.L.O. Portsmouth. (C.in C. A.W.I. 1003Q/10 to B.A.D.). C.in C. A.W.I. 1042Q/9. Submarines should proceed on the surface at C.O's discretion until reaching 25° W and thence submerged by day. (F.O.S. 1639A/10 to C.C.N.F.).

U.S.Pacific
Fleet
Liaison.

My 1813/17/10. Navy Dept. agree. Lt. Cdr. Martell is being withdrawn from Pacific Fleet and sent to England by first opportunity. Request Cdr. Parry may now be appointed as observer. (B.A.D. 1125R/10 to Admty.).

Wrecks
Red Sea.

Your 1917R/21/10. List of ships now lying sunk Red Sea and on adjacent N.E. African Coast, and salvage gear available. (Head of S. 1215A/10 to B.A.D.) See Lion Copy.

St. John's
N.F.

Report from Seal on negotiations for south side wharf for Naval base. (B.A.D. 1405R/10 to Admty.). See Lion Copy.

LETITIA.

D.of S.T. 2039/6. Please confirm LETITIA cannot be expected Halifax before 10/12 in view of urgent requirements. Also confirm ship will be fully loaded with stores and ready in all respects to embark personnel. (N.S.H.Q. Ottawa 1551Z/10 to New York for Midship).

/LOCHMONAR.....

1215A/10 November.

S E C R E TM E S S A G EO U T

To: B.A.D. Washington 330

Date: 10.11.41.

NAVAL CYPHER (K)

From: Admiralty. Following for B.A.S.R.

Reference your 1917R/21 October.

(1) Following ships now lying sunk Red Sea and on adjacent N.E. African Coast. In Gulf of Suez and Straits of Jubal THISTLEGORM (4898 tons bombed badly damaged) SALAMAA (6676 tons damaged) ROSALIE MOLLER (3963 tons bombed) AIDA (bombed and beached). At Massawa outer roadsteads scuttled in depths varying from 6 to 15 fathoms ALBERTO TREVES (5148 tons) NIOBE (Naval Tanker) VESUVIO (5430 tons) FRAUENFELS (7487 tons) BRENTA (5400 tons) COLOMBO (11760 tons) LIEBENFELS (6318 tons) *LIGHTENFELS (7566 tons) RIVA LIGURE (tanker 2136 tons) *MONCA PIERE (5723 tons) OLIVA (7885 tons) IMPERO (488 tons) *MILCO and ANTONIA C. In Assab all reported badly damaged SANNIO (9834 tons) INDIA (6367 tons) PIAVE (7565 tons). Near Jeddah three Italian vessels reported scuttled details unknown. In Mogadishu converted mine sweeper KIONGA 192 tons beached. In Brava bombed and beached ASKARI (590 tons). Expert information concerning condition of these casualties is lacking but likely that good proportion hopeful salvage cases. Forgoing list does not repeat not include ships inside Massawa Harbour for clearance of which contract with British firm has reached advanced stage. If assistance of U.S. Navy in this particular task should prove to be necessary it will be unhesitatingly called for.

(2) Salvage gear at present available mostly located at Aden consists of 27 motor and steam pumps (sizes two inch to ten inch) three compressors four units of diving gear two sets of underwater tools and quantity of copper hose. Timber and various stores being sent to Aden as instalment of general salvage requisition of March 1941 two compressors fifteen pumps various sizes four inch to ten inch one 14 Kilowatt generator and large assortment miscellaneous plant such as lifting jacks and heavy anchors. Reported in SALOR 1887 that plant would be ready for shipment dates between 15th October and 15th November.

(3) Skilled and unskilled native labour available. Salvage potentialities uncertain. Messrs. Cotts Darke and Cellatley and Hankey of Egypt are established employers at Massawa and Luke Thomas at Aden.

1215A/10
Head of S.

Vice Controller M. (2)		
V.C.N.S.	Salv. Dept.	I.P. (3)
A.C.N.S. (F)	D. of P. (4)	W.D.
A.C.N.S. (T) (2)	Adl. Bailey	D.N.I. (4)
N.A. 1st S.L.	D.T.D. (4)	N.A.S. (8)
O.D. (5)	D.T.D. (M)	S. Branch

* not identified

see addition

addition

261B

MESSAGE

OUT

Date 11.11.41.

From: War Registry.

Please insert the following corrections in Admiralty message 1215A/10 addressed B.A.D. Washington, re ships sunk in Red Sea.

- (a) In para. one, insert following sentence, between sentences commencing "In Brava bombed and" etc., and "Expert information concerning" etc.
"In Kismayu in poor condition, INTEGRITAS 5952 tons"
- (b) In para. two, sentence commencing "as instalment of general salvage" etc., should commence "In addition U.S. authorities have been asked to send Aden as instalment" etc.

for H.W.R.

Vice Contr
 V.C.N.S.
 A.C.N.S. (F)
 A.C.N.S. (T) (2)
 N.A. 1st S.L.
 O.D. (5)
 M (2)
 Salvage Dept.

D. of P. (4)
 Adl. Bailey
 D.T.D. (4)
 D.T.D. (M)
 I.P. (3)
 W.D.
 D.N.I. (4)
 N.A.S. (8)

S. Branch.

War Diary.10.11.1941.
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies. -Contd.LOCHMONAR
fire
defects.

LOCHMONAR returned to Balbao 0900/10 with fire in No. 3 Orlop deck (?hold) previously reported smothered by steam. Will report result of investigation as to probable cause and extent of damage with probable delay as early as possible. N.S.H.Q. Ottawa please pass to C.S.A. New York. (N.C.S.O. Panama 1641/10 to S.O.I. Jamaica).

Dakar
Casablanca
intelligence.

Dakar 8/11 A.1. FORT ARCHAMBAULT, CONDE, CAPITAINE LE DIABAT and MONTAIGNE have arrived from Casablanca. SAINT CYRILLE has been towed to Port Etienne and her cargo is being shifted to OUED FES. ARIZONA has left for southward. Casablanca 8/11, A.1. Tanker LORRAINE has departed for an unknown destination. (B.A.D. 1707R/10 to S.O.I. Freetown).

O.N. 34.

(no trace) 7.c.
Escort Unit 4.1.3 designated escort. Composition BENSON, PAREN, (Senior Officer PAREN) NIBLACK HILARY N.P. JONES, TARBENL, EDISON, CHICOUTIMI. (Opnav 1904/10 to Admty.).

CONCORD
RICHMOND
TRENTON.

My 2120/21. S.E. Pacific Force. Programmes and routes. (Opnav, 2053/10 to Admty.etc.). ~~See file~~
Copy.

SANTA
PRINCESSA.

Your 1234/1. Portuguese beam trawler^XSANTA PRINCESSA now here was trawling in 4424 N, 4936 W on 21/10 and sighted two steamers that day. (C.C.N.F. 2114Z/10 to N.S.H.Q. Ottawa).

*X? SANTA PRINCEZA intended*CONTE
BIANCAMANO
(Italian).

Press reports that U.S. Govt. has asked District Court at Balboa, Canal zone, to declare fortified on account of her sabotage action on 31/3/41. (D.S. 798 11/11).

Australia.AQUITANIA.

D. of S.T.'s 0311A/7. Request AQUITANIA be sailed for Wellington to arrive not later than 16/12. (A.C.N.B., 0457Z/10 to R.A. Malaya.)

War Diary.10.11.1941.
Monday.U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.Ships Attacked.BRADFORD
CITY.
(torpedoed
?1/11.)

Survivors report one further boat containing 22 men still missing. Search is continuing. No details of survivors yet available. (F.O.I.C. Simonstown 1626B/10 to C. in C.S.A.) Governor General informed me following message received from Mossa (begins). Boat with Captain, First Mate, and 20 men BRADFORD CITY torpedoed 0545/1/11 23° 00' S., 9° 43' E., landed 1500/10, Bahiados Tigres after rowing 10 days. Lost contact with 2nd boat containing 24 men 2200/1. (Ends.) Governor General is making arrangements to have men brought to Mossa and is ordering all ships to keep lookout for 2nd boat. I hope to have Portuguese mail steamer call Mossa to convey men to Capetown. (Consul-General, Loanda, 2345/10, to Admty.)

S.S. LARPOOL
Sunk 1/11.

Master's name Patton with first mate and 4 crew of S.S. LARPOOL from London to Barbados general cargo landed from lifeboat near Burin in Placontia Bay 8/11. Report ship torpedoed and sunk 1/11 about 200 miles E.S.E. Cape Race. 2 other lifeboats with 16 and 21 men still missing when last seen were ordered to steer westerly for Newfoundland. Have probably (?passed) to southward. Request air R/C. (C.C.N.F. 1904Z/10 to Comdr. Task Force 4.)

Submarines Reported.

Estimated approx., positions of U/Bs.
(D.D.I.C. 1343A/10, 1344A/10.)

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

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

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

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

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

War Diary.

11.11.1941.
Tuesday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

Watch for
enemy units

KENT left Hvalfiord this evening to carry out a patrol to westward of the Northern Patrol trawler lines covering the Iceland Faroes passage. BERWICK was ordered to return to Hvalfiord at 0148 today. At 0144 today C. in C. H.F. ordered RODNEY to proceed to Hvalfiord. Air patrols of the coastal area of Norway from Stavanger to Kristiansand were ordered to be flown continuously p.m. today and tonight.

M.G.B.
engagement.

4 M.G.B.'s had a brief inconclusive engagement with an unknown enemy force, believed to have been composed of trawlers, at 2257, but were unable to keep touch. Fanhole South Foreland 6-inch Battery also opened fire at about 21,000 yards range, firing by R.D.F., but without effect.

Weather.

At 1207A today V.A.2 reported to C. in C. H.F. that the weather was unsuitable for destroyers to leave Scapa except in extreme urgency. Communication and refuelling are impossible. A full south-easterly gale is blowing. ESCAPADE was damaged during passage to Scapa from Rosyth yesterday.

British Air Operations.

Bad weather restricted operations today and tonight.

Enemy Air Operations.

VERSATILE escorting F.N.549 called for help at 1728 in 52° 19' N. 1° 59' E. No further signal has been received.

War Diary.

11.11.1941.
Tuesday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Mining.

Bristol
Channel.

Normal conditions were resumed at all Bristol Channel ports a.m. today except Walton Bay where the anchorage remains closed.

Mediterranean.

Two Wellingtons last night carried out nuisance raids on Naples and two on Brindisi.

Libya and
Western
Desert.

8 Wellingtons bombed Benghazi last night. 6 Marylands despatched to attack targets at Benghazi today were forced to return by fighter opposition.

Enemy aircraft operated over Tobruk last night and today and over Mersa Matruh today, but no naval damage was caused.

China.

It is stated that rubber is concealed by the Indo-China authorities in French sick repatriation ships.

War Diary.

11.11.1941.
Tuesday.

SITUATION REPORT.

U-Boat Campaign.

S.S. CASTILLO
OROPESA
sunk.

The Spanish S.S. CASTILLO OROPESA is reported to have been torpedoed and sunk at 0700/8 whilst lying off Melilla inside territorial waters. The S/M which sank her was not British.

U-boat
attacked
by A/C.

A Hudson on A/S patrol south of Ireland attacked a U-boat 240 miles west of Ushant, the hull being awash at the time, and reports 2 hits with D.Cs which exploded astern of the conning tower. A third D.C. exploded ahead of the conning tower 5 ft. from the hull. Large air bubbles occurred, and an under water explosion 300 yards from the point of attack along the track of the U-boat.

War Diary.11.11.1941.
Tuesday.HOME COMMANDS.Policy.CARDAK
SILIVRI
AL GARNIA
for Turkey.

Request your remarks on feasibility of sailing two ferry steamers CARDAK and SILIVRI and crane lighters AL GARNIA speed 6 to 7 knots endurance 3000 miles from U.K. to Azores for delivery to Turkey via the Cape. Ships should be ready to leave Clyde about 15/11 and would require escort to the Azores. (D.T.D. 0051A/11 to C. in C. W.A.) Admiralty 0051A/11. Request your opinion of seaworthiness and best sea keeping speed of these vessels. (C. in C. W.A. 1215A/11 to F.O.I.C. Greenock).

EMPIRE
ORIOLE.
PEREGRINE.
PINTAIL.

Your 1839/8. White Ensign should be worn throughout in conformity with instructions given in A.L. M.050012/41 of 17th October 1941. (Head of M. 1032A/11 to F.O.I.C. Greenock).

P.36.

On completion of second working up patrol in U.K. intend P.36 should join 10th Flotilla leaving Portsmouth about 19/12. (F.O.S. 1208A/11) P.36 is to be sailed about 21/11 for 2 days A/S practices at Dartmouth then to patrol in Biscay North Zone returning to Portsmouth about 5/12. She is then to be prepared for service in the Mediterranean and is to be sailed to join 10th Flotilla about 19/12. (F.O.S. 1209A/11).

*Amended 12/11 - See p. 293*Co-operation with Russia.K.22. (Russian.)
TUNA.

Your 1249/30 October. Request you will arrange for submarine K.22 to be withdrawn from patrol in Vestfiord and approaches by 2359/15, as it is desired to operate TUNA in this area between about 17th and 26th November. Withdrawal of K.22 should be confirmed. (A.C.N.S. [H.] 1545A/11 to S.B.N.O. North Russia).

Archangel.
Economia.
Molotovsk.

Forecast of winter shipping capacities. (S.B.N.O. Archangel 1550/11, 2344C/11) See Lion Copy.

MOST SECRET

MOST SECRET MESSAGE 1550/11th Nov. IN
From: S.B.N.O. Archangel. Date 14.11.41.
Recd: 0235

Interdepartmental Cypher 1.T.T. by W/T

Addressed: Admiralty repeated Admiral Miles.

IMPORTANT

54.

Following for Ministry of War Transport or Sir Stafford Cripps from Maclay Tel. No. 0021. My telephone no. 0020 of 1240/6 visited Molotovsk yesterday and obtained following additional information

(i) Several thousand men are working to complete facilities for first half of December

(ii) Facilities will be three quays (?700) 650 and 550 feet long and 22 feet fresh draft. Railway tracks on all quays with 2 railway cranes 18 tons each quay not capable of plumbing ships hatch also 2 fixed (?cranes) of 25 and 35 tons capable of plumbing hatch

(iii) Russians state Molotovsk will (?handle) five ships, but in view of size of quays I consider 4 maximum apart from Oil tanker berth.

(iv) Personal contact with Archangel British H.Q. will be possible but difficult.

1550/11.

- | | | | |
|------------------|---------------|------------|-----------------|
| : 1st Lord | N.A. 1st S.L. | I.F. (2) | |
| 1st S.L. | D. of P. (2) | W.D. | D.T.D. (M) |
| 4th S.L. | D.O.D. (F) | Duty Capt. | D. of S.T. (2) |
| V.C.N.S. | D.D.O.D. (F) | Hd of M. | N.I.D. 10 |
| A.C.N.S. (F) | D.O.D. (H) | D.I.C. | Pay.Cdr. Wilson |
| A.C.N.S. (H) | D.D.O.D. (H) | E.P.S. | D. of S. |
| A.C.N.S. (T) (2) | D.N.I. (4) | D.T.D. (2) | |

L.

267 B

MOST SECRET

MOST SECRET MESSAGE 2344C/11th November. IN

FROM: S.B.N.O. Archangel. Date: 12.11.41.
I.D.C. Navy-Three by W/T and T/P. Recd: 1700

ADDRESSED: Admiralty. Repeated Admiral Miles.
IMMEDIATE.

75. Following for Ministry of War Transport repeated Ambassador from Maclay, Telegram 22. Your 1429/7 4. Winter capacity Archangel is complex for the following reasons

- (a) Impossibility of forecasting ice conditions after middle of December.
- (b) Doubt regarding readiness date of Molotovsk and Economia.
- (c) Optimistic Russian statements based on wishful thinking.
- (d) Ice experts giving different opinions.

2. Following is attempt to give you broad guide based on local contacts and assuming ice conditions normal also you willing to accept risk of several ships delayed here possibly all the winter owing to ice damage.

3. Convoy PQ.3. expected here November 20th Russians intend discharging and loading above repeat above Economia.

4. Convoy PQ.4. expected here November 25th. Intend similar procedure as PQ.3. although if ice severe in river may put 2 ships into Molotovsk which expected ready to handle some ships by ? December 1st.

5. Convoy PQ.5. expected here about December 7th and Russians intend if up river difficult to use Molotovsk for 5 ships including tanker and using above Economia for remaining ships.

6. Convoy PQ.6. assuming arrives here about December 18th can discharge load at Economia which Russians advise can handle 6 ships by December 15th.

267^C

MOST SECRET

until

7. After PQ.6. Mr. Papanyin states categorically no repeat no difficulty in bringing 10 ships simultaneously through Gorlo ~~Harbour~~ end January in 2 days basing his (? word missing) on faith in the new ice breaker STALIN. This critical point of doubt in the whole programme as other ice experts consider this much too optimistic after end December if ice conditions severe.

Message being continued via War Office.

2344C/11

re estimate of capacity of Archangel.

- 1st Lord.
- 1st S.L.
- 4th 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.O.D. (H)
- D.D.O.D. (H)
- D.N.I. (4)
- D.M.S.
- I.P. (2)
- W.D.
- Hd. of M (2) (and for W.C.O.)
- D. of S.T.
- D.T.D. (2)
- D.T.D. (M)
- E.P.S.
- D.D.I.C.
- D.C.
- A.E. (3)

Advance copies sent Duty Capt.
 D.O.D. (H)
 D.T.D.
 D. of S.T.

MFG

11.11.1941.
Tuesday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Movements.

CILICIA. S.O.W.P. 1230A/10. When ready for sea CILICIA should be sailed for Clyde. (D.O.D.(H.) 0030A/11 to F.O.I.C. Belfast).

NORFOLK. If destroyer fuel situation permits, NORFOLK is to leave convoy and return Scapa. (C. in C. H.F. 0131/11)

RODNEY. Proceed Hvalfiord. (C. in C. H.F. 0144/11 to RODNEY).

BERWICK. Cancel my 2252Z/10. BERWICK return to Hvalfiord. (C. in C. H.F. 0148/11 to BERWICK)

BROADWAY. My position 053° 30' N. 045° 40' W. (BROADWAY 0630Z/11).

SUNFISH. Cancel my 1520A/10. Sailing of SUNFISH is postponed until weather improves. (C. in C. Nore 0950A/11 to BLENCATHRA and F.O. (S) 1021A/11)

UNA. (1) Intend to sail CUTTY SARK at 1600A/12 to R/V with UNA in 270° Wolf Rock 3 miles at 0800A/14 and escort her to Holy Loch. E.T.A. Holy Loch 0800A/16.
(2) N.O.I.C. Greenock is requested to arrange fighter co-operation as follows. (Capt. S.J. 1013A/11).

ROYAL SOVEREIGN. Intend sailing ROYAL SOVEREIGN escorted by FURY FORESTER, and FORESIGHT to comply with* C. in C. W.A. 1632A/8 passing Clyde boom 1330A/12. E.T.A. 0830A/13. (F.O.I.C. Greenock 1108A/11)

* N.T. W.D.

/TUNA.....

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t.)
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War Diary.11.11.1941.
Tuesday.HOME COMMANDS.Movements-Contd.TUNA.

My 04318/36 of 10/11/41 now in transit is to be amended as follows.

(a) Add to para. 5. When making a landfall the risk of detection by R.D.F. by closing land on surface can however be accepted. Subsequently TUNA is not to approach on surface within 10 miles of any suspected R.D.F. station.

(b) Cancel para. 7 and substitute.
If a R.D.F. station is discovered within 20 miles of place referred to in para. 2 D. TUNA is not to penetrate to Eastwards of Fleinvaer either on surface or submerged even to achieve object given in para. 2 (d) and 2 (c) last 3 lights (sic). (F.O.S. 1229A/11).

CAIRO.

C. in C. W.A. 1048A/11. CAIRO is to return to Milford Haven on completion of B.B. 98. (N.O.I.C. Milford Haven 1307/11 to CAIRO).

TRIDENT.

Your 1809C/9. Onward route. To R/V in 090° Bressay 5 miles at 0845A/23 with an escort to be arranged by S.9. for onward passage to Blyth. (F.O.S. 1309A/11 to B.S.N.O. North Russia)

BELMONT.

My position at 1200A/11, 057° 45' N. 008° 45' W. Have 24% fuel remaining, a portion of which is contaminated by water. Am proceeding independently economical speed. E.T.A. Greenock 0800/12. (BELMONT 1331A/11).

CITY OF
DURBAN.

Your 1155/10. The following programme is approved. 0800/17. Undock. A.M./20. Ready to sail as ordered by C. in C. (C. in C. Nore 1746A/11 to F.O.I.C. London).

0.9.
H.33.

Sailed Z.5. with 0.9. and H.33. (N.O.I.C. Londonderry 1801A/11).

SEALION.

SEALION sails for patrol Svaerholthavet p.m./12th Route 72° 12' N. (S.B.N.O. North Russia 2207C/11).

11.11.1941.
Tuesday

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operations.

Interception
of Heavy
Unit.

(KENYA) My P.C.S. are 061° 42' N. 009° 45' W.
303° 11 knots. E.T.A. Seidisfjord 1200Z/12.
(C.S.10. 1100Z/11 to A.C.I.C.)

Weather unsuitable for Destroyers to leave Scapa
except in extreme emergency. (V.A. 2. 1207A/11
to C. in C. H.F.)

E.T.A. Hvalfiord 0300 tomorrow, ONSLOW, IMPULSIVE,
ANTELOPE in company. All times zone plus one.
(RODNEY 1550N/11 to A.C.I.C.)

My 1228Z/10. Proceed to patrol on completion
of practice tonight. Object is to shadow enemy
surface vessels should they try to break out
into Atlantic.

(ii) CUMBERLAND arrives Hvalfiord from Scapa
at 1500A/12. (C. in C. H.F. 1827Z/11 to KENT)

Serial 10.
Serial 11.

^{KT. W.D.}
My 0953/11 and my 1537/10. Serial 10 is to take
place at 1430 and serial 11 at 1530 today.
ATHERSTONE is cancelled from both serials.
KUJAWIAK is to act as safety ship for both
serials. (C. in C. Plymouth 1253/11)

My 1253/11. Convoys will be in Area C. at
1430. Keep clear. Serial 11 is to be carried
out in area A. (C. in C. Plymouth 1442/11
to KUJAWIAK).

M.G.B.
Patrol.

Intend sailing M.G.B. 319 to the Southward
at 1500 today, returning Dartmouth dawn/12th.
(N.O.I.C. Dartmouth 1321/11).

East Coast
Patrols.

Patrols tonight. (1) 2 M.G.B's Q.E.4.A. shifting
to Q.E.3 at 0030/12 (2) 3 M.L's Q.E.6.A,
shifting to Q.E.4.A. at 0030/12. (C. in C.
Nore 1615A/11).

British Air Activity.

R.A.F.
Personnel
for U.K.

Your 1423Z/10. A.C.I.C. is requested to pass
contents to BEDOUIN at Seidis Fiord. (C.S.10
1101Z/11 to C. in C. H.F.)

Patrols.

Fleet R/C is required as follows:-

(A) "Stand" to be kept continuously covered
p.m./11 and tonight, 11th/12th.

(B) "Sentry 2", "Sentry 3" and "Sentry one"
in that order of priority from 1200A/12.

(A.C.N.S. H. 1309A/11)

War Diary.

11.11.1941.
Tuesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Enemy Air Activity.

Convoy
F.N.546.
VICTO
(Norwegian,
3655 Tons)
sunk on
8/11.

F.O.I.C. Tyne reports VICTO sunk at 2330/8 by enemy aircraft in position 1.8 miles 330° from 18.B buoy. 3 Bombs dropped in low level -attack. Fire opened by ship before attack. Survivors landed at Tyne, 14 by steamship SKIPJACK, 16 by steamship LOTTINGE of whom 5 injured. 2 killed.
(C. in C. Rosyth 1237/11).

Convoy
F.N.549.

Help "Radio" 52° 19' N. 1° 59' E.
(VERSATILE 1728)

Convoy
F.N.548.
A/C shot
down on
10/11.

QUANTOCK's 1725/10. (1) 18 D. buoy 1725/10. At 1725/10 near 18 D. buoy shot down a Dornier 215. Pom-pom bursts seen around plane which turned immediately when flying at 300 feet range 1000 yards, tried to climb steeply, burst into flames, and is thought to have crashed on shore. No damage or casualties.
(C. in C. Rosyth 1800/11).

Mining.

Cork
Minefield.

My 1715/23/9 Cork Observation minefield now operative. Minelayer has arrived Dublin for drydocking. No further operations can be undertaken this year. Grading A.1.
(N.A. Dublin 1110/11)

PORT
QUEBEC.

My 0946/7 postponed. (R.A.M. 1129/11 and 1131/11).
My 0946/7 and C. in C. W.A. 1449/8. PORT QUEBEC delayed 24 hours. Request you amend fighter protection as necessary. (R.A.M. 2201A/11).

Plymouth

One presumed acoustic mine exploded at 1820/10 in approx: 250° Breakwater Fort 2000 yards.
(C. in C. Plymouth 1217/11).

4th M/S
Flotilla.
(Fleet)

My 1645A/9. In view of weather conditions obtaining it is most unlikely sweeping operations could recommence before 13/11. Intend therefore sailing FITZROY and PANGBOURNE as soon as weather permits, and ELGIN as soon as ALBURY rejoins, to Aberdeen for boiler cleaning. In my absence KELLETT will assume responsibility as S.O. and be available with SELKIRK, SUTTON, and ELGIN or ALBURY to carry out requirements outlined in my 1645/9 should they arise.
(S.O. 4th M/S F. 1502A/11 to A.C.O.S.).

War Diary.

11.11.1941.
Tuesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Mining-Contd.

N.P.7.

Two M.Ls. leave Dover at 2000 on an easterly course to operate in vicinity of W. buoy returning at about 0045/12. (V.A. Dover 1615A/11) My 1052A/7. Intend to carry out operation N.P.7. tonight. (V.A. Dover 1616A/11). My 1616A. Postponed on account of weather. (V.A. Dover 2254A/11).

Navigational.

Jan Mayen.

Request report of ice conditions in the vicinity of Jan Mayen Island. (A.C.N.S.(H.) 2200A/11 to NORFOLK).

Casualties and Defects.

ANGLE
(Broke down
8/11)

Joined company with ANGLE at 0812A/11. Towing should be established by 1030. (ST. APOLLO 0920A/11). As soon as Tug arrives one Corvette is to return to base. (C. in C. W.A. 1046A/11 to RENONCULE). Your 1520/11. If weather conditions permit ANGLE should be towed to Greenock. (F.O.I.C. Greenock 1915/11 to FREEBOOTER).

Methil
Docks
damaged
by
ISAFOLD.

Block ship ISAFOLD which broke adrift in Fairway of Docks last night has damaged Dolphins on jetty. (N.O.I.C. Methil 1029/11).

NESTOR.

A.M. 1659A/9. Date of completion of refit is about 28/11. This date will certainly not be improved upon. (C. in C. Plymouth 1153/11)

KUJAWIAK.

My 1053/11. KUJAWIAK delayed by defect. (C. in C. Plymouth 1055/11).

SKUM
(Norwegian,
1504 Tons).

Departure Tug KENIA to assist S.S. SKUM into Harbour. (F.O.I.C. Harwich 1743A/11). My 1729/11. Tug KENIA and SKUM arrived. (F.O.I.C. Harwich 1855A/11).

/CASTLETON....

War Diary.11.11.1941.
Tuesday.HOME COMMANDS.Casualties and Defects-Contd.CASTLETON.

Has one dynamo out of action. (F.O.I.C. Greenock 1846A/11).

SAINTFIELD.
GLENGARRIFF.

Arrivals. SAINTFIELD and GLENGARRIFF have been in collision. (V.A. Dover 2247A/11).

Shipping and Convoys.C.T.6.
LLANGIBBY
CASTLE.
TAMAROA.
CAIRO.

My 0606/8. LLANGIBBY CASTLE will now embark 14/11 and sail p.m. 14/11. TAMAROA must complete embarkation by noon 15/11 so as to be able to sail p.m. 15/11. (D.S.T. 0217A/11). CAIRO is to provide A/A escort for Avonmouth portion of convoy C.T.6 to R/V off Oversay. (C. in C. W.A. 1048A/11).

H.X. 157.

P.C.S. 060° 18' N. 17° 14' W., 135°, 12. (DOUGLAS 0800Z/11).

P.Q.4.

Your 1041Z/10. ECHO and ESCAPADE were the destroyers intended. Weather condition at Scapa still prevents all communication and refuelling. Destroyers are 50% short of fuel and ECHO has not been supplied with winter clothing. ESCAPADE sustained damage during passage from Rosyth yesterday. The only other destroyer is NORMAN. Request consideration be given detailing escort from 17th D.F., one destroyer being relieved by ECHO as soon as possible. (R.A.D. H.F. 0950/11 and 1200A/11 to C. in C. H.F.)

Your 0950/11. Intend ONSLOW and OFFA should escort P.Q.4. Request you will sail ECHO for Hvalfjord. (C. in C. H.F. 1547Z/11 to R.A.D.)

Iceland
Sections of
Atlantic
Convoys.

To distinguish between Iceland sections which -leave and join Atlantic Convoys it is proposed that the present suffix I (letter) be abolished and the following adopted. Suffix L for ships leaving a convoy for Iceland. Suffix J for ships joining a convoy from Iceland. (D.T.D. 1216Z/11 to Opnav).

/F.N.47.....

War Diary.

11.11.1941.
Tuesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping and Convoys.-Contd.

F.N.547.

Firth of Forth. Further signal will be made, as overdue ships are probably sheltering in Aberlady Bay owing to stress of weather. (N.C.S.O. Methil 1220/11).

O.S.11.

Inform Commodore that ships for South Atlantic are not to be detached pending further instructions. (C. in C. W.A. 1222/11 to IBIS).

O.N.S. 33.

Escorted O.N.S. 33 to 056° N. 026° W. at 0900Z/11. *ST. LAURENT, SNOWBERRY and (Corrupt Group) in company. Remainder of Iceland Escort in R/T touch but not joined at that time.
My P.C.S. are 056° 27' N. 026° 05' W. 352°, 9 knots. NARCISSUS, NORWICH CITY, LADY MADELAINE, and COMMANDANT DETROYAT in company. (HEATHER 1300A/11). * See p. 283.

C.T.7.

It is proposed that Convoy C.T.7 consisting of PASTEUR carrying service personnel to Halifax should be:-
(a) Sailed with escort from U.K. on 22/11.
(b) Met by an escort provided by U.S. at MOMP.
2. It is requested that you will obtain confirmation that these arrangements are suitable to Opnav. (A.C.N.S. (H) 1301A/11 to B.A.D. Washington.)

S.C.51.

Warmest congratulations on bringing home successfully another Convoy. (C. in C. W.A. 1310A/11 to Commodore).

D.S.16.

Admiralty 1841A/7. Delete S.S. LEINSTER. (D.O.D.(H) 1517A/11)

CASTLETON has one dynamo out of action. Intend sailing her with D.S. 16 in present condition. (F.O.I.C. Greenock 1846A/11).

/W.N. 3.....

War Diary.

11.11.1941.
Tuesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping and Convoys-Contd.

W.N.3.

16 ships now sheltering Thurso Bay. BOLBEC and MARIANNE sheltering Scapa. VALETA reports following ships not seen since night 9th-10th November between Cape Wrath and Strathie Point. SABOR, POLYKTOR, EMPIRE CLIFF, NESTUN. Convoy will be sailed as soon as weather moderates (A.C.O.S. 1556/11). Propose asking Vice Commodore of convoy to sail 1030 tomorrow if weather suitable in Pentland Firth. (VALETA 1835A/11).

Trawler Escorts.

A.M. 1532A/10. If VALETA and COTILLION which are now at Methil are sailed with E.N. 6. Trawler escorts can be provided either for W.N. convoys sailing to fit in with remainder of proposed programme or they can be sailed direct to Methil if W.N. convoys cannot be arranged. It will however be necessary to employ every available trawler to operate this schedule and no reliefs can be provided, in the event of damage or breakdown. (F.O.I.C. Belfast 1810A/11 to N.C.S.O. Oban).

P.Q. Convoys.

Your 1340/4. Your remarks regarding stowage and securing carefully noted and instructions issued here in endeavour to prevent recurrence of damage.
(2) Steps being taken to make heating adequate and to overcome condensation.
(3) Fire extinguishers being sent in P.Q.6.
(4) Please signal arrivals and sailings of P.Q. Convoys. (D.S.T. 2034A/11 to S.T.O. Archangel.)
Expected dates of arrival at Archangel and probable conditions as to unloading.
(S.B.N.O. Archangel 2344C/11) See Lion Copy.

275^A
~~217~~

SECRET

M E S S A G E

1232A/11 November IN

From Harwich,

Date 11.11.41.

Recd. 1344

P/L BY T/P

Addressed C.in C.Nore, 1st Division Corvettes, Repeated Admiralty, C.in C.Rosyth, F.O.i/c Humber, N.C.S.O.Southend, D.21.

1st Division Corvettes acknowledge my 2052A/3 and 1022A/4 and 1612A/10.

Amend to read:-

FN
549-50
551

FS
645
646

SHELDRAKE,
WIDGEON.

Both ships break off from FN convoys at H3 buoy and proceed into Humber. F.O.i/c Humber is requested to sail ships to join the FS convoys.

1232A/11.

Advance copy Ops. & O.D.

- V.C.N.S.
- A.C.N.S.(T) (2)
- A.C.N.S.(H)
- N.A.1st S.L.
- Ops.(3)
- O.D.(5)
- O.D.8
- O.I.C.(3)
- D.S.D.9
- D.A/S.W.
- I.P.(3)
- W.D.
- Mails
- Movts.
- M.(2)
- Capt.Pim Admy.Hsq.
- D.T.D.(4)
- D.T.D.(M)
- D.T.D.(C)
- E.P.S.
- D.P.S.
- A.H.Q.H.F.

275 B

SECRET. MESSAGE 1620A/11thNov. IN.

From. F.O.I.C. Harwich.

Date. 11.11.41.

Recd. 1800.

P/L BY T/P.

Addressed. C.in C. More, 1st Division Corvettes repeated Admiralty, F.C.I.C. Humber, C.in C. Rosyth, N.C.S.O. Southend D.21.

1st Division Corvettes acknowledge.

FN.	FS.	
552	647	GUILLEMOT
553	648	SHEARWATER
554	649	KITTIWAKE
555	650	SHELDRAKE
556	650	WIDGEON
557	651	MALLARD
557	652	GUILLEMOT.

SHELDRAKE breaks off V from FN555 and GUILLEMOT breaks off from FN557 off H3 buoy and ships proceed into Humber. F.C.I.C. Humber is requested to sail H these ships to join their FS convoys.

1620A/11.
Advance copy Ops. O.D.
Trade.

- V.C.N.S.
- A.C.N.S. (H)
- A.C.N.S. (T) (2)
- N.A. 1st S.L.
- Capt Fin, Admiralty House.
- Ops. (3)
- O.D. (5)
- O.D. 8.
- M. (2)
- O.I.C.
- Mails.
- Novts.
- I.P. (3)
- D.A/S.W.
- W.D.

- D.P.S.
- D.T.D. (4)
- D.T.D. (H)
- D.T.D. (C)
- E.P.S.
- A.H.Q.H.F.

DC.

War Diary.

11.11.1941.
Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

AUDACITY.

Intend to arrive at Europa Point 1745A with VIDETTE and COWSLIP in company. PENSTEMON instructed to proceed in accordance with your 1916A/9.* My 1425/10.* Berth with crane not required as I have no spare aircraft to land. (AUDACITY, 0900Z/11 to F.O.C.N.A.) * W.R. Note- No trace in War Reg. of either message.

French Shipping.

Passings 10/11. Eastward LIEUT. DE LA TOUR, MAROC, CAPITAINE LUIGI, JOSEPH ELISE, SCHIAFFINO FRERES, all full. (V.A.C.N.A., 0917A/11 to Admty for M.E.W.)
Escort: Armed trawler L' AJACCIEUNE (D.O.R. 12/11)
Armed trawler LA TOULONNAISE escorting THISBE, CAPITAINE ST. MARTIN, KITA, and KERMARIA, all laden, passed Gibraltar eastbound. ~~12/11~~ /11 (D.O.R., 12/11). *See below.*

Operation "Perpetual".

If weather unsuitable tomorrow intend returning to Gibraltar. Consider remaining in this area without fighters and aircraft A/S patrols undesirable.
For 200 Group, amend zero hour to read 0745. (S.O. Force H., 1341A/11 to Admty).

EUGENIO C. (Italian)

Arrived Castro Urdiales 10/11 to load iron ore, expect to complete loading 12/11. (Consul, Bilbao, 1750/11 to Admty).

French Shipping.

Gibraltar 1140, Armed Trawler LA TOULONNAISE, S.S. THISBE, CAPITAINE ST. MARTIN, KITA, KERMARIA all laden, eastbound. (S.O.(I) Gib., 1813A/11 to Admty etc).

CASTILLO OROPESA.

Spanish, torpedoed. (N.A. Madrid, 1843/11) See U-boat Campaign.

W/T Reports from M/Vs.

Your 1218A/23/10 (N.T. in W.D.). As it is important to keep these reports as brief as possible and as the speed made good can be calculated from the time of departure and the position as reported it is not intended to adopt this suggestion. Your 1154A/26/10 para. 2. As this might lead to a relaxation of the control over W/T signals made by merchant ships

11.11.1941.
Tuesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

W/T Reports
from M/Vs.
Contd.

it is not considered desirable to amend existing instructions on these lines. No objection to an individual ship being ordered to break W/T silence to indicate her position either to a shore station or to a local escort sent out to meet her. Para. 3. Routeing authorities have been instructed to report if ships are fitted with H.F. transmitters.
(A.C.N.S. (T) 2349A/11 to F.O.C.N.A.)

South Atlantic.

DEVONSHIRE.

Durban departure DEVONSHIRE 2300Z/10, E.T.A. Simonstown, 1600Z/12. S. of A. 25 knots. Route R.2. (N.L.O. Durban, 0330Z/11 to F.O.I.C. Simonstown).

REPULSE,
publicity.

Your 1617B/7 (N.T. in W.D.) Text of speech may be released now provided consent of Prime Minister is obtained and date of speech omitted. Ship should be referred to as "a large warship", name is not to be released. Photographs must not identify REPULSE. (D.T.D., Approved by 1st Lord, 0756A/11 to F.O.I.C. Simonstown).

CINCINNATI.

A.M. 1657/5. CINCINNATI now arrives Pernambuco 11/11. (D.O.D. (F), 0909A/11 to C. in C. SA., R.A.S.A.D.)

DERBYSHIRE.

Naval Supt. H.M.S.A. Dockyard Simonstown 1501/8. Ship is at 48 hour's notice and will be ready for sea P.M./22.
(N.O.I.C. Simonstown, 1137B/11)

/Gold.....

War Diary.

11.11.1941.
Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic. - Contd.

Gold Coast shipping.

To reduce risks to shipping on Gold Coast request M.W.T. be asked if possible to use smaller and less valuable ships for supplies to Accra and for lifting cocoa crop. S.S. SHIRRABANK, 7260 tons, 12 knots, is now there unloading cargo which will take about seven days and has then to load 3800 tons of cocoa taking 14 to 12 days. I have prohibited ships lying off Accra at night as I consider they are safer at sea, and I cannot yet provide adequate patrols. This has brought forth a string of protests.

2. Alternative and additional measure would be to use small coasters as feeders for carrying cargoes from Gold Coast to Lagos for transshipment into ocean vessels. (C. in C. S.A., 1311N/11 to Admty etc).

Force G.
P.O.W.
ELECTRA
EXPRESS.

Re. A.T. 1945A/9. Force G will not call Walvis Bay and will arrive Capetown 1000/16. Request you will arrange air passage to Pretoria for self, secretary, and valet, early /17 and ascertain that visit will be convenient to Prime Minister. Intend to sail for (?word omitted) p.m./18 if possible. (S.O. Force G., 1521Z/11 to N.O.I.C. Simonstown).

