

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

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|------------------|-----------------------------|
| 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.

1.1.1942.
Thursday.

SITUATION REPORT.

A Grand Alliance of 26 Nations was done at Washington, D.C. today.

A summary of proposals for control and protection of shipping throughout the world was sent to the Admiralty by B.A.D. Washington today.

Home Commands.

Harwich was closed on account of fog from 0755A to 1444A.

Operation
"Anklet".

The force returned to Scapa this forenoon.

Operation
"Q.N.".

M.T.B's and M.G.B's patrolled last night off Terschelling and Ymuiden; no shipping or E-boats were seen.

Patrols off Flushing found no targets.

PYTCHLEY engaged an E-boat near 55A buoy at 2227/51 in poor visibility, but does not claim any hits.

British Air Operations.

Beauforts of Coastal Command bombed shipping in the mouth of the Gironde this evening.

Enemy Air Operations.

Convoy W.N. 25 was attacked at 1845 17 miles N.N.W. of Rattray Head.

/An.....

War Diary.

1.1.1942.
Thursday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Enemy Air Operations-Contd.

An enemy aircraft machine gunned coastguard stations near Dover today and attacked a fishing vessel off Dungeness, and afterwards attacked and slightly damaged M.L. 141.

Mining.

Mines were detonated today off Spurn Point.

S.S. KENTWOOD was mined late this evening off 56 Buoy and sank in tow of BASSET.

S.S. PENRHOS (187 tons) is believed to have been mined and sunk with all hands this morning off Constable Banks (Liverpool Bay).

Mediterranean.

5 Wellingtons bombed the jetty at Ras el Ali last night. Blenheims, in support of our ground forces, bombed Bardia for over 4 hours today.

East Indies.

The Admiralty have asked C. in C. Eastern Fleet to give consideration to stationing a guard ship in the Persian Gulf, in order to safeguard our vital sea communications against surface raider or block ship. GEORGIOS AVEROFF is considered suitable.

War Diary.

1.1.1942.
Thursday.

SITUATION REPORT.

China.

Admiral Somerville is to take command of the Eastern Fleet.

Malaya.

There were 2 air raids on Singapore last night; little damage was caused. Port Swettenham was attacked from the air several times today. Six enemy steamers towing a large number of small craft have now entered the Bernam River after being sighted at sea early today by air R/C. Later, the enemy landed a force of about 2 battalions.

Borneo.

The enemy landed at Labuan p.m. today.

War Diary.

1.1.1942.
Thursday.

World Shipping.

Proposals
for Control
and
Protection.

Your 1411/29.

Following is summary of proposal for control and protection of shipping.

(A) Shipping is divided into 3 Classes. Viz:
Class X shipping between 2 points in area of strategic responsibility of U.S.
Class Y shipping between a route in area of strategic responsibility of U.S. and point in area of strategic responsibility of U.K.
Class Z shipping between 2 points in area of strategic responsibility of U.K.
Class X will be controlled by U.S. Authorities in Western Atlantic Pacific area and Philippine Is. waters. Class Z will be controlled by British Authorities in U.K. and British Home Waters, Mediterranean, N. Atlantic and South Atlantic (as modified Eastern boundary Western Atlantic area) - India, E.I. and Far Eastern Areas except Philippine Is. waters. - Australia and New Zealand areas.

Class Y

(i) Shipping from West Atlantic area to United Kingdom and vice versa to be controlled by British Authorities subject to concurrence by U.S.

(ii) Shipping from West Atlantic area to U.S.A. and South Atlantic area to be controlled by U.S. and when on opposite voyages by British.

(iii) Shipping from Pacific area to Australia New Zealand and Far Eastern Areas and vice versa to be controlled by U.S. Authorities subject to concurrence of British.

(B) (? Arrangements) of Control.

(i) Arrangements of Class Y in North Atlantic area as in Articles 503 and 505 of W.P.L. 52.

(ii) Tentative agreement for Class Y shipping in Pacific Australia and New Zealand areas as in enclosure A to N.O. 197/41 of 25th November and signalled in B.A.D's 1631/26, to be extended to Far Eastern area. Particular attention being paid to Paragraph A (g).

(iii) Routeing instructions to be delivered to vessels by U.S. Naval Control Officers in U.S. Ports and by British Canadian C.S. Officers in otherports in U.S. strategic areas. In British Canadian Ports instructions will pass to C.S.O.'s via local U.S. representative if any.

(iv) U.S. and British will maintain Naval Observer Attaches or Consular Officers in certain ports in each others strategic areas for liaison.

(C) Diversions. Diversions of ships or convoys to be initiated by Authority in whose area they are, on own initiative or on suggestion of other Authority.

/(D).....

War Diary.

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Thursday.

World Shipping.

Proposals
for Control
and
Protection
- Contd.

(D) Time U.S. would assume Control.
 (i) Services of British officers would be dispensed with as successive areas receive U.S. Staffs
 expansion over whole of U.S. Area takes 6 months.
 (ii) In Far East, Australian and New Zealand Areas Staff existing Observer and Attache will be sufficiently expanded to enable these officers to perform their duties effectively in 3 months.
 (E) Protection of Shipping. U.S. Authorities do not consider any modification of directives for protection of shipping as laid down in Annexation 5 of A.B.C. - One necessary. 3 Captains U.S. Navy have been appointed by U.S. Chief of Naval Operations to represent U.S. at meetings to discuss these proposals.
 (ii) N.S.H.Q. Ottawa is forwarding Preliminary Commentary to B.A.D. It is desirable to proceed with discussions as soon as Captain Bittleston can arrive but it is recommended that he visits Ottawa preferably en route to Washington. Suggest Lieut. Commander Goldrich be retained in London until required. Canadian Representative will be familiar with Vesca System etc.
 (B.A.D. Washington 1729R/1 to Admty.)

HOME COMMANDS.

Policy.

Rear-Admiral
Syfret.
ANTHONY.

RearAdmiral Syfret and Staff of 2 Officers also retinue of five ratings will take passage to Gibraltar in ANTHONY.
 2. They will embark at Greenock a.m. 10/1.
 (D.O.D.(H) 1212A/1). *Cancelled 2/1 - See p. 31 -*

Home Fleet
Destroyers.

In order to meet existing commitments, it is necessary that destroyer strength of Home Fleet should be maintained at 24 ships. This figure allows for the following.
 (a) Screens for battleships and VICTORIOUS: 12.
 (b) Russian convoys: 6.
 (c) Refitting: 4.
 (d) Boiler cleaning: 2.
 (ii) These figures allow no margin for occasional breakdowns or for offensive operations on Norwegian coast and it is only practicable to carry out latter by accepting a temporary reduction in number ready for screening capital ships. This is clearly undesirable at a time when majority of enemy main units are ready for action.
 (iii) The present strength of Home Fleet is 22 destroyers and there are no prospects of increasing this number from new construction, at present allocated, for several weeks.

/(iv).....

War Diary.

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Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Policy.

Home Fleet
Destroyers.
- Contd.

(iv) It is proposed to retain WORCESTER, LAMERTON, and WHEATLAND until completion of operation "Kitbag" and it is requested consideration may be given to allocation of an additional 2 destroyers to Home Fleet until required figure of 24 has been reached with advent of new construction of ships. (C. in C. H.F. 1934A/1 to Admty.)

Co-operation with U.S.A.

Philippines 1400 G.M.T. We have to advise you that at present communications we have no communication with the Philippines. (Cable and Wireless, London 1504/1 to Admty.)

Defence of U.K.

Thames
Estuary.
Proposed
further
Mansell
Forts.

A.M. 2205A/31/12. Request your view on site proposed in my no. 47 6T. of 21/11/41 and a possibility of other sites suitable for new type of Tower in vicinity of Barrow Deep, Oaze Deep, Sea Reach A.Z.S. 181 and 159. Sites should entail as little addition as possible to existing minesweeping commitments along above channels. Site near B.7 Buoy appears particularly desirable. (C. in C. Nore 1124A/1 to Hydrographer)

Movements.

O.9.

Your 1909A/31. Request you sail O.9. escorted to R/V with Z.5. in 51° 35' N. 5° 12' W. at 0100A/2 for onward passage to Rothesay. (Capt. S.7. 0023A/1 to N.O.I.C. Milford Haven).

H.43.

Your 2326A/30. E.T.A. at R/V 2330A/1. My estimated position at 2400/31 was 048° 12' N. 6° 48' W. (H.43 0101A/1 to N.O.I.C. Falmouth) R/V with H.43 at 2330A first in 200° Lizard Head 5 miles and escort her into Falmouth. (N.O.I.C. Falmouth 1031A/1 to BREDA). Your 0101A/1. R/V with BREDA in 200° Lizard Head 5 miles at 2330A/1. (.F.O.I.C. Falmouth 1048A/1 to H.43, S/M's Area A).

STURGEON.

STURGEON sailed from Scapa escorted to 061° N. 003° 30' W., thence unescorted through position (1) 066° 30' N. 003° 30' W. (11) 071° 50' N. 011° 30' E. (111) 073° N. 024° E. to North Russia. E.T.A. position (111) 1700/8. (A.C.O.S. 1005A/1 to S/M's Area A.)

/SEALION.....

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Thursday.HOME COMMANDS.Movements-Contd.

SEALION. My 1721A/31. Para. (A) amend to read. SEALION 66° 22' N. 06° 56' E. dived by day through 62° N. 00° E. thence probably on the surface to R/V with WHITE BEAR in 60° 50' N. 00° 40' W. at 1000A/3. (F.O.S. 1036A/1).

VIZALMA. Your 1037A/1. In company with ST. MELLONS, but ST. MELLONS. CAROLINE MOLLER separated during the night. (VIZALMA 1200A/1 to F.O.I.C. Greenock). CAROLINE MOLLER. Arrived Stornoway. Rescue Tug CAROLINE MOLLER. (N.O.I.C. Stornoway 2356A/1).

6th and 13th M/L Flotillas. As soon as seven M/L's of 23rd Flotilla have arrived in your area one division each of the 6th and 13th M/L flotillas are to be sailed for Portland in accordance with A.M. 1847A/10/12. (C. in C. Nore 1204A/1 to F.O. Yarmouth).

SALTBURN. Portsmouth No. 6801/8821/5/1 of 23/12/41. (not to all addressees). Intend to sail SALTBURN to Barrow in Furness about 6/1 to carry out experimental work for the Signal School. Experiments will last about 6 weeks and entail ship making voyage of about 250 miles to the westward. C. in C. W.A. concurs subject to Atlantic weather conditions being acceptable. (C. in C. Portsmouth 1217/1 to Admty.)

TURBULENT TEMPEST. (1) Intend to sail TURBULENT and TEMPEST escorted by LA CAPRICIEUSE at 1100A/3 for 290° Bishop Rock 5 miles. E.T.A. 2300A/4. (2) Thence LA CAPRICIEUSE returns to Holy Loch. (3) Thence TURBULENT diving by day through 049° N. 010° 30' W. to 045° N. 012° W. E.T.A. 0400A/8. (4) Thence TEMPEST diving by day through 049° 30' N. 012° W. to 045° N. 013° W. E.T.A. 1800A/8. (5) Thence TURBULENT and TEMPEST proceed to Gibraltar as ordered by F.O.C. N.A. (6) F.O.I.C. Greenock is requested to arrange fighter co-operation. (Capt. S.3. 1429A/1).

H.32. At 0900A/2 intend to sail H.32, H.33, H.34
H.33. escorted by BREDA from Falmouth to arrive Rothesay
H.34. 2000A/4. Speed of advance 8½ knots. F.O.I.C. Falmouth will arrange Fighter protection. (F.O.I.C. Falmouth 1521A/1). *see also next page*

/S/M.....

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1.1.1942.
Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Movements-Contd.

S/M
Movements.

Anticipate following submarine movements.
2nd January, BREDA, H.32, H.33, H.34 to Rothesay
H.50 from Devonport to Falmouth. 3rd Jan. ALECTO
H.28, H.43, H.50 to Rothesay JUNON to Devonport.
(F.O.I.C. Falmouth 1526A/1). *See previous page*

NORMAN.
WIVERN.

Admty. 1923A/30. Request you sail NORMAN and
WIVERN to arrive at Milford Haven P.M./10th.
Ships will be required to provide onward escort
to RESOLUTION from Milford Haven.
(C. in C. W.A. 1621A/1 to C. in C. Portsmouth)

WELSHMAN.

1. WELSHMAN is required to be at Milford Haven
by daylight 4th to embark personnel and stores
for Gibraltar, Freetown and Takoradi.
2. Details of Passengers.
3. Request you sail WELSHMAN for Milford Haven
accordingly, and report number of Officers and
ratings additional to above who can be accommo-
dated.
All space on mining deck will be required for
stores, the majority of which are for Gibraltar.
4. Mines are to be disembarked at Port Z.A. or
Milford as convenient. (A.C.N.S. H. 1754A/1 to
R.A.M.)

ACANTHUS.
EGLANTINE.

Request you sail ACANTHUS and EGLANTINE as required
by C. in C. W.A.
(C. in C. H.F. 1843A/1 to F.O. Force "J")
C. in C. H.F. 1843A/1. Request you sail EGLANTINE
and ACANTHUS to Liverpool.
(C. in C. W.A. 2043A/1 to S.O. Force "J")

SCOTT.

Request you will sail SCOTT for Port Z.A. when
ready. (C. in C. H.F. 1844A/1 to F.O. Force "J")

BARCLOSE.
BARFOAM.
BARFORD.
CARDAK.
SILIVRI.

Alter course forthwith for position (a) 47° N.
17° W., thence through (b) 42° N. 17° W. and
(c) 36° N. 10° W., thence to Gibraltar).
2. BARCLOSE pass to CARDAK and SILIVRI.
(A.C.N.S. F. 1853A/1 to BARCLOSE).

Operations.

Denmark
Strait
Patrol.

Arrived NORFOLK 2245.
(A.C.I.C. 0111N/1 to C. in C. H.F.)

/Operation....

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Thursday.HOME COMMANDS.Operations-Contd.Operation
"Anklet".

Scapa arrival ARETHUSA, SOMALI, ASHANTI, BEDOUIN, ESKIMO, WHEATLAND, SCOTT, EGLANTINE, ACANTHUS, SPEEDWELL, HARRIER, KRAKOWIAK, KUJAWIAK, BLACK RANGER, GRAY RANGER, PRINCE ALBERT, JAUNTY, GUDRUN MAERSK. (A.C.O.S. 1056A/1).

Vest Fiord
S/M Patrol.

S.O. Force J 1700A/31st. As SEALION is now approaching U.K. after 2½ months in North Russia and TIGRIS has been moved to a new patrol position to cover operation in your 1623A/27 not to Force J., I do not intend to act on this suggestion at present. This would appear, however, to be a suitable area of operation Russian submarine. (F.O.S. 1101A/1 to C. in C. H.F.)

Patrol C.

WALPOLE is to leave Humber as necessary to take up patrol 'C' at 2130 returning to Harwich on completion. (C. in C. Nore 1454A/1).

Operation
Q.N.
Patrols
off
Flushing
and Hvuth.

Preliminary report of coastal force activity on night 31/12-1/1/42 is as follows.

(1) Operation Q.N. M.T.B's 30, 31, 32 arrived in 53° 20' N. 04° 45' E. at 2120/31 patrolling in this vicinity until 0300/1 when weather deteriorated and patrol was abandoned. No ships were seen, visibility 2 miles variable. Red conical buoy flashing every 5 seconds seen in 53° 21' N. 04° 45' E. S.O. considers it unlikely that any shipping passed between him and the coast. M.G.B's 67 and 65 made the coast at Ymuiden and searched up to patrol position 53° 07' N. 04° 35' E., remaining there from 2215/31 to 0500/1 when they shifted patrol to 52° 48' N. 05° 08' E. until daylight to intercept returning E-boats. No shipping seen.

(2) My 1220A/31. M.T.B's 100, 18, and 71 searched Flushing Roads to 05° 31' E. No torpedo target seen, but two E. or R. boats sighted entering by Deurloo Channel. Roads were entered by new system of buoys of which details follow.

(3) Three sets of patrols off Hvuth made no contacts but visibility was very poor, E-Boat activity having been reported near 56 buoy. (C. in C. Nore 1630A/1 to Admty.)

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HOME COMMANDS.

Enemy Air Activity.

M.L. 141 damaged.
R.X. 152 (Fishing Vessel) attacked.
Jury Gap and Pett Level C.G. Stations attacked.

At 1026 today in 235° Dungeness 7 miles one ME 109 attacked with machine gun fire M.L. 141 proceeding in company with M.L. 142 from Newhaven to Dungeness. M.L. 141 sustained following casualties and damage. One rating killed and three ratings wounded. Steering gear, 0.5" machine gun, and one engine damaged. Previously this aircraft had machine gunned coastguard stations at Jury Gap and Pett Level and attacked fishing vessel RX 152 five miles south of Fairlight killing one member of the crew. (V.A. Dover 1803A/1).

Convoy. Convoy "Muster" in 347° Rattray Head 17 miles, speed 7 knots, is being attacked by an unknown aircraft. (FOXTROT 1845/1).

Mining.

Q.O. Operation Q.O. cancelled today. (C. in C. Nore 0652A/1 to M/S 9).

Operation "Tincture". Request you will repeat operation "Tincture" by p.m./3 January in the manner described in my 1207A/10/9/41. (D.M.S. 1128A/1 to F.O.I.C. Milford Haven).

Thames Estuary. One magnetic mine detonated at 2230/31. Details. (Capt. M/S Sheerness 1236/1).

Operation S.N. 26A. Intend to carry out with AGAMEMNON and NEWARK off Butt of Lewis on 3/1. Details. (R.A.M. 1237A/1). See Lion Copy

Yarmouth. L.L. Sweepers detonated Red Magnetic mine at 1337 in position 2 Cables South of 56 buoy. (F.O.I.C. Gt. Yarmouth 1431A/1).

Tyne. MONAS ISLE reports exploded a mine near 19D buoy. No damage. (F.O.I.C. Tyne 1452/1). My 1452. MONAS ISLE reports mine apparently acoustic detonated by excessive vibration. (F.O.I.C. Tyne 1605/1). One S.A. Mine detonated by Sweeper at 1340/1. Details. (N.O.I.C. North Shields 1740/1).

Rosyth Command. 25th November to 31st December, the following stranded and drifting mines were dealt with in this command. Details. (C. in C. Rosyth 1600/1 to Adty.)

/Spurn.....

From ~~F.O.C. Minelayers.~~ Date 1.1.42.
Recd. 2030.

Naval Cypher A by W/T

Addressed Admiralty. Repeated C. in C. Western Approaches, Liverpool, C in C. Rosyth, N.O.I.C. Stornoway, A.C.O.S. N.O.I.C. Iceland, F.O.C. Sub. A.O.C. C.C., A.O.C. F.C., A.O.C. 18 Group, C.C. Air Ministr.

Intend carrying out operation S N 26 A as follows

- (A) Deep Mine field
- (D) H.M.S. AGAMEMNON H.M.S. NEWARK
- (E) Anti-sub air escort is requested from 1300 till last light January 3rd. Initial Rendezvous in position 110 degs. Butt of Lewis 6 miles
- (F) from (1) 058 degs. 50' 06" North 006 degs. 36' 30" West through (
- (2) 058 degs. 54' 12" North 006 degs. 42' 36" west and
- (3) 058 degs. 58' 18" North 006 degs. 36' 50" West to
- (4) 059 degs. 02' 24" North 006 degs. 42' 36" West
- (G) 0700 Jan. 3rd.
- (J) Direct
- (K) 14 knots
- (L) 1410 Jan. 3rd.
- (N) through (i) 1800 Sulisker 5 miles
(ii) 057 degs. 57' North 006 degs. 00' West
- (O) and (P) Port ZA 0015 January 4th
- (Q) None
- (W) 15.6 miles 10 knots
- (X) Mark XIX/19 set to 80 120 and 160 feet in rotation
- (Y) 624 units.

Combined depth to from standard line.
(Z) Single line ship in area B.

1237A/1.

Advance copies D.C., D.O.D. (H) & D.D.O.D. (I)

- | | |
|---------------|----------------|
| 1st Lord. | D.N.A.D. |
| 1st S.L. | D.A/S W. |
| 5th S.L. | D. of L.D. |
| V.C.N.S. | D.M.S. |
| A.C.N.S. (H) | I.P. (2) |
| A.C.N.S. (W) | W.D. |
| N.A. 1st S.L. | Duty Capt. (2) |
| D. of P. (2) | Hd. of M. |
| D.O.D. (H) | D.T.S.D. |
| D.D.O.D. (H) | D.D.I.C. (2) |
| D.D.O.D. (M) | E.P.S. |
| D.N.I. (4) | N.I.D. 10. |
| D.S.D. | D.T.M. |

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Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Mining.-Contd.

Spurn
Point.

The following three magnetic mines were detonated by Sweepers at 1245, 1418, and 1531 today respectively. Details.
(F.O. Humber 2010A/1).

S.N. 15.

A.M. 0424/1. Propose to carry out operation S.N. 15 with SOUTHERN PRINCE, ADVENTURE, MENESITHEUS and AGAMEMNON sailing P.M. 8th and laying between positions a. 057° 34' N. 000° 51' W. b. 057° 56' N. 000° 59' W. c. 058° 16' N. 001° 17' W. on 9/1.
Probably 3 of 17th division will be available.
(R.A.M. 2042/1).

KENTWOOD
(British,
2180 tons)
sunk.

Merchant ship mined position 56 Buoy. Endeavouring to tow. Yarmouth request salvage tugs investigating 56 and 6A. (BASSET 2215A/1 to N.O.I.C. Yarmouth).
KENTWOOD has sunk in tow approx. 2 cables N.E. Custom House Buoy. (BASSET 2350A/1 to N.O.I.C. Yarmouth).

Enemy Intelligence.

E-Boat.

Your 2315/31. Can you confirm E-boat was definitely sighted. (C. in C. Nore 1737A/1 to WOOLSTON).

Navigational.

Harwich.

Port closed owing to fog. (F.O.I.C. Harwich 0755A/1).
Port now open. (F.O.I.C. Harwich 1444A/1)

No. 8
Light
Buoy.

Request Q.Z.H. 129 may be cancelled. No. 8 Sheerness bar light buoy replaced in approx correct position. (C. in C. Nore 2045A/1).

Red Head
W/T Beacon
and Gap A.

My 1305A/13/11. Red Head Beacon. If sufficient information is now available request decision may be signalled to Admiralty. (F.O.S. 2112A/1 to C. in C. Rosyth).

Thames
Estuary.
Prohibited
Anchorage.

It is desired to establish the following prohibited anchorage between 1/2 hour after sunset and 1/2 before sunrise. Area bounded by lines joining the following positions. Details. Request this may be promulgated.
(C. in C. Nore 2215A/1 to Admty.)

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Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Casualties and Defects.

- ST. MARYS. ST. MARYS reports stripped dynamo rotor. Ship is being ordered to Greenock with S.D.C. Extent of damage not known. (R.A.M. 1157/1). LANCASTER's 0854Z/29. ST. MARYS proceed to Greenock with S.D.19. (R.A.M. 1141/1 to ST. MARYS).
- GARDENIA. Position 059° 46' N. 014° 28' W. Ship stopped. Have ran H.P. bottom end, now effecting repairs. Probably delay of 6 hours. (GARDENIA 1356Z/1).
- AMARANTHUS. C. in C. S.A. 2011Z/22. On arrival in U.K. with S.L. 96 AMARANTHUS can be taken in hand at Chatham for refit and reconstruction of forecastle and bridge. Request you will redirect her accordingly. (D.O.D. H. 1351A/1 to C. in C. W.A.)
- MICA. (Not identified.) MICA has had bad fire in boiler room and was unable to keep speed of convoy. She is returning Oban forthwith. (ST. ALBANS 1630A/1)
- NELLIE (Mined 21/12) Failed refloat NELLIE with 4 tugs and 2 heavy heaving off purchases owing insufficient water. Consider necessary to discharge part of cargo to ensure that vessel refloats when tide permits. Please arrange 2 Coasters report Grimsby at earliest. (C.S.O. Humber 2045/1). There is hope that codeword "Cradle" may be refloated P.M. tomorrow. Rescue tug leaves Peterhead 0600/2 to arrive at scene of Operations noon/2. If salvage successful "Cradle" will be towed to Dundee escorted by trawler. Request special attention may be paid to this operation including passage of tug. (C. in C. Rosyth 2232/1 to 14 Group).

Shipping and Convoys.

- F.N.592. Consider all rear ships under way and catching up best speed. My position 7A. (WOOLSTON 0807A/1 to LOWESTOFT).
- S.D. 19. Your 0733A/1. My 2006N/31 intended time of sailing was local. Probable delay owing to weather. (A.C.I.C. 0817N/1 to Admty.)
- BURDENNA IV. Your 1129A/31/12. No trace of arrival at Greenock. (F.O.I.C. Greenock 0955A/1 to N.O.I.C. Oban).

War Diary.

1.1.1942.
Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping and Convoys-Contd.

- O.G. 78. Sailed LORD NUFFIELD to arrive Tobermory 1000A/2.
LORD LORD NUFFIELD has been transferred to F.O.C.N.A.
NUFFIELD. and is required to sail from U.K. with O.G. 78
on 10/1. (F.O.I. C. Belfast 1214A/1).
- H.X. 166. Unless able to make good 16 knots without risk
of damage return to Londonderry.
(C. in C. W.A. 1231A/1 to LEAMINGTON, BELMONT).
- O.N. and O.S. A.M. 1626A/26. Cancel application to O.N.
Convoys. Convoys. (D.T.D. 1316A/1).
- H.G. 76. On reaching 045° N. steer 000° to rejoin original
route in 046° N. omitting position (C).
(C. in C. W.A. 1443A/1 to BADSWORTH, VANOC).
See a/sd next page
- Routeing of P.Q. and Q.P. Convoys. Your 1926A/30. Provided cycle of U.R. and R.U.
Convoys can be extended to ten days, trawler
escort can be provided for P.Q. and Q.P. convoys
from Loch Ewe to Seidisfiord on a ten day cycle.
U.R. and P.Q. convoys being run alternatively
every five days. No additional escorts are
available. (C. in C. W.A. 1552A/1 to Admty.)
- W.S.15. Admiralty 1923A/30.
N.O.I.C. Belfast is requested to provide A/A
escort for Bristol Channel ships to Clyde in
accordance with para. (4).
(C. in C. W.A. 1625A/1).
- COLOMBIA. Sailed SKATE to R/V with COLOMBIA off Dunnet
(Dutch spr depot Head on 6/1 as arranged by C. in C. Rosyth.
ship.) SKATE is to escort COLOMBIA to Clyde and subsequently
See p. 31 - proceed Londonderry. (C. in C. W.A. 1757A/1).
- H.G. 77. Request you will instruct BRADFORD to proceed
(BRADFORD) to Gibraltar at best speed consistent with weather
conditions and sail ship after fuelling to over-
take H.G. 77. (C. in C. W.A. 1752A/1 to F.O.C.N.A.)
See a/sd p. 15

War Diary.

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FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

Aircraft
Survivors.

My 2305/31. Survivors have now been recovered
by CROOME. (F.O.C.N.A., 0801A/1 to C. in C. S.A.)

FORMIGNY.

Following departure U.K. in convoy, ex French
FORMIGNY. (C.C.S.O. Gib., 0945/1 to M.E.W.)

Lisbon,
Shipping.

Entry of Foreign Warships into Lisbon will be
controlled as from 2/1. All such ships must
pick up Portuguese Pilot outside Bar. Pilot
Boat will normally be stationed in Cascais Bay.
(N.A. Lisbon, 1129/1, to Admty (R) Gibraltar).

A/C attack
on Trawler.

German plane attacked H.M. Trawler Patrol off
Tagus morning/31, no damage. A.1.
(N.A. Lisbon, 1208/1, to Admty (R) Gibraltar).

Fish for
Germany.

Reported that tinned fish is about to be shipped
from Ceuta in Spanish Ship for discharge at
Spanish Port but ultimate destination Germany.
Shippers and consignee are Carranza. Any ship
found carrying such cargo is to be sent in.
(F.O.C.N.A., 1247A/1 to N.A. Stn).

Flights over
sunken Enemy
Tanker, Spain.

My 1425/30 and my 1805/30 (N.T. in W.D.) *BENNO*
Minister of Marine states aircraft over Benno
again forenoon 31st but not afternoon. Tanker
still has 5,000 tons diesel oil which Spanish
Govt. seized for use in Campsa. Oiler CAMPOMANES
now there. Must transfer before bad weather.
Both A/A machine guns in Benno moderated to avoid
risk Spanish Naval personnel firing at British
aircraft. But Military Governor now has A.A.
Batteries on spot. Minister anxious to avoid
serious incident, has given orders to remove
Germans from vessel at Vigo, to put armed guard
on board, also ordered investigation of all
ports possibly affected. (N.A. Madrid, 1303/1 to
Admty).

P.36 Enemy
Shipping.

My 1510/30, departure S/M P.36. (F.O.C.N.A., 1432
A/1, to C. in C. Med).
List P amend: number 49 to West 1/1 number 11
to West 1/1. List A A number 13 expected to
leave Valencia for Garrucha 30/12 number 6 left
Burriana 24/12 for Marseilles.
(F.O.C.N.A., 1906A/1 to P.36).

BADSWORTH,
VANOC.

On reaching 043° North steer 000° to rejoin
original route in 046° N., omitting position (C)
(C. in C. W.A., 1443A/1 to BADSWORTH, VANOC).

See previous page

/S/M...

War Diary.1.1.1942.
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic. - Contd.S/M
O.24.

Pass to B.D.Z. repeated S.O.D.S. from D.O.S.C.
(S/M) O.24 will sail from Gibraltar about 5/1.
Intend Lt. Cdr. Koudijs de Vaal Sub-Lt.
Suyderhoud and 11 ratings to take passage in her.
Further see my 1128A/31 (corrupt group)
addressed Senior Netherlands N.O. ~~GAROLINA~~ *Carolina*
Port (corrupt group).
(Capt. S.8., 1552A/1 to Admty D.N.L.O. Capt. (S)9)

MIRROR.

My 2155A/31. Not considered that U-boat
situation allows MIRROR to continue work outside
territorial waters until you can provide an
A/S screen of two corvettes.
(D.O.D. (F), 1741A/1 to F.O.C.N.A.)
MIRROR is not to work outside territorial waters
until another corvette joins you as A/S screen
on about 6/1. (F.O.C.N.A., 2346A/1 to COLTSFOOT).

BRADFORD
H.G. 77.

Request you instruct BRADFORD to proceed to
Gibraltar at best speed consistent with weather
conditions and sail ship after fueling to overtake
H.G.77. (C. in C. W.A., 1752A/1 to F.O.C.N.A.)
Proceed best speed consistent with weather
conditions. Report E.T.A. (F.O.C.N.A., 2136A/1
to BRADFORD).
Your 2136A/1. E.T.A. Gibraltar 1300A/4.
(BRADFORD, 2241Z/1 to F.O.C.N.A.) *see p 13*

Adm.
Somerville
to command
E.F.

Personal for Adm. Somerville. You will be
required to take command of Eastern Fleet. You
should haul down your flag and return to U.K. in
time to see Adm. Syfret before he leaves London
9/1. You can either fly back or use one of
Force H destroyers as desired.
(Naval Secretary, 1846A/1 to F.O.C. Force H).
Reply to 1940A/2, 1016A/2

French
Shipping.
PLUTON
(Spanish).

Gib. 1000 Armed Trawler L' AJACCIIENNE, S.S. BOREAL,
PESCAGEL, OUED TIFLET, all full, Tanker RHEA light,
SCHIAFFINO laden deck cargo, GABRIEL GUIST'HAU,
westbound. 1110 Destroyer L' ALCYON, PORTHOS,
KITA, HOGGAR all laden, last named deck cargo
lorries and launches, OREGON, westbound, 1705
Spanish Fleet Oiler PLUTON full, eastbound. 1800
Armed Trawler, SERVANNAISE, MONT CASSEL, MONROVIA
S.S. CAPITAINE LE DIABAT, CAPRICORNE, all full
OUERGHA, eastbound.
(S.O.(I) Gib., 1853A/1 to Admty etc).

GERANIUM.

Not met. My P.C. and S. 31.14, 15.33, 060° 11.
special cyphered weather report. (GERANIUM, 2000A/
1 to F.O.C.N.A.)

War Diary.

1.1.1942.
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic.

CARDITA. S O S received from S.S. CARDITA, corrupt position. When did this ship leave your area and for what destination?
(C. in C. S.A., 0850Z/1 to S.O.(I) Kingston)
W.D. Note:- CARDITA torpedoed at 1859/31. See U-boat Campaign 31/12.
Your 0850Z/1 to S.O.(I) Jamaica. CARDITA had straggled from H.X.166. (D.T.D., 1927/1 to C. in C. S.A.)

INDOMITABLE. A.M.1639/29. INDOMITABLE intends following programme. Capetown depart 2/1. Socotra Area 9th. Aden arrive 10th depart 11th. Port Sudan arrive 13/1. (N.O.I.C. Simonstown, 1013Z/1 to Admty etc).
INDOMITABLE's 1037Z/31. Request you will issue necessary instructions. (D.N.A.D., 1601A/1 to C. in C. S.A., C. in C. E.I.)
Capetown arrival 1227Z/31, INDOMITABLE.
(F.O.I.C. Simonstown, 1637Z/31 to Admty, C. in C. S.A., C. in C. E.I., C. in C. Med., etc).
Your 1037/31, which is to be passed to N.O.I.C. Simonstown. No objection to use of R/T whilst in South African waters south of Durban subject to concurrence of N.O.I.C. Simonstown.
(C. in C. S.A., 1936Z/1 to INDOMITABLE)..

SHAHRISTAN
Military
survivors. Your 1026/30. No further information apart from that in A.M.1610/18/11.
(C. in C. S.A., 1044Z/1 to Admty).

Falkland
Islands. A.M.*0107/26th not to N.O.I.C. Falkland Islands. In order to give impression that increased Naval Forces are operating in Falkland Islands area following will be carried out until further orders.
(a) C. in C. S.A. will initiate a quantity of dummy traffic daily for transmission to ships in area S via Falkland Islands or Rugby.
(b) Admiralty is requested to take a similar action.
(c) N.O.I.C. Falkland Islands is to initiate additional dummy message in order to ensure that traffic transmitted to ships on Falkland Islands broadcast is heavy. (C. in C. S.A., 1057Z/1 to R.A.S.A.D., Admty N.O.I.C. Falkland Islands)
* Jap. convoy shortly running to Argentina.

S.L.97 Pass to N.C.S.Os. Approx. 8 ships from Gibraltar will join S.L.97 in position (J). Time of R/V should be arranged between C. in C. S.A. and F.O.C.N.A. (D.T.D., 1124A/1 to C. in C. S.A.)

War Diary.

1.1.1942
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic. - Contd.

JOAO BELO. Report graded A one states JOAO BELO accompanied by Sloop about to proceed to Timor. (S.O.(I) Capetown, 1134B/1 to Admty., C. in C. E.I. C. in C. S.A. F.O.I.C. Simosntown, C.S. Singapore).

DEVONSHIRE, CANTON, CILICIA. Your 1401Z/31 and B.N.A. Rio de Janeiro's 1402Z/31, DEVONSHIRE, is to fuel 2/1 at Pernambuco. CANTON and CILICIA are to remain in company until DEVONSHIRE can rejoin proceeding far enough to southward to enable CANTON to reach Pernambuco on 5/1 for fuel. DEVONSHIRE is to keep within supporting distance of CILICIA until CANTON rejoins. DEVONSHIRE to appoint (?afternoon) R/V accordingly.

(C. in C. S.A., 1301Z/1 to DEVONSHIRE). Following is repetition of my 1445Z/1 (begins) N.C.S.O. Pernambuco (R) B.A.N.A. Rio de Janeiro DEVONSHIRE, CANTON:- DEVONSHIRE will arrive Pernambuco 1400 G.M.T./2 and CANTON on 5/1 for fuel. (Ends). (C. in C. S.A., 1447Z/1 to DEVONSHIRE, CANTON)

Your 1301Z. Para. 2. Propose to rejoin CANTON and CILICIA in 001° S., 034° 30' W., at 1300Z/4. This will enable CANTON to reach Pernambuco by 1600Z/5, that is 5 hours before high water on 5/1. 2. Para. 4. R/V for CANTON on completion of oiling in 001° N., 033° W., at 1100Z/8. 3. Request coastal shipping intelligence for period that DEVONSHIRE and CANTON are operating in Pernambuco area. (DEVONSHIRE, 1852Z/1 to C. in C. S.A.)

Whalers. Your 2220A/10/11. 23 Whalers have left South Georgia for Capetown. South Georgia now informs a further 3 are ready to sail. Manager Leith quotes authority as Telegram from Salvesen dated 15/12/1941 as follows: Your Telegram 12/12, send as many catchers as possible. (Ends). Request instructions for disposal. (N.O.I.C. Falklands, 1307Z/1 to Admty).

ASTURIAS. Following is corrected version of my 0002Z/1 (N.T. in W.R.). Your 1046Z/31. E.T.A. 1200Z/(?) S. of A. 12 knots. Weather report. (ASTURIAS, 1415Z/1 to R.A.S.A.D.)

/Information...

War Diary.

1.1.1942.
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic. - Contd.

Information
of U.S.
Task Forces.

Your 1919Z/30. Difficulties are fully appreciated. Question is under discussion in Washington and this includes allocation of ships, areas, co-operation and all such relevant questions. (A.C.N.S. (F), 1523A/1 to C. in C. S.A.)

DAUNTLESS.

To proceed to Portsmouth to pay off and recommission for further service abroad. Ship will remain at Portsmouth for 14 days during which time she will be docked and fitted with such modifications as time permits. (D.O.D. (F)., 1737A/1 to C. in C. S.A.)

MILFORD.

Your 1050Z/1.* Sail MILFORD direct for Freetown to arrive by 21/1. She will probably return with W.S.15 when I hope it will be possible to complete outstanding items so far as equipment available permits. (C. in C. S.A., 2031Z/1 to F.O.I.C. Simonstown). * N.T. in W.R.

Pernambuco,
U.S.
Movements.

If as I assume there is a Senior U.S. Naval Officer at Pernambuco have a talk with him about movement of U.S. task forces; also air patrols which now operate from Natal. (C. in C. S.A., 2035Z/1 to DEVONSHIRE). 6 U.S. planes Task Unit 3.3 stationed at Natal and St. Paul's Rocks. (C. in C. S.A., 2145Z/1 to S.A. Stn).

Mediterranean.

A.T.11.
Benghazi
Section.

My 1127/29 (not recd. by Admty) ANTWERP is to be sailed to arrive off Benghazi Searched Channel 0700/4. Benghazi section of Convoy A.T.11 should arrive about 1500/5. (C. in C. Med., 1035B/1 to All Concerned in "Aggression").

Free French
Sloops.

Request you will sail F.S. SAVORGNAN DE BRAZZA for U.K. on completion of repairs F.S.*COMMANDANT DOMINE. (C. in C. Med., 1135B/1 to F.O.C. Red Sea, (R) N.O.I.C. Aden, Admty).

* M/S (Amis) - C.B. 1815 -

/Air...

War Diary.

1.1.1942.
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean - Contd.

Air Report
attacks on
U/Bs.
Salamis and
Piraeus,
bombed.

Cyrenaica following, delayed reports, now received 24/12 morning R/C Blenheim about 120 miles North Bardia sighted submarine cruising on surface which crash dived without identifying itself, after Blenheim had circled twice Blenheim hit it with 4 250 lb. bombs when submerged. Large oil patch subsequently seen. 25/12 morning R/C Blenheim bombed submarine cruising on surface 20 miles N.E. Tolmeita, nearest bomb 20 yards astern, submarine remained on surface and replied with M/G fire.

Night 30/31. 23 Wellingtons left to attack submarine base Salamis and oil installations Piraeus. Weather clear early deteriorating to 8/10 cloud. Greece and Crete later in night. 10 Wellingtons bombed Salamis hitting submarine base and munitions factory. 3 bombed Piraeus starting fire among oil tanks and causing explosions at chemical factory. Large fire also started at Megalo Pefko seaplane base on mainland west of Salamis. 1 bombed Laurium S.E. of Athens 3 unable to reach objectives owing to weather bombed Heraklion and Maleme aerodromes, Crete, hitting runway at former. 5 jettisoned or returned with bombs. Further 2 Wellingtons successfully dropped supplies in Southern Greece for British troops still at liberty there. (H.Q., R.A.F., M.E., 1231/1)

Escort
Flotilla,
(Hunts).

A.M.1810A/29. For 11th read 5th.
(D.O.D. (F), 1259A/1 to C. in C. Med).

Aden,
possible
scale of
attack.

Following for Cs. in C. from Chiefs of Staff No. 221. Ref. Governor Aden's telegram 651 of 28/12 repeated Ambassador Cairo for Minister of State and War Council number 230. (N.T. in W.D.) Consider questions raised by Governor fall within your sphere. Please examine and send us your observations stating any action you are taking. Report of J.I.C. on possible scale of attack on Aden follows as soon as complete. (1st S.L., 1440A/1 to C. in C. Med).

UNA
P.35.
UTMOST.

V.A. Malta 1131B/29. Owing to enemy fighter activity during daylight, day arrivals of Marsamxett at 0800B UNA on 4th and P.35 on 5/1 remaining in Sub. Sanctuary previous night. Gozo light will be exhibited for 10 minutes at 0200 and 0300B, 4th and 5th. UTMOST leaves Malta 1830B/2 through 036° 00' 014° 10' 036° 53' 013° 35' and 037° 15' 013° 12' at about 1900B/3 thence 037° 20' 012° 50' which position P.35 is expected to leave 1900B/3. S/MS encountered on opposite courses during nights of 2nd and 3rd and 3rd and 4th are not to be attacked. (Capt. S.10., 1450B/1 to UNA, P.35)

/Night...

War Diary.

1.1.1942.
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean. - Contd.

Night 31/1. 3 alerts. 1724 to 0449 hours, 14 raiders crossed coast. Bombs land, Hal Far and Ta Kali, 3 Mark 2 Wellingtons nuisance raids Tripoli town 0005 to 0450 hours. Bombs dropped singly from 9000 feet. Weather prevented observation results. 1/1. 4 alerts. 0734 hours 12 aircraft crossed coast. 0922 hours 29 fighter and bombers, bombs land, no damage. 1241 hours 4 Me. 109's fighter R/C. 1346 hours 16 fighters over island, AA fired. (H.Q., R.A.F., M.E., 1550/1)

INDOMITABLE.

Admty 1639A/29. INDOMITABLE is to land proportional number of torpedoes with torpedo spotter R/C aircraft disembarked at Aden and a small torpedo party to maintain them. Air compressor not available at Aden, report if portable one can be provided. Report number and type of aircraft to be disembarked and number of torpedoes.
(C. in C. Med., 1639/1 to INDOMITABLE, etc).

Bardia.

First objective of attack on Bardia was captured 1230 hrs. yesterday. Enemy counter attacked and regained some ground which was later recaptured. R.N. bombardment and R.A.F. bombing reported effective. 600 P. of W. including 60 German captured. Own casualties believed slight. A considerable area of the Bardia defences has been cleared but serious work lies ahead.
(C. in C. M.E., 1725/1).

THRASHER

Leaves vicinity of Alexandria at 1800B/1 through 031° 50' 028° 50' 034° 50' 020° 54', 038° 44', 017° 32' to area I within 50 miles of Cape Colonne Gulf of Taranto and South of 039° 20' arriving P.M./6th. (Capt. S.l., 1741B/1 to C. in C. Med).

U-boat sinkings.

Your 1145B/29/12/41 which was given no indication of priority was not received until late last night. Should have preferred to see draft of proposed statement but Admty. have no objection to your proposal provided confirmed sinkings only are published. (D.P.D. Approved by 1st Lord, 1742A/1 to C. in C. Med).

M.N.B.D.O.

Chiefs of Staff No. 222 to Cs. in C. Following is policy for immediate employment of units of R.M. Group, M.N.B.D.O. (1st S.L., 1921A/1 to C. in C. Med., C. in C. E.I.) See Lion Copy.

MOST SECRET

MOST SECRET

M E S S A G E

1921A/1 Jan.

OUT

To:- C. in C. Mediterranean 501
C. in C. East Indies 342

Date. 1. 1. 42.

NAVAL CYPHER ONE TIME TABLE

From Admiralty.

R.M. GROUP, M.N.B.D.O.

IMPORTANT

AIDAC

Following from Chiefs of Staff No. 222 to C's in C. Mediterranean and Middle East and East Indies, repeated to A.O.C.-in-C. India and O.C.R.M. Group M.N.B.D.O.1.

Begins: Following is the policy for the immediate employment of Units of R.M. Group, M.N.B.D.O. without prejudice to reconstitution of complete organisation should circumstances necessitate later:

- (a) Reconstitute A.A. Brigade to be despatched to Ceylon as C.O.S. 212.
- (b) L. & M. Unit to reform and equip to establishment in Ceylon, and to be at disposal of, and under command and administration of G.O.C. India for improvement of base defences in Indian Ocean area particularly Addu Atoll.
- (c) C.A. Brigade to reform and equip to establishment in Middle East at the disposal, and under command and administration of G.O.C. Middle East. Above is subject to provision that batteries may if necessity arises be withdrawn to provide defences for bases in Indian Ocean area, due warning being given.
- (d) 11th Battalion Royal Marines to remain in Middle East and be employed and administered as agreed between C. in C. Mediterranean and G.O.C.-in-C. Middle East; Admiralty and War Office to be informed of decision.
- (e) 11th Searchlight regiment, Signals Company and Survey and Met. Section less sub units required with the above to remain in Middle East under command and administration of G.O.C.-in-C. Middle East.

2. Replacement of personnel and agreed equipment will be sent from United Kingdom in accordance with this reorganisation. Personnel will include 10% first reinforcements.

SECRET

3. H.Q. Group to be retained in Middle East and employed as agreed between C. in C. Mediterranean and C. in C. Middle East. Admiralty and War Office to be informed of decision.

4. Details of diversion of equipment and personnel now on passage and being despatched from United Kingdom will follow. Ends.

C. in C. Mediterranean pass to O.C.R.M. Group
M.N.B.L.O.1.

1921A/1.

for Sec. to 1st S.L.

- 1st Lord
- 1st S.L.
- V.C.N.S.
- A.C.N.S. (F)
- N.A. 1st S.L.
- P.A.S. (S)
- D.O.D. (F)
- D.D.O.D. (F)
- D.N.I. (4)
- D. of P. (2)
- Duty Capt.
- E.P.S.
- Hd. of M. (10)
- I.P. (2)
- N.I.D. 10 (Paymr. Cdr. Wilson)
- W.D.
- A.G.R.M.
- D.L.D.D.

d.

War Diary.

1.1.1942.
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean. - Contd.

ZAHRA,
PETRELLA,
PEONY,
loss of
tows.

ZAHRA, Petrol Carrier PETRELLA, and PEONY arrived without any tows. Tug sunk and one lighter lost as reported by PEONY. Second lighter lost 070° Ras-el-Tin 6 miles. This was waterlogged and constituted a danger to shipping and was sunk by PEONY. ZAHRA reports probable cause of loss of tug was insufficient freeing of ports to allow water on deck to get away, filled to bulwarks and capsized. Towing wire was almost chafed through. Lighters would do better ballasted aft. PETRELLA has engine defects, hope to repair.
(N.O.I.C. Mersa Matruh, 2030B/1 to R.A.Alexandria)

Coal,
Benghazi,
Tobruk.

Your 1041/23. Coal is essential for Benghazi and Tobruk for minesweepers and other services. Request MAUSANG be included in early convoy to Tobruk for discharge part cargo and onward passage to Benghazi when opportunity permits. Coal stock remaining in Tobruk has lost its quality and is of little use.
(S.O. Force I., 2133B/1 to C. in C. Med).

Tobruk.

Situation Report. Military. 310 prisoners of war now remaining Tobruk all being retained for labour.
Air. 1 Ju. 88 on high R/C over harbour at noon. S.O. Force I. returned from Benghazi in Walrus. Naval. NEBB, motor launch 1012 arrived Derna yesterday. Westerly gale curtailing sweeping operations. WOLBOROUGH new asdic dome fitted after fouling obstruction in harbour. Naval W/T party for Benghazi pass through Tobruk today. Storage will be available shortly for boom material returned in BANTRIA. HANNE, ELPIS completes 4th. ZEALAND, MEMAS 5th.
(N.O.I.C. Tobruk, 2143B/1 to C. in C. Med).

THORN
R. of P.

Ships seen using 2 channels:-
(a) course 290° through 038° 33' 020° 34'
(b) course 250° through 038° 30' 020° 34',
before turning N., along Meridian 020° 28'. No inward traffic. 1641B/30 in 038° 35' 020° 27'
Attacked laden tanker 6000 tons course 290°
6 torpedoes, 3 hits. (THORN, 2331B/1 to Capt. S.1).

War Diary.1.1.1942.
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies.

W.S.12 X. Your 1015/28. Not yet possible to give disposal instructions for vessels of W.S. 12 X; meantime they should be held Bombay. (D.S.T. 0422A/1 to P.S.T.O. India).

B.M.11 My 0606/25. Definite date of sailing of B.M.11 will now be 16/1. Will escort be provided? (P.S.T.O. India 0935Z/1 to C.in C. E.I.).

CAPETOWN My 1131/31. Your 0346/29.
CASTLE, My 0959/28. Request you will reconsider
Bombay- decision regarding use of CAPETOWN CASTLE
Malaya for Bombay Malaya move as numbers are now
move. increased to 7407. JOHAN DE WITT and INDRAPOERA
B.M.11. are not suitable for Indian troops and no
other ships are available.
(P.S.T.O. India 0942Z/1 to D.S.T.) Reply D.S.T.
1259A/2.

Guardship
Persian Gulf. *See p. 24.*

Addu Admty. 2125A/27 para B (1) Addu Atoll.
Atoll. Request you will report. (a) Existing strength
of base staff. (b) Immediate increase required
which can be met from local resources.
(c) Increase which must be provided immediately
from other sources.
(2) Early appointment of a Flag O.in C. is under
consideration.
(3) Request your views on best position for
Fleet Anchorage and A/T baffle. Appears that
Western anchorage has advantages as regards shore
A/A gun defences and depth of water.
(4) Provision of flying boat base and of
balloons for defence of Fleet anchorage are under
consideration. F/B base must be clear of Fleet
anchorage.
(5) Provision of landing ground for aircraft and
of R.D.F. cover are being dealt with separately.
(6) Also request your opinion on maximum scale
of heavy and light A/A guns which can be
mounted effectively.
(A.C.N.S.(F) 2018/1 to C.in C. E.I.).

Bokpyin Party of Japanese troops landed at Bokpyia few
landing. days ago but withdrew before troop sent to
investigate arrived.
(G.O.C. Burma 2210/1 to W.O.).

MOST SECRET

MOST SECRET

22A

1940/1st January

FROM: C. in C. India,

Date: 1.1.42.

Recd: 2210.

CYPHER.

ADDRESSED: The War Office.

023237.

IMMEDIATE.

023237. 32/C cipher 1/1. Most Secret.

Personal for Chiefs of Staff from General Wavell.

First. Before leaving India I feel I should send you my ideas on the military position in India which I was about to formulate into an appreciation.

Second. As I see it Germany's principal aim in 1942 is likely to be to secure additional supplies of oil for herself and to attack our sources of oil where within reach. This points to renewal of attack on Caucasus and advance against Iraq and South Persia, i.e. against the centre of our Middle East Front.

Third. If this should be enemy's plan he will undoubtedly try to stretch out our wings attract our reserves to them and weaken our centre. This will be done by Japanese threat against Burma which has already withdrawn much Indian strength which would have been available for Iraq, and by action in North Africa and Mediterranean to extend Middle East to the West and immobilise its reserves.

Fourth. Enemy will also take every possible step to prevent reinforcement of Middle East and India from outside. Even should we reach Tripoli, to open up Mediterranean for passage of convoys would appear to require complement naval and air superiority beyond our present resources. Battle of Atlantic may be largely transferred to Indian Ocean to prevent our convoys reaching Middle East and India.

Fifth. Recent losses of capital and other ships on both sides gives increased importance to French Naval control of which may become important German objective.

Sixth. Conclusions are as follows.

(a) We should hold Burma for present with minimum force necessary for successful defence.

(b) We should not extend our North African wing beyond Cyrenaica unless absolutely certain of active French co-operation which seems most unlikely.

C.

(Reply of Chief of Staff 132578. page 194)

(c) We should build up the largest possible reserve of men and munitions of all kinds in Middle East and India immediately while the sea routes are still comparatively safe.

Seventh Indian Command should continue to include Burma Persia and Iraq for present. For some time to come we shall be fighting defensive battle for India and India should control her eastern and western ramparts.

Eighth We have suffered much from lack of rapid and regular inter-communication between Great Britain and India which would enable visits of commanders and staffs and permit interchange of views otherwise than by cable. Is it not possible with increasing number of long range aircraft to establish such service which would bring great increase in efficiency.