OLWEN
(Q Report).

My 1915A/4 and 1231A/6. No fresh information. (D.D.I.C., 1616A/11 to Cs. in C.etc).

Mediterranean.

Mine
Malta.

Mine recovered at Malta on 9/11 is apparently a 6-horn German antennae mine. (Details) Request if this mine is of known type and if detailed particulars, photograph and sketch should be forwarded. (V.A. Malta, 0005B/11 to Admty).

/Your.....

War Diary.

11.11.1941.
Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

Mine,
Malta.
Contd.

Your 0005B/11. Description corresponds to Type V as described in A.L. T.O. 7487/40 dated 16/11 1940 para. 17, but fitted to the large Type Y mine. Antenna floats have hitherto been bakelite with copper projections. Mine is known here but any details of materials used to connect and to insulate the top antenna at float and mine ends are desired. (D.T.M., 2134A/11 to V.A. Malta)

JUPITER
defects.

Request information as to cause of leaks in hull of JUPITER, observing that she was refitted in U.K. in May 1941 and hull was strengthened. (1st S.L., 0101A/11, to C. in C. Med).

→ PERSEUS,
UNIQUE.

PERSEUS delayed about 24 hours. Remain on patrol until P.M./13 then proceed as in my 1050B/10 to arrive Malta A.M./17.
-(Capt. S.10, 0931B/11 to UNIQUE).

BARON
RENFREW,
ARENA.
KIRKLAND.

Cancel my 1103C/10. Now intend to sail BARON RENFREW to Port Said, ARENA for Alexandria KIRKLAND 9½ knots to Alexandria for onward passage to Mersa Matruh. All escorted by ERICA and NIKI. E.T.D. Haifa, 1600/12. Request approval. (N.O.I.C. Haifa, 1055C/11 to N.O.I.C. Syrian Ports).

Enemy M/Vs.

R/C suggests following enemy movements. One merchant ship may arrive Benghazi from Northward dawn/12. Two merchant ships may pass South east through Cephalonian patrol same day. (Capt. S.10., 1221B/11 to S/Ms on Patrol)

→ PORPOISE,
PERSEUS,
REGENT.

PORPOISE, leaves 035° 51'., 015° 15' about 2100B/12 through 035° 00', 017° 00', to arrive 034° 00' 025° 00' about 0630B/16 thence as ordered by Capt. (S) 1. PERSEUS probably leaving first position 2000B/12 direct for 032° 55' 019° 00' to arrive Benghazi P.M./14. Any S/Ms. encountered night 12/13 by REGENT are not to be attacked. (Capt. S.10., 1247B/11 to REGENT)

/Suez.....

War Diary.

11.11.1941.
Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean. - Contd.

Suez Raid
Night 8-9/11.

Ref. my 1301B/9, para E. Canal Company slip destroyed by D/A bomb. Para F., 1 aircraft engaged at 8,000 yards range by CARLISLE about 20 miles E. of Ras-el-Gharib and driven off by gunfire. (S.B.N.O. Suez Canal, 1307B/11 to Admty).

Air
Operations.

Night 9/10, Nov. total 41 Wellingtons operated. 19 Wellingtons bombed Benghazi dropping bombs on base of Central Mole. Many fires and explosions caused, particularly violent explosion by a 4,000 lb. bomb. 12 Wellingtons dropped bombs on stores dump at Berka, causing very violent explosions which were seen 60 miles away. 5 Wellingtons dropped bombs on stores dumps at Bardia causing explosions and large fire visible for 40 miles. 5 F.A.A. Albacores bombed dispersed M.T. stores and encampments at Gazala North and South landing grounds. R/Cs. of shipping routes from southern Greece and Crete to Libya sighted no shipping movements but saw two Ju. 52's each towing one Glider about 25 miles N.E. of Derna Flying south Egypt. Night 9/10, two enemy bombers operated over the Gulf of Suez. No reports of attacks on shipping. 5 Hurricanes patrolling over Suez Canal zone did not sight enemy. -(H.Q., R.A.F., M.E., 1312/11, 1331/11, 1533/11).

ELISABETH
HENDRIK
FISSER.
(German).

Departure 10/11 probably for Genoa with some 6,000 tons iron ore and 2335 Aniseed. (Valencia, 1355/11 to M. of W.T.)

PANDORA.

To join 1st S/M Flotilla. (D.O.D. (F), 1755A/11)
See America & West Indies.

New "Hunt"
Destroyers.

The following new "Hunts" are allocated to Mediterranean after working up at Scapa:-
AIREDALE, ALDENHAM, TETCOTT, DERWENT, GROVE.
(V.C.N.S., 1757A/11 to A.S.C.B.S.)

Malta Raids.

2 Bombers approached 0346/11. 1 crossed coast. Bombs sea. (H.Q., R.A.F., Malta, 1800/11)

/Catania.....

War Diary.

11.11.1941.
Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean. - Contd.

Catania,
Naples,
Brindisi,
bombed.

4 F.A.A. aircraft attacked Catania aerodrome. Weather prevented observation results. 8 Swordfish to attack battleship off Messina (my 1.236) - nothing found. Nuisance raids Wellingtons. 2 attacked Naples. Results unobserved cloud. 2 attacked Brindisi. Bursts between floating dock and seaplane base and near factory at harbour entrance. (H.Q., R.A.F., Malta, 1821/11)

UPRIGHT.

UPRIGHT leaves 035° 51' 015° 15' about 0001B/12 direct for patrol L arriving p.m./13. (Capt. S.10., 1855B/11 to URGE).

→ UPHOLDER.

Details. (C.A.F.O. 1278/41) of sinking of U/B probably PERLA class, on 8/11 and of 2 destroyers, AVIERE class, 9/11. (Capt. S.10, 1945B/11 to Admty) See Lion Copy.

Convoy
Action 9/11.

-Final summing up of Sunday's operations by Force K and UPHOLDER:- 4 destroyers and 10 merchant ships sunk. (V.A., Malta, 2031B/11 to Admty C. in C. Med).

ATLAS
(German).

Arrived loaded about 500 tons steel plate for Genoa to complete cargo. Expected sail 13th. (Alicante, 2045/11 to Admty etc).

→ UPHOLDER,
enemy use of
A/C for A/S.
U-boat sunk
0400/8.

UPHOLDER reports white parachute flare followed by red Very light dropped from enemy aircraft over him at 2330/7 in 036° 00' 015° 42'. This is similar to German procedure in North Sea for aircraft co-operating with E-boats and light surface forces against S/Ms. UPHOLDER sank southbound U-boat in 036° 19' 016° 22' 5 hours later. Consider probable that enemy are patrolling east of Malta outside R.D.F. range. (Capt. S.10, 2243B/11 to S/Ms on patrol).

1945B/11. November.

281 A

SECRET.

MESSAGE.

IN.

Date. 11.11.41.

Rec'd. 2150.

From Capt (S) 10.

NAVAL CYBER (C) BY W/T.

Addressed. Admiralty. Repeated. Capt. (S) 1 F.O.S. S/M's in Coy. Mediterranean Fleet.

IMPORTANT.

Attacks by S/M UPHOLDER

C.A.F.O. 1278/41.

A B C D E F J

8/11/41. U boat probably Italian S/m PERA class in position 036° 19'	North 016° 22' east southbound	H.M.S. UPHOLDER 4 mark VIII 2 star A W 468 A 476 A W 481 AA 16 07	One hit	Observed to sink after 8 minutes. Attack by periscope submerged by moon light.
9/11/41. Italian destroyer AVIERE class destroyer	undamaged but stopped (x) 037° 08 north 018° 30' east	H.M.S. UPHOLDER One mark VIII	Two star A W 486	Hit under after screen: last seen in tow destroyer with stern under and fore foot out.
9/11/41. Rear ship of two	Italian Cruiser Trento Class two star cruisers escorted by two Italian Destroyer Aviere Class Destroyers steering East at 25 knots.	H.M.S. UPHOLDER Three Mark VIII	A W 463 A W 478 A A 16 14	Two results on Italian Destroyer Aviere Class destroyer on far screen which sank in 7 minutes: observed to have sunk.

1945B/11.

Advance copies sent to Cps., O.D. O.I.C.

- 1st. Lord.
- 1st. S.L.
- 4th. S.L.
- V.C.N.S.
- A.C.N.S. (F)
- A.C.N.S. (T) (2)
- A.C.N.S. (W)
- Nav. Sec.
- N.A. 1st. S.L.
- Capt. Pin, Admiralty Hse.
- Ops. (3)
- 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)
- D.A/S.W.
- I.P. (3)
- W.D.
- D.P.D.
- D.S.D. (2)
- M. (2)
- E.P.S.
- D.T.S.D.
- D.T.M.
- D.A.S.
- D.T.M.)
- D.A.S.) Bath by courier.
- S.W.R.)

War Diary.11.11.1941.
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies.U.S. Ships,
Mombasa.

Your 2005/2 M. of W.T. Agent states there has been no constructive delay to American ships at Mombasa (ii) A number of American ships continue to call at Mombasa for orders but no orders have been received for them there. Your 1722/29/7 refers.
(C. in C. E.I., 0730Z/11 to Admty.)

AUSTRALIA
W.S.12 X.

AUSTRALIA is due for docking now and refit in December. 2. As her next commitment is W.S.12 X from Cape first week December suggest opportunity be taken now for self refit at extended notice.
3. Can ship be given quick docking either at Durban or Simonstown before W.S.12 X leaves?
4. On receipt of instructions from F.O.I.C. Simonstown AUSTRALIA report requirements for extended notice to effect short self refit.
(C. in C. E.I. 0800Z/11 to F.O.I.C. Simonstown)
Reply: 1025Z/12.

Indo-China
Contraband.

French Officer from Indo-China informs me that rubber tin ? and rice are hidden by Indo Chinese Authorities on sick repatriation ships. Operation was carried on openly in August.
(F.F.N.L.O. Aden, 1239Z/11 to F.S.N.O. Pointe Noire, F.N.F.L. London.)

Vichy
Shipping.

Understand from intercepted Signals that Vichy Ships CAP VARELLA, VILLE DE VERDUN, and SI KIANG are in Indo China waters perhaps at Saigon pending the return.
(F.F.N.L.O. Aden, 1508Z/11 to French S.N.O. Pointe Noire, F.N.F.L. London.)

Use of Dante.

R/C party report indicates Dante suitable as coal bunkering port using lighters. Was used as such by Italian Navy. 8,000-ton vessel has anchorage in south bay which is safe during N.E. Monsoon. This would be main dump for loading and discharging. During S.W. Monsoon ships can be coaled from secondary dump which could be made at Carducci in north bay whenever main anchorage impossible. Cable what action should be taken here.
(G.O.C. in C. E. Africa 1930/11 to W.O.)

War Diary.

11.11.1941.
Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

China.

DOMINION
MONARCH.

Admty. 1451/7/10 para (2). DOMINION MONARCH after disembarkation at Singapore should proceed to New Zealand for loading to U.K. (D.S.T. 0327A/11 to F.O. Malaya.)

QUITO
(or BOGOTA)

Kobe arrival 7/11 German Tanker believed to be QUITO. (Capt. O.S. Singapore 0334Z/11 to Admty. etc.) May be BOGOTA. (C.O.I.S. Singapore 0436Z/13.)

Japanese
Moves.

F.E.W.56. Large recent increase of transport movements indicates desire to complete preparations as soon as possible. Combined Fleet including all aircraft carriers remains home waters. (C.S. Singapore 0946Z/11 to Admty. etc.)

America and West Indies.

H.X.160

Concur your 1926A/10.
(Opnav 0250/11 to Admty.)

O.N.33

ST. LAURENT believed to have rejoined escort unit 4.1.11, ref. my 2225/10. (No further information received concerning ST. LAURENT) (Opnav 0820/11 to Admty.) *See p. 274*

St. Thomas,
fuel.

It is considered that by completing with fuel here and sailing vessels direct, voyage is shortened about 2 days. Several masters of ships have said they were told not to take much coal to St. Thomas in order to avoid depleting of stock. Company informs me 10 to 12,000 tons of coal per month available for these ships alone. (N.C.S.O. St. Thomas 1011/11 to Admty.)
Reply: 1754/12.

P.511
P.551

Your 1819R/4/9. Request confirmation that P.511 and P.551 are now capable of (A) Submerged reception Rugby (B) Transmitting on Home Station H/F Waves. (F.O.S., 1144A/11 to B.A.D.)
Your 1144/11. This is confirmed.
(B.A.D., 1703R/11)

War Diary.11.11.1941.
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies - contd.S.C.54
BRANDON.BRANDON escorting S.C.54 has orders to continue with convoy to prudent limit thence to Greenock for training Tobermory.
(C.C.N.F. 1258Z/11 to N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, etc.)Refits.

N.S.H.Q's 1340Z/17/10.

LETHBRIDGE LETHBRIDGE	Halifax	November 10	November 14.
MAYFLOWER	"	" 10	" 14
PRESCOTT	"	" 10	" 14
WASAGA	"	" 10	" 17
COWICHAN	"	" 10	" 17

(C.O.A.C. Halifax 1405Z/11 to Ottawa.)

SURCOUF.Boston arrived French Cruiser submarine SURCOUF.
(N.S.H.Q. Ottawa 1422Z/11 to Admty.)MERRIMACK.

Your 1822A/8. U.S. MERRIMACK arrived Norfolk 21/10. (N.S.H.Q. Ottawa 1448Z/11 to Admty.)

P.511
P.551
Routes.C. in C. A. and W.I. 1042Q/9. Route to St. Johns N.F. through positions (P) 41° N. 68° W. (Q) 46° N. 58° W. (R) 46° 30' N. 52° 45' W. R.C.A.F. bombing restrictions will be arranged by C.O.A.C.
(C.O.A.C. 1626Z/11 to B.A.D.)CLARKIA.My 2212Q/5?. Examination of CLARKIA reveals bad (?scoring) of seating for A/S dome and extensive scraping on bottom particularly in way of engine and boiler rooms. Docking is necessary. Bermuda Dock is not available and it is proposed that (?ships should) proceed U.S. for repairs. Board of enquiry into grounding being held Bermuda 14/11.
(C. in C. A.W.I. 1652Q/11 to Admty.)CARNARVON
CASTLE.C. in C. S.A. 1741/10. Can CARNARVON CASTLE be accepted in U.S.A. for general refit and examination and refit as necessary of main machinery units? Ship could be available in U.S.A. about mid December.
(D.O.D.(F) 1657A/11 to B.A.R.M.)STELLA
LYKES.

Have you any news of American STELLA LYKES due Trinidad 7/11 from Durban? (D.T.D.1722A/11 to N.C.S.O. Trinidad) Reply: 0912/12.

NEVADA.

Have you any news of American NEVADA due Curacao 6/11 from Buenos Aires? (D.T.D.1723A/11 to N.C.S.O. Curacao.) Reply: No. (1010QR/12.)

/PANDORA ...

War Diary.

11.11.1941.
Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

American and West Indies - Contd.

PANDORA.

B.A.R.M's 0918R/1 and 0856R/5. On completion of working up practices at New London PANDORA should be sailed to Gibraltar via Bermuda ready for service. On arrival at Gibraltar PANDORA is to rejoin 1st S/M Flot. (D.O.D.(F) 1755A/11 to B.A.R.M., B.A.D. etc.)

ROBIN HOOD.
suspicious
ship.

S.S. ROBIN HOOD reports sighting suspicious vessel at 0510 G.C.T./11 26° - 50' S. 06° - 10' E. Large grey Freighter TALLEYRAND type, steering S. and later S.W., cruiser stern, Swedish flag side and flying aft. (other details). Smoke from other vessel visible 15 miles. (Opnav 1935Z/11 to Admty.)

LIVERPOOL.

Arrival Balboa 1715 zone plus 5, 11/11.
(N.C.S.O. Panama 1947/11 to Admty.)

War Diary.11.11.1941.
Tuesday.U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.Ships Attacked.TREVERBYN.
(sunk
? 21/10.)

Owners of British TREVERBYN, 5281 tons, informed ship must be presumed lost. Was bound from Pepel to Cardiff with ore in S.L.89, and missing after U/B attacks on that Convoy. Thought probable she was torpedoed and sunk on 21/10 about 360 miles W. of Fastnet.
(D.S., 798, 11/11.)

BRADFORD
CITY.
(torpedoed
1/11.)

My 2230/10. Master has telegraphed vessel torpedoed 0545/1 23° S., 09° 43'E. 2nd lifeboat containing 24 officers and men last seen 1/11, 22 hours, have suggested Windhoek South Africa aeroplanes might be instructed to endeavour to locate.
(Mossamedes, 0815/11, to Admty.)
My 1626/10. Following information obtained from survivors of BRADFORD CITY. Ship torpedoed 0500 G.M.T. Saturday 1/11 in 022° 59' S., 009° 40' E. (ii) Track of torpedo observed just before impact. Vessel hit after end of number 2 hold port side and cargo burst into flames. Vessel sank at 0550 G.M.T. bows listing to port. All crew left in 2 boats, one man injured. (3) S/M surfaced alongside port side then submerged and surfaced ahead on starboard bow. (4) Following details of S/M reported. Approx., 500 tons similar to silhouette of U-boats 45 to 55 in book of reference 145/40. Painted recently dark green with U 35 or L 35 in black on conning tower. 3 inch gun forward and small H.A. gun Breda type aft. Crew may be Italian with German officers. (5) S/M enquired name of ship, cargo carried and where from, then made off to westward and submerged.
(N.O.I.C. Simonstown, 0818Z/11, to Admty. etc.)
Your 2345/10 (not to Mossamedes). Boat containing about 20 survivors from same ship landed 126 miles north of Walvis Bay. Number awaits confirmation. Presume this completes crew. (S.O.I., Capetown, 1600B/11, to Consul General Loanda.)
My 0818/11. Consul Loanda's 2345/10 since received which reported arrival Bahia dos Tigres 1500/10 2nd boat, BRADFORD CITY with Captain, First Mate and 20 men. S.O.(I) Capetown is informing Consul Loanda that first boat has already reached coast north of Walvis Bay.
(N.O.I.C. Simonstown, 1613B/11, to Admty. etc.)

/CASTILLO.....

287

War Diary.11.11.1941.
Tuesday.U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.Ships Attacked. Contd.CASTILLO
OROPESA.
(torpedoed
8/11.)

Spanish S.S. CASTILLO OROPESA 5,177 tons, in ballast, torpedoed and sunk 0700/8 while lying off Melilla waiting to enter harbour to load iron ore for Gijon and well inside territorial waters. Director of Shipping convinced Axis U-boat responsible. Pieces of torpedo now under examination. Submit statement should be made and broadcast by B.B.C. in Spanish without comment to effect that no British and/or allied S/M operating in that area. (N.A. Madrid, 1843/11, to D.N.I.)

Submarines Reported.

2227Z/10.

D/F Bearing at 2227Z 10th indicates U-boats within 150 miles of 2° N., 10° 30' W. (C. in C.S.A., 0246N/11 to ARMERIA.)

Estimated approx., positions of U/Bs. (D.D.I.C. 1424A/11, 1423A/11.)

Submarines Attacked.By
Hudson.
A/C.
1326/11.

Am over enemy S/M in 48.50N., 11.20W. S/M on surface 180° 6 knots. (A/C L. 1326/11 to 19 Group.) Have attacked enemy with depth charges and estimate 2 hits. (A/C L 1355/11 to 19 Group.) Aircraft attacked U-boat 48.50 N., 11.20W., course 180° 6 knots at 1326. 3 Hudsons ordered to attack. (C. in C. Plymouth 1350/11 to DUNCAN.) Details of attack at 1326. (D.O.R.12/11.) My 1350 11th further reports indicate attack possibly successful. (C. in C. Plymouth, 2236/11, to DUNCAN, D.S., 799, 12/11.)

By UPHOLDER.

U/B sunk 8/11. (Capt. S.10, 2243B/11.) See Mediterranean. Page 181

War Diary.

12.11.1941.
Wednesday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

Watch for
Enemy Units.

Air patrols were ordered from noon today north of the Shetlands and Faeroes and east of Iceland (C), but owing to several long range aircraft being damaged in the gale and difficulty of operating until the weather moderates Coastal Command will be unable to maintain effective patrols in those areas during the next few days.

RODNEY with 3 destroyers arrived at Hvalfiord at 0940 and CUMBERLAND at 1400 today. KENYA arrived at Seidisfiord at 1115Z.

VENOMOUS
damaged.

KEPPEL reported at 0110A today that she had been in collision with VENOMOUS 14 miles West of Cape Wrath. VENOMOUS was holed and was towed to Aultbea. KEPPEL also sustained some damage.

Weather

Aberdeen was re-opened at 0835 today and Blyth at 0919A, but both ports were closed again, Aberdeen at 1700 and Blyth at 2144A.

Aircraft for
Russia.

Six ships have arrived in Iceland for Convoy P.Q.4. All ships have one or more aircraft cases damaged or smashed. Several aircraft are completely wrecked. 3 or 4 days will be required to coal, water, remove wreckage and repair damage.

British Air Operations.

Bad weather severely curtailed flying today and caused all operations planned for tonight to be cancelled.

Two Coastal Command aircraft sank a 900 ton merchant ship 12 miles west of the Helder.

War Diary.

12.11.1941.
Wednesday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Enemy Air Operations.

Fishing trawler BEN SCREEL was attacked this afternoon near Berwick fishing grounds, slight damage being caused.

A hulk being towed by H.M. Tug DANUBE V was slightly damaged by air attack near Humber Light Float at 0936 today.

R.F.A. WAR NIZAM was slightly damaged by air attack off Aldeburgh last night.

H.M.T.'s FRANCOLIN and COMMANDER HOLBROOK were attacked 7½ miles S.E. of Foulness Buoy at 1015A today and shot down their attacker. FRANCOLIN was sunk.

Convoy O.N.M. 36 called for help at 1826 today in 51° 46' N., 4° 37' W. (Carmarthen Bay). No details are known.

It is reported that S.S. MONMOUTH COAST was attacked by 2 aircraft at 1800 today one mile south of Read Head, Waterford.

Mining.

The small motor vessel MAURITA was sunk by explosion, probably a mine in the Dee Estuary at 1410 today.

War Diary.

12.11.1941.
Wednesday.

SITUATION REPORT.

South Atlantic.

S.S. ROBIN HOOD reports sighting a suspicious vessel under Swedish colours at 0510/11 in 26° 50' S., 6° 10' E. The smoke from another vessel was visible 15 miles away. DEVONSHIRE left Simonstown at 2300/12 to search in the calm area south of St. Helena. (Note. The ship sighted by ROBIN HOOD was almost certainly S.S. TISNAREN carrying a deck cargo of aeroplanes, but C. in C. S.A. wishes DEVONSHIRE to carry out the search nevertheless.)

Mediterranean.

Operation
"Perpetual".

7 Blenheims and 37 Hurricanes were flown off at 1015 and 1100 today in 37° 30' N., 4° 0' E., for Malta, from aircraft carriers with Force H. 3 Hurricanes failed to arrive.

Destroyers
for Eastern
Fleet.

JUPITER and ENCOUNTER are to be sailed to arrive at Trincomalee by 1/12 to join the Eastern Fleet. (Force G.)

Air
Operations.

20 Wellingtons attacked Naples from 2209/11 to 0315/12. One Wellington bombed Syracuse seaplane station.

Libya &
Western
Desert.

25 Wellingtons bombed targets at Derna last night.

12.11.1941.
Wednesday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT.

East Indies.

Kerguelen
and Crozet
Is.

AUSTRALIA searched the Kerguelen Islands 1/11 to 4/11, and Crozet Group 6/11 and 7/11 using her aircraft. She found no definite evidence of further use of the islands or anchorages by raiders. Mines were laid in certain of the anchorages.

America & West Indies.

S.C.
Convoys.

It is hoped to continue assembling S.C. Convoys at Sydney until about 15/1 or later if ice conditions permit, after which S.C. and H.X. convoys will both be assembled at Halifax.

U-Boat Campaign.

A Pan-American aircraft sighted a S/M at 0745 today 100 miles N.W. of Georgetown about 50 miles off shore. U.S. aircraft are searching.

An unknown ship later known to be PERU, British, made a submarine distress signal at 1733Z today in 1° 15' N., 12° 28' W. PERU, independent from Calcutta to Freetown and U.K., left Capetown 31/10. 3 boats with survivors were found in 03.22 N., 12.52 W. on 14/11.

War Diary.12.11.1941.
Wednesday.HOME COMMANDS.Policy.Kirkwall.

With only one Collier available, shortening daylight, and winter gales, turn round of Northern Patrol Trawlers at Kirkwall is being delayed. Request a second Collier may be sailed to Kirkwall without delay and maintained there throughout the winter months. There is no Collier available for this duty at Scapa. (A.C.O.S. 1858A/12.)

Co-operation with Russia.S.S.T.O.

Following for S.S.T.O. Your 1000/10. Your return approved. (D.S.T. 0339A/12 to S.B.N.O. Archangel.)

"Y" Station at Murmansk.

It is intended to establish a small "Y" station at Murmansk, to read German traffic. Staff will be ready to leave U.K. end November. Request details of power supply available. (V.C.N.S. 1037A/12 to S.B.N.O. Murmansk.)

Military situation.

1400C - B.B.C. reports of Finnish claims denied here. Front unchanged except on Zapadnaya Litsa Sector where Russians advancing and have found about 800 dead Germans. Railway has not been cut by Finnish ski patrols. (S.B.N.O. North Russia 1840C/12 to Adty.)

Withdrawal of R.A.F. personnel from Murmansk.

Ref. A.M.2333A/9. 1st M.F. Intend sail 3 minesweepers for Murmansk in near future to fetch 7 Officers and 60 airmen. These will be distributed as follows. (S.B.N.O. Archangel 1938C/12.)

Movements.TUNA.

(1) Intend to sail TUNA escorted by HIBISCUS at 1500A/12 for 061° N. 003° 30' W. E.T.A. 0800A/14.
 (2) Thence HIBISCUS to Liverpool.
 (3) Thence TUNA to north eastward proceeding on surface at C.O.'s discretion.
 (4) N.O.I.C. Greenock is requested to arrange fighter co-operation.
 (Capt. S.3. 0859A/12.)
 My 0859A. Add four hours to all times.
 (Capt. S.3. 1726A/12.)
 TUNA escorted by HIBISCUS may be passed during the night. (C. in C. W.A. 1808A/12 to SUNDEW and 1852A/12 to HURWORTH and 2231A/12 to SHAPINSAY.)

/Sailed ...

War Diary.12.11.1941.
Wednesday.HOME COMMANDS.Movements - contd.TUNA contd.

Sailed TUNA and HIBISCUS in accordance with S.3's 0859A/12 four hours late.
(F.O.I.C. Greenock 1946/12.)
My 0859A/12. (a) Onward route of TUNA from position (i) 061° N. 003° 30' W. on surface at C/Os discretion through position.
(ii) 063° N. 001° W. to position (iii) 066° N. 006° E. thence submerged by day to carry out operation "Familiar".
B. Request T.B.R. 30 miles either side of route indicated at (a) as follows.
(Capt. S.3. 2331A/12.)

SUNFISH.

Weather permitting intend to sail tug STALWART towing S/M SUNFISH and escorted by HOLDERNESS to Portsmouth as convenient to pass Sand Head Buoy at 1830/13.
(C. in C. Nore 1012A/12.)
Take STALWART with SUNFISH in tow, under your orders and leave Sheerness in company at 1130 tomorrow and proceed by Swept Channels in force to Portsmouth. Speed should be adjusted to pass Sand Head Buoy at 1830 thence at about 7 knots or at best speed weather conditions will allow. Should weather deteriorate whilst on passage and tow become unmanageable you should put into nearest port of refuge until weather moderates. Tow is to be stationed close astern and close escort maintained throughout passage. S.A. Gear is to be operated until Dumpton Buoy is passed during which time tow is to be 4 cables astern. (C. in C. Nore 1206A/12 to HOLDERNESS.)

P.35.

Leave patrol after dark 14th for Dundee diving by day routed as follows.
(Capt. S.9. 1713A/12 to P.35.) *See also next page*

GERANIUM.

To avoid U-Boats alter course from position 055° 20' N. 015° W. to (J) 050° 020° thence to new (G) 045° 022° and to (H). Omit (E) and (F).
(C. in C. W.A. 1755A/12 to GERANIUM.)

P.36.

F.O.S.1209A/11. P.36 will now be used for an operation which requires her to leave her patrol zone p.m.28th. She is to return direct to Dartmouth and be employed there on A/S practices subsequently proceeding to arrive Portsmouth on 4/12, sailing for Mediterranean about 18/12.
(F.O.S. 1824A/12.)

/HAZARD

War Diary.

12.11.1941.
Wednesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Movements - contd.

HAZARD.
HEBE.
SHARPSHOOTER.
GOSSAMER.
HUSSAR.
LEDA.
SEAGULL.

R.A.(D) H.F. is requested to sail HAZARD, HEBE, and SHARPSHOOTER for Archangel on completion of short practice period.
(ii) S.O. 1st M.S.F's 2135C/7. Sailing of GOSSAMER and HUSSAR with Q.P.3 is approved. LEDA and SEAGULL are to be sailed with next Q.P. convoy after arrival of HAZARD, HEBE, and SHARPSHOOTER.
(iii) It is hoped to relieve BRAMBLE and SPEEDY before end of December. S.O.1st M.S.F. report how ships and personnel are standing up to weather.
(C. in C. H.F. 1832Z/12.)

14th M.G.B. Flotilla.

Request 14th M.G.B. Flotilla be sailed so as to arrive Portsmouth by P.M./19th.
(C. in C. Portsmouth 1837A/12 to V.A. Dover.)

WESTMINSTER.
WOLSEY.

^{N.T.A.W.D.}
My 1740A/12. For 0200A/13 read 0300A/13.
(WESTMINSTER 2055A/12.)
WESTMINSTER and WOLSEY proceeding by Q.Z.S.287 S. of A. 15 knots due East Dudgeon 0300/13th.
(C. in C. Nore 2147A/12.)
Proceed by A.M. Q.Z.S. 308 and 288. Acknowledge.
(C. in C. Nore 2323A/12 to WESTMINSTER.)

KUJAWIAK.

KUJAWIAK is to remain off St. Ann's Head on arrival. Orders will be sent out by (ULLSWATER). Keep well clear of entrance as movement will be taking place 0830 until 1000 when W.P.M.65 sails.
(N.O.I.C. Milford Haven 2220/12 to KUJAWIAK.)

Operations.

Interception of Heavy Unit.

My 1207A/11. Weather now suitable.
(V.A.2 0805A/12 to C. in C. H.F.)
→ P.35 is to be ordered to leave patrol after dark 14th and to return to Dundee.
(F.O.S. 1102A/12 to Capt. S.9.)
Arrived RODNEY, IMPULSIVE, ANTELOPE and ONSLOW 0940. (A.C.I.C. 1120N/12.)
Seidisfiord 1115Z/12 KENYA arrived.
(C.S.10 1120Z/12.)
Arrival CUMBERLAND 1400.
(A.C.I.C. 1634N/12.)

P.35. Orders.

→ In addition to cruisers and above and northbound merchant ships with them you may now attack any large merchant ship whether escorted or not and irrespective of its course. You must however reserve at least 4 torpedoes for attacks on cruisers or above.
(F.O.S. 1652A/12 to P.35.)

/Proceed ...

War Diary.12.11.1941.
Wednesday.HOME COMMANDS.Operations.Interception
of Heavy
Unit
contd.

Proceed passing Switha 0820/13 to Hvalfjord.
On arrival act as ordered by C. in C. H.F.
(R.A.D. 2204A/12 to ECHO.)

M.G.B.
engagement.

At 1923/11 which was very dark with rain and N.E. wind Force 4, an R.D.F. Plot of enemy shipping commenced close off Gris Nez. Plot divided and one plot of two vessels probably not large took coastal route and may have entered Calais off which plot faded about 2100. The other plot of several small craft diverged. Passed at about 2130 through a position midway between Dover and Calais and thence between Sandettie and Outer Ruytingen. The average speed was about five knots which suggests trawlers. Convoy C.W.57 passing Dover delayed despatch of Striking Forces until 2100 when M.G.Bs 316, 312, 314 and 317 were sent to intercept enemy force then in Mid Channel. Fanhole South Foreland 6" battery opened fire at a range of about 21,000 yards firing by R.D.F. but without effect. M.G.Bs were directed on the enemy craft by R.D.F. and made contact at 2257 when there was a brief inconclusive engagement, but they were unable to keep touch or determine composition of enemy force. M.G.Bs continued to search until 0330 without regaining touch, R.D.F. plots having ceased at 0025. (V.A. Dover 1105A/12.)

SEALION
Patrol.

My 2207C/11. SEALION sailed.
(S.B.N.O. North Russia 1601C/12.)

Landing
Exercise.

Landing exercise arranged by N.O.I.C. Dartmouth and 209 Brigade will take place at Brixham at 2100 tonight.
(C. in C. Plymouth 1610/12.)

Dover
Patrols.

For night 12/13. Two M.Ls leave Dover at 1800 on an easterly course returning about 2230. One M.L. leaves Dover at 1745 on an easterly course returning about 0200/13.
(V.A. Dover 1639A/12.)

South Biscay
Patrol.

Cancel Capt.(S) 3 1453A/10. Proceed to patrol in vicinity 044° 16' N. 005° 30' W.
(F.O.S. 1836A/12 to UNA.)
My 1836A/12th. Keep good look out for eastbound merchant ships. U-Boat may be met in this area. S.B.R. in area 56 until further notice and in area 54 as previously arranged.
(F.O.S. 1857A/12 to UNA.)

War Diary.

12.11.1941.
Wednesday

HOME COMMANDS.

British Air Activity.

Patrols.

Owing to several long range aircraft being damaged in gale and difficulty of operating until weather moderates, Coastal Command will be unable to maintain effective "Sentry" patrols during next few days.

(A.C.N.S. H. 0048A/12 to C. in C. H.F.)
A.M.1309A/11.

(A) Is still required when weather permits.

(B) Owing to gale casualties it is understood that the three "Sentry" Patrols cannot be established. Request date when it is anticipated these patrols can operate.

(A.C.N.S. H. 1007A/12 to A.O.C. in C. C.C.)

All three "Sentry" patrols can be operated for limited period as soon as weather moderates.

(H.Q.C.C. 1705/12 to Adty.)

T.B.R.

S.B.N.O. North Russia's 1809C/9. Request T.B.R. 30 miles either side line joining (a) 067° 49' N. 007° E. and 065° N. 002° 55' E. from 1200/19 until 1500/22. (b) 065° N. 002° 55' E. and 063° N. 000° 15' E. from 1500/20 until 1000/23.

Request T.B.R. in area 22 East of 003° W. from 1000/21 until 0800/24 and in area 14, west of 001° E. and in area 21 East of 003° W. from 0001/22 until further notice.

(F.O.S. 1219A/12 to H.Q.C.C.)

Party
"Spitfire".

Hatson's 1245/12. Party "Spitfire" consisting of 2 officers and about 30 ratings with seven tons of baggage will be flown to Carew Cheriton a.m./13th. Request every effort may be made to embark party in ROYAL SOVEREIGN before sailing. Personnel already embarked are to remain on board in any case.

(D.N.A.D. 1815A/12 to F.O.I.C. Milford Haven.)

Enemy Air Activity.

Hulk attacked.

H.M. Tug DANUBE V. at Grimsby. Hulk she was towing from Tilbury to Rosyth is anchored in vicinity of Humber Light Float. Hulk attacked by aircraft near Humber Light Float at 0936 today. No serious damage. No casualties.
(F.O. Humber 1801A/12.)

WAR NIZAM.

Arrived Killingholme. Slight damage from Air attack off Aldeburgh last night. No casualties.
(F.O. Humber 1803A/12.)

FRANCOLIN
(M/S Trawler)
Sunk.

Following received from F.O.I.C. Yarmouth. Begins my 1306A. FRANCOLIN and CDR. HOLBROOK attacked by D.O.17 in position S.40 E 7½ miles Foulness Buoy at 1015A. FRANCOLIN hit by

/bomb ...

War Diary.12.11.1941.
Wednesday.HOME COMMANDS.Enemy Air Activity.FRANCOLIN
(M/S Trawler)
Sunk.
contd.bomb in wireless cabin. Aircraft shot down by combined fire. Part of fuselage and rubber dinghy brought to harbour. FRANCOLIN sank in N. 25 E. 2 miles Haisborough lighthouse. 1750A/12 Ends.
(C. in C. Nore. 1914A/12.)Convoy.Help Convoy "Poker" position 51° 46' N. 4° 37' W. Course 334°, speed 10 knots.
(Liverpool W/T 1826/12.)Mining.S.N.83 B.Arrival PORT QUEBEC, CHARLESTOWN 0430/12, R.A.M. in MENESTHEUS 0700/12.
(N.O.I.C. Port Z.A. 0715/12.)
Arrival BRIGHTON and NEWARK.
(N.O.I.C. Port Z.A. 1145/12.)Tobermory
and
Londonderry
Fields.My 1131/11. Fields will be laid p.m./12 and a.m./13 respectively.
(R.A.M. 1046/12.)
Sailed PORT QUEBEC and CHARLESTOWN.
(N.O.I.C. Port Z.A. 1327/12.)
My 0946/7 and 2201/11, C. in C. W.A. 1449A/8. Delete NEWARK.
(R.A.M. 1907/12.)N.P.7.My 1616A/11. Operation will be carried out tonight Wednesday.
(V.A. Dover 1611A/12.)MAURITA.
(British.)
201 Tons)
sunk.Motor Vessel MAURITA was sunk by explosion probably mine in Hilbre Swash, Dee Estuary at 1410 today. Believed no survivors.
(F.O.I.C. Liverpool 1816A/12.)Navigational.Jan Mayen.Your 2200A/11th to NORFOLK. No ice seen east of Jan Mayen. Loose ice dangerous to destroyers met north of Bear Island. Convoys should keep south.
(C.S.1 0035A/12 to Adty.)Aberdeen.Port now open. (F.O.I.C. Aberdeen 0835/12.)
Port of Aberdeen closed on account of weather.
(F.O.I.C. Aberdeen 1700/12.)

/Blyth ...

War Diary.12.11.1941.
Wednesday.HOME COMMANDS.Navigational contd.Blyth.

My 0930A/10. Port open.
(N.O.I.C. Blyth 0919A/12.)
Blyth port closed owing to weather.
(N.O.I.C. Blyth 2144A/12.)

Casualties and Defects.VENOMOUS
KEPPEL
damaged.

Have been in collision with VENOMOUS in position 280° Cape Wrath 14. VENOMOUS holed Starboard side. Engine room flooded. KINGCUP taking in tow. Request salvage tugs immediately. (KEPPEL 0110A/12 to C. in C. W.A.)
Sail MARAUDER with despatch to assist VENOMOUS. (F.O.I.C. Greenock 0223A/12 to N.O.I.C. Stornoway.)
My 0110/12. VENOMOUS in tow H.M.S. KINGCUP reports bulkhead holding pump working. No immediate danger apparent. Course and speed 193°, 5. KEPPEL stem buckled above and below waterline. Fore Peak flooded number 5 collision bulkhead undamaged. Am standing by tow until daylight. (KEPPEL 0330A/12.)
VENOMOUS in tow MARAUDER. P.C.S. 58° 16' N. 05° 41' W., 193°, 5 knots. VENOMOUS reported water approximate sea level in engine room. Anticipate keeping steam for about 2 more hours after which water will gain but should not be dangerous if bulkhead holds. KINGCUP rejoins convoy. KEPPEL still standing in tow. Consider more advisable repair bow damage than to continue. Request destination for VENOMOUS and KEPPEL and that if destroyer is being sent to supplement escort on O.N.S.35 I may embark. (KEPPEL 1047A/12)
VENOMOUS is to be towed to Clyde if possible. Are you able to proceed with convoy. (C. in C. W.A. 1130A/12 to KEPPEL.)
VENOMOUS is to be towed to Rothesay Bay if weather and safety of ship permit. (F.O.I.C. Greenock 1215A/12 to MARAUDER.)
Your 1047A/12. No destroyer available. Proceed to Clyde. (C. in C. W.A. 1301A/12 to KEPPEL.)
Arrival tug MARAUDER with VENOMOUS in tow. (N.O.I.C. Aultbea 1449A/12.)
KEPPEL's 1047A/12. VENOMOUS can be taken in hand for damage repairs by Messrs. Scotts, Greenock, and KEPPEL by Messrs. Fairfield. (D.O.D.(H) 1722A/12 to C. in C. W.A.)