1940/1

Recd. by hand from War Office
0440/2 January.

- 1st Lord
- 1st S.L.
- 5th S.L.
- V.C.N.S.
- A.C.N.S. (F)
- N.A. 1st S.L.
- D.O.D. (F)
- D.D.O.D. (F)
- D.C. (2)
- D. of P. (2)
- E.P.S.
- Hd. of M. (2)
- I.P. (2)
- N.I.D. 10 Pay. Cdr. Wilson
- W.D.
- D.N.I. (4)

Copies circulated by War Office to:

- M.O.1 (for action)
- S. of S.
- C.I.C.S.
- V.C.I.C.S.
- D.M.O. & P.
- D.D.M.O. (O)
- M.O. 1.5.10.12.
- D.M.I.
- D.D.M.I. (I)
- M.I.2. (3 copies) 14.
- D.S.D.
- D.S.D. (W)
- C.N.S. Admiralty,
- D. of Plans, Admiralty.
- H.W.R. Admiralty,
- C.A.S. Air Ministry,
- Lt. Col. E.I.C. Jacob,
- Sec. J.P.S.
- D. of Plans, Admiralty.

/MC

War Diary.1.1.1942.
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.China.Enemy
mining
Penang.

Admty. 1949/29 and my 0913/27. Following details of (?typical) mine-laying raids by Japanese aircraft at Penang. 10 monoplane twin-engined aircraft in loose formation approached Penang from N.W. at 0245Z/15 appearing to follow swept channel. Height 5,000 feet. Objects reported as cylindrical and about 5 feet long released roughly simultaneously in the vicinity of inner swept channel buoy 005° 26' 45" N. 100° (?21') 10" E. Object appeared to fall slowly and with erratic movement. No parachutes or external fittings seen. Splash estimated as 10 to 20 feet in height. No explosions seen or heard. No target in the vicinity. Nearest observer one mile away from splash. Enemy encountered no opposition. On balance consider these were mines of unspecified type. (C.in C. E.F. 0105Z/1 to Admty.).

→ Malaya
Sitrep No. 22.

Selangor. Port Swettenham frequently raided by enemy aircraft on 30/12 and H.H.S. KUDAT sunk by dive bombers in approaches to port. Singapore. Bombs including incendiaries dropped in Naval base and on A.A. gun positions in South Johore during raid evening 31/12. Details awaited. (Adv. H.Q. Malaya 0539/1 to W.O.).

O. 20.

(Corrupt Group)*left Singapore for patrol on the Gulf of Thailand 15th December. He was expected to return to Singapore on 29/12. Nothing has been heard of her since then. (C.in C. E.F. 0825Z/1 to CZM) *Verification being obtained. (W.D. note. Presumably O.20).

TEVIOT BANK
O. 19.

Departures Singapore 31/12 TEVIOT BANK, 1/1 Dutch S/M O.19. (S.O.I. Singapore 0915Z/1 to Admty.).

Defence of
Ceylon.

Ref. C.in C. India's telegram. Has it yet been decided that all defence responsibility Ceylon has passed to control of C.in C. India? I agree it should and consider that responsibility for Andamans, Nicobars, and India Ocean Bases should be also transferred. (A.H.Q. Far East 1137/1 to Air Min.).

Labuan
landing.

Enemy landed Labuan P.M. 1/1. (C.O.I.S. Singapore 1227Z/1 to B.N.L.O. Batavia, Admty. D.N.I. A.C.N.B. etc.).

→ KUDAT
sunk.

H.M. Ship KUDAT, Lieut. F.W. Jannings R.N.R. (?bombed) and sunk off Port Swettenham 30/12.

/Casualties

1.1.1942.
Thursday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

China. -Contd.

KUDAT
sunk.
-Contd.

Casualties (details).
(R.A. Malaya 1413Z/1 to Admty.).

Guardship
Persian
Gulf.

To safeguard our vital sea communications in the Persian Gulf against attack by surface raider or block ship, request you will give consideration to the stationing of a guard ship for which purpose GEORGIS AVEROFF might be suitable. (D.O.D.(F) 1451A/1 to C.in C. E.F. (R) C.in C. E.I.). *Should be under East India p.22*

Philippines.

1400 G.M.T. we have at present no communication with the Philippines. (Cable and Wireless London 1504/1).

America and West Indies.

Disposition

A. and W.I. Fleet 1/1 1942. At Bermuda, DIOMEDE, PRINCE HENRY, QUEEN OF BERMUDA, R.F.A. WAR BRAHMIN. At Jamaica, R.F.A.'s ORANGELEAF, BISHOPDALE. At Trinidad, CIRCASSIA, CLARKIA. At Paramaribo, VAN KINSBERGEN. At Balboa, DESPATCH. Refitting at Brooklyn, CARADOC. (C.in C. A.W.I. 0803/1 to C.in C. S.A.).

DESPATCH

Leaves Balboa 2/1 for patrol and will arrive Callao 12/1 to fuel and embark fresh provisions, sailing within 24 hours. Request Peruvian authorities be informed, minimum notice being given. Detailed requirements will be communicated to Consul by DESPATCH. N.C.S.O. Panama pass to DESPATCH. (C.in C. A.W.I. 0952Q/1 to S.O.I. Callao).

ROODE ZEE
towing
operation.

My 2047A/27/12 referred to towage by ROODE ZEE only. (A.C.N.S.(T) 1021A/1 to C.in C. A.W.I.).

O.N.Convoy.

Your 1635N/28. Ships joining ON convoys and bound to ports north of and including Savannah should be reported to D.N.I.Ottawa.

/Ships.....

War Diary.

1.1.1942.

Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies.O.N. Convoys
- Contd.

Ships bound for ports south of Savannah should be reported to D.N.I. Ottawa and S.O.I. Jamaica. (D.T.D. 1217A/1 to S.O.I. Iceland).

Washington
Report.

Washops 23. (1) Philippine Islands. Air R/C on 31/12 located following Japanese ships and aircraft - Malalag Bay, 3 cruisers 1 destroyer 1 tender. Davao Bay, 8 destroyers 6 S/M's, 12 transports, 6 miscellaneous craft 11 4-engined seaplanes. Davao air field, 6 pursuit planes, 15 2-engined bombers.

(2) Hawaii Island. Kahulahi harbour, Maui, Lihue, Kanai, have been, lightly bombarded from seaward, presumably by S/M's. Very little damage resulted.

(3) Phoenix group. A wireless report from one of 3 amateur stations located at Canton Island states Island was being bombarded at 1645Z/31. (J.S.M. Washington 1253R/1 to Admty. etc.)

ALCANTARA .

A.M. 1609⁹/23 not to ALCANTARA. Practice-ammunition 6 inch c.r.h. will not be available for gunnery practices at Bermuda. Further work up practices will be carried out in U.K. (D.O.D. (F) 1354A/1 to B.A.R.M.)

AWATEA.

My 1245Q/31 Transport AWATEA delayed 6 to 7 days, essential engines repaired. (N.C.O.S. Port of Spain 1434Q/1 to Admty.).

DIRKJE.

Your 1233Q/21. H.N.M.S. DIRKJE sailed Halifax 0900/1 for Curacao through 034° 10' N. 074° 30' W. thence via Crooked Island and Windward Passage. E.T.A. Curacao a.m./12. (C.O.A.C. Halifax 1440Z/1 to C. in C. A.W.I.)

Vichy
Shipping.

Casablanca 30/12. A.2. CAPITAINE PRIEUR SCHIAFFINO FRERES and ex British MONROVIA sailing in convoy p.m./30 for Oran and other Eastern Ports." (B.A.D. 1509R/1 to S.O.I. Gib. (R) Admty. S.O.I. Freetown).

N.I.D. Comment. (1) MONROVIA (Ex Greek MOUNT ITHOME) passed Gib. W. to E. 1/1.

(2) SCHIAFFINO FRERES passed Gib. W. to E. 10/11 and has not been reported passing out of Medn.

(3) CAPITAINE PRIEUR Arr. Casablanca 22/12 from Safi and was reported to have sailed 23/12 for Marseilles.

/Washington....

War Diary.

1.1.1942.
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies. -Contd.

Washington Report.

Washops 22. (1) Philippine Isles. 1/1. Gen. MacArthur reports successful junction of his 2 forces in Sanfernando Area and occupation of Batan; covering position Guagla Porac Olongapo with 3 prepared defensive positions in depth on Batan peninsula; first Abucay Moran, second Pilar Bagac, third Limay Saysain. (2) Hawaii Isles. Hilo and Parawiliwili on the Island of Hawaii were shelled during night of 30/31st presumably by submarine. Slight damage was caused at Hilo but there were no casualties. (J.S.M. Washington 1517R/1 to Admty. etc.).

CAMPECHE suspicious

Spanish Tanker CAMPECHE suspected to serving Axis vessels at sea departed Caripito Venezuela 30/12 for Teneriffe due 11/1. (U.S.C.N.O. 1605/1 to Cdr. C.N.C.F. Cmdr. Task Force No.3. etc.).

BEVERLEY
→ N.A.1.

My 1435Z/31/12 and A.M. 1510A/31/12. Repairs to BEVERLEY will be completed in time for this duty. (F.O.N.F. 1627Z/1 to Admty.). A.M. 1510/31 and C.C.N.F.'s 1435Z/31 Convoy N.A.1 must be delayed until BEVERLEY can form part of escort. (2) Request you will sail convoy accordingly. (D.O.D.(H) 1726A/1 to C.O.A.C. Halifax).

Control and protection of world shipping.

B.A.D. Washington 1729R/1. See Home Commands.

→ QUEEN OF BERMUDA.

Your 1326A/25. QUEEN OF BERMUDA may be sailed with N.A.1 but embarkation should be limited as for independent sailing. (Admty. 1756A/1 to N.S.H.Q. Ottawa).

DIMITRIOS INGLESSIS

Following has been read. Position 48 - 12 N. 47 - 45 W. Lost rudder, unable to do anything, require towing urgent immediately, bearing Cape Race 67 approx. and St. John's N.F. 82 approx. (DIMITRIOS INGLESSIS, 2036/1 Cape Race 2150/1). Intercept Cape Race Radio Adressed DIMITRIOS INGLESSIS begins. Salvage vessel going to your assistance 2311/1. (Ends). (Valentia Radio 2357/1 to Admty.).

CORNEVILLE

My 2221Z/28 Norwegian CORNEVILLE arrived Los Angeles 31/12. (N.S.H.Q. Ottawa 2002Z/1 to Admty.)

Japanese....

War Diary.

1.1.1942.
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies. -Contd.

Japanese
Bacterio-
logical
warfare.

Following from U.S. Military Attache Chungking 31/12 gives some confirmation to previous report that Japanese have resorted to bacteriological warfare in China. (Details) (J.S.M. Washington 2100/1 to D.D.M.I. Far East. (R) W.O.).

ALBATROSS

My 1132Q/31. Both Walrus aircraft are to be waited for at Trinidad. Call at Jamaica is to be omitted.
(C.in C. A.W.I. 2152Q/1 to ALBATROSS).

Cancelled - See 2/1 - p 50

ORION.

B.A.R.M. is requested to arrange for ORION, manned in accordance with Admty 2217A/3/10 to carry out one week's work up in U.S.A. waters and then to be sailed for U.K. via Panama Canal.
(2) C.in C. A.W.I. is requested to arrange onward passage.
(3) Circumstances permitting, it is intended that 21 days leave in one watch shall be given to personnel who remained in ship during refit.
(4) After completing to full complement ship will work up in U.K. before returning to Mediterranean. (D.O.D.(F) 2214A/1 to B.A.R.M. C.in C. A.W.I.).

A.N.D.
trials.

Personal ~~from~~ First Sea Lord from V.C.N.S. Proceeding satisfactory. Details.
(V.C.N.S. 2334A/1 to B.A.D.).

Australia.

Tankage

My 0545Z/1 (N.T. in W.D.). Present available oil fuel tankage in Australia. (Details). Request intended scale of tankage.
(A.C.N.B. 1101Z/1 to Admty. (R) C.in C. E.F. B.A.D.).

War Diary.1.1.1942
Thursday.U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.Ships Attacked.CARDITA
(torpedoed
31/12.)

Have taken off 23 survivors from CARDITA in 059° (740')N. 012° 46' W. Ship has remained afloat for 24 hours in heavy weather with bows under water but could be salvaged if tugs are sent. Drift at present 050° 1 knot. Am proceeding in execution of previous orders. (Capt. D.17, 2115/1, to C. in C. W.A.(R) C. in C. H.F., A.C.O.S., R.A.D. H.F., A.C.I.C.) Proceed to assist GARDENIA who will be searching tomorrow for survivors of tanker CARDITA torpedoed at 1859A/31 in 59° 18' N. 12° 50' W. Report your P.C. and S. (C. in C. W.A. 2302A/1 to VERONICA.) CARDITA had straggled from H.X.166. (D.T.D. 1927/1, see South Atlantic.)

Submarines Reported.

Estimated approx. position of U/Bs.
(D.D.I.C. 1423A/1.)

2300/27

H.32 reports that at 2300/27/12 in approx 47° 20' N. 07° 02' W. sighted suspected U-boat with destroyer astern eastbound, revolutions for 18 knots. At 0100/29/12 in approx same position heard vessel estimated nearby calling Brest W/T and at various times heard woodpecker noises not on British frequency, possibly submerged beacon. (F.O.S., 1959A/1 to Admty., C. in C. Plymouth.)

Submarines Attacked.

By A/C

Blenheim A/C attacks off Bardia 24/12, 25/12.
(H.Q. R.A.F. M.E. 1231/1) (See Mediterranean)

By OUTARDE.

N.O.I.C. Esquimalt 2317Z/1 (N.T. in W.D.)
See 0457Z/2.

War Diary.

2.1.1942.
Friday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

Mining.

Mines were detonated today off Yarmouth, Spurn Point and the Mersey.

North Atlantic.

SCOTTISH was attacked this evening off the Tagus. She drove off the plane but received minor damage and had 2 casualties.

Mediterranean.

Enemy aircraft raided Malta between 1824/1 and 0220/2. Slight superficial damage was caused to dockyard property and to BRECONSHIRE. Rocket bombs were used.

Libya.

The first convoy for Benghazi sailed from Alexandria today. Heavy weather has caused further damage to small craft. Naval Albacores laid mines in Zuara harbour last night. Bardia, surrendered today. ABERDARE was unsuccessfully bombed today off Benghazi.

China.

C. in C. Eastern Fleet intends to move in the near future to Batavia, with his staff. Batavia is the best centre for co-operation with the Dutch now and Americans in future, in safeguarding

/convoys ...

War Diary.

2.1.1942.
Friday.

SITUATION REPORT.

China. - contd.

convoys carrying reinforcements to Malaya. After consultation at Batavia as long as necessary with the Naval C. in C. N.E.I. and Cdr. Task Force 5 C. in C. E.F. intends to proceed to Colombo, leaving his Chief of Staff at Batavia to coordinate convoy requirements and maintain liaison with the Dutch and Americans.

Japanese forces entered Manila this morning (B.S.T)

An enemy force attempted to land today at Kuala Selangor and suffered the loss of a small steamer and 4 barges.

Australia & New Zealand.

Trans-Tasman convoys for ships of less than 14¹/₂ knots speed have been started on a 20 day cycle. Reinforcements for Fiji sailed from Auckland this morning, escorted by LEANDER. 7 MONOWAI.

U-Boat Campaign.

An aircraft reports 2 hits on a U boat in 35° 34' N. 19° 7' E. at 1150/2 today, resulting in 2 oil patches.

British tanker ALGONQUIN in Convoy HX 166 reported this morning being attacked by a U boat which she attempted to ram and forced to submerge 110 miles W.N.W. of Butt of Lewis.

War Diary.2.1.1942
Friday.HOME COMMANDS.Policy.

ANTHONY. A.M. 1212A/1 is cancelled.
(D.O.D. H. 2239A/2.)

Movements.

VERONICA Your 2302A/1. My P.C.S. are 059° 41' N. 015° 09' W, 108°, 14 knots at 0030A by dead reckoning.
(VERONICA 0031A/2 to C. in C. W.A.)

COLOMBIA. Your 1757/1. The vessel referred to in my
SKATE. 1041/1 is not the Canadian Destroyer but Dutch
Liner converted to S/M Depot Ship flying the
Royal Netherlands ensign. As COLUMBIA (should
be COLOMBIA. W.D.) is a very important ship,
request one more Destroyer besides SKATE may be
provided as escort.
(C. in C. Rosyth 0957/2 to C. in C. W.A.)

UTMOST. UTMOST leaves Malta 2/1 for U.K. and refit
at Blyth.
(F.O.S. 1034A/2.)

H.28 At 0900A/3 intend to sail H.28, H.43, H.50
H.43 escorted by ALECTO from Falmouth to arrive
H.50 Rothesay 2200A/5. S. of A. 8½ knots. F.O.I.C.
Falmouth will arrive fighter protection.
(F.O.I.C. Falmouth 1059A/2.)

LORD GREY. Intend sailing M/S Trawlers LORD GREY and AIGLON
AIGLON. in company with ROSALIND and ROSEMONDE about 7/1.
ROSALIND for Freetown for onward routeing, calling Fayal
ROSEMONDE. for fuel. Request route may be issued. It is
proposed that vessels should enter Fayal in
pairs and it is requested that a R/V position may
be given for the second pair to join the first
pair on completion of fuelling,
(F.O.I.C. Greenock 1108A/2 to C. in C. W.A.)

EAGLE. Anticipated EAGLE will be ready to sail for
Clyde 8/1. Request escort.
(F.O.I.C. Liverpool 1156A/2.)

ASCANIA Add to my 1020A/29/12 ASCANIA leave Clyde 10/1
RANPURA for Freetown and New Zealand Station. RANPURA
AUSONIA leaves Clyde latter half of January for Baltimore
to refit. AUSONIA leaves Clyde latter half of
January for Halifax then to A. & W.I. Station.
(S.O.W.D. 1203A/2.)

War Diary.2.1.1942.
Friday.HOME COMMANDS.Movements - contd.

WELSHMAN. Admiralty's 1754A/1. Intend to sail WELSHMAN for Milford Haven at 0900 tomorrow. E.T.A. point of arrival 0830/4. Mark 17 units to be disembarked on arrival. No additional officers and 25 additional ratings can be taken. (R.A.M. 1241/2 to Adty.)
A.M.1754/1. 1. WELSHMAN is required to leave U.K. 6/1 after passengers and stores have been embarked and proceed to Takoradi calling at Gibraltar and Freetown. After discharging at Takoradi ship is to return to U.K.
2. Authorities addressed are requested to sail and route ship accordingly at best speed. (A.C.N.S. F. 1944A/2 to C. in C. W.A., C. in C. S.A., F.O.C.N.A.)

JUNON. Intend sailing JUNON under cover of ^{"Slave"}SLAVE to Plymouth tomorrow. Expected time of departure D Buoy Falmouth 1100/3. E.T.A. Plymouth 1545/3. (F.O.I.C. Falmouth 1252/2.)

SEALION. Your 1649A/31/12. Time for bombing restrictions and R/V will be adjusted accordingly. (Capt. S.3. 1528A/1 to SEALION.)

BARCLOSE
BARFORD
BARFOAM
BADSWORTH
VANOC.
BATORY. Your 1200A/2. Messages have been received by BARCLOSE. My P.C.S. at 1400A/2 046° 47' N. 016° 28' W. 045°, 15 knots. Fuel remaining at 0800/2, BADSWORTH 54%, VANOC 50%. (VANOC 1620A/2 to Admty.)
Intercept 1518 G.M.T. 500 K/cs bearing 252° from 20BP BADSWORTH addressed 20 SW BARCLOSE. Passing Admiralty 2352A/1. Intercept 1530 G.M.T. 500 K/cs bearing 257° 20 SW BARCLOSE addressed 20 BP BADSWORTH repeating back Admiralty 1853A/1. (Lands End Radio 1641 G.M.T./2 to Admty.)
My 1502A/31. VANOC is to proceed to Milford Haven after leaving Q Z F 18. (C. in C. W.A. 1826A/2 to VANOC. Reptd. BADSWORTH.)
Your 1826A acknowledged. E.T.A. 0300/4. Have (passengers) (mails). (VANOC 2138A/2 to C. in C. W.A.)

KING SOL,
CAPE MARIATO. Intend to sail KING SOL and CAPE-MARIATO escorting STRAIT FISHER for Aultbea p.m. tomorrow. KING SOL and CAPE MARIATO thence to Reykjavik. (F.O.I.C. Greenock 1704A/2.)

VETERAN. VETERAN is to proceed from 56 A direct to 55 A Buoy leaving 56 Buoy one point 8 miles to Port. After passing 55 A keep 1 mile to Eastward of centre line channel until 54 B buoy is passed thence in normal manner. PYTCHLEY and WHITSHED on patrol between 57 D and 56 A Buoy and 56 A and 54 G buoy respectively. (C. in C. Nore 1710A/2 to VETERAN.)

/KENT ...

War Diary.2.1.1942.
Friday.HOME COMMANDS.Movements - contd.

KENT. Intend sailing KENT for Hvalfjord on 8/1 to relieve NORFOLK.
(C. in C. H.F. 1759/2.)

O.14. (i) Intend sailing O.14 at 0945A/3 routed through following positions to patrol Area C 4. Escorted by STELLA PEGASI to position (c) and then diving by day. (iii) Request bombing restrictions as follows.
(A.C.O.S. 1801A/2.)

ONSLOW
OFFA
MARNE. Your 2315A/30. Arrived.
(N.O.I.C. Reykjavik 1801N/2 to R.A.D.)

RESOLUTION. My 1123A/31. For "Thursday 8th January" read "Monday 5th January".
(C. in C. H.F. 1802A/2.)

SCOTT. I would prefer SCOTT to be sent direct to repair yard.
(R.A.M. 2202/2 to F.O. Force J.)

Operations.

Engagement with E-Boat on night 31/1st. PYTCHLEY. Preliminary report on E-Boat activity on night 31st/1st. About 2200 special intelligence reported activity between 55A and 56 buoys. At 2227 PYTCHLEY on patrol D engaged one E-Boat sighted on a course 245° in position one mile North of 55A Buoy. No hits claimed. Visibility very poor. At 2315 WOOLSTON with F.N.92 between 5 and 6 buoys heard fast H.E. and reported E-Boat. It is now thought that this was PYTCHLEY who had moved south in thick fog. Special intelligence also indicated second group of E-Boats probably eastward of group in vicinity of 55A and 56 Buoys. It is probable that second group did not find swept channel and abandoned operation. Fog was very thick most of the night.
(C. in C. Nore 1120A/2 to Admty.)

SEAWOLF Patrol. Intend SEAWOLF to carry out patrol in area between (?20) degrees east and 24° 40' E. subsequently proceeding (?Holy) Loch in accordance with your 1719A/29/12. C. in C. Northern Fleet R.A. requested me to patrol this area. Reference Q Z R 33 and 34 and your 1714A/15/12. SEAWOLF will not sail from base until return of Soviet S/M now operating this area.
(S.B.N.O. North Russia 1309C/2 to F.O.S.)

/SHARPSHOOTER ...

War Diary.

2.1.1942.
Friday

HOME COMMANDS.

Movements - contd.

SHARPSHOOTER Patrol.	SHARPSHOOTER is to sail 1500/4 for A/S Patrol during dark hours near Position MZ, anchoring in Kildin Strait if weather unsuitable. (S.O.1st M/S F 1629C/2.)
MARSDALE Patrol	MARSDALE is to take C.X 3 forthwith. 37° to 38° N. 39° to 42° W. (S.O.W.P. 1710A/2.)
Cable repair (M.L.MACKAY)	Following received from Cable Ship MARIE LOUISE MACKAY. Begins, Weather permitting will require escort 5/1. Operation without escort completed except where repairs in 51° 41', 010° 23' and 51° 59', 010° 25'. Limit of safe endurance will be reached 9/1. Suggest escort R/V in position off Valentia outside territorial waters daily at dawn. Ends. Request you will signal proposed arrangements to meet this requirement. (D.O.D. H., 2006A/2 to C. in C. W.A.)
Operation "Kitbag".	Following for No.4 Commando. Begins. Lt. Col. D.S. Lister is appointed as Military Force Commander Operation "Kitbag". He is to report to PRINCE CHARLES at Scapa as soon as possible. C.S.10 please pass to Brigadier Haydon. (Commodore, Combined Ops. 2233A/2 to H.Q. S.S. Brigade, Reptd. C. in C. H.F., C.S.10, Capt. D.3.)
<u>Enemy Air Activity.</u>	
IXIOUS attacked on 23/12.	(Belgian Trawler) Reports being attacked by Heinkel 115 at 1800/23 when 15 miles S.E. of Old Head of Kinsale. Plane dropped one bomb trawler opened fire at point blank range and E/A dropped the remainder of bombs at a considerable distance away and was last seen losing height. No damage, no casualties. (F.O.I.C. Milford Haven, 1115/2).
<u>Mining.</u>	
KENTWOOD (Mined 1/1)	KENTWOOD in F.S.687 damaged presumably by mine near 56 Buoy. BASSET endeavoured to tow but KENTWOOD sank at about 2350 approximately 2 cable N.E. ward of the buoy. Survivors being landed at Yarmouth. (C. in C. Nore, 0735A/2).
ADVENTURE (S.N.15.)	ADVENTURE's 2128/1. Intend to sail ADVENTURE for Scapa at 0900/5 carrying out full power trial on passage and sailing to R/V with 1st M.L.S. for operation S.N.15 on Friday morning. ADVENTURE will have a load of Mark 20 Units on board. (R.A.M. 1234/2.)

/Yarmouth ...

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Friday.HOME COMMANDS.Mining - contd.

- Yarmouth Positions of 3 red magnetic mines detonated p.m./2.
(F.O.I.C. Gt. Yarmouth 1421A/2, 1435A/2, 1920A/2, 2121A/2.)
- Hvalfiord. Your 0444/17/12. Did any further information confirm minelaying. Are magnetic and acoustic sweeping arrangements now satisfactory.
(C. in C. H.F. 1438A/2 to A.C.I.C.)
- S.N.15. R.A.(M) 2042/1. Concur in position proposed, and in date of operation if suitable escort can be provided.
(A.C.N.S.H. 1609A/2.)
- PENRHOS (British 187 Tons) Following the finding of a boat marked with ships name it is feared that PENRHOS was mined and sunk with all hands at 0905A/1 in about 243° North Constable Buoy (Constable Banks) 1 mile.
(F.O.I.C. Liverpool 1651A/2.)
- Lights at Cleethorpes. Obstruction Lights R.N. W/T Station Cleethorpes are of assistance to enemy A/C minelaying Mount of Humber. These lights should only be used
(1) when enemy A/C are not repeat not in vicinity
(2) to warn friendly A/C either in distress or lost. Request suitable arrangements be made.
(Air Ministry 1840/2.)
- Humber. Two Magnetic Mines detonated today by Sweepers at 0919 and 1235 respectively. Details.
(F.O. Humber 1855A/2.)
- Liverpool One magnetic detonated by Sweeper. Details.
(F.O.I.C. Liverpool 2058A/2.)

Enemy Intelligence.

- E-Boats off East Coast. Carriers and faint R/T were heard on January 1/2 by Sheringham, Trimingham and Winterton on 51.8 M/cs. The traffic was first picked up by Sheringham at 2350 and then almost immediately afterwards by Trimingham, but Winterton heard nothing till 0133 and then only till 0151. Sheringham's last carrier faded out at 0204. There were indications that at least three units were working as Sheringham heard three carriers on slightly different dial readings. It would appear possible that the boats were working down the outer route from somewhere between Dudgeon and 57D down to somewhere further South than 57B the most Northerly spot that is not blocked by the intervening coast line from Winterton.

/It ...

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War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Enemy Intelligence.

E-Boats
off
East
Coast.
-Contd.

It must be strongly emphasized, however, that surmises based on signal strength and interception of carriers cannot be relied upon. (F.O.I.C. Harwich 1233/2) (C.in C. Nore 1636A/2).

Navigational.

Ungam
Beacon.

Ungam beacon in Sullum Voe at 0820 today by crashed A/C. Light extinguished. (N.C.I.C. Lerwick 1247/2).

8 B
Buoy.

Number 8 B Buoy relit. (F.O.I.C. Gt. Yarmouth 1804A/2).

B 7
Buoy.

B 7 Buoy in Barrow Deep has been dragged to approx. position 123° Gunfleet Light 2.28 miles. Request Q Z H and that Buoy may be replaced as soon as possible. (C.in C. Nore 2053A/2).

54 D
Buoy.

54 D. Buoy Light reported extinguished. Report unconfirmed. (F.O.I.C. Gt. Yarmouth 2357A/2).

Casualties and Defects.

DANEMAN

DANEMAN has boiler defects and cannot proceed with U R 5 P.M. today. (N.O.I.C. Aultbea 1001A/2). My 1001A/2. Boiler and engine defects cannot be repaired at Aultbea. Vessel can steam at slow speed. Request instructions. (N.O.I.C. Aultbea 1301A/2 to C.in C. W.A.). Your 1301A/2. Sail DANEMAN to Clyde as convenient. (C.in C. W.A. 1753A/2 to N.O.I.C. Aultbea).

MONTROSE
BEDOUIN

Admiralty 1758A/1. Intend sailing MONTROSE to Rosyth 1600 today escorted by BEDOUIN. BEDOUIN to boiler clean at Rosyth on arrival. (Commodore (D.) H.F. 1100A/2).

BOREAS

My 1013/2. BOREAS returned to Tyne with defects. (F.O.I.C. Tyne 1344/2).

SHANTUNG
(On fire
25/12).

Following received by A/C from Capt. D. 17 begins. Have sunk SHANTUNG Gothenburg. Abandoned on fire from stem to stern in 062° 28' N. 018° 30' W. T.O.O. 0955N/2. Ends. (A.C.I.C. 1507N/2). *See next page*

BUCCANEER....

War Diary.2.1.1942.
Friday.HOME COMMANDS.Casualties and Defects.-Contd.BUCCANEER.
(*Flack Tug.*)

Tug BUCCANEER has been moved about one cable but has grounded on another sand bank. If weather holds there should be no difficulty in getting her off tomorrow afternoon. Rescue tug SEAMAN is entering Montrose for the night. (N.O.I.C. Dundee 1742/2).

Shipping & Convoys.

O.S.15.

My 1615A/31/12. To cover possibility that ships were detached prior to receipt of signal ordering retention, Admiralty have issued re-routing instructions by G.B.M.S. Further instructions to detach will however be promulgated in due course in case they are still in convoy. (C.in C. W.A. 1023A/2 to Escort O.S.15).

S.C.60.

Warmest congratulations on the safe arrival in the U.K. of all the ships in your convoy S.C.60. (C.in C. W.A. 1052A/2 to Capt. E.C.D.). Average speed 7 knots. Two ships lost convoy with DAUPHIN in thick weather on 24/12. All ships now reported. (D.T.D. 1828A/2 to Opnav).

S.L.95

Warmest congratulations on bringing safely to the U.K. all the ships in your Convoy S.L.95. (C.in C. W.A. 1057A/2 to Commdore J.C.K. Dowding).

H.X.165

Average speed 8.9 knots, weather good but visibility low for some days. SHANTUNG straggled night of 24/12 and was afterwards abandoned as a result of fire. All other ships arrived. *see previous page* (D.T.D. 1448A/2 to Opnav).

P.Q.7.

SHARPSHOOTER to be in the vicinity of MZ from 1000C/5 to R/V with P.Q.7 escorted by BRITOMART and SALAMANDER expected there 1200C/5. Approach course $\frac{3}{4}$ degrees laid through Erdorofara Inlet. (S.C. 1st M/S F. 1629C/2 to SHARPSHOOTER).

W.S.15
C.T.9.

W.S.15 and C.T.9. Cancel my 1625A/1. N.O.I.C. Belfast is requested to provide A/A escort from Bristol Channel to Clyde for VOLENDAM and DORSET on 6/1. (C.in C. W.A. 1852A/2).

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Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

- S.L. 97. Request E.T.A. position (J). On receipt of reply to my 1715A/31 request you will allocate position in Convoy for Ship of Gib. Section and inform me. EMPIRE DELL is a Cam Ship. (F.O.C.N.A., 1014A/2, to C. in C. S.A.) Reply: C. in C. S.A. 1353Z/4.
- Return of S.O. Force H. Your 1846A/1. In view of possible delay due to weather and of general destroyer situation should prefer use of HERMIONE. If approved ship will sail p.m./3 and arrive Plymouth a.m./6. F.O.C.N.A. concurs. (S.O. Force H., 1016A/2 to Admty.) Your 1016A/2. Approved. You are to transfer your flag to HERMIONE and proceed in her to Plymouth. HERMIONE will be required to leave Plymouth on 10/1 wearing flag of Rear Adm. Syfret. (D.O.D.(F) 1940A/2 to S.O. Force H.)
- SHAHKRISTAN Survivors. Your 1026A/30. Survivors arrived Gibraltar from Lisbon 5/12. Now attached Royal Army Service Corps here who state instructed to hold them pending further orders. (F.O.C.N.A., 1144A/2 to Admty.)
- Tangier Intelligence. Following received from Tangier (begins):- Addressed F.O.3 and Cairo 1, Admiral Gibraltar for Governor 1. U.S. Consul, Tunis, has received reliable information that 37 Trucks loaded with Petrol have been shipped to Tripoli via Mahares from Souk El Arba. He has also received report that there is a German Transport in Susa Harbour. Above dated 31/12. (Ends). (F.O.C.N.A., 1514A/2, to V.A. Malta, C. in C. Med.)
- P. 39. My 1336/31. Departure P.39. (F.O.C.N.A., 1516A/2, to C. in C. Med.)
- LEYLAND. LEYLAND left Gibraltar in July, 1941 to refit in U.K. Request I may be informed when she may be expected back. (F.O.C.N.A. 1642A/2 to Admty.)
- Tunis, Morocco intelligence. Americans have reported (1) French troops have instructions to disarm any Axis troops crossing Tunisian Frontier. (2) Gen. Schultheiss is being retired from Morocco Commission because Germans not satisfied with his work. (3) Majority of German pilots serving on Commission in Morocco have been ordered to leave immediately for service in Greece. (Tangier, 1752/2, to Admty. (R) S.O.I. Gib.)
- Enemy Shipping. List BB number 1 arrived Barcelona 31/12 list DD number 1 left Barcelona 30/12 for Sete, number 2 arrived Barcelona 31/12. (F.O.C.N.A., 1806A/2, to P.36, P.39).

/SCOTTISH ...

War Diary.

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Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic. - contd.

SCOTTISH,
A/C attack.

One unknown air plane bearing 270° distance 4 miles approx. course 180°. My position 300°. Porthcawl distance 8 miles at 6 o'clock. (SCOTTISH, 1835/2, 1851/2 to Gibraltar W/T). W.D. Note. - Porthcawl probably incorrect, ?Tagus. My 1851. Attack driven off. Minor damage to ship. Proceeding Lisbon with 1 desperately wounded soldier, one slightly injured Stoker. (SCOTTISH, 1915A/2, to F.O.C.N.A) (F.O.C.N.A. 2302A/2 to Admty.)

JOAO PESSOA,
EUGENIO C.

Left this morning loaded with iron ore destination believed to be Nantes. (B.C. Bilbao, 1859/2.)

GERANIUM.

Not met. My P.C. and S. 33.30 10.58 060°.11. Weather port. (GERANIUM, 2000A/2, to F.O.C.N.A.)

ALOUETTE.

ALOUETTE leaves Gibraltar a.m./3rd to patrol off Melilla. (F.O.C.N.A. 2238A/2 to OLYMPUS, P.39).

South Atlantic.

Falklands
Defence.

Your 1601Z/30. In view of considerable time which must elapse before gun direction finders could be erected, could further consideration be given to possibility of sending a monitor or obsolete warship, such as old French battleship? (R.A.S.A.D., 0114Z/2, to C. in C. S.A.)

Trinidad.

Fixed Defences satisfactory. (N.O.I.C. Trinidad 0942Q/2, to Admty. for A/S W.)

ENGADINE,
INDOMITABLE.

A.M. 2144/30. ENGADINE reports disposal of aircraft as follows.
(a) to INDOMITABLE 2 Albacores 8 Hurricanes.
(b) to N.A.S. Wynberg 2 serviceable Swordfish 7 damaged Swordfish, one damaged Hurricane.
(c) aircraft remaining on board, nil.
(2) Composition of remaining cargo is 249 bags of mail for Suez and 5 Pegasus XXX engine.
(3) ENGADINE requires about 4 days for making good essential engine room and other defects but due to arrival of convoy W.S.14 at Capetown ship will probably be moved to Simonstown for completion.

/Further ...

War Diary.

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FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic.

- ENGADINE,
INDOMITABLE.
(contd.) Further signal will be made giving date of readiness onward passage.
(4) (?Ref.) my para. 1 (c) and 2 request confirm ENGADINE is (?still) to proceed Suez in accordance with para. 3 of above Admty. message.
(N.O.I.C. Simonstown, 1103Z/2, to Admty.)
- DEVONSHIRE,
CILICIA,
CANTON. Your 1852Z/1 para. 1 and 2 approved. After R/V in para. 1, DEVONSHIRE and CILICIA are to carry out a sweep with ships spread to N.E. in H.33 D and H.34 C returning to R/V with CANTON as in para. 2 on 8/1. Coastal shipping information is being signalled. (C. in C. S.A., 1115Z/2 to DEVONSHIRE, (R) CANTON, CILICIA).
- Lourenco Marques. F.O.I.C. Simonstown's 1103Z/31/12. Concur that the need to relieve congestion at Union Ports should over-ride the objection to the use of Lourenco Marques. (C. in C. S.A., 1151Z/2 to Admty.)
- INDOMITABLE. My 1013/17. Cape Town departures 1120Z/2 INDOMITABLE for Aden. S. of A. 22 knots. E.T.A. 10/1. (F.O.I.C. Simonstown 1509Z/2.)
- O.S.14 Route. A.M. 1439A/30/11. Commodore of O.S.14. now in VANSITTART has not got copy of routes in envelope Z. C. in C. W.A. informs me EURYBATES now with Cape portion was the only ship supplied with this envelope and he has left it in her. Am directing Cape portion of O.S.14 to take middle route. Request reference and lettered positions of one ship on this route may be signalled and also the relative positions of other ships.
(C. in C. S.A., 1527Z/2, to Admty. (R) C. in C. W.A.)
- OMAHA, SOMERS. A.M. 1047A/21/12/41. OMAHA and SOMERS arrived Pernambuco 31/12 and left 1/1 for San Juan area via Trinidad. E.T.A. San Juan about 9/1.
(D.O.D. (F) 1531A/2 to C. in C. S.A. R.A.S.A.D.)
- DEVONSHIRE. Your 1852/1 para. (3) Merchant ships expected to pass your area. (List).
This list does not include the movements of local neutral coastal shipping.
This list will be added to daily.
(C. in C. S.A. 1546Z/2 to DEVONSHIRE Repeated CANTON, CILICIA).
- SILVERBELLE. First knowledge that COMMANDANT DUBOC was returning Measures taken to Freetown was received P.M. 2/10 when she made an arrival signal.
to bring her in. 2. Admiralty's 1336A/2 to B.N.A. Madrid indicated that at this time SILVERBELLE was in tow of /LADY ...

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Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic.

SILVERBELLE.
Measures taken
to bring her
in.
(contd.)

LADY SHIRLEY and this was confirmed by V.A.C. N.A. (? 1635A/3) to C. in C. S.A. only. (Your 1828A/31 refers.)

3. Master of SILVERBELLE was interviewed P.M./3/10 but his suggestion that a Flying Boat should fly him and three Engineers back to the ship was considered impracticable as the distance to position in which tow was abandoned by DUBOC was 1100 miles from Freetown and there could be no guarantee that aircraft would be able to land even if ship was found. Tugs from Freetown would have taken six days to reach position.

4. Following action was therefore taken at Freetown (A) C. in C. S.A.'s 1955N/3/10 stated position as then known at Freetown and intention that EAGLE should search on passage to Gibraltar. (B) Master of SILVERBELLE and selected members of his crew were re embarked in COMMANDANT DUBOC and this ship was sailed in company with EAGLE for Gibraltar. EAGLE's instructions were to carry out air search in vicinity of Canaries without unduly delaying arrival at Gibraltar and to detach COMMANDANT DUBOC to search if information was received that SILVERBELLE was likely to be still afloat. (C) EAGLE and COMMANDANT DUBOC sailed from Freetown P.M./4/10. Further information was requested from F.O.C.N.A. on 6/10 and was received in F.O.C. N.A.'s 1102A/7/10 to C. in C. S.A. Repeated Admty. and EAGLE and F.O.C. N.A.'s 0352A/8/10 to EAGLE Repeated Admty. and C. in C. S.A.

5. Master's statement that no arrangements were made to send tugs from Freetown is correct. This was never even contemplated as it would have been impossible for any ship from Freetown to reach position of SILVERBELLE before she would according to the Master's estimate have sunk.

6. The Master appears to have been under a misapprehension as to distances involved and speed of craft available. (C. in C. S.A. 1603Z/2 to C. in C. W.A.)

ASTURIAS.

Your 1415Z/1. You should arrive Falkland Is. as early as fuel situation permits. Zigzag may be dispensed with to expedite arrival.

Report now your fuel remaining and amended E.T.A. (R.A.S.A.D., 1615Z/2 to ASTURIAS).

Your 1615Z/2. Fuel remaining 1320 tons. Amended time of arrival Falkland Is. 1930Z/7. (ASTURIAS, 1940Z/2 to R.A.S.A.D.)

LAPLACE.

Overdue shipping LAPLACE due Bahia 26/12 from U.K. has not arrived. Agent states they have been informed ship is considerably delayed.

(S.O.I. Montevideo 1741Z/2 to Admty.)

O.S. Convoys,
"Kapruts."

Ref. C. in C. W.A. 1929A/1. "Kapruts" issued addressed to N.C.S.O. Freetown forwarded in

/following ...

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Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic.

O.S. Convoys,
"Kapnuts".
(contd.)

following ships.
O.S.14. ex Clyde MAIHAR, BENRINNES. ex Milford
BALFE LYLEPARK, O.S.15. ex Clyde EMPIRE ORTOLAN,
BANDAR SHAHPOUR, ex Milford EMPIRE GULL, ex Oban,
DALHANNA, LORCA.
Admty. will promulgate in future when Convoy sails.
Details of Scheme were despatched in EGRET and
FLEETWOOD. (D.T.D. 1948A/2 to C. in C. S.A.
(R) C. in C. W.A.)

Whale
catchers.

N.O.I.C. Falkland Islands Port Stanley 1307Z/1.
Consider any remaining whale catchers in South
Georgia could be usefully employed here for local
patrol purposes in Falkland Islands. Request
approval for them to be chartered now.
(R.A.S.A.D. 2007Z/2 to C. in C. S.A., Admty.)

JAY.

Your 1249A/31/12. JAY is delayed at Freetown due
to defects. Will not be able to sail before 12/1.
Should arrive Durban middle of February.
(C. in C. S.A., 2301Z/2 to Admty.)

Mediterranean.

Convoy
"Merit."

Two Fulmars have been sent to assistance of convoy
"Merit" at 1130. (238 Wing H.Q., 1115B/2 to Ships
and Stations on Libya P Wave).

Aden, possible
scale of
attack.

Your 1440A/1. This question is being considered by
J.(L).S. As an intermediate measure 1939's aircraft
will be used but it will be obvious to T.L. that
no Naval force can be spared from Mediterranean.
(C. in C. Med., 1126B/2 to Admty.)

→ ERICA.

Return to Port Said as soon as weather permits.
(N.O.I.C. Syrian Ports, 1130C/2 to ERICA).
Carry out my 1130/2.
(N.O.I.C. Syrian Ports, 1710C/2 to ERICA).

→ DELPHINIUM,
→ ERICA.

My 2201C/1 and your 1213B/1. DELPHINIUM delayed by
had weather at Beirut. ERICA is being directed to
return Port Said as soon as weather permits and
should be used for escorting FOUADIEH.
(N.O.I.C. Syrian Ports, 1135C/2 to N.O.I.C. Port
Said (R) R.A.D.(D) Med., R.A. Alexandria, ERICA
N.O.I.C. Famagusta, N.O.I.C. Palestinian Ports, Haifa
C. in C. Med.)

/Enemy ...

War Diary.

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Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean. - contd.

Enemy Units. One merchant ship one destroyer, course 225° 5 knots, 034° 42' N., 011° 27' E., at 1045B. (V.A. Malta, 1141B/2 to UPRIGHT). P.C. and S. 1 Merchant Ship at 1020 was 180° Melita 10, 130° 8, aircraft attacking now. (V.A. Malta, 1245B/2 to UPRIGHT.)

U/B attacked by A/C. Following has been read. Addressed Call sign O N 1. P.C. and S. of (?2) submarines on surface are 35° N., 19° E., 34, 7, 21. (A/C. call sign R 320, 1150/2). Have attacked enemy (2) with bombs dive and estimate 2 hits, oil patches. (A/C R.320, 1155/2, to Call Sign O.N.1.)

NAPIER, NESTOR, NIZAM, INDOMITABLE. Request you will (?sail) NAPIER, NESTOR and NIZAM to transit canal on 4/1, fuel at Aden on 7/1 and R/V on 9/1 West of Socotra with INDOMITABLE as ordered by C. in C. E.I. Thence escort INDOMITABLE during operation ferrying aircraft from Port Sudan to Far East. They will subsequently join Eastern Fleet. (C. in C. Med., 1152B/2, to R.A.(D) Med., (R) C. in C. E.I., etc.)

Need for A/S Craft. Your 1807A/28. I fully realize the difficulties but it is felt that perhaps the weight of commitments for A/S craft in the Mediterranean is not understood.

2. Existing commitments are (a) North African supplies to Tobruk Derna Benghazi at rate of 2,000 tons per day, requiring 12 ships at sea at any one time. (b) Port Said to Alex. route 2,000 tons per day, 6 ships at sea per day. (c) Oil traffic Haifa to Alex., 10,000 tons per week. (d) Supply to Beirut Tripoli (Syria) Iskanderun, Mersin, usually about 8 ships at sea. (e) Supply to Cyprus and other small ports 500 tons a day.
3. There are thus 11 ports in the area at present requiring A/S patrols and 3 main traffic routes on which an average of 20 ships a day are moving, in about 5 small convoys.
4. To provide Port patrols at three per port requires 30 A/S vessels in addition to the daily requirement of escort for 5 convoys. With the present intensity of U boat activity I cannot afford to skimp escorts, particularly on the Army's vital supply line.
5. To meet this demand I have now 21 fleet destroyers of which some are under long repair, 6 Hunts and 2 to come, 7 Corvettes 15 A/S trawlers and 4 to come, 12 70 foot ML's. This is a total including fleet destroyers of some sixty A/S fitted craft of which about 15 would normally be unserviceable, to meet a call which reference to para. 4 will show to require about 55. Moreover the fleet destroyers are required largely for other duties.* (C. in C. Med., 1632B/2, to Admty.)

* (anns 7, 8, + 9, See (011)7, page 165.

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Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean. - contd.

UTMOST.

Sailing postponed 24 hours.
(Capt. S.10, 1655B/2, to UNA, P.35).SULLBERG,
ESPIGUETTE.Arrivals 1st SULLBERG German ESPIGUETTE from Sete
in ballast SULLBERG expected sailing tonight 2nd
Marseilles. (Valencia 1745/2.)

MAURO CROCE.

Arrival 2/1. (Barcelona, 1749/2).

Berbera
Evacuees.My 1330B/31 F.O.C.R.S.F. 1822B/1 to P.S.T.O. Egypt
only. NIEW AMSTERDAM and ARONDA proceed Berbera to
embark evacuees for Durban.
(P.S.T.O. Egypt, 1751B/2 to S.S.T.O. Suez).Malta Raids,
use of
rocket bombs.Night 1-2/1.
3 Alerts, 1824 to 0220 hours, 13 intruders crossed
coast, Albacore attacked when landing, no damage.
Civilian damage. Slight superficial damage dockyard
property, also BRECONSHIRE. Civilian casualties.
Hurricanes up, no engagements A.A. fired barrages.
Rocket bombs used. 1 W.X. recovered. Weight approx.
1,000 pounds. Full report will be signalled
separately. Bombs make terrific noise when falling.
4 Albacores mine-laying Zuara Harbour, 1 for
Diversions, 1 returned mechanical trouble, 1 missing,
1 mine laid. 4 Wellingtons 1 (CHC) nuisance raid
Tripoli 1 over target 1845 to 1915 hours. 1 bomb
dropped, result unobserved. Remaining aircraft
did not go, thick low cloud over target. 4 Blenheims
successful shipping sweep Gulf of Sirte in moon-
light, alternative road targets. Bombs dropped
from 30 feet. 1 Steamer 800 tons Buriat Harbour
hit. Small M/V's machine gunned. Hits and
explosives barrack buildings and M.T. Park. Another
M.T. park set on fire.
Day 2, 1327 hours, 12 M.E.109's 4 bombers crossed
coast, bombs Luqa, no damage. Hurricanes inter-
cepted and engaged bombers. No claims made.
1 Hurricane slightly damaged pilot slightly
wounded. (H.Q., R.A.F., Malta, 1831/2).Zuara
Minelaying.Bardia
Captured.Cositrep No. 88.
Bardia. Night 1/2 Jan., our attack on objectives
generally successful except on left and in isolated
pockets where enemy still holding out but
resistance weakening. Many enemy surrendering.
Fires observed in Bardia. Attack proceeding.
Stop Press. Late report states Bardia captured and
approx., 1,000 British prisoners rescued. Casualties
believed slight. ~~At Day~~ 31/12. One small tug hit off
Nofilia. (C. in C. M.E., 1835/2).New type bombs on Malta. Bombs as described in Air Ministry's weekly
intelligence summary No.115 appendix A were dropped
at Malta night 1st/2nd Jan.

(ii) ...

War Diary.2.1.1942.
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean.New type
bombs on
Malta.
(contd.)

(ii) U.X.B. recovered with date April 1941 which corresponds with description given. Report being forwarded to Air Ministry.
 (iii) Tactics employed appear exactly as described.
 (iv) Reference para. 10. Bomb appears as ball of fire which inspires confidence unless closing on steady bearing. (N.O.I.C. Malta, 1917B/2 to Admty.)

Situation
report.

Western Desert. Bardia surrendered to-day 2nd. 1000 British prisoners recovered and 3000 enemy taken. AJAX escorted by 6 Destroyers bombarded Bardia headquarters night 30/31 to synchronise with attack. Army report bombardment very useful. APHIS attempted harassing bombardment of positions north of Bardia during same night but was driven off by coastal battery after firing 20 rounds.
 2. Minesweepers have arrived Benghazi but gales have delayed clearance. One tug and three lighters salvaged so far. First Benghazi Convoys have sailed from Alexandria to-day. Combined operational headquarters of SNOLS and Advance 201 Naval Co-operation Group being established at Benghazi. 826 Squadron withdrawn from forward air command to operate under 201 N C Group. This Squadron has done excellent work in support of the Army advance.
 3. Heavy weather has caused further damage to small craft. Tug DAISY lost on passage to Tobruk. One Z lighter lost while in tow from Port Said to Alexandria.
 4. Aircraft reports two hits on U Boat in position 35.34 N. 19.07 E. at 1150/2. Two oil patches resulted. (C. in C. Med. 1920B/2.)

Ferry
Steamers,
CARDAK,
SILVIRI.

Your 1642/15. Following for Adm. Kelly. Turks not informed. No objection to same procedure as in case of earlier ferries.
 (D.S.T., 2049A/2, to N.A. Ankara).

Aden.

Your tel. No. 651 has been considered by Chiefs of Staff, who have asked C's in C. M.E. to examine it and send their observations to Chiefs of Staff stating any action they are taking.
 J.I.C. are preparing report on the possible scale of attack on Aden which will be sent to C's in C.M.E. (S. of S. for Colonies, 2145/2, to Governor, Aden).

Enemy Units.

P.C. and S. of enemy M/V and 1 destroyer, 268° Tripoli 16-285 -8-.
 (Med. A/C ?YU3D, 2252/2, to Malta Air H.Q.)
 Following made by Med. A/C.
 Enemy previously reported was M/V 5,000 tons. Course and Speed 280° 10 knots.
 (Malta W/T, 2305/2, to Nore W/T).
 Corrected position 278° Tripoli 31.
 (Med. A/C. D, 2325/2, to Med. A/C).

/Capture ...

War Diary.

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Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean. - Cont.

Capture of
Bardia.

Bardia. Moonlight attack night 1/2 Jan., resulted in enemy surrendering unconditionally. R.N. and R.A.F. support very successful.
Day 2/1. Air R/C reported four small ships off Buerat el Hsun with three barges unloading near jetty. Also stores dumps on road. (C. in C. M.E. 2305/2).

War Diary.

2.1.1942.
Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

Lourenco
Marques.

Re use for Bunkers. (A.C.N.S. (T), 0008A/2)
See America & West Indies.