/BLYSKAWICA

War Diary.12.11.1941.
Wednesday.HOME COMMANDS.Casualties and Defects - contd.BLYSKAWICA.

A.M.1700A/9. Subject to trials BLYSKAWICA will be ready for service 19/11 except that type 285 will be incomplete. Work will require at least 10 extra working days. Suggest that work be completed at Portsmouth and delay accepted. (C. in C. Portsmouth 1123A/12.)
Your 1123A/12. Concur.
(C. in C. W.A. 1608A/12 to C. in C. Portsmouth.)

PRIMROSE.

Oscillators out of action.
(PRIMROSE 1510Z/12.) ~~See~~ also p. 310.

Orkney
Ring Cable.

The Howequey Flotta section of Orkney ring cable has parted and is also damaged. Request cable ship as soon as possible to repair.
(A.C.O.S. 1737A/12.)

FRISKY.

Your 1226A/12. FRISKY should be sailed for Greenock for examination.
(F.O.I.C. Glasgow 1815/12 to N.O.I.C. Campbeltown)

Shipping and Convoys.GLENARTNEY.

Your 1154A/11. Ship should be sailed in next O.S. Convoy being given safest place in convoy. (D.O.D. H. 0042A/12 to N.C.S.O. Clyde.)

D.S.16.

My 0340/6. LEINSTER will not now sail with D.S.16. (D.S.T. 0343A/12.)

S.L.91.
S.L.91 G.

Your 2011Z/11. Ships of 9½ knots are to proceed forthwith at best speed along route ordered escorted by BLACK SWAN, FOWEY, CARNATION, HELIOTROPE, STONECROP, and CAMPION. Convoy will be designated S.L.91 G.
(C. in C. W.A. 1101A/12.)

P.Q.3.

Your 1831A/10 para.(d) and (e). Position (z) at 0700Z/20 is 145 miles from R/V given in C. in C. H.F. 1348A/3 for which my signal 1601N/9 gave time of meet as 0900Z/20.
(A.C.I.C. 1148N/12 to Adty.)

W.N.3.

My 1556/11. SABOR and NESTUN proceeding Scapa. POLYKTOR has made and cancelled request for D/F bearing. Nothing known of EMPIRE CLIFF reported by VILETA as missing from convoy. BOLBEC and MARIANNE rejoining from Scapa. Convoy now leaving Thurso Bay.
(A.C.O.S. 1155/12.)

/W.N.6.

War Diary.

12.11.1941.
Wednesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping and Convoys contd.

- W.N.6. Your 0930A/12. Escorts for W.N. convoys can be provided in accordance with schedule but it is suggested that Zero time for W.N.6 should be advanced by at least 12 hours as escorts with this convoy will be required to return with E.N.9 which is due to sail at 1000/20. (F.O.I.C. Belfast 1630A/12 to N.C.S.O. Oban.)
- T.C.14. Arrived PIORUN, GARLAND escorting T.C.14. (N.O.I.C. Greenock 1644A/12.)
- S.C.53. Is being re routed via Iceland route. VANOC proceed Iceland to refuel if fuel permits. (C. in C. W.A. 1701A/12 to VANOC.)
- P.Q.4. Following 6 ships for P.Q.4 now here: ALMA ATTA, MOSSOVET, RODINA, SUKHONA, BUDENNI, DAN-Y-BRYN. BUDENNI requires 150 tons Coal. 3 ships require water. SUKHONA has main topmast and rigging down and only one lifeboat left. All ships have one or more aircraft cases damaged or smashed. Several aircraft are completely wrecked. Anticipate 3 to 4 days required to coal, water, remove wreckage and repair damage. (A.C.I.C. 1713N/12.)
- T.C.15. Names and destinations of vessels comprising T.C.15 are as follows. (D.O.D.H. 1723A/12.)
- Personnel at Murmansk for U.K. C. in C. H.F. 1423Z/10. Maximum accommodation available.
- | | | | | |
|----------|----|----------|-----|-----|
| KENYA | 20 | officers | 400 | men |
| BEDOUIIN | 10 | " | 80 | " |
| INTREPID | 10 | " | 20 | " |
- No beds or blankets available on board. Personnel should be ready to embark by 20/11. Expected destroyers will arrive Murmansk about that date and KENYA on 23/11. Admty. pass to S.B.N.O. North Russia S.B.N.O. Archangel and Admiral Miles. (C.S.10 1759Z/12 to S.B.N.O. North Russia.)
- S.L.92 Request you will sail BRADFORD to join S.L.92 North of Azores. (C. in C. W.A. 1806A/12 to F.O.C.N.A.) See p 302
- Suffixes for Iceland portions of Atlantic Convoys. Your 1216Z/11. Concur. (Opnav 1824Z/12 to Admty.)

/E.N. Convoys ...

War Diary.

12.11.1941.
Wednesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping and Convoys contd.

E.N.
Convoys.

Your 1822/31/10. It is most desirable that the sailing of E.N. convoys should be kept as flexible as possible in order that ships joining ocean convoys should not be unnecessarily delayed, and proposals in C. in C. Rosyth's 1519/1/11 are generally concurred in.
(A.C.N.S. (T) 1907A/12 to A.C.O.S.)-

War Diary.

12.11.1941.
Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

CASTILLO
OROPESA.

Spanish, sunk by U/B off Melilla 8/11.
(See U-boat Campaign).

French
Shipping.

Passings 11/11. THISBE, CAPITAINE ST. MARTIN,
KITA, KERMARA, eastwards full.
(V.A.C.N.A., 0909A/12 to Admty for M.E.W.)

OLYMPUS.

Your 1908A/10. Delayed 2½ hours by weather.
(OLYMPUS, 0930A/12 to F.O.C.N.A.)

MYRLAND,
KENNET.

MYRLAND and KENNET arrived Ponta Delgada
1030 G.M.T./12. KENNET stood by MYRLAND
owing to slight engine defect in latter.
Coaling here. (N.C.S.O. Ponta Delgada, 1145/12,
to S.O.(I) Gib).
MYRLAND, KENNET and S.S. LULWORTH HILL left
Ponta Delgada 2130 G.M.T./12.
Proceeding direct to Port Kennedy F vide
C. in C. W.A., 0018A/17/10 to MYRLAND, S. of A.
8½ knots. KENNET may have to call Bathurst
for bunkers. (N.C.S.O. Ponta Delgada, T.H.I.
1950/12, to S.O.(I) Gib).

RANGITATA,
WILD SWAN.
WISHART.

A.M. 2245A/10 (escort for RANGITATA with
Service personnel) Para. (vi) Intend to employ
WILD SWAN and WISHART.
(F.O.C.N.A., 1202A/12 to C. in C. S.A.)

See 18/11 - p 457 -

FORMIGNY,
CAUDEBEC,
(French).

Arrivals 11/11 FORMIGNY, 9/11 CAUDEBEC.
(N.C.S.O. Lisbon, 1218/12 to M. of W.T.)

AUDACITY
O.G. 76.

Their Lordships congratulate you on your
successful actions against the Focke-Wulf
which undoubtedly played a large part in
ensuring the safe passage of the convoy.
(5th S.L., 1733A/12 to AUDACITY).

BRADFORD,
S.L. 92.

Request you will sail BRADFORD to join S.L.
92 north of Azores. (C. in C. W.A., 1806A/12
to F.O.C.N.A.) *See p. 300*

/Air

War Diary.

12.11.1941.
Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic. - Contd.

Air Report
"Perpetual"
U-boat.

202 Sqdn. 1 Catalina escort Force H to east, operation "Perpetual". 0730 - 1930. Area covered Gibraltar to 0400 E. 209 Squadron 1 Catalina A/S search 140 miles to East. 1530 - 1930. 1 Blenheim returning from operation "Perpetual" reported large U-boat stationary on surface, 36.30 N., 03.23 W., at 1045. (200 Group, 1830/12) See U-boat Campaign.

S/Ms
exercise
opportunities.

With increasing dilution of submarine crews and the consequent loss of experience, together with lack of facilities at home for realistic exercises with surface ships, it is important that no opportunity should be missed for working up new construction submarines and recently refitted submarines. Appreciated if arrangements could be made, when possible, for these submarines to carry out a few days exercising at Gibraltar, which should include attacks on high speed targets, and night exercises with Warships, before they proceed to join their Flotillas in Mediterranean. (F.O.S., 1902A/12 to F.O.C.N.A.)

Gibraltar.

Re proposed defence measures against midget S/M attack and possible Spanish reaction. (V.A.C.N.A., 2002A/12 to Admty) See Lion Copy.

South Atlantic.

ROBIN HOOD,
suspicious
ship, 11/11
DEVONSHIRE.

Following received from U.S. Authorities (quotes Opnav's 1935/11) (D.D.I.C., 0346A/12 to C. in C. S.A., Force G., CARNARVON CASTLE) Admty 0346A/12. Hasten sailing of DEVONSHIRE. (C. in C. S.A., 0902N/12 to N.O.I.C. Simonstown). Admty 0346A/12. This ship might be proceeding to calm area South of St. Helena. If no further news carry out three-day search in this area subsequently shortening route to Freetown as necessary. (C. in C. S.A., 0951N/12 to DEVONSHIRE).

/Your.....

303A

MOST SECRET

2002A/12 November. IN.

From V.A.C.N.A.

Date. 13.11.41.

Recd. 1325.
SPECIAL F.O.'s CYPHER X BY CABLE.

Addressed Admiralty.

AIDAC.

351. A/L M 016233/41 of 31st October.

(i) Reference para. 2. It may be feasible to lay C without provoking Spanish protest. There is much fishing in vicinity Getares Bay also intermittent patrol from Algeciras by M.T.B and armed trawler consequently laying of E and D necessarily involve considerable risk of detection even on dark wet night. Consider D would most probably be subsequently located by fishermen and recovered.

(ii) Reference para. 3. Instructions for patrol craft sighting S/MS. in Bay contained in G.W.O. 5 now in post by air.

(iii) Reference para. 4. Captain of Port, Captain of Dockyard and I agree that proposed position not repeat not acceptable it would considerably reduce already very restricted anchorage, would almost certainly be strongly objected to by Spaniards and would be difficult to maintain. Advice of Admiralty expert will be sought as to possible alternative.

(iv) Reference para. 5. Consider only practical method at present is exercise of extreme vigilance. Unless Spain turns sour consider most unlikely Midget S/M attacks will be initiated from Spanish shore, all evidence tends to indicate those made to date have been from repeat from seaward. No repeat no explosive charges have been used by us in commercial anchorage. Charges to which Spaniards took exception were almost certainly those used by Italians to destroy their craft before landing and those dropped by my orders in Getares Bay on 20th September soon after the attack. Strong Spanish protest almost inevitable if charges are dropped in commercial anchorage, if only on score of damage to their fishing industry, which is extensive all round Bay and involves use of acetylene or arc lamps. Even if we ignored this, to be effective a very large number of charges would be required the explosion of which throughout night would have a demoralising effect on the crews of the numerous ships usually in anchorage.

(v) Reference para. 6. No reason to suppose Spaniards were in any way implicated until Italians compromised their neutrality by landing after attacking from seaward. In October 1940 Italian similarly landed on Gibraltar itself. Fact of their having landed in Spain does not apparently therefore give very strong ground for a protest, semi official protest was of course immediately lodged with authorities at Algeciras on 20th September. Information from official with whom protest

was lodged

indicates the Italians were taken to Seville by Civil Guards if they subsequently escaped this is no more than is constantly being done by our Nationals and Allies.

(vi) Reference para 7. Present patrols as in G W O 5. At recent meeting Spaniards quoted Treaty of Utrecht and claimed that Northern limit of our jurisdiction was line 269 degs. from Jetty at West end of British lines whilst not accepting this we agreed not to arrest Spanish boats northward of it unless detected in, or making preparation for, commission of hostile act.

Spanish boats without lights or unduly close shipping at anchor in these waters to be sent away and reported to Spanish authorities who undertook to deal with them.

7. Consider that to ask Spanish permission to patrol their waters at night would touch their national pride and almost certainly be refused.

8. Our Bay as distinct from the commercial anchorage patrol has for some time past with my authority gone inside Spanish waters on Algeciras side of Bay on dark night but has orders not normally to close their within one mile, so far without incident.

9. Do not repeat not consider desirable to invite Spanish participation in neutrality patrol which I consider would only tend to raise question of territorial waters in an acute form possible stop our patrols operating in waters which they now use, and raise difficulties in respect of flying boats and merchant shipping both of which constantly make use of Spanish waters without hindrance. Once started such a discussion might well raise the question of our right to use the aerodrome and other ground thereabouts to which our legal title is apparently extremely doubtful.

10. Although present Naval repeat Naval authorities Algeciras appear friendly and inclined to help there would appear to be every possibility of a regrettable incident occurring sooner or later and I do not see we should be any better off if the Italians repeat their attack. Such a request would afford a good excuse for demanding an increase import allowance petrol.

Advance Copy Sent 1st Lord., N.A. 1st S.L. ^{2002A/12.}

A.C.N.S.(F), D.C., D.O.D.(F) D.D.I.C., Hd. of M.

1st Lord.	
1st S.L.	Hd. of M.(6) for action.
V.C.N.S.	D.A/S.W.
A.C.N.S.(F)	D. of L.D.
A.C.N.S.(T)(2)	W.D.
N.A. 1st S.L.	I.P.(2)
P.A.S.(S)	N.I.D.10.(Pay.Cdr.Wilson.
D.O.D.(F)	
D.D.O.D.(F)	
Duty Captain.	
D.D.I.C.	
D.N.I.(4)	
D. of P.(3)	

12.11.1941.
Wednesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic.

ROBIN HOOD
suspicious
ship. 11/11
DEVONSHIRE
Contd.

Your 0346A/12. Suspicious vessel sighted by ROBIN HOOD was probably TISNAREN carrying deck cargo of aeroplanes. This ship was originally routed close to this position and should have been there about time stated if diversion of 400 miles to westward ordered at 1900/7 was not received as is quite probable. N.O.I.C. Simonstown pass to S.O. Force G. (C. in C. S.A., 1145N/12, to Admty). Following is repetition of my 1316Z/12. Your 0902/12. DEVONSHIRE will sail at 2300 G.M.T./12. (F.O.I.C. Simonstown, 1844Z/12, to C. in C. S.A) DEVONSHIRE arrived Simonstown 1210Z/12 and departed 2300Z/12 for calm area and Freetown. S. of A. 18 knots. (F.O.I.C. Simonstown, 2303Z/12).

AUSTRALIA
refit.

Your 0800/11 AUSTRALIA can be accepted for docking at Simonstown 29/11 to undock 3/12. In meantime ship can be berthed at East London for self refit. My 0843/10 to C. in C. E.I. C. in C. S.A., only refers. (N.O.I.C. Simonstown, 1025Z/12 1558Z/12 to C. in C. E.I.)

"Bellringer"
Convoy Escort.

S.O.(I) Capetown 1230/12. See 1238/13.

BALTAVIA.

My 2025/8 BALTAVIA damage confined to stream line sheathing starboard shaft between hull and a bracket. Expected to sail P.M./13/11. (N.A. Rio de Janeiro, 1516Z/12 to C. in C. S.A.)

Movements.

Summary at 2000/12. (C. in C. S.A., 1557N/12 1831N/12) See Lion Copy.

DUNNOTTAR
CASTLE,
ORMONDE.

Your 1715/31. DUNNOTTAR CASTLE and ORMONDE expect to arrive Capetown 16/11 DUNNOTTAR CASTLE will subsequently be docked Simonstown a.m./16 (defects) before sailing for Freetown with ORMONDE. DONNOTTAR CASTLE 0925/12 which is being passed to C. in C. S.A. and Admty refers. (N.O.I.C. Simonstown, 1607B/12 to C. in C. S.A.)

SSSS
Report.

Freetown, T.O.R., 1733Z/12. See U-boat Campaign

~~MOST SECRET~~ MESSAGE 1557N/12th November IN

MOST SECRET

From C. in C. South Atlantic. Date 12.11.41
Time 2055
NAVAL CYPHER C BY W/T & T/P.

Addressed S.A. Station Squadron. Repeated Admiralty.
IMPORTANT

198. Movements Summary 2000 12.11.41

- H.M.S. ASTURIAS 025 deg. 50' South 017 deg. 45' West
112 deg. 11 knots
- H.M.S. CANTON 007 deg. 40' North 015 deg. 40' West
072 deg. 14 knots
- H.L. 242, 272 010 deg. 54' North 017 deg. 28' West
004 deg. 9½ knots
- H.M.S. CARNARVON CASTLE 032 deg. 30' South 002 deg. 54' East
286 deg. 16 knots
- H.M.S. BRIDGEWATER with S.T.8 004 deg. 30' North 011 deg. 36' West
147 deg. 9 knots
- H.M.S. EGRET with SL 92 016 deg. 55' North 026 deg. 25' West
010 deg. 7 knots
- LANDGUARD and H.M.S. VANSITTART with OS 10 016 deg. 05' North
027 deg. 42' West 188 deg. 9 knots
- H.M.S. DORSETSHIRE and H.M.S. DUNEDIN covering Convoys SL 92
and OS 10.
- (?H.M.S. BIRMINGHAM) near rendezvous 'PIG' fuelling 13 November
- H.M.S. BULOLO patrol J 33 C and D
- H.M.S. HAWKINS 002 deg. 10' North 002 deg. 04' West
263 deg. 12 knots
- ANTWERP 001 deg. 50' South 003 deg. 16' West
108 deg. 8 knots
- M.L.'s 261, 256, 265, 274 008 deg. 18' North 013 deg. 44' West
182 deg. 10 knots

H.M.S. DEVONSHIRE leaves Simonstown about 2200 for Area about
028 deg. South 003 deg. West. Sailed - See p. 304

1557N/12

- Advance Copy Duty Capt. D.O.D.(F). D.T.D.
- 1st Lord. D.O.D.(F). Hd. of M.
 - 1st S.L. D.D.O.D.(F). D.D.I.C.
 - V.C.N.S. D.N.I.(4). E.P.S.
 - A.C.N.S.(H). D.A/S.W. N.I.D.10.
 - A.C.N.S.(F). I.P.(2).
 - A.C.N.S.(T)(2). W.D.
 - N.A. 1st S.L. D.T.D.(2).
 - D. of P.(2). D.T.D.(M).
 - D.O.D.(H). D.T.D.(C).
 - D.D.O.D.(H). D.C.(2).

MOST SECRET~~MOST SECRET MESSAGE~~ 1831N/12 IN NovemberIN

Date 12.11.41

Time 2129

From C. in C. South Atlantic.

NAVAL CYPHER C BY W/T & T/P.

Addressed S.A. Station Squadron. Repeated Admiralty.

IMPORTANT

200. My /1557 N 12 Add ROYAL ULSTERMAN

003 deg. 08' North 008 deg. 17' West 310 deg. 12 knots.

1831N/12

Advance Copy Duty Capt. D.O.D. (F). D.T.D.

/ Movements Summary.

1st Lord,

1st S.L.

V.C.N.S.

A.C.N.S. (H).

A.C.N.S. (F).

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

N.A. 1st S.L.

D. of P. (2).

D.O.D. (H).

D.D.O.D. (H).

D.O.D. (F).

D.D.C.D. (F).

D.N.I. (4).

D.A/S.W.

I.P. (2).

W.D.

D.T.D. (4).

D.T.D. (M).

D.T.D. (C).

D.C.

Hd. of M.

D.C.O.

D.D.I.C.

E.P.S.

N.I.D. 10 Paym. Cdr. Wilson.

War Diary.

12.11.1941.
Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic.- Contd.

Visits from
Argentine
N.O's.

Proposing that two Argentine N.O's be invited to visit England and be taken to Naval bases and establishments. I agree entirely, the effect on Navy here would be very great.
(N.A. Buenos Aires, 1955Z/12 to Admty).

Mediterranean.

Benghazi
Derna,
Gazala, Bardia,
Berka
bombed.

Night 10/11 Nov. 10 Wellingtons operated over Cyrenaica. 8 dropped bombs on main stores depot Benghazi, starting small fires. 1 bombed stores dumps Derna starting fires which spread over large area.
(H.Q., R.A.F., M.E., 1114/12).

Warships
for Turkey.

Following from Adm. Kelly. Your 2002A/7 A. Both M.F.A. and Minister of Defence informed me last night everything is approved and only formalities to be completed. Both hoped ships might be sailed when ? ready without waiting for further confirmation.
(N.A. Angora, 1152B/12 to Admty).

Inclusion of
Red Sea in
Med.,
Command.

My 1219B/18/10. The following changes are to come into force at 0900B/14. Para 2 the Port of Suez is to be included in Red Sea command.
Para. 8 N.O.I.C. Suez is to be in command under F.O. Commanding Red Sea Force of all ports and anchorages in Gulf of Suez including anchorage J and of local defence craft in these ports. Any questions which affect the Suez Canal Authorities will continue to be dealt with by S.B.N.O. Suez Canal Area.
(C. in C. Med., 1155B/12).

/Landing.....

War Diary.12.11.1941.
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean.- Contd.Landing
Craft.

Following from Chiefs of Staff No. 198 to C. in C. M.E. and Med., 1. Your O/20862 cipher 31/10 and O/23355 cipher 7/11 and C.O.S. No. 195. DERWENTDALE is already on passage to you.

2. We cannot decide on best distribution of special ships and allocation of landing craft until we can balance your needs against ours. We would therefore like to know broadly your plans for combined operations in the Spring.

3. In general we consider that your tank landing requirements can be met by an adequate number of T.L.C's reserve MISOA class with their long endurance for operations based on U.K.

4. Brigadier MacLeod should be prepared to explain your requirements.
(1st S.L., 1218A/12 to C. in C. Med).

Enemy Units.

One merchant ship 2 destroyers 182° Skitza 2 miles course 100° 8 knots at 0955B.
(Capt. S.10, 1255B/12 to S/Ms on Patrol)

ABBAZIA
(Italian).

Reported (C.5) at 1705/9 as expected at Istanbul from Piraeus during next 72 hours. (D.S. 800, 13/11)

P.34
SOKOL,
URSULA.

Leave patrol to pass through 037° 20' 019° 50' at 2100B/15 making a short area report addressed to SOKOL when safe to do so then proceed through 035° 51' 015° 15' and 036° 00' 014° 53' to arrive Marsamxett 0730B/18. SOKOL leaves 035° 51' 015° 15' about 2100B/13 direct to arrive 037° 34' 019° 50' about 0001B/16. URSULA due Glen 0730B/18 from S.E. S/Ms encountered at night are not to be attacked. (Capt. S.10., 1333B/12 to P.34).

LATONA.

A.F.O. 2552/40 and my 1332/26/10. Board of inquiry into the loss of LATONA will not be held as I am satisfied that it would serve no -useful purpose. Written report will be forwarded. (C. in C. Med., 1400/12)

/Operation.....

War Diary.12.11.1941.
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean - Contd.Operation
"Perpetual".

7 Blenheims and 34 Hurricanes arrived.
(V.A. Malta, 1725B/12 to S.O. Force H.)
W.D. Note. 37 Hurricanes took off. 3 missing
see S.O. Force H., 1247/13.

SULLBERG.
German.

Arrival 12th.
(Barcelona, 1748/12 to M. of W.T.)

JUPITER.
ENCOUNTER.
Force G.
(P.o.W.
ELECTRA
EXPRESS.)

Your 2338A/10. F.O.C.R.I.N. 11512/7. In view
of delay to KELVIN, JUPITER and ENCOUNTER are
being sailed to join S.O. Force G.
(C. in C. Med., 1812B/12 to Admt.)
Request you will sail JUPITER and ENCOUNTER
to arrive Trincomalee by 1/12. Intend programme
should be repeated C. in C. E.I. and S.O.
Force G. Ships are not expected to rejoin
14th D.F. and 2nd D.F.
(C. in C. Med., 1816B/12 to R.A.D. Med.)

PROTEUS,
Intelligence.

Trawler and air patrol within Gaidaro Island.
Traffic Piraeus to Crete leaves after dark routed
outside 100 fathom line eastward of Georgia
Island thence direct. Searchlight sweep Doro
Channel (PROTEUS, 1830/12 to Capt. S.1.)

M/Vs.
attacked.

Day 11/11. Six Blenheims shipping search
Kerkenah. Three attacked M/V 4,000 tons
1345 hours 315° Kerkenah 12 miles. No hits.
Also machine-gunned. M/V 1200 tons 1406 hours
65° Kerkenah 25 miles Southbound 8 knots
machine-gunned. Three Blenheims attacked 500
ton Schooner 1345 hours 20 miles North
Kerkenah no hits. Machine-gunned.

Naples and
Syracuse
bombed.

Night 11/12, 20 Wellingtons successful attack
Naples 2209 to 0315. Many hits marshalling
yards, railway tracks, packing case yards, and
area airframe works. Possible power station
Mugnane hits. One aircraft engine trouble
bombed railway station and area seaplane station
Syracuse, large explosions and fires visible,
80 miles.
(H.Q., R.A.F., Malta, 1907/12.)

Enemy
Cruisers.

3 Cruisers 039° 23' 017° 22' 170° 20 knots at
1550B/12. (Capt. S.10., 1915Z/12 to UPRIGHT.)

War Diary.

12.11.1941.
Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

Russians
and Persian
Gulf.

Your 1309D/3 is being passed to C.in C. E.I. and S.N.O. Persian Gulf.
2. No such appointment has been notified to Admiralty and no purpose would appear to be served by a Russian N.O. for purely naval duties.
3. If request is put officially you should ascertain what is meant by S.N.O. Possible Russians may wish to appoint an Officer to assist with disembarkation and transport of supplies.
Any such request should come through Soviet Legation at Tehran.
4. Unless you think we could get some corresponding quid pro quo you should not encourage any further approaches.
(A.C.N.S. (F) 0912A/12 to Adm. Miles).

M.L's.

Your 2008/10, (1) Suitable crange not available at Mombasa for off loading M.L's. Request therefore they be shipped to Durban where 80 ton fixed crane exists.
(2) A.L. quoted received. See my 0732/20/10 (Re. A.L. M/LD 002487/41) to Admiralty only.
(C.in C. E.I. 1030Z/12 to Admty.).

AUSTRALIA
Kerguelen
and Crozet
Cruise.
Mining.

AUSTRALIA in Kerguelen Islands 1/11 to 4/11 inclusive and in Crozet Group 6th and 7/11. No definite evidence of further use by raider.
(ii) Mines laid as follows. Gazelle Basin 6. Long Island Sound 070° E 4. Island Harbour, 2. Tucker Turn Eastern entrance, 6. Istal 18. *Total?*
(iii) Also visited Port Couvreux from which aerial search for all probable anchorages. Port Jeanne D/Arc. Christmas Harbour. Rhodes Bay. S.E. coast thence to Crozet passing close to East Island. Possession Island. Ship's Cove. American Bay. Hog Island. Boat Cove. Aerial search Penguin Island and Apostles.
(C.in C. E.I. 1415Z/12 to Admty.).

REPULSE,
defects.

Your 1343A/9. Reply. (A) No. (B) By end of February. (C) Only brick work while ship remains at short notice for steam. Principal causes of anxiety are (list). I have waited to reply until convoy cleared Vichy French waters.
(REPULSE, 1601Z/12 to Admty.).

War Diary.

12.11.1941.
Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

China.

Shipping
Reports.

Request you will report.

(1). What shipping movements are not at present reported to London by Vesca system.

(2). If complete interstation Vesca procedure vide C.B. 3000 A (38) para 103 (b) is now in force and if this is working satisfactorily.

(D.T.D. 1632A/12 to C.in C. China, C.in C. E.I. A.C.N.B. N.Z.N.B.) Reply. C.in C. E.I. 0432Z/15. N.Z.N.B. 0120Z/15.

America and West Indies.

STELLA
LYKES.

Your 1722A/11. Agent Lloyds STELLA LYKES advised ship proceed direct to New York without calling Port of Spain. (N.C.S.O. Port of Spain 0912Q/12 to Admty.).

NEVADA.

Your 1723A/11 no information. (S.B.N.O. Curacao 1010QR/12 to Admty.).

DESPATCH.

My 1222Q/9. Visit to Barbados is cancelled. DESPATCH will leave Trinidad 16/11 and arrive St. Lucia 17/11 remainder of programme unchanged. (C.in C. A.W.I. 1012Q/12 to Admty.etc.).

U/Boat.

Following is repetition of message received from Pan American Pilot (begins) S/M 100 miles N.W. of Georgetown at 0745 today about 50 miles off shore O.C. U.S. troops always ready to take any action you may suggest as regards bombing squadron. (Bermuda 1021/12 to C.in C. A.W.I.). N.C.S.O. Georgetown 1021/12 being passed to Admty. and B.A.D. Request you arrange if possible for R/C by United States A/C. (C.in C. A.W.I. 1152Q/12 to N.O.I.C. Trinidad, N.C.S.O. Georgetown).

Georgetown British Guiana reports that Pan American pilot sighted submarine 100 miles N.W. of Georgetown at 0745/12. (C.in C. A.W.I. 1202Q/12 to Opnav).

Your 1152Q/12. U.S. bomber squadron, bombs loaded, left on R/C flight at 1230 local time. (Georgetown 1501/12 to C.in C. A.W.I.).

War Diary.

12.11.1941.
Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies.

U/Boat
-Contd.

One U.S. R/C plane took off 1710 Q to search area (?120°) from S.W. Point of Trinidad. One Squadron from St. Lucia and one Squadron from here takes off at dawn/13 to search area from 62° W. through N.E. to 59° W and Coast of British Guiana.
(N.O.I.C. Trinidad 1745Q/12 to C.in C. A.W.I.).

ST. LAURENT
PRIMROSE.

Your 1456Z/11. Have sustained heavy weather damage. Top mast carried away necessitating new top mast complete and radio D/F aerial. Lower (?half) bent. All boats smashed but repairable. Consider ship should be detached direct to Halifax as soon as possible if required to leave St. John's (N.F.) 29/11. PRIMROSE Asdic set out of action. *(ST. LAURENT 1055Z/12 to C.C.N.F.).
* Weather report.

St Thomas
St. Lucia,
bunkers.

Admty. 1958B/26/7 diverted Lagos ships for U.K. bunkering at St. Lucia and St. Thomas should only lift sufficient coal to reach Hampton Roads where major quantity should be taken. Since then St. Thomas and St. Lucia have both reported that situation will allow larger quantities to be lifted there. C.in C. A.W.I. 1222Q/25/9, R.N.O. St. Lucia 1211Q/20/10 and R.N.O. St. Thomas 1011/11/11 refer. This would allow voyages to be shortened by about 2 days by omitting calling at Hampton Roads. It is suggested the R.N.O's at these 2 ports should be given discretion to bunker ships accordingly when stocks of coal permit and re-route ships so as to omit Hampton Roads in these cases. (C.in C.A.W.I. 1102Q/12 to Admty.).

Suez
Red Sea
Command.

~~My 1219B/18/10. The following changes are coming into force 0900B/13:-
Para 2. The port of Suez is to be included in Red Sea Command. Para 8. N.O.I.C. Suez is to be in command under F.O.I.C. Red Sea of all ports and anchorages in the Gulf of Suez, including anchorage J, and of the local defence craft in these ports. Any question which affects both authorities will continue to be dealt with by C.in C. Med.
(C.in C. Med. 1155B/19 to Med. Stn.).~~

/C.T.7.....

War Diary.

12.11. 1941.
Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies. -Contd.

C. T. 7.

Your 1301/11. Opanav regret unable to provide escort. (ii) Further signal will be made referring to para 2 of my 1939/1/10. (B.A.D. 1303R/12 to Admty.).

Ships for
Archangel
WAZIRISTAN.

Your 1700Z/10. Confirmed that minimum speed of $8\frac{1}{2}$ knots is necessary for all ships for Archangel. If WAZIRISTAN is loading she should be accepted. M.W.T. is communicating with Sparks to ensure this does not recur. (D.T.D. 1431A/12 to N.C.S.O. New York).

Convoys
Sydney
C. B.

Hoped to continue assembling S.C. convoys at Sydney until about 15/1/1942 or slightly later if ice conditions permit. Thereafter S.C. and H.X. convoys will both be assembled at Halifax. Question of using Shelbourne as an auxiliary assembly port as a standby for certain ships of both H.X. and S.C. convoys to relieve strain on Halifax is under active consideration. Dormant plans are also being prepared for use of Saint Margaret's Bay, Nova Scotia, as an emergency anchorage for turned back convoys or in the event of Halifax being temporarily blocked. Every effort is however being made to avoid drawing any attention to this anchorage until and unless it is required. (N.S.H.Q. Ottawa 1508Z/12 to Admty.).

DIDO
morale of
ships'
company
in U.S.A.

Your 1308/3. Urgent need for replacement of damaged units of Mediterranean Fleet, particularly A/A cruisers, does not allow DIDO to return to U.K. for leave, observing also that she has only been abroad since April 1941. 2. When replying to Admty. 1732/10/10 DIDO should include alternative proposal for proceeding direct to Gibraltar after working up. (A.C.N.S.(F) 1552A/12 to B.A.R.M.).

* NT a WD.

BARFLEUR
SHEHERAZADE
MEROPE
(French).

X.C.L. BARFLEUR will operate in waters around Martinique 12-14/11. A.O. SHEHERAZADE left Fort De France 10/11 for Mobile in ballast. A.O. MEROPE left Coatzacoalcos 9/11 for Puerto Tarafa. (Opanav 1608Z/12 to Admty.).

LIVERPOOL.....

War Diary.

12.11.1941.
Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies. -Contd.

LIVERPOOL.

Left Colon 1600R/12.
(N.C.S.O. Colon 1631/12 to Admty.).

Dakar
Casablanca
Intelligence.

Dakar. 10/11. A.1. The French ships RHEA, GABRIEL, GUISTHAU, AISNE and FORT DE VAUX left on 8/11 en route for Madagascar. Casablanca 11/11. A.1. Arrivals 29/10. French CAUDREX. Arrivals 30/10. Portuguese QUANZA, ALFERRAREDE and NEREIDA. Arrivals 30/10. Spanish SAC 9. (B.A.D. 1637R/12 to S.O.I. Freetown).

FORMALHAUT
ERIDAN.

My 1521/31. Dakar 10/11. A.1. FORMALHAUT and ERIDAN returned Dakar from sea 10/11. (B.A.D. 1703R/12 to Admty. etc.).

CLARKIA.

C.in C. America and West Indies 1652Q/11. Can CLARKIA be taken in hand in U.S.A. for docking for examination and repair of damage due to grounding?
(2) B.A.D. Washington is requested to pass C.in C. A.W.I. 1652Q/11 to B.A.R.M. for information. (D.O.D. (F) 1724A/12 to B.A.R.M.

St. Thomas
fuel.

Your 1011/11. This is appreciated. Tonnage that would be required to replace coal stocks is being employed to better effect however and this is considered to counter-balance the shortening of the voyage obtained by bunkering to capacity.
(D.T.D. 1754A/12 to N.C.S.O. St. Thomas).

Panama
ships,
routes and
escorts.

Navy Dept. intends to consult you through Spenavo about route and escort for Panamanian Flag ships on passage to and from Archangel. Origin of enquiry was the approach by Maritime Commission to Shipping Mission to obtain assurance that ships would be escorted both ways and not delayed. It is alleged that S.S. COCKLE has been delayed for several weeks in Iceland and 2 ships are believed to have loaded at Archangel for discharge in U.K. Request information of present Archangel convoy arrangements. Admty. pass to M. of W.T. London.
(B.A.D. 1759R/12 to Admty.).

SURCOUF.....

War Diary.12.11.1941.
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America & West Indies. Contd.SURCOUF.Newport sailed French Cruiser Submarine SURCOUF.
(N.S.H.Q., Ottawa, 1800Z/12, to Admty.)U.S. and
Convoy
Escorts.

My 1939/1/10. Para. 2. Navy Dept., now states verbal undertaking to provide U.S. escorts for British troop convoys applied only to large movements which they understood would occur about every three months. This undertaking will be implemented when sufficient escorts are available but as long notice as possible is requested. (ii) U.S. Authorities are unable to provide escort for single ships as requested your 1301A/11 or for frequent small troop convoys. The only solution they can suggest is that such ships should join regular mercantile convoys if R.N. escort for whole passage is not available. (B.A.D., 1801R/12 to Admty.)

St. John's
N.F.
PRINCE HENRY.

Your 1052/9. Regretted that withdrawal of FORTH from St. John's N.F. has led to a serious and immediate shortage of accommodation there. In consequence PRINCE HENRY has been diverted to act as depot ship until the Naval Barracks have been completed in January. (N.S.H.Q., Ottawa, 1846Z/12 to C. in C.A.W.I.)

LORRAINE.
? Battleship
or Tanker.

Washington 11/11 A.1.
French Battleship LORRAINE at instigation of Armistice Commission has been ordered to return to Casablanca. (B.A.D., 2001R/12, to S.O.I., Freetown.)
Comment by N.I.D.
French Battleship LORRAINE is at Alexandria. This undoubtedly refers to Tanker LORRAINE which left Casablanca on 8/11, for an unknown destination.

Opnav and
Convoy
Routes.

In order to expedite convoy dispatch traffic in future Opnav will reply to Admiralty proposed convoy routing in plain English, viz., affirmative or negative, without mentioning convoy designation. Example:-
(Your dispatch 1926A/10, affirmative.)
(Opnav, 2045Z/12 to Admty.)

/T.C.16.....

War Diary.12.11.1941.
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America & West Indies.Contd.T.C.16.

Your 2039A/6. Sparks report:
 1. CUBA date can be maintained.
 2. GEORGE WASHINGTON, British Flag, cannot be expected at Halifax complete with cargo and ready before 20/12 at the earliest.
 3. LETITIA if loaded New York arrives Halifax ready 10/12. If cargo omitted or to be loaded Halifax could arrive Halifax 6th or 7/12.
 4. (2) and (3) dates indefinite and subject to dockyard conditions and progress.
 (N.S.H.Q., Ottawa, 2049Z/12, to D. of S.T.)

Australia.AQUITANIA.

My 0457Z/10. AQUITANIA is now required to call Sydney en route for Wellington. Request vessel arrive Sydney not later than 0600K/14/12.
 (A.C.N.B., 1022Z/12, to R.A.Malaya.)

New Zealand.Unidentified vessels.

Coast watching Station Niutatobatabu 200 miles north of Tonga reported at 1940Z/10 light cruiser bearing S.S.W. 20 miles. (Description) Course N.N.W. High Speed. Graded B.2. Confirmation given in 0025Z/12. C. in C. U.S. Pacific Fleet has been asked if this was U.S. Warship. (2) Unidentified vessel probably tanker also sighted 1740Z/9 by Niutatobatabu (description) Graded B.2.
 (S.O.(I)Wallington 0354Z/12, to C.O.I.S. Singapore.)

War Diary.12.11.1941.
Wednesday.U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.Ships Attacked.CASTILLO
OROPESA.
(torpedoed
8/11.)

No British S/M was within 100 miles of Melilla at the time of the incident. (Admiralty announcement, 12/11, The Times 13/11.)
Your 1843/11. Confirmed no British or Allied submarine operating in that area.
(F.O.C.N.A. 1820A/12, to N.A. Madrid.)

LARPOOL.
(torpedoed
1/11.)