M.Ls.
Trincomalee.
*Motor Patrol
Boats -
(Pink List.)*

Your 2342/14/9. N.O.I.C. Simonstown informs
me 10.98 INSIZWAL and 10.99*INKOSAN PRINCESS have
been allocated 112th Flotilla at Mombasa.
The need for these motor launches at Trincomalee
is pressing. Request their allocation be altered
accordingly. (C. in C. E.I., 0422Z/2 to Admty).

**Pink List given INKOSANA*

→ ROYAL
SOVEREIGN.

Arrived. (N.O.I.C. Seychelles, 0545Z/2).

→ DORSETSHIRE.

Departure for Durban. (S.O.(I) Bombay 0546Z/2
to Admty etc).

Vesca
system.

Your 1710/25. This system was brought into
force on E.I. Station in July 1940 and works
satisfactorily. It extends to adjacent stations.
(C. in C. E.I., 1030Z/2 to Admty).

→ INDOMITABLE.

Your 1037/31 no objection to use of R/T as far
as Aden. (C. in C. E.I., 1144Z/2 to INDOMITABLE).

CAPETOWN
CASTLE, and
Bombay.
Malaya Move,
B.M.11.

Your 0942/1. CAPETOWN CASTLE is a 27,000 ton
vessel with very large refrigerated space but
small trooping capacity. Her use in B.M.11
for this hazardous service is most undesirable.
C. in C. E.F. is requested to give his views.
2. Request you consider possibility of using
FELIX ROUSSEL, WESTERLAND, or even MARNIX VAN
ST. ALDEGONDE or WINDSOR CASTLE instead. If either
FELIX ROUSSEL or WESTERLAND are used, MARNIX or
WINDSOR CASTLE could be substituted in next
service.
3. Will date of sailing of EMPRESS OF ASIA
from Durban reported in Durban's 1101/28 affect
sailing date of B.M.11?
4. Presume you will now use KOSCIUSZKO and
JOHAN DE WITT for Bombay-Karachi and Bombay-
Suez requirements instead of WINDSOR CASTLE.
(D. of S.T. 1259A/2 to P.S.T.O. India).

Movements.

Summary number 19 2/1.

1. As in No. 18. 2. ROYAL SOVEREIGN leaves
Seychelles 3/1, due Mombasa 6/1.
3. INDOMITABLE left Capetown 2/1 due Aden 10/1.
4. CORNWALL escorting W.S.12 Z. B. from vicinity
equator due Bombay 6/1.
5. DORSETSHIRE left Bombay 2/1 due Durban 11/1
via Mozambique channel.
6. EXETER left Colombo 31/12 due Port T 2/1.

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Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies.Movements
-Contd.

7. MAURITIUS left Colombo 2/1 escorting EMPRESS OF RUSSIA to Durban through Mozambique Channel.
8. EMERALD escorting D.M.1 from 5° 28' S. 48° 50'E. due Port I 4/1.
9. COLOMBO due Aden 4/1 with W.S. 12 Z.A.
10. GORGIOS AVEROFF left Colombo 1/1 due Bombay 5/1.
11. CARTHAGE left Bombay 31/12 escorting B.A.12 due Aden 6/1.
12. CORFU left Mombasa 1/1 escorting DILWARA due Durban 6/1.
13. HECTOR left Mauritius 30/12 to escort R.F.A. OLCADES from position south of Madagascar due Mauritius 4/1.
14. MANOORA at Sandheads.
15. FALMOUTH left estimated time p.m./2nd due Trincomalee 4/1.
16. INDUS leaves Trincomalee 5/1, due Colombo 7/1.
- 17.* ESKDALE arrived Madras 1/1 leaves 3/1 escort ELLENGA to Port Blar. *Not destroyed (completed 7/42)
18. JUMNA left Colombo 31/12 escorting AJAX (M/V) and SINGU to port T, due 3/1.
19. TRUSTY left Aden 1930Z/1 12.4 knots routed 5 miles north of Socotra due Colombo 9/1.
20. KELVIN left Bombay 31st December due Aden 3/1.
21. DULVERTON at Aden.
(C.in C. E.I. 1430Z/2, 0156Z/3).

STEAUA
ROMANA
OLTENIA II

STEAUA ROMANA has required more than fortnight for formality at Mombasa of de-requisition seizure and requisition from prize court. OLTENIA II expected Capetown shortly for discharge will then proceed Mombasa for similar procedure. Admty. and M. of W.T. gravely concerned at possibility of similar delay in view of tanker shortage. You should give Colonial Authorities earliest forecast expected arrival and offer any help which can possibly hasten completion formalities and ship's departure. (D.T.D. 2241A/2 to N.O.I.C. Mombasa, (R) N.C.S.O's Capetown, Mombasa.).

China.

Singapore Raids. 2 Air raids on Singapore on night of 31/12. 27 aircraft involved in first raid, 4 plus in second 31 large bomb craters 3 miles N. of Tengah.
/Little.....

War Diary.2.1.1942.
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.China.Singapore
raids
-Contd.

Little damage caused. 2 bombs 1 unexploded dropped from single very high flying aircraft in Tengah district p.m. 1/1 no damage. Several attacks on Port Swettenham during day. 1 rubber Godown hit and fire started.
(A.H.Q. Far East 0104/2 0210/2).

Ships for
Javanese
ports.

It will not be possible (?to divert) ships in convoys to protected Javanese ports if their draught on arrival at Sunda Strait exceeds 30 feet. (C.in C. E.F. 0351Z/2 to C.in C. E.I. A.C.N.B. N.O.I.C. Durban).

HOBART

Your 0339Z/28. As escort of D.M. 1 has now been strengthened intend using HOBART after arrival of B.M.9 A to cover B.M.9 B. North of Banka Strait and then sail her for Fremantle leaving approach to Singapore (?p.m.) /6.
(C.in C. E.F. 0513Z/2 to A.C.N.B.).

O.20
Overdue

Ref. your 0825Z/1. (N.T. in W.D.). (?Have) you a signal from O.20 between 15/12 and 29/12 .
(C.Z.M. 0715Z/2 to C.in C. E.F.).
Your 0715/2nd. No.
(C.in C. E.F. 0928Z/2 to C.Z.M.).

Senoko
Oil Fuel
Depot Raid.

Approx. 30 H/E and incendiary bombs (one U.X.B) dropped on and around Senoko oil fuel depot on night 29th and 31st Dec. from approx. height of 17,000 feet except one low at (?400) feet. Four tanks slightly damaged. No fire. No casualties.
(N.O.I.C. Malaya 0843Z/2 to Admty.).

Perak and
Bernam
rivers.

Reports during 31/12 and 1/1. indicated threat by enemy craft to Perak and Bernam rivers. Patrol from our detachment Telok Anson engaged four enemy craft in Perak river but was driven off. Main threat appears to be to Bernam River where six steamers towing large number small craft have now entered river after being sighted at sea early on 1/1 by Air R/C. Of three Dutch aircraft making this R/C only one returned one shot down by two enemy fighters off Port Swettenham one crashed into sea, cause unknown, while carrying out low search of enemy vessels. Two Blenheims despatched attack this force now several hours overdue and feared lost.

Singapore
raid.

Selangor. Several air attacks on Port Swettenham during 1/1.
Singapore. 2 air raids during night 31/1. First by 27 aircraft caused no military and little civil damage in area of South Johore -

/Seletar...

War Diary.

2.1.1942.

Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.China.Singapore
raids
-Contd.

Seletar- naval base. Second by plus four aircraft objective Kallang caused some civilian damage and casualties. Bombs dropped at Tengah during afternoon and evening 1/1. In second raid two Swordfish of spotter flight destroyed two more damaged, and aerodrome temporarily unserviceable.
(Adv. H.Q. Malaya 0856/2).

C.in C.
move to
Batavia.

There is need of closest co-operation with Dutch now and Americans in future (?in) safeguarding convoys (?carrying) reinforcements to Malaya. Moreover reinforcements will shortly be arriving in Sumatra and transhipments may be necessary in Java. The best centre for co-operation is Batavia.

(2) I intend moving to Batavia in near future with Eastern Fleet staff. After consultation there for as long as necessary with Naval C.in C. N.E.I. and Cdr. Task Force 5 I shall proceed Colombo leaving my (?Chief of Staff) at Batavia to co-ordinate convoy requirements and maintain liaison with Dutch and Americans.

(3) I intend to take H.M.S. ANKING to Tanjong Priok to act as (?temporary) depot and W/T ship. (C.in C. E.F. 1041Z/2 to Admty. (R) C.in C. E.I. N.O. Melbourne., N.O. Wellington).

Congestion
N.E.I. ports.

Report received from Dutch Authorities that number of British and Allied ships are awaiting orders in N.E.I. ports and are causing congestion. Request you will take all possible steps to keep shipping moving and instruct Consuls and Agents to refer to M.of W.T. if in doubt as to destination of such ships.
(A.C.N.S.(T) 2054A/2 to C.in C. E.F. (R) R.A. Malaya).

Removal of
Petrol from
Malaya.

Your 0345/31 and 0349/31. Following is proposed shipping programme.. (D.T.D. 2240A/2 to C.in C. E.F.) See Lion Copy.

America and West Indies.Lourenco
Marques.

Your 1615R/20/12. No objection to Texas Oil Co. making necessary bunkering arrangements at Lourenco Marques and F.O.I.C. Simonstown is in favour of this proposal. U.S. Naval Attache

/Capetown...

SECRET

MESSAGE

CUT

2240A/2nd January.

50 A.

To C.in C. Eastern Fleet. 875.

Repeated R.A. Malaya, 67.

Date 2.1.42.

Australian Commonwealth Naval

Board, 480.

C.in C. East Indies. 673.

Naval Cypher 'Z'

From Admiralty.

Your 0345/31 and 0349/31 not to C.in C. East Indies.
Following is proposed shipping programme:-

Ship	Cargo	Destination
PAN SCANDIA	14,000 tons Aviation spirit components	Australia
SAIDJA	8,000 tons Aviation spirit components	Australia
YENANGYUANG	6,500 tons 100 Octane spirit	Rangoon
SUNETTA	11,000 tons 100 Octane spirit	Suez
Local Coasting Steamer	3,500 tons 100 Octane spirit	Madras
Local Coasting Steamer	3,500 tons 100 Octane spirit	Calcutta
BRITISH PRINCESS	11,000 tons 90 Octane spirit	Suez
MARIDAL	9,000 tons 100 Octane spirit	Suez
VERA	9,000 tons Aviation spirit components	Australia
ELSIE	8,000 tons Aviation spirit components	Australia

2. Your 0347/31, not to C.in C. East Indies. Assume that 40,000 tons motor spirit remain to be lifted. Quickest means would be to send in ballast to Netherlands East Indies PAN EUROPE now Melbourne and MAGNOLIA due Sydney also two tankers due South Africa shortly for discharge.

3. Essential to save time occupied by voyage to Abadan by sending some dirty tankers from Fremantle to Pladjoe or Balikpapan or Tarakan to load fuel and diesel for Australia.

4. Your 0349/31 (A). If aviation spirit Pangkalan Brandan not required for air forces in North Sumatra can you arrange with Asiatic for removal by coasting tanker.

5. Asiatic Singapore is being instructed to ascertain from you how far programme and proposals can be accepted and to arrange details keeping their London office fully informed.

2240A/2
for D.T.D. (370)

✗ Former given a restricted circulation.

4th S.L.

V.C.N.S.

A.C.N.S. (F)

A.C.N.S. (T)

N.A.1st S.L.

O.D. (5)

Ops. (3)

C.I.C. (2)

D.N.I. (4)

D. of S.

D.T.D. (4)

D.T.D. (M)

D.T.D. (C)

D. of S.T.

I.P. (3)

D.A/S.W.

W.B.

D. of P. (3)

mm

War Diary.

2.1.1942.
Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies.

Lourenco
Marques
-Contd.

Capetown, however objects on grounds that port is active espionage centre and crews are pumped for particulars of ships and cargoes. In view of urgent need to relieve congestion at South African ports recommend risk of sabotage, not considered great, should be accepted.
(A.C.N.S.(T) 0008A/2 to B.A.D.(R) C.in C. S.A. etc)

Autogyro
trials
ARCHER.

Ref. M.A.P. 12910 (1835/28). Interview with Admiral Towers. We asked if he could make a suitable M/V available with improvised platform (for tests). Likelihood extremely remote, and he suggests that trials should be carried out in ARCHER on completion of repairs at Philadelphia. Request instructions whether Admiralty can spare ship for trials.
(B.A.C. Washington 0216/2 to M.A.P.).

QUEEN OF
BERMUDA

Your 2114Z/31/1. Earliest QUEEN OF BERMUDA can arrive Halifax is P.M./9/1.
(C.in C. A.W.I. 0932Q/2 to N.S.H.Q. Ottawa).

ALBATROSS

Cancel my 2152Q/1. One Walrus is to be disembarked in accordance with my 1012Q/30. Call at Jamaica is to be omitted.
(C.in C. A.W.I. 0942Q/2 to ALBATROSS).

CIRCASSIA
VAN
KINSBERGEN

Following instructions received from C.in C. Lant.
(A) CIRCASSIA proceeding Bermuda forthwith. On arrival report for duty to S.O.P.A. Task Force 2.
(B) VAN KINSBERGEN report by signal to Com. Task Group 6.3 for duty in Surinam Area.
(2) D.S. VAN KINSBERGEN obtain necessary information to comply para. 1.
(B) From N.O.I.C. Trinidad on arrival.
(C.in C. A.W.I. 1152Q/2 to CIRCASSIA, VAN KINSBERGEN).

Dakar
Intelligence

Dakar 31/12 (A.1) GLOIRE is in dry dock. S.S. SAVOIE has cleared for Konakri.
(B.A.D. 1323R/2 to S.O.I. Freetown).

Shipping in
Lower Delaware.

Cancel my 1909Z/23/12; Shipping may now move at night in Lower Delaware.
(N.S.H.Q. Ottawa 1412Z/2).

BARRIE

Detach BARRIE forthwith to St. Johns N.F.
(F.O.N.F. 1418Z/2 to BURNHAM (R) Task Unit 4.1.14).

War Diary.2.1.1942.
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies. -contd.

GLENSTRAE British ship GLENSTRAE due Balboa 30/12 from Auckland not arrived. (S.O.I. Jamaica 1544R/2 to Admty. etc.). See D.N.I. Wellington 1942/3.

W.S.C.63 My 2031Z/29. W.S.C.63 no ship ready to sail. (N.C.S.O. St. John's N.F. 1926Z/2 to Admty. etc.).

Sea Hurricanes C.A.M. ships. Your 044Z/10 and 2042Z/29. Air Ministry have been consulted and consider that diversion of 15 Sea Hurricanes will have no serious reactions upon meeting C.A.M. ships' requirements in near future. Further suggested that C.A.M. ship fighter pilots at Dartmouth N.S. might profitably be employed in the Sea Hurricane unit to gain valuable flying experience. (V.C.N.S. 1942A/2 to C.N.S. Ottawa).

U.S. troops for Northern Island. Re. transport. (B.A.D. 2035R/2, 2317R/2).

Australia and New Zealand.

MALAMA Q report diversions. Ref. QQQQ from MALAMA, following vessels have been diverted (1) to ACADIA. (begins) Proceed on your present course to a position 550 miles 282° from position 'A' thence alter course to pass through a position 270° 850 miles from position 'B' thence to destination. T.O.O. 2150 G.M.T./1. (Ends). (2) To PHEMIUS (begins) from position (?A) alter course to pass through a position 270° 550 miles from position 'B' thence to position C. T.O.O. 2209 G.M.T./1 (ends.). (N.Z.N.B. 0605Z/2 to Admty. N.C.S.O. San Francisco).

LEANDER MONOWAI escort for Fiji. Departure Auckland LEANDER and MONOWAI escorting hired transport RANGATIRA, WAHINE, MATUA en route for Fiji E.T.A. MONOWAI 1000M/6 LEANDER 1800M/6. (N.Z.N.B. 1125Z/2 to Admty. A.C.N.B. etc.).

LE TRIOMPHANT FALKEFJELL F.S. LE TRIOMPHANT escorting fleet tanker FALKEFJELL left Brisbane 0100Z/2 for Noumea, E.T.A. 0001Z/6. (A.C.N.B. 1718Z/2 to A.I.G.115).

/Trans-Tasman...

War Diary.

2.1.1942.
Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Australia and New Zealand.-Contd.

Trans-Tasman
Convoys

M. of W.T. has been informed that Trans-Tasman convoys for ships of less than 14½ knots have been started on a 20-day cycle. In view of the delays that this will cause to Trans-Pacific trade it is hoped that you will revert to independent sailing by dispersed routes as soon as you consider the special danger has passed. (A.C.N.S.(T) 1913A/2 to A.C.N.B. (R) N.Z.N.B. C. in C. E.F.).

War Diary.

2.1.1942.
Friday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Ships Attacked.

CARDITA
(torpedoed
31/12.)

Request you will sail VIZALMA escorting CAROLINE MOLLER and ST. MELLONS with despatch to S.S.CARDITA abandoned but afloat at 2115A/1 in 59° 40' N. 12° 46' W. drifting 050° 1 knot. VERONICA and GARDENIA have been ordered to stand by.

(F.O.I.C.Greenock, 0157A/2 to N.O.I.C.Stornoway). Sailing VIZALMA escorting ST. MELLONS, CAROLINE MOLLER, to comply with F.O.i/c Greenock 0157A/2. (N.O.I.C.Stornoway, 0821A/2 to F.O.I.C. Greenock). Your 2115/1. Report if anything is known of any other survivors. (C. in C. W.A., 0321A/2 to Capt. D. 17 (R) VERONICA, GARDENIA).

10 survivors from CARDITA rescued in 059° 29' N. 012° 38' W. suffix B. One other boat known to have been lowered but not seen since. Empty boat has been left in position. Weather report.

(SABRE, 0340Z/2 to C. in C. W.A.)

VERONICA with GARDENIA in company in 059° 19' N. 013° 00' W. Sweeping toward derelict (?Dindings) searching for survivors.

(VERONICA 0501Z/2 to C. in C. W.A.)

Unless CARDITA has been found by 1200A/2 GARDENIA is to proceed to Liverpool at best speed consistent with weather conditions. VERONICA is to continue searching. (C. in C. W.A., 1003A/2 to GARDENIA, VERONICA, (R) N.O.i/c Greenock, N.O.i/c Liverpool, Capt. (D) Liverpool, SCIMITAR, BELMONT, LEAMINGTON, Capt. (D) Londonderry, VIZALMA).

Following has been read. Addressed, 336 Sqn, CARDITA DATUM 225 28.

(A/C using. Call sign 5GCK. 1200/2).

Aircraft reported tanker in 059° 25' N. 011° 40' W. Proceeding there. My position now 059° 43' N. 012° 35' W., nothing seen.

(VERONICA, 1201A/2 to C. in C. W.A., (R) N.O.I.C. Londonderry, SABRE, LEAMINGTON).

Aircraft sighted CARDITA abandoned in 059° 25' N. 011° 44' W. at 1150A/2.

(C. in C. W.A., 1241A/2, to N.O.I.C.Greenock, GARDENIA, VERONICA).

Position of S.S.CARDITA at 1150A today was 59° 35' N. 11° 44' W. (F.O.I.C.Greenock, 1245A/2 to ST.MELLONS, CAROLINE MOLLER, VIZALMA).

My 1245A/2. Amend Latitude to read 59.25 N.

(F.O.I.C.Greenock, 1347A/2 to ST. MELLONS, CAROLINE MOLLER, VIZALMA).

Found S.S.CARDITA abandoned in 059° 34' N. 012° 08' W. drifting 070° 2 knots. Standing by with GARDINIA in company. 2nd boat reported by SABRE 0340/2 not found. (VERONICA, 1401A/2 to C. in C. W.A.)

VERONICA and GARDENIA made contact with and are standing by CARDITA in 59° 34' N. 12° 08' W. at 1401A/2. Ship abandoned and drifting 070° 2 knots. (F.O.I.C.Greenock, 1643A/2 to ST. MELLONS, CAROLINE MOLLER (R) VIZALMA, VERONICA, C. in C. W.A. Admty. R. Tugs).

CARDITA. Survivors taken by ONSLOW, 10 by SABRE. Report immediately if total crew now accounted for. Air will assist Tugs to join tomorrow, code word "Bucket." (C. in C. W.A. 1727A/2 to VERONICA).

/Proceed ...

War Diary.2.1.1942.
Friday.U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.Ships attacked.CARDITA
(torpedoed
31/12).
(contd.)

Proceed direct at best speed consistent with weather conditions to join VERONICA standing by tanker CARDITA 59° 34' N. 12° 08' W. at 1400A/2. (C. in C. W.A., 1746A/2 to DAHLIA). Remain with VERONICA till daylight and then return to Liverpool at best speed. (C. in C. W.A., 1822A/2 to GARDENIA). Your 1727A/2. Assume all Survivors have been picked up now, as 2 Boats appear to have left ship, ONSLOW Accounting for 1 and SABRE the other. Neither VERONICA nor GARDENIA have picked up any, so have no idea of total number which left ship. (VERONICA, 1900A/2 to C. in C. W.A., (R) GARDENIA N.O.i/c Greenock, VIZALMA).

ALGONQUIN,

Following received 59.02 N. 9.48 W. ALGONQUIN, submarine on surface, 0515 G.M.T/2, SSSS. (Wick Radio, T.O.R.0625/2 Port Patrick Radio, 0628/2) Proceed to assistance of ALGONQUIN reported attacking Submarine on surface at 0528 G.M.T. A/C will co-operate. (C. in C. W.A., 0703A/2 to BELMONT (R) Admty. SCIMITAR, LEAMINGTON). My 0703A/2, position at 0528 G.M.T. was 59° 02' N., 9° 48' W. (C. in C. W.A., 0747A/2, to BELMONT, (R) as 0703). Following received addressed C.O.C.O.S. from ALGONQUIN. Regarding my 0515/2 S/M on the surface made torpedo attack. We attempted to ram, forcing him to submerge, nothing seen for last hour. (C. in C. Rosyth, 0710Z/2 to Admty.) 1 Submarine 59.04 N., 8.41 W., (LORD MIDDLETON, 0948/2.) Cancel my 0948/2, BELMONT. (LORD MIDDLETON, 1000A/2, to S.O.N.P.T.) LORD MIDDLETON's 0948. Liberator aircraft in the vicinity until arrival of Hudson aircraft about 1115/2 to co-operate. (C. in C. Rosyth, 1014/2, to BELMONT, LORD MIDDLETON). Cancel my 1014/2. Hudson aircraft now co-operating in the vicinity of 059° 02' N. 009° 48' W. (C. in C. Rosyth, 1114/2, to BELMONT, LORD MIDDLETON). Unless in contact rejoin HX 166 before dark tonight/2. (C. in C. W.A., 1117A/2 to BELMONT (R) LORD MIDDLETON, A.C.O.S., Admty., CAPE PALLISER, S.O.N.T. escorts HX.166). A/C report Tanker 4,000 tons abandoned and sinking thought to be ALGONQUIN in 59° 15' N. 10° 00' W. approx. 1320/2. (C. in C. W.A., 1952A/2 to S.O.N.T. (R) A.C.O.S. etc)

BACTRIA.

Following has been read. SSSS 07.26 N. 14.20 W. BACTRIA sighted submarine. (Freetown W/T, 1852/2). W.D. Note - Doubtful, see C. in C. S.A., 1658Z/4 to Admty.

War Diary.

2.1.1942.
Friday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Ships Attacked. -contd.

SILVERBELLE.
(torpedoed
22/9).

Your 1828/31. (A) On receipt of A.M. 1701A/28/9, Consul Las Palmas was asked in my 1902/28/9 to send tugs to SILVERBELLE reported in 26.34 N., 24.02 W., at 0200/28 steering for Las Palmas. Tug sailed from Las Palmas 2200/30 and searched till about 7/10 without result. (B) LADY SHIRLEY searched area between 20° 36' W. and Las Palmas from 0800/30 to 1023/4 without result. (C) Air search was ordered on 7/10 which was earliest long range aircraft was available but subsequently cancelled owing to damage to aircraft. (F.O.C.N.A., 1902A/2 to C. in C. W.A. (R) C. in C. S.A.)

Submarines Reported.

2352/1.

Swan Is. radio reports unidentified S/M 1 mile to westward at 2352 G.M.T./1. Was seen to submerge. (U.S.C.N.O., 1347Z/2 to S.O.(I) Kingston, Jamaica. C. in C. A.W.I., Cmdr. Task Force No.3. Admty., Cmdr. S.A.N.C.F., Cmdr. C.N.C.F., Cmdr. P.N.C.F.)

Estimated approx. positions of U/Bs.
(D.D.I.C., 1415A/2, 1420A/2).

1852.

Ref. Admty. message AO FO position 07.14 N. 14.20 W. 1852/2. (C. in C. S.A., 1914/2, to G.B.M.S., 6A) W.D. Note. Position in Freetown's 1852/2 was given as 07.26 N. see BACTRIA, Ships Attacked.

1716Z.
1819Z.

By D/F at 1716Z and 1819Z, U/Boat or U/Boats in area 56° 30' to 57° N., 8° - 9° W.
D.D.I.C. 2000A/2).

Submarines Attacked.

By A/C.

At 1155/2. and 1150/2. See Mediterranean.

By ALGONQUIN. See Ships Attacked.

/By OUTARDE ...

War Diary.

2.1.1942.
Friday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Submarines Attacked. - contd.

By OUTARDE.

My 2317Z/1. (Report of OUTARDE attacking submarines, N.T. in W.D.) Following received from OUTARDE (begins). Made second attack on second submarine approx. same position. No sign to indicate result. 0335Z/2. (ends).
(N.O.I.C. Esquimalt, 0457Z/2 to Admty. etc.)
OUTARDE, 2241 tons, owner Montreal.

War Diary.

3.1.1942.
Saturday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

The S/M's TURBULENT and TEMPEST left the Clyde at 1138 today southbound through the Irish Sea for Gibraltar; and O.14 left Scapa at 0954 for a Patrol off the coast of Norway North of 61° 30' N.

British Air Activity.

26 A/C attacked the Battle Cruisers at Brest last night, and 9 A/C bombed the docks and shipping at St. Nazaire. Fires were started at both places, but no other results could be seen.

Mining.

Operation
S.N.26A.

AGAMEMNON, with NEWARK, laid mines today off the Butt of Lewis.

6 Hampdens laid mines off St. Nazaire, 4 off Le Verdun, 5 off Pallice and 2 off the Frisian Islands.

C. in C. H.F. intends as far as possible to maintain six Minesweepers in North Russia in spite of the weather there to keep clear the approaches to Murmansk and perhaps further afield.

The search of the Nymph Bank could not be carried out today owing to the weather.

3 Magnetic Mines were exploded by Sweepers today off Yarmouth, 2 off the Humber, and 1 Acoustic Mine off Liverpool.

At 1800 the British ROBERT, 1272 tons, struck a mine off Aldeburgh.

The British CORFEN, 1828 tons, in Convoy F.S688, was mined in the Channel off Harwich at 1125 today and sunk at 1244A while being towed towards Harwich by

/SHEARWATER ...

War Diary.

3.1.1942.
Saturday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Mining. - contd.

SHEARWATER. All her crew were saved. Further mines were detonated in the Thames Estuary.

Mediterranean.

Wellingtons bombed Naples and Tripoli last night.

There were several air attacks on Malta last night and during today, which caused damage at the aerodromes. Further raids occurred during the afternoon.

2 Wellingtons attacked Ras el Ali last night and report hits on the jetty and on M.T.

Pacific and Far East.

The system of a unified command will be established in the South-West Pacific area. All the Allied Forces in this area - sea, land and air - will operate under the supreme command of General Sir Archibald Wavell. Under the direction of General Wavell, Admiral Thomas C. Hart, U.S. Navy, will assume command of all the allied naval forces in the area.

China.

There were 3 air raids on Singapore last night. No naval damage is reported. Convoy B M 9 A, 5 transports of 39,585 tons arrived today with troops and stores.

The Japanese are reported to have landed at Weston (British North Borneo) today.

War Diary.3.1.1942.
Saturday.HOME COMMANDS.Policy.Home Fleet
Destroyers.

Your 1934A/1. WORCESTER, LAMERTON, and WHEATLAND may be retained until completion of "Kitbag". (A.C.N.S. (H.), 0957A/3 to C. in C. H.F.)

Relief of
Corvettes in
Iceland.

Your 1447A/27/12. MIGNONETTE and GENISTA detailed. (Capt. D. Greenock, 1319/3 to C. in C. W.A.)

PHILOCTETES
HECLA.

Cancel A.M.1735/25. PHILOCTETES is re-allocated for service as destroyer depot ship at Freetown. It is anticipated that HECLA will be ready to leave U.K. and proceed to Eastern Theatre about mid March. Until then PHILOCTETES must be available to proceed to the East at short notice. PHILOCTETES is to sail to Freetown only as already arranged in A.M.1832A/31/12. (A.C.N.S. F., 1550A/3).

Loan of
2 Russian
S/MS.

Admty 1719A/25/11 and Admiral Miles' 1859D/18/12. Russians have promised to lend us two submarines. 2. Request information - (a) which submarines have been detailed, (b) in what respects W/T and recognition equipment cannot meet British requirements with particular reference to submerged reception and transmission on British H/F frequencies. (Head of M., 1918A/3 to S.B.N.O. North Russia).

Relief
for
SECURITY.

Your 1115/2. Relief will be arranged about 20th January. (D. of S.T., 2245A/3 to N.O.I.C.Oban).

Movements.

WELSHMAN.

Departure WELSHMAN. (N.O.I.C. Port Z.A. 0903A/3). Admiralty's 1944A/2. Route for WELSHMAN to Gibraltar. (C. in C. W.A., 1707A/3 to WELSHMAN)

O.14.

Scapa departure O.14 and STELLA PEGASI. (A.C.O.S., 0954/3).

O.14 sailed, routed through positions:-

(a) 059° (700') N., 002° W., (b) 060° 30' N., 000° 12' W.
(c) 061° 30' N., 000° 01' W., (d) 061° 55' N., 002° E. whence patrol off coast of Norway North of 061° 30' N., Escorted position (c). (A.C.O.S., 1005A/3).

/COLOMBIA...

War Diary.3.1.1942.
Saturday.HOME COMMANDS.Movements. - Contd.

COLOMBIA. Departure COLOMBIA from Dundee P.M. 5/1.
(S.O.D.S., 1012/3 to B.D.Z.)
COLOMBIA is to leave Dundee Harbour on 5/1 so as to cross Bar at 1730 and proceed by searched Channel to Clyde. VORTIGERN take COLOMBIA and VIMIERA under her orders and provide escort to Dunnet Head. R/V two destroyers from W.A. off Dunnet Head at 0900/6 and turning over escort to S.O. (C. in C. Rosyth, 1307/3).

H.28, My 1059A/2. Sailed less JUNON.
H.43, (F.O.I.C. Falmouth, 1020/3).
H.50.

BELMONT, My 0918/3. On arrival at Lough Foyle complete
LEMINGTON, with fuel and remain at immediate notice for
SKATE. steam. (C. in C. W.A., 1023A/3 to BELMONT, etc).

HARRIER, Request you will sail HARRIER, HALCYON, and
HALCYON, SPEEDWELL to arrive Hvalfjord on 7/1.
SPEEDWELL. (C. in C. H.F., 1043A/3 to R.A.D. H.F.)

OTWAY Your 1002A/31. Arrivals Rothesay, OTWAY, 09,
O.9, O.10, O.10 and Z.5. (Capt. S.7., 1045A/3 to
Z.5. F.O.I.C. Falmouth).

MURAT REIS. Intend sailing MURAT REIS escorted by OUTTY SARK
for Clyde 1200 5/1. E.T.A. 0900/6. (N.O.I.C.
Barrow, 1048A/3).

BOREAS. My 1344/2. Intend sailing BOREAS 1015 tomorrow
for Clyde carrying out full power trials in War
Channel north of 20 R Buoy. E.T.A. boom
noon 5th. Request fighter protection.
(N.O.I.C. Newcastle-on-Tyne, 1130/3).

M.5. Intend sailing controlled minelayer M.5.
tomorrow. Estimated time of despatch Weymouth
1500 so as to R/V with P.W.91 at junction of
Q. Z.S. 293 and 294 at 1700, for onward passage
to Plymouth.
STAR OF INDIA will escort M.5. till junction with
convoy. M.5 has no W/T.
(F.O.I.C. Portland, 1131/3 to C. in C. Plymouth).

TURBULENT, Sailed TURBULENT and TEMPEST escorted by LA
TEMPEST. CAPRICIEUSE in accordance with S.3's 1429/1.
(F.O.I.C. Greenock, 1138/3). *See also next page*

/RESOLUTION...

War Diary.

3.1.1942.
Saturday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Movements. - Contd.

RESOLUTION. RESOLUTION screened by two destroyers is to proceed passing Hoxa Boom at 0300A/4 to Clyde. (2) WALKER, VERITY, and WITHERINGTON are to proceed as necessary to relieve RESOLUTION's screen who are to return to Scapa on relief. (C. in C. H.F., 1344A/3) ASHANTI with ESKIMO will be required to screen RESOLUTION leaving harbour at 0300 tomorrow on passage to Clyde. On relief by WALKER, VERITY, and WITHERINGTON, ASHANTI and ESKIMO are to return to Scapa. (Commodore D., 1605A/3). My 1344A/3, para. three. E.T.A. 0700A/5. S. of A. 14 knots. 2. Request Toward Point Light from 0700 to 0800A/5. (C. in C. H.F., 1821A/3 to N.O.I.C. Greenock). RESOLUTION and 2 Destroyers leave Scapa at 0300/4 to Westward. (A.C.O.S., 2003A/3 to WHITE BEAR).

PRINCESS ^{JOSEPHINE} CHARLOTTE. KRAKOWIAK with KUJAWIAK proceed to pass Switha as necessary to R/V with PRINCESS ^{JOSEPHINE} CHARLOTTE and PRINCE LEOPOLD in Hoxa Sound at 0915 tomorrow. 2. Provide escort as far as Greenock boom. KRAKOWIAK, Fighter protection arranged during daylight 4th. KUJAWIAK. 3. On completion do not enter harbour proceed to Plymouth to rejoin Plymouth command. C. in C. W.A. and C. in C. Plymouth are requested to arrange fighter protection as necessary after leaving Clyde. (Commodore D., 1446A/3). PRINCESS ^{JOSEPHINE} CHARLOTTE carrying number 12 Commando and PRINCE LEOPOLD carrying Norwegian troops and Naval communication ratings Ex. "Anklet" arrive Greenock, a.m./5. (R.A.D. H.F.1735A/3)

KING SOL, My 1704A/2. Delayed 24 hours. (F.O.I.C. Greenock, CAPE MARIATO 1449A/3). (STRAIT-FISHER).

H.32., H.33., Following Submarines are on Passage tonight and H.34., H.28., may be met during dark hours. H.32, H.33, H.34 escorted by BREDA left Falmouth 0915A/2 Northbound through Irish Sea speed eight and half knots. H.28, H.43, H.50 escorted by ALECTO left Falmouth 1020A/3 Northbound through Irish Sea speed 8½ knots. TURBULENT, TEMPEST escorted by LA CAPRICIEUSE left Clyde 1100A/3 Southbound through Irish Sea speed 12 knots. (C. in C. W.A., 1545A/3).

See previous page

LORD GREY, Your 1108A/2. Route to Fayal. AIGLON, F.O.C.N.A. is requested to signal R/V position ROSALIND, and onward route. (C. in C. W.A., 1754A/3 to ROSEMONDE. N.O.I.C. Greenock).

War Diary.

3.1.1942.
Saturday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Movements. - Contd.

PARDO, C. in C. W.A., 1827A. Intend to sail VANOC
VANOC. to R/V with PARDO at 1430A/4 at Scarweather,
and escort to Clyde. (N.O.I.C. Milford Haven,
1801A/3).

Information You may meet LORD LLOYD and ST. MAGNUS north-
for bound at 2359A/3.
SEALION. Westbound convoy will be entering Pentland Firth
about midnight tonight.
Fleet unit leaves Scapa 0300A/4 escorted by 2
destroyers for Clyde.
(Capt. S.9., 2147A/3 to SEALION).

Operations.

Denmark ~~BELLWORT~~
Strait (a) ~~Bellwort~~ is to take SWEETBRIAR under his
Patrol. orders and sail in company on 4/1 so as to pass
Straaemnes light at 1100N/5 and thence to relieve
ANEMONE and ABELIA on patrol stationed as in
BERWICK's 1337N/2.
(b) ANEMONE and ABELIA are to return to Hvalfjord
on relief. (C.S.1., 1003/3)
(a) Intend sailing in NORFOLK p.m./4th to relieve BERWICK on
patrol "White". (b) unless otherwise ordered BERWICK is to sail
from Hvalfjord p.m./9 to relieve NORFOLK a.m./10.
(C.S.1., 1126N/3).
C.S.1's 1003N/3. R/V 1630N/4 "Grotta" (BELLWORT, 1240N/3 to
SWEETBRIAR.)

Operation SHEFFIELD is to provide surface and A/A cover to
"Kitbag". forces taking part in operation "Kitbag" during
passage to and from the operation as ordered by
Captain (D) 3.
(ii) Home Fleet 01325/3/73 of 30th November 41
and of 31st December 41 have been issued to
SHEFFIELD. An R.A.F. Officer from 18 Group will
embark to assist with fighter direction.
(C. in C. H.F., 1434A/3).

Channel 2 Chasseurs patrolling Q.Z.S. 271 to Beachy Head
Patrol. to be turned to the Westward by 0100/4 and
returning to St. Helens at Dawn.
(C. in C. Portsmouth, 1517A/3)

East Coast Brightlingsea Auxiliary Patrols, except H.A.,
Patrol. remaining in harbour until weather moderates.
(F.O.I.C. Harwich, 1544A/3).

War Diary.

3.1.1942.
Saturday.

HOME COMMANDS.

British Air Activity.

A/C fired on off Ushant. Following received. Addressed 19 Group From A/C using call sign L7DJ. AAAA fired on by medium sized ship type unknown in 48° 29' N., 6° 3' W. (C. in C. Plymouth, 0410/3 to Admty).

Bombing Operations. On Night 31/12. to Night 1/2 Jan. inclusive, no operations. took place. On Night 2/3 Jan. 26 A/C attacked the Battle Cruisers at Brest and 14 A/C bombed St. Nazaire. (H.Q.B.C., 1600/3).

A/C in LOCHGOIL. Your 1402Z/3 (N.T. in W.R.) LOCHGOIL is not to launch aircraft. Port including Q.Z.S.298 will open at 0930A/4. (N.O.I.C. Liverpool, 2031A/3 to HONEYSUCKLE).

Mining.

S.N.26 A. Departures AGAMEMNON and NEWARK. (N.O.I.C. Port Z.A., 0703A/3).

Yarmouth. LL Sweepers detonated one red magnetic mine at 1040, one red magnetic mine at 1051, and one red magnetic mine at 1054. Details. (F.O.I.C., Gt. Yarmouth, 1134A/3).

Convoy F.S688 My 1125. Capsized and sunk in 051° 50' 18" N., CORFEN 001° 27' 30" E. All crew picked up. (British, (SHEARWATER, 1244A/3). 1828 tons) CORFEN in F.S688 was mined in the Channel sunk. approximately 1 3/4 miles North Eastward of B8 Buoy at about 1125 today. She was towed towards Harwich by SHEARWATER but capsized and sank in about 51° 50' N., 01° 27' E. All crew saved and landed at Harwich. One seriously injured. (C. in C. Nore, 1837A/3).

ROBERT, Ship mined in 52° 15' N., 2° E. Request tugs. (Danish,, *British* (MEYNELL, 1801A/3). 1272 tons) Departure Tug KENIA to assist ROBERT. My 1950A, sunk. add to assist S.S. ROBERT. (F.O.I.C. Harwich, 2041A/3)

/Minesweepers...

War Diary.3.1.1942.
Saturday.HOME COMMANDS.Mining. - Contd.Minesweepers
in North
Russia.

(1) I appreciate the severe conditions under which M/Ss. have been operating and congratulate them on the efficient manner in which they have carried out their arduous and varied duties.

(2) It is evident icy conditions will soon prevent operations of Fleet Minesweepers in entrance to White Sea, but danger from enemy mines will still exist in approaches to Murmansk, and possibly further afield. It is still therefore my intention as far as possible to maintain 6 M/Ss. in North Russia.

(3) After arrival of M.S.6 in HARRIER with HALCYON and SPEEDWELL request BRAMBLE and 2 other M/Ss. may be sailed for Scapa. They should escort next Q.P. convoy provided their departure is not unduly delayed.

(4) S.O. M.F. One should return in BRAMBLE unless S.B.N.O. North Russia required his services ashore or afloat at Murmansk. (C. in C. H.F., 1807A/3 to S.O. 1st M/S F., S.B.N.O. North Russia)

Operation
"Tincture".

Your 1128A/1. Operation not carried out. Sweeping impossible owing to weather. (F.O.I.C. Milford Haven, 1815A/3 to Admty).

Liverpool.

One acoustic detonated by M.M/S 2 in 53° 51' 12" N., 3° 12' 50" W. (F.O.I.C. Liverpool, 1824A/3).

ADVENTURE.

Your 1234/2. Following Channels will be swept on 5/1 and 7/1. (a) Q.Z.S.66 (b) 058° 47' 50" N., 002° W., to 058° 38' N., 001° 26' W. (A.C.O.S., 1907A/3 to R.A.M.)

S.N.15.

My 2042/1 and your 1016/3. Only NEWARK and WELLS will be available. Request one destroyer or two if possible, preferably HUNTS, may be made available. They will only be required for 24 hours outwards from, and back to Cape Wrath. (R.A.M., 1943/3 to C. in C. H.F.)

Humber.

The following two mines were detonated at 0903 and 1329 today by LL Trawlers. (Details). (F.O. Humber, 1950A/3).

Operation
QO.

Operation QO will not take place tomorrow. (C. in C. Nore, 2205A/3 to M/S 9).

/Operations...

War Diary.

3.1.1942.
Saturday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Mining. - Contd.

Operations
Q.L.4.
P.W.23.
Q.K.1.

1. My 1016A/13th December 41. Carry out operation Q.L.4 with 3 M/Ls. of 51 flotilla on 7/1 or on next suitable night.
2. My 1114A/7 October 1941. Carry out operation P.W.23 with 3 M.T.Bs. on 8/1 or next suitable night.
3. Prepare to carry out operation Q.K.(1) with mines fitted A.S.Y.33. (C. in C. Nore, 2300A/3 to BEEHIVE).

Casualties & Defects.

NEWMARKET.

Your 2342A/2. (?Pressure in) forward boiler now 613 (?4) and rising. Cannot proceed further with safety. Am ?proceeding on after boiler with H.X.166. (NEWMARKET, 0130A/13 to C. in C. W.A.)

My 0130A/3. Density of after boilers 2.0. Have left convoy and am returning to harbour. Lough Foyle E.T.A. 1445. (NEWMARKET, 0935A/3).

M.L.194.

My 1337A/3 returned. M.L.194 suspects a damaged propeller. (F.O. Humber, 1400/3).

GEORGETOWN,
Suspected
sabotage.

C.A.F.O. 199/41. Flooding to the extent of about 250 tons was reported P.M.yesterday in after engine room and flat abaft the engine room in GEORGETOWN at present undergoing repairs by Messrs Barclay Curle, Elderslie, Glasgow. It is assumed water entered through sea suction to fire and bilge pump, as sea cock and hose connection were found open. Lashing was also removed from condenser main inlet, but it is not believed that this valve was opened. It would appear that an attempt to open it was made and failed owing to stiffness and in consequence the Saboteur found other means of letting water enter the ship. Board of Inquiry will be held. (F.O.I.C. Glasgow, 1724/3 to D.N.I.)

BUCCANEER.

BUCCANEER successfully floated but has again gone ashore on the edge of sandbanks on North side of entrance to Montrose. Intended to refloat on night tide and bring her into harbour. SEAMAN is berthed inside Montrose Harbour. (N.O.I.C. Dundee, 1850/3).

HARTLAND.

HARTLAND delayed by Engine defects. (F.O.I.C. Belfast, 2115A/3).

War Diary.3.1.1942.
Saturday.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping & Convoys.

- Q.P.4.,
P.Q.7 B. General position. Details.
(S.B.N.O., Archangel, 1044C/3) See Lion Copy.
- H.X.165. Congratulations on the success of your Convoy
H.X.165. Except SHANTUNG, which caught fire and
was subsequently sunk, all ships have arrived
safely. (C. in C. W.A., 1050A/3 to Vice-Admiral
D.F. Moir).
- W.S.15.,
VICEROY. C. in C. W.A. 1852A/2 and your 1858A/2. VICEROY
on arrival Scarweather LV with BB 20 about 1200A
/6 will be available to escort Bristol Channel
portion of W.S.15 to Clyde. Request you will
issue necessary instructions. VICEROY to Belfast
on completion. (F.O.I.C. Belfast, 1142A/3
to F.O.I.C. Cardiff).
- Russian
M/Vs. at
Seattle. Your 1452A/14. Unable obtain any decision or
instructions after repeated representations to
both Soviet Naval and Foreign Trade Commissariats
Admiralty please pass to all Addressees.
(Ad. Miles, 1150D/3 to Admty. Rept. N.S.H.Q.
Ottawa, B.A.D. Washington).
- O.N.53. At 0930A sailed WANDERER, AUBRETIA, RENONCULE,
ROSELYS, VERVAIN for exercises and to overtake
O.N.53. WANDERER fuelling at Moville. E.T.A.
1430. (F.O.I.C. Greenock, 1228A/3 and 1816A/3).
- P.Q.7 B. Not met. C. in C. H.F. pass to S.B.N.O. Archangel
(CUMBERLAND, 1614Z/3 to C. in C. H.F. Reptd.
TARTAR).
- CHILTERN. A.M.1911A/1. Endurance of CHILTERN is 16½ days
at 10 knots and 21 days at 9 knots, coal
capacity 150 tons. Expected to complete refit
at Cardiff early February and vessel will then
be sailed with next convenient P.Q. convoy.
(D.O.D. H., 1805A/3 to S.B.N.O. North Russia).

/W.S.15...

MOST SECRET

MESSAGE

IN

MOST SECRET

1044C/3rd January

~~From: B. P. O. [redacted]~~

Date. 4.1.42.

Recd. 2003

I.D.C. 1.T.T. by W/TAddressed:- Admiralty, S.B.N.O. North Russia, repeated
Admiral Miles, C.in C. Home Fleet.

IMPORTANT

278. General position as follows. Q.P.4 with 12 ships 2 large ice-breakers and one ice-cutter fighting its way to ice edge which now stated to be in vicinity of Gordetski. Progress very slow and tankers SAN-AMBROSIO and EULIMA will have to bunker Kola Inlet with diesel oil before continuing voyage Iceland. Coal burning and oil fired ships are at present all right but former may also require topping up if ice edge not repeat not reached within next three days.
2. Russians wish STALINGRAD now at Nurse Kanka and *ARCHANGELSK (Greek)* ARCHANGELSK, DEKABRIST, and TRAVDA now stated ready Murmansk to join Q.P. 4.
3. On clearing Q.P.4 icebreakers LENIN and STALIN must return to a position off Molotovsk and bunker from COLLIER, and it therefore seems most unlikely they could (? reach) ice edge to meet P.Q. 7 B. Russians realize this and have informed me that most probably all P.Q.7 B. will proceed Murmansk. This will be confirmed to-day.
4. Ice breakers programme on returning here will be to break out British and Russian ships at Bakhdonctsa and bring them to safe static ice anchorage especially giving maintenance to many Russian ships stuck in ice.
5. Under severe ice conditions impossible for two ice breakers handle more than five or six ships in one group and large number of ships in Q.P.4 is mainly responsible for its slow progress. It is therefore proposed to sail to Molotovsk ships EDOCEANO, ELONA, EMPIRE MAVIS, MOUNT EVANS and EXPLORER as one group at a date given as between 15th - 20th January
- and/...

67^B

and subsequently CHUMLEIGH, EMPIRE METEOR; TERCLEARVET and EMPIRE (corrupt group) FORRSON as another group at a later date.

6. Coal situation here very bad and I have been asked by Russians to request that a collier may be put at Seidisfjord which would enable them to sail double the number their own ships from north Russian ports. I concur with this as it may also help our own ships.

7. All necessary staff for dealing with ships at Murmansk leaving here by plane tomorrow January 4th.

Admiralty pass to Ministry of War Transport and C.in C. Home Fleet. Message ends.

1044C/3

Note: Passing action being taken by War Registry

Advance copy sent D.C., D.D.I.C., D.T.D.

1st Lord
1st S.L.
4th S.L.
V.C.N.S.
A.C.N.S. (T)
A.C.N.S. (H)
Nav. Sec.
N.A. 1st S.L.
L.C.D. (H)
L.D.O.D. (H)
D.C. (2)
D.D.I.C. (2)
D.N.I. (4)
D.of P. (2)
D.T.D. (2) for action
D.T.D. (M)
D.T.D. (C)
L.of S.T.
Hd. of M.
D.N.M.S.
Forecast Sect.
L.M.S.
V.D.
I.P. (2)

War Diary.3.1.1942.
Saturday.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping & Convoys. - Contd.

W.S.15.

Convoy W.S.15 will leave U.K. on 10/1.

2. RESOLUTION is to join convoy in position
(X) 46° N., 22° W., at 1200Z/14/1.

3. RESOLUTION is to proceed from Clyde to Milford Haven as requisite to top up with fuel to maximum capacity and sail thence to join the convoy.

4. C. in C. W.A. is requested to detail A/S escort from Clyde to Milford Haven and onward to R/V (X) and to arrange for RESOLUTION to be sailed from Clyde and Milford Haven accordingly being given shortest route to R/V (X).
(D.O.D. H., 2004A/3 to RESOLUTION).DARICA,
DERINCE.

1. Two ferry steamers DARICA and DERINCE are being delivered from U.K. to Istanbul or other convenient Turkish Port for the Turkish Govt. and are expected to sail from the Clyde very

shortly. 2. The Masters have been instructed to report to the British Consul on arrival in Turkey.

3. Vessels are sailing under British registry and registers should be closed when vessels have been handed over to and accepted by Turkish Authorities.

4. Route via Freetown, Walvis Bay, Capetown, Durban, Mombasa, Aden, and Port Said.

6. Request N.C.S.Os. concerned may be informed.

(D.O.D.H., 2005A/3 to Cs. in C. W.A. and Med).

A further pair of ferry steamers DARICA and DERINCE similar to the CARDAK and SILIVRI will be ready to leave Clyde 7/1. Ships should be sailed in company with and follow routing instructions for LORD GREY, AIGLON, ROSALIND and ROSEMONDE to Freetown. (D.O.D. H., 2006A/3).

COUTOURIER,
ATKHALIN.

Soviet Naval Staff request information of present whereabouts of Soviet tankers COUTOURIER and ATKHALIN. Admiralty pass to all addressees. (Ad. Miles, 2130D/3 to Admty. Rept. C. in C. Med., N.A. Istanbul, N.A. Ankara.)

Murmansk.

Berthing, labour, and discharge facilities. Present position. Details.
(Maclay, Murmansk, 2320C/3.) See Lion Copy.

MOST SECRET

MOST SECRET

MESSAGE

25200/3 January IN

From Maclay Murmansk.

Date 6.1.42.

Recd. 0736.

I.D.C. O.T.T. by W/T. Completed Version.

Addressed Ministry of War Transport. Repeated
S.B.N.O. Archangel, Admiral Miles.

Position at Murmansk is as follows.

(1) 5 berths available for ships up to 22 feet also 2 berths up to 24 feet also 1 berth up to 27 feet but Russian Authorities prefer naturally 22 feet for flexibility all depths - low water

(2) Sufficient labour and railway waggons available today to discharge only two ships but about 1,000 men are proceeding Murmansk to (?enable) 8 ships discharge simultaneously. Their arrival date is indefinite although expected this week.

(3) One floating crane 30 tons capacity available but also required for work on Russian (?naval) ships also one travelling crane capable of spanning ships hatch. Six tons capacity and several (?railway) cranes of doubtful capacity about 3 to 10 tons lift. (?If) ships gear cannot handle cargo discharge obviously very slow.

(4) Estimate rate of discharge about 300 tons per diem subject to labour available and not heavy lifts

(5) Good warehouse accommodation for 20,000 tons sugar or similar cargo.

(6) Estimate that railway can clear tea at (?2,000) tons per diem subject to no enemy interference although local Russians claim much higher figure

(7) Barges and (?dredgers) very scarce and over side discharge not practicable.

(8) Personal opinion is that no timber will be available for export or ballast but small quantities of Apatite ore may be obtainable if essential for ballast purposes.

(9) Intend loading minimum quantity of Apatite to U.K. or America if essential for seaworthiness unless you instruct otherwise. If larger quantities become available please inform me whether you wish shipments direct to U.K. Also if you prefer Apatite ore or Apatite concentrate.

(10) Following information is unconfirmed but believe correct; storage available for 14,000 tons fuel oil in bulk at oil jetty 30 feet low water but no facilities for discharging any further oil in bulk. Therefore if benzine tankers unable to reach Molotovsk will require return to U.K.