British, 3872 tons, now known to have been torpedoed or sunk, probably on 3/11, while bound from London for Demerara with a general cargo. She was a straggler from Convoy O.N.F.27. Master and 5 survivors, all suffering from exposure, landed at Placentia Bay, Newfoundland, on 10/11. (D.S., 799, 12/11.) Left Loch Ewe 18/10 in Convoy O.N.F.27. (D.O.R. 12/11.)
Revised date 1/11 - (see 16/11.)

Unknown
ship.? PERU.

Following has been read:-
Freetown W/T from Ascension W/T SSSS 2° 15' N., 12° 20' W.
(Freetown T.O.R. 1733Z/12, to Whitehall.)
Freetown W/T from Ascension. Following read -
Correction to SSSS T.O.R. 1733Z/12. SSSS de GUNX
(Signal letters undecipherable in War Registry.)
1° 15' N., 12° 28' W.
(Freetown, T.O.R. 1933/12 to Whitehall.)
Was from British PERU, 6961 tons, independent from Calcutta to Freetown and U.K., left Capetown 31/10. See South Atlantic 1645/14 and D.S.802.

Submarines Reported.

0745.

By Pan American A/C. (C. in C.A.W.I., 1152Q/12, etc.) See America & West Indies.

Estimated approx., positions of U/Bs.
(D.D.I.C. 1357A/12, 1401A/12.)

1048A.

A/C returning Gibraltar report sighting large submarine at 1048A/12 stationary heading 100° in 036° 32' N., 003° 23' W.
(F.O.C.N.A., 1526A/12, to S.O. Force H., 200 Group, 1830/12 to A.M.)

1733Z.

Ref. Admty., message A.F., position O 1° 15' N., 12° 28.5' W.
(C. in C.S.A., 1733Z/12, to Admty.)
(See Ships Attacked.)

War Diary.

12.11.1941.
Wednesday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Submarines Attacked.

By ROSELYS
(corvette.)

Contacted. Am attacking, position 055° 08' N.,
050° 30' W.
(ROSELYS, 1220A/12, to Capt. D. Greenock.)

By
ENCHANTRESS
ABERDEEN.

ENCHANTRESS, ABERDEEN made 5 attacks on
confirmed Asdic contact in 052° 30' N., 022°
47' W., at 1430 G.M.T./12. Result unknown.
Area searched without result. Escort rejoining
Convoy before dark.
(IBIS, 1600Z/12, to C. in C.W.A.)

War Diary.

13.11.1941.
Thursday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Enemy Air Operations.

One enemy aircraft dropped 2 bombs near Nolso Lighthouse (Faeroes) at 1209. No damage was caused.

Mining.

Mines, probably laid 6/7 Nov. were detonated in the Thames Estuary today, one of which damaged M.M.S.44.

Dutch S.S. JOMA was sunk today in Falmouth harbour, presumably by an old mine.

Walton Bay Anchorage (Bristol Channel) was reopened at 1031A.

North Atlantic.

Vichy
Warships.

-RICHELIEU and JEAN BART are not to be allowed to enter the Mediterranean, since they might be completed at Toulon.

War Diary.

13.11.1941.
Thursday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Mediterranean.

Sink at
sight policy.

Revised instructions for sinking at sight in the Mediterranean were issued by the Admiralty today.

Operation
"Perpetual"
ARK ROYAL
sunk. by ~~U.S.~~
U.S. ~~submarine~~

ARK ROYAL was damaged, apparently by torpedo from a U-boat at 1541 today in position reported to be 36° 3' N. 4° 45' W. and sank in tow early on 14/11. There was only one casualty, and 10 Swordfish and 4 Fulmars were flown off to Gibraltar. Force H. had noted an underwater explosion, thought to be a torpedo exploding at the end of its run, at 0410 today in 36° 25' N. 1° 15' W., but A/S search produced no result. MALAYA, ARGUS and HERMIONE arrived at Gibraltar at 2100A today.

Suez.

The port of Suez is included in Red Sea Command from 0900B/14. N.O.I.C. Suez is to be in command under F.O.C. Red Sea of all ports and anchorages in the Gulf of Suez and of the local defence craft.

Libya and
Western
Desert.

18 Wellingtons attacked targets at Benghazi last night and one at Derna.

War Diary.13.11.1941.
Thursday.HOME COMMANDS.Policy.Stores for
1st M/S
Flotilla.

Obtain copies of M.S.1 2135C/7th November to Admiralty and Admiralty 1309A/12 November to A.C.O.S., and arrange shipment of the stores required by M.S.1 in HAZARD, HEBE, and SHARPSHOOTER if top weight allow. Alternatively they can be shipped in cruiser which will call Scapa before escorting P.Q.5. Inform M.S.1 of arrangements made.
(C. in C. H.F. 0927Z/13 to R.A.D. H.F.)

Ferry boats
and crane
lighters for
Turkey.

Your 0051A/11. Following from F.O.I.C. Greenock begins.
Your 1215/11/11. Ferries are similar to two others which completed this voyage successfully about nine months ago. The Captain of one of these first pair is now in charge of CARDAK. He anticipates no special difficulty and expects to average about 7 knots in fine weather. He is very definite however that his vessel is incapable of rendering assistance such as towing to the Crane Lighter if the latter needs this. As regards the Crane Lighter, I should regard an ocean voyage with extreme misgiving, in view of the route to be taken. When designed I assume that a coastal voyage through the Mediterranean in summer was in mind. Under present conditions I should not expect this vessel to reach her destination. T.O.O.1509A/12 Ends. I concur.
(C. in C. W.A. 1010A/13 to Adty.)

Admiral
Muselier.

Admiral Muselier wishes to see something of the working of Free French ships on trans-Atlantic Convoy service and to make contact with F.F. Naval representatives in Halifax and St. Johns, N.F. 2. I propose -
A. that Admiral Muselier accompanied by two staff officers should embark in a F.F. Corvette probably COMMANDANT DETROYAT forming part of the escort of an O.N. convoy, leaving U.K. about 25/11.
B. that after the meet this Corvette should be diverted to Iceland; and C. that he should then embark in a F.F. corvette of the Newfoundland Escort Force on escort duty to St. Johns, N.F.
3. C. in C. W.A. is requested to arrange a programme.
4. Admiral Muselier would return by air as convenient.
(A.C.N.S. (H) 1314A/13)

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War Diary.13.11.1941.
Thursday.HOME COMMANDS.Co-operation with U.S.A.Archangel
shipping
facilities.

Following from S.B.N.O. Archangel is passed to you for information and for Navy Dept. begins:-
(Text of S.B.N.O. Archangel's 2344/11.) Ends.
(D.O.D. (H) 1230A/13 to B.A.D. Washington.)

Co-operation with Russia.Charts of
Norwegian
Coasts.

My 1358C/15/9 and your 1423A/22/9.
Charts have not been received and S.B.N.O. Archangel reports no trace there and suggests they were sent in error to Moscow with Beaverbrook mission. Request repeat folios may be sent as opportunity offers.
(S.B.N.O. North Russia 1905C/13 to Adty.)

Defence of U.K.B.3.
Defence.

Reference A.L.B.D. 01748/41 of 29.10.41.
Request B.D.O. Gosport may lay 200 yds of B.3 defence and Captain of VERNON collaborate in providing depth charges to develop the best means of sabotaging such defences. This work is to be given the highest priority.
(D.B.D. 2015A/13 to C. in C. Portsmouth.)

Movements.CAIRO.

Sailed CAIRO to carry-out (corrupt group)
N.O.I.C. Cardiff 1628/11. E.T.A. Barry Roads 1800/13. N.O.I.C. Cardiff is requested to issue necessary instructions.
(N.O.I.C. Milford Haven 1015A/13.)

KENYA.
BEDOUIN.
INTREPID.

Seidis Fiord sailed BEDOUIN, INTREPID at 0330Z, KENYA at 1100Z.
(C.S. 10 1100Z/13.)

RORQUAL
(Operation
F.D. 34.)
WHITE BEAR
UNA.

(i) Intend to sail RORQUAL escorted by WHITE BEAR at 0800A/14 for 270°. Wolf Rock 3 miles, E.T.A. 1900A/15.
(ii) thence WHITE BEAR proceeds to Falmouth to await Escort Duty with UNA.
(iii) thence RORQUAL to Bay of Biscay for operation F.D. 34.
(iv) N.O.I.C. Greenock is requested to arrange fighter co-operation.
(Capt. S.3. 1135A/13 and 1607A/13.)

War Diary.13.11.1941.
Thursday.HOME COMMANDS.Movements - contd.O.9.
O.10.
Z.5.

At 2200A/16 intend to sail O.9 escorted by T/B Z.5 from Rothesay through Sounds of Islay and Mull to arrive ^{Rothesay} together at 1630A/17. S. of A. 9 knots. N.O.I.C. Greenock is requested to arrange fighter protection. Cmdre. WESTERN ISLES is requested subsequently to sail O.10 escorted by Z.5 to Rothesay. (Capt. S.7. 1151A/13.)

NORFOLK.

Scapa arrival from Reykjavik NORFOLK. (A.C.O.S. 1239A/13.)

51st
M/S Group.

A.M. 1955A/12. Intend to sail 51st M/S Group early next week. (V.A. Dover 1335A/13.)

SUNFISH.

Sheerness. Departure Tug STALWART towing SUNFISH escorted by HOLDERNESS at 1150. (C. in C. Nore 1354A/13.)

P.39

Intend to sail P.39 escorted by MOLDE for Clyde 0830A/15. E.T.A. 0815A/16. (N.O.I.C. Barrow 1529A/13.)

PRINCE
LEOPOLD.

Admiralty 1351A/12 and V.A.C.T.C. 1001A/13. Propose sailing PRINCE LEOPOLD for Portsmouth at 1400A/18 at 16 knots so as to arrive eastern end of Q.Z.S.169 at 0800A/20. Request surface escort if considered necessary. (F.O.I.C. Greenock 1548A/13.)

CELIA
WINDERMERE.

Return to Reykjavik. (A.C.I.C. 1650N/13 to CELIA, WINDERMERE.)

WITHERINGTON.

My 1113A/23/10 and C. in C. W.A. 1458A/23/10. Intend to postpone departure of WITHERINGTON until preliminary H.A. and L.A. practices, which have been delayed by weather, have been carried out. (C. in C. Portsmouth 1723A/13.)

RESOLUTION.

A.M.1645A/8. Anticipate sailing RESOLUTION p.m./24th. (C. in C. Plymouth 1756/13.)

Your 1311A/13. My P.C.S. 052° 23' N. 027° 32' W. 142°, 12 knots. HONEYSUCKLE, GENTIAN and ACANTHUS in company. (MYOSOTIS 1800Z/13.)

/JAY

War Diary.

13.11.1941.
Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Movements. Contd.

JAY.

Your 1356/9 and A.M. 1249/11/10. JAY should be sailed with the next pair of similar vessels routed via Azores.
(D.O.D. (F) 1844A/13 to N.O.I.C. Greenock.)

TUNA.

^{N.T.A.W.S.}
My 1554A/13. TUNA and HIBISCUS approx. position. Amend to read 059° 30' N. 004° 30' W.
(N.O.I.C. Greenock 2036A/13.)

UNA.

(1) Leave patrol after dark 14th diving by day through 048° N. 007° W. to R/V WHITE BEAR in 250° Travose Head 10 miles at 0800A/18.
(2) Lights as follows.
(3) S.B.R. as follows.
(4) T.B.R. as follows.

RORQUAL.

(5) RORQUAL pass Wolf Rock at 1900A/15. routed to Bay of Biscay.
(Capt. S.3. 2343A/13 to UNA.)

Operations.

Patrols.

2 M.G.Bs patrolling near 5 buoy will be 5 miles clear to Eastward by 0300/13th. 2 other M.G.Bs patrolling 286 A.M.Q.Z.S. South of 5 buoy will also be clear of channel. All boats return to Yarmouth and Lowestoft at daylight.
(C. in C. Nore 0047A/13 to WOLSEY, etc.)
3 A/S Trawlers patrolling QZS.271, Patrol is to return to the Westward in longitude of Beachy Head by 0200/14.
(C. in C. Portsmouth 1523A/13.)
3 M.Ls 10 miles S. of Portland Bill.
(C. in C. Portsmouth 1843A/13.)
Sailed ECHO for Hvalfiord at 0830/13.
(R.A.D. H.F. 1115A/13.)

Exercise L.9

No.6 Commando should embark in PRINCE CHARLES and PRINCE ALBERT on 15/11.
The ships when ready should be sailed for Inverary where they should carry out exercises under their own officers with the troops embarked. The landing craft required for these exercises will be 4 A.L.C. 3 R. Boats and 1 S.L.C. per ship.
(Adviser of Combined Operations 1346A/13 to V.A.C. T.C.)

A/S Trials.

C.A.S.E.E's No.D.4898 of 8th November.
Area allocated for trials is a circle radius 5 miles, centre 57° 20' N. 11° 30' W.
Capt. S.7 is requested to detail S/M and arrange T.B.R. C.A/S.E.E. is to make all necessary arrangements for trials, keeping authorities informed. (C. in C. W.A. 1805A/13.)

/Enemy ...

War Diary.13.11.1941.
Thursday.HOME COMMANDS.Operations - contd.Enemy
plotted.

Doubtful plot position 085° Start 15 at 1256, course 240°. Speed 8 knots. Proceed to 106°. Start 8 to intercept. (Dartmouth Port Wave 2315/13 to M.Ls 270, 153, 159.)

Enemy Air Activity.Faroes
bombed.

One enemy A/C dropped two bombs near Nolso Lighthouse at 1209 today. No damage or casualties. (N.O.I.C. Faroes 1255A/13.)

MONMOUTH
COAST.
attacked.

Naval Control Cork report S.S. MONMOUTH COAST attacked by 2 aeroplanes at 1800/12 one mile south of Read Head, Waterford. Skipper of Belgian trawler EXOUS reports at Cork seeing one plane crash. (F.O.I.C. Milford Haven 2016A/13.)

BEN SCREEL.
(Trawler)
attacked.

BEN SCREEL attacked by enemy aircraft p.m./12 with bombs, machine gun, and cannon. One near miss and one U.X.B. which bounced off the compass. Skipper slightly injured. Position in neighbourhood of Berwick Fishing grounds, weather rough. BEN SCREEL has now returned to Tyne. (F.O.I.C. Tyne 2236/13.)

DAGNY.
(Swedish.
809 Tons.)
damaged.

DAGNY proceeding independently was attacked at 1800/8 by one A/C 5 miles north of Aberdeen inshore route. 9 bombs dropped from 200 feet all near misses. No W/T, no armament. Slight damage to hull and engine. (N.O.I.C. Sunderland 2245/13.)

Mining.Walton Bay.

My 1201A/9. Walton Bay anchorage now open. (F.O.I.C. Cardiff 1031A/13.)

N.L.5.

Intend to carry out operation N.L.5 tonight. (V.A. Dover 1117A/13.)

Q.K.4.

Weather permitting carry out operation Q.K.4 tonight. Details as ordered in my 1042A/14/10 except that Q.K.4 is main objective. (C. in C. Nore 1142A/13 to BEEHIVE.)

/M.M.S.44 ...

War Diary.13.11.1941.
Thursday.HOME COMMANDS.Mining - Contd.M.M.S.44
damaged.

M.M.S.44 damaged by near mine at 0825/13 in 104° Warp Buoy 1.23 miles. One rating injured. Details. (Capt. M/S Sheerness 1256/13 and 1643/13.)

Thames
Estuary.

1 S.A. Mine detonated at 0050/13, and 3 Magnetic Mines at 0128/13, 0825/13, and 0840/13 respectively. Details. (Capt. M/S Sheerness 1643/13.)

JOMA.
(Dutch,
372 Tons.)
sunk.

JOMA sunk in Falmouth Harbour presumed by old mine. Casualties 3 missing, 2 injured. Names. (F.O.I.C. Falmouth 1741/13.)

Harwich.

At 1210/13 one S.A. mine detonated by Sweeper in 51° 46' 6" N. 1° 15' 12" E. (F.O.I.C. Harwich 1829A/13.)

Mine off
Peterhead.

Drifting Mine reported by SLEIPNER in 57° 29' N. 1° 34' W. at 1205/13. (C. in C. Rosyth 1850/13.)

Enemy Intelligence.Destroyers.

BB 5 unidentified destroyers 43° 30' N. 1° 55' W (sic) course 270°, 15 knots. (A/C Duty B. Group 19 0905/13.)

Navigational.E. Buoy.

E. Buoy Light extinguished. (WINCHESTER 0215A/13.)

Gap A.

Request that a trial may be conducted with a S/M from the 9th S/M Flotilla to determine whether the accuracy of Red Head W/T Beacon is sufficient to permit Gap "A" being restricted to fifteen miles in width. (F.O.S. 1303A/13 to C. in C. Rosyth.)

29 Buoy.

SLEIPNER reports 29 Buoy probably missing. F.O.I.C. Aberdeen is requested to arrange for the recovery of this Buoy. (C. in C. Rosyth 1850/13.)

Ice in North
Atlantic.

Ice R/C 13/11. (A.C.I.C. 2106N/13.)

War Diary.

13.11.1941.
Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Casualties & Defects.

KEPPEL.

KEPPEL arrived with collision damage.
(F.O.I.C. Greenock, 0915A/13)
Intend sailing KEPPEL for Newport at 0800A/14.
E.T.A. 1200A/15. (F.O.I.C. Greenock, 1906A/13).

VENOMOUS
(collision
11/11)

Your 0509A/13. Rescue tug MASTADONTE will be sailed for Loch Ewe about 1830 today with divers equipment and Admiralty salvage personnel. MARAUDER is to stand by VENOMOUS until relieved by MASTADONTE. (F.O.I.C. Greenock, 1203A/13)

LARS KRUSE.

434 tons cargo discharged from S.S. LARS KRUSE today. Hove vessel 40 feet in shore at high water tonight.
(Admty. Salvage Officer, Sheerness, 2120/13)

Shipping & Convoys.

W.S.12 Z.
W.S.14
ROYAL
SOVEREIGN.

Anchor S.8 Berth 158° 7.7 cables from Great Castle Head Lower Light. Oiler and water boat will be placed alongside you after anchor. 2 destroyers may fuel at the same time other side of oiler, third destroyer anchor as convenient clear of swept channel. Area South of S.4. and S.5. is to be avoided. S.O. will board you with secret hand message.
(N.O.I.C. Milford Haven, 0221A/13 to ROYAL SOVEREIGN.)
C. in C. S.A. 1632/8. Sailed ROYAL SOVEREIGN, FORESIGHT, FORESTER, FURY.
(N.O.I.C. Milford Haven, 1740A/13)

O.N.S.35.

BROADWAY and corvettes cannot arrive before late p.m./14. (A.C.I.C., 0945N/13)
Position 061° 45' N., 029° 50' W.
(BROADWAY, 1740Z/13).

S.L.92.
(BRADFORD).

Cancel my 1806A/12.
(C. in C. W.A., 1002A/13 to F.O.C.N.A.)
Did Norwegian and Stragglers rejoin.
(C. in C. W.A., 1102A/13 to VANOC)
Your 1102A/13. The following absent on turning over, TONGARIRO, FORDSDALE, HOEGH SCOUT, ATHELVIKING, EL ALMIRANTE, BRITISH COMMODORE, POLARSOL, RANJA, EMPIRE MASEFIELD.
(VANOC, 1145A/13 to C. in C. W.A.)

/BB....

MOST SECRET

MESSAGE

0450A/13th November

OUT

Addressed P.S.T.O. Egypt. Date 13.11.41

Repeated S.T.O. Suez.

MOST SECRET

P. 325A.

C. in C. South Atlantic.

C. in C. East Indies.

Commodore Malaya.

P.S.T.O. Simonstown.

P.S.T.O. India.

New Zealand Naval Board.

S.T.O. Durban.

S.T.O. Capetown.

NAVAL CYPHER C.

From Director of Sea Transport.

Following are disposal instructions for troopships of W.S.12.

2. ALMANZORA, LEOPOLDVILLE, SAMARIA, STRATHAIRD, FRANCONIA, EMPIRE PRIDE, and STRATHEDEN will return from Suez to U.K. loading in Mombasa/Capetown range.

3. MENDOZA, and CITY OF PARIS will be retained for service in Indian Ocean. CITY OF PARIS should proceed to Mombasa to assist in Mombasa/Berbera movement and MENDOZA should proceed to Durban for C.M. Convoys.

4. EMPRESS OF RUSSIA will proceed from Suez to Bombay. Subsequent programme will be in accordance with my 0340/12 not to all addressees.

5. DUCHESS OF RICHMOND will return from India to U.K. loading in Bombay and Capetown.

6. EMPRESS OF CANADA will proceed in accordance with Admiralty signal 1451/7/10 paragraph 10 not to all addressees. Loading instructions will be signalled in due course.

7. DOMINION MONARCH will proceed in accordance with my 0327/11 not to all addressees.

8. Drydocking of SAMARIA and FRANCONIA at Durban has already been arranged. MENDOZA also requires drydocking if this can be carried out at Durban. She was last drydocked in May 1941. DOMINION MONARCH was last drydocked June 1941 but in view of difficulty of arranging elsewhere Commodore Malaya is requested to report whether she could be taken in Singapore. Reference P.S.T.O. Simonstown's 0948/26/10 not to all addressees there is no need to drydock STRATHEDEN. Owners agree.

0450A/13.

D. of S.T. (M.W.T. Extn. 2187)

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

e.d.

War Diary.13.11.1941.
Thursday.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping & Convoys. - Contd.B.B. 100

Intend to sail S.A. LL Trawlers ORPHEUS, (████████), BEN BRAC, and PEKEN for Swansea in BB 100. PEKEN has defective DG. (N.O.I.C. Holyhead, 1247A/13)

U.S. Escorts for Troop Convoys.

B.A.D. Washington's 1303R/12 para.2. Following has been received. Begins:- Navy Dept. now states verbal undertaking to provide U.S. escorts for British troop convoys applied only to large troop movements which they understood would occur about every three months. This undertaking will be implemented when sufficient escorts are available but as long notice as possible is requested.

2. U.S. Authorities are unable to provide escorts for single ships as requested your 1301A/11 or for frequent small troop convoys. The only solution they can suggest is that such ships should join regular mercantile convoys if R.N. escort for whole passage is not available. T.O.O. 1801R/12. Ends. (A.C.N.S. (H), 1315A/13 to C. in C. W.A.)

LANAHRONE.

N.C.S.O. Barry 1006A/7. - N/T
S.S. LANAHRONE was sighted by 19 Group aircraft in 49° 27' N., 09° 51' W. at 1358/12, course 180°

2. Request owners be informed that departure from agreed route may lead to ship being attacked in mistake for an enemy vessel. (C. in C. Plymouth, 1336/13).

Convoy "Cargo".

All ships arrived. (D.T.D., 1621Z/13 to Opnav-).

W.N. 4.

Sheltering Thurso Bay. (A.C.O.S., 1624A/13).

S.C. 51

Met as arranged. One straggler ahead, all ships now arrived. (D.T.D., 1858A/13 to Opnav).

War Diary.

13.11.1941.
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

DULVERTON.
SOUTHWOLD.

Request arrangements may be made for DULVERTON and SOUTHWOLD to fuel Ponta Delgada on 18/11. Amount required 250 tons for each ship. (F.O.I.C. Greenock, 0048A/13 to N.C.S.O. Ponta Delgada).

Vichy Ships,
Policy.

Your submission X 222/345 dated 25/8 and para. 1 of A.T. 1548/31/10. Decision on B is as follows:-

B. Vichy Surface Warships.

(i) General. As stated by you, but after words "prevent it" add "but it is hoped this may be avoided".

(ii) Particular. (a) RICHELIEU and JEAN BART are also not to be allowed to proceed into Mediterranean since we do not wish them to proceed to Toulon where they might be completed. If met, and they appear to have this intention, action is to be taken as at B (i).

(b) DUNKERQUE. The instructions in my^{*}2028 of 27/4 1941, stand. (Head of M. Approved 1st Lord, 0049A/13 to F.O.C.N.A.) *NT in W.D.

IMPERIALIST.

Departure IMPERIALIST for Y.3. (V.A.C.N.A. 0841A/13 to Admty.)

FURY.
FORESIGHT.
FORESTER.

FURY, FORESIGHT and FORESTER expect to arrive Ponta Delgada 19/11 for fuel. Amount required for each ship 450 tons. (N.O.I.C. Milford Haven, 1050A/13 to F.O.C.N.A. etc.)

Rescue Tug,
Azores.

Your 1051/1. Can attitude of Portuguese Naval Authorities now be stated. (Head of M. 2047A/13 to N.A. Lisbon) Reply: 1215/14.

Operation
"Perpetual".

Arrival MALAYA, ARGUS, HERMIONE. (F.O.C.N.A. 2100A/13 to Admty.)

/ARK.....

War Diary.13.11.1941.
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic-Contd.ARK ROYAL
torpedoed.
by U-boat
U.S.

Heavy explosion in ARK ROYAL. Disabled in $036^{\circ} 03' N. 004^{\circ} 045' W.$ (As decyphered ? $045'$) W. (S.O. Force H., 1602A/13 to Admty.)
 My 1602A/13. ARK ROYAL has list 15° to starboard. Tug and all available A/S craft being sent to assist. Cause not certain, probably torpedo. (F.O. Force H., 1621A/13 to Admty.)
 All officers and men except Captain and 50 embarked in LEGION. HERMIONE and four destroyers circling and dropping depth charges. Ship stopped and badly listed. (Capt. D. 19, 1720/13 to Gibraltar W/T).
 Am returning to ARK ROYAL in SIKH leaving Gibraltar about 1830. (S.O. Force H., 1725A/13 to Admty.)
 LAFOREY reports ARK ROYAL stopped (heavy) list. All officers and men embarked LEGION except Captain and 50. (S.O. Force H., 1737A/13 to Admty.)
 My 1602A/13. Steam being raised in one engine. Starboard boiler room flooded, water rising centre boiler room. One destroyer alongside providing electric power. List 20° not increasing appreciably. (S.O. Force H., 1813A/13 to Admty.)
 ARK ROYAL torpedoed at 1545 in position 097° Europa Point $99'$ (or $29'$ corrupt) still afloat. 2 Catalinas of 202 Squadron, 1 Catalina 209 Squadron, 2 Fulmars, 3 Swordfish 807 Squadron, A/S escort ARK ROYAL 1600 to dusk. 2 Catalinas remaining until ARK ROYAL closes Gibraltar. (200 Group, 1830/13 to Air Min.)
 My 1602A/13. ARK ROYAL in tow of 2 tugs, proceeding at 2 knots. (S.O. Force H., 2059A/13 to Admty.)
 P.C. and S. of ARK ROYAL at 2010A, $036^{\circ} 04' N. 004^{\circ} 40' W.$ 270° 2 knots. Establish A/S patrol 5 miles astern of ARK ROYAL closing to her at daylight. (S.O. Force H., 2132A/13 to RHODODENDRON, MARIGOLD, PENSTEMON).
 Establish B Patrol. Join ARK ROYAL at Daylight. (S. O. Force H., 2224/13 to D.S. ISAAC SWEERS).

/Have.....

War Diary.13.11.1941.
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic.ARK ROYAL
torpedoed -
Contd. by J.G.

Have left ARK ROYAL who has steam in one boiler raising steam in second boiler and (?one) dynamo. Hopes to be able to steam shortly. No more tugs required until off harbour. List (? to Starboard) 014°. Draft forward (?32) feet, flooded compartments held. (Capt. D.19, 2224/13 to S.O. Force H., ZULU)

My 1602. Steam raised in one boiler and raising steam 2nd boiler. Hope can steam shortly. List reduced (? $\frac{1}{2}$?) degree. Flooding under control. (2) When torpedoed ARK ROYAL was second ship in line with HERMIONE and screen of destroyers in screening diagram 7 A. ARGUS reported subsequently periscope sighted. No A/S contact obtained. (S.O. Force H., 2359A/13 to Admty.)

South Atlantic.BURDWAN.

Overdue shipping. BURDWAN due Capetown 10th from Freetown not arrived. (S.O.I. Capetown, 0915B/13 to Admty. etc.)

AUSTRALIA.

C. in C. E.I. 0800/11 para. 3 and my 1025/12. AUSTRALIA is to proceed to East London for (? arranged) refit and subsequently to sail from there so as to arrive at Simonstown 0700B/29. (N.O.I.C. Simonstown 0953Z/13.)

CINCINNATI
JOUETT.

To depart Pernambuco 13/11, reaching 15° N. 26° W. on 18/11 thence returning Pernambuco to arrive 23/11. B.A.D. pass to Opnav. (D.O.D. (F) 1005A/13 to C. in C. S.A., R.A.S.A.D., repeated B.A.D.)

/LOURENCO ...

War Diary.

13.11.1941.
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic-Contd.

LOURENCO
MARQUES
(Portuguese)
German
passengers.

Two Germans allowed to embark S.S. LOURENCO MARQUES due at Freetown 19/11, one Mannardt old and infirm other Noelke needing treatment unobtainable here. Latter accompanied by wife. Suggest keen search for correspondence. Many Germans on board S.S. before departure. Much correspondence handed to passengers. (Consul Gen, Loanda T.H.I. 1150/13 to S.O.I. Freetown).

PHOEBE
stores.

BURRA about to sail from Lagos has stores for PHOEBE. Should these continue to Alexandria? (C. in C. S.A., 1211N/13 to C. in C. Med.)
Reply: Yes. (C. in C. Med., 1820B/15).

"Bellringer"
Convoy,
Vichy escort.

Following is repetition of my 1230/12. (Begins) Message 1521/31 from B.A.D., Washington. 3rd Officer of COMPIEGNE states that "Bellringer" convoy was to R/V and exchange escort with convoy of 2 merchant ships from Dakar escorted by French Battle Cruiser STRASBOURG and 2 modern submarines. Graded by S.O.I. Capetown C.5. (ends). (S.O.I. Capetown, 1238B/13 to C. in C. S.A.)

N.I.D. comment.

Washington reported 1521/31/10 that two merchant vessels FOMALHAUT and ERIDAN left Dakar 26/10 for Madagascar escorted by a sloop and two S/M's. These two vessels have since returned to Dakar. According to latest information battle cruiser STRASBOURG is at Toulon.

CARNARVON
CASTLE.
DUNNOTTAR
CASTLE.
DERBYSHIRE.

Your 1607B/12 and DUNNOTTAR CASTLE's 0925/12. In view of state and low speed of DUNNOTTAR CASTLE suggest following arrangements (1) CARNARVON CASTLE due Simonstown 20/11 to escort ORMONDE (2) DUNNOTTAR CASTLE to be taken in hand for engine repairs. (3) DERBYSHIRE on completion engine overhaul 22/11 to be available for patrol and subsequently as escort for W.S.12X and W.S.12Z. Request your remarks and anticipated ?time for repairs to DUNNOTTAR CASTLE. (C. in C. S.A. 1301N/13 to F.O.I.C. Simonstown).

/Petrol.....

13.11.1941.
Thursday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic-Contd.Petrol for
Lati at
C. Verde Is.

Following received begins - S.O.(I) Freetown from B.C. St. Vincent my 1517/3. Spanish sailing ship mentioned in my telegram ordered to proceed Janta Maria but did not go. Discharged cargo into S.M.S. PEDROLUME. Drum floated ashore. Spanish sailing ship cleared and sailed for unknown destination a.m./12. Fine £500 rumoured to have been paid. Please repeat to Admiralty. B.C. T.O.O. 0859/12. Ends. (C. in C. S.A. 1318N/13 to Admty.) * *Not identified*

BRADFORD
CITY.
(torpedoed
1/11)

My 1613/11. All crew of BRADFORD CITY now rescued. (N.O.I.C. Simonstown 1540B/13 to Admty.).

Whalers.

Your 2220/10. Vestfold Whalers already sailed in pairs for South Georgia with instructions to refuel and proceed in pairs to Capetown. They have taken only 22 extra men. (N.C.S.O. Montevideo, 1732/13 to Admty.)

French
naval units.

METER. My 1521/31 and my 1703/12. Dakar 12/11 A.l. Sloop, believed to be D'ENTRECASTEAUX has also returned but not submarines ^{LE}GLORIEUX and ^{LE}HEROS. (B.A.D. Washington 1757R/13).

Mediterranean.Mediterranean
sink at
sight Policy.

The following revised instructions have been agreed with Air Ministry and replace all those previously issued.

1. The following are the limits of the areas in the Mediterranean which have been declared dangerous to shipping:-

- (a) All waters within 30 miles of any Italian territory;
- (b) The Adriatic Sea;
- (c) The Aegean Sea, excluding Turkish territorial waters;
- (d) That part of the Mediterranean Sea (excluding Tunisian and Turkish territorial waters) lying south of 41° 18' N. and East of the line drawn from a position 3 miles 360° from Cape Bon (37° 08' N. 11° 04' E. approx.) to a point 30 miles 180° from Cape Spartivento in Sardinia and thence at a distance of 30 miles from the west coast of Sardinia to the latitude of 41° 18'.

War Diary.

13.11.1941.
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

Mediterranean
sink at
sight Policy
- Contd.

2. Subject to the provisions of para. 3, submarines surface ships and aircraft are authorised to attack at sight all ships sighted within the above areas. In addition they may attack by night all ships within Tunisian territorial waters south of lat. 35° 46' N. By day French coastal traffic including traffic to the islands off the Tunisian Coast should not be attacked.
3. The following also should not be attacked -
 - (a) Turkish coastal traffic which in some areas owing to navigational difficulties, proceeds outside territorial waters;
 - (b) Turkish vessels trading to Egyptian, Syrian and Palestinian ports provided that they adhere to the route ordered by C. in C. Med.
 - (c) Ships carrying approved cargoes on behalf of the Swiss to Genoa, provided they adhere to the route ordered by F.O.C.N.A.
 - (d) Vichy warships, unless they are encountered within the areas defined in para. 1 and N. and E. of a line drawn from a point 30 miles 180° from Cape Spartivento in Sardinia to Marsala in Sicily and thence to the Libyan-Tunis boundary. When to the N. and E. of this line they should be sunk.
4. Except in the territorial waters of Spain or Spanish possessions, ships definitely identified as enemy may be attacked wherever found inside the Mediterranean, whether or not they are within the areas defined in para. 1 above. This permission extends to the territorial waters of Turkey, Metropolitan France (including Corsica) and French North Africa. When carrying out attacks inside Turkish territorial waters, care must be taken to avoid damage to persons or property ashore.
5. Attacks are not to be made within the Dardanelles Straits.
6. Naval authorities please pass to A.O.C. Malta, 200 Group and A.O.C. in C. M.E. as from Air Ministry. (A.C.N.S. (F) 0138A/13 to C. in C. Med, F.O.C.N.A.)

/UPHOLDER.....

War Diary.

13.11.1941.
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean-Contd.

→ UPHOLDER.

Their Lordships congratulate you, your officers and ship's company on your latest successes against enemy Naval units. These further convincing proofs of efficiency and keenness of the submarine under your command are noted with greatest satisfaction. (1st S.L., 0220A/13 to UPHOLDER).

W.S.12.

Disposal instructions for troopships. (D. of S.T. 0450A/13 to P.S.T.O. Egypt) See Lion Copy.

JUPITER.
ENCOUNTER.

Port.	Arrive. Nov.	Leave. Nov.
Alexandria		15
Port Said	16	16
Suez	16	16
Aden	19	20
Colombo	26	27
Trincomalee	28	

(R.A.(D) Med. 1055B/13).

Convoy
Action
→ 9/11.
enemy
losses.

Your 1605A/12 (N.T. in W.D).
(a) Force 'K' undoubtedly sank 2 destroyers and damaged a third in bridge structure.
(b) UPHOLDER damaged 1 destroyer at 0645/9 and sank a second at 1108/9. Former last seen by UPHOLDER in tow with stern underwater and fore foot out of water and considered unlikely to float.
(c) Aircraft R/C at 1325/9 sighted 2 cruisers and 4 destroyers and at 1341/9 a single destroyer 27 miles astern of them, all proceeding towards Messina.
(d) Nothing seen of damaged destroyer in tow and it is considered that single destroyer in para. (c) was destroyer which had been towing damaged destroyer and was rejoining after latter had sunk. (V.A. Malta 1121B/13 to Admty.)

Red Sea,
control of
Shipping.

F.O. Red Sea assumes control of shipping in Red Sea and Gulf of Suez including Port Suez at 0900B/14 in accordance with C. in C. Med.'s 1226/12/10 para. 4 and 5.
(2) N.O's I/c Red Sea Ports and M. of W.T. M.E. are requested to address relevant signals to F.O. Red Sea directly after receipt of this signal. (S.B.N.O. Suez 1121B/13 to Admty.)

/Derna.....

War Diary.13.11.1941.
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean - contd.Derna,
Berka,
Bardia,
Gazala,
bombed.

Night 11/12, 30 Wellingtons operated, 25 bombed M.T. workshops and stores dumps at Derna, 4 bombed ordnance stores at Berka. 1 aircraft dropped bombs on Bardia causing violent explosions and fires at old electric power station. 6 Blenheims bombed M.T. repair shops at Derna, 6 Blenheims bombed M.T. and stores dumps on Gazala south landing ground. (H.Q. R.A.F. M.E. 1216/13.)

Operation
"Perpetual".

37 Hurricanes flown off in company with 7 Blenheims from 037° 30' N. 004° 00' E. at 1015 and 1100 D.3. Strong westerly wind and conditions generally appeared favourable. Good take off and no delay. No reason can be given for failure of 3 Hurricanes to arrive. (i) Unable to deal with shadower D.2 on account of Hurricanes. On D.3 one interception in which BR.20 received good burst before disappearing into low cloud. Fulmar damaged by return fire. Enemy shadowers now work in pairs taking full anti R.D.F. precautions. R/C is effective and extends as far West as 003° E. Good visibility and low cloud assisted shadowers. (iii) Underwater explosion at 0410 this morning in position 036° 25' N. 001° 15' W. probably torpedo exploding end of run. No (?A/S) contact or H.E. A.S.V. search by 6 Swordfish East of Alboran commencing 0645, no results. (iv) Blenheims made excellent R/V with Force H. Inability of type 281 in MALAYA to receive I F F severe handicap. (v) F.O.C.N.A. pass to Admiralty C. in C. Med. and V.A. Malta. (S.O. Force H., 1247A/13 to Admty.)

ATLAS
(German)Left for Genoa about 2 A.M./13.
(Alicante, THI 1540/13 to Admty.)LL Vessels.

Request immediate reply to my 1707/17/10 regarding M/S Groups 156 and 157. The renaming of M/S Vessels on passage to the Mediterranean is causing considerable confusion. (C. in C. Med. 1621B/13 to Adty.)

/JUPITER

13.11.1941.
Thursday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean - contd.JUPITER.

Your 0101/11. Original rivetting of JUPITER appears to have been poor workmanship and has given continual trouble.
(C. in C. Med. 1801B/13 to Adty.)

Movements.

Summary No. 228. (C. in C. Med. 2015B/13.)
See Lion Copy.

Chrome Ore.

(1) Turkish Gov. state that between now and end of December 3 Turkish vessels will load (?about) (?15,000) tons of Chrome Ore at Fethiye for discharge at Mersin or for direct transshipment there if possible into British or allied tonnage.
(2) I hope to obtain definite dates and tonnage shortly so that you can consider direct transshipment.
(3) If (?text of) American Neutrality Act is sufficiently amended it may be possible to send U.S. tonnage to (?corrupt group) to load direct for U.S. or even better to Fethiye and up to Marmora ports where stocks are probably 50,000 tons and 30,000 tons respectively.
(4) I have had conversation with U.S. Ambassador at Ankara who is cabling Washington direct on similar lines.
(5) Pass copy to C. in C. Med. and U.S. Maritime Commission.
(N.A. Angora, 1851B/13.)

Situation report 166.