68B

About 50,000 tons coal available but poor quality and local requirements are heavy. Local authorities state if ships require coal bunkers it will necessitate shipment of coal cargo from U.K.

(11) Intend returning to Archangel by air as early as possible. Suggest advising you regarding the reconsideration of convoy frequency.

23200/3.

Advance copies D.C., D.O.D. (H)
D.T.D.

4th S.L.
V.C.N.S.
A.C.N.S. (H)
A.C.N.S. (F)
N.A.1st S.L.
D. of P. (2)
D.O.D. (H)
D.D.O.D. (H)
D.C. (2)
D.D.I.C. (2)
D.T.D. (2)
D.T.D. (M)
D.T.D. (C)
D. of S.T. (2) for action
I.P. (2)
W.D.
D.N.I. (4)
D.M.S.
Hd. of M.

War Diary.3.1.1942.
Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic.

- ALOUETTE. My 2238A/2, ALOUETTE leaves Gibraltar at 0700A/3 to patrol off Melilla. (F.O.C.N.A. 0106A/3 to OLYMPUS, P.39). Arrived 0830 and departed 1100 to patrol off Melilla. A.M. 1919/30/12. (F.O.C.N.A. 1140A/3 to Admty.)
- SCOTTISH. SCOTTISH attacked by German aircraft 1900/2 arrived Lisbon 2100/2 with (details of casualties and disposal). Sailed 0400/3rd. (N.A. Lisbon 1038/3).
- O.24. Intend sailing O.24 p.m./4 for U.K. O.24 will pass through $045^{\circ} 00' 012^{\circ} 40'$ about 1600A/7th shifting wireless watch at that time. F.O. (S) is requested to arrange onward route and bombing restriction. (F.O.C.N.A. 1106A/3).
- LA CARRIERE. LA CARRIERE position 1030A/3 $034^{\circ} 14' N. 009^{\circ} 45' W.$ (F.O.C.N.A. 1124A/3 to GERANIUM).
- COREOPSIS. Your 1741A/1. Intend sailing COREOPSIS to join COLTSFOOT 0900/4. (F.O.C.N.A. 1242A/3 to Admty.)
- French Ships. Gibraltar 1612 Mine Sweeper ENGAGEANTE, S.S. CAPITAINE PRIEUR, SCHIAFFINO, FRERES, VILLE D'ORAN, MONT VISO, Trawler KEROMAN all full Eastbound. (S.O.(I) Gibraltar 1817A/3).
- JOAO PESSOA and EUGENIO C. Departure 2/1. JOAO PESSOA and EUGENIO C left together this morning destination believed to be Nantes. (Consulate Bilbao 1849/3).
- HERMIONE. Admiral Somerville. Sailed HERMIONE for Plymouth flying flag of Vice Admiral Sir James Somerville (route). (F.O.C.N.A. 1900A/3).
- German ships. ELIZABETH HENDRIK FISSER loading Aguo Amargua probably sails 4th. Another German ship crew loading, will telegraph as soon as possible. (Almeria 1930/2).
- B.D.V's. Ferry Steamers. After fuelling at Gibraltar request you will sail BARCLOSE, BARFOAM, BARFORD and ferry steamers CARDAK and SILIVRI to Freetown calling at Bathurst for fuel if necessary. (A.C.N.S. (F) 1959A/3 to F.O.C.N.A.)

War Diary.3.1.1942.
Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic.

Convoy O.S.14. Your 1527Z/2. Routes. (D.T.D., 0141/3 to C. in C. S.A., (R) C. in C. W.A.) See Lion Copy.

ARNDALE. On arrival in Plate Area you may drag for lost cable for 48 hours before proceeding Blue (N). On completion of search report results and confirm no repairs were carried out at Rio de Janeiro. (R.A.S.A.D. 1128Z/3 to ARNDALE).

Clipper fired on at Tamara. Clipper reports that on 31/12 she was fired on by A/A guns on Tamara Island (009 28N 013 50W). (C. in C. A.W.I. 1203Q/3 to Admty. (R) C. in C. S.A.)

ENGADINE. Your 1103Z/2. para. 4. Confirmed ENGADINE is to proceed to Suez. (D.O.D. (F) 1313A/3 to N.O.I.C. Simonstown)

Fuelling of escort of O.S.14. Your 1536A/8/12. Convoy O.S.14. Fuelling of escort from BRITISH HUSSAR was satisfactory at rate of about (?50) tons per hour. Intend to sail her with S.L. 97 A.M./4 with full cargo. (C. in C. S.A. 1454Z/3 to Admty.)

Whalers. Your 1307/1. Further 3 whalers are to be sailed to Cape as soon as possible. 2. Request you will report date of sailing and names of vessels. (D.O.D. (F) 2002A/3 to N.O.I.C. Falkland Is.)

Mediterranean.

Enemy M/V. P.C. and S. of enemy, 1 M/V (LGV) ? 33.07 N., 11.42 E., N.W. 12. (A.H.Q. Malta, 0145/3 to A/C J).

Taranto. Photographic R/C Taranto arranged this forenoon. (V.A. Malta, 0701B/3 to C. in C. Med.).

/Convoy.....

MOST SECRET

MOST SECRET. MESSAGE 0141/3rd January OUT.

To. C. in C. South Atlantic. 422. Date 3.1.42.
Repeated C. in C. Western Approaches. 537.

Naval Cypher D.

From Admiralty.

IMMEDIATE.

Your 15277/2.

Routes in envelope Z despatched in following ships.

Milford Section. BALFE and LYLEPARK.
Clyde Section BRIHAR and BENRINNES.

Following are routes for Liverpool Section.

BURYBATES.

<u>O Route.</u>	<u>U Route</u>	<u>X Route.</u>
O. 08 degs 00' S. 08 degs 30' W.	U. 07 degs 00' S 03 degs 45' W	X. 06 degs 00' S. 03 degs 10' E.
P. 23 degs 40' S 05 degs 40' W.	V. 18 degs 00' S 01 degs 40' E	Y. 15 degs 00' S. 08 degs 10' E.
Q. 31 degs 10' S. 07 degs 25' W.	W. 29 degs 30' S 09 degs 05' E.	Z. 28 degs 00' S. 12 degs 45' E.

CITY OF BATH.

<u>O. Route.</u>	<u>U Route</u>	<u>X Route.</u>
O. 08 degs 00' S 12 degs 45' W	U. 07 degs 00' S. 08 degs 00' W.	X. 06 degs 00' S. 01 degs 00' W.
P. 26 degs 00' S 10 degs 00' W	V. 19 degs 00' S 02 degs 00' W	Y. 16 degs 00' S. 03 degs 10' E.
Q. 34 degs 10' S 05 degs 55' E	W. 31 degs 50' S 06 degs 55' E	Z. 29 degs 00' S. 09 degs 35' E.

INDOMENEUS. *not identified*

<u>C. Route</u>	<u>U Route</u>	<u>X Route</u>
O. 08 degs 00' S 10 degs 15' W	U. 07 degs 00' S 05 degs 30' W	X. 06 degs 00' S. 01 degs 25' E.
P. 24 degs 00' S 07 degs 15' W	V. 18 degs 40' S. 00 degs 15' E.	Y. 16 degs 00' S. 05 degs 40' E.
Q. 32 degs 20' S. 06 degs 35' E	W. 30 degs 10' S. 07 degs 55' E.	Z. 28 degs 20' S. 11 degs 25' E.

0141/3.

for D.T.D. (1119)

A.C.N.S. (F)	D.C.D. (M)	D.T.D. (M)
A.C.N.S. (H)	D.F.C.D. (H)	D.D.I.C. (2)
A.C.N.S. (T)	D.S. (4)	E.A.S.
N.A. 1st S.L.	D.A/S W.	N.I.D. 10 Pay. Cdr.
D. of P. (2)	I.P. (2)	Wilson.
D.O.D. (F)	W.D.	
D.D.C.D. (F)		

MOST SECRET

War Diary.3.1.1942.
Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean-Contd.

Convoy "Wigwam". No fighter protection available for "Wigwam" yet. All aerodromes unserviceable. (S.O. Force I 0924B/3 to HERO, (R) C. in C. Med. N.O.I.C. Alexandria, S.B.N.O. Tobruk, 201 Naval Co-Op Group, N.L.O. 8th Army, Fighter H.Q. W.D.) Convoy "Wigwam", whose position is 32.17 N., 25.19 E., is being shadowed by one enemy aircraft. (HERO, 1058/3 to Alexandria W/T) "Wigwam" to leave 1800/4 returning by reverse route E.T.A. Alexandria 1300/6. Fighter protection required daylight hours fifth and A.M. sixth. S. of A. 14 knots. N.O.I.C. Benghazi to report if unable to sail convoy at correct time. (S.O. Force I 1540B/3 to N.O.I.C. Benghazi, 201 Naval Co-Operation Group, (R) R.A. Alexandria Advance Air H.Q. W.D., Captain (S) One, R.A. (D) Mediterranean Fighter H.Q. W.D. HERO, ARROW, KIMBERLEY, Captain (S) 7, R.N. Fighter Squadron, N.O.I.C. Mersa Matruh, N.L.O. Eighth Army, Advance 201 Group).

→ UNA. Expect UNA 062° St. Elme breakwater 3 miles at 0750B/4. (UNA 0731B/3).

Naval aircraft for Malta. Admty. 1608A/24 and your 1010B/31. Four Albacores and four Swordfish all with overload tanks are being prepared for despatch to Malta at highest priority do not concur in amalgamation of the squadrons which should preserve their entity and numbers but operate under single control. Different characteristics of Swordfish and Albacore A/C make them unable to operate as composite striking force. (C. in C. Med. 1031B/3 to V.A. Malta).

S/Ms. → UTMOST and UNBEATEN leave end of South East searched Channel about 2200B/3 and 4 respectively thence by route as in my 1450B/1. Keep to westward of 014° 10' until 0001B UNA on 4/1 and P.35 following day. Submarines encountered south of 036° 30' must not be attacked. (S.10.1049B/3 to UNA, P.35.)

ESCAUT (M/V) sunk 17/8/41. (Belgian.) Sunk 60 feet water. Diver reports extensive damage (details). Ray considers vessel total loss Savon ends. (N.O.I.C. Port Said 1112B/3).

Sinkings of U-boats off Libya. I have issued following communique to the press Begins: During the advance of our army in Libya the enemy appeared to have been making special efforts to interfere with our supplies by sea; in this they have had little success whilst our counter attacking forces have done great execution; they have sunk one Italian and two German submarines and brought in prisoners, the forces carrying out these successful operations included H.M.S. FARNDALE, KIPLING, HASTY and HOTSPUR. Ends. (C. in C. Med. 1218B/3).

/Fire.....

MOST SECRET

MESSAGE

1245/3 January.
IN.

From The War Office.

Date. 3.1 .42.

CIPHER.

R.M. GROUP, M.N.B.D.O.

Addressed C. in C. Middle East, C. in C. India,

MOST IMMEDIATE.

61879 cipher (M.O.1) 3/1.

Following from Chiefs of Staff No.222.

Following is the policy for the immediate employment of units of R.M. Group, M.N.B.D.O. without prejudice to reconstitution of complete organisation should circumstances necessitate later:-

(a) Reconstituted A.A. Brigade to be despatched to Ceylon as C.O.S. 212.

(b) L. & M. Unit to reform and equip to establishment in Ceylon, and to be at disposal of, and under command and administration of, G.O.C. India for improvement of base defences in Indian Ocean area particularly Addu Atoll.

(c) C.A. Brigade to reform and equip to establishment in Middle East at the disposal, and under the command and administration of, G.O.C.-in-C. Middle East. Above is subject to provision that batteries may if necessity arises be withdrawn to provide defences for bases in Indian Ocean area, due warning being given.

(d) 11th Battalion Royal Marines to remain in Middle East and be employed and administered as agreed between C. in C., Mediterranean, and G.O.C. in C. Middle East; Admiralty and War Office to be informed of decision.

(e) 11th Searchlight regiment, Signals Company and Survey and Met. Section less Sub units required with the above to remain in Middle East under command and administration of G.O.C. in C. Middle East.

2. Replacement of personnel and agreed equipment will be sent from United Kingdom in accordance with this reorganisation. Personnel will include 10% first reinforcements.

3. H.Q. Group to be retained in Middle East and employed as agreed between C. in C. Mediterranean, and C. in C. Middle East. Admiralty and War Office to be

informed/...

informed of decision.

4. Details of diversion of equipment and personnel now on passage and being despatched from United Kingdom will follow.

C. in C. Middle East please pass to A.O.C. in C. and O.C. R.M. Group M.N.B.D.O.

C. in C. India please pass to A.O.C. in C.

1245/3

Received from War Office 1810/3

1st Lord	War Office Circulation:-
1st S.L.	S. of S.
2nd S.L.	C.I.G.S.,
V.C.N.S.	V.C.I.G.S.,
A.C.N.S. (F)	D.M.O. & P.,
N.A. 1st S.L.	D.D.M.O. (O),
P.A.S. (S)	D.P. (2),
D.O.D. (F)	M.C.I.5,
D.D.O.D. (F)	D.S.D.
D.N.I. (4)	D.A.A. & C.D.
D. of P. (2)	A.A.4.
Duty Capt. (2)	D.S.D. (W)
E.F.S.	C.N.S. Admiralty
Hd. of M.	D. of Plans Admiralty
I.P. (2)	Head of War Reg. Admiralty
W.D.	C.A.S. Air Ministry
N.I.D. 10. Pay. Cdr. Wilson	D. of Plans Air Ministry
D. of L.D.	Col. Jacob Cabinet Offices
A.G.R.M.	Secy. J.P.S. Cabinet Offices.

War Diary.

3.1.1942.

Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean. -Contd.

Fire at Haifa. S.S. PHOENIX oil tanker exploded Haifa harbour at 1340/24/12. Burning oil spread fire to S.S. VILJA. Both ships gutted. Small parachute found with cord smouldering north I I.P.C. tank farm fence map ref. Palestine 1/10000 inch 15532487. Steel cylinder four feet long nine inches diameter found in sea off Khayat beach. Cause of explosion thought to be due submerged mine unaccounted for from last air raid. Investigation still proceeding. (G.O.C. P. & T.J. 1350/31).

Enemy Units. Following has been read. 5 Vessels medium (not exceeding 10,000 tons) 4 Destroyers bearing 120° 15 miles approx. true course 210° position 100° Sfax 8. (L. Sqdn. Med. 1448/3).

British Naval Prisoners. Your 1753/27*. Admiralty has no confirmation. If you have not already done so, suggest you ask S.O.(I) Istanbul, asking him to repeat the reply to Admiralty. (D.N.I. 1520/3 to C.in C. Med.)
* Report that 18 to 20 British Naval Prisoners from Submarines are in Averoff prison, Athens.

5 M.V's. 4 destroyers. Five merchant ships, 4 destroyers bearing 120 course 210° 15 (?knots), position 100° Sfax 8 at 1445. (V.A. Malta 1539B/3 to S/M's on patrol).

LLANDOVERY CASTLE. Hospital Ship LLANDOVERY CASTLE sailed 1700/3 passing 20 miles off Ras Azzas E.T.A. Tobruk 0700/5. (R.A. Alexandria 1701B/3).

Air Operations. Night 2/3rd. 4 Wellingtons mark IC Naples, doubtful weather Tripoli. 1 returned engine trouble. Bombs dropped from 10/14000 feet, average 4 sticks between 1950 and 2345. Railway Station believed hit fire started. Fire near 1 MA M airframe works. 2 Wellingtons Mark IC Tripoli. Much low cloud bombs dropped 24 250 lb SAP ten 4 lb incendiaries from 6/12 thousand feet average 4 sticks between 2105 and 0120 hours. Large fire lasting 2 hours between W/T building and lighthouse other bombs near Power Station main Quay southern edge Docks and native quarter opposition moderate. Special Wellingtons shipping sweep Melita Tripoli Zuara sighted 2034 hours one V 5000 tons and escort vessel 278 dgs. Tripoli 21 miles course 285 dgs. 12 knots out of range for Swordfish with wind conditions first convoy illuminated for 2 Albatrosses. At 0135 hours 2 torpedoes dropped from 90 feet 400 yds. both ran well results unobserved owing intense A.A. both aircraft hit. 5 alerts between 1730 and 0306 hours 26 single enemy raiders bombs wide spread 171 on and near Luqa aerodrome. 3 Wellingtons burnt out direct hits. Third 2 alerts 0703 and 0909 hours 8 enemy aircraft bombers and fighters bombs Luqa Halfar and Safi 3 Wellingtons burnt out direct hits all aerodromes badly cratered. (Malta 1705/3, 0130/4).

/Rumour....

War Diary.

3.1.1942.
Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean-Contd.

- Rumour of attack on Malta. From chance remarks dropped by prisoners of war there are indications that a full scale attack employing German troops on Malta may be contemplated in the immediate future. (C. in C. Med. 1915B/3 for V.A.Malta).
- Note by N.I.D. Although a full-scale attack on Malta may be contemplated, there is little likelihood that it is planned for the near future. No evidence to confirm this report and it is reasonable to assume that we shall obtain some weeks' warning before an attack of this nature. Necessary German troops are not available in Italy and it is not considered that they can be made available until early in March.
- HUNTS for Greeks. Your 1604/2/12 vessels to be turned over to Greeks will be identical with other HUNT Class as regards fittings. No objection to visits and there need be no restrictions on showing fittings including R.D.F. to Greek Officers concerned. Unnecessary to go into details at present as training of personnel will be carried out at home. (A.C.N.S. (F) 1917A/3 to C. in C. Med.)
- Mines. Request information regarding safety of area which must be allowed in the vicinity of ship operating S.A. gear type C. and average and maximum distance at which mines have been detonated. (C. in C. Med. 2003B/3 to Admty.) Reply: D.T.M. 1239/4.
- N.C.S.O. Tobruk. Request an officer be appointed to staff of B.S.N.O. Tobruk for duty as N.C.S.O. to take over installation etc. when my office moves forward. It will not be practicable to route Tobruk shipping from Benghazi. (S.O. Force I 2043M/3 to C. in C. Med.)
- UTMOST. UTMOST sails 3/1. (V.A. Malta 2055B/3 to Admty.)
see p. 71.
- Benghazi. 62½% search into Channel carried out. L.L. and S.A. sweeps gave negative results in lays. Fluffing between Giuliana and outer Moles begun without results. Some progress in opening up berths for Lighters in New Port. Enemy air activity. H.M.S. ABERDARE in position 131 Benghazi 15 attacked by low level Junkers 88, 4 bombs, no damage. Several Junker 88 over Benghazi during forenoon. Fresh bombs on Berka Satellite. (N.O.I.C. Benghazi 2107B/3).
- Supply of Tobruk. Maintenance difficulties in forward are being overcome largely through efforts of Navy who have kept Tobruk supplied with quantities of stores above original forecast of tonnage port would be able to receive and whose A/S efforts have been highly successful. Temporary shortage of petrol reported in para. 4 my CS/479 of 29/12 not due to action by enemy submarines but to other causes. (C. in C. M.E. 2215/3).

War Diary.3.1.1942.
Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies.

ROYAL SOVEREIGN. ROYAL SOVEREIGN left.
(N.O.I.C. Seychelles, 0205Z/3 to Admty. etc.)

Movement Amendments.
Summary No.18 (C. in C. E.I. 0156Z/3.)

Addu Atoll. Ref. A.M. 2018/1.
(1) The necessity to convert Addu Atoll from a lightly defended anchorage into a well defended base is fully appreciated.
(2) The physical difficulties that will have to be overcome are great. Careful planning based on exact information of local conditions is essential to enable us to overcome these difficulties in shortest time.
(3) I am therefore sending Major Salter R.M. of M.N.B.D.O. who has detailed local knowledge of Addu Atoll to report to Admty. He leaves Colombo by priority air passage on 6/1.
(4) He brings details of reply to the points raised in Admty's 2018 1st as well as my views on general matters affecting development of base.
(5) In the meantime brief reply to these points are as follows
(7) References below are to Admty's 2018/1.
(i) (Personnel)
(ii) If it is decided to appoint Flag Officer I strongly recommend he does not leave U.K. until Major Salter has reported to him. I suggest Second in Command Eastern Fleet visit Addu Atoll at early date.
(iii) Agree the Western anchorage is preferable to Eastern as regards A/A gun defences and depth of water. (Re anti torpedo baffle)
(iv) A flying boat alighting area is near completion close in to eastward of (? Hitt Addu) Island.
(v) Noted.
(vi) I am consulting defence commander in regard A/A gun defences and will signal my recommendations.
(C. in C. E.I. 1226Z/3 to Admty.)

C.M.25 A. Your 1533/2 not to all addressees. (1) Fast
C.M.25 B. Group for M.E. and India will be known as a
W.F.14 A. C.M.25 A and C.M.25 B respectively. (2) W.S.14
(?W.S.14 A) after splitting into its component parts will be
W.S.14 B. known as W.F.14 A for M.E. W.S.14 B for India
D.M.2. and D.M.2 for Malaya.
(C. in C. E.I. 1640Z/3)

War Diary.3.1.1942
SaturdayFOREIGN STATIONS.China.Vessels
for B.M.11 ✓

I am strongly opposed to vessels of the size of any mentioned in D. of S.T's 1259A/2 being sent to Malaya under present conditions if alternative can possibly be found, but no ship with over 30 ft. draught on arrival at Sunda can be accepted. MARNIX VAN ST. ALDEGONDE has left Singapore with full complement of evacuated women and children for Cape and U.K.
(C. in C. E.F. 0501Z/3.) Amplified, see 0613Z/4.

Malaya.

Sitrep No.24. Force estimated about two bns. strong landed yesterday afternoon in Perak and Bernam River areas near Telok Anson. Today another force attempted a landing at Kuala Selangor where it was engaged by our artillery and suffered casualties. A small steamer was set on fire and reported sinking and four barges were sunk.
Johore. No change.
Christmas Island. Nothing to report.
Labuan. Reported occupied by Japanese 1/1.
(Advance H.Q. Malaya Comd. 0528/3.)

TUNG WO.

TUNG WO, (?Tempy) Lieut T. Rochester R.N.R.T. (124), Examination vessel, Penang, abandoned after being bombed and Asiatic crew had deserted on 15/12. 1 Asiatic casualty.
(N.O.I.C. Malaya 0545Z/3)

Administration
of Eastern
Fleet.

As from 5/1 C. in C. E.F. will not administer directly any ship of Eastern Fleet. D Class cruisers and destroyers based on Singapore will be administered by R.A. Malaya. Battleships will be administered by F.O. 3rd B.S., referring to C. in C. E.I. as necessary until arrival of V.A. on station.
(C. in C. E.F. 0753Z/3.)

U.S. MOUNT
VERNON.

U.S. ship MOUNT VERNON E.T.A. Singapore 13/1.
(C. in C. E.F. 0927Z/3 to B.A.D. Washington.)

Convoy
B.M.9 A.

Convoy B.M.9 A arrived without incident. Ships now being unloaded.
(C. in C. E.F. 1405Z/3.)

War Diary.3.1.1942.
Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies.

DIMITRIOS Following received. Addressed Adm. Plymouth
 INGLESSIS. from Lands End Radio. Intercept 0057 G.M.T.
 (distress 1/1) From Navycharge St. Johns Salvage vessel from
 Halifax should reach you p.m. unread January.
 Unread (Ends) Word after p.m. believed to
 be 5th. (C.C.O. Plymouth 0200/3 to Admty.)
 Intercept 2121 G.M.T. S O S DIMITRIOS INGLESSIS lost rudder
 require assistance immediately 48.39 N. 48.21 W. approx.
 Bearings approx. VCE 50 VON 57. Not re-broadcast. 2223/3.
 Lands End Radio. (Plymouth No T.O.O/3 to Admty.)

REMOIS Algiers 2/1 B.2, REMOIS expected to depart
 (French) Nemours 2/1 with 4800 tons manganese ore
 believed for Marseilles.
 (B.A.D. 1043R/3 to Admty.)

U.S. Forces Spenavos 30/1718 * giving proposed W/T arrange-
 W/T Comm'n. ments in event of breakout of enemy forces into
 Atlantic has been forwarded to Cinclant by Navy
 Dept., recommending concurrence. In case of
 further discussion request information why frequency of 2156
 kc/s with such a limited range was chosen for communicating
 with U.S. forces.
 (B.A.D. 1057R/3 to Admty.)*W.R. Note Not to Admiralty - request
 made to A.E. for signal without result.

Washington Washops 24. (i) Philippine Islands area 2/1.
 Report. 60 Japanese aircraft attacked Fort Mills for
 5 hours. Damage slight. 3/1. Gen. MacArthur
 reports enemy have not yet gained contact his
 covering position which he is strengthening while reorganizing
 his forces. Transports at Antimonan and Lingayen have unloaded
 and left. Del Monte Airfield on Mindanao Island has been
 occupied by Japanese. Landing of small Japanese forces at
 Jolo Sulu Archipelago is confirmed.
 (J.S.M. Washington, 1333R/3 to Admty. etc.)

CIRCASSIA. Sailed CIRCASSIA in accordance with C. in C.
 A.W.I. 1152Q/2nd. E.T.A. Bermuda 1300Z/7.
 (N.O.I.C. Trinidad 1402Q/3 to C. in C. A.W.I.)

U.S. Forces. Com.11 despatch 01/2332 (No trade in W.R.)
 Cancel Opnav 12/2350. Operate as directed by
 Comdr. Pacific Southern Naval Coastal Frontier.
 (Opnav 1521Z/3 to Comdr. Panama N.C.F.)

/STRATHAIRD ...

War Diary.

3.1.1942.
Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies - contd.

STRATHAIRD.

Due Trinidad about 6/1 should be instructed to proceed forthwith to New York where she is required about 12/1.
(D.S.T., 1727A/3 to N.O.I.C. Trinidad.)

Australia and New Zealand.

CAP DES PALMES Admty. 1340A/3/10 (CAP DES PALMES to be taken in hand at Singapore and not U.S.A.) It has been proposed to fit out CAP DES PALMES in Sydney N.S.W. Request advice if necessary equipment can be forwarded. (A.C.N.B. 1137Z/3 to C. in C E.F.)
Reply: 1141/7.

GLENSTRAE.

Your 1544R/2. In view of being diverted at outbreak of hostilities with Japan vessel may be four days late on E.T.A.
(D.N.I. Wellington 1942M/3 to S.O.I. Jamaica.)

BEACONLIGHT.

Request you will investigate following apparent failure. My 2024/24 gave BEACONLIGHT destination Abadan. Your Vesca 0634/1 reports sailing ship for Capetown. My 1636/16 requests provision of specified reference positions for tankers routed in Indian Ocean. Your 0741/1 provides no such reference positions by means of which ship could now have been securely diverted.
(D.T.D. 2127A/3 to N.C.S.O. Fremantle.)

War Diary.3.1.1942.
Saturday.U/BOAT CAMPAIGN.Ships Attacked.

CARDITA Your 1746A/2. E.T.A. position CARDITA 1400A/3rd. (torpedoed (DAHLIA 0035A/3 to C.in C. W.A.). 31/12). Position CARDITA at 0500A/3 059° 42' N. 011° 58' W. drifting 027° 5 knots. VERONICA 0501A/3 to C.in C. W.A.) (F.O.I.C. Greenock 0745A/3 to CAROLINE MOLLER). CARDITA took heavy list 0700A. VIZALMA and tugs arrived 0830A. Vessel foundered 0855A. Request instructions. (VERONICA 0833Z/3 0935Z/3 to C.in C.W.A.). Carry out search for survivors on wide front between your present position and Butt of Lewis. If nothing found by dark proceed to Londonderry. (C.in C. W.A. 1154A/3 to VERONICA). Return in company to Cappabeltown proceeding via Butt of Lewis and Minches keeping good look out for lifeboat with survivors from CARDITA. VIZALMA is to break off for Londonderry at entrance to North Channel. (F.O.I.C. Greenock 1205A/3 to VIZALMA, ST. MELLONS, CAROLINE MOLLER). Search in co-operation with A/C carried out with no result. At 2000A, 58° 51' N. 9° 13' W. Proceeding Butt of Lewis and South through Minches on off chance of sighting boat in bright moonlight. (VERONICA 2001A/3 to C.in C.W.A.).

ALGONQUIN (faster) My 1952A/2. ALGONQUIN reports off Sound of Shiant (attacked at 0040 G.M.T./3. 2/12). (C.in C. W.A. 0431A/3 to S.O.N.T.).

Submarines Reported.

Estimated approx. positions of U/B's. (D.D.I.C. 1341A/3, 1342A/3).

Submarines Attacked.

By O.S. Report on Convoy O.S.12.
12 Escorts. (1) At 1759A/24/11., SENNEM got R.D.F. contact by her 271 set at range of 6500 yards. When ship closed a U/B was sighted diving 1200 yards ahead. A/S contact was obtained but d/c's. were not fired owing to total failure of communications. Asdic conditions were very bad, but contact was made again at 1826. At 1856 a pattern of ten charges was dropped, with no visible result. No further contact was obtained. FOLKESTONE assisted in hunt but at no time got contact.

(2) At 2225A/28 WESTON, ahead of starboard columns of convoy in position 41° 12' N. 29° 48' W. heard H.E. bearing green 70°. Ship turned to starboard to investigate but had to go hard a port to avoid the leading ship of the starboard wing column. As WESTON was turning to port, U/B was seen diving in her wake. WESTON swept astern while TOTLAND went from ahead to port beam of convoy. At 0115A/29 an ammunition ship in centre of convoy was torpedoed and exploded with a great detonation. All ships at once illuminated the area and TOTLAND, who had dropped back to the port quarter, was enabled to sight the U/B coming out of the stern of the convoy at high speed. Two attacks were carried out and at 0224 several underwater explosions were heard, the water boiled over the position of the target and a large amount of diesel oil came to the surface. The contact faded out at the same time. Consider S/M very probably destroyed. (Not confirmed by Cmdr. Howarth.) / (3)....

War Diary.

3.1.1942.
Saturday.

U/BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Submarines Attacked.

By O.S.12
Escorts.
-Contd.

(3) 30/11. In consequence of U/B shadowing reports, FOLKESTONE was detached at 0820A to sweep 30 miles astern of convoy and rejoin at dusk. At 1530A/30 LONDONDERRY, who was escorting stragglers 60 miles astern of the main body, sighted 2 U/B's. on surface 6 miles on her starboard bow. Possibly these two were forced back into LONDONDERRY's view by FOLKESTONE. They were forced to dive by gunfire and the diving positions were depth charged, but as LONDONDERRY's A/S set was out of action no accurate attacks could be made.
(Capt. D. Londonderry 2153A/3 to C.in C. W.A. D.A./S.W.).

War Diary.

4.1.1942.
Sunday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

Blyth was closed at 1714A today on account of the weather.

The C.in C. U.S. Fleet has now approved the Admiralty proposal for more southerly routing of S.C. and O.N.(S) convoys.

The U.S. Authorities propose that they should take over responsibility for operation and maintenance of the base for supporting U.S. Naval and British Naval and Naval Air forces in Iceland(C).

British Air Operations.

4 Aircraft of Bomber Command attacked Brest and the estimated Brest area last night.

Enemy Air Operations.

An enemy aircraft dropped bombs and machine gunned Athskaw (Unst) R.A.F. Station harmlessly this morning.

Mining.

7 Hampdens laid mines last night off the Frisian Islands.

War Diary.4.1.1942.
Sunday.SITUATION REPORT.Mediterranean.

ZULU and HAVOCK were damaged by air attack on Malta last night, and will be out of action for 3 days. There were further air attacks on the Malta aerodromes today. Wellingtons were unable to operate, last night owing to the damage to Luqa by enemy raids.

About 1100 an R/C Blenheim sighted and shadowed an Italian Naval force of 1 battleship, 3 cruisers and destroyers steering S.S.W. 100 miles S.W. of Sapienza Island. A Blenheim striking force subsequently failed to locate the enemy which was again sighted about 1730.

Early this morning UPHOLDER hit with torpedo Italian S.S. SIRIO in 38° 7' N. 14° 0' E. the ship was last seen in tow 10 miles from Palermo.

Slight damage to the petrol installation was caused by air attacks on Tobruk this morning. Enemy aircraft bombed Benghazi this evening, causing some damage.

3 Wellingtons attacked the submarine base at Salamis last night.

China.

There was an air raid on Singapore last night. No naval damage is reported. Blenheims last night attacked with success ships towing small craft approaching Kuala Selangor from the north, and later attacked a convoy of small craft assembled 10 miles south of Penang.

H.M.S. MATA HARI was attacked by 3 enemy aircraft 10 miles west of Malacca but was not damaged.

Corregidor and other points were attacked by 52 enemy aircraft for 3 hours today. Little damage was caused. 4 of the enemy were shot down by A/A fire and 4 were damaged.

/The...

War Diary.

4.1.1942.
Sunday.

HOME COMMANDS.

China. -Contd.

The conclusions of the Chiefs of Staff regarding the likelihood, timing and scale of possible Japanese attacks on the N.E.I. are the subject of a telegram today.

A S/M sunk S.S. KWANTUNG⁶ by gunfire at 2002 today in 9° 12' S. 111° 10' E.

Australia.

Enemy aircraft bombed the aerodromes in Rabaul last night and today. No damage was caused, though there were some native casualties.

War Diary.

4.1.1942.
Sunday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Policy.

- Iceland. (i) U.S. Authorities have raised question of U.S. Navy relieving British Naval Force permanently stationed in Iceland.
- (ii) U.S. propose that they take over responsibility for operation and maintenance of base for supporting U.S. Naval and British Naval and Naval Air Forces.
- (iii) Base would come under command "Naval Operating Base Iceland" work under general direction of C. in C. Atlantic Fleet. Command would include all U.S. Naval Shore Activities, district, local defence, and utility craft.
- (iv) The proposal is that British should turn over to U.S. Naval Authorities all fixed Naval installations e.g. boom, net and underwater defences, communication facilities, storehouses, barracks and fuel storage and such movable facilities as harbour utility craft, local defence vessels etc. that British could afford to leave behind.
- (v) If proposal is acceptable to British authorities it is suggested that details be worked out in Iceland between British F.O.C. and U.S. Commandant Naval Operations Base Iceland, for gradual taking over by U.S. commencing Spring 1942. These plans to be approved by Chief of Naval Staff and C.N.O.
- (vi) (b) U.S. Authorities desire now that Commandant Naval Operations Base may establish L.O's in British Joint Operations Centre.
- (vii) Request your views.
(B.A.D. Washington, 1703R/4 to Admty.)

*see p105
C in C's views p131*

Movements.

RESOLUTION. Scapa departure RESOLUTION, ASHANTI, ESKIMO.
(A.C.O.S. 0308A/4).

H.28, H.43, Foremast carried away, standard compass and upper
H.50. bridge wrecked. Am proceeding to Milford Haven,
H.50, H.43, H.28 in company (ALECTO 0917/4).
F.O.I.C. Falmouth's 1059A/2. ALECTO and H.28, H.43,
H.50 arrived. (F.O.I.C. Milford Haven, 1015/4).
My 1015/4. ALECTO will take 7 days to repair and has been taken in
hand. Intend to sail submarines H.28, H.43, H.50 escorted by
ROSEMARY to Rothesay at 0900/5. (F.O.I.C. Milford Haven, 1239A/4).
In view of S.7's 1140A/4, cancel my 1239A/4.
(F.O.I.C. Milford Haven, 1445A/4).
R/V at 0900A/5 in 051° 37' N. 5° 14' W. with H.28, H.43, H.50 and
escort them to arrive Rothesay at 2200A/6. S. of A. 8 knots.
F.O.I.C. Greenock is requested to amend fighter protection.
(Capt. S.7, 2207A/4 to LA CAPRICIEUSE).

PRINCESS JOSEPHINE sailed PRINCESS ^{JOSEPHINE} CHARLOTTE, PRINCE LEOPOLD
CHARLOTTE. escorted by KRAKOWIAK, KUJAWIAK for Greenock.
PRINCE LEOPOLD. E.T.A. A.M./5th. (R.A.D. 0932A/4).

WELSHMAN. Arrived WELSHMAN. (F.O.I.C. Milford Haven 0941A/4).
My 1707A/3rd. Amend position (C) to 043° N. 017° W.
(C. in C. W.A., 1525A/4 to WELSHMAN).

/ORIBI ...

War Diary.4.1.1942.
Sunday.HOME COMMANDS.Movements. - contd.

ORIBI, MARNE,
HARRIER,
SPEEDWELL,
HALCYON. ORIBI proceeding passing Switha 2000 today to Hvalfjord routed through 058° 45' N. (050°) W. and Reykjanes Passage.
(2) On arrival ORIBI is to join Capt. (D) 17th D.F. and MARNE is to return to Scapa.
(3) HARRIER, SPEEDWELL, HALCYON leave Scapa 1200/4 for Hvalfjord. (R.A.D. H.F. 1020A/4).

A.F.D.15. EMPIRE LARCH towing A.F.D.15 is to be sailed from Tyne for Stornoway as soon as weather conditions allow and tow is to be escorted by two 12 pounder trawlers as follows. A.C.O.S. is requested to arrange escorts from 35 buoy to destination. (C. in C. Rosyth, 1021/4).

HERMIONE. F.O.C.N.A.'s 1900A/3. Request you will amend route from position (c) to pass through 049° 30' N. 011° W., then through 180° Bishop 10, 180° Lizard Head 5, 049° 55' N. 004° 56' W., then by QZS 278 to Plymouth. Fighter escort will be arranged from day of sixth till arrival. (C. in C. Plymouth 1102/4 to HERMIONE).
F.O.C.N.A. 1900A/3. HERMIONE will be required to sail for Gibraltar on 10/1 wearing the Flag of R.A.Syfret. (D.O.D. H., 1403A/4).

TEMPEST,
TURBULENT. My 1814/3. Amend para. G to read. Thence submarines submerged by day to Gibraltar TEMPEST through 49° 30' N. 12° W., due 43° N. 13° W. at 1800/8. TURBULENT through 49° N. 10° 30' W, due 43° N. 12° W. at 0400/8. (F.O.S., 1121A/4).
(1) TURBULENT, TEMPEST pass Bishop Rock at 2300A/4 and cross latitude 043° N. at following longitude and time. TURBULENT 012° W. at 0400A/8. TEMPEST 013° W. at 1800A/8 and proceed thence Gibraltar as ordered by F.O.C.N.A. (Capt. S.3, 1751A/4).

COLOMBIA. My 1307/3. On leaving Dundee Senior Officer of Force will be COLOMBIA throughout passage to Clyde (C. in C. Rosyth, 1203/4 to VORTIGERN).
My 1757A/1. BLYSKAWICA from Clyde is to R/V with SKATE from Londonderry as arranged by F.O.I.C.Greenock and act as additional escort for COLOMBIA to North Channel whence destroyers are to proceed to Liverpool. (C. in C. W.A., 1534A/4).

WELSH ROSE,
SEA GIANT. H.M. Tug SEA GIANT will be sailed from Scapa to Kirkwall when weather moderates for towage of WELSH ROSE to Grangemouth. Escort to Methil should be provided by QUENTIN ROOSEVELT. On completion of tow SEA GIANT is to proceed to Tyne. (A.C.O.S., 1219/4).

LANCASTER. R.A.(D) 1345/3. Intend to sail LANCASTER at 1730 today for Scapa. E.T.A. point of arrival 0845/5. (R.A.M., 1224/4).

War Diary.4.1.1942.
Sunday.HOME COMMANDS.Movements. - contd.

O.24,
P.38. Pass through (A) 43° N. 13° 50' W. at about 1800A/7 thence on surface at C.O's discretion to (B) 46° N. 13° 50' W. thence submerged by day through (C) 49° 30' N. 12° W. to R/V vicinity of Bishop Rock on 10/1 for escort to Dundee.
(2) Request H.Q.C.C. arranges bombing restrictions as follows.
(4) P.38 leaves Portsmouth 1400/5 submerged by day through 049° 40' N. 005° W, 049° 20' N. 011° W. to 046° N. 13° W. thence on the surface, due 043° N. 013° W. at 1700/10.
(F.O.(S) 1516A/4 to O.24).

EAGLE. SKATE, BLYSKAWICA are to escort EAGLE from Liverpool to Clyde sailing 8/1. (2) SKATE is to await further orders at Clyde (3) O.R.P. BLYSKAWICA is to attend EAGLE during work up practice in Clyde Area from 15 to 27/1.
(C. in C. W.A., 1536A/4).

LAUDERDALE. My 0937A/25/12. 1. Intend to sail LAUDERDALE from Needles 1030/5 for Clyde routed QZS 293 D C 1 route C QZS 315 and standard route to Clyde. Will carry out consumption trials at varying speeds on passage. Average speed 20 knots as far as Smalls. E.T.A. 1700/6.
(C. in C. Portsmouth, 1717/4).

Norwegian Whalers. Admiralty's 1152A/25. Request you sail each Group when ready via Minches to position 270° Cape Wrath 8 miles. A.C.O.S. is requested to signal onward route. (C. in C. W.A. 1753/4 to F.O.I.C.Greenock). C. in C. W.A. 1753/4. Onward route for 1st group as follows. (A.C.O.S. 2039/4 to N.O.I.C.Greenock).

ARAB,
CAPE MARIATO,
STRAITFISHER. Sailed my 1704A/2 as amended by my 1449A/3. KING SOL did not sail and was replaced by ARAB. E.T.A. Aultbea 0200/6.
(F.O.I.C.Greenock 2106A/4).

LUCELLUM. ^{N.T. on W.D.}
(Bombed 19/12). Your 1522A/3. Operation postponed 24 hours owing to weather.
(N.O.I.C. Holyhead, 2358A/4 to F.O.I.C.Liverpool).

Operations.

SEAWOLF Intend to sail SEAWOLF from Polyarno a.m. 5th for Patrol. Vest Fjord in area bounded by line joining, positions 67° 24' N. 11° 50' E., 67° 20' N. 10° E. 66° 45' N. 10° E. thence 90° to coast and by limits Vest Fjord.
Routed through positions (a) 72° 12' N. 20° E. (b) 71° N. 15° E. (c) 68° N. 08° E. thence to patrol area.
Proceeding on surface at C.O's discretion to position (c) thence diving by day to arrive patrol a.m. 10th.
2. SEAWOLF will be ordered to leave patrol after dark 16th

/proceeding ...

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Sunday.HOME COMMANDS.Operations.

SEAWOLF
Patrol.
(Contd.)

proceeding through position (d) 66° 30' N. 07° 30' E., thence on surface at C.O.'s discretion to position (e) 62° N. 01° W. to arrive 0001A/19th. Thence as ordered by F.O.(S).
3. Request T.B.R. as follows.
(S.B.N.O. North Russia, 1009C/4).

Channel
Patrols.

2 Chasseurs patrolling Q Z S 271 returning St. Helens at dawn.
2 M.L.'s on patrol 10' S. Portland Bill.
(C. in C. Portsmouth 1417A/4).

Denmark
Strait Patrol.

Sailed R.A., 1 C.S. in NORFOLK 2130. BELLWORT, SWEETBRIAR 1530.
(N.O.I.C., Iceland 2246N/4).

British Air Activity.

On Day 3/1, no operations took place. On night 3/4 eleven A/C bombed Brest. (H.Q.B.C. 1210/4).

Enemy Air Activity.

Athskaw
Station
attacked.

One Ju.88 approaching at 200 ft. bombed and machine-gunned R.A.F. station Athskaw, Unst, at 1157/4. Two bombs dropped, both fell in the sea. No casualties or damage.
(N.O.I.C. Lerwick, 1837/4).

Mining.

S.N. 26A.

Arrivals AGAMEMNON and NEWARK.
(N.O.I.C. Port Z.A., 0055/4).

S.S. ROBERT.
(Mined 3/1).

ROBERT in F.N.595 damaged by mine at about 1800/3 in about 52° 17½' N. 02° E. ROBERT anchored and TURQUOISE endeavoured to tow, but tow parted and vessel sank later in foregoing position. Understood all crew rescued and taken 12 to Lowestoft and 9 to Harwich. (C. in C. Nore, 0747A/4).
Arrival 1207 HELVETIA with 12 survivors from ROBERT. (N.O.I.C. Lowestoft 1300A/4 and 1501A/4).

Operation
Q.O.

Operation Q.O. will not take place tomorrow.
(C. in C. Nore 1125A/4 to M/S.9)

Thames Estuary. Two magnetic mines detonated by Sweepers at 1308/3 and 1852/3. Details.
(Capt. M/S Sheerness, 1140/4).

/Operation ...

War Diary.

4.1.1942.
Sunday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Mining. - contd.

Operation
"Tincture."

Request you will repeat operation "Tincture" by p.m. 7th and again by p.m. 11th in the manner described in my 1207A/10/9. (D.M.S. 1216A/4 to F.O.I.C. Milford Haven).

S.N.15.

Your 1907/3. Route of first M.L's east of Pentland Firth during S.N.15 will be outwards down QZS 244 to 31 buoy, thence direct to Start of Lay. Homewards from end of Lay direct to Duncansby Head. My 2042/1 gives position of lay. (R.A.M. 1225/4 to A.C.O.S.)

Off
Montrose.

From reports of aircraft plots by H.Q.F.C. it appears possible that minelaying has taken place by aircraft within the area bounded by lines joining the following positions.
1. 56° 40' N. 01° 50' W., 2. 56° 25' N. 01° 50' W.
3. 56° 25' N. 02° 17' W., 4. 56° 40' N. 02° 08' W.
(C. in C. Rosyth, 2259/4).

Enemy Intelligence.

U-Boat.

There are indications that at least one U.Boat is operating in the vicinity of Bear Island or between that island and the mainland. (D.D.I.C. 1551A/4 to C.S.1, CUMBERLAND, EDINBURGH).

Brest.

Photographic R/C of Brest at 1125/4 shows no change. (D.D.I.C., 1731A/4).

Navigational.

57. B. Buoy.

57B buoy observed damaged during the night. Light flashing correctly but hanging down one side of buoy (GUILLEMOT, 0935A/4).

Botany Buoy.

Botany Buoy reported to be 025° 1.8 miles from assigned position. Request Q.Z.H. and that Buoy may be replaced as soon as possible. (C. in C. Nore, 1145A/4).

Reykjanes
Light.

Reykjanes light Iceland reported by BOADICEA as flashing every 37 secs. (Capt. D. Greenock, 1221/4).

Blyth.

Port of Blyth closed owing to weather. (N.O.I.C. Blyth, 1714A/4). Blyth Harbour obstructed. Expected to be cleared by 1500A/5. (N.O.I.C. Blyth, 2011A/4).

War Diary.

4.1.1942.
Sunday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Casualties & Defects.

BUCCANEER. My 1850/3. BUCCANEER refloated and safely moored alongside quay at Montrose. (N.O.I.C. Dundee, 0800/4). (C. in C. Rosyth 0930/4).

SANDENBURGH. S.S.SANDENBURGH reports steering gear out of action. Am standing by her. Request Tug. My position 3 miles North 682.
(BOREAS 1330/4 to C. in C. Rosyth).

Your 1330/4. Tugs being sent from Tyne. Repeat your position. (C. in C. Rosyth, 1434/4 to BOREAS).

LORD NUFFIELD. LORD NUFFIELD has following defects. As ship is required for convoy on 10/1 she is leaving for Greenock tonight. E.T.A. 1000/5.
(WESTERN ISLES, 1343A/4).

DENWICK HEAD. Send INCHMARNOCK to relieve VIMIERA standing by DENWICK HEAD who has rolled over on her beam ends off 22 buoy. Crew has been removed.
(C. in C. Rosyth 1624/4 to N.O.I.C. Methil).

DENWICK HEAD has rolled over on her beam end off 22 Buoy. Crew has been removed. INCHMARNOCK has been ordered to stand by her. Send A.P. Trawler to assist INCHMARNOCK with salvage, which may be possible if weather moderates.
(C. in C. Rosyth, 1704/4 to N.O.I.C. Leith).

SCOTT. SCOTT was in collision with ARETHUSA during Operation "Archery," and sustained some damage.
(D.O.R. 4/1).

Shipping & Convoys.

O.S.16,
O.S.17,
O.S.18,
O.S.19. 244. C. in C. S.A's 2029Z/31. In order to avoid loss of time on passage propose that CLOVER, STARWORT and LAVENDER should join W.A. Command on return from South Atlantic and be relieved by Corvettes fitted with type 271 now working up. It is not possible to sail a corvette with O.S.16 but propose to sail GENISTA with O.S.17 followed by OXLIP and TAMARISK with O.S.18 and O.S.19. Further signal will be made regarding reliefs for ORCHIS and WALLFLOWER. (C. in C. W.A., 1025A/4).

P.Q. and Q.P. Convoys. In view of the possibility of U-boat attack, particularly in area between Bear Islands and North Norway, Cruisers escorting P.Q. and Q.P. Convoys are not to remain in close company whilst Convoys are passing longitude 14° E. and 26° E.
2. When Convoys approach these limits, cruisers are to part company and zigzag through area at speed of advance of not less than 16½ knots or best speed weather permits, keeping south of latitude 73°N
3. Unless threat of surface action develops cruisers are not to regain touch until convoys are well clear of above specified limits of longitude. (C. in C. H.F., 1155A/4 to EDINBURGH, CUMBERLAND, TRINIDAD).

/Following ...

War Diary.4.1.1942.
Sunday.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping & Convoys.

P.Q. and Q.P. Convoys. (Contd.) Following is a repetition of my 2337C/30/12, addressed S.B.N.O. Archangel repeated Adm.Miles which has now received concurrence of Russian Authorities (Begins).

- (1) Owing to existing ice conditions it is proposed to urge the Russians that P.Q. and Q.P. convoys should be routed normally via Kola Inlet.
 - (2) 12 hours before E.T.A. of P.Q. convoys at MZ a decision would be taken by S.B.N.O. Archangel in consultation with Russians according to ice conditions and (?availability) of ice breakers as to what number of vessels if any should proceed to White Sea Ports and what number to Murmansk. Ships would then be (?diverted) accordingly by W/T.
 - (3) Essential that ice breakers are ready to meet ships thus (?diverted) at a clear water R/V.
 - (4) Q.P. Convoys. Ships from White Sea would proceed with local escort to Kola Inlet to await convoy and to be sailed by S.B.N.O. North Russia when (?numbers) sufficient and ocean escort available.
 - (5) Although local fog Kola Inlet may cause some delay to convoys it would not be comparable with that caused by ice.
 - (6) Request Russian views of this proposal may be signalled together with your remarks as soon as possible. Maclay concur 2337C/30 (Ends). Request CUMBERLAND may be instructed to act accordingly. (S.B.N.O., N.Russia, 1727C/4 to Admty.)
- C. in C. H.F. 1752A/31. Concur that route east of Faeroes must be employed.
2. C. in C. W.A. 1552A/1. It is intended that trawlers now allocated to A.C.I.C. should be employed as local escort.
3. Concur that A.A. escort should be provided during passage to rendezvous with H.F. escort. It is suggested that this should normally be provided by 2 Hunts detailed from those allocated to Home Fleet and A.C.O.S.
4. Can this be arranged for P.Q. 10 which it is desired should sail from Loch Ewe on 25/1. (A.C.N.S. (T) 1924A/4).

Q.P.4. Q.P.4 had bad night. Now due Terskyorlov this evening. (S.B.N.O. Archangel, 1210C/4).
EDINBURGH, ECHO, ESCAPADE sailing Murmansk to R/V

Q.P. 4. (S.B.N.O. North Russia, 1501C/4).
Situation at 2230/4. Visibility 1 mile. * COCKLE escorted by SEAGULL passes Gorodetsky[†] Malin Head 2359/4 proceeding along convoy route at slow speed.
Am awaiting remainder of convoy in swept channel north of Orlov. HEBE R/V with me off Gorodetsky at 0300/5. Will escort convoy to 069° N. if ocean escort not met before. Sweep completed EDINBURGH will sweep back along convoy route.
(S.O. M/S. 1. 2241C/4 to EDINBURGH, LEDA).

* ? Pan: COCKLE.

W.S.15. Route and Escort arrangements.
(A.C.N.S. H and F. 1241A/4) See Lion Copy.
A.M. 1923A/30. Route.

R/V in position A, 270° 16 miles Oversay Light at 0930Z/10/1.
Position B. 54° N. 16° W. X. 46° N. 22° W.
(A.C.N.S. (H) 1353A/4 to H.Q.C.C., H.Q.F.C.)
Admiralty 1923A/30/12. DEMIR HISAR will be unable to sail unless W/T A/C Panel pattern 8833 B outstanding since June 1941 can be supplied and fitted forthwith. (Capt. D. Greenock, 1704A/4)..

/C.T.9 ...

89A

MOST SECRET

MOST SECRET. M E S S A G E. 1241A/4th January. O U T

Date 4.1.42.