Western Desert. Supply of Tobruk resumes with ABDIEL and Destroyers carrying stores. Minor air raids on Tobruk and Mersa Matruh but no important damage. * See also next page
2. Levant. Greek Destroyers and Corvettes continue escorting duties.
3. Red Sea. Suez Escort Force reduced to three sloops, *CARLISLE and remainder having been withdrawn to Alexandria. ARPHA grounded on Towilla Reef p.m./6 after propellar shaft fractured, now in tow to Suez. * See also next page
4. Submarines. UPHOLDER returned to Malta from Patrol. One destroyer and one U-Boat sunk, one Destroyer damaged, all already reported. *
5. THRASHER set schooner heavily on fire by gunfire at 0940/28 in 032.19 N. 020.10 E. cargo probably petrol.
(C. in C. Med. 2021B/13.) * W.D. Note.- Second destroyer considered to have sunk after being towed, see V.A. Malta 1121B/13.

/Malta ...

SECRET.

MESSAGE.

IN

835A

From: C. in C. Mediterranean.

2015B/13th November.

Date: 14.11.41.

Recd: 0854.

Naval Code L by Cable (Secret)

Addressed: Mediterranean Fleet. Repeated R.A.D. Mediterranean. S.O. Force "I".
N.O.I/C Malta. Force "I". F.O.C.N.A. S.O. Force "H". S.B.N.O. Suez Canal Area.
R.A. Alexandria. Capt. (S) 1st Sub. Flot. H.Q. Palestine. Trans-Jordan. H.Q.
R.A.F. Middle East. Air H.G. Western Desert. N.O.I/C Port Said. N.O.I/C
Syrian Ports. N.O.I/C Famagusta. B.N.O. Tobruk. 201 Naval Co-op Group
Group 202. N.O.I/C Palestine Ports.
IMPORTANT.

Movements summary 228 part A. H.M.S. NAPIER, H.M.S. KANDAHAR,
H.M.S. HASTY, Leave Alexandria 0800 14th for A/S search in area between
latitude 032° and 033° North and longitude 032° and 034° East. H.M.S.
BRIDGE joins from Port Said. H.M.S. ERICA, and Greek Des. NIKI, with convoy
due Alexandria 14th from Port Said. H.M.S. FLAMINGO due Alexandria A.M. on
14th, and H.M.S. CARLISLE, H.M.A.S. PARAPATTA, H.M.S. AVON VALE, H.M.A.S. YARRA,
H.M.S. HEYTHROP due Alexandria A.M. on 15th all from Port Said. Corvettes
escorting as follows; H.M.S. PEONY due Port Said A.M. 14th from Haifa.
H.M.S. IRIMULA leaves Haifa 0900 14th for Mersin. B.D.V. CRAIG ISLAND due
Famagusta A.M. 14th from Haifa. B.D.V. BURGONET due Port Said 0700 15th
from Tripoli (Syria).

2. Part B. (H.M.S. ABDIEL?) and destroyers operating Alexandria
Tobruk. MYRIEL and 2 trawlers due Mersa Matruh A.M. 14th from Alexandria
trawler returning with CHRISTA. Schooner operating on supply run. M.L.
and 2 M.T.B. operating from Mersa Matruh. H.M.S. NALAD and H.M.S. EURYALUS
exercising from Alexandria 15th. Part C and D Nil. N.O.I/C Palestine
Port pass to H.Q. Palestine and Trans-Jordan.

2015B/13

V.C.N.S.
A.C.N.S. (F)
A.C.N.S. (T) (2)
N.A. 1st S.L.
Capt. Fin, Admiralty Hse.
Ops. (2)
O.D. (5)
O.D. 8.
M (2)
O.I.C.
Mails.
Movts.
I.F. (3)
D.A/S.W.
W.D.
E.P.S.
D.T.D. (4)
D.T.D. (M)
D.T.D. (C)
D.B.D. (2)
D.D.O.D. (M)
File X.

War Diary.

13.11.1941.
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean - contd.

Malta Fuel
Supply.

Your 1921B/31/10. Your concern is fully shared by Their Lordships.

2. U.S.A. is being continually pressed for the loan of fast tankers, but so far refuses to part with them.

3. Your 1242/8 para. 3, concur.

(Head of M. Approved by 4 S.L. 2103A/13 to C. in C. Med.)

UNIQUE,
enemy units.

3 - 6 inch Cruisers approaching Benghazi through 032° 35' N. 019° 55' E. course and speed 170° 25 at 1200B/12. One M/V 4000 tons, one Destroyer entered Benghazi dawn/12, same route. Starboard main engine out of action, delayed 24 hours.

(UNIQUE, 2213B/13 to V.A. Malta.)

War Diary.13.11.1941.
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies.Redistribu-
tion of
A.M.C's.

Your 1232/30/10.

(i) Is it still intended KANIMBLA should return to E.I. Station end of February. A.C.N.B. 0205/20/9 refers. (ii) Can an approx., date be given for arrival of CHITRAL, RANPURA, WORCESTERSHIRE, ALAUNIA on E.I. Station. (C. in C.E.I., 0738Z/13, to Adty.)

Vichy
Shipping,
Intelligence.

Amplification of his 1750/10.

(C. in C.E.I., 0654/13 to Admty.) See Lion Copy.

U.S. Ships and
Mombasa.

C. in C.E.I., 0730/11. Request you will arrange for American ships to omit calling at Mombasa unless this is essential, in which case purpose for which ships are routed there should be passed to N.O.i/c Kilindini in advance, so as to avoid any delay on arrival. (D.T.D. 1612A/13, to F.O.I.C. Simonstown.)

Ahwaz-
Khorramshahr
Railway.

Your 17552/Q of 11/11. Construction forthwith of standard gauge railway between Ahwaz and Khorramshahr is approved. Inform us what development if any is required to port at Khorramshahr and estimated cost, and indicate what reductions can be made in I.W.T. establishment proposals in your 16307/Q of 28/10 in view of above decision. (W.O., 1925/13, to C. in C. India.)

Fairmile
M/L's.

Your 1752Z/22/10. (N.T. in W.D.) Drawings and details of equipment required are being despatched by Air Mail.

2. Refitting facilities will only be required, however, in the event of a substantial increase in the number of Fairmile M.L's based in India and Ceylon.

3. All preliminary arrangements should be made, but work should not be put in hand pending further instructions, or until such an increase is imminent.

(A.C.N.S.(F) 1939A/13 to C. in C.E.I.)

MOST SECRET MESSAGE 0654/13th November
Date 13.11.41 IN

Recd. 2343

From C. in C. East Indies

Interdepartmental Cypher V (15) by Cable

Addressed Admiralty, repeated C. in C. China, C. in C South Atlantic, Governor Mauritius.

221.

Further to my 1750 November 10th

(i) S.O.(I) Colombo has been discussing with Chesor Mauritius the best means of determining from various intelligence sources at his disposal the point in Madagascar of arrivals and departures of French merchant ships. So long as he is unable to decypher French Marine messages his conclusions are mainly based on following factors.

- (a) Weather conditions
- (b) Nature of cargo to be loaded or unloaded.
- (c) Security of ships against British action.

(ii) Regarding (i) (a) Bad weather does not normally affect handling of cargoes at Diego Suarez, Tamative, Tulear and Hellville (Nossi Be) but does affect it Majunga, Fort Dauphin and Manakara.

(iii) Regarding (i) (b) ports used for cargoes include:-

Exports, Sugar Hellville Tamatave; graphite and mica Tamatave Fort Dauphin; traffic from ports exporting crops depends on season.
Imports. Coal and oil fuel Diego Suarez, general merchandise Tamatave with transhipment by coaster to other ports.

Reunion: one or more ships from Westbound convoys usually call Reunion to unload rice and general merchandise and load sugar, then proceed Madagascar for fuelling and joining new convoy. In view of telegram end of September from Chesor to Blanketing regarding sale of Reunion sugar to Japan they are likely to return in Eastbound convoys for some time to come.

(iv) Chesor has undertaken to apply above considerations when examining intercepted messages. He considers special attention to coastal traffic might be profitable since this should indicate its seasonal trends.

(v)/....

(v) Regarding (i) (c) there has been much less evidence that convoys assemble elsewhere than Tamatave and Diego Suarez but it is probable that subsequently they keep within territorial waters as long as possible. The BELLRINGER convoy apparently left territorial waters at or near Fort Dauphin and there have been indications in past of West coast being followed

(vi) If suggestions made in my 1750 November 10th are implemented intelligence should be much improved

0654z/13

1st Lord
 1st S.L.
 V.C.N.S.
 A.C.N.S. (F)
 A.C.N.S. (H)
 A.C.N.S. (T) (2)
 N.A. 1st S.L.
 D. of P. (2)
 D.O.D. (F)
 D.D.O.D. (F)
 B.N.I. (4)
 D.S.D.
 I.P. (2)
 W.D.
 Duty Captain (2)
 Hd. of M. (6)
 D.D.I.C.
 E.P.S.
 N.I.D. 10
 D.E.W.D.
 Admiral Chalmers

✱ As received.

337-C

MESSAGE 2100/13th November IN

~~MOST SECRET~~

MOST SECRET

Date 13.11.41
Recd. 2315

From MICE ~~Headquarters~~ ~~Nairobi~~

CIPHER

Addressed: War Office.

MOST IMMEDIATE

10133

9755 cipher.13/11.

Following cable O/3/12 of 12 Nov. from Force Nairobi is repeated at request of H. of S. Please pass copy to F.O.

Following is gist of letter dated 10th Nov. from Governor of Jibuti received by Cmd. 28 Bde. at 2230 hrs. 11 Nov.

Begins. Secretary of State for Colonies has visited Jibuti to examine local situation. He is astonished at British Government's neglect of repeated offers of modus vivendi which would put an end to cruel situation and contribute to the re-establishment of the welfare of Ethiopia the supervision of which would be guaranteed by International control. Governor with patience renews offer generosity of which has not been lessened by pressure exerted to bring about capitulation since His Majesty's Govt. has continually affirmed that it has not territorial or political ambitions. He confirms for last time conditions which he hopes are still possible.

One. French Govt. remains prepared to permit use under International control of port of Jibuti and Jibuti-Addis Ababa Railway. Passage would be reserved for (A) evacuation of sick and wounded all nationalities repatriation of Italian civilians. (B) Importation into Ethiopia medical stores and victuals of all kinds destined either for people who are being evacuated or for Autochtones (sic) in so far as scarcity of certain products renders this measure useful.

Two. These offers are subject to (query lifting) blockade.

Three. If reply not made in ten days will be obliged to consider that H.M.G. has rejected proposals. If one day colony has to be surrendered Governor will carry out destruction all installations and materials. Lastly para usual ending stating that world will blame H.M.G. for suffering. Ends.

10th
ved

MOST SECRET

2.

No answer has been sent to this letter which appears to contain little new and of course omits essential requirement of demilitarisation."

2100/13.
Recd from W.O. p.m./14th Nov.

1st Lord.	War Office distribution
1st S.L.	
V.C.N.S.	S. of S.
A.C.N.S. (F)	C.I.G.S.
A.C.N.S. (T) (2)	V.C.I.G.S.
N.A. 1st S.L.	D.M.O. & P.
P.A.S. (S)	D.D.M.O. (O)
D.O.D. (F)	M.O.1.5.11
D.D.O.D. (F)	D.M.I.
D.N.I. (4)	D.D.M.I(O)
I.P. (2)	D.D.M.I. (I)
W.D.	M.I.3.
D.C.	M.I.L.
Hd of M.	20 Mil. Mission
D.D.I.C.	Spears Mission. (Mr.S.Smith)
E.P.S.	Maj. Morton,
D. of P (2)	Mr. Coulson,
Admiral Chalmers.	Mr. Mack (F.O.)
	Mr. MacKereth (F.O.)
	Mr. Caccia (F.O)
	Mr. Lloyd (Co. Office)
	C.A.S. (Air Miny)
	C.N.S. (Admiralty)
	D. of Plans (Admiralty)
	D. of Plans (Air Min.)
	Col. Jacob.
	D.D.I.P.

mpf.

MB/MF.

War Diary.

13.11.1941.
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

China.

BOGOTA.
(German.)

My 0334Z/11. German tanker may be BOGOT (?A)
(84).
(C.O.I.S. Singapore, 0436Z/13, to Admty.)

Hong Kong.

Intelligence Report.
(G.O.C., Hong Kong 2141/13 to W.O.)
See Lion Copy.

Vichy Ships.
running
blockade.

Following is in reply to Col. Off., 1646 to Gov. Straits Settlements and refers also to Adty., 1630/6. (ii) French shipping is not used for conveyance of essential commodities, e.g., cement and anthracite from Indo-China to Singapore. Neutral vessels are employed. (iii) Indo-China has been Malaya's most reliable and cheapest provider of cement, but provided shipping can be made available from India or Australia there should be no difficulty in obtaining all requirements. (iv) Anthracite presents greater difficulty as only alternative source of supply to Indo-China is South Wales involving a long sea (?journey.) Straits Trading Co., have 6 months supplies and are negotiating for further shipment within the next few days from Straits Settlements. Eastern Smelting Co., hold more. (v) Min., of Shipping instructions in Adty., message quote It would appear preferable to leave the onus of denunciation to Indo-China. Unquote. (vi) Governor Straits Settlements has been consulted and concurs. (C. in C. China 0459Z/13 to Adty.)

America & West Indies.

T.C.16.

My 2049Z/12 para. 2. Following from Sparks (begins) GEORGE WASHINGTON cannot be ready Halifax before about 1/1. Will report further 2250Z/12. (Ends.)
(N.S.H.Q., Ottawa, 0349Z/13, to D.S.T.)

/Your 2039/6.....

MOST SECRET

0859Z/13 November.

MESSAGE III.

From C.O.I.S. Singapore

Date. 15.11.41.

Recd. 1955.

NAVAL CYPHER D (Old) by W/T

Recirculation.

Addressed. Admiralty (for D.N.I.), repeated Australian Commonwealth Naval Board Melbourne, New Zealand Naval Board Wellington, S.O.(I) Hong Kong.

Seventh Squadron has left Japan destination probably Saigon.

Advance Copy Sent D.N.I., D.D.I.C., D.S.D.9. 0859Z/13.

Comment

The 7th Squadron consists of four large 6" cruisers (KUMANO, MOGAMI, MIKUMA, SUZUYA). It was last reported at Kure 9th November.

N.I.D.4.

1st Lord.
 1st S.L.
 V.C.N.S.
 A.C.N.S. (F)
 A.C.N.S. (T) (2)
 N.A. 1st S.L.
 D.O.D. (F)
 D.D.O.D. (F)
 Duty Captain.
 D.D.I.C.
 D.N.I. (4)
 D.S.D.9.
 D. of P. (2)
 D.A/S.W.
 E.P.S.
 W.D.
 I.P. (2)

0916Z/13 November.

SECRET

MESSAGE

IN

From: C. in C. China

Date: 15.11.41.

Recd. 2005

NAVAL CYPHER (X) by W/T

Addressed: Admiralty.

613. Your 2109/10(1). Services Publicity

Organisation in Malaya was started, with the concurrence of local Army and R.A.F. Authorities, as a result of representations from the Press that some central responsible Authority was desirable so that the facilities to be given to Press Representatives could be co-ordinated and liaison established between them and the three Services, and as far as possible a common policy in publicity matters should be ensured. Each Ministry is represented by its own Officer who carries out the necessary work for his own Service, but there is no overlapping and the object of linking up is to ensure the aforesaid co-ordination.

The Organisation chosen was believed to be based on practical experience in the Middle East. In the first place it had to be created out of scanty resources available on the spot and it was not until later in the day that the War Office and Air Ministry began to send out without prior reference to responsible Authorities here Officers detailed to serve their own publicity Organisation who had to be fitted into the embryo scheme.

It is quite true that Army and R.A.F. representatives in the Services Publicity Organisation are not at liberty, so far as that Organisation is concerned, to communicate direct with the War Office and Air Ministry. The General Officer Commanding and the Air Officer Commanding have instituted restrictions regarding their own representatives who are borne on their staffs for establishment purpose. It has always

been/.....

been recognised that the Air Ministry News Service is an independent concern.

Whatever the functions of the Co-ordinating Publicity Organisation it should be clearly understood that the preparation of Official Communiques is not repetition not one of them though communiques may be issued through this channel. I should be glad of a reply to my O411 of 19/9/41. It is the only help I have asked the Admiralty to send. Responsibility for this Organisation is being transferred to C. in C. Far East as from 1st December. He has been consulted and is in agreement with the foregoing views.

0916Z/13

Requesting views on publicity services in China.

- 1st Lord
- 1st S.L.
- 2nd S.L.
- 4th S.L.
- V.C.N.S.
- A.C.N.S. (H)
- A.C.N.S. (F)
- Sec.
- Nav. Sec.
- N.A. 1st S.L.
- N.A. 2nd S.L. (2)
- P.A.S. (S)
- D.N.I. (4)
- O.D. (5)
- Ops. (3)
- M. (2)
- D. of P. (3)
- O.I.C. (2)
- I.P. (3)
- W.D.
- Admiral Palliser
- Admiral Bellairs
- E.P.S.
- Press Divn. for action (Press 1615/41) (2)
- M. (6) for War Office and Air Ministry.

ARW
uca

SECRET

MESSAGE

IN 338^D

2141/13th Nov.
DATE 13.11.41.
RECD. 2045.

FROM G.O.C. Hong Kong

CIPHER

ADDRESSED War Office. Repeated D.D.M.I. Far East.

IMMEDIATE

10099

1435 cipher 13/11.

For M.I.2.

1. Consul-General Canton reports on very reliable authority there are no (repeat no) Japanese Troop concentrations to North and Northwest of City. Observed transport movements in Pearl River Delta between Fifth and Twelfth October, total fortyeight up river and thirtythree down. Japanese closing river for two days.

2. Two British subjects who left Hoihow on 7th November report military activity and numbers of troops greatly increased during last six weeks. There are always about ten transports (from three to eight thousand tons) in harbour with about two arrivals and two departures daily. Troops gossip is that Bangkok will soon be theirs. Daily practice with collapsible boats holding ten to fifteen men each, and M.L.C. practice landings noted. Other exercises are speedy erection and dismantling of bamboo scaffolding and lifting and running with heavy logs (? Bangalore torpedoes) Air activity also increased with arrival of new twin engine bombers in October of which forty is maximum number seen in the air at one time. Contrary to statement of American Customs Commissioner reported in my 0152 of 3rd July Hoihow is now entirely run by Army and Naval activity slight. Port facilities recently improved.

2141/13.

1st Lord.	D.G.D.(2)	Received from Air Min. 1235/14
1st S.L.	D.T.S.D.	War Office circulation.
V.C.N.S.	M.(5)	M.I.2c(for action)
A.C.N.S.(F)	I.P.(3)	D.D.M.I.(I)
A.C.N.S.(H)	E.P.S.	M.I.2,2c M.I.(J.I.C.)(3)
A.C.N.S.(T)(2)	O.I.C.(3)	M.O.1.10.
Nat. Sec.	W.D.	Admy (Cmdr Barry)
P.A.S.(S)	D.S.D.9.	Air Miny.(A.C.AS(I)
D. of P.(3)		Foreign Office(Mr. Sterndale Bennett)
D.N.I.(4)		Col. Office(Mr. Poynton)
Ops (3)		Col. Office(Lt. Col. Barlow)
D.N.A.D.		Mr. Hubbard(P.I.D) Foreign Office
O.D.(5)		
D.T.M.		

ARW
uca

War Diary.

13.11.1941.
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies.

T.C.16.
Contd.

Your 2039/6. My 1543Z/29/10 and 0349Z/13. Movement control now state maximum of 4,000 army and 3,500 air force personnel, total 7,500, will be ready for T.C.16 early December. (N.S.H.Q., Ottawa, 2138Z/13, to D. of S.T.)

AMHERST.

Proceed to St. Johns N.F.
(C.C.N.F., 0414Z/13 to AMHERST.)

ST. LAURENT.

Proceed Halifax at best prudent speed forthwith, Repeat E.T.A.
(C.C.N.F., 0422Z/13, to ST.LAURENT.)
My 0422Z/13. Request ST. LAURENT be taken in hand on arrival as she is required for S.C.57 to sail from St. Johns, N.F. 29/11. No other destroyer available for this convoy.
(C.C.N.F., 0429Z/13, to C.O.A.C. Halifax.)

Fuelling,
St. Thomas.

Position now clearly understood.
(N.C.S.O. St. Thomas, V.I., 0853/13, to Admty.)

ROBIN HOOD,
suspicious
ship.

Vessel sighted by ROBIN HOOD on 11/11 was probably TISNAREN carrying deck cargo of aeroplanes.
(D.D.I.C. 1005Z/13 to Opanv.)

PRINCE HENRY.
PRINCE DAVID.

Your 1846Z/12. Immobilising of PRINCE HENRY is a great pity from operational point of view, as I had intended she should work as a unit with PRINCE DAVID vide my 2211Q/31/8. to C.N.S. Canada only. With their high endurance and speed these ships make a useful (?pair) for hunting raiders. If no other vessel can be found to act as depot ship, can PRINCE DAVID's refit be expedited to enable her to operate with CIRCASSIA as early as possible?
(C. in C.A.W.I., 1021Q/13 to C.N.S., Canada.)

ST. CROIX,
defects.

Your (? 1509Z/12.) Can proceed direct to Halifax if I part company now. Have 2 oil tanks and 1 boiler room making water, 1 main fuel pump burst cylinder, other pumps leaking. Request immediate approval to part company with convoy in order to save time in refit,
(ST. CROIX, 1101Z/13, to C.C.N.F.)

War Diary.13.11.1941.
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America & West Indies.Contd.ODENWALD.

Request as soon as possible following details of ODENWALD: (1) Nature of operations or voyage on which ship was engaged. (2) If supply ship, whether for U-boats or surface raider. (3) Indications of past and intended routes. (C. in C.A.W.I., 1159Q/13, to Opanav.)

SAN CIPRIANO.
EMPIRE JET.

Have you any news of SAN CIPRIANO and EMPIRE JET due New York 5/11 from Loch Ewe and 6/11 from Mersey respectively?
(D.T.D. 1720A/13 to D.N.I., Ottawa.)

French
Naval
Units.

B.A.D. Washington 1757R/13.
See South Atlantic.

O.N.35.

O.N.35, U.S. Task Unit designation 4.1.1, DALLAS, ERICSSON, EBERLE, ELLIS, and UPSHUR.
(Opanav, 1837Z/13 to Admty.) O.N.35.
Your 1923Z/13, concur Task Unit designation will remain 4.1.1. unless you are notified otherwise.
(Opanav, 2305/13 to Admty.)

S.C.53.
Escort.

BURNHAM, CHAMBLY^E, MATAPEDIA, NAPANEE arrived St. John's N.F., fuelled and departed 2100 G.M.T. expected to overtake S.C.53 in vicinity position (p) during daylight 16/11.
(C.C.N.F. 2005Z/13 to U.S.C.N.O.)

Fast Tankers.

Your 1350/12/7, subject fast tankers. It may strengthen the case that in the last two escorted convoys to Malta, of 15 ships only one was lost. On the return of these ships, unescorted, none have been lost.
(Head of M. Approved by 4th S.L., 2101A/13 to B.A.D.)

GUADALOUPE.
(French.)

Arrival 12th.
(New York, 2355Z/13.)

13.11.1941.
Thursday.

War Diary.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Ships Attacked.

ARK ROYAL.

Torpedoed 1602A/13. (See North Atlantic.)

Submarines Reported.

Estimated approx., positions of U/B's.
(D.D.I.C. 1332A/13, 1333A/13.)

War Diary.

14.11.1941.
Friday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

Weather.

Blyth was reopened at 0919A today and Aberdeen at 1715.

Dispositions to intercept raiders.

FORESIGHT, FURY and FORESTER, after being detached from Convoy W.S.12.Z. are to fuel and proceed to establish a patrol until after dark 23/11 between 25° W. and 27° W. and 45° N. and 46° N. with the object of capturing or destroying enemy merchant vessels or armed raider which may endeavour to make for a port in the Bay of Biscay in the near future.

COLTSFOOT.

Corvette COLTSFOOT has been neither seen nor heard since about 2100/12 in approx. 51° 55' N. 22° 40' W. when she was sent on A/S sweep astern of O.S.11, and it is feared she may have run into trouble. (Later, she reported her position 1720Z/18).

Enemy Air Operations.

Swedish tanker SVEADROTT was attacked at 1340 and again at 1405 today when approaching Skopen Fiord (Faeroes). No casualties or apparent damage occurred.

Kinnairds Head Lighthouse and C.G. Station and Fraserburgh town were machine gunned by an aircraft early this afternoon. The fog horn was slightly affected for a very short time. Kinnairds Head opened fire after which the A/C dropped 2 bombs in the sea between Sandhaven and Fraserburgh.

Reports from skippers of fishing trawlers indicate considerable increase within the past fortnight in activity of enemy aircraft off south and S.E. coast of Ireland including territorial waters.

War Diary.

14.11.1941.
Friday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Mining.

Operation
F.D. 34.

RORQUAL left Holy Loch this morning escorted by WHITE BEAR to Wolf Rock, to carry out a minelaying operation in the Bay of Biscay.

North Atlantic.

No. 812 Air Squadron reformed at North Front today with initial equipment of 9 Swordfish.

South Atlantic.

Convoys.

To speed up shipping and relieve congestion at Freetown, C. in C. S.A. proposes that ships in O.S. convoys capable of proceeding direct to Cape, Lagos and Takoradi should break away from the main convoy and form an S.T. convoy some 250 miles from Freetown. He can provide a fresh local escort.

War Diary.

14.11.1941.
Friday.

SITUATION REPORT.

North Atlantic.
Mediterranean.

ARK ROYAL
(torpedoed
13/11)

Overnight, ARK ROYAL had raised steam in one boiler, steam was being raised in another, and it was hoped the ship would soon be able to steam.

At 0446A, however, flooding increased beyond control, the ship listed 37°, and had to be abandoned. Fire had broken out in the remaining boiler room.

ARK ROYAL sank at 0623A/14. Only 1 man, an able seaman, was lost.

Reporting the movements of ARK ROYAL prior to her being torpedoed, S.O. Force H states that she was screened by 7 destroyers. No contact by screen of H.E. was recognised and no track seen. The approach to Gibraltar was from a position 6 miles north of Alboran; this track was purposely adopted to change the usual procedure which had been to keep near the Spanish or Moroccan Coast.

Mediterranean.

Enemy
units.

Aircraft reported sighting at 2115/14 5 enemy ships, probably 3 cruisers and 2 destroyers, in 39.40 N., 17.30 E., course 150°, speed 25 knots.

Libya and
Western
Desert.

8 Wellingtons dropped bombs last night on bases of moles in Benghazi Harbour; 3 bombed Derna and 1 bombed Bardia. 9 Marylands bombed Derna aerodrome today.

Tunisia.

U.S. Vice-Consul, Tunis, has been informed that owing to recent attacks on French M/V's en route from Tunis to Sfax, measures for the safety of French trade on Tunisian Coast are being taken by French Air Force.

Red
Sea.

F.O. Red Sea assumed control of shipping in the Red Sea and Gulf of Suez including the port of Suez at 0900B today.

/Black.....

War Diary.

14.11.1941.
Friday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Mediterranean-Contd.

Black
Sea.

Arrangements have now been made for certain Russian ships to pass out of the Black Sea. They will sail under Merchant Flag.

America and West Indies.

Sabotage is suspected as the cause of the fire which damaged S.S. LOCH MONAR in Panama Canal area on 10/11.

P.551 and P.511 were due to leave U.S. A. today.

War Diary.

14.11.1941.
Friday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Co-operation with Russia.

North Russia,
conditions.

Your 1832Z/12. Personnel standing up well to weather and health generally good. Difficulties vary (corrupt group) with preparations, possibly before leaving U.K. Defects and much discomfort are inevitable but efficiency of ships has not yet been affected. Ships can be kept warm but condensation in all mess decks severe. Chief troubles encountered are those of berthing fuelling and harbour movements consequent on limited icebreaker service. These are now acute and river can no longer be used by sweepers. Molotovsk is not likely to be satisfactory for long, Iokanka may only be used in an emergency and arrivals and departures confined to daylight hours. Existing unmarked underwater defences there make passage in or out of harbour hazardous. Consider Minesweepers should be based on Murmansk after arrival P.Q.4. Request early information when H.M. Ships HAZARD, HEBE, SHARPSHOOTER, may be expected.
(S.O. 1st M/S.F. 1257Z/14 to C. in C. H.F.)

See p. 354

Movements.

SHEFFIELD.

Departure SHEFFIELD 2200.
(A.C.I.C., 0217N/14)

RORQUAL.

Sailed RORQUAL escorted by WHITE BEAR in accordance with S.3's 1135A/13. Code word "Keeper". (F.O.I.C. Greenock, 0844A/14)

Admiral
Muselier.

Admty 1314A/13 and C.C.N.F. 0113Z/14. In order that Admiral Muselier may take passage as suggested in C.C.N.F., 0113Z/14 para (2) propose that Admiral and staff should proceed direct to Iceland in COMMANDANT DETROYAT sailing from Clyde 24/11. E.T.A. Iceland 28/11 line three passage etc. and line five DETROYAT. (C. in C. W.A., 1040A/14 to Admty. C.C.N.F.)

/EREBUS.....

War Diary.

14.11.1941.
Friday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Movements. - Contd.

EREBUS.

Admty 1919A/6 intended to sail EREBUS for Lough Foyle at 0800/20.
(ii) 2 destroyers from the Nore Command will escort EREBUS as far as Kinnaird Head where she is due daylight 22.
(iii) C. in C. W.A., and R.A.(D) H.F. are requested to arrange any onward escort from Kinnaird Head considered necessary.
(iv) Fighter protection for whole passage will be arranged by C. in C. Nore.
(C. in C. Nore, 1144A/14 to C. in C. W.A., N.O.I.C. Londonderry).

JAY.
LORD GREY.
AIGLON.

Intend sailing C/M JAY in company with M/S Trawlers LORD GREY and AIGLON P.M./18 in accordance with A.M. 1933/26/8 amended by 1652/23/9 1249/11/10 and 1844/13 /11.
(F.O.I.C. Greenock, 1408A/14)
A.M.1844/13/11 and my 1408A/14. Request route observing that JAY's limit of endurance is based on a speed of 7½ knots which is her maximum under ideal conditions.
(F.O.I.C. Greenock, 1414A/14 to C. in C. W.A.)
Your 1414A/14 not to all addressees. Route for JAY, LORD GREY and AIGLON.
(p) 270° Oversay 6 miles.
(q) 54.00 North 21.00 West.
(r) 40.00 28.30 thence to Fayal.
(s) 20.00 21.00.
(t) 10.00 17.30 thence to Freetown.
(C. in C. W.A., 1834A/14 to F.O.I.C. Greenock).

Information
for SEALION.

Submarine movements (i) K2. arrived zone 4 P.M./14 (ii)*CHUKA 402 leaves zone 2 P.M./14 routed 72.30 N., and by route Y (iii)*K.22 leaves zone one 0100C/15 routed, 72.30 N., and routed Y (iv) TRIDENT sails 1500C/15 route B and 72.10 N. Admty pass to SEALION on next H.S. routine.
(S.B.N.O. North Russia, 1721C/14 to SEALION)

* Not in C.B. 1915 - Oct: '41
XX See also next page

ANTELOPE

Re. sailing from Scapa to be taken in hand for refit. (C. in C. H.F., 1750Z/14 to ANTELOPE, R.A.(D) H.F.)

EDINBURGH.
SUFFOLK.

Departure C.S.18 in EDINBURGH and SUFFOLK 1745.
(A.C.I.C., 1811N/14)

GOSSAMER.
HUSSAR. SPEEDY.

My 1910C/13. E.T.A. Murmansk, 1000C/16.
(S.O. 1st M/S.F. 2211C/14 to S.B.N.O. North Russia).

War Diary.

14.11.1941.
Friday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operations.

P. 38.

To avoid shipping movements proceed forthwith submerged by day to patrol within five miles of 50° 50' N., 16° 48' W. You will be ordered to leave your patrol after dark/16 (F.O.(S), 1316A/14 to P.38).

Patrol by
FORESIGHT,
FURY,
FORESTER.

Enemy merchant vessels or armed merchant raider may endeavour to make for a port in the Bay of Biscay in the near future.

2. After being detached from Convoy W.S.12Z and having fuelled take FURY and FORESTER under your orders and establish a patrol between 25° W., and 27° W., and 43° N., 46° N.,
3. Object is to capture enemy ships. If this is not possible they are to be destroyed.
4. Operation should be carried out on the assumption that U-boats are in company with merchant vessels.
5. Leave patrol after dark/23 and return to U.K. (A.C.N.S. (F), 1617A/14 to FORESIGHT)

K. 22.

Your 1545A November 11th. Submarine K.22 ordered to leave patrol at 0100C/15 routed 69.40 N., 11.50 E. to 72.30 N., 20 E. Signal received by K.22 and acknowledged. Admty. pass to all addressees except Admiral Miles. (S.B.N.O. North Russia, 1710C/14)

See previous page

PRINCE ships.
Exercise L.9.

Re. Admty. 1346A/13 request you will make following available for exercise L nine. (V.A.C.T.C., 1726/14 to C.Q.2)

M.T.B.
Operation.

Re. attack by coastal (sic) on an enemy convoy on night of 3/4 Nov. A/C R/C made 14/11 reports a ship of about 5,000 tons beached and lying on its side half submerged at half tide about 300 yards from the shore about 3 miles North of Boulogne. (V.A. Dover, 1843A/14 to Admty).

British Air Operations.

Patrols.

"Polar" will be carried out by Northrop A/C from first light/15 until dusk. (A.C.I.C., 2309N/14).

War Diary.14.11.1941.
Friday.HOME COMMANDS.Enemy Air Activity.Faeroes
bombed on
13/11.

Single enemy aircraft dropped two bombs Noslo lighthouse and R.T. Station 1210/13. One bomb exploded. No casualties or damage. (O.C. Troops, Faeroes, 1055/14)

S.S.
MONMOUTH
COAST
(attacked
12/11.

My 2016A/13. Attack on MONMOUTH COAST confirmed by EXOUS but plane crash not confirmed. (F.O.I.C. Milford Haven, 1137A/14)

O.G. 76
AUDACITY
8/11.

Request brief statement of AUDACITY operation against shadowing aircraft including circumstances attending loss of 1 Martlet. (C. in C. W.A., 1143A/14 to F.O.C.N.A.)

S. & S.E.
Coast of
Ireland.

Reports from Skippers of fishing trawlers indicate considerable increase within past two weeks in activity of enemy aircraft off S. and S.E. Coast of Ireland including territorial waters, Graded A.1. (F.O.I.C. Milford Haven, 1229A/14)

Kinnairds
Hd. Lt. Ho.
and
Fraserburgh.

Kinnairds Head Lighthouse and C.G. Station, also town of Fraserburgh machine gunned by one aircraft at 1250/14. Fog horn slightly damaged, no casualties. Kinnairds Head opened fire with M.G. Aircraft then dropped two bombs in sea between Sandhaven and Fraserburgh. (F.O.I.C. Aberdeen, 1443/14). F.O.I.C. Aberdeen's 1443/14/11 Kinnairds Head Light and Fog Signal are in perfect order if and when requested. (C. in C. Rosyth, 1743/14 to Admty).

SVEADROTT.

Swedish Tanker SVEADROTT attacked by one enemy aircraft when approaching Skopen Fiord today. First attack at 1340 and second attack at 1405. Bombs missed by 75 yards. No casualties or apparent damage. (N.O.I.C. Faeroes, 1825A/14)

/HILL....

War Diary.14.11.1941.
Friday.HOME COMMANDS.Enemy Air Activity. - Contd.

HILL
(Norwegian,
496 tons)
KYLE QUEEN
(British,
696 tons)
attacked on
20/10.
LANAHRONE
(Irish,
1221 tons)
attacked
29/10.

Your 1507A/7. ¹⁶² Following received from N.A. Dublin begins. Department of Eire External Affairs have investigated matter with following result.

(a) Report is incorrect but may be based on mix-up of facts set out below.

(b) P.M. on 20th October HILL and KYLE QUEEN were attacked by aircraft near Coningbeg light vessel which made signals to Eire. Kilmore Quay lifeboat then put out and searched area. HILL afterwards claimed having shot down enemy plane.

(c) LANAHRONE was attacked by aircraft at 1920/29/10 half mile W.N.W. of Saltees. Ends. 1500/13.

(D.N.I., 1830A/14 to F.O.I.C. Milford Haven).

Mining.

Operation
Q.K.(4).

My 1142A/13/11. Operation Q.K.(4) was abandoned due to adverse weather conditions. (C. in C. Nore, 1054A/14 to Admty).

Thames
Estuary.

One red mine detonated at 0450 (position) (F.O.I.C. Harwich, 1117A/14).

N.E.
Coast.

4th to 11th Nov. the following moored mines have been dealt with in this command. (details) Total. 11 Stranded Mines, 14 Drifting Mines. (C. in C. Rosyth, 1129/14).

Operation
N.P.18.

Intend to carry out Operation N.P.18 tonight 14/11. (V.A. Dover, 1205A/14).

My 1205A postponed owing to weather. (V.A. Dover, 1914A/14).

Bristol
Channel.

Exploded one red and one blue mine simultaneously both van at 1221A/14 in 027° 3.5 cables Flatholm Light probably laid 26/10. (Capt. M/S Bristol Channel, 1630A/14)

Floating
mine in
Atlantic.

Reference floating mine reported as having been sunk by you on 1/9 in 045° 03' N., 025° 53' W., forward a report in writing with full description and sketch at first opportunity. (C. in C. W.A., 1802A/13 to LULWORTH).

War Diary.14.11.1941.
Friday.HOME COMMANDS.Enemy Intelligence.3 Unknown ships.

3 Large ships illuminated heading 090° speed 12 knots approx. 062° 00' N., 012° 36' W. Unable to intercept resuming patrol. (NORTHERN SKY, 0110A/14 to S.O.N.T., D.C. 0903A/14 to C. in C. H.F.)

Navigational.Blyth.

My 1944A/12. Port open. (N.O.I.C. Blyth, 0919A/14)

58 A Buoy.

Light extinguished. (SHELDRAKE 1210/14 to C. in C. Nore).

Silting at Lowestoft.

Following Signals received begins:-
Addressed to C. in C. Nore.
From F.O.I.C. Yarmouth.
The Harbour Mouth at Lowestoft is rapidly becoming silted up due to the incessant gales and the impossibility of dredging during bad weather. It is considered that this silting is probably increased by the wreck of the Blockship FIDELIA inside the North Pier Head, and steps are being taken by the Salvage Officer to see whether it is possible to raise this Blockship. Meanwhile entry into the Harbour is considerably restricted.
A further signal will be made in due course. 1748A/10.
Addressed to C. in C. Nore,
From F.O.I.C. Great Yarmouth.
N.O.I.C. Lowestoft reports that the silting of Lowestoft Harbour is becoming more serious and if North Easterly Gales recur, danger exists of further closure of Navigable Channels already gravely restricted.
It is requested that the assistance of a Suction Dredger of about 500 tons may be obtained. F.O.I.C. Harwich states no Dredger available from Harwich. 1829A/14. Ends:- Request early steps may be taken to remedy this. (C. in C. Nore, 2253/14 to Admty).

Aberdeen.

Port now open. (F.O.I.C. Aberdeen, 1715/14).

/N.E....

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War Diary.14.11.1941.
Friday.HOME COMMANDS.Navigational - Contd.N.E. Goodwin
Buoy.N.E. Goodwin buoy missing from station.
Request promulgation by Fleet Notice to Mariners.
(V.A. Dover, 1851A/14 to Admty).58 A Buoy.Light reported extinguished. Request QZH.
(C. in C. Nore, 2235A/14 to Admty).Technical.Minor War
Vessels
recognition
signals.Admty. 1450B/8/8/41 and A.L. M/SD 02302/41 of
24/7 /41. Minor War Vessel Day Display Signals
will shortly be abolished and single letter
flashing signals for use by all H.M. Ships to
Shore Batteries and Minor Defended Ports sub-
stituted in place thereof. Owing to differing
proposals received, request remarks on following
alternatives only:-
(D.S.D., 1624A/14 to C's. in C. Home, A.C.O.S.,
V.A. Dover, C.S.S.)Casualties & Defects.ANGLE.Arrived ANGLE in tow of FREEBOOTER escorted
by ST. APOLLO.
(F.O.I.C. Greenock, 0033A/14).
Making contact with ANGLE and the towing of
her safely into port is a commendable piece of
seamanship. (F.O.I.C. Greenock, 0103A/14
to FREEBOOTER, ST. APOLLO).DRAGONET,
LE LUTTEUR.About 1000 today DRAGONET collided with
LE LUTTEUR causing extensive damage to LE LUTTEUR
Extent of damage to DRAGONET not ascertained.
LE LUTTEUR was moored at A buoy at the time of
collision.
(C.S.V.O. Scapa, 1045/14).ARK ROYAL.Regret to inform you ARK ROYAL has been sunk
probably by submarine. Casualties very few.
(A.C.N.S. (F), 1220A/14 to Cs. in C. Home and
Abroad).NOTRE DAME
DE FRANCE.Have been involved in collision. No serious
damage caused. (NOTRE DAME DE FRANCE, 1335/14
to B.D.Z).AQUAMARINE.My 1519/8 Repairs to AQUAMARINE will be completed
by 19/11. (F.O.I.C. Milford Haven, 1457/14
to C. in C. W.A.)

/LETTIE.....

War Diary.

14.11.1941.
Friday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Casualties & Defects - Contd.

LETTIE.

^{H.M.}
Steam tug LETTIE which sailed Blyth A.M./9 for Inverness presumed lost with all hands P.M./9/11. Two bodies found near Tentsmuir Point (56° 26' N., 02° 48' W) on 12/11 identified by owners' representative as members of crew. (names) Body of (name) recovered from Fish Dock Dundee reported in N.O.I.C. Dundee 1845/12 also believed member of crew. 6 not yet accounted for. Tug presumed LETTIE reported passing St. Abbs Head northbound at 1630/9. (C. in C. Rosyth, 1606/14)

MURRAYFIELD
(British,
576 tons).

My 1705/12/11. Following information received from N.C.S.O. Dundee. Master of SOJOURNER reports that whilst he was off Montrose MURRAYFIELD passed and was last seen by him off Red Head at approx. 1300/9/11. (N.C.S.O. Leith, 1800/14)

COLTSFOOT.

COLTSFOOT has been neither seen nor heard since about 2100/12 in approx. 051° 55' N., 022° 40' W., whence she was sent on anti shadow (?A/S) sweep, astern O.S.11. A search up to 26 miles was made P.M./13 by CLARE. COLTSFOOT has been called on R.T. on 13/11 and today, neither has any reply to my 1645A/14 been received. In view of extreme visibility on 13/11 she is unlikely merely to have lost the convoy and may have run into trouble. (STORK, 2010A/14 to C. in C. W.A.) If not in company with Convoy report your position course and speed. (C. in C. W.A., 2312A/14 to COLTSFOOT.)

Shipping & Convoys.

O.N.S.35.

U.S. escort (S.O. U.S. destroyer ERICSSON) Sailed 2015 with one merchant ship. (A.C.I.C., 0005N/14)

S.L.91.
O.S.11.

IBIS 2200Z/13 and FLEETWOOD 1740Z/13. Estimate S.L.91 and O.S.11 will meet on converging courses about 0400A/14 convoys alter course to starboard to clear. (C. in C. W.A., 0153A/14 to FLEETWOOD, IBIS, for Cdres).

/W.S....

War Diary.

14.11.1941.
Friday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping & Convoys. - Contd.

W.S.14.

Proposed arrangements. (D. of S.T., 0719A/14)
(See Lion Copy)

C.T.7
PASTEUR.

My 0128/9. Confirmed that PASTEUR will be used for convoy C.T.7 Sailing Clyde 22.11. Vessel will be embarked to capacity. Embarkation will take place 21.11.
(D. of S.T., 0720A/14 to P.S.T.O. West of Scotland).

Iceland (C)
sections of
Atlantic
convoys.

To distinguish between Iceland (C) sections which leave and join Atlantic convoys the present suffix I (letter) is abolished and the following are established:-
Suffix L for ships leaving a convoy for Iceland.
Suffix J for ships joining a convoy from Iceland.
(D.T.D., 1048A/14)

P.Q. and
Q.P. Convoys.

Admty 1522A/12. 8 inch cruiser can do round trip to Scapa without fuelling and have margin of 11 tons if starting from Seidisfjord (Iceland). Chance of oiling destroyers very slight but oil taken at Murmansk by cruiser could be limited to 500 tons plus any given destroyers and 200 tons for this purpose on return passage.
Unless scale of enemy activities increases in area it is considered from now till daylight lengthens ships could be routed independently with safety if escorted to 50 miles North of Cape Kanin in groups when loaded. This would get over difficulty of assembling convoy when ships have to be brought out to entrance of White Sea by ice breakers.
Q.P. two contains 14 knot and 7 knot ships.
(F.O.1.C.S., 1132A/13 to C. in C. H.F.)

P.Q.5.
HAZARD,
HEBE,
SHARPSHOOTER.

Cancel paragraph (i) of my 1832Z/12 not to A.C.I.C. HAZARD, HEBE and SHARPSHOOTER are to escort convoy P.Q.5. to Archangel. Request you will sail them to arrive Hvalfiord on 21/11. Admty pass to North Russia and Archangel.
(C. in C. H.F., 1805Z/14 to R.A.(D) H.F.)

See p. 346

MOST SECRET

MOST SECRET MESSAGE 0719A/14 November OUT.

To P.S.T.O. West of Scotland Date 13.11.41.
D.S.T.O. Greenock
D.S.T.O. Glasgow
D.S.T.O. Liverpool
D.S.T.O. Avonmouth
P.S.T.O. South Wales.

NAVAL CYPHER (A O.T.T.)

From Director of Sea Transport.

Following are proposed arrangements for Convoy W.S.14.

<u>Code No.</u>	<u>Ship</u>	<u>Estimated Capacity</u>	<u>Present Position</u>	<u>Embarkation Port.</u>
Z.1	HIGHLAND PRINCESS	1448	Avonmouth	Avonmouth
Z.2	CAMERONIA	3145	Glasgow	Clyde
Z.3	ABOSSO	1000	Liverpool	Liverpool
Z.4	HIGHLAND MONARCH	1250	Avonmouth	Avonmouth
Z.5	ATHLONE CASTLE	1676	Glasgow	Clyde
Z.7	ESPERANCE BAY	1502	London fitting	Clyde
Z.8	MORETON BAY	1350	Liverpool fitting	Liverpool
Z.9	STAFFORDSHIRE	2135	Tyne fitting	Clyde
Z.10	EMPRESS OF AUSTRALIA	2549	Due Liverpool	Liverpool.
Z.11	STRATHALLAN	3280	Due Liverpool	Liverpool.
Z.12	SCYTHIA	3117	Due Liverpool	Liverpool
Z.13	DUCHESS OF ATHOLL	3102	Due Clyde	Clyde
Z.14	DURBAN CASTLE	1200	Due Clyde	Clyde
Z.15	ORONSAY	3089	Due Liverpool	Liverpool.
Z.16	WARWICK CASTLE	1514	Due Clyde	Clyde
Z.18	REINA DEL PACIFICO	2500	Due Liverpool	Liverpool
Z.19	BERGENSFJORD	2024	On special service. Returning about 15.11.	To be decided later.

MOST SECRET

2. Arrangements for movement of Z.7 and Z.9 to Clyde will be notified later.
3. Position regarding embarkation is not yet clear but provisionally a sailing date of 1.12 should be worked on.
4. Request report of sea speeds which vessels will be able to maintain when ready for sea.

0719A/14.

for Director of Sea Transport.

M.W.T. Extn. 2187.

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

GC.

War Diary.14.11.1941.
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic.ARK ROYAL
(torpedoed
13/11.)

My 1602.^{p.328} Flooding increased beyond control. Ship listed 37°. Been abandoned. Still in tow. Situation appeared to be in hand till fire broke out in remaining boiler room. (S.O. Force H., 0446A/14 to Admty.)

ARK ROYAL has sunk.
(S.O. Force H., 0623A/14 to Admty.)

My 0623. Destroyers are now carrying out S/M hunt.

(S.O. Force H., 0656A/14 to F.O.C.N.A.)
Propose that F.O.C.N.A. should preside over Board of Enquiry into loss of ARK ROYAL.

(F.O. Force H., 1005A/14 to Admty.)

My 2359A/13. HERMIONE was not on screen at the time having been detached as target for throw off shoot by MALAYA. Screen consisted of 7 destroyers in number 7 diagram.

(ii) Movements prior to torpedoing as follows: (? Fleet) on mean course 270° speed 18 knots zig-zag number 11. 1518 emergency alteration to 010° to avoid suspected contact reported by LAFOREY in position M.

1523 contact negatived. 1529 resumed course 270°. ARK ROYAL increased speed and (? hauled) out to 286° for flying.

1535 ARK ROYAL resumed station.

1538 ARK ROYAL altered to 286° for flying.

1540 remainder of force altered to 290° in accordance with zig-zag.

1541 ARK ROYAL torpedoed.

(iii) Examination of ARGUS A/S screen and sighting by her of periscope suggest submarine fired at long range line on starboard bow. No contact by screen or H.E. heard. No track seen. Approach to Gibraltar was from position six miles north of Alboran. This track purposely adopted to change usual procedure which has been to keep near Spanish or Moroccan Coast.

(S.O. Force H., 1755/14 to Admty.)

My 0650/14. All officers saved. 18 men still to be accounted for but some may be in ships not yet returned.

(F.O. Force H., 1948A/14 to Admty.)

I consider B.B.C. Broadcast gives very false impression concerning possible casualties in ARK ROYAL. My 0650 and my 1948 refer.

Improbable casualties exceed one per cent and may be less. Request this may be corrected in tomorrow's broadcast.

(S.O. Force H., 2259A/14 to Admty.)

/OLYMPUS.....

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War Diary.14.11.1941.
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic - Contd.OLYMPUS.

Admty. 1311A/15/8. OLYMPUS has satisfactorily completed 14 days patrol and is now considered fit for operational patrol. Urgent A/C stores are being sent by air to Malta and unless petrol is required propose to sail OLYMPUS for patrol in Tyrrhenian Sea about 23rd.
(F.O.C.N.A., 1110A/14 to C. in C. Med.)

CORINTHIAN.

E.T.A. Fayal a.m./21. Request 200 tons of Coal 200 tons of water may be supplied.
(S.O.W.P., 1202A/14 to N.C.S.O. Ponta Delgada.)

S.S.EUGENIO C.
(Italian.)

EUGENIO C. arrived Bilbao from Castro last night 13th full load of iron ore date of sailing for France unknown but ready for sea.
(Consul, Bilbao, 1213/14.)

Stationing
Rescue tug
at Azores
or Funchal.

Your 2047A/13. Matter still under consideration by Government. Fear refusal probable.
(N.A. Lisbon, 1215/14 to Admty.)

JONQUIL,
COREOPSIS.

Corvettes are to refuel as requisite from DINGLEDALE.
(F.O.C.N.A., 1316A/14 to JONQUIL.)

Oil Shortage
at P. Delgada.

My 1118/8. V.O.C. report extreme shortage marine lubricating oil Ponta Delgada. Unable to supply from Lisbon.
(B.N.A. Lisbon, 1537/14 to Admty.)

French
Shipping.

Arrival 13/11 CANDEBEC. Departure 15/11 PONTET CANOT Navicert.
(N.C.S.O. Lisbon, 1602/14.)

MARSDALE.

Departure to patrol H.X.2 routed through (a) 035° 50' N. 006° 58' W. (b) 035° 00' 017° 00' S. of A. 12 knots.
(F.O.C.N.A., 1802A/14 to Admty.)

A/Cs. for
ARGUS.

Sufficient aircraft are available at Gibraltar ex ARK ROYAL or in reserve to allow ARGUS to operate with Force H pending relief by another carrier.
(F.O. Force H., 2007A/14 to Admty.)

*See also p. 365**A/c for ARGUS cont:
/Your.....*

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War Diary.

14.11.1941.
Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic - Contd.

A/Cs. for
ARGUS.
(Contd.)

Your 1655A/14 (N.T. in W.D.)
(a) Intend sailing Convoy night D 2/3 in accordance with C. in C. Med. 1454/14 (N.T. in W.D.)
(b) Is it desired ARGUS and ATHENE should accompany NELSON, returning Gibraltar night D/3/4 using 4 destroyers of Force H as escort?
(c) My 2007/14 refers. Signal re equipment of these aircraft follows.
(S.O. Force H., 2254A/14 to Admty., amended 1137A/15.)
Reply from Admty., 1331/15.

South Atlantic.

LAFONIA.

My 0243/27/8.
Understand LAFONIA is now due Durban about 25/11. Request you advise S.T.O. Freetown in due course of anticipated date by which LAFONIA will be available in West Africa.
(D.S.T., 0454A/14 to P.S.T.O. Simonstown.)

B.D.V's.

Your 1247/13 to F.O.I.C. Simonstown only.
Boom vessels JENNET, PUNNET and RENNET arrived Capetown 27/10. Regret not previously reported.
(F.O.I.C. Simonstown, 0853Z/14 to C. in C. S.A.)

S.S.
BURDWAN.

Overdue shipping cancel my 0915/13. BURDWAN arrived Capetown.
(S.O.(I) Capetown, 0925B/14.)

Repatriation
of SHAHRISTAN
Survivors.

My 1307/7 and your 1616A/6, only suitable ship in S.L.93 in BAARN (Dutch). Should she be used.
(C. in C. S.A., 1106N/14 to Admty.)
Reply: 2110/15.

/Appreciation...

War Diary.14.11.1941.
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic - Contd.Appreciation
of situation
employment of
S.D.F. vessels.

Your 1303/14/10. Following is Admty. appreciation of war situation which may develop in South African waters:-

(a) Threat of minelaying by raider off ports is small but mines might be laid at intermediate points if air R/C is inadequate. Danger from these is small if ships are routed whenever possible in deep water between swept channels.
 (b) Threat from ground mines laid by S/M's exists and will increase as number of German U-Boats in service increases. Entry of Japan into war unlikely to affect situation.
 (c) U-Boat activity against trade in South African waters is possible should Germans succeed in locating supply ships in Southern Atlantic waters.

(d) Opportunities for interception of enemy supply ships or enemy-controlled trade will continue and may increase.

2. Admty. consider that present A/S and M/S forces now in South African waters are adequate but any increase in establishment that would allow of more S.D.F. ships serving in Mediterranean, African or West African ports would be of the greatest assistance to us. These ships would of course be available for recall to South African waters should an unexpectedly heavy threat develop there, otherwise R.N. vessels would be sent in place of them.

3. Admty. can turn over to S.D.F. 4 of the whalers shortly due to fit out in South Africa provided these can be employed under the above conditions, and would welcome any assistance that the S.D.F. could give in manning 6 A/S trawlers now at Freetown which are due to recommission early next year.

4. I regret that no corvettes can be spared as these vessels must always be held available for employment on trade protection away from their bases, and the conditions of service of the S.D.F. would, it is presumed, preclude such employment.

5. You should consult High Commissioner before informing Union Authorities in foregoing sense. (A.C.N.S.(F), 1131A/14 to F.O.i/c. Simonstown.)

/Convoy.....

War Diary.14.11.1941.
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic - Contd.Convoy
C.M.21.

My 1531/7. It is considered probable that convoy C.M.21 can be got ready to leave Durban about 24/11 consisting of the following group B ships accommodating numbers stated.

CITY OF CANTERBURY 1527, LLANDAFF CASTLE 840
DILWARA 1356, DUNERA 1989, ELIZABETHVILLE 947.
Request I may be informed if escort can be arranged.

(P.S.T.O. Simonstown, 1201B/14 to C. in C. E.I.)

DUNNOTTAR
CASTLE.

Your 1301/13. Concur with suggested arrangements. I propose to dock DUNNOTTAR CASTLE at Simonstown 17/11 as arranged followed by engine repairs at Capetown. Anticipate 3 to 7 days in dock plus about 3 weeks at Capetown.

(F.O.I.C. Simonstown, 1223B/14 to C. in C. S.A.)

WISHART,
WILD SWAN.

Your 1202A/12. If WISHART and WILD SWAN can escort to vicinity of Bathurst arrangements will be made to relieve them there.

(C. in C. S.A., 1301N/14 to F.O.C.N.A.)

PERU.

Reference SSSS at 1733Z/12 from PERU. Located 3 boats presumed to be PERU's in 03.22 N., 12.52 W. Survivors now on board

* ZUNIWALECO proceeding Freetown.

(C. in C. S.A., 1645N/14 to Admty.) (1100 W.A. 2100 (15))

* Not identified

RAPIDOL,
ECHODALE.

Your 1826A/3 (1836/3 intended). Oiler RAPIDOL with 2000 tons will be available to sail from Bathurst escorted by one corvette 17/11.

Intend to sail ECHODALE with S.L.93 for fuelling escorts of S.L.93 and O.S.11 unless RAPIDOL is not required for W.S.122 in which case latter ship will join S.L.93 with ocean escort.

(C. in C. S.A., 1647N/14 to Admty.)

Whalers,
S. Georgia.

Your 1243/14 (not to Admty.) Junior Vestfold Whalers are taking 22 extra men to South Georgia. If sufficient crew available sail

all 23 Whalers to Cape as in your 1313/9 (not to C. in C. S.A. or Admty.), number of groups depending on W/T Operators available.

(R.A.S.A.D., 1719Z/14 to N.O.I.C. Falklands.)

/Suspicious....

360

War Diary.14.11.1941.
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic - Contd.Suspicious
Vessel
sighted by
ROBIN HOOD.

Your 1145/12. TISNAREN has arrived Capetown and reports having sighted ROBIN HOOD on (? 11) November in position given in Admty. 1935/11. (N.O.I.C. Simonstown, 1720B/14 to C. in C. S.A.) (N.O.i/c. Simonstown 1720/14. I should like you to carry out search ordered in my 0951/12 all the same. N.O.i/c. Simonstown pass to S.O. Force G. (C. in C. S.A., 2215N/14 to DEVONSHIRE.)

O.S.
Convoys.

Proposals for S.T. section to break away 250 miles from Freetown of ships capable of proceeding direct to Cape, Lagos, Takoradi. (C. in C. S.A., 2343N/14 to Admty.) See Lion Copy.

Mediterranean.C.C. Bases
at Haifa &
Port Said.

As I am satisfied that the need for naval Contraband Control organisation at Haifa has now passed and as the service of two Officers who were not fully employed there were required elsewhere, the Haifa C.C. Base has been reduced to a C. and M. basis, Palestine Customs carry out all routine examinations and N.O.I.C. is available for specified requirements. At Port Said there is now none of the normal duties of a naval C.C. Base and staff are employed in issuing navicerts, dealing with commercial enquiries and some war trade intelligence. At my request H.B.M. Ambassador is arranging for such duties to revert to the British Consul at Port Said and the C.C.B. staff will be reduced to two or three who will be able to deal with the very small number of neutral ships clearing from Port Said and the Schooner traffic, which now appear to be the only potential channels for leakage of contraband. (C. in C. Med., 1000/14 to Admty.)

UPRIGHT.
URGE, P.34.

Operation B.S. Appendix 1 Para. 7. UPRIGHT, URGE, P.34 move 27 miles 53° until 1200B/15. 2 important southbound merchant ships estimated 16 knots may be encountered centre position about 0830B/15. (Capt. S.10, 1006B/14 to S/M's on Patrol.)

See p. 361

/TORBAY.....

MOST SECRET

MOST ~~SECRET~~ ~~MESSAGE~~ ~~IN~~ 2343N/14/November.

From C. in C. South Atlantic. Date 15.11.41.

Recd. 1753.

NAVAL CYPHER X BY W/T,

Addressed Admiralty.

NITE.

90. In order to speed up shipping and to relieve congestion at Freetown suggest for consideration that ships in OS convoys capable of proceeding direct to Cape Lagos Takoradi without fuelling watering etc. at Freetown should break away from main convoy and form an ST convoy some 250 miles from Freetown. Could provide fresh local escort to take on this convoy.

2. If this is done N.C.S.O. of Port of departure in U.K. would be required

- A to organise O.S. convoy to facilitate break away
- B detail Commodore for S T section.
- C give positions where OS convoy is to be split

off Freetown which I could amend subsequently by signal if necessary.

D give position where ships for Cape are to break away from ST convoy and their subsequent routes, this position should be in the vicinity of lat. 2 north, long 7 west (21 7W)

3. Route for S T convoy from position where Cape ships break off would be passed to Commodore of S T convoy by new escort.

4. Investigation here shows that approximately 75% of ships in B S convoys onward bound from Freetown need not call there if fuelled for through voyage but if any find on passage that they have to they can still do so.

5. Reduction in number of ships calling Freetown will conserve supplies which have to be brought here by sea and will save Boatwork.

6. With convoy splitting off Freetown it would not be necessary to organise in fast and slow portions for entry to Freetown. Vide my 1755/5 and A.M. 2209/S/8 /

7. In view of limited capacity of Takoradi not more than 8 ships for that port should be routed direct remainder being sent to Freetown first for onward passage in between O S convoys.

8. If this proposal is agreed to suggest it might start with O S 14.

2343N/14.

Advance copy sent	D.C.	D.O.D. (F)	D.T.D.
Presumably	2207/8	intended re	slow and fast portions of convoy
1st Lord.	D. of P. (2)		W.D.
1st S.L.	D.O.D. (F)		D.C. (2)
4th S.L.	D.D.O.D. (F)		D.T.D. (2) for action
V.C.N.S.	D.O.D. (H)		D.T.D. (M)
A.C.N.S. (F)	D.D.O.D. (H)		Hd. of M.
A.C.N.S. (H)	D.N.I. (4)		D.D.I.C.
A.C.N.S. (T) (2)	D. A/S W.		E.P.S.
N.A. 1st S.L.	I.P. (2)		N.I.D. 10 Paym. Cdr. Wilson.

War Diary.14.11.1941.
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean - Contd.TORBAY.
TALISMAN.

On completion of first part of special operation establish patrol within 10 miles of following position: TORBAY 335° Tolmeita light 88
TALISMAN 350° Tolmeita light 100.
(Capt. S.1., 1029B/14 to TORBAY, TALISMAN.)

Destroyers.

Your 2338A/10. Paras. (b) and (e). I should like to defer decision for the present.
(C. in C. Med., 1036B/14 to Admty.)

UPRIGHT,
URGE, P.34.

My 1006/14. At 1200B/15, UPRIGHT and URGE resume original patrols. P.34 return to Malta as in my 1333B/12.
(Capt. S.10., 1055B/14 to S/M's on Patrol.)

*See p.360.*Air
Operations.

1 of the 2 enemy aircraft returning from Gulf of Suez night 9/10 Nov. dropped 4 bombs near Suez railway 60 miles east of Cairo alongside 112 M. E no damage or casualties. Night 12/13 Nov. 1 enemy aircraft was over Delta coast between Damietta and Baltim for half an hour without dropping bombs.
Night 12/13 Nov. 22 Wellingtons operated 18 dropped 47,500 lbs. bombs on stores dumps and railway sidings Benghazi direct hit with 1 - 4000 lb. bomb on railway sidings extinguished 3 searchlights several fires started at both objectives. 1 Wellington dropped 2500 lbs. bombs on stores and M.T. at Derna.
(H.Q. R.A.F. M.E., 1124/14.)

URSULA,
UNBEATEN.
UNIQUE.

Leave patrol p.m./16 through 033° 00' 015° 00' 035° 20' 014° 00', 035° 30' 014° 10' to arrive Marsamxett during daylight/18.
UNBEATEN leaves 034° 10' 014° 30' about 1900B/16 to arrive 033° 00' 015° 50' about 1900B/17th.
Anticipate UNIQUE 034° 18' 015° 20' about 1900B/16 thence through 035° 20' 014° 14' and 035° 30' 014° 14' to arrive Malta 0730B/18 one engine only available.
S/Ms. encountered by UNIQUE and URSULA during night of 16th/17th and 17th/18th and by UNBEATEN during night of 16th/17th are not to be attacked.
(Capt. S.10., 1149B/14 to URSULA, (R) S/Ms. on Patrol.)

/Russian.....

War Diary.14.11.1941.
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean - Contd.Russian ships
passing out
of Black Sea.

Following for Admiral Kelly, Repeated C. in C. Med. begins;
Admty. 1238/10/10. Soviet C.N.S. requests that you will arrange for your representatives to get in touch with Cpt. Rodionov Soviet N.A. now in Istanbul immediately.

2. As Convoy is sailing under Merchant Flag all official arrangements are in hands of Counsellor of Soviet Embassy who will receive further instructions sub rosa from Cpt. Rodionov.

3. Whilst these arrangements are still being made by Captain Rodionov outside diplomatic channels Soviet authorities are most insistent that no word of these should reach the Turks. (Admiral Miles, 1207D/14 to Admty.)

S.S. TONELINE.
S.S. PASS OF
BALMAHA
M.E. Merchant
Seaman Pool.

S.S. TONELINE has been commissioned as an H.M. ship because no crew can be obtained locally willing to proceed to Tobruk.

S.S. PASS OF BALMAHA was similarly commissioned on two occasions. I hope that it is appreciated that it is a rare exception for a British Merchant Ship proceeding on this run to have an English crew.

The usual composition is a mixture of Greeks Palestinian and Egyptian with a few Central Europeans. GEBEL KEBIR has Spanish Officers and Turkish Officers. I trust that active steps are being taken to make the Middle East Merchant Seaman Pool a reality. (C. in C. Med., 1210/14 to Admty.)

Destruction
of convoy
by Force K.

Your 1502B/10. Presume you received Admiralty message 2011A/9. (V.C.N.S., 1307A/14 to C. in C. Med.)

Appreciation
of situation.

Following from Chiefs of Staff to C. in C. Med., C. in C. M.E., A.O.C. in C. M.E., C. in C. India, Governor Malta, C. in C. Far East, C. in C. China, S.O. Force G., C. in C. E.I., S.N.O. P.G., General Iraq, C. in C. E. Africa, No. 30 Military Mission (Russia).

The following J.I.C. appreciation with which we are in agreement may be of value to Commanders in Chief.

Begins. Immediate Future.

/2. Germany.....

War Diary.

14.11.1941.
Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

Appreciation
of situation.
Contd.

2. Germany will make further supreme effort to capture Moscow (and possibly Leningrad), to cut northern supply route, and should there be no immediate prospect of destroying the Russian armies to stabilise on these fronts and withdraw proportion of her forces.
3. This would secure winter accommodation for her troops and would enable her to present to her own people and to the world the semblance of Russian defeat, and would form background for general diplomatic peace offensive about which evidence is accumulating.
4. On southern front she must continue to push on into Caucasia to try to get control of at least the limited oil resources of north Caucasia as soon as possible and to prepare for further advance. It is unlikely that Caucasus Mts. will be reached before Christmas even if weather conditions are favourable. Main attack is likely to be across Don rather than from Crimea.
5. Germany must expect early British offensive in Libya and will therefore continue to build up her defensive strength there and to reinforce her air forces in S.E. Europe.
6. The Winter. German troops must be in urgent need of rest and refit if they are to be in condition to operate in full strength next spring. Administrative and transport problems to be solved in area which Germany is now holding down by force are vast and call for period of consolidation, especially in Russia.
7. Germany must however continue her campaign in northern Caucasia in order to prepare for capture of Caucasian oilfields, to embarrass Persian supply route to Russia, and to prepare for further operations in M.E. next spring or earlier if possible.
8. Battle of Atlantic will go on, Germans will resume as early and on as large scale as possible bombing of British shipping, ports and industries and preparations will continue for invasion of British Isles.
9. Spring, 1942. At opening of new campaigning season Germany will press on into Trans-Caucasia and will probably resume offensive operations on northern and central fronts unless she has broken Russian army.
10. Germany cannot ignore British position in Persia and will therefore try to drive south from Trans-Caucasia to safeguard her position there and to threaten British oil resources in Persia and Iraq.

War Diary.14.11.1941.
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean.Appreciation
or situation.
(Contd.)

11. Without free use of Black Sea and Eastern Medtn. Germany will not get full value from occupation of Caucasus or of industrial areas of southern Russia. Germany may therefore feel compelled to assail our whole position in M.E. and may in consequence find herself in conflict with Turkey unless her advance into Trans-Caucasia and beyond has destroyed Turkey's will to resist.
12. With campaigns on her hands in Russia, Persia and throughout M.E., and with increased necessity of holding down occupied territories and guarding western coastline, Germany will do her best to avoid commitments in Spain and North Africa.
13. Germany will maintain threat of invasion of British Isles but is unlikely to make attempt unless she is convinced that our defence is dangerously weakened or unless she has evolved some new and powerful methods which make her prospects of success more favourable. Unless these factors seem satisfactory to German High Command an attempt at invasion next spring seems unlikely.
14. C. in C. Med. is requested to pass this message to C. in C. M.E., and A.O.C. in C. M.E.
15. The original J.I.C. paper is being sent by safe hand to Governor Gibraltar, G.O.C. in C. West Africa, S.O. Force H., F.O.C.N.A. and Joint Staff Mission Washington.
(C's. of S., 1311A/14 to C. in C. Med., C. in C. E.I., S.O. Force G., S.N.O.P.G.)

Jibuti.

Re Vichy resistance, food situation, threat to continue blockade if demolitions carried out, and recommendation for propaganda.
(C. in C. M.E., 1420/14, 1424/14, 1625/14 to W.O.) See Lion Copy.

PORPOISE.

After passing 034° N. 025° E. proceed through 032° 34' 028° 22' thence direct to searched channel arriving at Sanctuary 0500B/18.
(Capt. (S) 1, 1505B/14 to PORPOISE.)

Warships
for Turkey.

Following from Adm. Kelly. My 1608B/7. Gen. Gunduz, and Adm. Ulgen both confirm that Council of Ministers approve this arrangement. Procedure as follows. This is formality only and need not delay movements of ships.
(N.A. Angora, 1523B/14 to Admty.)

/SULLBERG.....

364 B

MOST SECRET MESSAGE IN 1424/14 November.

MOST SECRET

From O. in C. Middle East. Date 14. 11. 41. Recd. 1600

CIPEER.

Addressed The War Office.

MOST IMMEDIATE

10340 26319 cipher 14/11. Most Secret.

Following cable O/1/12 of 12th November from Force Nairobi is repeated at request M. of S. Please pass copy to F.O. " Most Secret. Reference Jibuti Folio No. 74340 effort." Ref. Vichy announcement concerning eventual surrender Jibuti and threat to demolish port and railway. Recommend I am authorised to drop pamphlets on Jibuti by British aircraft warning inhabitants that demolitions will prevent the bringing of food and in supplies when surrender takes place and that evacuation civilians and troops will be impossible. Suggest stressing civilians and troops may have to be left in Jibuti indefinitely. Also recommend propaganda carried out in French to effect destruction of French vested interests quite needless and not calculated seriously to harm Britishwar effort.

1424/14.

Recd. from War Office P.M. 15/11 November. Copies circulated by War Office

- | | | |
|-----------------|--------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1st Lord. | S. of S. | Mr. Mack (Foreign Office) |
| 1st S.L. | C.I.G.S. | Mr. Caccia (Foreign Office) |
| V.C.N.S. | V.C.I.G.S.C.N.S. | (Admiralty) |
| A.C.N.S.(F). | D.M.O. & P.C.A.S. | (Air Ministry) |
| N.A. 1st S.L. | D.P. (2 copies) | D. of Plans. (Admiralty) |
| P.A.S. (S). | D.D.M.O. (O). | D. of Plans. (Air Ministry) |
| D.O.D. (F). | M.O.L. 5. 11. | Lt. Col. Jacob. |
| D.D.O.D. (F). | D.M.I. | Admiral Chalmers (Admiralty) |
| D. of P. (2). | D.D.M.I. (I). | Mr. Morris (MEW). |
| D.C. (2). | M.I. 3. L. | |
| E.P.S. | D.D.I.P. | |
| Hd. of M. (10) | Spears Mission (Mr. Smith) | |
| I.P. (2). | 20 Nil: Mission, | |
| N.I.D. 10. | Major Morton (10 Downing St.). | |
| W.D. | Mr. Coulson (Cabinet Offices) | |
| D.N.I. (4). | Mr. Lloyd (Colonial Office) | |
| D.D.I.C. | | |
| Adml. Chalmers. | | |

MOST SECRET

MOST SECRET MESSAGE 1625/14th November IN

From C. in C. Middle East, Date 14.11.41
Time 1815

CIPHER.

To The War Office.

MOST IMMEDIATE

10367. 26382 Cipher 14/11 Most Secret.

Following from Minister of State for Foreign Office.

Telegrams 0/1/12 0/3/12 and 0/4/13 from C. in C. Nairobi contain further news from Jibuti.

2. I have authorised dropping of pamphlets as suggested in 0/1/12 and recommend that appropriate action should be taken in regard to propoganda in France.

3. New information as to food situation in colony if correct is entirely different from that given by East African Command through Colonel Hutton last week. Governor of Aden, whom I saw on November 12th also thought that blockade could not be effective for some time.

4. At best the reliability of this information from refugees is doubtful. The last approach from the Governor, however, (see Nairobi telegram 0/3/12) gives colour to the view that he is at last feeling the pinch very seriously.

5. We are all agreed here that from the local Middle East point of view we should negotiate in order to clear up serious commitment in ships and transport which are involved and to obtain early access to port and railway facilities. If, in fact the Governor is (? omission) the terms we want. This course, however, would certainly let us into a difficult position with the Free French and may have repercussions in Syria. A possible way out of the difficulty might be to include in our terms some clause providing for referendum at end of a fixed period of decide whether colony wishes to remain under Vichy or to rally to Free French. Alternative might be to make it clear in a letter to Governor that we are not prepared to give him any guarantee that our troops will be used to maintain indefinitely the political status quo in the colony if it's inhabitants desire to rally to De Gaulle.

- 6. If we continue blockade Governor will probably carry out demolitions which would have at least serious nuisance value.
- 7. Complete capitulation followed by turning over of colony to Free French will give Vichy propoganda a good stick with which to beat us.
- 8. The decision is no doubt a particularly difficult one as it has to be made on information that fluctuates in a mercurial way. On balance, from Middle East angle only, we recommend that Governor should be informed that his offer to negotiate is noted, that his terms as put forward are entirely unacceptable, but that he is willing to meet us in discussions we should be prepared to inform him of conditions on which we should be ready to call off the blockade.

1625/14.
 Received from War Office 2215/15.

1st Lord.
 1st S.L.
 V.C.N.S.
 A.C.N.S. (F)
 N.A. 1st S.L.
 P.A.S. (S)
 D.C.D. (F)
 D.D.O.D. (F)
 D. of P (2)
 Duty Capt (2)
 E.P.S.
 Hd of M. (10)
 I.P. (2)
 H.I.D.10 Paym. Cdr. Wilson.
 W.D.
 D.N.I. (4)
 D.D.I.C.
 Adml. Chalmers.

War Office Circulation
 S. of S.
 C.I.G.S.
 V.C.I.G.S.
 D.M.O & P
 D.P. (2 copies)
 D.D.M.O. (O)
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 Spears Mission (Mr.S. Smith)
 No.20 Military Mission.
 Major Morton (10 Downing St)
 Mr. Coulson (Cabinet Offices)
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 Mr. Mack (Foreign Office)
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 Mr. Caccia (Foreign Office)
 C.N.S. (Admiralty)
 C.A.S. (Air Ministry)
 D. of Plans (Admiralty)
 D. of Plans (Air Ministry)
 Lt. Col. Jacob.
 Admiralty Chalmers (Admiralty)
 Mr. Morris (MEW)

maf.

War Diary.

14.11.1941.
Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean

Operation
"Chieftain".
(Diversion
convoy.)
~~Submarine~~
At "Port of Spain".)

My 2325B/13. As sailing of convoy can now only be a very brief pretence it is impossible to hope that bluff can be maintained for long enough to hold enemy's attention on D 4 if present programme is adhered to. Request unless you have any better idea that convoy be sailed eastward P.M. D.2 ensuring that departure is seen. Convoy can disperse after dark and return as unobtrusively as possible to Gibraltar.

(C. in C. Med., 1454B/14 to F.O. Force H.)

A. Your 0856A/14. Alternative A approved.

B. NELSON is to proceed to U.K. at best speed screened throughout by three destroyers of Force H who are then to return to Gibraltar.

C. *ARGUS is to join Force H temporarily.

Presume some of ARK ROYAL's T.S.Rs. and Fulmars are available and you may if you require them use the sea Hurricanes of 804 A Squadron. It is understood that spare torpedoes are available at Gibraltar.

D. ATHENE is to remain at Gibraltar pending decision as to disposal of remaining Hurricanes. (1st S.L., 1655A/14 to S.O. Force H.)

NELSON.

ARGUS.

ATHENE.

* See p. 356 7357

War Diary.14.11.1941.
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean - Contd.SULLBERG
(German)Departure 13th, Genoa.
(Barcelona, 1614/14 to M. of W.T.)Intelligence
for THORN.

PROTEUS reports trawler and air patrol within 5 miles of Gaidaro Island. Traffic from Piraeus to Crete leaves after dark routed outside 100 fm. line east of St. Georgio Island, thence direct. Searchlights sweep Doro Channel. (Capt. (S) 1, 1715B/14 to THORN.)

Destroyer
for Greeks.

My 1737/6 (Admty. 1737/6 intended). Adml. Sakellariou gratefully accepts offer of HUNT Class Destroyer and is proceeding with arrangements for sending (? necessary) personnel to U.K., for destroyers and submarines. As regards latter he presses strongly that he may be given submarines since he states Greeks are tired of always having to man old craft in constant need of repair. I am informing Admiralty that I feel sure Admiralty will make best arrangements possible but that he must appreciate heavy call on new constructions making situation difficult. (C. in C. Med., 1802B/14 to Admty.)

Russian
Ships from
Black Sea.

Admty. 1111A/21/10 to Adm. Miles.
(1) Russian N.A. has received information from his government that approx. two ice breakers and eight tankers, speed approx. 10 knots, will be sailed within next 2 weeks from Black Sea through Straits to south. These in addition to SVANETIA.
(2) Also that his Government has agreed in principle with Adm. Miles that some form of protection will be provided by British Fleet and a convoy formed.
(3) Considered and Russian N.A. agrees that suitable British Officers should be sent to Istanbul to join and assist in taking ships down. If approved request 10 may be sent as soon as possible. They must travel as civilians.
(4) Request six further sets of charts be forwarded by quickest possible route also 11 Mediterranean pilots, vol. 4.
(5) Request instructions as Russian N.A. wishes to telegraph information to his Government.
(6) Admty. repeat to Adm. Miles.
(A.N.A. Istanbul, 1944B/14 to C. in C. Med.)

War Diary.14.11.1941.
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies.Ceylon
defence.

Your 99620/M.O.12) 3/11. M.O.1. Date arranged mutually for assumption operational and administrated responsibility for Defence of Ceylon, 22/11.
(C. in C. India, 0235/14, to W.O.)

Dhow sunk
by CHANTALA.

CHANTALA while on Djibouti patrol in July collided with Dhow FATEH EL BARI during routine examination at Sea. Dhow became waterlogged and turned turtle. Subsequently salvaged but with loss of part of cargo and gear. Admiralty liability obvious, but latter not yet acknowledged nor repairs to Dhow put in hand. To maintain confidence of local Dhow owners and encourage legitimate trading propose to admit liability and settle claim (details).
(C. in C.E.I., 1706/14, to Admty.)

China.French
Shipping.

Departure 13/11 GOUVERNEUR GENERAL PASQUIER, Saigon 15th.
(Singapore, 0435Z/14 to M. of W.T.)

Suspicious
Cruiser.