To: C. in C. Western Approaches 617.
 G. in C. South Atlantic 459
 F.O.C. North Atlantic 419
 V.A. 3rd B.S. 27
 Repeated C. in C. Home Fleet 180
 S.O. Force H. 383
 S.O. Western Patrol
 RESOLUTION
 ASCANIA
 CHESHIRE
 ANTHONY
 NORMAN
 BOREAS
 WIVERN
 DEMIPHISAR
 H.N.M.S. HEEMSKERK
 H.N.M.S. COLOMBIA
 F.O.I.C. Liverpool
 F.O.I.C. Greenock
 F.O.I.C. Milford Haven
 N.O.I.C. Londonderry
 N.C.S.O. Clyde
 N.C.S.O. Mersey.

NAVAL CYPHER (A One Time Table.)

From Admiralty.

Convoy W.S.15.

A.M. 1923/30th December (not to V.A.3)

Route. R/V in position A270 degrees 16 miles from Oversay Light at 0930Z/10th January.

B 54 degrees N, 16 degrees W.

X 46 degrees N, 22 degrees W.

repeat 46 degrees N, 22 degrees W.

C. 33 degrees N, 18 degrees W.

D. 25 degrees N, 22 degrees W.

E. 10 degrees N, 18 degrees W.

thence to Freetown

2. Escorts will not repeat not fuel at Azores. F.O.C.

North Atlantic is requested to sail R.F.A. BROWN RANGER with two

Corvettes to be in position (F) 34 degrees N, 18 degrees W.

repetition 34 degrees N, 18 degrees W by 0900 G.M.T. 16th

January. After fuelling destroyer named in paragraph 4 below

BROWN RANGER.....

2.
SECRET

BROWN RANGER and escorts return to Gibraltar. If weather is unsuitable in vicinity of position (F) BROWN RANGER and escorts may be taken southward.

3. F.O. Force H. is requested to sail three destroyers to R/V with Convoy at 1200 G.M.T. 15th January and remain as escort until three of the destroyers in paragraph 4 below have fuelled and rejoined. Force H destroyers are then to return to Gibraltar.

4. After Force H destroyers have joined convoy NORMAN, BOREAS, WIVERN and DEMIHISSAR are to be detached to proceed ahead, fuel from BROWN RANGER and rejoin convoy.

5. H.N.M.S. HEEMSKERK and H.M.S. ANTHONY are to part company after Force H destroyers have joined convoy and proceed to Gibraltar through position W. 36 degrees 30 minutes N 10 degrees 30 minutes W after fuelling H.N.M.S. HEEMSKERK is to be sailed for Far East at best speed fuelling at Freetown and Simonstown.

6. Fighter protection Code Word PILL BOX.

7. H.Q.C.C. and H.Q.F.C. have been informed of the route to R/V "X".

1241A/4
for D.O.D.(H)
Approved A.C.N.S.(H) & (F)

1st Lord
1st S.L.
4th S.L.
5th S.L.
V.C.N.S.
A.C.N.S.(H)
A.C.N.S.(F)
A.C.N.S.(T)
N.A. 1st S.L.
D. of P.(2)
D.O.D.(H)
D.D.O.D.(H)
D.O.D.(F)
D.D.O.D.(F)
D.N.I.(4)
D.S.D.
D.N.A.D.

D.A.S.W.
D.M.S.
I.P.(2)
W.D.
D.C.(2)
Hd. of N.(2)
D.D.I.C.
E.P.S.
D.T.D.(2)
D.T.D.(M)
N.I.D.10
F.O.S. by Courier.

War Diary.

4.1.1942.
Sunday.

HOME COMMAND.

Shipping & Convoys. - contd.

C.T.9.

MONTCALM from Clyde is to R/V with VOLENDAM from Avonmouth at 1030Z/8 in position.
K. 52° N. 05° 32' W, thence through L. 51° N. 10° W
M. 49° 30' N, 23° W. N. 47° N, 34° W.
(A.C.N.S. H. 1341A/4 to H.Q.C.C., H.Q.F.C.)

Swedish
Shipping to
Faroes.

A.M. 1818A/28 and A.M. 2315A/2. Owing to a misunderstanding on the part of Swedish authorities all three Swedish ships NORDSTJERNAN, URUGUAY and VASAOLM are expected to arrive Faroos between 0800 and dusk 9/1. Ships should be at 50 mile intervals. (D.O.D. H. 1450A/4 to N.O.I.C.Faroos).

IRISH
POPLAR.

IRISH POPLAR missed from convoy. ^{ON. 53 P. 242} Are her credentials unquestionable.
(WANDERER, 1817A/4).
Your 1817A/4. As far as can be ascertained, yes.
(C. in C. W.A., 2205A/4 to WANDERER).

War Diary.

4.1.1942.
Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

- Tanker. Transit Hudson reports sighting at 1050A/3 large Tanker about 270° Ferrol 5 miles stationary, headed East, low in water. (F.O.C.N.A. 0033A/4, to Admty. 0745A/4 to Admty. and HERMIONE).
- SCOTTISH My 2130/3. Your 1235/30/12 (neither recd in W.R.). Vessel met but no passengers due to hitch. E.T.A. 1900/4. My position 270 S.T.V.3. (SCOTTISH 0200A/4 to F.O.C.N.A.).
- BRADFORD E.T.A. Gibraltar amended owing to weather conditions: now 1500A/4th. (BRADFORD 0900Z/4 to F.O.C.N.A.(R) ROCHESTER).
- U/B Submarine on surface sighted 3 miles S. of Ponta Delgada 0030 G.M.T./4 steering S.W.(A.1, N.O.I.C. Azores Defence.) (N.C.S.O. Ponta Delgada 1105/4 to S.O.I. Gibraltar).
- COREOPSIS My 1242/3rd, sailed COREOPSIS. (F.O.C.N.A. 1120A/4 to Admty. COLTSFOOT).
- Lisbon As from 2/1 warships entering Lisbon must take pilot outside Bar. Pilot boat will normally be stationed in Cascais Bay. (Head of M. 1220A/4, Admty.G.M.).
- Las Palmas fuelling U/B's. I am anonymously informed that Walter Vogel Las Palmas manager of German coal depot will leave here by air 6/1 for Madrid to convey to German Ambassador plans and schemes for refuelling submarines from German ships in port, also supplies of stores. (Consul Las Palmas 1230/4, to Madrid, (R) Admty. etc.).
- MARSDALE (1) MARSDALE patrolling C.X.3. Situation MARON (2) MARON patrolling C.X.2. (F.O.C.N.A. 1346A/4). MARON take B.X.2 38° N. to 39° N. 42° W. to 45° W. MARSDALE take Western half B.X.38° N. to 39° N. 40° 30 W. to 42° W. forthwith. (S.O.W.P. 1500A/4 to Western Approaches).

/Air...

War Diary.4.1.1942.
Sunday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic. -Contd,Air
Patrol.

Following air patrol is being flown from 0001/5 till 0400/5 approx. with the object of detecting any supply ships which may be attempting to break out:-

- (a) 44° 40' N. 12° 20' W.
- (b) 43° 00' N. 11° 30' W.
- (c) 44° 50' N. 09° 00' W.
- (d) 44° 00' N. 08° 00' W.

(2) Request you will adjust course and speed if necessary so as to be in position to intercept any ship reported by air patrol.

(3) Unless air report is positive there is no necessity for a surface search.

(A.C.N.S.(F) 1349A/4 to F.O. Force (H).

My 1349A/4. Owing to weather, air patrol cannot be flown tonight 4th /5th but will be flown in daylight tomorrow 5/1 if possible. (D.O.D.H. 2144A/4 to F.O. Force H.).

South Atlantic.

INDOMITABLE

My 1013/1 and 1509/2 latter not to C.in C. E.F. or C.O.S. Singapore. INDOMITABLE reported on 3/1 that owing to unfavourable wind for flying whole programme from that date must be delayed 24 hours.

(F.O.I.C. Simonstown 0833Z/4 to Admty. C.in C. S.A. C.in C. E.I. C.in C. Med. etc.).

SEMLA

(Whalecatcher)

Admty. 2200/10/11.

Consider it is not practicable for her to reach Ceylon.

(2) Suggest vessel remain in South Africa for conversion.

(F.O.I.C. Simonstown 0835Z/4).

Port
facilities.

Request details of proposal to increase oil fuel stowage at Durban and provide bunkering facilities at Port Elisabeth and East London. (F.O.I.C. Simonstown 0949Z/4).

Convoy
Sailing
Telegrams.

Your 1707A/17. Although advance sailing telegram was sent at limit six days in advance destinations S.L.97 not received in time for conference. Consider should be sent eight days at least before sailing. (N.C.S.O. Freetown 1214Z/4 to Admty.).

/Whale...

War Diary.

4.1.1942.
Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic. -Contd.

Whale Catchers Your 2007Z/2 crossed A.M. 2002A/3. Regret craft are so badly needed in Far East area that they can not be spared for Falkland Islands. In any case they must proceed to South Africa for fitting out.
(A.C.N.S.(F) 1344A/4 to R.A.S.A.D.).

S.L.97 Your 1014A/2 E.T.A. at (J) 1100/16. Allocations of positions in convoy have been given N.C.S.O. Gibraltar.
(C.in C. S.A. 1353Z/4 to F.O.C.N.A.).

Troop Transport W. Africa. My 1937/19/12, D.of S.T. 0148/2/1. Would it be possible to return one or more of ROYAL ULSTERMAN ROYAL SCOTSMAN or ROYAL MONARCH to Freetown for use on west coast? These small ships are more suitable for local troop movements than large transports as local resources at the ports cannot deal with large numbers. NEW NORTHLAND is now in fair condition and can continue running for a few more months.
(C.in C. S.A. 1537Z/4 to Admty.) Reply 1922/5.

WORCESTERHSIRE F.O.I.C. Simonstown's 1048Z/20. Is it desired that WORCESTERSHIRE should wait in Cape Area until 24/1 for docking?
(C.in C. S.A. 2031Z/4 to C.in C. E.I.).

Mediterranean.

ALPHERAT ashore British M/V ALPHERAT ashore at Mersin is likely to prove a total loss unless tugs assistance is sent immediately. (2) Only suitable tug is ROACH at Haifa but conditions for her use quoted in N.O.I.C. Palestinian Ports Haifa 1645/1 evidently drawn up in peace time. (3) As this tug belongs to Palestine Gov. request she be despatched immediately, legal formalities being waived and financial adjustments made subsequently in London. (4) N.O.I.C. Palestinian Ports is to render every assistance to ensure quick getaway of tug. Date and time of sailing of ROACH to be reported. (C.in C. Med. 0959B/4 to High Comm'r. Palestine).

GURKHA A.T.11. Proceed when ready to join Capt. (D) 2 with Convoy A.T.11 as soon as possible. R.A. Alexandria's 1356/2 giving convoy route is being passed to you.
(C.in C. Med. 1008B/4 to GURKHA).

/Cancel...

War Diary.4.1.1942.
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean. (Contd.)GURKHA
A.T.11.
-Contd.

Cancel my 1008. Revert to 4 hours notice for steam. (C.in C. Med. 1219B/4 to GURKHA).

Enemy
Fleet.

Following has been read. P.C. and S. enemy battlefleet or type indicated 2 cruisers, 3 destroyers, 36.00 N. 20.00 E. 200° 15 knots. (Med. A/C 1040/4).

My 1040 1 battleship, 1 cruiser, 5 destroyers in second part. (Med. A/C 1115/4).

Following received from A/C. My 1040. 1 battleship, 1 cruiser, 5 destroyers (in line?). Second party 5 miles astern. 1115 (Ends) (N.O.I.C. Malta 1225B/4 to S/M's on patrol).

My 1040. Total Force. 1 battleship, 3 cruisers, 8 destroyers Italian. (Med. A/C 1135/4).

My 1135. 1 battleship, CAVOUR class, 1 cruiser TRENTO class, 2 cruisers CONDOR class? 8 destroyers, course 200°. Speed 15 knots. (Med. A/C 1150/4).

Following received. Med. A/C from Med. A/C F/- Sqdn. P.C. and S. of 1 battleship, 1 cruiser, 6 destroyers, 35.05 N. 18.38 E. Course 210°. Speed 15 knots.

(Nore W/T 1730/4 to Whitehall W/T).

Following received. Med. A/C from Med. A/C F/-Sqdn. P.C. and S. of 2 cruisers, 3 destroyers. 35.14 N. 18.40 E. Course 210° Speed 15 knots. (Nore W/T 1750/4 to Whitehall W/T).

P.C. and S. 1 battleship, 3 cruisers, 9 destroyers, 035° 10' N. 018° 40' E. 210° 15 at 1740.

(V.A. Malta 1911B/4 to S/M on Patrol).

10th
S.M.F.

Assume operational control of all S/M's West of (?07° 15° or 23°) 00' E. (C.in C. Med. 1119B/4 to Capt. (S) 10 (R) Malta C.C.O. Capt. (S) 1).

ZULU
HAVOCK
damage.

ZULU and HAVOCK out of action for approx. 3 days due bomb splinters and 2 ratings killed 2 ratings wounded. (V.A. Malta 1133B/4 to C.in C. Med.).

SALVIA
(overdue).

Recommend date for paying off SALVIA 24/12. (C.in C. Med. 1210B/4).

Mines.

Your 2003B/3. Acceptable safety area for S.A. Gear Type A and Type C can be obtained from "A" Message 621A T.O.O. 1147A/2/10/41 later reproduced as C.A.F.O. 2150/41. Further details. (D.T.M. 1239A/4 to C.in C. Med.).

/Libya....

War Diary.

4.1.1942.
Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.-Contd.

Libya
Report.

(2) Tobruk. Morning 4/1 enemy aircraft raided Tobruk causing slight damage to petrol installation.
(3) Bardia. One lighter reported serviceable.
3/1 3 enemy aircraft bombed Bardia. No damage reported.

Air 4. Night 2/3. Malta Wellingtons bombed Tripoli starting fire between W/T station and lighthouse. Other bombs on docks and near power station. Albacores from Malta attacked with torpedoes one M/V. 5,000 tons with one escort vessel 20 miles west Tripoli. Results unobserved owing to intense A.A. (C.in C. M.E. 1556/4).

Troop
movements.

Forecast of movements from Middle East. 14/1 to 13/2. (C.in C. Med. 1714B/4 to C.in C. E.I.) See Lion Copy.

Malta Air
report.

C.S.R. Malta to 1600 hours 4.1.42. Part 1 enemy action, 3rd. 1429 hours, 18 bombers and fighters on Luqa, 1 Whitley destroyed one damaged. Runways and aerodrome badly cratered. Soldiers and airmen worked all night to clear in spite of continuous bombing mainly aimed at Luqa. 1732 hours, raid bombers and fighters civilian damage only. Night 3-4/1 20 raiders, 6 aircraft damaged, 4 airmen killed. HAVOCK casualties 4/1. 0820 hours, 30 fighters and bombers on Luqa. Runways and aerodrome again badly cratered but clear 1400 hours for R/C and Blenheim operations, no other damage. Hurricanes intercepted A.A. fired, 1 J.U.88 shot down in flames in sea. 1205 hours, 30 fighters and bombers on Luqa. Slight damage to civilian property A.A. fired. (H.Q. R.A.F. Malta 1730/4). Part 2. Night 3rd/4th. 1 Albacore laid 1 mine outside harbour Tripoli. 2 Swordfish same task returned bad weather. Unable operate Wellingtons runway cratered. (H.Q. R.A.F. Malta 1739/4).

M/V
Syra.

R/C today shows merchant ship ? (apparently) aground in the ?vicinity of Syra. (Capt. S.1. 1915B/4 to TRIUMPH).

Taranto

R/C Taranto 4/1. 1 battleship, 1 6-inch cruiser, 11 destroyers, 18 S/M's, 1 seaplane carrier, about 11 merchant ships, 2 to 8000 tons. (Capt. S.10 2109B/4 to S/M's on Patrol (R) C.in C. Med. Capt. (S) 1).

UPHOLDER

Important you should cover approaches to Messina from P.M./5 suggested line Messina Stromboli. (Capt. S.10 2117B/4 to UPHOLDER).

MOST SECRET

M E S S A G E

MOST SECRET

IN

11/11/42 Jan.

From: C. in C. Mediterranean.

Date: 6.1.42.

Recd: 1409

NAVAL CYPRUS D BY CABLE.

Addressed C. in C. East Indies, repeated F.O.C.R.S., C. in C. Eastern Fleet.

AIDAC.

Following is forecast of troop movements from Middle East as far as can be foreseen but shipping not allocated and programme not (?firm).

Serial Number.	Ship.	Date ready to sail from Suez.	Remarks.
1.(one)	GJKS(YOMA)	16th January 1650	R.A.F.
2.(two)	VWDJ(JALADUTA)	14th January	Marine A/A Brigade personnel
3.(three)	CITY OF PARIS	18th January.	Marine A/A brigade vehicles
4.(four)	One Motor Transport ship.	23rd January.	Tank squadron.
5.(five)	Four Motor Transport ships. One personnel ship.	28th January.	Armoured brigade.
6.(six)	Seven Motor Transport ships. Two personnel ships.	28th January.	Half Infantry Division.
7.(seven)	Seven Motor Transport Ships. Three personnel ships.	2nd February.	Half Infantry Division.
8.(eight)	7 Motor Transport Ships, 3 personnel ships.	7th February.	Half Infantry Division.
9.(nine)	Seven Motor Transport ships, two personnel ships.	13th February.	Half Infantry Division.

/ Serial

Serial one for Rangoon Singapore Serials two and three for Ceylon Serial four for Burma Serial five for Malaya Serials six to nine for Dutch East Indies.

Request your remarks on possibility of escorts with view to adjusting dates.

1714B/4.

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

War Diary.4.1.1942.
Sunday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies.

FULTALA. Overdue, FULTALA left Colombo 21/12 for Rangoon. (S.O.I. Colombo, 0632Z/4 to Admty. etc.)

Troop Convoys. In view of your 1259/2 following arrangements are now being made: B.M.11 DUCHESS OF BEDFORD, EMPRESS OF JAPAN to sail 15/1 with approx. 3500 troops.

B.M.12 EMPRESS OF ASIA, WESTERNLAND to sail 22/1 with approx. 3800 troops.

B.A.13 sails 24th JOHAN DE WITT, FELIX ROUSSEL, KOSCIUSZKO, MARNIX VAN ST ALDEGONDE if ship arrives in time and is suitable for Indian troops. Ships with clear troop decks are required for Indian troops. WINDSOR CASTLE is not being used as she is unsuitable for Indian troops. (S.S.T.O. Bombay 0829Z/4 to D. of S.T.) Reply: see 1933/6, p. 146.

Convoy Letters. N.C.S.O. Madras 1645/3. To avoid confusion with Mombasa-Aden convoys request you will substitute alternative lettering for Madras Port Blair convoys. (D.O.D. (F) 1819A/4 to C. in C. E.I.)

China.

Hong Kong. List of merchant ships believed scuttled at Hong Kong see D.S. 852.

Enemy S/M Sunk and Cruiser damaged. In an official broadcast on 7/1, Japanese admitted that another of their submarines had been sunk and a cruiser damaged. Cruiser was hit by aircraft on 4/1 but was still in active service. (The Times, 8/1/1942).

Malaya. Sitrep No. 25, 1630 hrs. G.M.T. 3/1, 0237 4/1. Perak and Selangor. Seaborne threat against left rear of 11 Ind. Div. still continues. Boat approaching Kuala Selangor during night 2/3 Jan. was engaged by Field Arty. and withdrew. Reports during day indicate vessels seen passing Kuala Selangor heading south and some craft collecting west of Kuala Selangor. Enemy fighter patrols over Kuala Selangor all day machine-gunned all movements. Pahang. 22 Inf. Bde. still holding Kuantan Ferry. Johore. No change. Singapore. Three air raids over Singapore Island night 2/3 Jan. Superficial damage to numerous buildings at Tengah and 4 lorries burnt but casualties slight. Christmas Island. Nothing to report. British North Borneo. Japanese reported to have landed at Weston 3/1. (Adv. H.Q. Malaya Cmd., 0530/4).

/C. in C.....

War Diary.

4.1.1942.
Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

China-Contd.

C. in C. Moves. C. in C. Eastern Fleet and staff will leave Singapore for Batavia on 5/1/1942. After short stay at Batavia, C. in C. E.F. will proceed Colombo, but Chief of Staff will remain in N.E.I. for liaison duties. (Eastern Fleet 0607Z/4 to Eastern Theatre).

Vessels for B.M.11. My 0501Z/3 refers to the fact that there is no port in the Netherlands East Indies to which ships over 30 feet draught can be diverted for unloading should this become necessary. (C. in C. E.F. 0613Z/4 to P.S.T.O. India).

Japan and N.E.I. Following from Chiefs of Staff No. C.O.S. (F.E.) 69. Following are conclusions of an examination made by Joint Intelligence Sub-Committee of the likelihood, timing and scale of possible Japanese attacks on Netherlands East Indies. The logical developments of the present Japanese attacks on Malaya and the Philippines will be the seizure of both sides of the Sunda Straits to cut our sea reinforcement route, and operations against Northern Sumatra on a scale sufficient to deny us the use of the aerodromes of Sabang and Medan. The military forces (2 - 3 diversions) shipping and escort required for an operation against the Sunda Straits are available now but the occupation of key points in Dutch Borneo is likely to precede this operation, so as to provide flank protection. Operations from Northern Malaya against Northern Sumatra might be carried out by forces of the nature of one brigade group against each of the aerodrome areas at Sabang and Medan, as soon as the necessary shipping is collected. Air R/C has already shown a concentration of small craft and motor transport at Penang. Japanese plans for future action are likely to include the attempt to seize and hold, first the whole of Java and Sumatra and then the whole line of Dutch Islands from Sumatra to Timor. (W.O., 1700/4 to C. in C. Far East).

America and West Indies.

DIMITRIOS INGLESSIS. Following received via Lands End Radio. Intercept Admiral Plymouth 0145 G.M.T. de V.C.E. addressed C.Q. all ships Q.U.M., distress traffic ended at 0144. 0245/4. (C. in C. Plymouth, T.O.R. 0251/4 to Admty.)

/Atlantic.....

MOST SECRET

MOST SECRET MESSAGE

1800/4th Jan '42.
IN

From: War Office

Date: 4/1/42

CIPHER

Addressed: C. in C. Far East
MOST IMMEDIATE

62144 Cipher (M.O.10) 4/1

Following from Chiefs of Staff No. C.O.S.
(F.E.)68.

Your 160/7 cipher 29/12.

Glad to know your views agree closely
with conclusions we have reached here.

2. Troopers 61519 (M.O.1) of 1st January gives
the policy and reinforcement plan now approved.

3. We agree with Paragraph 14, and attach
importance to whole of Sumatra. We await detailed
study of the whole of your requirements.

4. Following are our comments on your paragraph
11.

(D) Experiences at Malta have shown conclusively
that it is more economical to operate from a few well
defended aerodromes than from larger number with
inadequate A.A. defences.

(F) Agree nevertheless threatened seaborne
attack may be within range of Wildebeestes from
Singapore before disembarkation starts. Wildebeestes
are old but on a par with Swordfish which has been
and still is effectively employed.

(G) Agree but evasive routing particularly from
west might give you tactical advantage against
enemy L. of C. for a period.

(H) Agree but assume you are developing the
aerodromes and their defences as far as resources
permit.

(J) Agree but dispersal arrangements for repairs
are essential. For example smaller components might
be moved to safer areas for overhaul.

5. Your Paragraph 12(D). We should like to
know your proposals for erection of aircraft in Java.

6. Points raised in your Paragraph 7(A), (D)
and (E) and 8 are being taken up here.

1800/4

Most Secret

Recd. by hand from War Office at 0700/5

Copies circulated/.....

Copies circulated by War Office to:-

- | | |
|---------------|-----------------------------|
| 1st Lord | M.O. 10 |
| 1st S.L. | S. of S. |
| 5th S.L. | C.I.G.S. |
| V.C.N.S. | V.C.I.G.S. |
| A.C.N.S. (H) | D.M.O. & P. |
| A.C.N.S. (F) | D.P. |
| A.C.N.S. (W) | D.D.M.O. (O) |
| A.C.N.S. (T) | M.O. 1 |
| N.A. 1st S.L. | D.M.I. |
| D.O.D. (F) | D.D.M.I. (I) |
| D.D.O.D. (F) | M.I. 2. |
| D. of P. (2) | C.N.S. Admiralty |
| D.O.D. (H) | D. of Plans, Admiralty |
| D.D.O.D. (H) | C.A.S. Air Ministry |
| D.N.I. (4) | Director of Plans, Air Min. |
| E.P.S. | Sec., Joint Planning Staff |
| D.C. (2) | Col. Jacob. |
| D.S.D. | Hd. of War Reg. (Admiralty) |
| D.D.I.C. (2) | |
| Hd. of M. (2) | |
| I.P. (2) | |
| V.D. | |
| D.T.D. (2) | |
| D.T.D. (M) | |
| D.N.A.D. | |

4.1.1942.
Sunday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies-Contd.

Atlantic Convoys, Escorts. Your 1420/26. Paras. (A) and (B) were explained to C.N.O.
2. Difficulty concerning slow ships for Iceland remains.
3. Of 20 ships regularly on Iceland run, 6 can go with H.X. Convoys. 14 had difficulty in keeping up with H.X. and have been ordered by U.S. Authorities to join S.C. Convoys. In addition about 6 vessels are employed under occasional charter by Iceland. Agreement of C.N.O. to Canadian escorts proceeding to Londonderry instead of Iceland (C) is withheld at present until arrangements for slow ships to Iceland are agreed.
4. Alternatives for slow ships are -
(A) proceed to U.K. as proposed in para. 17 of A.M. 1119/6. Agreement on this alternative cannot be obtained at present though we have pointed out that no more delay is involved than under alternative (B).
(B) Separate convoy at about 22 day intervals direct to Iceland. Disadvantage of separate escorts required has been pointed out.
(C) To sail slow ships in H.X. convoys involving some delay to those convoys in bad weather.
Navy Dept. ask whether this can be accepted. All ships involved are said to be capable of 10 knots or more with wind force four and moderate sea. Wind to shallow draught necessary for Iceland and small size of vessels, effect of bad weather is said to be greater on them than on larger ships in H.X. Convoys.
5. Navy Dept. has agreed, at our request, to make further study of delay in alternative (A) with a view to accepting this alternative at once while more comprehensive discussions proceed. Also agreed provisionally that slow ships with Russia as ultimate destination should go via U.K.
6. C.N.O.'s remarks on your 1119/6 received today being signalled separately. (B.A.D. 1139R/4 to Admty.)
My 1139/4. C. in C. U.S. Fleet has now approved Admty. proposal for more southerly routeing of S.C. and O.N. (S) Convoys as in A.M. 2309/15 C.N.O. concurs. (ii) C. in C. U.S. Fleet requests C.N.O. include maximum Iceland shipping in H.X. and O.N. convoys. (iii) C. in C. Lant and Comtask for 4 informed. (B.A.D. 1647R/4 to Admty.)

GLENSTRAE. My 1544R/2. Ship arrived.
(S.O.I. Jamaica, 1256R/4 to Admty. etc.)

Convoy Situation. All latitudes north, all longitudes west, convoy latitude, longitude, course speed.
H.X. 167A, 055° 55' 038° 50' 054° 8.0.
H.X. 168, 045° 08' 053° 50' 047° 9.0.
S.C. 62 055° 10' 041° 45' 024° 6.5. S.C. 63 046° 10' 055° 20' 092° 6.4. O.N. 49 A 044° 22' 051° 05' 265° 7.0. O.N. 51 056° 28' 032° 18' 220° 6.0. O.N. 52 061° 00' 019° 15' 270° 8.0.
(U.S.C.N.O. 1515/4 to All U.S. and Canadian Escort Units at Sea).

/H.X. 168.....

War Diary.4.1.1942.
Sunday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies-Contd.

H.X. 168. H.X. 168, CH alter route through new M. 47° 00' 51° 00' to new N. 52° 00' 49° 45' to S. Serial 4, Admiralty diversion. (Opnav, 1601/4 to Comtaskunit 4.1.6).

Compasses,
Sabotage.

There is increasing suspicion that tampering with Merchant ships compass corrector magnets is being done as a form of sabotage. Suggest general warning to Masters and that it be made obligatory for Masters to keep in personal possession a form showing correct positions of magnets. (N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 1611Z/4 to Admty.)

B.A.D. 1703R/4. See Home Commands, Policy.

Australia and New Zealand.

Enemy Intelligence. MAORI 1. (1) Report from Gilbert Island indicates that 4-engined Flying Boats sighted with following markings. (a) At Kuria on 22/12 number 23 on wings (b) At Maiana 30/12 number 140 on body and 20 on wings also red marks. 2nd report states number 21 on wings. (c) At Maiana on 31/12 and at Maiana and Beru on 1/1 number 17 on wings. (d) Similar Flying Boats sighted at Abemama and Beru on 2/1 and 3/1. (2) Submarine reported 28/12 at Wainunu Bay Vanua Levu, Fiji, Graded C.4. (3) Unidentified vessel reported 25/12 off Yanganga Island, Vanua Levu, Fiji, Graded C.2. (4) On 31/12 message intercepted probably from Howland Island states that Island being attacked by warships and planes. Canton reports nothing known of this attack. (N.Z.N.B. 0446Z/4 to Admty. etc.)

Rabaul Raid. 22.T. 96 heavy bombers approached Rabaul from North at approx. 10,000 feet at 0035Z/4th. 6 bombs dropped, no casualties or damage. Aircraft left Southerly direction. (A.C.N.B. 0531Z/4 to Admty. etc.).

Movements. AUSTRALIA wearing flag of F.O. Australian Sqdn. with PERTH and ACHILLES in company left Port Moresby 1940Z/3 (?for) Noumea. CANBERRA escorting H.M.T. AQUITANIA left Port Moresby 0100Z/4 for Sydney, E.T.A. 1800Z/7, WESTRALIA arrived Port Moresby 0046Z/4, left 0559Z/4 for Sydney, E.T.A. Sydney 0200Z/10. (A.N.O., 1737Z/4 to C.Z.M.)

War Diary.

4.1.1942.
Sunday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Ships Attacked.

BACTRIA,
(U/B report
2/12).

BACTRIA's SSSS at 1852/2 periscope only was sighted for a period of about 10 seconds. Reliability of this report assessed as not higher than 50%.
(C. in C. S.A., 1658Z/4 to Admty).

Submarines Reported.

Estimated approx. positions of U/Bs.
(D.D.I.C., 1441A/4, 1443A/4).

0030Z/4.

U-boat reported on surface 3 miles south of Ponta Delgada at 0030Z/4 steering S.W.
(F.O.C.N.A., 1831A/4 to S. and A., N.A.)

Submarines Attacked.

A full analysis of all attacks on U-boats during the past year proves that when attacked in daylight the initial dive is rarely below 200 feet and frequently not deeper than 150 feet. If depth charges explode close to the U-boat it must be expected that target will dive deeper but it is believed that a dive below 350 feet is unlikely unless the U-boat is damaged and the dive is involuntary.

2. By night recent experience has shown a tendency to remain at shallower depths and shallow settings should normally be used for at least the first pattern.
3. The possibility that the U-boat may surface after attack at night and try to escape at high speed should be kept in mind and A/S ships, specially those of slower speed, should not open the range too far after dropping patterns.
4. Necessary amendments to CB. 4097 will be issued.
(D.A/S.W. Approved A.C.N.S.(T) 1939A/4 "A" Message).

By JACOB JONES. In 047° 05' N., 54° 20' W., at (718) 55 G.M.T. JACOB JONES made sound contact and dropped 4 depth charges. Aircraft and destroyers searching. Have warned S.C. convoy.
(U.S. C.N.O. 2300/4 to Admty etc).

War Diary.

5.1.1942.
Monday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

The port of Blyth was reopened at 1605A today.

Enemy Air Operations.

A trawler was unsuccessfully bombed in the Faeroes today. CONQUEROR is being sent to protect fishing vessels in the islands.

S.S. ZURICHMOOR was slightly damaged by air attack at 1822 today, 5 miles N.E. of Barns Ness.

Convoy P.W. 91 was attacked at 1811 in 50° 18' N. 5° 45' W. No damage is reported.

Mining.

About 17 enemy aircraft were plotted in the outer Thames Estuary between 1825 and 1950 today; recent suspected minelaying activity has generally tended to be in the outer Estuary area.

Tanker SCOTTISH MUSICIAN in Convoy F.N.597 was mined off Southwold and returned to London. S.S. LARGO in same convoy was mined late this evening near 54E buoy and was towed to Harwich.

South Atlantic.

By D/F on 29/12 a German unit, probably a merchant ship, was in area 25° to 30° S., 25 to 35° W.

/FRANKFURT....

War Diary.

5.1.1942.
Monday.

SITUATION REPORT.

South Atlantic-Contd.

FRANKFURT is reported to have remained 4 weeks in this area in July 1941, awaiting orders. BULOLO was ordered to proceed this evening to search. DUNNOTTAR CASTLE is to sail from Simonstown when ready, to patrol in the calm areas to southwestward of St. Helena. (This latter order was altered on 8/1).

Mediterranean.

Air attacks on Malta continued last night, this morning and this afternoon.

The enemy force of 1 battleship, 3 cruisers and destroyers which was sighted at 1100 yesterday 100 miles S.W. of Sapienza steering S.S.W. was reported at 0230 today to have turned north and at 1000 was 65 miles East of Tripoli, steering E.N.E. A convoy of 9 ships was sighted entering Tripoli harbour at 1135.

3 Wellingtons last night bombed the submarine base at Salamis.

7 enemy aircraft bombed Benghazi last night.

Operation
M.F. 2.

Today is D one of this operation. 15th C.S. in NAIAD with GURKHA, FOXHOUND, DIDO, EURYALUS and KINGSTON sailed this evening escorting GLENGYLE on passage to Malta. BRECONSHIRE with 4 destroyers is to sail from Malta p.m. tomorrow (left Malta 1845B/6) to meet GLENGYLE N.W. of Benghazi at 1300/7, escorts will then be exchanged and ships will proceed to Alexandria and Malta respectively.

PROTEUS reports that at 0800 today she sank one of two transports with Troops on board steering 110° in 38° 35' N. 20° 30' E. (off Cephalonia). She torpedoed a 4,000 ton transport which probably sank at 0900/30, also off Cephalonia.

UNIQUE obtained a possible hit with torpedo at 1530B today on a battleship escorted by a cruiser and 5 destroyers in 40° 7' N. 17° 7' E, approaching Taranto. [page 213]

/UPHOLDER.....

War Diary.

5.1.1942.
Monday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Mediterranean-Contd.

UPHOLDER sank a U-boat this morning in 38° 21' N, 15° 21' E. and rescued 3 survivors. [p. 214]
U/B was ^{ANNUNCIATO} SAINT BON, one of the new large 1461-ton class, and a sister to ^{ANNUNCIATO} CARACCILO, sunk by FARNDALE on 11/12/41.

See 11/12/41 - p. p. 325 7
359

East Indies.

Addu Atoll is to be developed as a main fleet base as a matter of urgency.

China.

As from today C. in C. Eastern Fleet will not administer directly any ship of the Eastern Fleet. The D class cruisers and destroyers based on Singapore will be administered by R.A. Malaya, and the battleships by F.O. 3rd B.S.

C. in C. Eastern Fleet hoisted his flag in DRAGON at 0400Z and left Singapore today with his staff and DURBAN for Batavia (see 2/1) (p. 50)

V.A. W.E.C. Tait hoisted his flag in RESOLUTION today as V.A. Cmdg. 3rd B.S. and V.A. 2nd I/c Eastern Fleet. at Clyde. (see p. 105)

Malaya and Siam.

About 100 small craft are reported at Penang. A new military landing craft carrier was identified off Singora today.

Rangoon.

There was an air raid on Rangoon this morning and Mingaladon aerodrome was damaged.

/Philippines.....

War Diary.

5.1.1942.
Monday.

SITUATION REPORT.

China-Contd.

Philippines. About 50 enemy aircraft carried out a heavy air attack lasting about 4 hours on the Corregidor Bataan area. Material damage, though not heavy is cumulative.

N. E. I. There has been extensive R/C by enemy aircraft over Dutch territory. A Dutch broadcast stated that there were 6 drifting mines at the southern extremity of the Malacca Strait today.

Dutch M.V. TANIMBAR reported being shelled by a submarine at 1718 in 8° 30' S. 109° 20' E. (South of Java).

War Diary.5.1.1942.
Monday.HOME COMMANDS.Policy.Fishing
vessels in
Faroes.

For their own safety and in view of the fact that CONQUEROR is being sent to Faroe Islands to protect such vessels, I consider it necessary for fishing vessels to provide N.O.I.C. Faroes with the information asked for in his 1608/4/8/41. (A.C.O.S. 1203A/5).

F.O.C. Force
"H".

My 1403/4. Rear Admiral E.N. Syfret appointed F.O.C. Force H. in succession to Vice Admiral Somerville, to date 10/1. Request arrangements be made for his flag to be hoisted as convenient on that date and transferred to HERMIONE before sailing.
(Head of M. 1821A/5 to C.in C. Plymouth).

Relief of
Corvettes in
Iceland.

My 1319/3. For GENISTA read SNOWDROP.
(Capt. D. Greenock 1947/5).

Iceland.

B.A.D. Washington's 1703R/4. Request your views. It is not yet known what alterations if any are to be made to the areas of responsibility in the Atlantic. (Head of M. 2311A/5 to A.C.I.C. C.in C. H.F.).

Movements.H.28.
H.43.
H.50.

My 2349A/4 and your 1835A. Following received from S.7. Cancel my 1140A/4. ^{N.T.A.W.D.}
(F.O.I.C. Milford Haven 0238A/5 to Admty.).
My 2207A/4. LA CAPRICIEUSE will be one hour late. Add one hour to all times.
(Capt. S.7 0557A/5 to LA CAPRICIEUSE).

SEALION

Will arrive with SEALION at 1515A/5.
(WHITE BEAR 0740/5).

RESOLUTION.

Arrived RESOLUTION escorted by WALKER, VERITY and WITHERINGTON. (F.O.I.C. Greenock 0828A/5).

→ HERMIONE.

My 1102/4. To avoid track of TEMPEST cancel position 049° 30' N. 11° W. and substitute 50° N. 12° 30' W. (C.in C. Plymouth 0952/5 to HERMIONE).
My 0952/5. Position at 0800/5 of TEMPEST and TURBULENT. (C.in C. Plymouth 1202/5 to HERMIONE).
My course 015° 16 knots altering to 082° at 0030 in 049° 17' N. 011° 08' W. E.T.A. 1200/6. Admiralty recode and pass to TEMPEST and TURBULENT.
(HERMIONE 1606/5 to C.in C. Plymouth). See p. 107

/COLOMBIA....

War Diary.

5.1.2942.
Monday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Movements.

COLOMBIA
BLYSKAWICA
SKATE.

Sailed BLYSKAWICA in accordance with my 1806A/4. (N.O.I.C. Greenock 0956A/5).
Sailed SKATE to comply with C.in C. W.A. 1534A/4. (N.O.I.C. Londonderry 1225A/5).
COLOMBIA sailed 1600. E.T.A. Clyde 1000A/7. (N.O.I.C. Dundee 1729/5).

FLORA II.

Your 1203A/9/12. FLORA II is now ready for towage to U.K. (A.C.I.C. 1011N/5).

ASCANIA
NORMAN
WIVERN.

My 1603/1 and your 1621/1.
(1) Intend to sail ASCANIA escorted by NORMAN from Needles 1000/6 for Clyde. Route. Speed of advance 15 knots to the Smalls, thence reduced to arrive daylight.
(2) NORMAN will part company to arrive Milford Haven 1700/7.
(4) E.T.A. 0830/8.
(5) Air protection will be arranged for daylight hours on 6th and 7th, category 2.
(6) WIVERN will be sailed to arrive Milford Haven p.m. 10th. (C.in C. Portsmouth 1053A/5).

DORICA
(Not Dated)

Admiralty 2006/3. DORICA will not be ready to sail till 11/1 approx. (N.C.S.O. Clyde 1200/5).

VICEROY

C.in C. W.A. 1852A/2 and F.O.I.C. Belfast's 2030A/4. Intend to sail VICEROY 1300A/6 to Swansea. F.O.I.C. Cardiff is requested to issue further instructions to VICEROY. (F.O.I.C. Milford Haven 1315/5).

PRINCE CHARLES
PRINCE ALBERT
LAMERTON
WHEATLAND.

PRINCE CHARLES proceed passing Hoxa and PRINCE ALBERT, LAMERTON and WHEATLAND Switha at 0900 tomorrow to R/V off Hoxa Sound at 0910/6.
(2) LAMERTON and WHEATLAND are to provide escort for PRINCE CHARLES and PRINCE ALBERT to Clyde.

(3) Fighter protection arranged during daylight 6th. (R.A.D.H.F. 1427A/5).

Request you will sail LAMERTON to Londonderry on completion of escort duty ordered in R.A.D.H.F. 1427A/5. (C.in C.W.A. 2154A/5 to F.O.I.C. Greenock).

P.38.

P.38 left Portsmouth 1400/5 for Gibraltar routed as follows. (Capt. S.5 1603A/5 to TURBULENT, TEMPEST, O.24). P.38 sailed. (C.in C. Portsmouth 1657A/5).

War Diary.5.1.1942.
Monday.HOME COMMANDS.Movements.

PHILOCTETES

Intend to sail PHILOCTETES for endurance trials escorted by LA MOQUEUSE. PHILOCTETES has been routed as follows.
Proceeding Clyde on completion, E.T.A. Boom 1500A/8.
(E) LA MOQUEUSE parts company at 0900A/8 and returns to Belfast.
(F.O.I.C. Belfast 1632A/5).

Information for
PALOMARES
KRAKOWIAK
KUJAWIAK.

3 Submarines escorted by LA CAPRICIEUSE North-bound to Clyde may be met during dark hours tonight.
(C.in C. W.A. 1737A/5 to PALOMARES, etc.).

RUBIS
Operation
F.D.36.
(M/L in Bay
of Biscay)

Intend sailing RUBIS escorted by LOCH MONTEITH passing Bell Rock 1300/8 Northabout and through Minches for position 270° Wolf Rock 3 miles.
E.T.A. 0600A/12.
(2) Thence RUBIS unescorted diving by day through 048° N. 008° W. to carry out operation F.D.36.
(4) On completion of operation F.D.36 RUBIS is to return through 048° 06' N. 008° 02' W. to R/V with escort of tankers 0900A/20 in 270° Bishop Rock 3 miles for onward passage to Dundee. Escort will be at R/V between 0900A and 1600A/20 and on subsequent days until RUBIS is met.
(6) C.in C. Rosyth is requested to arrange fighter protection for passage from Dundee to Wolf Rock.
(Capt. S.9. 1833A/5).

Information for
TEMPEST
TURBULENT.

You may meet HERMIONE steering 082° 16 knots from estimated position at 0030/6 49° 17' N. 11° 98' (sic) W. Present course 015°.
(D.C. 1913A/5 to TEMPEST TURBULENT). See p.105

TUSCALOOSA
WICHITA
GRAYSON
MEREDITH.

U.S. WICHITA, TUSCALOOSA, GRAYSON, MEREDITH exercising South of line 284° from Skagi until about tenth.
(A.C.I.C. 1923N/5 to C.in C. H.F.) C.in C. U.S. Fleet 2010Z/5 to Admty.).

Operations.

SEAWOLF
Patrol

SEAWOLF sailed in accordance with my 1009C/4.
(S.B.N.O. North Russia 1109C/5).

TARTAR
ICARUS
A/S
Patrol.

Admiralty's 2303A/4. It is probable trawlers were not in company and that convoy has not received amended route.
(2) In view of Admiralty's 1651A/4, if ocean escort has not met convoy by 2200A today, TARTAR and ICARUS are to proceed to carry out A/S patrols between Bear Island and latitude 73° N. Patrol to be

/maintained....

War Diary.

5.1.1942.
Monday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operations.

TARTAR maintained until 1600A/7 if endurance permits
ICARUS destroyers then to rejoin CUMBERLAND who is to
A/S comply with my 1155A/4.
Patrol. (C.in C. H.F. 1408/5).
-Contd.

Channel 3 A/S Trawlers patrolling between St. Helens and
patrol. Beachy Head.
(C.in C. Portsmouth 1507A/5).

Operation Force now consists of 2 destroyers only instead of
"Kitbag". 5 ships as previously arranged.
(R.A.D.H.F. 1746A/5 to O.14).
Following is repetition of my 1401/5.

Operation "Kitbag". Request SHEFFIELD be sailed so as to reach
061° 30' N. 002° E. by 0600/7 to act in support of INGLEFIELD and
INTREPID withdrawing from Operation.
(Capt. D.3. 2031/5 to SHEFFIELD. Rept. INTREPID C.S.18).

Signal Cancel my 0950/20/12.
Exercise. (S.O. A.S.C. 1820/5 to C.C.O.).

British Air Activity.

Bombing On day 4/1 one A/C bombed the suburbs of
Operations. Cuxhaven. (H.Q.B.C. 0030/5).

Use of Attack of submarines. Coastal Command Tactical
Depth Charges Instruction No.18 dated Dec. 15th. Main points
by A/C as follows. Details.
against (Air Ministry 1335/5).
S/M's.

Enemy Air Activity.

LEIVUR Junkers 88 flew over Faroes 1145 to 1245 today.
OSSURSON Faroes trawler LEIVUR OSSURSON bombed in
attacked. Koakefjord. No casualties or damage. Help
? Danish messages sent 1221 and 1226 apparently not
received by Blenheim A/C which identified itself
off Lnosø at 1245, and then proceeded on
usual patrol.
(N.O.I.C. Faroes 1501A/5).

Convoy "Wheel" in 50° 16' N. 5° 47' W. course
P.W.91 050° speed 7 knots, is being shadowed by one
attacked. enemy A/C steering 260° height 7000 feet.
(TYNEDALE 1752/5).

/Convoy.....

War Diary.

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Monday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Enemy Air Activity.

Convoy P.W.91 attacked. -Contd. Convoy Wheel is being shadowed by 2 A/C bearing 310°, height 8000 feet. (TYNE-DALE 1802/5).
Convoy Wheel is being attacked by enemy A/C in 50° 26' N. 5° 47' W.
Convoy Wheel in 58° 18' N. 5° 45' W. course 050° speed 6½ knots, is being attacked by 3 aircraft steering 300° height 2000 feet. (TYNE-DALE 1820/5).

Escort for Operation "Kitbag" Expect escort 2 Blenheims Fighter from 0900 until last light 6th January. (C.in C. Rosyth 2359/5 to Capt. D.3.).

Mining.

Operation Q.O. Sweeping proposals. (M/S 9 0935/5).
In view of weather, operation Q.O. will not take place tomorrow. (C.in C. Nore 1208A/5 to M/S 9).

Search Your 1225A/4. Amend my 1907A/3 to read: Weather permitting intend to carry out Oropesa Search of your operational route in my command as follows (a) west side of Q.Z.S. 244 from Duncansby Head to No.34 Buoy. (b) Centre line joining (1) 058° 36' 46" N. 002° 53' 00" W. (2) 058° 31' 30" N. 002° 26' 36" W. (A.C.O.S. 1153A/5 to R.A.M.).

Mining off Montrose. My 2259/4th was based on what appeared to be fairly exact information at the time. This information has since been modified and is that possibility of mine-laying by three enemy A/C on night of 4th January exists, one enemy A/C between Amble and Blyth and two between Aberdeen and Forth. Special S.A. and Oropesa searches of Q.Z.S. 243 between No.23 and 25 buoys are being carried out. (C.in C. Rosyth 1219/5 and 1501/5).

Thames Estuary One Magnetic mine detonated at 1501/3 by sweepers. Details. (Capt. M/S Sheerness 1450/5).

Portsmouth Area. One magnetic mine red detonated by LL in 50° 40' 4" N. 01° 36' 16" W. (C.in C. Portsmouth 1756A/5).

Spurn Point. 2 Magnetic mines detonated by sweepers at 1120 and 1122 today respectively. Details. (F.O. Humber 1910A/5).

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HOME COMMANDS.

Mining. -Contd.

S.N.15

R.A.(M)'s 1943/3.
R.A.(D) H.F. is requested to detail one destroyer.
(2) I should be grateful if A.C.C.S. could lend CHIDDINGFOLD to R.A.(M) for this operation. (C.in C. H.F. 1929A/5).

Convoy
F.N597

LARGO
(British
2209 tons).
SCOTTISH
MUSICIAN
(British
Tanker,
6998 tons)
damaged.

LARGO damaged by mine in 150° 54 E Buoy 1 mile. (WINCHESTER 2120A/5).
My 2120. Ship cannot steam but in no danger of sinking. Have returned survivors to ship. Only minor injuries. SHELDRAKE standing by awaiting tug. (WINCHESTER 2130A/5).
My 2120A/5. Para.4. Bearings accurate within 005° distance estimated and may be up to 2 miles. Have retained 1 member of crew for treatment of burns. (WINCHESTER 2228A/5).
Departure tugs KROOMAN, DIVERSION to assist LARGO. (F.O.I.C. Gt. Yarmouth 2340A/5).
WINCHESTER's 2304. Lowestoft is not suitable. Proceed either Yarmouth or Harwich. Tugs left Yarmouth 2330. (C.in C. Nore. 2341A/5 to SHELDRAKE).
Departure tug KENIA to assist SCOTTISH MUSICIAN. (F.O.I.C. Harwich 2130A/5).
Has another ship besides SCOTTISH MUSICIAN been mined. (C.in C. Nore 2231A/5 to WINCHESTER).

Liverpool.

Your 1915A/5. Port including Q.Z.S. 298 is closed until 0927A/6.
(N.O.I.C. Liverpool 2125A/5 to VANOC).

Enemy

Intelligence. Following from Military Attache, Stockholm. B.2. Source states Falkenhorst has been appointed G.O.C. Norway solely, and Dietl for Finland. Source reports passage of furious telegram between Berlin and Norwegian high command concerning British raids on Norway. Coastal battery command are accused of gross neglect of duty. Falkenhorst reported to have notified that in future coastal battery command will come under his direct personal control. Coastal battery command has appealed to Berlin against ruling and against reprimand. Source tells me that Norwegian High Command has also reported to Berlin that British Naval action is causing grave anxiety as to possibility of maintaining Norwegian coastal traffic. 2 vessels carrying large stock of ammunition and ? for coastal batteries were recently sunk and batteries' ammunition reserves are reported to be dangerously low, especially in far north. Source mentioned in passing that Swedish high command anticipate that if raids and sinkings continue Sweden may expect renewed pressure for wider use of Swedish Railways. He added that Sweden remained resolved to continue to resist these demands. Grades B.2. (D.N.I. 1715A/5).

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Monday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Navigational.

Jan
Mayen
(Ice). Jan Mayen reports west coast icebound and ice drifting southwards on North East Island. (A.C.I.C. 1420N/5) (BRITOMART 2230C/5).

Blyth. My 1714A/4 and 2011A/4. Blyth port open. (N.O.I.C. Blyth 1605A/5).

Hebrides. Rudh Visenish Fog signal gun out of action. (N.L.B. Edinburgh 2120/5).

Technical.

W/T
communication
with U.S.
Forces. Following from B.A.D. Washington begins:- Spenavos 30/1718, giving proposed W/T arrangements in event of breakout of enemy forces into Atlantic, has been forwarded to Cinclant by Navy Dept. recommending concurrence. In case of further discussion request information why frequency of 2156 kc/s with such a limited range was chosen for communicating with U.S. forces. 1057R/3.Ends. Request you will reply to B.A.D. repeating to Admiralty. (D.S.D. 1153A/5 to C.in C. H.F.).

Casualties and Defects.

CORNISH
ROSE. CORNISH ROSE grounded on Sterk Island Lynn of Lorne, morning 4th. Efforts to refloat high water this morning failed. Consider powerful tug necessary in order to ensure floating at next high water, Permission requested to retain MASTADONTE until next W.N. convoy. MASTADONTE is already connected to CORNISH ROSE with her 5" wire. (N.O.I.C. Oban 1017A/5).

MURAT REIS My 1048A/3. Sailing postponed owing seizure number 6 Port piston. Anticipated delay 24 hours. (N.O.I.C. Barrow 1200A/5).

VANOC Report whether damage repairs were effected at Gibraltar. Ship is required for escort duty leaving Liverpool on 10/1. (C.in C. W.A. 1216A/5 to VANOC).

ANTHONY In view of defects, enter harbour on completion of D/F calibration tonight. It is improbable remainder of calibration can be carried out before ship sails. (Capt. D. Greenock 1507/5 to ANTHONY).

/LORD.....

War Diary.

5.1.1942.
Monday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Casualties and Defects.

- LORD
NUFFIELD. Your 1358A/4. LORD NUFFIELD examined. No defects found in general service pump or steering engine. It is not apparent why this vessel was sent back to Belfast. Am sailing her for Tobermory. E.T.A. 1200/6. (F.O.I.C. Belfast 1628/5 to WESTERN ISLES).
- SOBIESKI SOBIESKI reports two Water Jackets to Cylinders of main engines fractured. Estimated time out of action ten days. (S.O.A.S.C. 1730/5 to C.C.O.).
- ELIDIR Steamship ELIDIR 398 tons, sailed from Liverpool at 1135A/4 for Preston and is more than 24 hours overdue. (F.O.I.C. Liverpool 1828A/5).