S.O.(I) Wellington 0354/12 and report of (?MOUNTAIN or) (2 corrupt groups) message begins on 4th, 9th and 19th October off Golspie and subsequently to W. and S.W. Do you consider r/c. of possible anchorages is desirable?
(C. in C. China, 0801Z/14 to N.Z.N.B.)
S.O.(I) Wellington's 0354/12 to C.O.I.S. Singapore. (Unidentified cruiser reported by Coast Watching Station Niriatabatabu.) Confirmed warship was not British, Dutch, Free French, or U.S.
(C.O.I.S., Singapore, 0806Z/14, to Admty., amended 0227Z/15.)

War Diary.14.11.1941.
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America & West Indies.MIMOSA.
ACONITA.
ALYSSE.

Your A.M. 1314A/13.

(1) Movements three new French Corvettes as follows:-

MIMOSA, ACONITA with S.C.54 normally arrive Iceland about 24/11 returning St. John's with O.N.39 or O.N.40 arriving St. John's 6th to 9/12. AYSSE in unit which will escort S.C.56 arriving Iceland about 6/12, returning St. John's with O.N.43 or O.N.44. Ship would leave Iceland about 9/12.

(2) Suggest MIMOSA be retained in Iceland until arrival COMMANDANT DETROYAT, then embark Admiral Muselier and sail to overtake O.N.40, or

(3) Alternatively Admiral could wait arrival AYSSE Iceland and embark in her for St. John's.

(4) Para. (2) is recommended since two French vessels in this Unit.

(C.C.N.F., 0113Z/14, to C. in C.W.A.)

P551.
P511.

Following received from B.N.L.O. Portsmouth N.H. Addressed C.O.A.C. Halifax, B.A.D. Washington. Begins:- Intend sailing P.551 1300/14, S. of A., 12 knots, and P.511 at 1600/14, S. of A., 11 knots routed as in your 1626Z/11. T.O.O. 1901R/13. Ends. (B.A.D. Washington 0701R/14.) Following from B.N.L.O. Portsmouth N.H. My 1901/13 P 551 and P 511 E.T.A., St. Johns N.F., at 0001Z/18 and 0800Z/18 respectively. Both these times and the T.O.O., of this signal have been communicated to P.551 and P511. 1245R/14 ends.

(B.A.D. Washington, 1931R/14.) *See also next page.*

ELK
VISON.

ELK and VISON (?are being) (?retained) (?for service) at Trinidad during winter months. They will leave Halifax early in December and will be required to return 1st May 1942. (C. in C.A.W.I., 1012Q/14 to N.O.I/C Trinidad.)

LOCHMONAR,
fire defects.

My 1641/10. Fire apparently originated in upper part No.3 lower hold just forward of hatchway - fear sabotage. No serious structural damage visible and investigation as to possible cause proceeding. Expect vessel ready to proceed about 17th.

(N.C.S.O. Panama, ?173/14 to S.O. Jamaica.)

/P.551.....

War Diary.14.11.1941.
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America & West Indies. Contd.P.551.
P.511.

My 1901/13. P 551 and P 511 expected to arrive St. Johns N.F., at 0001Z/18 and 0800Z/18 respectively.

(B.N.L.O. Portsmouth N.H., 1215R/14, to C.O.A.C., B.A.D.) *See previous page.*

Admiral
Muselier's
visit to
Newfoundland.

Your 1314A/13. Request information whether intended to keep this visit secret or if desired to give publicity for political reasons. (C.C.N.F. 1356Z/14 to Adty.)

ILLUSTRIOUS
FORMIDABLE.

Very desirable that ILLUSTRIOUS and FORMIDABLE should leave the U.S.A., as soon as they are ready. Although it was previously understood that the first 48 folding wing Martlet aircraft for these ships would not be available until 15/12, it appears that 45 should be available by the end of November. Request this may be confirmed as it is not desired to delay the sailing of the ships beyond 2/12.

(V.C.N.S. 1502A/14 to B.A.D. Washington.)

Your 1502/14 and 1802/6. Earliest date ships can sail without embarking T.S.R. aircraft and without working up, ILLUSTRIOUS 30/11, FORMIDABLE 10/12.

2. ILLUSTRIOUS could complete working up by 4/12 and embarkation of T.S.R. aircraft from Jamaica in accordance with A.M.1802/6, para. 1, by 11/12.

3. FORMIDABLE could include some working up in her programme without delay beyond 10/12.

4. The exact position as regards Martlet aircraft is being ascertained and will be signalled tomorrow.

(B.A.D. Washington 1759R/14 to Adty.)

Admiralty's 0032A/4/10 to B.A.R.M. only and Admiralty's 1802A/7 not to all addressees.

Arrangements have been made for ILLUSTRIOUS and FORMIDABLE to be taken in hand by Cammell Lairds, Birkenhead and Harland & Wolff, Belfast respectively about middle December for completion of type 281 R.D.F. Time in hand about four weeks.

2. Request confirmation that work detailed in paragraph 3 of A.M.0032A/4/10, will remain to be carried out in U.K.

(Controller 1957A/14 to B.A.R.M.)

/O.N. Convoy...

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14.11.1941.
Friday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies. Contd.

O.N. Convoy escorts.

S.O.P.A. Iceland has been directed by "Cinclant" to give Canadian Units preference in assignment to O.N. convoys to promote reduction in length of their escort cycles to approximate length of U.S. escort cycles. It had been anticipated that 4.1.12 would be assigned to O.N.36. Any future action Adty., can take to facilitate the assignment of Canadian Units to fast Westbound convoys will be appreciated.
(C.C.N.F. 1513Z/14, to Adty. Amended 0202Z/16.)

Atlantic Convoys.

After the closing of Sydney (C.B.) In order to avoid HX. and SC. Convoys sailing from Halifax on the same day and to enable the necessary adjustments to be made to sailing dates of O.N. and O.N(S) Convoys. Request you will remark on (1) The most suitable interval between sailings for your purposes. (2) Probable date of last assembly at Sydney (CB) for this season.
(D.T.D. 1718A/14 to C.O.A.C. Halifax.)
(Reply: C.O.A.C., 1525Z/16.)

Wrong arrival of ships.

Ref. A.M.1437/29/9, (See Home Commands, Shipping) and your 2012Z/30/9, further investigation shows that reference to Canadian ports was made in error.
(D.T.D. 1755A/14 to N.S.H.Q. Ottawa.)

Vichy Intelligence. SENNEVILLE.

Extract from 1911R/14:- Naval (iv) Tunis 11/11. (C.O.) U.S. Vice Consul informed due to recent attacks on SENNEVILLE and air attacks on French M/Vs en route from Tunis to Sfax, measures for safety of French trade on Tunisian Coast are being taken by French Air Force. M.E.W.(x)Vichy 12/11 (A.2) Darlan told Matthews that he hoped to be able to arrange for a shipment of gasoline and petroleum to North Africa from Roumania in near future.
(B.A.D., 1911R/14, to Admty.)

Australia.

Shipping movements not reported by Vesca system.

Your 1632A/12. (1) Local shipping proceeding coastwise on station. (2) Yes.
(A.C.N.B. 0813Z/14 to Adty.)

SECRET

MESSAGE 1501Z/14th November. IN

Date 18.11.41.

370^A

Recd 0020

From N.S.H.Q. Ottawa.

NAVAL CYPHER (X) BY V/T

Addressed Admiralty., Repeated C.C.N.F., B.A.D.

136 From St John's Mission B.A.D. 1405/10

1. We now own 755 feet of frontage on South side of Harbour and have rights over an additional 2625 feet making 3380

feet in all.

2. It is intended to start work (A) at extreme East end on our property at Magazine site and Marine Agencies Wharf.

In order to have a berth for Greenwich whilst work is

proceeding on Marine Agencies Wharf it is necessary to

do Newfoundland fuel Wharf as well as our own property. (B)

On oil tank site with extension along adjoining Wharves to

make say 330 feet. This will probably be used for lightering

Rock for crib fill. (Crib) on Cashin's Wharf where Crib

work is necessary owing to shallow rock soundings and dredger

now at St John's must work under existing Jetty. When (C)

has been extended westward to Cyres Wharf along portion of

frontage where there is no existing Wharf and therefore no

business disturbance we shall have approximately 2085 feet of

new Wharf. First piles will be driven in next few days.

3. Canadian Naval Authorities are anxious that decision

should now be taken to complete the Wharf along whole fron-

tage and St John's Mission are of the opinion that this should

be done. The Mission understand that so far as is known in

Washington there is no prospect of any reduction in the

amount of escorting to be done by Newfoundland Force which at

present consists of approximately 13 destroyers and 58

corvettes Canadian Naval Authorities intend to increase

this force to at least 60 corvettes and to add local defence

force.

4. The average number of H.M. Ships in harbour at St

/John's.....

2.

John's in last three months has been nineteen. Broadly speaking this number has been composed of 2 escort units of Newfoundland escort Force namely 4 destroyers and 12 corvettes or 2 destroyers and 14 corvettes plus one ship of escort force repairing Greenwich and accommodation ship.

When barracks and Dockyard are complete these last two will disappear but it is a reasonable assumption that there will be 4 or more additional ships of Newfoundland escort Force under repairs furthermore when local defence Force is available 3 ships of this force may have to be accommodated at any one time.

5. Thus when whole scheme is complete a force of approximately 5 destroyers and 19 corvettes may be taken as a broad indication of average force requiring accommodation alongside. Assuming 2 plus 4 alongside in Dockyard we estimate that approximately 2700 feet will be required if remainder are berthed alongside South Wharf in pairs allowing 50 feet between each pair and 180 feet for Tug.

6. This leaves approximately 700 feet for commercial use which is little enough to avoid expensive claims under agreements made especially when it is borne in mind that above calculation provides no spare (? Wharf) for use when for example inside vessel desires to proceed to sea. Commercial access must be given at various times along virtually whole frontage and no one place can be set apart for Commercial use.

6. When additional expense of bringing contractors and equipment back to Newfoundland to finish work is considered St John's Mission have little doubt that it will prove a true economy in the end to complete the whole scheme in one.

7. There is also the consideration that the only access from the road is at the extreme West end where causeway is to be built and via Imperial Oil or Marine Agencies Wharf

/(?Road...)

(?Road) runs high up on hillside elsewhere. Isolated portions cut off from road would be of much less use.

Furthermore it is planned to run services such as oil pipe and telephones along wharf.

8. An early decision is necessary to avoid risk of waste time and money due to shortage of material. Although piles are all available ironwork must be ordered immediately to ensure delivery.

15012/14

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|-------------------------------|------------------|--------|
| 1st Lord | Depty. Contrl(3) | } Bath |
| 1st S.L. | D.(4) | |
| 3rd S.L. | C.E. in C. | |
| Vice Controller | C.S.L. | |
| 4th S.L. | W.G.F. | |
| Civil Lord | D. of S. | |
| V.C.N.S. | S.W.R. | |
| A.C.N.S.(H) | | |
| A.C.N.S.(F) | | |
| A.C.N.S.(T)(2) | | |
| Sec.(2) | | |
| Nav. Sec. | | |
| N.A. 1st S.L. | | |
| P.A.S.(3) | | |
| D.H.I.(4) | | |
| O.D.(5) | | |
| (M.(14) M012767/41)for action | | |
| D. of P.(3) | | |
| I.P.(3) | | |
| W.D. | | |
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War Diary.14.11.1941.
Friday.U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.Ships Attacked.PERU.
(torpedoed
12/11.)

C. in C.S.A. 1645N/14 (See S.A.). S/M sighting signal made by PERU at 1833/12, about 400' S. of Freetown. Presumed she was torpedoed about that time. Independently routed from Calcutta to Freetown and U.K., sailed from Table Bay 31/10. (D.O.R. 15/11, D.S.802, 15/11.)

HAZELSIDE.
(torpedoed
28/10.)

British MALAYAN PRINCE has landed survivors picked up 9/11 of British HAZELSIDE, sunk by 3 torpedoes at 0210Z/28/10 in 23° 10' S., 01° 36' E. Chief Engineer and J Cutujar (as received) died in boats, remainder saved. Nothing seen of attacking vessel and Master considers deliberate attempt to sink without trace. (S.O.I., Capetown, 1437B/14, to Admty., etc.) HAZELSIDE bound from Freetown to Durban and Alexandria. Where overdue since 4/11. (D.S.803) (D.O.R. 16/11.)

Submarines Reported.

Estimated approx., positions of U/Bs.
(D.D.I.C. 1400A/14, 1415A/14.)

In Firth
of Lorne.

Enemy submarine reported in Firth of Lorne Asdic sweep being conducted by all available vessels and aircraft making R/C. Report considered doubtful.
(N.O.I.C. Oban 1457A/14.)
Re 1457/14 from N.O.I.C. Oban. Acting on telephonic information from N.O.I.C. Oban that report was reliable and periscope sighted by 3 seamen did despatch at 1450 ROSE and ROSTHERN to Firth of Lorne, and THYME to patrol Sound of Mull.
(WESTERN ISLES 1541A/14 to C. in C.W.A.)
My 1457A/14 negative report from Asdic sweep and aircraft. Reinforcing patrols tonight. Otherwise normal.
(N.O.I/C Oban, 1927A/14 to Admty.)

1215Z.

Task Unit 4.1.1. reports: definite sound contact S/M 65 - 53 N., 24 - 30 W.
1215Z/14.
(Opnav 1700Z/14 to Adty.)
Re my 1710Z/14. (?1700Z/14 intended.)
Change location of S/M to 62° 53' N., 24° 30' W. Ends.
(Opnav, 2021Z/14, to Admty.)

War Diary.

14.11.1941.
Friday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Submarines Attacked.

By A/C T.

Am over enemy S/M in position 46.12 N., 6.50 W.,
sighted on surface and observed to submerge
course 040° 8 knots.
(A/C T., 1000/14, to 19 Group.)
Have attacked 1 S/M with depth charges estimate
1 hit.
(A/C T. Sqn., 1003/14.) Hudson A/C, position
150m. S.W. of Ushant. (D.O.R. 15/11.)

By U.S.
destroyer
1130 N.

U.S. A/C reports U.S. Destroyer obtained contact
and dropped 6 d.c.'s in 63.00 N., 24.21 W., at
1130N/14. U.S. A/C remained over position.
(A.C.I.C. 2147N/14.)
W.D. Note. D.S.802, 15/11, gives position
62.53N., 24.30W., 100' S.W. Reykjavik.

War Diary.

15.11.1941.
Saturday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

M.G.B.
engagement.

4 M.G.Bs. from Dover sent to intercept several small surface craft plotted off the French coast, made contact at 2045 off Blanc Naz. The enemy are reported to have consisted of 6 or 7 E/R boats and one or more vessels, possibly of trawler or coaster type. A short sharp engagement took place, the enemy shore defences also coming into action. M.G.B. 312 was considerably damaged and had some casualties and returned to harbour; M.G.B. 314 was slightly damaged. Our aircraft also attacked the enemy vessels, and apparently one A/C was shot down.

The S/M TUNA, patrolling Vestfiord, was ordered today to R/C inside the Fiord for about 60 miles in a North-easterly direction taking observation of both shores in addition to those previously ordered.

The Corvettes SUNFLOWER, KINGCUP, and ALISMA have been ordered to meet convoy H.X.159 and to sweep within 20 miles of the convoy until the M.O.M.P. is reached.

British Air Activity.

The Air patrol "Frice" from Iceland, which had been required by Admty. to be flown this afternoon in order to locate any enemy Raider or Supply ship attempting to break out, could not be carried out on account of the weather. The patrol "Polar" is to be flown daily from tomorrow.

Bomber Command carried out no operations from 10/11 to 15/11 owing to bad weather.

War Diary.

15.11.1941.
Saturday.

SITUATION REPORT

Enemy Air Activity.

Convoy Q.P.2 which, escorted by NORFOLK and 2 Destroyers, left Archangel homeward bound at 2014/2, reported at 0956Z today that it was being shadowed by one A/C off Stadtland.

One enemy A/C circled Skaale Fiord in the Faroes from 0928A till 1005A today, and dropped 5 bombs without result.

Convoy E.N.6 was attacked at 1750A off Arbroath without result; and at 1915A the British CORHAMPTON in F.S.647 was badly damaged by a near miss off the Humber, and sank later.

At 1805 one A/C dropped 4 bombs in the Bay at Peterhead without result, and the A/C appeared to have been damaged by fire from the shore defences and ships.

Mining.

Thames
Estuary.

There was considerable enemy air activity over the Estuary between 1850 and 2010 today and mining was suspected. Mines were detonated later.

North Atlantic.

AUDACITY.

If 3 Martlets as I.E. replacement for No. 802 Sqdn. can be shipped to Gibraltar, AUDACITY reports she could operate from there until January in offensive operations against Focke-Wulfe aircraft.

War Diary.

15.11.1941.
Saturday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Mediterranean.

S/M
Operations.

Reports on a special landing operation by TORBAY and TALISMAN are contained in TORBAY's 0042B/15 and 2204B/15.

S.S. EMPIRE DEFENDER is reported to have been bombed by enemy aircraft at 1624 G.M.T. today about 30 miles S.W. of Galita Island.

Air
Operations.

Brindisi and railway marshalling yards at Catania were bombed by Wellingtons last night.

Libya &
Western
Desert.

34 Wellingtons operated last night but heavy haze over the whole of Cyrenaica prevented observation of damage. Benghazi, Berka, Bardia and Derna were attacked.

Bosphorus.

The entire Bosphorus boom has dragged in a gale and the gate is open.

East Indies.

Troop
Convoy.

U.S.13 (QUEEN MARY, QUEEN ELIZABETH) with troops for the Middle East, left Trincomalee at 0730Z today, escorted by CORNWALL.

U-Boat Campaign.

ACANTHUS obtained A/S contact at 1240 in 50.20 N., 17.22 W.; and attacked with unknown result. She proceeded with MYOSOTIS to join S.L.91.

It is reported that a Russian minesweeper was sunk by a U-Boat at 2025 today off Cape Orlov in 67° 30' N. 41° 11' E.

War Diary.15.11.1941.
Saturday.HOME COMMANDS.Policy.AURANIA.

A.M. 1232A/30/10. Conversion of AURANIA to Auxiliary Destroyer Depot Ship will be undertaken at Devonport on completion of temporary damage repairs on the Clyde. (D.O.D. H. 1933A/15.)

Co-operation with Russia.Charts of Norwegian Coasts.

Your tel 1905C/13. Two folios of unaddressed charts arrived Moscow and I hope are on their way here. (Ad. Miles, 0958D/15 to S.B.N.O. North Russia.)

Arrival Signal Times

Unless otherwise stated in arrival signals the time of arrival of ships proceeding to Murmansk or Kola Inlet will be taken as time of arrival at a position one mile 090° Toros Island one mile at entrance Kola Inlet.
(ii) Request Admiralty General Message be issued.
(iii) Admiralty pass to R.A. 10 C.S.
(S.B.N.O. North Russia 1219C/15.)

1st M/S Flotilla.

Ice now dangerous in Dvina and at Molotovsk for sweepers. Propose sweepers be based at Murmansk.
(S.O. 1st M/S F. 2130C/15 to S.B.N.O. North Russia.)

Movements.1st M/S Flotilla.

S.O. 1st M.F. 2211C/14. Pilot will board you off Bolshoi Oloni Island at 0900C/16 to conduct you to new oiling jetty Rosta. Keep to Eastward 033° 31.5' E. between 069° 17' and 069° 15' to avoid obstructions. Lights as follows.
(S.B.N.O. North Russia 1046C/15 to GOSSAMER.)
Ice conditions at Molotovsk severe from outside approach channel. Got stuck at entrance to Approach Channel. Towed clear by Russian collier who states he would not attempt entry himself. Am proceeding to anchor off Bar. Have sufficient fuel for ten days steaming. Pilots Kominsky and Frankell embarked in Russian collier.
(S.O. 1st M/S F. 1643C/15 to S.B.N.O. Archangel)

see also next page

C. in C. H.F. 2206Z/13. Intend sailing HAZARD and HEBE at 0300A/16 for Scapa. E.T.A. 0900A/17.
(F.O.I.C. Greenock 1504A/15.)

War Diary.15.11.1941.
Saturday.HOME COMMANDS.Movements - contd.→ TRIDENT.

TRIDENT sails to R/V with surface escort in 090° Bressay 5 miles at 0845A/23 for onward escort to Blyth routed as follows.
(S.B.N.O. North Russia 1502C/15.)

HAVELOCK
HARVESTER.

Sailed HAVELOCK and HARVESTER in accordance with C. in C. W.A. 1915A/11 para 2. *N.T. & W.D.*
(F.O.I.C. Liverpool 1730/15.)

NORMAN.

Your 1027/14. NORMAN can be taken in hand for work referred to on arrival at Greenock on completion of working up.
3. NORMAN will be required to leave U.K. on 3/12 with convoy W.S.14.
4. Request you will sail NORMAN for Clyde accordingly in sufficient time to enable work to be completed by this date.
(D.O.D. H. 1812A/15 to R.A.D.)

GOSSAMER.

Report E.T.A. 069° 33' N. 034° 23' E. Soviet Union SHTORM Class Destroyers will R/V you.
(S.B.N.O. Murmansk 1946C/15 to GOSSAMER.)
See previous page

P.38.

(A) Leave Patrol after dark 16th through 050° 50' N. 016° 48' W. diving by day routed to R/V in 050° 31' N. 000° 41' W. at 0800A/21.
(B) S.B.R. arranged as follows.
(Capt. S.5. 2030A/15 to P.38)
(Capt. S.5. 2034A/15 to C. in C. Plymouth.)
See also next page

MAORI.

C. in C. W.A. 1328/10. Detach MAORI at best speed to Gibraltar as soon as you join Convoy.
(A.C.N.S. (H.) 2314A/14 to ROYAL SOVEREIGN.)

→ S/M 172.

MOLODKI S/M 172 returning from Vardo area estimated position 071° 05' N. 033° 10' E. at 0400C returning to base through 070° N. 033° 10' E. (S.B.N.O. Murmansk 2349C/15 to TRIDENT.)

Operations.Vestfiord
Patrol
(TUNA).

H L P 16 of 12 November. Cancel para one (b) and reference to position D. in para one (a). From a position South Eastward of position A. reconnoitre inside Fiord for a distance of about 60 miles in a North easterly direction taking observations of both shores in addition to observations previously ordered for area B. On completion leave patrol in accordance with para.4 and in any case to arrive Scapa not later than 30/11.
(F.O.S. 1221A/15 to TUNA.)

/Patrol ...

War Diary.15.11.1941.
Saturday.HOME COMMANDS.Operations - contd.Patrol.Brightlingsea auxiliary patrols remaining in harbour until weather moderates.
(F.O.I.C. Harwich 1235A/15.)Trial
KINGFISHER
SPANIEL
OTWAY.At 0800A/18 intend to sail KINGFISHER, SPANIEL, and OTWAY from Campbeltown to arrive 057° 20' N. 011° 30' W. at 1000A/19 there to carry out special trial for one or 2 days returning to Campbeltown on completion. N.O.I.C. Greenock is requested to arrange fighter protection for outward voyage.
(Capt. S.7. 1449A/15.)Patrol
by P.38.Report if you received and decoded my 1434A/14.
(C. in C. W.A. 1821A/15 to MYOSOTIS.)
Your 1821A/15. Reply yes.
(MYOSOTIS 1900Z/15.)

P.38 is patrolling submerged by day within 5 miles of 050° 50' N. 016° 48' W.

(C. in C. W.A. 1918A/15 to WHITEHALL.) *See previous page*British Air Activity.Patrols."Polar" in operation from 0830.
(A.C.I.C. 1004/15.)

"Frice" is required p.m. today. Object location of enemy supply ship or merchant raider attempting to break out.

(A.C.N.S. H. 1016A/15 to A.O. C. in C. C.C.)

P.R.U. of Trondheim, Bergen and Stavanger in operation. (C. in C. Rosyth 1245/15.)

Following is a repetition of R.A.F. Iceland's 1140/15 begins. Unable to carry out patrol

"Frice" from Iceland owing to weather. Will endeavour carry out tomorrow should situation still require. Admiralty 1016A/15 refers.

T.O.O.1140/15.

(A.C.I.C. 1311N/15 to Adty.)

"Stand" in operation.

(C. in C. Rosyth 1604/15.)

My 1004N/15. Returned. Nothing to report.

(A.C.I.C. 1931N/15.)

My 1524Z/13. Request "Polar" may be flown daily commencing 15/11.

(C. in C. H.F. 2246Z/14 to A.C.I.C.)

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War Diary.15.11.1941.
Saturday.HOME COMMANDS.Enemy Air Activity.Convoy
Q.P.2.

1 aircraft shadowing Convoy Q.P.2. My position 62° 34' N. 5° W., course 160°, speed 8 knots. (ICARUS 0955Z/15.)

Faroes
attacked.

One enemy aircraft attacked shipping in Skaale Fiord today. Five bombs dropped, no damage or casualties. A/C circled Skaale Fiord from 0928A to 1005A, during whole of which period it was clearly visible from both Skaale Fiord and Thorshavn. (N.O.I.C. Faroës 1050A/15.)

EMPIRE
DEFENDER.

Following received at 1624 G.M.T. from FELCE. AAAA 37° 5' N. 8° 35' W. *EMPIRE DEFENDER bombed. (Burnham Radio 1725/15.) * (?E)

Convoy.

Enemy A/C bombing convoy "Paddle" my position 56° 38' N. 2° 6' W. (JASON 1750Z/15.)

Convoy F.S.647.
CORHAMPTON
(British,
2495 Tons)
sunk.

Am standing by CORHAMPTON badly damaged by near miss in 142° 62 D Buoy 2 miles. Send tug. (LOWESTOFT 1915A/15.) My 1915. CORHAMPTON severely damaged and abandoned. No serious casualties. Am standing by to await tug. (LOWESTOFT 1954A/15.) Your 1915. Tug being sent from Humber. (C. in C. Nore 2037A/15 to LOWESTOFT.) Your 1954/15. SCOTSMAN sailed. E.T.A. CORHAMPTON 0130/16. (N.O.I.C. Humber 2102A/15 to LOWESTOFT.) Tug cannot arrive before 0130. Circumstances permitting endeavour to tow CORHAMPTON towards Humber by Swept Channel. (C. in C. Nore 2131A/15 to LOWESTOFT.) CORHAMPTON re-boarded and anchored in 53° 50' 30" N. 000° 28' 30" E. Am standing by her. Request fighter protection at dawn N.O.I.C. Humber informed SCOTSMAN. (LOWESTOFT 2158A/15.)

Peterhead
attacked.

At 1805/15 single A/C dropped four bombs Peterhead Bay. No damage or casualties. Shore defences and ships opened fire. Hits appear to have been registered. (F.O.I.C. Aberdeen 1945/15.)

War Diary.

15.11.1941.
Saturday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Mining.

Bristol Channel.

Exploded Red Mine 1236A/15 in 139° 1.7 miles from Flatholm Light.
(Capt. M/S Bristol Channel 1715A/15.)

Tyne.

Detonated 1 red ground magnetic mine at 1118/15 position 077° from North Tyne Pier Light 1 cable.
(N.O.I.C. North Shields 1725/15.)

14th and 15th. M/S Flotillas. Admiralty's 1930A/28/10. Request that the three groups of Oropesa trawlers be sailed to Humber as they become available.
(C. in C. Nore 1820A/15.)

Enemy Intelligence.

Norwegian Coastal Shipping.

The following five vessels are due to complete loading after which they proceed southward.
Names. Graded A.2.
(N.A. Stockholm 1107/15.)

Swedish M/Vs.

Swedish SVEAJARL, PERU, and MARGARET JOHNSON expected to leave Gothenburg for South America at 0600/16. 2. Speed 12 knots routed as A.M. 1143/7/10.
(D.O.D. H. 1658A/15.)

Unknown ship.

Possible unidentified plot was Berry Head 12 at 2222, course 028°, 10 knots. Motor launch on patrol investigating.
(C. in C. Plymouth 2234/15.)

Navigational.

58 A. Buoy.

960 Q.Z.H. Yarmouth area. Number 58A Buoy light reported extinguished.
(Hydrog 0025A/15.)

Ice at Archangel.

Archangel 6 to 12 inches thick encountered from Modyugski Island. Movements of Minesweepers up to Ekonomia possible with ice-breakers but very slow. Minimum temperature last two days increased to 25° F.
(S.B.N.O. Archangel 1016C/15.)

/Kola Inlet ...

War Diary.

15.11.1941.
Saturday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Navigational - contd.

Kola Inlet
A/S
Defences.

Request confirmation that all H.M. Ships have been warned in the sense of my 2211C/7/10. (S.B.N.O. North Russia 1221C/15.)

58 A.Buoy.

Reported damaged and light extinguished. (F.O. Humber 1422A/15.)

Wreck.

Steamship HARROGATE reports sighting what appeared to be mast of a wreck in approaches to Dundee in about 56° 25' N. 02° 35' 30" W. (N.O.I.C. Dundee 1718/15.)

North Dvina
Light Vessel.

Removed for the winter. Request A.G.M. may be issued. Admiralty pass to 10th C.S. (S.B.N.O. Archangel 2225C/13.)
Dvina light vessel No.964 withdrawn for the winter. (Hydrog. 2240A/15.)

Technical.

Minor war
Vessels
Recognition
Signals.

Your 1624/14. Consider it most important that minor war vessels should have one letter only to handle. Also consider it important to divorce minor war vessels letters from private signals in order that the latter can be changed rapidly in the event of compromise.
Recommend adoption of second alternative but consider last sentence should be reworded "Minor war vessel identification letters to be used by all warships to shore batteries and minor defended ports and to be used by minor war vessels when entering major defended ports".
Consider the use of un co-ordinated identification signals by major and minor war vessels entering major defended ports should be accepted in view of simplification in minor war vessel recognition signals which will be achieved thereby.
(C. in C. Nore 2020A/15 to Adty.)

War Diary.15.11.1941.
Saturday.HOME COMMANDS.Casualties and Defects.HARMONY.

(Motor Fishing Vessel) Sank at 0750/15/11
Invergordon in position Dockyard Pier 110° 6
Cables after alleged collision with No.23 Buoy.
(N.O.I.C. Invergordon 1538/15.)

ALBURY.

My 1050/10 and 1012/15. ^{N.T. W.D.} Sailing postponed 24
hours owing fracture main suction pipe.
(F.O.I.C. Aberdeen 1550/15.)

VENOMOUS.

Request you will sail VENOMOUS in tow of
MASTADONTE for Greenock p.m. tomorrow. Fighter
co-operation will be arranged by F.O.I.C.
Greenock.
(F.O.I.C. Greenock 1914A/15 to N.O.I.C. Aultbea.)

KEPPEL.

F.O.I.C. Greenock's 1904A/13. Sailed KEPPEL
2035A/15 for Newport.
(F.O.I.C. Milford Haven 2035A/15.)

Shipping and Convoys.W.S.14.
BEAUFORT.

My 0719/14 para 3. Sailing date delayed two
days. (D.S.T. 0420A/15.)
If working up practices can be completed in time
it is intended that BEAUFORT will sail with
convoy W.S.14.
2. Request you will confirm in due course that
ship will be ready and sail her for Londonderry
to complete with fuel before joining the convoy
a.m./4th.
(D.O.D.(H.) 1811A/15 to R.A.D.)

P.Q.
Convoys.

Maclay and I agree on following suggested
programme for Convoys to Archangel, aiming
at maximum supply of cargo to Russia during
winter months.
(S.B.N.O. Archangel 0905C/13) (Maclay, Archangel
1015/13) See Lion Copy.
Your 1759R/12. Arrangements as follows. Details.
(A.C.N.S.(T.) 2156A/15) See Lion Copy.

P.Q.4.
Q.P.4.

(3 corrupt groups). Request approx. date of
arrival of P.Q.4 may be signalled as soon as
possible. (?S.B.N.O. North Russia 1055/15.)
C. in C. H.F. 2218Z/14. BERWICK can accommodate
35 officers and 500 men. ONSLOW, OFFA, 4
officers and (?30) men if essential. Admiralty
please pass to S.B.N.O. North Russia and Archangel
and Admiral Miles.
(BERWICK 1350Z/15 to S.B.N.O. North Russia.)

/My 1423/10 ...

0905C/13th. (See Mark Sheet)

MESSAGE

0608A/15th Nov.

MOST SECRET

MOST SECRET IN

S
382A.

From: S.B.N.C. ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ 41.

Recd. 2323.

I.D.C. O.T.T. BY W/T.

Addressed: S.B.N.O. N. Russia. Repeated C. in C. Home Fleet,
Admiralty, Admiral Miles.

64. Maclay and I agree on following suggested programme
for convoys to Archangel aiming at maximum supply of
cargo to Russia during winter months.

2. Following has been taken into account.

(a) Only unloading berths probably available after mid-
December will be six at Molotovsk including 1 for tankers
and 6 or 7 at Ekonomia.

(b) Ships (?load) as well as unload at these berths.

Ships cannot be sailed in ballast owing to necessity for
getting propeller below ice. Estimate ship will occupy
berth for 16 days.

(c) From early January onwards only 3 ships per large
ice breaker may get (?through) Gorlo at a ?time. Iokanka
with limited capacity would have to be used as emergency
anchorage.

(d) Ice breakers STALIN and LENIN are only 2 available
for (c) above they are capable of running continuously except
for short periods refuelling for which special arrangements made

(e) P Q 5 will be berthed at Molotovsk as Ekonomia will
not be ready until mid-December.

(3) Proposals (a) from P Q 6 onwards convoys to consist
of 6 ships (b) convoys to (?arrive) approximately 8 days
interval. (c) P Q 6 to berth Ekonomia convoys subsequent to

/berth

berth alternately Molotovsk and Ekonomia.

(4) Local escort four M/S considered sufficient for such convcys.

(5) Admiralty and Admiral Miles see MacLay Tel.No. 0022 time of origin 2344 Nov. 11th to Ministry of War Transport. *Admiralty pass to all addressees.

0648A/15.

* Action taken by War Registry.

Advance copy D.C., D.O.D.(H), D.T.D.

1st Lord.

1st S.L.

4th 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.O.D.(H)

D.D.O.D.(H)

D.N.I.(4)

D.M.S.

I.P.(2)

W.D.

Hd. of M.(6) (& for W.C.O.)

D. of S.T.

D.T.D.(2)

D.T.D.(M)

E.P.S.

D.D.I.C.(2)

D.C.(2)

A.E.(3)

D.T.D.(C)

MG

MOST SECRET

M E S S A G E

From War Registry.

Date 16.11.41.

Time of origin of message from
S.B.N.O. Archangel re programme for convoys
circulated as 0648/15 should read 0905C/13.

Necessary corrections have been
made to repetitions of this message to other
addressees.

1st Lord
1st S.L.
4th 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.O.D. (H)
D.D.O.D. (H)
D.N.I. (4)
D.M.S.
I.P. (2)
W.D.
Hd. of M. (2) & for W.C.O.
D. of S.T.
D.T.D. (2)
D.T.D. (C)
D.T.D. (M)
E.P.S.
D.D.I.C.
Duty Captain (2)
N.I.D. 10. Pay. Cdr. Wilson.
A.E. (3)

MOST SECRET

1015/15th November

MOST SECRET

M E S S A G E

IN

From Archangel.

Date 13.11.41.

Recd. 1120.

CIPHER

Addressed The War Office Repeated 30 Mission.

IMMEDIATE

09978 Ciphor 13/11.

Following for Ministry of War Transport repeated Ambassador from Maclay.

+

Continuation of my telegram 22. Paragraph 8 local Russians pressing me to advise you send at least 10 ships every 10 days until middle January arrivals which is stupid as consider minimum discharging and loading period is 16 days basis of 3,000 tons per ship inward. Para. 9 after full consultation with Senior British Naval Officer consider such a programme highly dangerous and recommend following plan as most likely to bring in maximum cargo. Para. 10 after arrival P.Q.6 at Economia December 18th next convoy P.Q.7 should arrive Molotvusk with maximum 6 ships including oil tanker about December 26th and following convoy P.Q.8 arrive Economia maximum 6 ships and no repeat no oil tanker about January 3rd, and so on at 8 days interval. Para. 11 consider convoys of 6 ships wise maximum after P.Q.5 as enables diversion to Murmansk or use of Jokango anchorage if ice too severe for simultaneous passage through Gorlo or congestion of previous convoy. Para.13. If above frequency of convoys not repeat not possible then you will require to send 10 ships twice monthly with consequential risks of convoys too large for ice breaker facilities. Para. 14. References para. 10. It is essential oil tanker arrive with Molotvusk convoys only.

1015/13

+ T.O.O. 2344C/11 Advance copy Duty Captain, D.O.D.(H) and D.T.D.
 Received from the War Office at 0947/15 November.

War Office Circulation

- | | |
|-------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1st Lord | D. Mov. |
| 1st S.L. | D.D.Mov.(S). |
| 4th S.L. | Q.(M) 3. 3b. 3x. 7. |
| V.C.N.S. | A.R.L. |
| A.C.N.S.(H). | Min. of W/T (Mr. Bellamy). |
| A.C.N.S.(T) (2). | Admiralty War Registry. |
| N.A. 1st S.L. | |
| D. of P.(2). | D. of S.T. |
| D.O.D.(H). | D.T.D.(2). |
| D.D.O.D.(H). | D.T.D.(M). |
| D.N.I.(4). | E.P.S. |
| D.M.S. | D.D.I.C. |
| I.P.(2). | Duty Captain |
| W.D. | A.E.(3). |
| Hd. of M (6)&for W.C.O. | |

MOST SECRET

M E S S A G E 2156A/15th November.
MOST SECRET. OUT.

To: B.A.D. Washington 440. Date 15.11.44
Repeated N.S.R.Q. Ottawa. 928.

NAVAL CYPHER (D).

From Admiralty.

Your 1759R/12. Archangel convoys short title outwards PQ homewards QP arrangements as follows.

2. Endeavour being made to run PQ convoys on a 10 day cycle from Hvalfjord. Escorts are provided from HomeFleet.

Winter conditions and operational requirements of Home Fleet have so far prevented the cycle being exactly adhered to.

Future dates of sailing are PQ.4 16th November PQ 5 25th November PQ 6 5th December.

3. Ships require a 14 day turn round at Archangel and QP convoy is sailed approximately 4 days after arrival of PQ convoy.

4. COCLE arrived Hvalfjord 14th October and thus could not be included in PQ.2 which sailed from Kirkwall on 17th.

Ship sailed in PQ.3 which was the first convoy of the 10 day cycle and was due to sail on 29th October. Weather conditions delayed the arrival of 2 ships from U.K. and subsequently operational requirements of Home Fleet prevented provision of escort until 9th November.

5. Destination of QP convoys is Kirkwall. Intention is to sail Panamanian flag ships for U.S.A. in ON convoy from Loch Ewe.

6. Should Maritime Commission desire arrangements could be made for these ships to break off in the vicinity of Jan Mayen island to proceed independently and unescorted to Hvalfjord

/and

and then onward in ON convoy. This was done in the case of NORTH KING which it is understood is not a Maritime Commission ship.

7. Ministry of War Transport is in communication with Salter concerning the two ships loaded for discharge in U.K. 2156A/15.

D.T.D. (172).

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

1st Lord.	D.A/S.W.
1st S.L.	I.P.(2)
V.C.N.S.	W.D.
A.C.N.S.(F)	D.C.
A.C.N.S.(H)	Hd. of M.
A.C.N.S.(T)(2)	D.D.I.C.
N.A. 1st S.L.	E.P.S.
D.Of. P.(2)	D.T.D.(2)
D.O.D.(F)	D.T.D.(M)
D.D.O.D.(F)	D. of S.T.
D.C.D.(H)	N.I.D. 10.
D.D.O.D.(H)	Admiral Bailey.
D.N.I.(4)	D.T.S.D.

War Diary.

15.11.1941.
Saturday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping and Convoys.

→ P.Q.4.
Q.P.4.
contd.

My 1423/10 para. (III) and (IV). Ocean Escort is to carry out the same procedure with convoy P.Q.4 and Q.P.4. Admiralty please pass to North Russia and Archangel and Admiral Miles.
(C. in C. H.F. 2218Z/14 to BERWICK, D.17, OFFA.)

Air
Personnel
for U.K.