Shipping and Convoys.

- BEACONLIGHT Your 2127A/3. Ship routed Capetown owing to incorrect decyphering. Reference positions not given as your 1636/16 not received and C.in C. E.I. 1400/22 gives positions in his station only. Full report to A.C.N.B. (N.O.W.A. 0658Z/5 to Admty.).
- Q.P.4. Convoy escorted by BRAMBLE and HEBE passed Gorodetsky at 0800, speed eight knots. (S.O. 1st M/S F. 0705C/5 to EDINBURGH, LEDA, SEAGULL).
All ships clear of ice and passed Terski Orlov 0500C/5. (S.B.N.O. Archangel 1020C/5).
My P.C.S. 069° 27' N. (?041°) 15' E. 009° 8 knots, increasing to 9 knots at midnight, SEAGULL in company. (LEDA 2220C/5 to EDINBURGH, HEBE).

- F.N.597 F.N.597 is to keep 1 mile Eastward of the centre line channel between 54 B Buoy and Newarp Light Float and thence on extreme Eastern edge of channel until Sheringham is passed. (C.in C. Nore 1014A/5 to WESTMINSTER, etc.).

- Convoy Short Titles. List of Trade and Military convoy short titles in force. (D.T.D. 1545A/5) See ~~Submarine~~ Summaries Folder.

- U.S. Convoy Escorts. Pass to N.C.S.O's at Ocean Convoy Assembly Ports. U.S. escorting forces may use a word beginning with the appropriate letter to denote a lettered position e.g. "Proceed to unit" for "Proceed to U". Commodores and Masters should be warned accordingly. (D.T.D. 2008A/5 to C.in C. W.A.).

War Diary.

5.1.1942.
Monday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping and Convoys.

- P.Q.7. Encountered extensive ice-field in vicinity of Jan Mayen Island necessitating deviation of course 20 miles east of track of P.Q.7. (BRITOMART 2230C/5, to S.B.N.O. North Russia. Reptd. A.C.I.C. EDINBURGH).
- Tankers in B.B.Convoys. Your 1846A/22. Proposals are concurred in, though it is assumed that since there are insufficient escorts to run convoys on consecutive days the consequent delays to tankers can be accepted. Moreover, it is considered that similar restrictions should apply to tankers in northbound convoys in Irish Sea.
(2) Tankers should not be stationed in a wing column.
(3) This problems emphasises the essential need for maintaining the Irish Sea escorts and in particular A.A. ships at not less than present strength if reasonable protection is to be afforded. (C.in C.W.A. 2313A/5 to Admt.).
- W.S.15. Escort arrangements. Details. (D.T.D. 2331A/5) See Lion Copy.

MOST SECRET

MOST SECRET

MESSAGE

IN

2331A/5 January

From C.in C. Western Approaches. Date 6.1.42.

Recd, 0346

NAVAL CYLINDER A(1) BY T/P.

Addressed N.C.i/c. Greenock, N.O.I/C Milford Haven,
 N.C.i/c. Liverpool, N.C.i/c. Londonderry
 Reported Admiralty, C.in C. Home Fleet,
 C.in C. Plymouth, B.S.B. S.O. Force H
 S.O.W.P. F.O.C.N.A. N.C.i/c. Belfast
 Capt. (D) Greenock, Capt. (D) Liverpool,
 N.C.S.O. Mersey, N.C.S.O. Glasgow,
 C.in C. South Atlantic, R.A. (D). Home
 Fleet, H.Q.C.C. H.Q.F.C. A.O.C. 15 Group
 (Coastal Cmd.) V.A. 2 H.M.N.S. HEEMSKERCK
 H.M.S. RESOLUTION H.M.S. CHESHIRE
 H.M.S. ASCANIA, H.M.S. BOREAS H.M.N.S.
 COLUMBIA H.M.S. ANTHONY H.M.S. NORMAN
 H.M.S. WIVERN H.M.S. DEMIRHISSAR.

292. Convoy W S 15.

A.M. 1923 A 30th and 1241A/4th.

Escort for H.M.S. RESOLUTION from Clyde to
 Milford Haven H.M.S. ANTHONY and H.M.S. VERITY,
 on completion of escort duties H.M.S. VERITY is to
 return to Liverpool.

2. Escort for H.M.S. RESOLUTION from Milford
 Haven to position X H.M.S. NORMAN, H.M.S. ANTHONY and
 H.M.S. WIVERN.

3. A/A escort for main convoy H.M.N.S. HEEMSKERCK to
 join position A 270 degs 16 miles Oversay Light at
 0930Z ~~11th~~ 11th.

4. Ocean Escort from Clyde H.M.S. ASCANIA and H.M.S.
 CHESHIRE.

5. A/S escort from Clyde O.R.P. BLYSKAWICA and
 H.M.S. SKATE proceeding base when escorts from
 Londonderry have joined.

6. H.M.S. WITHERINGTON H.M.S. VOLUNTEER O.R.P.
 GARLAND H.M.S. BOREAS DEMIRHISSAR are to sail from
 Clyde as convenient after convoy conference and
 refuelling at Moville joining main Convoy at positions
 (i.) at 0930 Z ~~11th~~ 11th.

/ 7.

- 2 -

7. H.M.S. VANQUISHER H.M.S. VANOC and H.M.S. WALKER are to escort ~~LIVERPOOL~~ ^{Liverpool} portion and are to refuel at Moville.

8. 2 destroyers are to be sailed from Londonderry to relieve escorts of ~~LIVERPOOL~~ portion returning to base as soon as H.M.S. VANQUISHER H.M.S. VANOC and H.M.S. WALKER have rejoined.

9. S.O. 1/S ocean escort H.M.S. VANQUISHER.

10. H.M.S. VANQUISHER H.M.S. VOLUNTEER H.M.S. WALKER H.M.S. VANOC H.M.S. WITHERINGTON O.R.P. GARLAND are to leave convoy in position (X) and return to respective bases S.O. is to report position course and speed of convoy when well clear.

11. Remainder of 1/S escort and H.M.N.S. HEEMSKERCK comply with A.M. 1241 A 4th.

12. Request you will sail ships accordingly.

23311/5 and 1125A/6.
Adv. copy Duty Capt., D.O.D. (H)
D.T.D.

1st Lord.

1st S.L.

4th S.L.

5th S.L.

V.C.N.S.

A.C.N.S. (H)

A.C.N.S. (F)

A.C.N.S. (T)

N.A. 1st S.L.

D. of P. (2)

D.O.D. (H)

D.D.O.D. (H)

D.O.D. (F)

D.D.O.D. (F)

D.N.I. (4)

D.S.D.

D.N.A.D.

D.A./S.W.

D.M.S.

I.P. (2)

W.D.

D.C. (2)

Hd. of M. (2)

D.D.I.C. (2)

E.P.S.

D.T.D. (2)

D.T.D. (C)

D.T.D. (M)

N.I.D. 10.

F.C.S. by courier.

MGB.

War Diary.5.1.1942.
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic.

- A/C. One aeroplane unknown bearing 240° 4 miles steering 180° . Position 108 PCL 5. (SCOTTISH, 0919/5 to Gibraltar, W/T). My 0919 F.W. Aircraft disappearing to North after searching for 20 minutes. Believed SCOTTISH was not seen against land back ground. (SCOTTISH, 0942A/5 to F.O.C.N.A.)
- FORTUNE. Capt. (D) 19's 2230A/4 (not to Admty). Remain on patrol until relieved (2) Patrol by day in the vicinity of area X.W and V. (3) Patrol by night as para. (1) my 48 K. (F.O.C.N.A., 0923A/5 to FORTUNE (R) Capt. D.19).
- Air Patrol. A.M. 2144A/4. Air R/C will be carried out from 1415 to 1845 today 5/1. (D.O.D. (H), 1043A/5 to F.O. Force H).
- BRADFORD. Your 1752A/1 BRADFORD damaged stem on berthing and will not be ready for sea before p.m./6th. (iii) Is she to rejoin S.L. 96 or may be used as escort S.L.97 G? (F.O.C.N.A., 1148A/5 1715A/5 to C. in C. W.A.) Request you will sail BRADFORD to rejoin escort of S.L.96. (C. in C. W.A., 2233A/5 to F.O.C.N.A.)
- B.D. Vs. for Freetown. Your 1959A/3. Is local escort required? (F.O.C.N.A., 1213A/5 to Admty). Your 1213/5. Yes. (A.C.N.S. (F), 1615A/5 to F.O.C.N.A.)
- O. 24. Following contains substance of F.O.S. 1516A/4
TURBULENT, (1) D.S. "O. 24" is to pass through
TEMPEST, (a) $043^{\circ} 013' 50''$ about 1800A/7 thence on
P. 38. surface at C.O's. discretion to (b) $046^{\circ} 013' 50''$
thence submerged by day through (c) $049^{\circ} 30'$,
 012° to R/V 10/1, Bishops Rock for escort to
Dundee as ordered by Capt. S.9.
Request H.Q.C.C. institutes T.B.R. 25 miles either side of line joining positions (a) and (b) from 1200A/7 to 2359A/8, S.R. 25 miles either side of line joining position (b) and (c) from 2359/7 to 0800/10 and position (c) to Bishop Rock from 2359/8 to 2359/10.
(3) TURBULENT from $049^{\circ} 010' 31''$, TEMPEST from $049^{\circ} 30' 012''$ both submerged by day are due $043^{\circ} 012''$ and $043^{\circ} 013''$ at 00/8 and 1800/8 respectively
(4) P.38 leaves Portsmouth 1400/5 submerged by day through $049^{\circ} 40' 005''$ $049^{\circ} 20' 011''$ to $046^{\circ} 013''$ thence on the surface due $043^{\circ} 013''$ at 1700/10.
(F.O.C.N.A., 1406A/5 to O. 24).

War Diary.

5.1.1942.
Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic. - Contd.

MARON,
MARSDALE.

MARON Patrol area B.X.2. Situation 2003A/5.
(2) MARSDALE Patrol Western half of area B.X.3.
(F.O.C.N.A., 1410A/5 to A.I.G.65).

BELLE BRETAGNE, Your 1152A/27. BELLE BRETAGNE and PETITE ANNIE
PETITE seized in prize today. Requisitioning order
ANNIE. will be made tomorrow.
(C.C.S.O. Gib., 1645A/5 to Admty).

Axis
Shipping.

(1) List P., amend number 4 to West 5/1.
(2) List D.D. number 2 left Barcelona 2/1 for
Sete. (F.O.C.N.A., 1806A/5 to P.36, P.39).

F.O. Force H.

F.O.C. Force H will be away from Gibraltar in
HERMIONE until approx. 14/1.
(2) During his absence signals for F.O. Force H
should continue to be sent to MALAYA.
(3) Signals requiring personal attention of Adm.
Somerville or Adm. Syfret should be passed to
HERMIONE. (A.C.N.S. (F), 1831A/5 to F.O.C.N.A.
etc).

TEJO
Incident.

Portuguese Destroyer TEJO left Bissao at 1000/20/
12 for St. Vincent (C.V.I.) At 1600/20 she was
flown over by Sunderland. At 1900 in 013° 00'
N., 017° 05' W., she observed a display of lights
which were not understood. Lights were followed
by flashes of a gun also sound of shots and flight of shells
heard. TEJO carried navigation lights also illuminated name
and colours. Ministry of Marine had not informed me of sailing
and does not take serious view of incident. Request any
information available. (N.A. Lisbon, 1854/5 to S.O.(I)
Freetown, C. in C. S.A.)

South Atlantic.

QUANNET.

To proceed after ranging to Gibraltar calling
Bathurst for fuel (route). (C. in C. S.A.,
0905Z/5 to QUANNET).

/Lifeboat...

War Diary.

5.1.1942.
Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic. - Contd.

Lifeboat. F/S VILLE DE STRASBOURG reports sighting on 25/12 in 17° 31' S., 01° 56' E. , overturned partially submerged and buff coloured life boat. No name seen.
(S.O.(I) Capetown, 0946B/5 to Admty., C, in C. S.A., F.O.I.C. Simonstown).

→ CILICIA. My 0133Z/5 (N.T. in W.D.)
Detach CILICIA at 1200/7 to proceed as directed by R.A.S.A.D. (C. in C. S.A., 1231Z/5 to DEVONSHIRE).

Clipper A/C fired on. C. in C. A.W.I. 1203Q/3/1. Reported that on 31/12 American Clipper aircraft was fired at by A/A guns on Tamar Island, 9° 30' N., 13° 49' W. Suggest U.S. Air Authorities be informed that the rule in West Africa is that British aircraft keep outside 20 miles from Vichy French territory. (C. in C. S.A., 1305Z/5 to B.A.D.)
Reply (B.A.D. 1201R/8).

DUNNOTTAR CASTLE. Sail DUNNOTTAR CASTLE when ready to patrol in calm areas to south westward of St. Helena vide Chart Y 181. (C. in C. S.A., 1401Z/5 to N.O.I.C. Simonstown).

→ BULOLO, CILICIA. Admty 1610A/31, para 2. Suggest BULOLO proceeds now to search this area. CILICIA will be detached to your station on 7th, vide my 1231/5. After fuelling, which request (you) will arrange, she could take over BULOLO's patrol in J.33 J(?34) if you wish.
(C. in C. S.A., 1501Z/5 to R.A.S.A.D.)

French Shipping. Meter Dakar 1/1 A.1. BELLE ISLE and ARCTURUS escorted by TERRIBLE sailed for Casablanca p.m./31/12. 3/1 B.2. Naval Air Arm now has nine torpedo planes and three Latecores. S.S. CAPITAINE LUIGI has arrived with cargo of coal. Casablanca 13/11/41 B.2. FRANCOIS L.D. now CEPHEE is reported to be going to Saffi and then to Saigon to run rubber. 1/1 A.1. VILLE D'ORAN. SCHIAFFINO, CAPITAINE PRIEUR and MONTVISO escorted by ENGAGEANTE departed 1/1 first two for Oran latter two for Marseilles.
(B.A.D., 1559R/5 to S.O.(I) Freetown).

WORCESTERSHIRE My 2031Z/4. WORCESTERSHIRE maximum speed is 13½ and requires to change propellers, spares being on board. Ship is being sailed for Simonstown to await docking. (C. in C. S.A., 1625Z/5 to C. in C. E.I.)

/Troop...

War Diary.5.1.1942.
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic - Contd.Troop
Transport
W. Africa.

Your 1537Z/4. It is intended to sail the three Ulster Class Commissioned transports to Freetown at an early date.
(D.O.D. (F), 1922A/5 to C. in C. S.A.)

Enemy Unit
BULOLO to
search.

By D/F on 29/12 German Unit probably Merchant Ship was in area 025° to 030° S., 025° to 035° W. FRANKFURT is reported to have remained 4 weeks in this area in July, 1941, awaiting orders. Proceed now to search.
(R.A.S.A.D., 2149Z/5 to BULOLO).

BIRMINGHAM,
ASTURIAS.

Admty 0107A/26/12 and your 1113Z/1 (1103/1 intended?). Intend to visit Punta Arenas in BIRMINGHAM about 10/1 with object of spreading rumours of reinforcement for Falkland Island and making contact with local British reporting organization.
(2) My personal relationship with Chileans begun may be helpful in view of Rio de Janeiro conference enquiry.
(3) Unless there is some objection to visit a formal application can be made by signal. B.N.A. Santiago is requested to delay asking permission until latest time acceptable.
(4) After leaving Punta Arenas I intend that BIRMINGHAM should show herself off coasts of Patagonia and Tierra Del Fuego repeating procedure retaining disguise as some other ship.
(5) Intend ASTURIAS to pass from Westward to Eastward between Staten Island and Tierra Del Fuego as if bound Falkland Island with troop reinforcements subsequently acting similarly to BIRMINGHAM off Southern Argentine Coast.
(6) With regard to occasional disguise of BIRMINGHAM is there any objection to her representing a cruiser of U.S. Navy?
(R.A.S.A.D., 2151Z/5 to C. in C. S.A.)

Mediterranean.

Enemy Units.

Enemy Naval units have turned Northerly.
(Capt. S.10., 0230B/5 to S/Ms on Patrol).
No enemy has been sighted on a bearing 300 and up to a distance 180 from Berca. Average visibility VTY 040.
(A/C ?KXJ, 0312/5 to A/C XIA).

/ANTWERP...

War Diary.5.1.1942.
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean. - Contd.

- ANTWERP
escort. Your 1207/4 (N.T. in W.D.) ARROW and HERO are sailing with ANTWERP 1800/5 as in my 1540/3, all times 24 hours late. (S.O. Force (I), 0340B/5 to N.O.I.C. Benghazi).
See p. 121 * N.T. in W.D.
- OSIRIS
defects. Motor room lubricating system inoperative. Lubricating main shaft bearings by hand. Starboard engine (?) (clutch) defective. Attempting to return by outward route, E.T.A. will be made in due course. (OSIRIS, 0531B/5 to Capt. S.1).
- Human
Torpedo
Precautions. When "Human Torpedoes" are known to be operating in vicinity ships having steam should work their engines slowly astern at their moorings. This method of warding off possible attack is particularly suited for use when lying in open anchorage. (C.in C. Med., 0747B/5 to Med., Fleet).
- Operation
M.F.2. Carry out operation M.F.2. D.1. day is 5/1. (C. in C. Med., 0951B/5 to V.A. Malta GLENGYLE, SIKH, KIPLING, F.O.15th C.S., NAIAD, GURKHA, FOXHOUND, DIDO, EURYALUS, KINGSTON, 201 Naval Co-operation Group).
- Key Memo L. Request approval to commence supply to S/Ms and other holders of dangerous waters sets now. (Naval D.A. Alex. 1710B/5 to C. in C. Med).
- Enemy Fleet. P.C. and S. of Enemy Battle Fleet consisting of 1 battleship, 3 cruisers, 4 destroyers, 32.57 N., 14.20 E., Course 070° Speed 15 knots. (A/C call sign YU3U, 1000/5) (Capt. S.10., 1000B/5 to S/Ms on Patrol)
- P.C. and S. of 2 enemy destroyers 32.49 N., 14.41 E., 205° 15 knots. (A/C YU3U, 1012/5).
Shadow enemy fleet 32° 57' N., 14° 28' E., course 070° speed 16 knots, 1000, land Malta if necessary.
(Heliopolis (M.E. Command) 1049/5 to A/C Med., Fleet call sign Q.I.Q.A.)
2 destroyers P.C. and S. 032° 49' N., 014° (15') E., 205° (16). (V.A. Malta, 1057B/5 to UPRIGHT, URGE).
Have gained (or re-gained) contact, position 32.59 N., 14.35 E. two fighter escort. (Med., A/C Q.I.Q.A., 1115/5).
My 1115. 1 Battleship, Enemy unknown, Numbered and unidentified 32 - 59 N., 14.35 E. Bearing 070°. Have gained (or re-gained) contact. Am being attacked by enemy aircraft. (Med., A/C Q.I.Q.A. 1116/5).
3 destroyers, 9 large merchant ships entering Tripoli harbour. (A/C YU3A, 1135/5).
One enemy Battleship 032° 59' N., 014° 35' E course 70°. (V.A. Malta, 1213B/5 to UPRIGHT, URGE.)

/Air...

War Diary.5.1.1942.
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean. - Contd.Air
Protection
"Vowel".

2 Fulmars will be despatched to your assistance at 1100 and 1230, "Vowel" R.T.6000 kc/s W/T 441, (Malta W/T, 1005B/5 to SIKH).

UPRIGHT,
URGE.Cancel my 1637B/4 ^{N.T. W.D.} to URGE and 1247B/4 ^{N.T. W.D.} to UPRIGHT
Resume original patrols, URGE in area K,
UPRIGHT in area L.
(Capt. S.10., 1007B/5 to UPRIGHT, URGE).

M.W.8.

Governor Malta's 1257/4. No objection to including fourth ship for M.W.8 if one of 14 knots speed can be loaded by 15/1. V.A. Malta pass to Governor Malta. (C. in C. Med., 1131B/5 to Govr. Malta etc).

Air Report
Enemy Units.

Op. Summary Number 588. Day 4/1. R/C Blenheim sighted about 1100 hours and shadowed Italian Naval force 1 battleship, 3 cruisers 8 destroyers 100 miles S.W. Sapienza Island steering S.S.W. at 15 knots. 2 Shadows and Blenheim Striking Force subsequently failed to locate force including 3 additional destroyers again sighted about 1730 hours (corrupt group) Malta R/C in position 230 miles E.S.E. Malta, course S.S.W., speed 15 knots. A.S.V. Wellington Shadower from Malta and Wellington and Albacore striking forces despatched from forward bases Cyrenaica during darkness again failed to locate. Day 5/1. R/C sighted force 1 battleship, 3 cruisers, 4 destroyers, 1000 hours, 65 miles east Tripoli, course E.,N.E., speed 15 knots. 2 destroyers 30 miles S.E. course S.S.W. speed 15 knots. Greece night 3/4 Jan. Weather bad, 3 Wellingtons bombed Salamis, hitting submarine base, other bombs near Ordnunge Hleks munitions factory and torpedo depot. (H.Q., R.A.F, M.E., 1231/5 1253/5).

Libya Report.

Cositrep. No. 94.
(4) 1230 hours 4/1 2 German Naval Officers 20 ratings 1 German Officer 2 O.Rs. and 1 Italian civilian captured after being at sea 3 days in T.L.C. from Bardia.
(C. in C. M.E., 1715/5).

/Malta...

War Diary.5.1.1942.
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean. - Contd.

Malta Air Report. C.S.R. 5/1. Enemy action, 4th 1500 hours, 56 bombers and fighters bombs Ta Kali, very slight damage to aircraft also station buildings, no casualties. 2026 to 0233 hours, targets aerodromes, 15 single bombers Luqa, no damage, Hal Far 7 craters aerodrome, slight damage aircraft by other bombs. Ta Kali, 6 craters aerodrome, slight damage aircraft by other bombs, barrack block slight damage civilian damage and casualties. 5th cloud flying attacks, very low cloud and rain 0650 hours, raiders did not cross coast. Raid 0910 hours, 4 aircraft bombs land civilian casualties. Raid 1019 hours, 3 aircraft bombs land, no damage or casualties. 1135 and 1252 hours, bombs sea. Part.2. 4th shipping search Italian Fleet 1550 hours 103° Delimara, 204 miles, 1 battleship 3 cruisers, 9 D/Rs, course 210°, 15 knots. Special Wellington search 1814 to 0424 hours failed to find. Swordfish and Albacores standing by to go out. (H.Q., R.A.F., Malta, 1740/5).

NAPIER, NESTOR and NIZAM. Sailed for the east in accordance with Admty instructions. Pool embarked in ship. R.A.N. base accountant officer and staff and remainder of ratings awaiting passage will take passage in first convoy to Australia calling at Colombo. Request you will arrange subsequent movements and office accommodation at destination in conjunction with A.C.N.B. Paym. Lieut. Petingell will proceed direct to Australia. (C. in C. Med., 1753B/5 to C. in C. E.F.)

Enemy M/V. Your 1608B/5 (N.T. in W.R.) Nil. As 201 Group aircraft were in touch with Battle Fleet Malta searched for merchant ship with intention of attacking with Blenheims, but weather conditions prevented and shortly afterwards stopped all flying. (R.A. Alexandria, 1755B/5 to ARABIS).

PROTEUS, transports attacked. At 0800/5 2 8,000 tons transports, P.C.S. 038° 33' 020° 30' 110° 16. One sunk with troops on board. At 0900/30, one 4,000 ton transport with destroyer escort, P.C. and S. 038° 07' 020° 25', 270° 10, one hit, probably sunk. Have 9 torpedoes remaining. (PROTEUS, 1830B/5 to Capt. S.10).

Situation Report. 1 Battleship, 3 Cruisers 8 destroyers sighted yesterday 1040/4 in 36° 00' 20° 00' steering 200° Blenheim striking force and relief shadower failed to find. Sighted again 1730/4 in 35° 00', 18° 30', still steering S.W. no convoy sighted. 826 Sqdn. and heavy bombers out to attack night 4/5 failed to locate. Enemy Squadron 4 units, 4 destroyers, sighted 1000/5 in 32° 57' 14° 20' steering 070°. Convoy 9 ships sighted entering Tripoli Harbour 1135/5. No further sightings since 1116/5. 2. 15th C.S. and 5 destroyers sailed at 2030/5 to escort GLENGYLE on passage to Malta. BRECONSHIRE with 4 destroyers expected to sail from Malta p.m./6 to meet GLENGYLE N.W. of

/Benghazi...

War Diary.

5.1.1942.
Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean. - Contd.

Situation Report. Contd. Benghazi 1300/7, escorts will then be exchanged and ships proceed to Alexandria and Malta respectively.

3. Western Desert. ANTWERP with 2 destroyers arrived Benghazi with Port Clearance Party a.m./4 Expected to leave for Alexandria p.m./5. Convoy A.T.11, 2 ships for Benghazi, escorted by 4 destroyers sail (A.M.)/5th from Tobruk. E.T.A. Benghazi A.M./7th. M.L. patrolling Sollum Bay to prevent landing of supplies to Halfaya.

4. Submarines. THORN returned from Patrol Cephalonia Area reports sinking one laden Tanker 30/12. 6 Submarines concentrating now in Approaches of Taranto 2 (No. ?24) unable to reach Tripoli Area in time to intercept convoy. End of my 1003/4. (C. in C. Med., 1847/5).

Orders to S/Ms. Arrive in positions in my 1523B/4 as soon as possible. Last R/C 4 cruisers, 4 destroyers, 32° 57' 14° 20' 70° 15 knots at 1000B/5. Anticipate enemy arriving Taranto about 2000B/6. (Capt. S.10., 1915B/5 to S/Ms on Patrol).

UPRIGHT, URGE, enemy M/Vs. Small 9 knots and medium 7 knots merchant ship(s) close west of Tripoli at 1800B/5. Anticipate they are using route past Turgeuness and arriving Kerkenah about noon 6th. All (corrupt grp) merchant ships encountered are to be attacked. (Capt. S.10., 1945B/5 to UPRIGHT, URGE). Your 0531B/5 acknowledged. When safe to do so report P.C. and S and if in need of assistance. Proceed as routed in my 1931B/5 (N.T. in W.D.) Capt. S.1., 2301B/5 to OSIRIS).

Raiding Craft, Carriers. Raiding craft carriers of the PRINCE CHARLES Class could most usefully be employed in Mediterranean. Request consideration to despatch of at least one of these ships provided their endurance permits them making the passage. (C. in C. Med., 1947B/5 to Admty). Reply Admty 0037A/9.

DIDO. Make every effort to get your propeller clear and sail to overtake C.S.15. Inform AVONVALE and FARNDALÉ of your time of sailing. They are to screen you until 10 miles clear of searched channel. Keep me informed. (C. in C. Med., 2312B/5 to DIDO).

War Diary.

5.1.1942.
Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

Military Convoys. Revised programme of (? moves) for January. (S.S.T.O. India (Bombay) to R.A. Malaya, 0604Z/5, 1219Z/5). See Lion Copy.

Ceylon. Re control of air forces. (A.H.Q., India, 0723/5 to Air Min.) See Lion Copy.

U.S. Transport W.S.12 X. Your 1017/31. (i) Am India have asked Chief of Staff for urgent decision regarding U.S.A. transports late W.S.12 X which are wanted for transporting 18th Div. from Bombay 15/1. (ii) Request decision may be communicated direct to me as soon as possible. (C. in C. E.I., 1130Z/5, to Admty.)

FULTALA. Cancel my 0630/4 and 0632/4. FULTALA arrived Moulmein. (S.O.I., Colombo, 1210Z/5 to Admty. etc.)

Addu Atoll. Re defences. (W.O., 2100/5 to C. in C. India) See Lion Copy. *page 122 (2)*

China.

Shipping lost. Names of ships believed lost in Far Eastern ports, (Shanghai, Hong Kong, Bangkok) (D.S. 853). Ships reported seized by Japanese in the Whangpoo River on 8/12. (D.S.854).

CAPE ST. FRANCIS. CAPE ST. FRANCIS due Singapore 31/12 from Rangoon not arrived. (S.O.I., Singapore, 0217Z/5 to R.A. Malaya).

Air Report. About 100 small craft seen in Penang Harbour. One 600 ton sailing ship N.W. of Port Swettenham. 3 E/A attacked H.M.S. MATA HARI proceeding South 10 miles West of Malacca. Later Buffalo Sortie reported ship undamaged. (A.H.Q., Far East, 0341/5). Opsum up to 1030Z/4. 3 Blenheims IV detailed to attack 2 1500-ton ships towing small craft north of Kuala Selangor and 1 of 3000 tons approaching Kuala Selangor from North, small craft to be attacked with machine gun fire. Alternative target Sungai Patani Aerodrome. 1 Blenheim attacked 2 ships near reported position from 1500 feet. 1 reported to be sinking by the stern. Later same aircraft attacked a convoy of small craft assembled 10 miles south of Penang with machine gun fire. 1 craft seen to be on fire.

/1 Blenheim ...

TOP SECRET

(N) B.M.12 VGKT (EMPRESS OF ASIA) WESTERNLAND personnel and stores. Ready to sail 22nd January.

(O) B.A.14 FOAV (FELIX ROUSSEL) PFDM (JOHAN DE WITT) SPEA (KOSCIUSZKO) PFVA (MARNIX VAN ST. ALDEGONDE) Personnel and stores. Ready to sail 24th January.

0604Z/5

NOTE - Paragraph (D) appears to be missing.

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

only.

ML.

R.

TOP SECRET

0723/5th January.

SECRET

M E S S A G E

IN

From: A.H.Q. India.

Date: 6.1.1942.

Recd: 1100.

CYPHERAddressed: Air Ministry, Whitehall. Repeated: 222
Group, C. in C. East Indies.IMMEDIATE.

A 238 W.X.4394 5/1.

Your X 971 31/12 end of last sentence in Part One not clear G.O.C. in C. was checked back and confirmed correct, there is no G.O.C. in C. Ceylon, presume meaning was Commander in Chief, India. Directif issued begins:-

Para 1. Admiralty and Air Ministry have agreed general control of R.A.F. in Ceylon is vested in A.O.C. in C. India under Commander in Chief India. Primary roles of Air Forces in Ceylon are co-operation with Naval and Military Forces in that area, maintenance of sea communications and air defence of Ceylon. A.O.C. in C. is responsible for the operational control of R.A.F. in Ceylon other than G.R. Aircraft.

Para 2. Officer commanding R.A.F. in Ceylon is responsible to A.O.C. in C. India for operational control administration training and efficiency of R.A.F. in Ceylon. A.C.C. R.A.F. in Ceylon is to obtain a general Directif from C. in C. East Indies for operation of G.R. Aircraft but is responsible for execution of Directif.

Para 3. Naval Aircraft either shore based or temporarily disembarked from Carriers will be under the direct control of C. in C. East Indies. At his discretion Naval Aircraft may be employed in the defence of Ceylon in which case they will be placed under the operational control of Officer Commanding R.A.F. Ceylon. Ends. Presume you concur.

0723/5.

Received from Air Ministry at 1530/6.

1st Lord.
1st S.L.
5th S.L.
V.C.N.S.
A.C.N.S. (F).
N.A. 1st S.L.
L. of P. (3).
Ops. (3).
C.I. (5).
O.I.C.
D.N.A.D.

M (2).
D.N.I. (4).
D. of L.D. (2).
D.T.S.D.
E.P.S.
I.P. (3).
W.D.

Air Ministry Circulation
Internal, C.A.S.
V.C.A.S. D.C.A.S.
D. of Plans, D.O.O.
A.M.S.O. (2), D.O.N.C.
D.W.C. F.O.5, D. of O.,
D.D.O.O. (action).
External. Admiralty.
War Office.

MOST SECRET

2100/5th January

From: The War Office

Date: 6.1.42.

CIPHER

Addressed:- C. in C. India, repeated C. in C. East Indies,
G.O.C. Ceylon.

MOST IMMEDIATE

62326 cipher (M.O.12) 5/1.

ADDU ATOLL. Since outbreak hostilities with Japan
problem of providing certain facilities and defences at ADDU ATOLL
has been under review.

Two. Decided that ADDU ATOLL should be developed as main
fleet base as matter of urgency.

Three. Scale of attack against which defence should
ultimately be provided should be taken as:-

- (a) bombardment by capital ship.
- (b) attack by E boat and submarine.
- (c) carrier borne air attack.
- (d) troop landing.

Four C-in-C. East Indies has been directed by Admiralty to
forward appreciation by telegram setting out:-

- (a) Existing strength of Base Staff.
- (b) Immediate increase required which can be met from
local resources.
- (c) Increase which must be provided immediately from
other sources.
- (d) Best position for the Fleet anchorage and A/T Baffl
It appears that the Western anchorage has
advantages as regards shore A/A gun defences and
depth of water.
- (e) Maximum scale of heavy and light A.A. guns which
can be mounted effectively.

Five/...

Five The following points are under consideration:-

- (a) Provision of flying boat base and balloons for defence of Fleet anchorage. Former must be clear of Fleet anchorage.
- (b) Construction of aerodrome or landing strip.
- (c) Provision of R.D.F. cover.

Six Your views are required on:-

- (a) (i) Practicability of installing 6" 45° guns in place of 6" Mark VIII and sites for A/M.T.B. defence.
- (ii) Whether beach defences required against troop landings.
- (b) Outline administrative plans including:-
 - (i) Provision of piers and landing stores.
 - (ii) Communications and roads.
 - (iii) Shore accommodation and water supply
- (c) Estimate time to install:-
 - (i) Deterrent A.M. defences.
 - (ii) Complete defence scheme.
- (d) Requirements in material and personnel which cannot be provided by India.

Seven. Much material for answer available in

reconnaissance Reports compiled by Colonel Brown, R.M. M.N.B.D.O. and Major Hill, G.H.Q. India in September, 1941.

AMT

1st Lord	D. of L.D.	2100/5	
1st S.L.	D.A./S.W.		
2nd S.L.	D.M.S.		Received by hand from War Office
3rd S.L.	I.P.(2)		at 1222/6
4th S.L.	W.D.		Copies circulated by War Office to:-
5th S.L.	D.C.(2)		S. of S.
V.C.N.S.	Hd. of M.		D. of Plans Admiralty
A.C.N.S. (H)	D.T.S.D.		Col. Fuller, Lia. Admiralty
A.C.N.S. (F)	E.P.S.		H.W.R. Admiralty
A.C.N.S. (T)	D.T.D.(2)		C.A.S. Air Ministry
A.C.N.S. (W)	N.I.D.		D. of Plans Air Ministry
N.A. 1st S.L.	D.G.D.		India Office (Col. McCay)
D.O.D. (F)	D.D.I.C.(2)		Col. Jacob.
D.D.O.D. (F)	Adml. Bellairs		Sec. J.P.S.
D.O.D. (H)	(2)		
D.D.O.D. (H)			D. Sigs.
D. of P. (2)			D.D. Sigs.
D.N.I. (4)			Sigs. 1.
D.S.D.			C.A.S. Admiralty.
D.N.A.D.			

War Diary.

5.1.1942.
Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

China.

Air Report. (contd.) 1 Blenheim returned to base due to adverse weather. Task not carried out. Third Blenheim missing presumed lost. (A.H.Q. F.E., 0345/5).

Flag of C. in C. Flag of C. in C. Eastern Fleet, hoisted in DRAGON at 0400Z/5. (C. in C. E.F., 0410Z/5 to Admty.)

Malaya. Sitrep No. 26 1630 hrs. G.M.T.4/1. Our patrols have made contact during day with parties of enemy in Kuala Selangor where several hundred enemy apparently landed.

Johore no change.

Singapore. One air raid during night 3/4 Jan. caused slight damage and no casualties.

Four Buffalos despatched on report that H.M.S. MATA HARI was being attacked by enemy aircraft West of Malacca found her undamaged.

General. With Kuantan in his hands enemy will be able to provide fighter protection for his bombers over South Malaya and increase in scale of air attack must be expected shortly.

(G.O.C., Malaya, 0523/5 to W.O.)

Movements. Batavia departure 3rd. TEVIOTBANK. Singapore 4th, arrival TENEDOS, departure HOBART. 5th arrival THANET, departure DRAGON, DURBAN, ENCOUNTER, VAMPIRE. (S.O.I. Singapore, 0757Z/5 to Admty.)

B.S.3. Flag of V.A. W.E.C. Tait hoisted in RESOLUTION 5/1 Command. as V.A. Cdmg. 3rd B.S. and V.A. Second in Command, Eastern Fleet. (B.S.3, 1107A/5 to Admty. C. in C. E.F., C. in C. W.A., N.O.I.C. Greenock, C. in C. Home Fleet, RAMILLIES, REVENGE, ROYAL SOVEREIGN, RESOLUTION, C. in C. E.I.)

INDOMITABLE. Admiralty 2115A/3, para. 1, Code Word "Opponent." (D.O.D. (F) 1337A/5 to C's. in C., E.F., Med., E.I.)

Allied Commands. Following for Gen. Wavell from Chiefs of Staff (India) No. 18. Your 40/c of 1/1 and our C.O.S. (India) No. 17, para. 1 (b).

1. We feel, and Chiefs of Staff in Washington agree, that a Senior British Air Force Officer should be appointed to command all the Allied Air Forces within your sphere, in the same way as an American Admiral is to be appointed to command all the Allied Naval Forces in his sphere. Our Air Force Officer would also act as your Air Adviser. On this basis S. of S. for Air would be prepared to appoint Air Marshal Peirse.

2. If, on the other hand, you intend that there should be a number of A.Os.C. - British, American, Australian and Dutch - answerable direct to yourself, you would presumably require only

/an ...

War Diary.5.1.1942.
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.China.

Allied Commands. *Contd*: an Air Force Adviser and Senior Staff Officer. In that event S. of S. for Air would nominate a different and more junior officer. Please telegraph your views. Urgently.

3. Chiefs of Staff in Washington have suggested that it may be necessary for Naval Staff Officer to be appointed to advise you during Hart's absence at sea and suggest he should be American. Please telegraph your views. If you agree we will ask our people in Washington to approach Americans.
(W.O., 1630/5, to C. in C. India).

Rangoon,
Mine
Watching.

In view of the importance of Rangoon and the probability of its port and approaches being mined by the Japanese, request if satisfactory arrangements made for minewatching, S.A. and Magnetic minesweeping.
(A.C.N.S.(F) 1925A/5 to C. in C. E.F.)

Dutch
Oilfields.

Your 0131Z/17. Request whether Oil Denial Schemes in Dutch oilfields have been put into operation.
(A.C.N.S.(F) 2342A/5 to C. in C. E.F.)

America & West Indies.

Conferences
at Rio.

Glad if you would ascertain as a matter of urgency whether any comments are required from us.
(Hd. of M., 0119A/5 to B.A.D.)

ARCHER.

ARCHER is to leave Philadelphia for Norfolk 9/1 making all arrangements for passage with Commandant U.S. 4th Naval Dist. Philadelphia. Martlet aircraft are to embark at Norfolk on arrival and you should make necessary arrangements with Commandant direct through Commandant U.S. 4th Naval Dist. Phil. Programme beyond Norfolk is at present in abeyance until further directions. ARCHER pass to B.N.L.O. Norfolk. (B.A.R.M., 1254R/5 to ARCHER).

ALBATROSS.

Refitting port may be changed to Norfolk Virginia. Suggest pending decision ship proceeds Jamaica. (B.A.R.M., 1314R/5, to C. in C. A.W.I.)
My 1314/5, it is now confirmed ALBATROSS will refit at Mobile. Can date of arrival now be given? Ship is required to meet pilot at 0800 zone 6 time at Mobile Bay entrance buoy.
(B.A.D., 1726R/5 to C. in C. A.W.I.)
B.A.R.M.'s 1314R/5. Proceed Kingston.
(C. in C. A.W.I., 1852Q/5 to ALBATROSS). *Cancelled 26/1 - See p 1145*

/FIREDRAKE ...

War Diary.

5.1.1942.

Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America & West Indies. - contd.

- FIRE Drake.** Will leave Boston for Halifax in accordance with C.O.A.C. Halifax 1650/28, not to Admty, at 0500R Sunday 18/1 speed 15 knots arriving 0830R/19. (B.A.R.M. 1316R/5 to C.O.A.C. Halifax).
- U/B.** Master BE TANCURIA reports at 1715/29/12 in 013° 13' N. 060° 25' W. sighting white streak on the surface like submarine distance one to two miles. (S.O.I. Kingston, 1504R/5 to Admty, etc.)
- French Shipping.** B.A.D. 1559R/5. See South Atlantic.
- Navigation, Portland (Me.)** W.J.A.61 Portland (Maine). Vessels bound for Portland should wait in vicinity of Willard Rock Light Buoy number 7 until contacted by examination Steamer and given clearance to proceed. (C.N.S., Canada, 1615Z/5, to R.C.N.)
- CAMPOAMOR.** S.S. CAMPOAMOR a Spanish tanker suspected of servicing Axis vessels at sea departed Caripito 31/12 due Tenerife 12/1. (U.S.C.N.O., 1719/5 to 3 Comdr. Task Group 3.6, 3.8, 6.3, Comdr. Task Group 3. Admty., C. in C. A.W.I., N.S.H.Q. Ottawa).
- QUEEN OF BERMUDA.** Leave Bermuda after embarking aircraft 7/1 and proceed by most direct route to Halifax. Report your E.T.A. to me on leaving Bermuda. (2) C.O.A.C. Halifax is requested to sail QUEEN OF BERMUDA for U.K. with N.A.1 if time permits, otherwise independently in accordance with Admty. 1326A/25/12. Admty. have no objection to QUEEN OF BERMUDA proceeding to Halifax. (C. in C. A.W.I., 1752Q/5 to Q. of B.)
- AUSONIA, CIRCASSIA.** Your 1702/27 and A.M. 2146/29/12. It is at present intended that AUSONIA should proceed to A.W.I. Station in accordance with A.M. 1232/30/10. 2. On her arrival request you will arrange for CIRCASSIA to return to U.K. to give leave and refit. (D.O.D. (F) 1805A/5 to C. in C. A.W.I.)
- Transport Movements.** (1) Request present position (a) the 6 U.S. transports ex convoy W S 12 X. (b) The U.S. transport which called at Brisbane (2) Request B.A.D. Washington may be informed of their movements in future (B.A.D., 2003R/5 to C. in C. E.I., C. in C. E.F., A.C.N.B.)
- N.A.2. VOLENDAM.** Your 1703A/26/12. Request names of ships for N A 2 understand MONTCALM will carry out extended refit in Canada or U.S.A. due Halifax 16/1 with
/VOLENDAM ...

War Diary.

5.1.1942.
Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies.

N.A.2
VOLENDAM
(contd.)

VOLENDAM C T 9. Also request future programme.
VOLENDAM. (N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 2151Z/5 to Admty.)

Free French
Corvettes,
St. Pierre.

Following from Adm. Muselier. Following is an extract from letter from me to C.N.S. Ottawa. Have decided to transfer pool of Free French ratings to be formed at St. John's N.F. to St. Pierre. Request therefore that time of stay of Free French Corvettes normally spent at St. John's N.F. be spent at St. Pierre but allowing day either end to call at St. John's N.F. for refuelling and administrative purposes. (MIMOSA, 2216Z/5 to Admty. (R) C.N.S. Ottawa, F.O.N.F., Capt. (D) St. Johns N.F.)

MARCONI
Captured.

The M/V MARCONI, flying Panama flag but reported to be of Italian ownership, was captured and brought into Cristobal, in the Canal Zone, and turned over to the courts for adjudication. (U.S. War Dept., 5/1, The Times 6/1).

Australia & New Zealand.

Rabaul
Air Raid.

My 1751Z/2 at 0035Z/4 22 type 96 Mitsubishi aircraft dropped 25 bombs near Lakunai aerodrome, Rabaul, damage nil. Native casualties. At 0900Z/4 11 enemy aircraft of same type dropped 40 bombs close to Vunakanau aerodrome, Rabaul, no damage or casualties. (A.C.N.B., 0136Z/5 to Admty. etc.)

Mines.

W M 18. Floating Mines sighted in 042° 03' South 168° 51' East at 0120Z/1st. (S.O.I. Wellington, 0935M/5 to W.M. Addressees).

LE TRIOMPHANT. Re sending F.S. LE TRIOMPHANT to Noumea in view of her eventual participation in defence of Pacific.

(1) Range of action of this vessel does not allow her to carry out the mission for which she is intended unless she is based at Tahiti.

(2) Question of refuelling in Tahiti seems to have escaped the Admiralty's attention in spite of three requests in London. All fuel tanks Tahiti are empty.

(3) It is, however, my intention to order LE TRIOMPHANT to Tahiti as soon as possible after arrival. Request whether I can count on despatch of tanker to Tahiti.

(French High Commissioner Pacific (via H.M. Consul Noumea) 1100Z/5 to C. in C. E.F.)

/TANIMBAR ...

War Diary.

5.1.1942.
Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Australia & New Zealand. - contd.

TANIMBAR
shelled.

Following from Perth Radio (begins) Intercept
1718/5 S S S S 08° 30' S. 109° 20' E. TANIMBAR
shelled (ends).
(A.C.N.B., 2003Z/5, to A.I.G. 115). *See next page.*

War Diary.

5.1.1942.
Monday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Ships Attacked.

TANIMBAR.

Dutch, 8169 tons. Shelled at 1718/5 in 8° 30' S.
109° 20' E. See Australia. *previous page*

Submarines Reported.

S/M on surface sighted in 037° 43' N. 025° 49' W.
at 0945 G.M.T./5 and in 037° 41' 025° 57' at 1030
steering west by south. (N.C.S.O. Ponta
Delgada, 1018/5 to S.O.I. Gib.) (F.O.C.N.A.,
1759A/5 to S. and A.)

Estimated approximate positions of U/Bs.
(D.D.I.C. 1417A/5, 1418A/5):

Bear Island.

Indications that at least one U-boat is operating
in vicinity of Bear Island or between that island
and the mainland. (D.D.I.C. 2305A/5 to STURGEON.)

War Diary.

6.1.1942.
Tuesday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

The U.S. Authorities have proposed that they should take over the responsibility for the operation and maintenance of the naval base in Iceland. C. in C. Home Fleet gives his views in 1244A/6.

British Air Operations.

140 aircraft of Bomber Command attacked Brest and 16 attacked Cherbourg last night. Two ships, believed to be flak ships were hit and set on fire at Brest.

Enemy Air Operations.

An enemy aircraft carried out a leisurely and unopposed R/C of the Faeroes this morning and attacked a collier and NORTHERN PRINCESS without causing damage or casualties.

Trawler LODDON was damaged off Ravensear this morning and entered Scarborough.

Mining.

S.O. M.S.4 reported this evening that he considered the gap in the Faeroes-Iceland minefield to be now clear.

War Diary.

6.1.1942.
Tuesday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Mining. - Contd.

3 Hampdens laid mines last night in Quiberon Bay.

The R.A.F. escort to Convoy F.S. 91 reported at 1230 a vessel blown up about 10 miles S.E. of Harwich. Wreckage and 2 bodies were found near 51° 52.6' N. 1° 28.8' E. at 1445, believed to be of S.S. NORWICH TRADER, ~~237~~ tons, lost with all hands. *217 tons.*

Minelaying by enemy aircraft is suspected in Gap "A" in the East Coast Barrier. M/S resources in Rosyth Command do not at present allow the Gap to be systematically searched.

South Atlantic.

The Admiralty have informed C. in C. S.A. that no long range 6-inch guns, obsolete warships or monitors are available for the defence of the Falkland Islands. They consider the threat to the islands very remote, and suggest that one of the cruisers on the station should be used when available. C. in C. S.A. asks whether O.P.N.A.V. could be asked to send part of Task Force 3 temporarily to the area.

Mediterranean.

Attack on Malta by the Axis is expected in the near future. Ta Kali and Hal Far aerodromes are unserviceable owing to rain. There were 4 air attacks on Malta today; no damage is reported.

War Diary.

6.1.1942.
Tuesday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Mediterranean - Contd.

12 Wellingtons left Malta last night to attack a convoy of 9 ships which arrived at Tripoli yesterday morning; the weather was bad and only one Wellington reached the objective and bombed the inner harbour, results not being seen.

Benghazi was twice bombed by single enemy aircraft early this morning. No damage was caused. Tobruk was raided by aircraft twice this morning but no damage is reported.

China.

There was an air raid warning in Rangoon from 0100 to 0220, but no report of bombing. Mingaladon aerodrome was attacked and damaged.

Convoy B.M. 9B arrived at Singapore today. Two or more enemy aircraft bombed Singapore early this morning; damage was very slight.

Australia.

Vanakanæ aerodrome, Rabaul was bombed at 0807Z today and it is reported that the runway was badly cratered.

War Diary.

6.1.1942.
Tuesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Policy.

Control of Naval Base in Iceland. *see p83.* Your 2311/5th. As U.S. Navy has neither fast heavy ships nor efficient R.D.F. it is essential we remain responsible for watch of Denmark Straits. Western Approach Escort Groups will presumably also continue to use Iceland. Aircraft working from Iceland in co-operation with both these forces must also be under British control and consist largely of British aircraft if they are to co-operate efficiently. (2) Base will therefore exist mainly to serve British Naval Forces and aircraft co-operating with them. It should logically be a British base. If it is desirable for political or material reasons for U.S. to take over defence and maintenance of base, I have no objections, provided they clearly understand its main object is as above. (3) Home Fleet's requirements as in my 1426/5. (4) During period of transition there must be strong British representation in all base activities and afterwards a liberal allowance of Liaison Officers. (5) External communications for British interests must continue to be operated by British personnel. (C. in C. H.F., 1244A/6 to Admt.)

Fishing Vessels in Faroes Area. Your 1203A/5. In view of N.O.I.C. Faroes No. 038/3 of 27/12/41, fishing vessels have been instructed to report to signal station Thorshavn only. Do you now wish para. 2 of N.O.I.C. Faroes 1608/4/8/41 to be brought into force again. (D.T.D., 1637A/6 to A.C.O.S.)

Movements.

Towage of LUCELLUM (Bombed 19/12.) Your 1522A/3, and my 2358A/4. Operation postponed further 24 hours due to weather. (N.O.I.C. Holyhead, 0421A/6 to F.O.I.C. Liverpool.) Your 0421A/6. Sail LUCELLUM in tow of AMSTERDAM and EMPIRE HENCHMAN forthwith to anchor at one float Q Z S 298 for night and enter Harbour at sunrise 7th. (F.O.I.C. Liverpool, 1029A/6 to N.O.I.C. Holyhead.)

H.28, H.43, H.50. E.T.A. Clyde 2300A/6. H.28, H.43, H.50 in company. (LA CAPRICIEUSE, 0951A/6.)

ST. MARYS. ST. MARYS 2115/5. Intend operating ST. MARYS with one dynamo until gear box has been repaired. Request you will sail her to Tobermory for work up practice on completion of boiler cleaning p.m./9th. (TAMWORTH, 1058/6.)

War Diary.

6.1.1942.
Tuesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Movements - Contd.

WHEATLAND. R.A.D.H.F. 1427A/5. Request WHEATLAND be sailed for Portsmouth. (C. in C. Portsmouth, 1157A/6 to F.O.I.C. Greenock.)

ASPHODEL. My 1447/3. ^{N.T. & W.D.} Further delayed. Now sails 1630/7. (F.O. Humber, 1323/6.)

MURAT REIS. My 1048A/3. Sailed. (N.O.I.C. Barrow, 1410A/6.) Convoys O.N.M.54, O.N.C.54, and B.B.21 are sailing as follows. (Capt. S.3, 2004/6 to MURAT REIS.)

WELSHMAN. Admiralty 1944A/2 and C. in C. W.A. amended 1707A/3. Sailed WELSHMAN. (N.O.I.C. Milford Haven, 1447/6 to F.O.C.N.A.)

EAGLE. Intend sailing EAGLE escorted by BLYSKAWICA and SKATE for Clyde 1600A/8, speed 12 knots. E.T.A. 0845A/9. (N.O.I.C. Liverpool, 1514A/6.)

REGENT. On completion of repairs about 16/1 REGENT is to be sailed for Portsmouth N.H., routed on home station as ordered by C. in C. Portsmouth and C. in C. W.A. (F.O.S., 1651A/6.)

~~REGENT.~~

~~REGENT sailed.~~

Informing BOADICEA. You may overtake submarine MURAT REIS escorted by CUTTY SARK northbound through north channel tonight. (C. in C. W.A., 1822A/6 to BOADICEA.)

Information for EDINBURGH. STURGEON from 071° 50' N. 011° 30' E. passing through 073° N. 024° E. at 1700/8, thence 072° 30' N. 32° 40' E. (S.B.N.O. North Russia, 2144C/6 to EDINBURGH.)

BARBRIDGE. My 1649A/5 and Admiralty's 1826A/6. BARBRIDGE will be ready to sail 10/1. Request confirmation that sailing may be deferred to 15/1. (N.O.I.C. Oban, 2324A/6.)

War Diary.6.1.1942.
Tuesday.HOME COMMANDS.Operations.

Channel Patrols. 3 A.S Trawlers patrolling Q Z S 271 and returning St. Helens at dawn.
2 M.Ls on patrol 10 miles S. of Portland Bill.
(C. in C. Portsmouth, 1507A/6.)

Denmark Strait Patrol. At 1958 to-night one cruiser and 2 corvettes on patrol "White".
(A.C.I.C., 1543N/6.)

O.14 Patrol. O.14 is to be ordered to leave patrol after dark 7th and return to Scapa.
(F.O.S., 2052A/6.)

S/M Patrol off Ferrol. A. Submarines proceed as follows.
O.24 through 43° N. 10° 50' W. to patrol in 43° 56' N. 07° 52' W. proceeding submerged by day when North of 42° N.
TURBULENT direct to patrol in 44° 11' N. 07° 52' W.
TEMPEST direct to patrol in 44° 26' N. 07° 52' W.
B. S.B.R. will be arranged.
(F.O.S., 2314A/6.)

British Air Activity.

Bombing Operations. On day 5/1 no operations took place.
During night 5/6, 138 A/C bombed the battle cruisers and Docks at Brest and 16 A/C bombed the Docks at Cherbourg. At Brest the explosion of nine 4000-lb. bombs was seen and several fires were started.
On day 6/1 no operations took place.
(H.Q.B.C., 1830/6.)

Enemy Air Activity.

A/C off Shetlands. Bomber R/C aircraft from Stavanger were about 20 miles east of Shetlands at 1150A/6.
(D.D.I.C. 1232A/6 to Capt. D.3, Reptd. C. in C. H.F., S.O. Force J.)

A A A A Help "Conflict" off Saltess.
(ALOMA, 1251/6.)

Faroes Collier & NORTHERN PRINCESS attacked. In maximum visibility one enemy A/C carried out leisurely and unopposed R/C of Faroos today between 1145 and 1220. Collier in Skaale Fiord attacked at 1153 and NORTHERN PRINCESS attacked at 1209. No damage or casualties. A/C flew at 12,000 feet, making first attack from 9,000 feet and second from 4,000 feet.
(N.O.I.C. Faroos, 1420A/6.)

War Diary.6.1.1942.
Tuesday.HOME COMMANDS.Mining.

LARGO
(Mined 5/1) Have got LARGO in tow and proceeding toward Harwich.
(SHELDRAKE, 0132A/6.)
SHELDRAKE 1006/6. FORDE proceeding at once assistance LARGO.
(Salvage Officer, Harwich, 1040A/6, F.O.I.C. Harwich 1115A/6.)
Arrivals tug KROOMAN towing LARGO. Salvage Vessel FORDE in attendance.
(F.O.I.C. Harwich, 1235A/6.)
Reference C.A.F.O. 1968/40. Details of mining.
(F.O.I.C. Harwich, 1630A/6.)
One member of crew retained in WINCHESTER with burns. No other casualties reported.
(C. in C. Nore, 1447A/6.)

SCOTTISH
MUSICIAN
(Mined 5/1) My 1651A/5. SCOTTISH MUSICIAN in F.N. 597 returned to London having been mined.
(N.C.S.O. Thames, 0952A/6.)
SCOTTISH MUSICIAN in F.N. 97 damaged by mine at about 1930/5 in about 157° 54 E Buoy 2½ miles. Returned to Thames under own power. No casualties reported.
(C. in C. Nore, 1447A/6.)

S.N.15. Your 1929/5. Certainly. Request necessary order may be communicated direct to CHIDDINGFOLD.
(A.C.O.S., 1031A/6 to C. in C. H.F.)
Your 1929A/5. CALPE detailed.
(R.A.D., 1136/6 to C. in C. H.F.)

Thames
Estuary. One ground mine detonated by Sweepers at 2312/5. Details. (Capt. M/S. Sheerness, 1120/6.)
Between 1825 and 1950/5 some 17 hostile A/C were plotted in the outer Thames Estuary, chiefly between North Foreland and the Edinburghs. Two explosions, possibly premature mines occurred in the Longsands area at 1835, and at 1910 an R.D.F. report of a probable mine falling near the Knock John Buoy was received. At 1840 a patrol vessel engaged a hostile plane over the Lower Barrow area, and the fixed Defence Boom area barrage also came into action once on a suspicious plot.
Recent suspected minelaying activity has generally tended to be in the Outer Estuary area, many plots being away from the War Channels.
(S.O. T.L.D.F., 1402/6.)
Add to my 1402/6. Later information shows that at 1949 there was an explosion, probably a mine, 145° 3 miles from East Tongue Buoy, and between 1910 and 1953 several A/C were in vicinity of Q Z S 159, one being fired on by minesweepers.
(S.O. T.L.D.F., 1504/6.)

/Operation....

War Diary.6.1.1942.
Tuesday.HOME COMMANDS.Mining - Contd.

Operation Q.O. As weather may possibly improve tonight Groups A and B should anchor at Cork before dark today. Decision regarding sailing will be made by 0430/7. Report whether or not alteration is required to programme given in your 0935/5.
(C. in C. Nore, 1220A/6 to M/S. 9.)
Propose sailing 1700/6, anchoring Cork overnight, and carrying out programme given in my 0935/5 adding 1/2 hour to all times.
(M/S. 9, 1221/6 to C. in C. Nore.)
Operation Q.O. will not take place tomorrow owing to weather.
(C. in C. Nore, 2308A/6 to M/S. 9.)

Gap "A". For the last two nights enemy A/C have flown in over Gap "A" as far as its Western limit but there is no evidence to disclose the purpose of their visits. Although Red Head Beacon was not being used on the nights in question it is possible that its installation and trials have drawn the enemy's attention. Some form of minelaying cannot be excluded and, as at present M/S resources in this Command do not allow the Gap to be systematically searched, it is suggested that Submarines using Gap "A" should, for the time being, do so at night and on the surface, diving only in emergency.
(C. in C. Rosyth, 1235/6.)

NORWICH
TRADER R.A.F. escort to F.S. 91 reported at 1230 vessel blown up approximately 10 miles S.E. of Harwich. Wreckage and two bodies found near 51° 52.6' N. 01° 28.8' E. at 1445. Believed NORWICH TRADER lost with all hands.
(British, 217 tons) sunk.
(F.O.I.C. Harwich, 1833A/6.)

Clearance of Faroes Mine Barrier. My 2134A/30. High percentage search over following area now completed. No mines other than 2 mentioned in my 2134A/30 found. A second high percentage search has been carried out over following area in which almost all mines swept in this operation have been found. Again no mines were found. I consider the gap now to be clear. Request instructions for all H.M. Ships and auxiliaries at present under my orders.
(S.O. M/S.4, 2147A/6 to A.C.O.S.)

Enemy Intelligence.

GNEISENAU. Brest R/C at 1220 showed camouflage and A/T baffle to have been removed from GNEISENAU.
(F.O.S., 1836A/6 to S/Ms. Area A.)

War Diary.6.1.1942.
Tuesday.HOME COMMANDS.Navigational.

8B Buoy. 8B buoy struck by ships in F.N. 98 and light extinguished. Request Q Z H.
(N.C.S.O. Sunderland, 1015/6, F.O.I.C. Gt. Yarmouth 1410A/6, C. in C. Nore, 1539A/6.)

Technical.

Communication with U.S. Forces. Your 1057R/3. Because this wave is used by U.S. forces based on Iceland and was only wave other than 500 on which their ships kept watch and ours could transmit.
(C. in C. H.F., 1907A/6 to B.A.D. Washington.)

Casualties and Defects.

CORNISH ROSE (Grounded 4/1.) My 1017A/5. S.S. CORNISH ROSE refloated a.m. tide today.
(N.O.I.C, Oban, 1016A/6.)

ELIDIR. Cancel my 1828A/5. ELIDIR has now been located.
(F.O.I.C. Liverpool, 1158A/6.)

CLARE. CLARE delayed minimum of 60 hours by major dynamo defects.
(Capt. D. Londonderry, 2207A/6.) *See also p. 139.*

Shipping and Convoys.

H.X. 167. Your 0403N/6. Please pass to S.O. Task Unit 4.1.5. WATCHMAN steering for 060° 30' N. 023° W. which I should reach 0300/7, thence 270° to meet.
(WATCHMAN, 0710Z/6 to A.C.I.C.)
My 1711A/5. H.X.167. 14 hours early. New M.O.M.P. 060° 30' N. 022° 30' W. at 1100Z/7.
(C. in C. W.A., 0822A/6 to WATCHMAN, etc.)

US. Escort Signals.

U.S. Escorting Forces may use a word beginning with the appropriate letter to denote a lettered position e.g. "Proceed to Unit" "for" "proceed to U." Commodores and Masters should be warned accordingly.
(C. in C. W.A., 0815A/6.)

War Diary.6.1.1942.
Tuesday.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping and Convoys - Contd.

Q.P. 4. Convoy route is to be amended as follows.
From M direct to P omitting N and O.
(D.T.D., 1130A/6 to EDINBURGH.)
SAN AMBROSIO and EULIMA escorted by BRAMBLE
and HEBE arrived Murmansk.
(S.B.N.O. North Russia, 1401C/6.)

Signalling Masters must be instructed of necessity of
Arrival making signal in accordance with my 0001/1/5/41
Dates to Section 2 para. 9, as several cases have
N.S.H.Q. occurred lately of non-compliance with this
Ottawa. order.
(D.T.D., 1139A/6.)

P.Q. Convoys. A.M. 1924A/4. No difficulty is anticipated in
A/A Escorts. providing one HUNT Class Destroyer after the
arrival of LEDBURY in about February 1942. Until
then this commitment cannot be met unless the
escort of transports from Invergordon to Lerwick is undertaken
by C. in C. Rosyth.
(A.C.O.S., 1221A/6.)
Your 1924A/4 para. (3). Home Fleet HUNTS will be available
when they have worked up.
(2) Para. (4). If MIDDLETON has joined and carried out
some A/A practice by this date she will be available.
(3) Para. (2). Trawlers will now be required to provide
escort as follows (A) P.Q. convoy to vicinity Seidisfiord
(B) Q.P. ships from Seidisfiord to Loch Ewe (C) F.P. ships
from Akureyri to Hvalfjord.
(4) Suggest escorts for paragraph (3) (A) and (B) should be
operated by C. in C. W.A. and para. (3) (C) by A.C.I.C., and
that A.C.I.C. report number of trawlers he will need to retain
for this commitment.
(C. in C. H.F., 1512A/6 to Admty.)

W.S. 15. Amend my 1241A/4 as follows: Para. I. R/V in
position A 270° 16 miles from Oversay Light at
0930Z/11.
(D.O.D. H., 1358A/6.)
Admiralty 1241A/4 and 1358A/6.
? 1st 2 letter convoy W/T call sign X U.
Commodore noon R/V. Noon G.M.T./11th 054° 31' N. 007° 45' W.
R/V Noon G.M.T./12th 054° 04', 015° 40'. E.T.A. Freetown 23/1.
(N.C.S.O. Mersey, 1825A/6.)

P.Q. and For Ministry of War Transport. The following
Q.P. Convoys. is the intended programme of Russians for White
Sea.
(1) STALIN is waiting North of Gorlo to be
bunkered by Collier PRAVDA now loading coal at

/Murmansk ...

War Diary.6.1.1942.
Tuesday.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping and Convoys.

P.Q. and Murmansk. STALIN expects complete bunkering
Q.P. Convoys. 2500 tons coal by 16/1, thereafter intends
(Contd.) escorting to Molotovsk COLD HARBOUR ex P.Q.7
also 3 ships ex P.Q. 7B. These 4 ships will
wait at Jokanka Ormkola Inlet until STALIN is
ready. Hope that ships will reach Molotovsk about 25/1 or
earlier if ice conditions favourable. ^{Feb 30} LITKE will also assist.
(2) LENIN expects arrive Dvina River shortly, and thereafter
hopes to break out 4 ships EMPIRE METEOR, EMPIRE STEVENSON,
CHUMLEIGH, ST. CLEARS into static ice below Ekonomia to await
convoy, also to move various Russian ships to places of safety.
These operations will occupy LENIN until end January.
(3) It is obvious thereafter that there are no prospects of
homeward convoy from Dvina River or Molotovsk until early
February. The ships waiting convoy from Molotovsk will be
MOUNT EVANS, EL OCEANA, EMPIRE MAVIS, EXPLORER, ELONA.
(4) Obviously very doubtful if 4 ships mentioned in para. 1
will be successfully extracted from Molotovsk before open water
in May/June. Critical question requiring answer is, whether
we are willing to risk these 4 British or American ships into
White Sea when already we have 9 ships in whose exit in
February is very problematical.
(5) Please advise immediately if you wish to accept this
risk as Russians still confident their ability to keep White
Sea open for small convoys of about 4 ships and it is not
possible for me to deny this until they have been proved wrong.
(6) Decision regarding subsequent convoy into White Sea cannot
arise until first half February view position ice-breakers.
(7) P.Q. 8 must therefore discharge at Murmansk and P.Q. 9
assuming arrival first half February must discharge part of
convoy at Murmansk and part at Molotovsk if ice conditions
permit and you are still willing accept ice risks.
(8) When replying please state if your decision applies
to all Panamanian ships as well as British.
(9) S.B.N.O. Archangel and I feel that risk should be
accepted until events prove Russians wrong, always provided
you are agreeable accept risk of such ships being immobilized
for rest of winter.
(Maclay, Archangel, 1410C/6 to Admty.)

P.Q. 7. WAZIRISTAN, COLD HARBOUR not met at position
WAZIRISTAN. Y or M Z and now 24 hours overdue. (? SHARP-
COLD HARBOUR. SHOOTER) patrolling off Gorodetski to intercept.
Admiralty pass to A.C.I.C., C. in C. H.F.,
CUMBERLAND, EDINBURGH.
(S.B.N.O. North Russia, 1602C/6 to Admty.)
BRITOMART, SALAMANDER arrived Murmansk.
P.Q. 7 not met.
(S.B.N.O. North Russia, 1705C/6.)

C.T. 9. A.M. 1356A/4.
N.C.S.1. 326 para. 3 section B. will apply and
other instructions may be disregarded.
(D.T.D., 1613/6 to N.C.S.O. Clyde.)

War Diary.

6.1.1942.
Tuesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping and Convoys - Contd.

- O.S. 16. Escort for O.S. 16 CLARE delayed minimum of 60 hours by major dynamo defect.
(Capt. D. Londonderry, 2207A/6.) *J. p. 136*
- O.N.S. 53. Task Unit 4.1.4 S.O. U.S. Destroyer PLUNKETT sailed 2130N with M/Vs.
(A.C.I.C., 2211N/6.)

War Diary.6.1.1942.
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic.

VIDETTE.
WISHART. E.T.A. Gate 0800A. VIDETTE request close berth and assistance to test leaking condenser. (WISHART 0400A/6 to F.O.C.N.A.)

LOCH OSKAIG. Departure LOCH OSKAIG for Y.l. (F.O.C.N.A. 1031A/6 to Admty.)

U/B,
Azores. S/M sighted on surface 037° 32' N. 025° 23' W. steering W.N.W. 1230 G.M.T./6, A.1, sighted by Azores Defence. (N.C.S.O. Ponta Delgada 1450/6, to S.O.I. Gibraltar, (R) Admty.) (F.O.C.N.A. 2233A/6 to N.A. Stn.)

French
Warships. Gibraltar 1154, A.C. QUERCY escorting S/M's BEVEZIERS, LE CENTAURE, Westbound. (S.O.I. Gib., 1453A/6 to Admty., C. in C. Med. C. in C. S.A.)

ARDEOLA.
MERKLAND. Have heard from German Sources that either ARDEOLA or MERKLAND have been sunk. Request information so that I can check up. (N.C.S.O. Lisbon 1635/6 to S.O.I. Gibraltar.)

COLTSFOOT. E.T.A. Ponta Delgada 1000/9. Requirements. Returning South end Fayal on completion, please advise COREOPSIS and MIRROR. (COLTSFOOT 1803N/6, to F.O.C.N.A.)

BRADFORD. C. in C. W.A. 2233/5. Sailed BRADFORD. Divert mail to Port of arrival. (F.O.C.N.A. 2002A/6 to Admty. (R) C. in C. W.A. etc.)

BARCLOSE
escort. Departure LADY HOGARTH, STELLA CARINA, to R/V B.D.V BARCLOSE. (V.A.C.N.A. 2016A/6 to Admty.)

South Atlantic.

CILICIA. C. in C. S.A. 12312/5th not to S.A.D. When released by DEVONSHIRE proceed to patrol Southern part of J.33 and 34. (R.A.S.A.D. 0853Z/6 to CILICIA).

/Cancel.....

War Diary.6.1.1942.
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic.

CILICIA
- Contd. Cancel my 0853Z/6. CILICIA requires fuelling shortly and I would like her to fuel at Rio de Janeiro where she could probably arrive 15/1. In view of Rio de Janeiro Conference this may not be acceptable in which case she would have to fuel at Montevideo 16th. Request early reply from N.A. Rio de Janeiro whether visit can be made. Meantime CILICIA should proceed towards Rio de Janeiro on being detached by DEVONSHIRE. Report if unable to arrive 1230Z/15th. (R.A.S.A.D., 2251Z/6 to N.A. Rio de Janeiro, CILICIA)

Falklands Defences. Your 1601Z/30 and R.A.S.A.D.'s 0114Z/2.
2. Regret no long range 6" guns, obsolete warships or monitors are available. 6" guns will be sent when other more urgent commitments have been met. Chiefs of Staff have under consideration an increase in garrison.
3. As I am sure you will appreciate, the defences of Port Stanley are reasonably adequate. The trouble is to prevent an enemy force using one of the Bays such as Weddel in the West Falklands.
4. It is considered that against this very remote threat a Cruiser with her cruiser borne aircraft is the most practical defence, so long as absence of raider activity permits her to operate in this role. We are quite unable at present to send you any Cruiser reinforcements. (D. of L.D. (Approved by A.C.N.S. (F)) 1135A/6 to C. in C. S.A., (R) R.A.S.A.D.)
I share R.A.S.A.D.'s anxiety about weakening of defence of Falkland Is. The evil effect of this base in hands of Axis power needs no stressing.
2. The despatch of troops and more guns for coast defence which I have no doubt is under active consideration must take time. Meanwhile there is some risk of R.A.S.A.D.'s small force being overwhelmed should Japanese elect to raid (?place) which they would do in some strength if they do it at all.
3. As precautionary measure pending outcome of Washington discussions could Opnav be asked to send part of Task Force 3 temporarily to co-operate with R.A.S.A.D. in Falkland Is. Area? (C. in C. S.A., 1217Z/6 to Admty. (R) R.A.S.A.D.)

CANTON. Arrival 5/1 1400 G.M.T. Departure 6th 1100 G.M.T.,
CANTON. (R.O. Pernambuco 1217Z/6 to Admty.).

U.S. Warships. U.S. cruiser MEMPHIS and destroyer DAVIS left Miami 5/1 for Pernambuco via San Juan. Estimated date of arrival 16/1. (D.O.D. (F) 1238A/6 to C. in C. S.A., R.A.S.A.D.)

/CORFU.....

War Diary.6.1.1942.
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic-Contd.

- CORFU. Durban arrival CORFU escorting DILWARA. (N.O.I.C.
DILWARA. Durban, 1330Z/6 to Admty., C. in C. S.A., C. in C.
E.I., N.O.I.C. Simonstown).
- ASTER. Following is a repetition of mge. 1650Z/26* begins
Adty. 15 from C, in C. S.A. Your 2119/25+ General
information obtained from various Adty. messages.
Otherwise imagination. (Freetown C.C.O. 1354Z/6
to Adty. C.C.O.)
+ On what information are these orders based?
* Not previously received in Admiralty.
- WARTENFELS. Cancel my 1112/29/11. Ship is reliably reported
still at Diego Suarez, grade A.2. (N.C.S.O.
Capetown, 1412B/6 to Admty. etc.)
- Report of 6 S/MS at Diego Saurez to escort
convoy. My 1412/19. Unable to obtain confirmation.
Report graded B.2. that no further convoy con-
templated for near future and only French Merchant
ships at Madagascar now are coasters MARECHAL
GALLIENI and GENERAL FOCH and one other name
given as PAU. (S.O.(I) Capetown 1432B/6 to Adty.
for D.N.I., C. in C. E.I., C. in C. S.A., F.O.I.C.
Simonstown). x ? GENERAL PAU.
- Shipping. My 1546Z/2 Southbound shipping. (List).
(C. in C. S.A., 1620Z/6 to DEVONSHIRE, CANTON,
CILICIA).
- Congestion at Simonstown. My 0911/22. Need of scheme outlined therein is
becoming increasingly urgent request you will
press for early approval. (Capt. Supt. Simonstown
1631Z/6 to D. of D.)
- Suspicious W/T. W/T Stations using call signs 6KL2, K8L2, NH72
and YZL2 intercepted by Freetown W/T Station
exchanging signal strengths on 6300 kc/s using
British Naval procedure between 1810 and 1900.
Call signs cannot be traced at Freetown but are
presumed to be British, U.S. (C. in C.S.A.,
1934Z/6 to Admty.).
- A.M.C.'s. Shortage of cruisers. To reduce time away from their station would it
be possible for A.M.C's returning to U.K. after
refit in U.S.A. eg. ALCANTARA and QUEEN OF
BERMUDA to be given their leave in one watch
Officers and ratings to be relieved acting as C.
and M. party.
2. Present shortage of Cruisers on S.A. Station makes the
presence of largest possible number of A.M.C.'s most desirable
and under present conditions advisable they work in pairs.
(C. in C. S.A. 1957Z/6 to Admty.)

/Visit.....

War Diary.6.1.1942.
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic-Contd.

Visit to Punta Arenas. R.A.S.A.D. 2151Z/5 Para. 6. Presume no objection providing U.S. Naval Authorities know in advance. Request Admiralty inform them. (C. in C. S.A., 2223Z/6 to Admty., (R) R.A.S.A.D.)

Mediterranean.

Enemy Units. Vessels, type unknown, destroyers or larger warships - merchant vessel - $36^{\circ} 04' 10'' 40'$ course 100° speed 10 knots. ("A" Flight No. 3 A.A.C.U. (Malta Command) Duty J, 1020/6 to Hal Far)

Large merchant ship, one destroyer, $036^{\circ} 09' 010^{\circ} 40' 109^{\circ} 10$ knots at 1000B/6. Aircraft will endeavour to attack north of Kerkenah after dark tonight. (Capt. S.10, 1523B/6 to UPRIGHT, (R) URGE, Capt. (S) 1, C. in C. Med.)

Troop Transport. C. in C. M.E. move 1/626, 5/1. Shipping required as soon after 15/1 as possible for 67 Heavy A/A Regt. Suez to Bombay. Propose allocating EASTERN PRINCE ex Suez about 19/1 for 1233 personnel. Agreed C. in C. M.E. Do you concur? C. in C. E.I. requested to advise if escort will be available. (P.S.T.O. Egypt, 1131B/6 to D.S.T.) Concur (D.S.T., 0423A/8).

Air Report. Greece, night Jan. 4/5. Weather bad, 10/10 cloud and ice formation over sea. 3 Wellingtons bombed submarine base Salamis, hitting jetty and starting fires to south. 1 Wellington bombed landing ground at (Selinbgeyfstelli) on extreme west of South Coast of Crete, causing fires and explosions. Further 4 Wellingtons unable to locate objective owing to weather. (H.Q. R.A.F. M.E., 1201/6).

LISBOA. Departure 6th LISBOA Marseilles, Oranges. (Valencia, 1247/6, to D.S.T.)

U/B sunk by HOTSPUR and HEYTHROP 23/12. HASTY
See M.02844/42
(U.79 - cm: 6843)

Your 2253/2. Admty. Signal requesting passing of C. in C. Med.'s 1624/23 as quoted in S.O.(I) Med.'s 1222B/31. Regret message was incorrectly quoted. It was from HEYTHROP. (Begins) - HOTSPUR established submarine contact at 0803 in $032^{\circ} 15' N. 025^{\circ} 19' E.$ HOTSPUR and HEYTHROP dropped charges and the two destroyers were detached from convoy to continue hunt. After $3\frac{1}{2}$ hours German U-boat was sunk. HOTSPUR has on board Captain, 1 Officer and 8 ratings. HASTY has 2 Officers and 32 Ratings.(S.O.I Med. 1255B/6 to Admty.)

/M.W.8.....

War Diary.

6.1.1942.
Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean-Contd.

M.W.8. C. in C. Med. 1131B/5. Assumed fourth ship will be allocated. Please confirm. R.A. Alexandria pass to M.W.T. Alexandria and Ambassador Cairo. (Govr., Malta, 1316B/6 to P.S.T.O. Egypt.)

My 2331/1. C. in C. Med.'s 1131/5. Fourth ship urgently required by Governor Malta for M.W.8. Intend allocate THERMOPYLAE, only suitable vessel that can be ready in time. (2) Request Norwegian Authorities be asked to instruct Master to follow sea transport instructions. Agreed Medmast. (3) Cancel para. 2 my 1032B/4. (Re. SIDNEY STAR and WAIRMARAMA). (P.S.T.O. Egypt 1320B/6 to D.S.T.)

U/B. One S/M sighted in 32° (? 40') N. 26° 10' E. at 1330/6. (201 N.C. Group, 1529B/6 to C.S.15).

Malta air raids. Enemy action 5/1, 1459 to 1516 hours, 1 raider, bombs land, no damage. Night 5-6/1. Nil. 6/1, 4 alerts 1010, 1055, 1230, 1348 hours. 5 raiders, few bombs land, no damage. Very thick weather, raiders could not see Island. (H.Q. R.A.F. Malta 1730/6).

APHIS bombardment. APHIS will be operating in Sollum Bay dawn 7th Join APHIS off Bardia about 1030/7 and place yourself under his orders. (S.O. Force I 1731B/6 to A/C using Call Sign 3LIW).

Defence of Malta. Following from Chiefs of Staff. We are sending you separately a telegraphic summary of an appreciation by Joint Intelligence Sub-Committee on likelihood, scale and method of an Axis attack on Malta. It looks to us as though you are next on the list. You have probably already taken to heart the lessons learnt in Crete, but we are asking Gen. Auchinleck, to whom we are repeating this telegram, to place at your disposal officers who took part in the defence of that Island. Please inform him direct of any such assistance you require. We are examining possibility of sending you, via Egypt, the supplies of which you are in urgent need, including small arms ammunition, and a few 2 pdr. anti-tank guns, also officers to bring your battalions up to strength. (W.O., 1800/6 to Govr., Malta).

BRECONSHIRE, destroyers. Departure BRECONSHIRE, LANCE, LIVELY, JAGUAR and HAVOCK sailed 1845/B/6th. (V.A. Malta, 2009B/6 to C. in C. Med.)

Tobruk. Situation report. Naval. Routine L.L. and Acoustic Sweep nil results. No Oropesa owing to heavy south-east swell which hampers operation. All CHANTALA armament loaded into ELPIS. MOY arrived from Derna to coal APHIS, sailed 1800. ZEALAND, HANNE, ELPIS, MEMAS awaiting escort. (S.B.N.O. Tobruk 2136B/6, to C. in C. Med.)

/Italian.....

War Diary.6.1.1942.
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean-Contd.

Italian Repatriations. My 2006A/4/12/41 regarding repatriation of Italians from East Africa. H.M. G. have decided that GIULIO CESARE shall be allowed to proceed unmolested from Naples to Genoa, and DUILIO from Venice to Trieste to be prepared for voyage preparatory to proceeding to Gibraltar. Following translation of Italian intentions regarding this initial move has been received from Swiss Govt, which is the Protecting Power (quoted). Request you arrange that these liners are not interfered with during their passage from and to the ports referred to. Further instructions regarding move of the 4 ships to Gibraltar will be communicated. (A.C.N.S. (F) 2155A/6 to C. in C. Med., F.O.C.N.A., V.A. Malta.)

Enemy M/V's
and
Destroyers.

Following has been read. Malta W/T. 6 Large M/Vs 7 miles North my 2nd report. (A/C Using Call Sign 7YFD 2300/6).
Following has been read. (?2303) 2 M/Vs, 6000 and 2000, 2 Destroyers Course 360° 8. (A/C D Sqdn. 2320/6).
Following has been read. Remain over larger M/V, time of attack 0215, illuminate at 0245 if nothing happens. (R.A.F. call sign 9SWRRI 2356/6 to A/C call sign 7YFDV).
A/C report 2 medium M/V's and 2 destroyers in 35.47 N. 11.23 E. course 360° 8 knots at 2300B/6. A/C are leaving now to attack. (V.A. Malta, 2357B/6 to URGE, UPRIGHT).

War Diary.

6.1.1942.
Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

ROYAL
SOVEREIGN.

Mombasa arrived 0353 G.M.T./6.
(N.O.I.C. Kilindini, 0356Z/6 to C. in C. E.I.
(R) Admty. etc.)

Middle
East
Command,
Iraq and
Persia.

Defence Committee have approved the transfer of Iraq and Persia to Command of C. in C. Middle East as soon as it can be mutually arranged between you.
Nokundi - Meshed route will remain under control of C. in C. India and exact boundary between Middle East and India should be drawn accordingly.
(W.O. 0450/6 to Cs. in C., India, M.E.)

W.S.12 Z.B.

Arrival CORNWALL with W.S. 12 Z.B.
(S.O.I. Bombay, 0456Z/6 to Admty. etc.)

Navigation.

W.C. 101 Malacca Strait. ANGSA BANK light vessel has been sunk. (S.O.I. Colombo, 1248Z/6 to Admty., all concerned.)

Troop
Convoys.

Your 0829/4. In view of C. in C. E.F.'s 0501/3, MARNIX VAN ST. ALDEGONDE will not be available for B.A. 13.
2. Suggest one of ships ex V.M. 9A be used instead. Vessels arriving with W.S.14 for your service will be available for later replacement. My 0104/28/12 para. 3 refers. (D.S.T., 1933A/6 to P.S.T.O. India).

China.

Malaya.

Sitrep No. 2 1630 Hrs. G.M.T./5.
Johore. Kluang had three air raids 5/1, slight damage.

Singapore. One air raid night 4/5 Jan. Casualties and damage negligible.

Borneo. Christmas Island. No change.

Air. P.R.U. Buffalo R/C. 24 Merchant ships, total 55,000 one submarine chaser and one minelayer at Singora. (G.O.C, Malaya 0530/6).

DRAGON.
DURBAN.

DRAGON flying flag of C. in C. Eastern Fleet and DURBAN arrived Batavia 0900Z/6.
(C. in C. E.F., 0920Z/6, to Admty., etc.)

/Singapore....

MOST SECRET

MOST SECRET MESSAGE 0340Z/3 January IN

From S.S.T.O. India.

Date 6.1.42.

Recd. 0902.

Naval Cypher (C) by W/T

Addressed C.in C. East Indies. Repeated D. of S.T.
F.O.C.R.I.N. C. in C. Eastern Fleet.

IMPORTANT.

My 0604/5th. After "TINSHANG with" insert
"Stores" between "with Mules" and "sailing 17th
January" insert "sailing 12th January. D.S.P-4
(FOLK) PRESIDENT DOUMER (GRYL) VARSOVA (GFTR)
ETHIOPIA with personnel and stores. RIS. LEAR
(VWDQ) JALARAJAN with MOTO".

My 0604 5th between "800 Mules and" and "personnel"
insert "120".

0340Z/6.

1st Lord
1st S.L.
V.C.M.S.
A.C.N.S. (7)
A.C.N.S. (F)
N.A. 1st S.L.
D.D.D. (F)
D.D.C.D. (F)
D.N.I. (4)
D.S.D.
D. of P. (2)
Duty Captain (2)
F.P.S.
H.I. of M. (2)
I.T.
W.D.
D.D.I.C. (2)
D.T.D. (4)
D. of S.T.

War Diary.

6.1.1942.
Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

China-Contd.

Singapore Dockyard Guard. Your 2001/17. Naval Unit of Local defence Corps formed. Khaki uniform provided. (C.S., Singapore, 1026Z/6 to Admty.)

ENDEAVOUR. C. in C. China 0501Z/19/11. Request you will sail ENDEAVOUR for Suez for service on Mediterranean Station. From drawings it appears that Oerlikons could be mounted. (details). Effect of above alterations on stability is uncertain. Ship should be inclined on completion of rearming. (D.O.D. (F) 1149A/6 to C. in C. E.F., C. in C. Med)

ROVER. Is to join Eastern Fleet on completion of refit. (D.O.D. (F) 1904A/6 to C. in C. E.F.)

America and West Indies.

U/B. Military Attache, Costa Rica, reports S/M of unknown identity was observed 1500Z/4, vicinity Mouth Gulf of Dulce. (C. in C. U.S. Fleet, 0430/6 to Action Com. Panama N.C.F.)

Dispositions. Estimated positions of H.M. and Allied ships at 1800 G.M.T. 6/1.

Ship.	Position.	Course.	Speed.
MARON	38° N., 44° W.	Patrol	Blank.
MARSDALE	38° N., 41° W.	Patrol	Blank.
D.S. DIRKJE	29° N., 74½° W.	179°	9
CIRCASSIA	30° N., 64½° W.	355°	14
DEVONSHIRE	03° N., 30° W.	Patrol	Blank.
CILICIA			
BULOLO	18° S., 35° W.	Patrol	Blank
H.M.T. QUEEN MARY	06° N., 50° W.	295°	23
H.M.T. EMPRESS OF CANADA			
ADELAIDE with Convoy V.K.1.	31° S., 104° W.	060°	17½.
WESTRALIA	38° S., 165° E.	135°	12.
CANBERRA.	18° S., 151° E.	155°	12.
H.M.T. AQUITANIA	26½° S., 155° E.	180°	23.
CANTON.			
(D.O.D. (F) 0933Z/6 to Opnav.)	Leaving Pernambuco Northward.		14.

Sailed - See p. 141.

/ALBATROSS.....

War Diary.6.1.1942.
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies.-Contd.

- ALBATROSS. Cancel my 1852Q/5. Proceed Mobile in accordance with B.A.R.M. 1726R/5. Acknowledge by W/T and report date of arrival. (C. in C. A.W.I., 0952Q/6 to ALBATROSS).
- EYEBRIGHT. My 1410/15/12. Request instructions for EYEBRIGHT on sailing. C. in C. A.W.I. is requested to signal route orders. (B.A.R.M., 0956R/6 to C.C.N.F.)
- CAMPECHE. U.S.C.N.O. has drawn attention to sailing of Spanish tankers CAMPECHE and CAMPOANOR from Caripato on 30/12 and 31/12, respectively. Due Teneriffe 11th and 12/1. Ships of this line suspected of supplying Axis vessels at sea. (C. in C. A.W.I., 1019Q/6 to F.O.C.N.A.)
- CAMPOANOR.
- AUSONIA. Your 1805A/5. Propose AUSONIA proceed to Bermuda. Request E.T.A. (C. in C. A.W.I., 1052Q/6 to Admty. B.A.D. C. in C. W.A., S.O.W.P.)
- PANDORA. Your 2205/20/12 (N.T. in W.R) PANDORA first class hydroplane trials entirely satisfactory. Concur that ship can proceed direct to Gibraltar. No further modifications to steering gear necessary. (B.A.D. 1328R/6 to F.O.S.)
- Algiers, Lists of shipping movements, 16/12 to 1/1/42.
Bona. (B.A.D., 1351R/6 to Admty.) See Lion Copy.
- Free French MIMOSA 2216Z/5 being repeated to N.S.H.Q. Ottawa.
Corvettes. Repair and boiler cleaning will still have to be carried out at St. John's N.F. It is also intended in future to carry out about one week of group training at Harbour Grace including A/S exercises between each escort duty. (F.O.N.F., 1410Z/6 to Admty.)
- U.S. Serial 3. New U.S.N. locations 5/1. B.B.S. and
dispositions. C.V.S. no change.
Atlantic. C.A.S. QUINCY, VINCENNES en route Casco Bay. C.I.S. CINCINNATI, OMAHA due Trinidad 8/1. MEMPHIS left Miami for patrol. NASHVILLE at Norfolk.
Pacific. C.A.S. LOUISVILLE at San Diego. NEW ORLEANS en route San Francisco. C.L.S. ST. LOUIS at San Diego. DETROIT due Honh 8/1. ASELENA leaves Pearl for coast 6/1. PHOENIX due San Francisco 6/1.
Asiatic. Major units basing Darwin patrolling barrier. (C. in C. U.S. Fleet 1423/6 to Admty.)

/Washington.....

SECRET.

M E S S A G E.

1351R/6th January.

IN

From B.A.D.

Date. 7.1.42.

Recd. 0420.

NAVAL CYPHER XD BY T/P D LINE. RECIRCULATION.

Addressed Admiralty,

14. Algiers 2nd January B.2 arrivals.

Date.	Ship.	From.
16/12	JEANNE SCHIAFFINO	Oran.
16/12	CHARLES LE BORGNE X	St. Louis.
16/12	SIDI OKBA.	Bono.
16/12	ST ALAIN	-
16/12	KABYLE	Phillippeville.
16/12	CHATEAU LA ROSE	Phillippeville.
17/12	G.G. GREVY	Marseilles
17/12	MOSTAGNEM.	Marseilles
19/12	JANINE	Marseilles
20/12	LE MASCOT N.1.	Tunis
20/12	LES ISSERS	Tunis
21/12	ARTESIEN	Marseilles
21/12	KROUMIR	Nice
23/12	SAINTE MARTINE	Phillippeville.
24/12	SUDEST	Tunis
25/12	SIDI AISSA	Marseilles
29/12	ZERMA N.1.	Bougie
29/12	LAMORICIERE	Marseilles
29/12	CAP FALCON	Oran
30/12	CHARLES SCHIAFFINO	Oran
30/12	CHATEAU YQUEM	Marseilles.
30/12	SAINTE JULIENNE	Port Vendres
30/12	GOVERNEUR GEN. GREVY	Marseilles
31/12	NORIOT	Tunis
31/12	JANINE B	(?) Bona
31/12	G G DE GUEYDON	Phillippeville.
1/1/42	MARIGOT	Marseilles.

Departures.

Date.	Ship.	For.
16/12	LAMORICIERE	Marseilles
16/12	CAP IGALO ² FIGALO	Port Vendres
18/12	DUNKERQUE	Marseilles
18/12	CATHERINE SCHIAFFINO	Sete
18/12	VILLE DE TENES	Arzew
18/12	SAHEL	Port Vendres
18/12	SIDI AISSA	Marseilles
18/12	G.G. GREVY	Marseilles
19/12	DUNKERQUE	Sete
19/12	LEDALNY	Marseilles
19/12	CHARLES LE BORGNE	Marseilles
19/12	CAPITAINE SAINT MARTIN	Port de Bouc.

19/12

P.T.O.

Name.	Ship.	For.
19/12.	RHEA *	Arzew.
19/12	G G LAFERRIERE	-
20/12	JACQUES SCHIAFFINO	France.
20/12	SAINT ALAIN	France
20/12	SAINT LUCIAN	Port Vendres
20/12	G G LAFERRIERE	Marseilles.
22/12	KROUMIR	Marseilles.
23/12	LAMORICIERE	-
24/12	SAINT DENIS	Marseilles
27/12	KROUMIR	Marseilles
28/12	SIDI AISSA	Marseilles
28/12	NOROIT	La Goulette
28/12	ARPESTEN	Marseilles
31/12	G G GREVY	Marseilles.

Bone Departures.

19/12	KABYLE	France
19/12	G G LEPINE	-
20/12	G G DE GUEYDON	Tunis
24/12 c	JACQUES SCHIAFFINO	France
23/12	MAYENNE	France
23/12	KABYLE	France.

1351R/6.

N.I.D. Comment.

ST. DENIS sunk by German U/B on 9th December.

- V.C.N.S.
- A.C.N.S. (T)
- L.C.N.S. (F)
- N.A. 1st S.L.
- D.N.I. (4)
- O.I.C. (3)
- Ops. (3)
- O.D. (5)
- W.D.
- D.T.D. (2)
- D.T.D. (M)
- D.T.D. (C)
- D.E.W.D. (3)
- M. (2)
- D.S.D.9
- Adml. Chalmers.

War Diary.

6.1.1942.
Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies-Contd.

Washington
Report.

Washops 27.

(1) Philippine Is. 5/1. Gen. MacArthur reports there has been contact action, at time amounting to pressure along full extent of his out-post position. A heavy air attack lasting 4 hours was carried out by about 50 enemy aircraft on Corregidor-Bataan area. Casualties light and material damage not heavy but cumulative. A delayed report from U.S. Military Attache at Bandoeing states on 5/1 an enemy naval concentration at Davao was attacked by 8 B - 17's. 3 direct hits were claimed on battleship, one destroyer was sunk and other naval units were hit: all U.S. aircraft returned safely.

(ii) N.E.I. There has been extensive R/C by enemy aircraft over Dutch territory. (J.S.M. Washington, 1431R/6 to Admty. etc.)

JAMAIQUE.

Intercepted letter from member of crew French ship JAMAIQUE at Dakar dated 14/12 states that ship was starting on a four months' voyage along African coast. (C. in C. A.W.I. 1459Q/6 to Admty. etc.)

PRINCE HENRY.

H.M.C. Auxiliary Cruiser PRINCE HENRY expect (?to) complete working up practice at Bermuda A.M./13. If desired this ship is available for service with U.S. Atlantic Fleet. (C.N.S., Canada 1520Z/6 to Opnav).

EMPRESS OF
CANADA.

N.C.S.O. Montreal 1635Z/5. EMPRESS OF CANADA due Canal 12/1 is to proceed to Newport News direct not Halifax, to discharge and for extended refit. Request early report E.T.A. Newport News. (N.S.H.Q. Ottawa 1531C/6 to C.S.A., Place not coded).

NAVIGATOR.
? NAVEGADOR

Your 1107A/13/12 (N.T. in W.D.) Portuguese NAVIGATOR has not yet arrived Newfoundland. Have you any report. (N.S.H.Q. Ottawa 1551Z/6 to S.O.(I) Gibraltar).

Lourenco
Marques.

Recommended that a shipping advisor or a naval observer be stationed at Lourenco Marques, if U.S. flag ships with Lease Lend cargo for Near East are to omit stop at South African port and are to be routed instead direct from U.S. to Lourenco Marques. Refer Simonstown dispatch 1103Z/31 to Admiralty, and B.A.D. Washington 1615R/20 to Simonstown. (This is a paraphrase of ALUSNA Capetown's 1500/2 requested your 1541Z/5). (Opnav 1650/6 to Admty.)

/BROOMDALE.....

War Diary.6.1.1942.
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies-Contd.

- BROOMDALE. Sailed BROOMDALE in accordance with R.A.S.A.D.'s 1800Z/30. E.T.A. position Egbert (N) 1200Z/18. (N.O.I.C. Port of Spain, Trinidad, 1712Q/6 to BULOLO).
- KROUMIR (French) My 1351/6. Cargo of KROUMIR includes 30 tons rubber for Marseilles. (B.A.D., 1729R/6 to Admty.). N.I.D. Comment. Washington reports (1351/6) that KROUMIR left Algiers on 27/12 for Marseilles.
- Marseilles. List of shipping movements, 23/12 to 1/1. (B.A.D., 1731R/6 to Admty.) See Lion Copy.
- Dakar. Dakar 27/12. A.1. Arrived 27/12 from northward SAINT LOUIS, DAHOMEY, ILE DE BREBIAT. (B.A.D., 1733R/6 to Admty.)
- ARCHER. Briny 19, para. 4. ARCHER is bringing 12 Martlet CHARGER. aircraft to U.K. and arrival of these prior to trials. sailing of ILLUSTRIOUS and FORMIDABLE from U.K. is of paramount importance. 2. Admty. therefore propose that CHARGER, due to complete 1/2, should do these trials. 3. Please inform B.A.D. of the position. (B.A.C. Washington 1820/6 to M. of A.P.)
- H.X. 169. Taskunit 4.1.2. WILKES, Senior, ROPER, MADISON, STURTEVANT, and JACOB JONES designated escort. Ends. (Opnav, 1844Z/6 to Admty.)
- Ice. Request present estimate of convoy margin of safety for ice conditions off C. Race and E.Coast of Newfoundland. (D.T.D. 1901A/6 to N.S.H.Q. Ottawa).
- U.S. Your 2003/5. WAKEFIELD, WEST POINT, DICKMAN, Troop and LEONARD WOOD arrived Bombay in W.S.12X on Transports. 27/12. See A.M. 0120/30/12. 2. MOUNT VERNON included in D.M.1 for Malaya. see A.M. 1946/31/12 and C. in C. E.F. 0927/3/1. 3. ORIZABA is with W.S.12 Z.B. See A.M. 1608/15/12. E.T.A. Bombay of this convoy 6/1. 4. Request A.C.N.B. reply to para. B. of B.A.D. Washington's 2003/5. Reported in A.C.N.B.'s 0508/23/12 to Opnav as arrived Brisbane 23/12. (A.C.N.S. (F) 1927A/6 to B.A.D., C. in C.E.I., C. in C. E.F., A.C.N.B.)

JOSEPH T.

/ALBERNI.....

SECRET

M E S S A G E

1731R/6 January IN

From B.A.D. Washington.

Date 7.1.42.

Naval Cypher M D by T/P

Recd. 0504

RECIRCULATION

Addressed Admiralty.

17 Marseilles 29th December V.2. arrivals.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Ship</u>	<u>From</u>
23/12	GAMBRASIE	Algiers.
23/12	STE. JULIENNE	Sfax.
23/12	STRASBOURGEOIS	Casablanca
23/12	G.G. TIRMAN	Oran
23/12	STALIN	Bone
24/12	CAP FIGARO	Bougie
24/12	CEVENNES	Casablanca
24/12	STE. COULETTE	Sousse.
25/12	LAMORICIERE	Algiers
25/12	STE. CHRISTINE	Nemours.
25/12	STE. GERMAINE	Tunis.
26/12	CYRNOS	Ajaccio.
26/12	VILLIERS	Mostaganem
27/12	DUNKERQUE	Algiers
27/12	GROIX	Casablanca
27/12	IMERTHIE II.	Casablanca
27/12	STE. MARCELLE	Tunis
28/12	CHELMA	Casablanca
28/12	G.G. CHANZY	Oran
28/12	MAROC	-
28/12	SURVILLE	-
29/12	MAYENNE	(?Bona)
29/12	GENERAL BONAPARTE	Ajaccio
29/12	G.G. DE GUEYDON	Tunis
29/12	STE. MARTHE	Sfax
29/12	BALLBECK	Algiers
29/12	ST. RAYMOND	Nemours
30/12	SIDI AISSA	Algiers
30/12	P.L.M. 20	Sfax
30/12	G.G. LAFERRIERE	Algiers
30/12	DJEBEL AMOUR	Oran
30/12	PLUTO	Oran
31/12	GRETE	Valencia
31/12	VILLE D'AJACCIO	Bastia
31/12	VILLE DE HAVRE	-
31/12	BOUDJMELEM	Tunis
31/12	CARTHAGE	-
1/1	LAMORICYERE	Algiers
1/1	BAMAKO	Algiers

Departures

<u>Date</u>	<u>Ship</u>	<u>For</u>
23/12	SIDI AISSA	Algiers
23/12	GRETE	Valencia
23/12	G.G. LEPINE	Tunis
24/12	STEMON	Oran
24/12	SIDI OKBA	Bone
24/12	FAUZON	-
24/12	HOGGAR	-
25/12	CALI PAULLE MERLE	Algiers

25/12 G.G. LAFERRIERE.....

150 B.

Departures (continued).

<u>Date</u>	<u>Ship</u>	<u>For</u>
25/12	G. G. LARFERRIERE	Algiers
25/12	CHATEAU LA ROSE	Bone
25/12	REMOIS	Tunis
25/12	STEROSLINE	Nemours
25/12	PENERF	Tunis
25/12	GENERAL BONAPARTE	Ajaccio
27/12	LAMORICIERE	Algiers
27/12	KITA	-
27/12	OREGAN	-
27/12	PORTHOS	-
28/12	CHATEAU 6173	Algiers
28/12	ALGERIE	-
28/12	CAMBRASIEN	-
29/12	G. G. GREVY	Algiers
29/12	ST. ETIENNE	Bone
29/12	CYRNOS	Ajaccio
30/12	STE. MARCELLE	Tunis
30/12	VILLIERS	Algiers
30/12	ST. AZAIN	Bone
30/12	G. G. OGANZY	Oran
30/12	MARIGOK	Algiers
31/12	G. G. LA FERRIERE	Algiers
31/12	P. L. M. 21	-
31/12	G. G. DE GUEYDON	Algiers
31/12	DUNKERQUE	-
31/12	CAP FIGARO	-
1/1	DJEBEL AMOUR	Oran
1/1	GENERAL BONAPARTE	Bastia
1/1	ST. RAYMOND	Oran

1731R/6.

1731R/6.

V. C. N. S.

A. C. N. S. (T)

A. C. N. S. (F)

N. A. 1st S. L.

D. N. I. (4)

O. I. C. (3)

Ops. (3)

O. D. (5)

W. D.

D. T. D. (2)

D. T. D. (M)

D. T. D. (C)

D. E. W. D. (3)

M. (2)

D. S. D.

Admiral Chalmers

War Diary.

6.1.1942.
Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies-Contd.

ALBERNI.
COLLINGWOOD.

My 1351Z/21/11/41 and 2020Z/1/12/41. Completion of date ALBERNI and COLLINGWOOD advanced to 25/1, owing to docking facilities not being available. (C.O.A.C. Halifax, 2030Z/6 to N.S.H.Q. Ottawa.)

U.S. Fleet.

Departing Hampton Roads noon 6/1 NEW MEXICO, MISSISSIPPI, three DD's with one AP in company Proceeding via Crooked Island and Windward Passages to Cristobal arriving 11th. (C. in C. U.S. Fleet 2116/6 to Admty.)

War Diary.

6.1.1942.
Tuesday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Submarines Reported.

Estimated approx positions of U/Bs.
(D.D.I.C., 1454/6, 1504A/6).

1649A.

One U-Boat Westbound in approx. 047° N. and
014° 30' W. and one Southwest of Ireland
(R) Northbound.
(F.O.S., 1649A/6 to Subs. on patrol Area "A").

War Diary.

7.1.1942.
Wednesday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

Operation
"Kitbag".

Captain D.3 (INGLEFIELD, with INTREPID), reported the operation completed at 0026A today (operations by light forces against shipping off coast of Norway.)

British Air Operations.

Aircraft of Bomber Command last night attacked Brest, Sola Aerodrome (Stavanger), and Cherbourg. Aircraft of Coastal Command last night and early this morning attacked shipping off the Frisian Islands and Norway.

Enemy Air Operations.

The small coaster KAIDA was attacked and slightly damaged at 1730 today 8 miles E. of Aberdeen.

Trawler CAPETOWN reported being attacked this evening by 3 aircraft, 23 miles south of Galley Head. The trawler was not damaged.

Mediterranean.

S/M P.31 which was in dock for repairs, was damaged by air attack in Malta Dockyard this morning and will require 3 or 4 weeks for repair assuming no air interference, which seems improbable. There were several attacks

/on Malta ...

War Diary.

7.1.1942.
Wednesday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Mediterranean - Contd.

on Malta today. Ta Kali and Hal Far aerodromes are still unserviceable owing to rain, and Naval aircraft are being operated from Luqa. 4 Naval Swordfish from Malta at 0038 today attacked a merchant vessel escorted by a destroyer several miles N.E. of Kuriat and obtained at least one hit on the merchant vessel. At 0220 another similar convoy about 45 miles N.E. of Kuriat was attacked by one of 3 Naval Albacores and the merchant vessel was hit and stopped.

Wellingtons bombed shipping in Tripoli harbour this morning. A shortage of petrol at Tobruk pending the arrival of a petrol ship is restricting the operations of Wellingtons.

C. in C. Med. reports that with his present A/S forces he cannot guarantee the security of the Army's supply to Tripoli (Africa) should we reach there, without taking undue risk and incurring heavy losses elsewhere.

The J.I.C. appreciation of the likelihood of attack on Aden was sent in Admiralty 1707A/7.

China.

General Wavell arrived at Singapore a.m. today.

Enemy aircraft attacked Rangoon last night and slightly damaged the aerodrome. Moulmein. Ships and aerodrome were attacked by enemy aircraft today; no material damage or casualties were caused. At Kyondo a jetty and launch were damaged.

A ship, believed to be a Japanese Wireless Beam ship was attacked by Hudsons today 260 miles East of Gong Kedah. Four direct hits were seen, but all bombs appeared to break up or bounce off the ship owing to heavy armour and it is believed no damage was caused. A plain language message from the ship was intercepted, stating that there were no damage or casualties.

War Diary.

7.1.1942.
Wednesday.

SITUATION REPORT.

China - Contd.

Fort Mills was raided by 45 bombers for several hours today; heavy damage and casualties were caused and the water supply is seriously affected. A.A. fire had to be restricted owing to the ammunition situation. An ammunition and supply ship sent from Luzon to Del Monte has been sunk. Air R/C today located 50 enemy vessels, including cruisers, destroyers, submarines and transports and 40 other craft in the Davao area.