→ Q.P.3.
→ P.Q.4.

Your 2218/14. S.B.N.O. Archangel reports arrangements to accommodate total of 7 Officers and 60 airmen of 151 Wing in Q.P.3, personnel being transferred from Murmansk to Archangel by 1st M.S.F.

2. This arrangement, plus numbers catered for in C.S.10's 1759/12, makes it unnecessary for escorts of P.Q.4 to proceed to Murmansk.

3. Admiral Miles 1153/12 reported Polish personnel will not be available for passage for about 5 weeks.

(A.C.N.S. H. 1417A/15.)

Admiral Miles 1153D/12 C.S.10, 1759Z/12 and C. in C. H.F. 2218Z/14.

Unless Poles can arrive in time to embark in ocean escort Q.P.4 E.T.A. approx. 30/11 recommend in order to avoid over crowding of KENYA, BEDOUIN, and INTREPID that withdrawal of 151 wing be shared between these ships and ocean escort S.Q.P.4 and that Poles be embarked by ocean escort S.Q.P.5 and Q.P.6.

(S.B.N.O. North Russia 1840C/15, 1846/17)

H.X.159.

SUNFLOWER, KINGCUP, and ALISMA have been ordered to proceed forthwith to meet H.X.159 and carry out sweep within 20 miles of convoy until M.O.M.P. is reached.
(D.T.D. 1452Z/15 to Opnav.)

→ Q.P.3.

Subject to concurrence of S.O. C.S.10, intend sailing Q.P.3, (24?) Nov. Admiralty pass to all addresses except S.O. M/S 1.
(S.B.N.O. Archangel 1600C/13.)

F.S. and
F.N.
Convoys.

(Cycle and Escorts) Your 2028/14. Proposals.
(C. in C. Rosyth 1631/15.)
(C. in C. Nore 1830A/15) See Lion Copy.

/Convoys ...

SECRET

M E S S A G E

I N
1631/15 November.

From C.in C. Rosyth.

Date 15.11.41.

Recd. 1900

P/L BY SECRET T/P.

Addressed Admiralty, C.in C. Nore, N.C.S.O. Methil,
N.C.S.O. Thames.

208. Your 2028/14/11.

Para. 1. If the elimination of medium convoys is considered beneficial to the turn round and speed up of shipping, the convoy cycle can be amended accordingly, and convoys of two speeds only, 8 knots and 6½ knots can be run. In this event, it is intended to run 2 fast and 4 slow convoys in a six day cycle. More slow convoys will however, increase the dangers of E-Boat attack in the channels South of the Dudgeon.

Para. 2. This is agreed to be desirable. It is presumed that such special fast convoys are intended for slips of speed of not less than 9½ knots.

Para. 3. No objection subject to C.in C. Nore's requirements.

Para. 4. It is considered that a time table for all F.S. convoys should be maintained, as it remains necessary for such convoys to effect junction with Humber ships and to pass the Dudgeon Bell Buoy at programme times. In this connection, the Sheringham Buoy is no longer of importance in view of the time table promulgated in my 1241/7/11.

Admiralty's/

Admiralty's 2104/12/11 (not to N.C.S.O's) having been amended by Admiralty's 1700A/14/11 (not to N.C.S.O's). The number of local escorts from Tyne is not sufficient to fulfil requirements as stated in my 1255/24/10 (to Admiralty only). Therefore, until a third vessel is provided in place of CONQUEROR, it will not be possible to carry out the purport of my 1255/24/10 para. 4 with all F.S. convoys. For F.N. convoys North of the Humber, the time table can be abandoned.

1637/15.

Advance Copy Ops. Trade.

Refers to 1255/24 re surrender of STRATHDECON and STRATHDERRY.

- 1st Lord.
- 1st S.L.
- 4th S.L.
- V.C.N.S.
- A.C.N.S. (H).
- A.C.N.S. (T) (2).
- A.C.N.S. (W).
- Nav. Sec.
- N.A. 1st S.L.
- Ops. (3).
- C.D. (5).
- C.L.C. (3).
- D.N.I. (4).
- D. of P. (3).
- M. (4).
- D.L./S.W.
- D.M.S.
- D.M.S. Basement.
- D.P.S. (2).
- D.G.D. (2).
- D.M.W.D.
- D.S.D. (2).
- D.T.D. (4).
- D.T.D. (C).
- D.T.D. (M).
- D. of L.D. (2).
- D. of S.T.
- I.P. (3).
- W.D.

IH

EDC.

SECRET.

M E S S A G E 1830A/15th Nov. IN.

383

From. C.in C.Nore.

Date. 15.11.41.

Recd. 1938.

P/L BY T/P.

Addressed. Admiralty, reposted C.in C. Rosyth,
N.C.S.C. Frames; R.C.S.O. Methil.

132.

Admiralty 2028A/14.

It is assumed that it is desired to run 2 slow to one fast convoy. No objection is seen to this from the operational point of view but it is thought that this practice may lead to further complaints from owners and masters whose ships are capable of higher speeds and who will now have to sail in slow convoys. Furthermore it is probable that the variation of the speeds of convoys renders their location by E-Boats more difficult.

2. It is hoped that it may soon be possible to run F.N. and F.S. convoys on 7 days a week in which case the question of a regular blank day will not arise.

3. It will be seen from C.in C. Rosyth 1241A/7/11 and my 1616A/27/10 ^ø that the East Dudgeon light and bell buoy is at present the intersecting point of the Channels. It is therefore necessary that both North and Southbound convoys pass this position near the scheduled time.

1830A/15.
Advance copy Cps. Trade.

- 1st Lord.
- 1st S.L.
- 4th S.L.
- V.C.N.S.
- A.C.N.S. (H)
- A.C.N.S. (T) (2)
- Nav Sec.
- R.A. 1st S.L.
- Cps. (3)
- O.D. (5)
- O.T.C. (3)
- D.N.I. (4)
- D.T.D. (4)
- D.T.D. (M)
- D.T.D. (C)
- D. of P. (3)
- D. of W.
- E. (2)
- Hydrog. (2)
- D. of H.

- ✧ Re adjustments to East Coast convey channels.
- ø Timetable for East Coast Convoys.
- Staff Charts.
- D.M.S. for action.
- D.M.S. Basement.
- D.T.D.
- I.M.N.G.
- E.P.S.
- D.T.S.D.
- A.H.Q.H.F.
- D.D.C.D. (M)
- D. of L.D. (2)
- D.G.D. (2)
- I.P. (3)
- W.D.

EDC.

War Diary.

15.11.1941.
Saturday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping and Convoys - contd.

Convoys
in W.A.

S.O's of escorts are to report immediately to C. in C. W.A. if at any time they have any doubt whatsoever as to the safety of any of their group who may have been detached for special duties in their vicinity. Captains D. pass to escorts.
(C. in C. W.A. 1721A/15.)

EMPIRE
WIDGEON.
EMPIRE EGRET.

It is requested that EMPIRE WIDGEON and EMPIRE EGRET (both 16 Kn.) may be sailed from Liverpool to Newport as soon as they have completed unloading.
2. They are expected to be ready to sail a.m./18.
(D.O.D. H. 1813A/15.)

E.N.6.
E.N.7.

Cancel my 2152A/11. ST. CLEARS, EMPIRE STEVENSON, SOUTHGATE and TREHATA are to proceed to Kirkwall for onward convoy to Hvalfjord. C. in C. Rosyth is requested to have ST. CLEARS now in E.N.6 diverted to Kirkwall. Remainder are to sail in E.N.7.
(D.T.D. 2129A/15.)

P.Q.5.

Your 1805Z/14. Provisional date of sailing P.Q.5. from Hvalfiord is 25/11. Following British ships for inclusion in this convoy will be ready to sail from Kirkwall to Iceland (C) on 18/11. ST. CLEARS, EMPIRE STEVENSON, SOUTHGATE, TREHATA. May HAZARD, HEBE, and SHARPSHOOTER escort these ships from Kirkwall to Iceland (C). 2. Following six ships from U.S.A. are expected to arrive Iceland (C) for P.Q.5 on approx. dates shown. EULIMA 15/11. PETROVSKI, MERIDIAN, EL OCEANO 21/11. KOMILES, CHUMLEIGH 23/11.
(A.C.N.S. H. 2155A/15.)

War Diary.15.11.1941.
Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic.Aircraft
ex
ARK ROYAL.

10 Swordfish and 4 Fulmars from ARK ROYAL landed Gibraltar. 812 Sqn. reformed at North Front 14/11 with initial equipment of 9 Swordfish under command of Lieut. G.A.L. Woods R.N. (F.O.C.N.A., 1038A/15 to Admty).

SHEAF
CROWN.

Admty 2030A/10. SHEAF CROWN sailing 1200/15 Has orders to report at Gibraltar if speed still unsatisfactory. Request air (?cover) daylight hours 16/11. Presumed speed $7\frac{1}{2}$ knots. (N.C.S.O. Lisbon, 1106/15 to F.O.C.N.A.)

ARK ROYAL
(sunk 14/11)

My 1948/14. One casualty only in ARK ROYAL. (S.O. Force H., 1121A/15 1444A/15, 2051A/15 to Admty, Admty 1258A/15).

AUDACITY.
Aircraft

If 3 Martlets as I.E. replacement for No. 802 Sqn. (F.A.A.) can be shipped to Gibraltar then AUDACITY could operate from Gibraltar until January and carry out some offensive operations against Focke Wulf.
(AUDACITY, 1315A/15 to C. in C. W.A.)
My 1215/9. Positions given for Martlet and two F.W. 200 aircraft should read $041^{\circ} 28' N.$, $015^{\circ} 18' W.$, $041^{\circ} 09' N.$, $014^{\circ} 30' W.$, $041^{\circ} 18' N.$, $015^{\circ} 28' W.$, respectively.
(AUDACITY, 1331A/15 to C. in C. W.A.)

ARGUS,
Operation
"Chieftain"
(Submarine Op.)
"Operation"
(Division convoy.)

Your 2254/14, para (B).
Consider that ARGUS should sail with NELSON to lend more colour to the deception but that it is not necessary for ATHENE to sail.
Whether ARGUS remains at sea for 24 hours or longer is at your discretion.
(V.C.N.S. 1331A/15 to S.O. Force H).

Gibraltar.

Extension proposed to eastern limit of Gibraltar Intelligence Area. Requesting remarks. (D.N.I., 1900A/15 to F.O.C.N.A., C. in C. Med).
See Lion Copy.

French
Shipping.

Destroyer BRESTOIS and armed trawler SERGENT GOUARNE escorting French M/Vs. MEDIE II, IMERETHIE II, light, both carrying civilian passengers, OUEGHA with deck cargo of heavy lorries, ARCTURUS fully laden, and CARIMARE laden, passed Gibraltar westbound at 0935/15. (D.O.R., 16/11, 17/11)

SECRET.

MESSAGE.

1900A/15th OUT.
November.

385A.

To, F.O.C.N.A. 175.
C. in C. Mediterranean 4333.
Re: S.O. Force 'H' 14.
V.A. Malta. 163.

Date. 15.11.41.

Naval Cypher (D).

From Admiralty.

AIDAC NITE.

The fact that the Gibraltar intelligence areas as at present defined does not include areas in which the Gibraltar forces are frequently required to operate gives rise to an unsatisfactory state of affairs.

2. It is now under consideration to make an extension of the eastern limit of the Gibraltar intelligence area to a line Ischia Island - Cape Carbonara - Cape Spartivento - Galita - Cape Serrat.

3. If this proposal is brought into force an increase in S.O.(I) Gibraltar's staff will be necessary. The main part of the extra work will be in connection with movements of our own and enemy ships and aircraft and 'Y' work. Collation of intelligence concerning Italy, and the French territory which will now be included within the area will also entail extra work. In addition to intelligence directly affecting the area information of a general nature concerning Italy, and to a lesser extent France, will also need to be passed to Gibraltar.

4. F.O.C.N.A. is requested to signal details of the additional staff considered necessary.

5. Request your early remarks on this proposal.

1900A/15.
for D.N.I. (Tel. 60).
Approved by 1st Sea Lord.

1st Lord.
1st S.L.
V.C.N.S.
A.C.N.S. (T) (2).
A.C.N.S. (F).
N.A. 1st S.L.
D.S.D.
D.N.A.D.
D.N.I. (4).
O.I.C. (3).

E.P.S.
Ops (3).
D. of P. (2) (P.D. 0424/41).
D.A./S.W.
I.P. (2).
W.D.
M. (2).
O.D. (5).
F.O. (8) by Courier.

War Diary.

15. 11. 1941.
Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic.

Convoys.

Asking for permission for Union Director of Information to photograph convoys off Union ports. Reasons. (F.O.I.C. Simonstown, 0939B/15 to Admty). See Lion Copy.

LAFONIA.

Your 0454/14. LAFONIA due Capetown 20/11. Request I may now be informed as to extent of fitting required so that most convenient port may be selected.
(P.S.T.O. Simonstown, 1223B/15 to D. of S.T.)

PRINCE
BAUDOIN.

My 1603/7. Expected sailing date for PRINCE BAUDOIN provided trials are satisfactory is now P.M./23. My 2128/14 to C. in C. Med., only refers. (N.O.I.C. Simonstown, 1223B/15 to C. in C. S.A.)

40th Escort
Group.

Information is requested as to when 40th Escort Group will be required to sail.
(LANDGUARD, 1238N/15 to C. in C. S.A.)
Your 1238N/15. Probably A.M./21.
(C. in C. S.A., 1555N/15 to LANDGUARD).

Repatriation
of
SHAHRISTAN
survivors.

Your 1106N/14. Dutch Authorities would object unless BAARN is escorted to and from Ponta Delgada. Can escort be arranged conveniently without unduly reducing escort with convoy?
(D.T.D., 2110A/15 to C. in C. S.A.)

Mediterranean.

EMPIRE
GUILLEMOT
(sunk, A/C,
24/10)

Now known that 35 survivors landed but 2 died later. 11 others reported to have been killed. Ship sunk by torpedo carrying A/C on 24/10 while on passage from Malta to Gibraltar.
(D.S., 802, 15/11)

/Enemy....

0939B/15th November.
IN.

SECRET.

MESSAGE.

From. F.O.I.C. Simonstown. Date. 16. 11. 41.
Recd. 1138.
NAVAL CYPHER (X) BY W/T & T/P.

Addressed. Admiralty. Repeated C. in C. South Atlantic. 254.

373. Following Message received from Union Director of Information begins. Can permission be granted for the taking of Aerial still photographs of Convoys entering leaving and at anchor off Union Ports. Negative of all such pictures would be kept in secret file until released for publication by your Office. This permission is requested in pursuance of the policy of the Bureau to impress upon the public the fact that vast Imperial and Dominion Armies are in the Middle East. It is desired that public should realise what comparatively small part Springboks are playing in Egypt because if heavy casualty lists arrive the Government does not wish the public to be under the misapprehension that the brunt of the War in the Middle East is being borne by Springboks alone. Unfortunate Press publicity given to the Australian Forces in the Middle East made the Australian Public believe that Australia played the greatest part in Levant Campaigns. Reaction in Australia was bitter when large casualty lists were published there. The Government wishes to safeguard itself against a similar feeling arising in the Union I have agreed and offered any assistance which can properly be given.

0939B/15.

1st Lord	P.A.S. (5)	O.I.C. (2)
1st S.L.	D.N.I. (4)	D.T.D. (4)
V.C.N.S.	O.D. (5)	I.P. (3)
A.C.N.S. (H)	Ops. (3)	W.D.
A.C.N.S. (F)	M. (6) for action	Press.
A.C.N.S. (T) (2)	D.of P. (3)	
Nav. Sec.		
N.A. 1st S.L.		

SECRET. MESSAGE 2100/15th Nov. IN

From: A.H.Q. West Africa. Date: 30.11.41.
Recd: 1852.

C Y P H E R

Addressed: Air Ministry repeated: H.Q.C.C.

M.J.I. WX.4459.

A.39 15/11.

Operations Summary for 14/11 95 Squadron
0630-1805 A/S Patrol Area PQXJ 4509 DVXJ 4505
DVGA 5030 1114 sighted 3 lifeboats BGGGA 2208
estimated 40 persons believed survivors S.S.PERU
food dropped and directed nearest M/V to position
which picked up lifeboats with survivors at 1547
one Sunderland coastal recce Point Noire south
to limit of endurance and return airborne 0405
waterborne 1555. 204 Squadron one Sunderland
0650-1800 A/S Patrol area LVCE 0040 SFCE 0040
MCME 0040 SFMW 0040 128 Squadron 20. Minutes
patrol Takoradi 1 Blenheim 1405-1740 all times
G.M.T.

2100/15.

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

Received from Air Ministry 2316/30/11/41. X

1st Lord.		Circulated by Air Ministry to:-
1st S.L.		P.U.S.
4th S.L.		V.C.A.S.
5th S.L.		D.C.A.S.
V.C.N.S.		A.C.A.S. (1)
A.C.N.S. (F)		D. of I. (0)
Nav. Sec.		D. of Plans
N.A. 1st S.L.		D.O.N.C.
Ops. (3)		D.B.Ops.
O.D. (5)		D.D.B.Ops. Plans 3
C.C.L.S.		D.W.O.
O.I.C. (3)		D.D.O.II
D. of P. (3)		P.R & A.I.6.
M. (2)		Duty Group Captain
E.P.S.		Ministry of Defence (5)
D.N.I. (4)	D.N.A.D.	War Office M.I. (J.I.C.) (7)
I.P. (3)	D.T.D. (4)	Admiralty (War Reg.) (6)
W.D.	D.T.D. (M)	War Office (M.O.I) (2)
D.P.D.	D.T.D. (C)	D.D.Plans.

War Diary.

15.11.1941.
Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean - Contd.

Enemy Intelligence, TORBAY.

Intelligence for 8th Army (Non-naval).
2 separate Arabian sources report Tobruk about to be attacked by parachutes and rubber boats. Latter seen proceeding east in lorries at (?Slonta). Attack scheduled 12th postponed due to strong south wind.
(TORBAY, 0002B/15 to Capt. S.1)

TORBAY, TALISMAN, landing operation.

TORBAY landing ordered, beach completed. Proceeding seawards with intelligence report. Am not proceeding patrol due to defect blank. TALISMAN ordered to report results separately, request information as to result. Safety sector continues until TALISMAN completes.
(TORBAY, 0042B/5 to Capt. S.1)
My 0042. Operation carried out in circumstances preventing recovery of rubber boats latter hidden near beach. TALISMAN reports 10 soldiers washed overboard in boat probably reached shore. Of 18 remaining on board only 6 properly equipped. 8 boats remain but both folding boats broken. Weather conditions preclude land and inter S/M communication. Consider advisable to abandon landing and suggest re-embarkation undertaken by TORBAY only from main beach (?as directed) by headquarters party guarding boats, all concerned transferring to alternative beach if necessary. Your 1416/23/10 understood but considered unsuitable.
(TORBAY, 2204B/15 to Capt. S.1)
W.R. Note. Text of sentence commencing with word "consider" is doubtful.

Enemy Units.

3 Cruisers, 2 destroyers 039° 40' N., 017° 30' E., Course 150° speed 25 knots.
(V.A. Malta, 0401B/15 to S/Ms on patrol)
A.S.V. Wellington reports sighting at 2115, 5 ships, probably 3 cruisers 2 destroyers (P.C.S. as 0401B/15).
(V.A. Malta, 0415B/15 to C. in C. Med).

PERSEUS.

Engineer Officer arrived today. PERSEUS leaves 035° 51' 015° 15' about 2200B/15 through 033° 40' 020° 00' to arrive 033° 00' 020° 00' about 1900B/17 thence to patrol in Area C unless otherwise ordered. (Capt. S.10., 0950B/15 to Capt. S.1)

/Benghazi....

War Diary.15.11.1941.
Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean. - Contd.Benghazi.
Bardia,
Barce.
bombed.

Night 13/14, 8 Wellingtons dropped bombs on bases of Moles Benghazi harbour, 3 dropped bombs on Derna causing explosions. 1 Wellington with engine trouble dropped bombs on Bardia. Day 14/11, at midday 6 Marylands bombed Barce landing ground.
(H.Q., R.A.F., M.E., 1113/15).

URGE,
UTMOST.

Leave patrol to pass 037° 30' 019° 40' at 2100B/17, thence direct to 035° 51' 015° 15' to arrive Malta 0730B/20. UTMOST leave second position given about 2200B/15 direct to arrive 037° 40' 019° 38' about 0001B/18. S/MS encountered are not to be attacked.
(Capt. S.10., 1125B/15 to URGE).

THUNDERBOLT.
TRUSTY.

THUNDERBOLT leaving 035° 51' 015° 15' about 2100B/15 direct for position K, 038° 40' 019° 37', on patrol line 2 - 038° 40' 019° 37' - 310° - 20' - 040° - 55 on which TRUSTY will shortly proceed to second patrol J. Ref. sailing orders para. 5 if force to N.W. do not proceed North of 038° 20'. (Capt. S.10., 1150B/15 to UPRIGHT).

GLAUCOS.

From 035° 47' 020° 00' proceed through 035° 51' 015° 15' and 036° 00' 014° 53' to arrive Marsamxett 0730B/19. Submarines encountered at night after 1900B/17 are not to be attacked.
(Capt. S.10., 1203B/15 to Greek S/M GLAUCOS)

Movements.

Summary 223. (C. in C. Med., 1207B/15) See Lion Copy.

Russian
Ships from
Black Sea.

My 1944/14 Russian N.A. has now been informed that first ships may arrive Istanbul in one week's time. In order that he can arrange with his Govt. for arrival of ships to synchronise with arrival of British Officer request early information as possible of date of arrival of latter. (A.N.A., Istanbul, 1624B/15 to C. in C. Med.).

/FRONSAC....

388A

SECRET.

M E S S A G E.

1207B/15th Nov
INC

From : C. in C. Mediterranean.

Date : 15.11.41.

Recd : 2256.

Naval Code (L.2.) by cable.

Addressed : Mediterranean Fleet. Repeated S.B.N.O. Suez, H.Q. R.A.F. Middle East, Air H.Q. Western Desert, H.Q. Palestine, and Trans Jordan, 20th Nav-Co-operation Group, Group 202 British Nav. Officer Tobruk, N.O.i/c Port Said, N.O.i/c Mersa Matruh, N.O.i/c Syrian Ports, N.O.i/c Famagusta, Cyprus, N.O.i/c Palestine Port N.O.i/c Malta, S.O. Force H, N.O.i/c Alexandria, F.O.C. D.F. Mediterranean Fleet, Capt.(S) 1st S.F., S.O. Force I, Force I, F.O.C.N.A.

IMPORTANT.

Movement Summary 223. Part A. H.M.S. NAPIER,

H.M.S. KANDAHAR, H.M.S. HASTY, H.M.S. ERIDGE, due Alexandria 1700 16th from Eastward. H.M.S. GLENGYLE, H.M.S. AVON VALE, H.M.S. HEYTHROP, due Alexandria A.M./16th from Port Said. H.M.S. FARNDALE due at Alexandria A.M. 17th from Port Said. H.M.S. JUPITER and H.M.S. ENCOUNTER leave Alexandria P.M. 15th due at Port Said 0530/16th. H.M.S. PEONY due at Haifa 1300/17th from Port Said thence to Alexandretta. H.M.S. ERICA left Alexandria 0700/15th with CRISTA for Port Said

H.M.S. PRIMULA returning to Beirut from Alexandretta. H.M.S. FAREHAM operating Tripoli (Syria) - Beirut. H.M.S. SNAPDRAGON due Alexandria 17th from Port Said. Free French Patrol Vessel VIKINGS sailing shortly from Beirut.

2. Part B. H.M.S. ABDIEL and Destroyers as for Operation APPROACH repetition APPROACH. Motor-launch 1015 sailing Alexandria A.M. 16th for Mersa Matruh.

1 (One) Motor-launch proceeding Mersa Matruh to Tobruk P.M./15th.

/2 Motor Torpedo

P.

2 Motor Torpedo Boats operating in Bardia Area night
15th/16th. MYRL and 2 Anti-Submarine Trawlers due
Alexandria A.M./16th from Mersa Matruh. H.M.S. APHIS
due Mersa Matruh 0600/16th from Alexandria.

Part C, and D. Force K operating from Malta.

N.O.i/c Haifa pass to Head Quarters Palestine
and Trans-Jordan.

N.P.

1207B/15.

1st Lord.

1st S.L.

V.C.N.S.

A.C.N.S. (F).

N.A. 1st S.L.

Ops. (3)

O.D. (5)

O.D. 8.

O.I.C. (3)

I.P. (3)

D.S.D. 9.

D.A/S.W.

W.D.

M. (2)

Movts.

D.N.I. (4)

D.T.S.D.

D D.O.D. (C)(2)

D. of L.D. (2)

D.D.O.D. (M)

D.G.D. (2)

E.P.S.

D. of P. (3)

N.P/C.P

War Diary.

15.11.1941.
Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean - Contd.

FRONSAC
French.

Arrival 14th. (Barcelona, 1657/15 to M. of W.T.)

Bosphorus
Boom.

Entire Bosphorus boom including gate vessel lighter dragged for distance 600 feet at worst Trotman to 200 feet at other in N.E. gale. Only shore connections holding and gate open. (Measures to replace)

4. I consider that Dardanelles boom if laid with moorings as shown in drawing 497/1 will be useless.

(A.N.A. Istanbul, 1715B/15 to Admty).

Brindisi,
Catania,
bombed.

Night 14/15. Wellingtons, Naples and Brindisi. 1 reached Brindisi and attacked 2015 to 2156 hours. Bursts all over town. Alternative Messina under cloud, 19 Wellingtons attacked second alternative railway marshalling yards Catania. North Sicilian Railway believed out of action all traffic passing through Catania. Attacked 1740 to 2309 hours. (H.Q., Malta, 1731/15).

Intelligence
Organization.

My 1219/18/10, para 10. Following rearrangement, Intelligence Organization is to take place (C. in C. Med., 1731B/15 to Med Stn. C. in C. E.I.) See Lion Copy.

Suez included
in Red
Sea Force.

Intend report arrivals and departures H.M.S. at Suez as from 16/11. (F.O.C.R.S., 1802B/15 to S.B.N.O. Suez Canal area).

PHOEBE.

Your 1211/13. Yes. (C. in C. Med., 1820B/15 to C. in C. S.A.)

German Ship.

Arrival unknown German steamer 14/11 Mazarron to load iron ore. (Cartagena, 2030/15 to M. of W.T.)

Minesweepers
Renamed.

Your 1621B/13. Approval given for renaming of M/S Groups 156 and 157 as follows:- 60S 7 CALM, KOS 12 HAILSTORM, KOS 7 DAYBREAK, KOS 9 FIRMAMENT. Request you will take necessary action. (Head of M., 2049A/15 to C. in C. Med).

EMPIRE
DEFENDER.

British, 5649 tons, reported to have been bombed by enemy A/C at 1724/15 about 30 miles S.W. of Galita Island. No details. (D.O.R.16/11).

1731B/15 November.

389^A

SECRET.

MESSAGE.

IN.

From C. in C. Mediterranean.

Date 17.11.41.
Received 0422.

NAVAL CODE L2 BY CABLE.

Addressed Mediterranean Station 799B, C. in C. East Indies, repeated G.H.Q. Manacabo, H.Q. R.A.F. Manacabo, Admiralty, F.O.C. North Atlantic 219.

330. My 1219 18th October, paragraph 10, the following rearrangement Intelligence Organization is to take place:

(A) Sub.-centres to be established at Suez and Aden.

Lieutenant Commander Finter is appointed for this duty as S.O.(I) Red Sea. Lieutenant Coghill is appointed as S.O.(I) Aden.

(B) The areas of these Intelligence Centres will conform to paragraphs one and two of my 1219 18th October and will form part of Mediterranean Intelligence Organization.

(C) Reporting Officers Red Sea are to report to S.O.(I) Mediterranean and S.O.(I) Red Sea, repeated as necessary to other S.O.(I)s.

(D) All Intelligence Signals to be addressed S.O.(I) Mediterranean and S.O.(I) Red Sea, repeated as necessary to particular Commands.

(E) Movements of H.M. Ships to be reported to Admiralty C. in C. Mediterranean F.O.C. Red Sea Force and N.O.I.C. Aden only except arrivals from and departures to East Indies Station which will in addition be reported to C. in C. East Indies S.O.(I) Colombo and S.O.(I) Bombay.

(F) C.B.3000 (38) article 104 is to be complied with by S.O.(I) Red Sea and S.O.(I) Aden.

1731B/15.

Changes in Intelligence and communications when Red Sea forms part of Mediterranean Station.

1st. Lord.	A.C.N.S. (H).	H.W.R. (2).	Ops. (3).
1st. S.L.	A.C.N.S. (F).	D.S.D. (2).	M. (10).
2nd. S.L.	A.C.N.S. (T) (2).	Ad. Palliser.	D. of P. (3).
3rd. S.L.	A.C.N.S. (W).	C.W. (2).	O.I.C. (2).
Vice Controller.	Secretary.	N.I.D. 10 (2).	I.P. (3).
4th. S.L.	Nav. Sec.	O.D. 8.	W.D.
5th. S.L.	N.A. 1st S.L.	N.A. 2, S.L.	File X.
V.C.N.S.	P.A.S. (S).	D.N.I. (4).	
		O.D. (5).	

War Diary.

15.11.1941.
Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

Shipping Reports.

Your 1652/12 (see China, 12/11) (1) Local coastwise traffic only (2) Yes. (C. in C. E.I. 0432Z/15 to Admty.)

MARIT MAERSK,
GIORGIOS
AVEROFF.

Request information on what basis MARIT MAERSK is working for Greek Admiralty as present employment as tender to Greek cruiser GIORGIOS AVEROFF for coal appears uneconomical. (2) GIORGIOS AVEROFF is now based on Bombay and as far as can be seen will continue to operate from that port where there are now Admiralty stocks of Welsh coal. (C. in C. E.I., 0540Z/15 to Admty.)

Convoys
C.M. 21.
C.M. 25.

Your 1201/14.
1. Escort can be provided at Durban 26th.
2. Request firm date of sailing of C.M. 25 as soon as known. (C. in C. E.I., 0648Z/15 to P.S.T.O. Simonstown.)

Convoy
U.S.15.

U.S.15. escorted by CORNWALL sailed from Trincomalee 0730Z/15. (C. in C. E.I. 1130Z/15 to Admty.)

Floating
Dock at
Bandar
Gulf.

Mooring can be raised and re-equipped, but not until dock has been removed. Time required about 14 days. Voyage of dock estimated 45 days.
(ii) 2 tugs of 1000 horse-power are available within 14 days. Dock can be made ready in that time but towing gear which I suggest is necessary and not available here is (details).
(iii) Dock Master was Italian Aguari now in M.E. under examination by Intelligence. Dock crew are Persians. I have not opened the subject of their transfer yet in view of possible objection by Persian Govt. to removal of dock. Minister of Teheran telegram no. 15 to you refers. (S.N.O.P.G. 1643Z/15 to C. in C. E.I.)

Ceylon.

Your 15568/G of 16/10 (T.O.O. 2126/16 re scale of attack on Ceylon) Confirmed that defence works should be constructed to meet estimated scale of attack of two divisions. (W.O. 1945/15 to C. in C. India)

War Diary.

15.11.1941.
Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

China.

Navigation.

Following track re-surveyed by Netherlands authorities and reported clear of all navigational dangers. (Hydrog, 1635A/15 to S.O. Force G.) See Lion Copy.

ENDEAVOUR.

Ref. C. in C. Med's 1321B/21/10. It is proposed to send ENDEAVOUR for survey duty in Red Sea and Eastern Med. 2. C. in C., China is requested to report to what extent a navigating crew could be provided from local resources, utilising as necessary ratings awaiting passage to U.K. 3. If this is practicable, C. in C., Med. is requested to provide reliefs for men due to return to U.K. Exchange to take place at Suez. (V.C.N.S. 2048A/15 to C. in C. China, C. in C. Med.)

America and West Indies.

Signalling.

Admty. 1235A/16/9. Details of watch which can be kept by Commercial W/T Stations other than Canadian will be forwarded at an early date. Meanwhile request decision on following (1) Owing to shortage of personnel, fuel-time H/F Watch not possible in all cases but dual H/F and 500 Kc/s could be carried out. Is this principle acceptable? (2) Jamaica radio carries out 6 H/F Schedules daily over which channel a small volume of traffic with United Fruit Co. Vessels is handled. Total not more than one hour per week. (C. in C. A.W.I., 1121Q/15 to Admty.)

WYOMING
(French)

Intercepted air letter from Casablanca states WYOMING expected to leave about 13/11 for Martinique. Has this voyage been approved? (C. in C. A.W.I., 1219Q/15 to Admty., B.A.D.)
Reply: D.E.W.D. 1602A/16.

/ILLUSTRIOUS.....

391A

MOST SECRET

MOST SECRET

MESSAGE

1635A/15th Nov. OUT

To S.O. Force G 50

Date 15. 11.41

Repeated - C.in C. China 341.

C.in C. East Indies 718

Navy Board, Melbourne 104.

NAVAL CYPIER (D)

From Admiralty.

NITE

The following centre line track has been re-surveyed by Netherlands Authorities and reported clear of all navigational dangers :-

From Lat. 5° 54' 20" South, Long. 105° 58' 00" East 023° width 6.25 miles to Lat. 5° 23' 45" South, Long. 106° 11' 00" East thence 041° width 7.25 miles to Lat. 05° 08' 40" South Long. 106° 23' 40" East thence 063° least width 8.2 miles to Lat. 04° 27' 45" South, Long. 107° 44' 45" East thence 064° least width 10.2 miles to Lat. 04° 10' 00" South, Long. 108° 21' 15" East, thence 073° least width 11.0 miles to Lat. 04° 08' 00" South Long. 108° 28' 00" East, thence 061° least width 10.2 miles to Lat. 03° 38' 45" South Long. 109° 20' 00" East, thence 349° least width 9.5 miles to Lat. 02° 50' 00" South, Long. 109° 10' 45" East, thence 348° least width 8.0 miles to Lat. 02° 03' 00" South, Long. 109° 00' 15" East thence 307° least width 6.25 miles to Lat. 01° 46' 45" South Long. 108° 38' 15" East.

1635A/15

for Hydrographer
(23)

V.C.N.S.

A.C.N.S. (F)

N.A. 1st S.L.

D. of P. (2)

D.O.D. (F)

D.D.O.D. (F)

D.N.I. (4)

D.A/S.W.

I.P. (2)

~~W.D.~~

Duty Capt.

D.M.S.

Hydrog. (H.03924/41)

Hd. of M.

D.D.I.C.

D.T.D. (2)

D. of N.

D.D.T.M.

Staff Charts

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

War Diary.

15.11.1941.
Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies.-Contd.

ILLUSTRIOUS,
FORMIDABLE
deliveries
of aircraft.

My 1759/14. Apparent that schedule for delivery of Martlets quoted in Briny 10345 will not be met. This schedule was based on Admiral Towers' letter to British Air Commission.
2. Resident British Air Commission inspector estimates total deliveries at 18 by 30/11, 20 by 4/12, 22 by 10/12, 42 by 31/12.
3. Grummans production manager promises: 24 by 30/11, 26 by 4/12, 32 by 10/12, 48 by 31/12. 6. Sailings on 2/12 will adversely affect supply of spares to these ships.
7. Request instructions for FORMIDABLE and ILLUSTRIOUS may now be communicated in light of this information and my 1759R/14. (B.A.D. 1231R/15 to Admty.)

CLARKIA.

Your 1652Q/11. CLARKIA can be accepted at Alabama Dry Dock and S.B.Co., Mobile, Alabama, Job number S.252. Request date she may be expected. (B.A.R.M. 1324R/15 to C. in C.A.W.I.)

CARNARVON
CASTLE.

Your 1657A/11. CARNARVON CASTLE can be accepted at Newport News S.B. Co., Newport News, Virginia. Job number S.231. (B.A.R.M. 1326R/15 to Admty.)

DIDO.

Completes ex trials Wednesday 3/12.
(B.A.R.M. 1330R/15 to C. in C. A.W.I.)

T.C.16.,
LETITIA.

My 2049Z/12 para. 3.
New York reports LETITIA undergoing trial Newport News 30/11. Expect to commence storing and loading at New York 3/12. (Ends) My 2138Z/13 also refers. (N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 1412Z/15 to D. of S.T.)

CITY OF
ELWOOD.

Have you any news of American CITY OF ELWOOD due Balboa 11/11 from Melbourne?
(D.T.D. 1709A/15 to S.O.I. Jamaica).

Liaison
with U.S.N.

Ref. proposals 3 and 4 in N.A. Rio's 1941Z/4 to D.N.I. Navy Dept. have informed us verbally they do not wish to go beyond proposals in Gleam 155 at present. (B.A.D. 1747R/15 to Admty.)

/S.C. 53.....

War Diary.

15.11.1941.
Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies-Contd.

S.C.53.

Serial 15. S.C.53 (? Fast escort vessels) SWEETBRIAR, HIBISCUS and PERIWINKLE have been ordered to sail from Londonderry as soon as possible to R/V with S.C.53 as far West as convenient and act as a striking force within 20 miles of convoy until M.O.M.P. (U.S.C.N.O., 1829Z/15 to Comtask Unit 4.1.14)

CHELATROS
(Greek).

Ran aground Brion Island at 0815/3 while en route Montreal to Sydney. Considered total loss. (N.S.H.Q. Ottawa 2029Z/15).

Australia.

U.S.14.

My 0645/16, Admty. 0139A/30, D. of S.T. 1456A/4. Total requirements U.S. 14 (figures). In view neither QUEEN MARY or QUEEN ELIZABETH can be handled New Zealand propose their docking programme be allowed to stand. AQUITANIA has been allotted New Zealand. Request therefore vessel with lift of 3000 be made available. Present intention U.S.14 sail from Sydney 27/12 in order to arrive Suez during safe moon by 19/1. (A.C.N.B., 0429Z/15 to D. of S.T.)

New Zealand.

Shipping
Reports.

Your 1632A/12 (see China 12/11) (1) Local ships proceeding coastwise on station. (2) Yes. (N.Z.N.B. 0020Z/15, 0120Z/15 to Admty.).

Suspicious
Ships?

Your 0801Z/14. (N.T. in W.D.) Consider use of anchorages in this area most unlikely since coast watch and teleradio system now very complete. Air R/C to locate unreached sightings desirable but available aircraft have insufficient range. (N.Z.N.B. 2355/15 to C. in C. China.)

War Diary.15.11.1941.
Saturday.U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.Ships Attacked.PERU.
(Torpedoed
12/11.)

Ops. summary for 13/11. 95 Squadron 0630 to 1705 search for survivors of S.S. PERU believed sunk 1° 15' N., 12° 28' W., nothing seen. (A.H.Q., West Africa, 0825/15, to Air Min.)

Russian
Minesweeper.

Russian Minesweeper reported sunk by U-boat off Cape Orlov in 067° 30' N., 041° 11' E., at 2025/15. Minesweepers proceeding to hunt. Admiralty pass to all addressees except S.B.N.O. North Russia. (S.B.N.O. Archangel, 2249C/15 to Admty.)

Submarines Reported.

1215Z/14.

Following received from U.S. Naval Authorities (begins):- Task Unit 4.1.1 reports definite sound contact submarine 62° 53 N., 24° 30 W. 1215Z/14. (Ends.) (D.D.I.C. 0026A/15 to A.C.I.C., etc.)

Estimated approx., positions of U/Bs. (D.D.I.C. 1413A/15, 1414A/15.)

Submarines Attacked.By
ACANTHUS.

At 1228 obtained R.D.F. contact in 050° 20' N., 017° 22' W., target apparently moving N.E., range 7000 yards. At 1233 lost contact, target not sighted owing to bad visibility. At 1240 ACANTHUS obtained A/S contact and attacked, result unknown, have searched area unsuccessfully, am proceeding with ACANTHUS to join S.L.91. Course 076° speed 14 knots. Weather Report. (MYOSOTIS, 1245Z/15, to C. in C.W.A.)