C. in C. E.F. 0527Z/7 contains information of the extent to which oil denial schemes have been put into operation in the Dutch oilfields.

Netherlands D/F indicates the presence of Japanese ships, probably S/MS, in the west Java Sea.

Australia.

R.A.A.F. aircraft attacked Kapingamuraugi today and destroyed an enemy seaplane and damaged a slipway and, it is believed, a submarine.

Enemy aircraft attacked Vanakanae Aerodrome (Rabaul) at 0120Z today, dropping 14 bombs on the runway and setting a Hudson on fire.

War Diary.

7.1.1942.
Wednesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Policy.

Fishing Craft off Faroes. Your 1637A/6. Yes. As fishing vessels cannot communicate by flag or by V/S I consider essential they should call Thorshaven. (A.C.O.S., 1423A/7).

Defence of U.K.

Lough Foyle A/A Defences. My 1824 29/11. As a long term measure suggest that two Maunsell Towers each fitted with two light A.A. Guns and one searchlight be provided for Lough Foyle anchorage. As these cannot however be installed for at least six months it is requested that two of the light A.A. guns which are available for implementing the guarantee to American Mission, may be temporarily mounted in PRESIDENT SERGEANT. G.O.C. 12th A.A. Division. Concurr. (F.O.I.C. Belfast, 1804/7).

Movements.

- O.24. Your 2314A/6. O.24 making passage on 1 engine. 2nd engine available slow speed using auxiliary circulation water. She has 14 passengers and large quantity of stores. (Capt. S.8, 0908A/7 to F.O.S).
- PHILOCTETES. My 1632A/5. Para. (D). Delete and substitute 0400A/8 54° 57' N. 5° 33' W. (F.O.I.C. Belfast 1041A/7).
- SCIMITAR. Your 1027A/7. Proceed Holyhead. Dense fog in Mersey. (N.O.I.C. Liverpool, 1056A/7 to SCIMITAR).
- A.F.D. 15. Your 1021/4/1. Intend to sail A.F.D.15 in tow of EMPIRE LARCH escorted to 21B buoy by NORTH NESS and LOCH HOPE at 1100 tomorrow. E.T.A. 21B 2200/8. (F.O.I.C. Tyne 1220/7 to C. in C. Rosyth).
- TRIDENT. F.O.S. 1343A/18/12. Sailing of TRIDENT is postponed until about 27/1 owing to illness of C.O. (F.O.S. 1358A/7 to S.B.N.O. North Russia).
- 7th S/M. Flotilla. Intend to sail S/M's of 7th Flotilla to training areas from Rothesay on following dates. Details. (Capt. S.7, 1446A/7).
- O.24. (A) Cancel my 2314A/6 and 0016A/7.
TURBULENT, (B) S/M's are to proceed on passage routed as
TEMPEST, follows:-
P.38. (1) O.24 as in F.O.C.N.A's 1406A/5 to R/V as ordered by S.9 on 12th.
(2) TURBULENT through 43°, 10° 30', thence as ordered by F.O.C.N.A. but submerged by day North of 42°.
(3) TEMPEST through 43° 11° 30', thence as ordered by F.O.C.N.A.
(4) P.38 submerged by day through 43°, 11° 30'.

/ (C) ...

War Diary.7.1.1942.
Wednesday.HOME COMMANDS.Movements.

- O.24. TURBULENT, TEMPEST, P.38. (contd.) (C) Estimate that S/M's will cross 43° N. as follows, at which times W/T Watch is to be shifted accordingly:- O.24, 1100A/8, TURBULENT 0630A/8, TEMPEST, 1930A/8, P.38 0800A/10. (D) Attention is called to A.M. 823A of 21st November, Any ship escorted by a U/B North of 42° N. is to be attacked on sight. (F.O.S. 1653A/7 and 1659A/7).
- SVEGA, STEFA. Admiralty's 1526A/7. SVEGA and STEFA. E.T.A. Greenock A.M./11. (N.O.I.C. Invergordon, 1700/7).
- BRADFORD. My P.C.S. at 2000A/7 are 043° 37° N. 10° W. 7 miles, 317°, 6 knots. (BRADFORD, 1955Z/7 to ROCHESTER).
- ALYSSE. F.O.N.F's 2135Z/27/12. Having reached prudent limit of endurance, am en route direct to Clyde. Present P.C.S. 058° N. 031° 40' W, 100°, 13.5 knots. (ALYSSE, 2001Z/7).
- BARBRIDGE. Your 2324A/6. Approved to defer sailing BARBRIDGE until 15/1 if necessary to effect exchange of C.O's. (D.B.D. 2302A/7 to N.O.I.C. Oban).

Operations.

- P.38 Patrol. Proceed submerged by day through 048° 30' N. 007° 20' W. to patrol in 044° 41' N. 007° 52' W. S.B.R. arranged in area 52 and 54 both West of 006° 30' W. forthwith until further notice. (F.O.S., 0016A/7 to P.38).
- Operation "Kitbag" Kitbag stowed. Withdrawing. My P.C.S. 270° Kvanhovden Light 1 mile, 254°, 30 knots. (Capt. D.3, 0026A/7).
If not in company with Capt. (D) 3 return to harbour. (R.A.D. H.F., 1126A/7 to SHEFFIELD).
Scapa arrivals 1251 SHEFFIELD, 1301 Capt. (D) 3 in INGLEFIELD with INTREPID. (A.C.O.S., 1341A/7).
- O.14 Patrol. Leaving Patrol 1800A/7 proceeding submerged by day through (a) 062° N. 002° 1' E. (b) 061° 30' N. 000° 02' W. thence R/V with STELLA PEGASI at 1000A/9 in 090° Out Skerries 5 miles for escort into Scapa. S.B.R. arranged as follows. (Capt. S.9, 0947A/7 to O.14).
- M.L. Patrol. M.L's 103 (SO) 102 operating between 'V' and West Hinder buoys. Expected time of departure 2200. Expected time of return about 0600/8. (V.A.Dover, 1326A/7).

War Diary.

7.1.1942.
Wednesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operations. - contd.

Denmark
Strait
Patrol.

My 1759A/2. For "Thursday 8th January" read
"Friday 9th January."
(C. in C. H.F., 1401A/7).

TIGRIS
Patrol.

Your patrol area is extended to whole of C.4 after
0001A/8, object as in F.S.B. Leave patrol after
dark 9th as ordered by S.3.
(F.O.S., 1656A/7 to TIGRIS).

MARON.

Shift patrol to C.Z.1 forthwith and remain on
patrol to limit of endurance, then proceeding to
Halifax to fuel.
(D.O.D. F. 1744A/7 to MARON).

British Air Activity.

Bombing
operations.

On Night 6/7, 23 A/C attacked Brest, 9 bombed the
Sola Aerodrome at Stavanger, and 2 attacked the
docks at Cherbourg.
(H.Q.B.C., 1515/7).

Enemy Air Activity.

LODDON
damaged.

N.C.S.O. Methil's 1600/5. Steam trawler LODDON
entered Scarborough 1715/6 following damage by
near miss when 1 mile south of 18E buoy at 0700/6
approx. (C. in C. Rosyth, 0733/7.)

Convoy F.N595.
ZURICHMOOR
(British,
4455 tons)
damaged on 5/1.

At 1822/5 ZURICHMOOR slightly damaged by A/C
5 miles N.E. of Barns Ness. 3 Bombs dropped.
(C. in C. Rosyth, 1359/7).

Unknown ship.

Following received via Lands End Radio. Received
1729 G.M.T. from unknown station. S.O.S. Enemy
planes attacking trawlers 10 miles N.W. Old Head
Kinsale. 1830/7 Lands End Radio.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 1841/7).

CRAIG-AN-ERAN.
(British Steam
Trawler, 202
tons),
attacked.

Bombed and machine-gunned off Old Head of Kinsale
on evening 7/1. Reached Kinsale leaking badly.
No casualties. (D.S.857).

Mining.

Harwich.

2 mines one red, one blue, detonated at 0335 in
51° 54' N. 01° 32.5' E. by 'LL' trawlers.
(F.O.I.C. Harwich, 1022A/7).

/Operation ...

War Diary.

7.1.1942.
Wednesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Mining. - contd.

Operation Q.O. Propose sailing 0645/8 from Harwich, at 12 knots, sweeping as in my 0935/5, commencing at 1100 returning at 1630 from E. (M/S.9 1043/7 to C. in C. Nore).

Sweep of QZF.13. Sweeping carried out to 0800/7 by Oropesa L.L. and S.A. Trawlers. QZF.13. 1 magnetic red mine detonated in 51° 17' 12" N. 01° 45' 36" E. (V.A. Dover, 1054A/7).

East Coast. 1. 4th M/S Flotilla is required to clear the Gap A. Southern 15 miles of S.N.13 as soon as C. in C.H.F. is satisfied with clearance of gap North of Faroes.

Clearance and Mining. 2. C. in C. Rosyth is requested to take charge of this operation. (D.D.O.D. M. 1539A/7).

My 1539A/7. 1. Request proposals for mining area between present southern limit of Gap A and a line joining following positions:-

(x) 56° 33.5' N., 2° 02' W. (y) 56° 39' N., 1° 33' W.
(z) 56° 35.5' N., 1° 09' W.

2. Operation to take place as soon as possible after completion of clearance referred to in my 1539A/7.

3. Average density suggested is 80 mines per mile. (D.D.O.D. M. 1603A/7 to R.A.M.)

Your 2147/6. 4th M/S Flotilla and STAR OF FREEDOM are to be sailed for Scapa and then as ordered by Admiralty. (A.C.O.S., 1615A/7 to S.O. M/S.4.)

Faroes M/S search. Irregular M/S search and A/S patrol are to be operated between the lines forming positions 062° 30' N. 007° 08' 10" W. 062° 23' 10" N. 007° 23' 50" W. and the land.

CAVA, CAPE BARRACOUTA, LEICESTER CITY are to be retained in Faroes. CAPE PORTLAND to be sailed Kirkwall.

(A.C.O.S., 1617A/7 to N.O.I.C. Faroes, Reptd. M/S.4.)

Tyne. Detonated 1 ground mine 1340/7. Details. (N.O.I.C. North Shields, 1720/7).

Spurn Point. One magnetic mine exploded today by Sweepers, at 1158 in 092° Spurn Point 7.05 miles. (F.O. Humber 1942A/7).

Enemy Intelligence.

ADMIRAL SCHEER, LEIPZIG.

P.R.U. Swinemunde 1415/6. Pocket battleship ADMIRAL SCHEER and Cruiser LEIPZIG have departed since 30/11. (D.D.I.C. 0435A/7) (F.O.S. 0601A/7 to S/M's Area A.)

GNEISENAU, SCHARNHORST, PRINZ EUGEN.

Indistinct photos at 0930/7 at Brest show GNEISENAU emitting smoke apparently about to enter dry dock number nine her bows approx. 120 yards

/from ...

War Diary.7.1.1942.
Wednesday.HOME COMMANDS.Enemy Intelligence.

GNEISENAU, from dock gates which are open. At least four tugs
 SCHARNHORST, in attendance. SCHARNHORST usual dry docks also
 PRINZ EUGEN. emitting smoke. Light coloured camouflage has been
 removed from stern. PRINZ EUGEN position unchanged
 since 6/1 and camouflage unaltered. 2 S/M's
 visible Port Militaire. The 500 ft. armed M/V still present Rade
 from which 350 ft. M/V apparently departed but Rade not fully
 photographed. Large vessel exceeding 500 ft. possibly the 530 ft.
 tanker seen leaving Goulet on westerly course.
 (PRU. St. Eval, 1330/7).

Preliminary report of photographic R/C of Brest at 0930 shows
 GNEISENAU entering No.9 dock. SCHARNHORST and PRINZ EUGEN in
 usual dock.

La Pallice 1207/6. ALTMARK class tanker no longer present.
 (D.D.I.C., 1349A/7).

Brest at 1630/7. Positions three major Naval Units unchanged
 since 1300 hours. GNEISENAU still emitting smoke. Several strips
 light coloured camouflage have been erected between vessel and
 quayside. Camouflage on SCHARNHORST and PRINZ EUGEN substantially
 unaltered since this a.m. Drydock number 9 unoccupied and gate
 open. Floating crane still working at number 8 dock gates. 2 S/M's
 Port Militaire as this a.m. The 500 ft. armed M/V still anchored
 South of Rade Abri and M/V 360 ft. new arrival Rade which not
 fully photoed. (PRU. St. Eval, 2000/7).

My 1349A/7. Further photographic R/C of Brest at 1330A and 1630A
 show GNEISENAU returned to Torpedo Boat station. No.9 dock empty
 and gates open. (D.D.I.C., 2206A/7).

Two suspicious On several occasions recently interference on type
 Trawlers. 284 range and D/F has been noticed when in the
 vicinity of fishing vessels. In the last 24 hours
 it has twice coincided with sighting of trawlers
 and lead to strong suspicion of W/T report being transmitted from
 one of two large steam trawlers which were approx. 267° 31 miles
 from Straumness at 1200N/7 steaming towards Isafiord. Numbers not
 obtained but only two steam trawlers have been working in this
 area for some days. Propose no action until better identification
 available. (C.S.1, 1725N/7 to A.C.I.C.)

Six T.B's Report graded B 2 that 6 T.B's arrived Bergen on
 at Bergen. 5/12. (F.O.S., 1846A/7 to TIGRIS).

Navigational.

East East Newcombe buoy reported damaged superstructure
 Newcombe Buoy. missing and a danger to navigation.
 (F.O.I.C. Gt. Yarmouth, 1609A/7).

Belfast Lough. An obstruction with at least depth of 30 feet
 Obstruction. L.W.O.S. has been located at entrance to Belfast
 Lough New Island light 270°, Shore Hill Water
 Tower 314°, Black Head Light 155° and has been
 marked by two Dan buoys with red flags.
 (F.O.I.C. Belfast, 1830A/7).

War Diary.

7.1.1942.
Wednesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Casualties & Defects.

ROKOS Salvage Officer reports no possibility of salvage.
VERGOTTIS Position about 1-1/2 Miles East of 55 B Buoy.
Wreck. (F.O.I.C. Gt. Yarmouth, 1626A/7).

MIRALID. (Tanker). Grounded in Ionkanka Harbour 31/12 when shifted from berth in gale. Subsequent examination by Russian Diver showed no damage to affect seaworthiness but possible damage to some underwater fittings. Nature of fittings not stated but Master may be able to give details. (S.B.N.O. North Russia, 1701C/7).

ARBUTUS. A case of suspected sabotage has occurred in
Suspected ARBUTUS refitting at Gordon Alisons, Birkenhead.
Sabotage. Damage consists of severed electric light leads in Asdic compartment. Civil police are investigating (F.O.I.C. Liverpool, 1800/7 to D.N.I.)

Shipping & Convoys.

Ships in Q P For Ministry of War Transport from Maclay
Convoys. Archangel.
Your intentions regarding destination of British ships after discharge here are not entirely clear. Please advise if you wish all British ships to return to U.K. or whether British ships which have loaded in America are to return to America if suitable cargo or ballast can be arranged. (S.B.N.O. Archangel ?), 1050C/7 to Admty.)

Convoy After landing casualties R/V "Label" at 0.4 buoy
"Label." Q.Z.S. 215 at 1800A/7.
(N.O.I.C. Liverpool, 1308B/7 to SCIMITAR).

W.S.15. Amend A.M.1353A/4 as follows:- R/V at 0930Z/11.
(D.O.D. H. 1506A/7 to H.Q.C.C., H.Q.F.C.)

D.S.20. NEWARK and ST. MARY'S detailed for D.S.20. Intend
S.D.20. to sail NEWARK for Londonderry on completion of operation; S.N.15 arriving 1500/10. Both ships to return to Port "ZA" on completion of duty with S.D.20. (R.A.M., 1622/6).

P.Q.7B. Your 1727C/4. C. in C. H.F., A.C.I.C.,
CUMBERLAND and destroyers informed. There is a possibility that ocean escort will not be in company with P.Q.7B.
(D.O.D. H., 1729A/7 to S.B.N.O. North Russia).

U.S. Troops for Your 2035/2 and 2317/2. Troop convoy and cargo
Northern ships can be handled at Belfast as follows.
Ireland. Details. (D. of S.T. 2101A/7 to B.A.D. Washington).

War Diary.7.1.1942.
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Raiders.

Intelligence. A.M. 1610A/31.
 1. Incomplete RR message intercepted by Ascension at 0647/7. If a ship has been attacked Raider might be that referred to in A.M. 1810/20/12.
 2. Pacific will not be covered by subsequent signals unless presence of German Units is suspected. (D.D.I.C.1759A/7 to C. in C., etc.)

North Atlantic.

AMARANTHUS. Arrived Ponta Delgada 0930 G.M.T./7.
 VELOX. (N.C.S.O. Ponta Delgada, 0920/7 to S.O.I. Gibraltar).
 Left Ponta Delgada 1815 G.M.T./7. (N.C.S.O. Ponta Delgada, 1617/7, to S.O.I. Gibraltar).

COLTSFOOT. E.T.A. Ponta Delgada 1000 9th for fuel and provisions returning to South end of Fayal on completion. (F.O.C.N.A., 1016A/7, to COREOPSIS).

P.39. Leave ~~for~~ patrol after dark 7/1 and proceed to Gibraltar passing through 036° 30' 002° W. submerged by day. Crossing 005° W. at 0830/9. Bombing restrictions arranged. (F.O.C.N.A., 1036A/7 to P.39 (R) A.C.H.Q.)

SPIREA Arrival SPIREA escorting BARON ELGIN.
 BARON ELGIN. (F.O.C.N.A., 1145A/7 to Admty.)

A/S Sweeps As transit flying boats now carry out A/S sweep
 by F/B's. it is necessary that they are informed of all relevant bombing restrictions in force in both Home and North Atlantic Commands. 2. Intend to repeat all B.R.S. in force in N.A. area to Admty. and request similar restrictions affecting transit aircraft in Home Command may be passed to me. 3. To avoid passing local B.R.S., propose transit aircraft should not attack S/M's in Gibraltar Approaches East of 08° W. (F.O.C.N.A., 1614A/7 to Admty.)
 Reply: 1044A/9.

Sunderlands, 3 Sunderlands of 202 Squadron to return to Mount
 R/C. Batten forthwith on attachment. Aircraft to do daylight R/C of Portuguese Coast en route and to cross Bay in sweep at S.E. range.
 (H.Q.C.C., 1620/7 to R.A.F., Gib.)
 3 Sunderlands leaving for Mt. Batten 1100/8.
 (R.A.F., Gib., 2100/7 to H.Q.C.C.)

/French ...

War Diary.7.1.1942.
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic. - contd.French
Shipping.

My 1847/6. (N.T. in W.D.) French Convoy passed Gibraltar westbound 1055/7. (S.O.I., Gib., 1833A/7 to Admty., C. in C. Med. C. in C. S.A., S.O.I. Kingston.)

TURBULENT,
TEMPEST.

F.O.S. 1653A/7 and my 1436A/6. Proceed from positions on cross 043° N. through position J K and L. TURBULENT is to arrive Spartel R/V 1500/10 and TEMPEST 0900/11. Report if unable to comply within 2 hours when South of 040° North. T.B.R. arranged. (F.O.C.N.A., 2336A/7 to TURBULENT, TEMPEST).

South Atlantic.

"R" Report.

R R R R Message from Call Sign commencing with letters M L partially intercepted by Ascension W/T Station at 0647. Any ship having intercepted full Call Sign ship's name or position given in this message report forthwith. (C. in C. S.A., 0810Z/7 to S.A. Stn.)

CLOVER,
STARWORT,
LAVENDER.

Your 1025A/4. Concur. CLOVER, STARWORT, and LAVENDER, are 3 good ships in all respects and I hope they may have worthy successors. (C. in C. S.A., 1429Z/7 to C. in C. W.A.)

Transports
in S.L.
Convoys.Not considered that the scale of A/S escort available to S.L. convoys, after your local escort leaves, justifies the inclusion of homeward bound transports, whose passengers conform to Admiralty 1936A/25/9.
2. Requested you will sail them either
(a) in accordance with A.M.0001/1/5, Sec. 1 para.6 or (b) with an S.L. convoy but breaking off when the local escort leaves.
(a) or (b) to be decided upon by you depending upon local U/B situation. (A.C.N.S.(T) 1650A/7 to C. in C. S.A.)Landing Troops
at Freetown.

Ref. my report 25/10. Paras. 14 to 17. The limited use of M.L.C's allowed by Admiralty now withdrawn. The landing and transfer of troops by ocean going tugs most unsatisfactory and impedes endeavour speed up of cargo work at wharf. Request the immediate supply of two M.L.C's or alternative craft. (S.S.T.O. Freetown, 1747Z/7 to D. of S.T.)

ASTURIAS.

Arrival Wednesday 7/1.
(N.O.I.C.Falklands, 1805Z/7 to Admty.)

/ENGADINE ...

War Diary.7.1.1942.
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic. - contd.

ENGADINE. Your 1313/3. Owing to essential defects ENGADINE will not be ready to sail from Simonstown until p.m./11. As ship is empty at present propose to sail her for Durban to lift 400 tons cased military stores for Suez. M.W.T.R. concurs. No heavy lifts. (F.O.I.C.Simonstown, 1857Z/7 to Admty). No objection D.O.D.(F) 1102A/8).

Condor Air Line. Local press announce that Condor Air Line has been taken over by Brazilian Govt. permanently will in future be administered by Brazilian Air Ministry. A Buenos Aires report states that a regular service between Rio De Janeiro and Buenos Aires will be resumed in February. (S.O.I. Montevideo, 1951Z/7 to Admty.)

Firing Report. Your 1854/5. (Firing reported by Port. Destroyer TEJO). Have no information. (C. in C. S.A. 2200Z/7 to N.A.Lisbon). ~~Cancelled by 1245Z/8. q.v.~~
Cancelled by 1245Z/8. q.v.

BIRMINGHAM. Request permission to visit Punta Arenas in BIRMINGHAM arriving 1500Z/10. No fuel required. R.A.S.A.D., 2207Z/7 to B.N.A. Santiago de Chile).

Mediterranean.

Iraq, Persia, control. War Office 62424 (M.O.1) of 5/1. 1. Propose assume operational control Iraq Persia on 12/1. Request you suggest suitable boundary. (C. in C. M.E., 0100/7 to C. in C. India).

HERO, ARROW ANTWERP. HERO, ARROW, ANTWERP, E.T.A. 0600 today Wednesday from West. (R.A.Alexandria, 0414B/7 to FARNDALÉ).

ISAAC SWEERS. Admty. 1611A/27/12. Details of defects. Ship requires docking and rudder neck bush examined as considerable leakage into steerage compartment at all times. (C. in C. Med. 0757B/7 to Admty.)

U/B. From D/F bearing at 0200/7 German U.boat was in approx. 032° 20' N. 026° 00' E. (C.O.S. Alexandria, 0820/7).

R/C's cancelled. All Ionian Sea R/C's from Malta cancelled due to weather. (V.A.Malta, 1001B/7 to C. in C. Med. (R) C.S.15, BRECONSHIRE).

/Supplies ...

7.1.1942.
Wednesday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean. - contd.

Supplies to Libya. Following is a repetition of my 1652B/2 part 3, Final. Para. 7. This review takes no account of "Acrobat" or of the possible increased weight of the demand for the Northern Front in the Spring.

Para. (8) I feel that with this paucity of force I can by no means guarantee the security of the Army's supply to Tripoli (Africa) should we reach there, without taking undue risk and incurring heavy losses elsewhere.

Para. (9) The need for more A/S vessels is very real, and having regard to the great distance involved on the African side and the lack of fuelling facility a good proportion need to be vessels of good sea keeping quality and high endurance
T.O.O. 1652B/2. (Ends).

(C. in C. Med., 1011B/7 to Admty.) N.B. Remainder of this message already circulated with T.O.O. 1632B/2.

Boats for harbour service. My 1216/28/8/41. Have any of these ten boats been despatched?
(C. in C. Med., 1058B/7 to Admty.)

ELENI. German auxiliary sailing vessel ELENI arrived in ballast from Piraeus.
(S.O.I. Istanbul, 1110B/7 to S.O.(I) Med.)

Air Report. 1. Cyrenaica. 2/1. Following delayed report received. R/C Blenheim bombed enemy S/M on surface 165 miles S.W. Sapienza Island. 3 hits followed by large patch of oil. S/M believed destroyed. Night 4/5 Jan. 7 enemy aircraft bombed Benghazi destroying small oil dump and setting fire to empty hangar. 3 soldiers killed. Night 5/6 Jan. weather very bad 10/10 cloud 2000 feet rain. 12 Wellingtons left to attack convoy of 9 ships which arrived Tripoli morning 5/1. 1 Wellington only reached objective and bombed inner harbour with unobserved results. Second Wellington bombed road south east Tripoli and third bombed Buerat El Hsun. Remainder returned with bombs or jettisoned owing to weather. Tobruk bombed twice shortly before dawn by 9 and 8 enemy aircraft respectively. No damage. Benghazi twice bombed by single enemy aircraft in morning (6/1). No damage.
(H.Q., R.A.F., M.E., 1157/7).

Enemy Intelligence. From Turkish Gen. Staff. Para. 4. High German Official recently returned to Turkey stated (a) his predominant impression was great concern in official departments at Britain's Mediterranean success. Added that early and radical action would be taken to close Mediterranean to us.
(M.A. Ankara, 1345/7, to C. in C. M.E., W.O.)

Libya. Situation report. M L patrol 15 reports no enemy ships seen since commencement of patrol. Sheltering in Bardia daylight today due to weather and resuming patrol this evening. M L also reports (corrupt group) planes dropping supplies daily 0500. Naval signalman attached principal Army O P to flash recognition to ships and for
/communication ...

War Diary.

7.1.1942.
Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

- Libya.
(contd.) communication with motor launches. Deserters from Halfaya area indicate garrison seriously short of food and water.
(N.L.O. 30th Corps, 1600B/7 to C. in C. Med.)
- TRIUMPH,
OSIRIS. (i) If A/S activity is too great you may proceed to vicinity 036° 50' 023° 50' keeping South of 037° until 2300B/7.
(ii) OSIRIS has vacated area S. You may enter it at your discretion but must clear to Northward again by 2000B/9.
(Capt. S.1, 1601B/7 to TRIUMPH, (R) PORPOISE).
- Mine. The following has been received.
No. 2067. At 1400/5. Observed mine adrift in 39° 21' N. 2° 20' E. 1620/7.
(Lands End Radio, 1625/7).
- Cyrenaica
Report. Cositrep No.97. 3. Tobruk. 0440/6. 9 unidentified aircraft raided Tobruk, bombs falling in sea. 0635 hours, 8 German aircraft bombed Harbour, docks and area north of aerodrome, no damage reported.
(C. in C. M.E., 1644/7).
- C.S.15. Shadowed, my P.C. and S. are 33° 33' N. 020° 23' E. 110°, 17 knots.
(C.S.15, 1651/7 to Alexandria W/T).
- Malta Air
Report. Enemy activity night 6/7 nil. 7/1. 3 alerts. 0711 hours 1 raider, bombs land. 1 house destroyed, 7 damaged. Bombs dockyard, slight damage H.M. S/M. P.31. Pressure hull pierced. 3 minor casualties.
0819 hours 1 R/C aircraft crossed coast great height.
0938 hours 1 raider approached did not cross coast.
6/1 and 7/1. Ta Kali unserviceable, rain, no runways. Hal Far unserviceable, rain, no runways. Fleet Air Arm operated from Luqa. Night 6/7. Very bad weather. Convoy found by special Wellington 2040 hours 090° Kuriat 16 miles course N.E. also one M/V and D/R 15 miles to N.E. course N. Shadowed till 0118 hours N.E. Kuriat 45 miles, course N. N. E., 10 knots.
0038 hours. 4 Swordfish attacked, scoring one hit and one possible hit on M/V causing flash and column smoke. 3 Albacores out to attack. 2 did not find. One attacked second convoy 0220 hours. One hit. M/V stopped and last seen with D/R alongside. After hit all A/A stopped. Intense A.A. Three mark 1.C
Wellingtons shipping Tripoli Harbour. 0348 to 0500 hours. Bombs dropped from 10,000 feet, results unobserved due to smoke screen. All bombs in harbour area.
(H.Q., R.A.F., Malta, 1710/7, 1716/7).
- U/B. German U-boat reported at 0200B/7 in approx. 032° 00' 26° 00'.
(C. in C. Med., 1748B/7 to Med. Fleet).
My 1748B/7. Correct position to read 032° 20' North
(C. in C. Med., 0154/8 to Med. Fleet).

/S/M's ...

War Diary.

7.1.1942.
Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean. - contd.

- S/M's. Malta. Submarines approaching Malta must be more than ever vigilant against attack from aircraft or U-Boats. (Capt. S.10, 1945B/7 to 10 S/M Flot.)
- AVON VALE. My 1730 (N.T. in W.D.). Consider entry impracticable most nights and in present visibility as ship cannot go astern without fouling other propellers. Propose to carry out A/S sweeps from position 360 Mersa Matruh 10 entering harbour at first light. Present maximum speed 10 knots.
(AVON VALE, 1957B/7 to N.O.I.C. Alexandria).
- P.31 damaged by A/C. P.31 is in No.1 dock for repairs to leaking tanks and other small defects. At 0920 this morning single A/C dropped stick of bombs across dockyard, one exploding on dock side. Following damage. Estimated time required for repairs 3 to 4 weeks assuming no air interference which seems improbable
(Capt. S.10, 2001B/7 to Capt. S.1.)
- TALISMAN. Left Malta P.M./7 and expects to pass through 038° 10' 009° 00' about 2200B/10, thence as ordered by you. TALISMAN has been ordered to proceed submerged by day throughout whole passage and can make good about 100 miles per day. Has 6 mark II torpedoes on board.
(V.A. Malta, 2201B/7 to F.O.C.N.A.)
- Cyrenaica. Cositrep No. 98. Air. At present only limited number Wellingtons can operate against Tripoli from Cyrenaica owing to petrol shortage Tobruk pending arrival petrol ship.
(C. in C. M.E., 2250/7 to W.O.)
- OTTO LEONHARDT (German.) Arrived 6th, will load last parcels steel plates for conveyance to Genoa about 700 tons. Telegraphing movements tomorrow.
(Alicante, T.H.I. 2300/7 to Admty.)
- Troop Movements. Request you will forward proposals for meeting the M.T. ship requirements detailed in C. in C. Med's. 1714/4 on assumption that escorts will be available to enable the sailing dates indicated to be kept.
(D. of S.T. 2349A/7 to P.S.T.O. Egypt).
Reply, P.S.T.O. Egypt, 1725B/8).
- VOLO. 15 survivors from VOLO, 1587 tons, torpedoed off Mersa Matruh on 28/12, have arrived Alexandria. 2nd Officer is in hospital elsewhere, but rest of crew feared lost. (D.S. 855).

War Diary.7.1.1942.
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies.

- Ex Shah of Persia. D. of S.T. 0319/26 to P.S.T.O. India. WINDSOR CASTLE due Mauritius 0200Z/13 will embark this party. (P.S.T.O. India, 0631z/7 to O.C. Troops, Mauritius).
- GUNDA. Have you any news of Norwegian GUNDA due Colombo 29/12 from Durban? (D.T.D., 1527A/7 to S.O.(I) Colombo) Reply 1650Z/9
- ELYSIA. Have you any news of ELYSIA due Bombay 28/12 from Capetown? (D.T.D., 1528A/7 to S.O.(I) Bombay).
- U.S. Transports. Following decision received from U.S.A. regarding W.S.12 X ships.
(a) JOSEPH T. DICKMAN, ORIZABA and LEONARD WOOD are to leave Bombay as soon as practicable for U.S.A.
(b) WEST POINT and WAKEFIELD can be used for one more voyage as desired. They must then return to U.S.A.
(c) MOUNT VERNON in D.M.1. after disembarkation will return to U.S.A.
2. Admty will issue instructions as to return to U.S.A.
3. 4, 5, - Arrangements for on-carriage to Malaya ex ships of para. 1 (a).
(D.S.T., 1546A/7 to P.S.T.O. India).
- Threat to Aden, Appreciation. Following from Joint Intelligence Sub-Committee Copy sent to C. in C. Med., Further to Chiefs of Staff Telegram No. 221.
Following is appreciation of threat to Aden:-
1. No Japanese combined operation against Aden is considered practicable so long as the Allies hold Singapore, Java and Sumatra.
2. Even should these fail an attempt at landing and still more an attempt to occupy Aden is considered improbable as:-
(a) Aden is a defended port with a narrow approach.
(b) Japanese effort is more likely to be directed to gaining possession of and holding East Asiatic Area.
(c) Aden is 4,000 miles from Sunda Straits and Sunda Straits are 3,000 miles from Japan. Maintenance of a force over these distances with British Naval forces on the lines of communication would be most hazardous.
3. Raids on Aden might, however, take the following forms:-
(a) Bombardment of the Harbour installations by a single cruiser or A.M.C. This might be combined with minelaying in port approaches. (b) Seaborne air attack of up to six aircraft from an A.M.C. (c) C.M.B. or midget S/M attacks launched from a cruiser or an A.M.C. (d) S/M attack on the harbour with guns, torpedoes and mines. (e) Blockship operation.
(D.N.I., 1707A/7 to C. in C. E.I. (R) F.O.R.S.)

0401Z/7. January.

168A

SECRET.

MESSAGE.

IN.
Date. 7.1.42.
Rec'd. 1717.

From R.A. Malaya.

NAVAL CYPHER "D" BY W/T & T/P

Addressed. Admiralty. Repeated. C. in C. Eastern Fleet,
Australian Commonwealth Naval Board, C. in C.
East Indies.

IMMEDIATE.

73. Your 2240 2nd January addressed. C. in C.
Eastern Fleet. LCBG (PAN SCANDIA) and PHHE (SAIDJA)
sailed destination quoted. Present stock position,
as far as ascertainable, is in tons (repeat) tons.

(A) For 100 Octane Pladjoe 10,000, Sungei Goroeng
unknown, figure being obtained, Singapore Asiatic 35,000 ^{Standard}
~~5,500~~ now plus 8,500 after receipt Colombia ex
BALIK PAPAN which latter ~~(--- line missing)~~ Singapore
arranging. *Asiatic*

(B) For 90 Octane Pladjoe, Sungei Goroeng unknown,
figures being obtained. Singapore Asiatic 21,000, standard
nil. Stocks being retained for Malay as quoted C. in C.
Eastern Fleet's 0349/31st. December includes 100 Octane
14,000, 90 Octane 16,300 held BUKOM and SAMBUE.

My 2231/7th January to ~~British N.L.O. Batavia~~ ^{C.Z.M. (connection 65512/8)}
gives details of explanation of requirements together
with my 14th. re inclusion therein of American Air Force
requirements, which latter understand very considerable,
but figures not yet available. Further requirements
R.A.F. in Netherlands E.I. (R) Netherlands E.I. is 100
Octane 9,000, 90 Octane 4,000 to complete for 6 (R) 6
months. When shipment of 100 Octane 11,000 by SUNETTA
to Suez completed, balance remaining of stock quoted will
be 100 Octane 7,000, 90 Octane 700, but balance of figures
quoted do not (R) do not take into account production
from now on, or American Air Force requirements if not
(R) if not fully included in C.Z.M.'s requirements quoted
in my 0231/7th, January. In light of Standard nil,
consider inadvisable to ship more stock outside Great
Britain and Northern Ireland and Netherlands E.I.,
pending further clarification of requirements situation,
or unless specifically instructed.

Your (2) (3) and (4) arrangements made or
proposed will follow. Am in close touch with Asiatic
Singapore and A.H.C.F.E.

0401Z/7.

Advance copies sent to Ops., O.D.
Trade.

4th. S.L.
5th. S.L.
V.C.N.S.
A.C.N.S. (F)
A.C.N.S. (T)
N.A. 1st. S.L.
O.D. (5)
Ops. (3)
O.I.C. (2)
D.N.I. (4)
D. of S. (2)

D.T.D. (4)
D.T.D. (M)
D.T.D. (C)
D. of S.T. (2)
I.P. (3)
D.N.A.D.
D.A/S.W.
W.D.
D. of P. (3)

War Diary.

7.1.1942.
Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

China.

B.M.9B. Convoy B.M.9 B arrived Singapore 6/1 without
B.M.9A. incident. (N.O.I.C. Malaya, 0140Z/7 to Admty).
Convoys B.M.9 (A) and (B) arrived.
(N.C.S.O. Singapore, 0839Z/7 to Admty).

Oil Stocks R.A. Malaya 0401Z/7 to Admty. See Lion Copy.
Malaya

Malaya Johore. Nothing to report. Singapore. One air
Report. raid night 5/6 Jan. by three enemy aircraft.
No damage or casualties.
Air. West coast Buffalo R/C 6/1 showed one
auxiliary steamer 250 tons, two small ships,
seven large barges, all stationary in Bernam
river. (Adv. H.Q. Malaya, 0446/7 to W.O.)

Dutch Your 2342A/5. Oil fields at Tarakan Pangkalan,
Oilfields. Brandan, and Pangkalan Soe Soe have already
ceased production. Time required 8 hours.
Balik Papan production reduced by 1/3 preparation
made for destruction which will take about 3
days (?including) all wells.
(C. in C. E.F., 0527Z/7 to Admty).

West Java Netherlands D/F report indicates presence
Sea. Japanese ships probably submarines in West Java
Sea. (C. in C. E.F., 0529Z/7 to All S and A
concerned in Eastern Theatre).

Movements. Arrival Singapore 6th DANAE, EXPRESS, GOULBURN,
BURNIE, arrival 7th ELECTRA (?STRONGHOLD)
(S.O.(I) Singapore, 1001Z/7 to Admty).

DURBAN State Batavia 7/1 1100 DURBAN sailed for R/V with
D.M.1. convoy D.M.1. (C. in C. E.F., 1030Z/7 to Admty.,
R.A. Malaya, C. in C. E.I.)

U.S. Pacific A.M.1647A/30. Following changes in disposition
Fleet. of U.S. Pacific Fleet:- 8" Cruisers: LOUISVILLE
at San Diego. NEW ORLEANS en route San Francisco.
6" Cruisers ST. LOUIS at San Diego. DETROIT due
Honolulu 8/1. HELENA leaves Pearl Harbour for W.
Coast 6/1. PHOENIX due San Francisco 6/1.
(D.O.D. (F), 1121A/7 to C. in C. E.F., N.Z.N.B.,
A.C.N.B., N.S.H.Q. Ottawa).

MOST SECRET.

MOST SECRET

M.F.S.S.A.O.E.

0527Z/7

II

From: C. ~~In C. Eastern Fleet.~~ Date 8.1.42.
 Recd. 0048

Naval Cypher D by cable.

Addressed: Admiralty.

22. Your 2342A 5th. Oil fields at Tarakan
 Pangkalan Brandan and Pangkalan Soe Soe have already
 ceased production and are ready for destruction.
 Time required 8 hours. Balik Papan production reduced
 by $\frac{1}{3}$, preparation made for destruction which will take
 about 3 days (? including) all wells.

0527Z/7

Advance copy D.C. D.O.D.(F) D.D.I.C.

1st Lord.
 1st S.L.
 4th S.L.
 5th S.L.
 V.C.N.S.
 A.C.N.S.(F)
 A.C.N.S.(T)
 A.C.N.S.(H)
 A.C.N.S.(W)
 N.A. 1st S.L.
 Captain Pim.
 D.N.A.D.
 Head of M.(35)
 D.O.D.(H)
 D.D.O.D.(H)
 D.O.D.(F)
 D.D.O.D.(F)
 D.C.(2)
 D.N.I.(5) and for A.E.
 D.D.I.C.(2)
 D.T.D.(2)
 D. of P.(2)
 D.A/S W.
 I.P.(2)
 W.D.
 D.S.D.
 Admiral Bailey
 Admiral Bellairs.
 Admiral Chalmers.
 E.P.S.
 D.T.S.D.
 N.I.D. 10
 D. of L.E.

War Diary.

7.1.1942.
Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

China. - Contd.

CAP DES
PALMES.

A.C.N.B. 1137Z/3. L.A. equipment can if essential be supplied CAP DES PALMES from Singapore at expense of D.E.M.S. A/A Aircraft armament cannot be provided. (R.A. Malaya, 1141Z/7 to A.C.N.B.)

G.O.C.

Wavell arrived Singapore A.M./7.
(C. in C. F.E., 1241/7 to W.O.)

Shipping
Delays.

Your 2054/3. N.C.S.O. Batavia has reported he is in receipt of instructions for all British Controlled ships in N.E.I. ports. Dutch report quoted presumably refers to (a) China Coasters and (b) U.S. Ships. Delays to (a) due to crew trouble, articles being for China and Japan seas only, aggravated because these ships have no local agents. Delays also caused initially by failure of M.W.T.R. India to communicate destination (b) Are being given now same treatment as corresponding ships under British control. (R.A. Malaya, 1507Z/7 to Admty).

America & West Indies.

EYEBRIGHT.

Your 0956R/6. Request EYEBRIGHT be sailed to St. John's direct unless necessary to call at Halifax for stores or ratings ex leave. C.O.A.C. is requested to inform you whether latter is necessary. (F.O.N.F., 0329Z/7 to B.A.R.M.)

WOLFE.

Your 1428/5. My 0208/3., reports date of arrival of WOLFE at Halifax as 15/1, on this basis C.O.A.C. Halifax should advise you as to anticipated date of arrival off Norfolk. (D.S.T., 0353A/7 to B.A.R.M. (R) C.O.A.C.)

WARSPITE.

Approved for WARSPITE to carry out preliminary working up practices based on Esquimalt. WARSPITE will be ready to sail on 20/1 on completion of this programme. Acknowledge forthwith. (B.A.D., 1143R/7 to WARSPITE).

U. S. Forces.

A.T. 1636A/17/12. Following changes U.S. Forces on A.W.I. Station since A.T. 1302A/30:-
8" Cruisers. QUINCY, VINCENNES, en route to Casco Bay. 6" Cruisers. NASHVILLE at Norfolk.
(D.O.D. (F), 1215A/7 to C. in C. H.F., C. in C. A.W.I., N.S.H.Q. Ottawa).

/Washington...

War Diary.7.1.1942.
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America & West Indies.- Contd.Washington
Report.

Washops 28. (i) Philippine Is. Luzon. Cdr. Philippine Is. reports heavy attacks along whole front and air raid on Fort Mills by 45 bombers for several hours 7/1. Heavy damage and casualties with water supply seriously affected Fort Mills. A.A. fire restricted owing to ammunition situation. (ii) Mindanao. Visayan divisions ordered to Mindanao 30/12 to occupy position in area Cota Bato and Cagayan. Arrival not reported. Nine P.40 aircraft with 650 all ranks of 19 Bomb Group sent Del Monte from Luzon. Troopship arrived, ammunition and supply ship sunk. Situation Del Monte aerodrome obscure (Washops 24).
(J.S.M., Washington, 1333R/7 to Admty etc).

N.A.I.

Admty 1510A/31 C. in C. A.W.I. 0932Q/2 and C.O.A.C. Halifax's 2020Z/6. (i) In view of present U-boat situation propose N.A.I. sails a.m./10/1 in order that QUEEN OF BERMUDA may be included.
(ii) HAMILTON can be detailed by C.O.A.C. Halifax to provide additional escort until p.m./12.
(N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 1355Z/7 to Admty) Approved.
(D.O.D. (H), 0002A/8).

N.A.I. Your 2020Z/6 and a.m. 1510A/31. Amend position "X" to 41° 30' N., 55° 00' W. Thence through position.
B. 41° 30' N., 45° 00' W., C 46° 00' N., 34° 00' W., D. 49° 00' N., 24° 00' W., E 180° 10' Fastnet. Thence by Q.Z.F.18 to Clyde as directed by C. in C. W.A. 2. BEVERLEY should relieve HAMILTON as requisite between positions "X" and "B".
3. Destroyers should report from 20° W., if requiring fuel at Milford Haven. C. in C. W.A. is requested to arrange accordingly. (A.C.N.S. (H) 1745A/7 to CO.A.C. Halifax, C. in C. W.A.)

Ice.

Your 0504Z/7. Ref. Admty 1901A/6. Under normal conditions there should be drift ice now but with present mild winter conditions there is no ice south of Cape Bauld yet. Conditions will be watched and further report made.
(F.O.N.F., 1451Z/7 to C.O.A.C.)

S/M Report.

U.S. Liberator Aircraft reports unknown S/M 120 miles X06° from Bermuda at 1812Z/7?. S/M appeared to break surface and then submerge.
(C. in C. A.W.I., 1629Q/7 to Admty B.A.D., N.S.H.Q. C.O.A.C., F.O.N.F.)

/A/S...

War Diary.7.1.1942.
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America & West Indies. - Contd.A/S
Protection,
Trinidad.

Your 1810A/28 propose that irrespective of final allocation all first 110 foot M.Ls. and 72 foot H.D.Ls. to be completed for service on A.W.I. station should be sent to Trinidad unless other measures for defence against U-boat attack there are being made. (C. in C. A.W.I., 1701Q/7 to Admty). *Reply: Admty 1258/8/2/42.*

Rio
Conferences.

Your 0119A/5. This matter is not under discussion by Chiefs of Staff. Inform B.A.D. of views you represent to Foreign Office. (B.A.D., 1727R/7 to Admty).

C.T.9
N.A.2.

C.T.9 will sail from U.K. 7/1 comprising VOLENDAM and MONTCALM.
2. After disembarkation at Halifax MONTCALM will proceed to Baltimore to fit under arrangements made by B.A.R.M. Washington. 3. VOLENDAM will be available for N.A.2,. She will load in Halifax for U.K.
4. GEORGE WASHINGTON will also be used for N.A.2 she will now be ready at New York by 20/1 and will proceed immediately to Halifax. 5. Proposed sailing date from Halifax of N.A.2 is 23/1. (D.O.D. (H), 1800A/7 to N.S.H.Q. Ottawa).

ARCHER.

My 1254/5 and your 1821/2 ARCHER will leave Norfolk (Virginia) p.m./12 and proceed to Jamaica via route in C. in C. A.W.I.'s 1032/19/12 subject to C. in C's confirmation. E.T.A. Jamaica a.m./17. Ship will be ready to leave Jamaica (?for) U.K. a.m. Sunday 25/1. S. of A. estimated 14 knots. (B.A.R.M., 1822R/7 to Admty).

Australia.Rabaul
Air Raid.

Rabaul reports 9 enemy bombers flying boat type 97 Serial 43 attacked Vanakanau Aerodrome high level bombing at 0807Z/6. Dispersed N.W. at 0825Z/6. (A.C.N.B., 0923Z/7 to Admty., C. in C. E.F. C.Z.M., C.O.I.S.)

LE
TRIOMPHANT.

Proposals for, and request for reports.
(F.N.F.L. London, 2038A/7 to LE TRIOMPHANT)
See Lion Copy.

MOST SECRET

MOST SECRET

MESSAGE

IN

2038A/7th January.

FROM: F.N.F.L. London.

Date: 7.1.42.

Recd: - .

Naval Cypher C.

ADDRESSEDE LE TRIOMPHANT. Repeated Admiralty.

IMPORTANT.

No. 2692.

1. Received your 01132/29 not to Admiralty. I agree upon necessity for speedy drafting of needed personnel. Under the present circumstances, however, the gathering and transport of this personnel would take about three months. Besides it is not my intention to keep you permanently on a Pacific Station. I rather intend to have you relieved by SURCOUF which would arrive at Noumea towards the end of February. You would then proceed with your mission to Middle East where LEOPARD would join you.

Endeavour, therefore, to find at least part of the personnel you require in the Pacific zone. To this effect you might contact our representatives in Australia, Singapore, and India. Inform the High Commissioner of my intentions and secure his assistance.

2. Paymaster (2nd Class) Perreti Della Rocca, our representative in South Africa, is being informed of your requirements, and will be instructed to send you the personnel he can dispose of. You might get into touch with him through N.O.I.C. Durban.

3. Since your departure from England, I have had no monthly report from you posterior to June, yet fourteen letters bearing on various unimportant matters have been received, the last one dated 14th November. Your attention is drawn to the necessity of forwarding monthly reports regularly, only thus can we be informed of your activities and minister to your needs.

1st Lord.

1st S.L.

2nd S.L.

3rd S.L.

4th S.L.

V.C.N.S.

A.C.N.S. (H)

A.C.N.S. (F)

N.A. 1st S.L.

D. of P. (2)

D.O.D. (H)

D.D.O.D. (H)

D.O.D. (F)

D.D.O.D. (F)

D.N.I. (4)

D.S.D.

D.A/S.W.

I.P. (2)

R.N.I.C. (EE)

2038A/7.

W.D.

D.C. (2)

Hd. of M.

D.T.S.D.

D.D.I.C. (2)

E.P.S.

N.I.D. 10.

N.A. (F) 2.S.L.

Admiral Chalmers.

War Diary.

7.1.1942.
Wednesday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

S/Ms. Reported.

Estimated approx. positions of U/Bs.
(D.D.I.C., 1350A/7, 1351A/7).

War Diary.

8.1.1942.
Thursday.

SITUATION REPORT.

British Air Operations.

62 aircraft of Bomber Command attacked the battle cruisers and docks at Brest last night and 25 the docks at St. Nazaire.

Enemy Air Operations.

Four trawlers were unsuccessfully attacked this morning 20 miles East of Nolso. The attacking aircraft came out of its dive too late and crashed.

Mining.

Operation
S.N. 15A.

R.A.(M) in SOUTHERN PRINCE with MENESTHEUS, AGAMEMNON, NEWARK, and WELLS left Port ZA at 1711A today to lay mines off Kinnairds Head. (ADVENTURE sailed at 0400/9 to take part in the operation). See p. 202

Mines were detonated today off the Humber, Yarmouth, and in the Thames Estuary.

South Atlantic.

DUNNOTTAR CASTLE is to sail from Simonstown when ready, to patrol an area to southward of the Cape, with the object of intercepting possible blockade runners and Vichy merchant ships. It is hoped that Beaufort aircraft patrol may assist and that DERBYSHIRE may join DUNNOTTAR CASTLE later.

/Operation

War Diary.

8.1.1942.
Thursday.

SITUATION REPORT.

South Atlantic - Contd.

Operation
"Churn".

ATHENE, after discharging 23 Hurricanes at Takoradi for M.E. embarked 39 other Hurricanes yesterday and sailed today for Bombay.

Mediterranean.

Continuous bombing of Malta dockyard is delaying work. There were several attacks last night and today. Civil damage was caused at Luqa this morning.

APHIS bombarded Halfaya Pass today.

China.

3 N.E.I. Glenn Martins attacked and hit the larger of two merchant vessels in the Kuantan estuary today.

There was an air raid on Rangoon early this morning; no damage was caused.

Ten Blenheims attacked Bangkok dock and commercial area early this morning.

Five more transports were seen entering Davao Gulf today.

War Diary.8.1.1942.
Thursday.HOME COMMANDS.Policy.S/M's
from
Gibraltar.

In order to judge whether S/Ms on passage to U.K. from Gibraltar are fit for diversion to patrol in Bay of Biscay, request following particulars may be included in sailing signals.

(a) Number of torpedoes on board. This should normally be a salvo of 4 if torpedo situation at Gibraltar permits. (b) Intended speed on surface (c) general statement as to Fitness for patrol in emergency (d) number of passengers on board.

My 0952A/17/12 refers.
(F.O.S., 1149A/8 to Capt. S.8).

Fishing
Craft off
Faroes.

Your 1423A/7. Fishery Authorities are being informed accordingly. (D.T.D. 1151A/8 to A.C.O.S.)

→ INCHKEITH.

Your 1111A/7. Propose retaining INCHKEITH at Tobermory to Continue working up. Request approx. date ship will be required to leave U.K. (WESTERN ISLES 2241A/8 to Admty.)

Movements.

O.24.

My 1853A/5. ^{N.T. in W.D.} Amend para. 3 to read: LOCH MONTEITH on parting company with RUBIS is to R/V with O.24 in 270° Bishop Rock 3 miles at 0900A/12 and escort her to Falmouth. E.T.A. 1500A/12. LOCH MONTEITH is to coal and then escort D.S. O.24 to Dundee. N.O.I.C. Falmouth is requested to sail both ships when ready. (Capt. S.9. 1123A/8).

SUFFOLK.

Intend to sail SUFFOLK for Scapa P.M. 14th. Request S.A. escort. (F.O.I.C. Tyne 1150/8). Subject to completing repairs and sailing Scapa as at present expected propose following programme. (SUFFOLK 1203A/7 to C. in C. H.F.)

→ H.50.

At 1700/9 intend sailing INCHKEITH (corrupt group) signal letters MBQG to Rothesay, E.T.A. 0930/10 to escort H.50 to Tobermory. (WESTERN ISLES 1312A/8).

TIGRIS.

(1) Intend sailing WHITE BEAR at 1400A/8 via Minches and Pentland Firth to R/V TIGRIS in 060° 51' N. 000° 40' W. at 1400A/10 and escort her to Holy Loch.
(3) N.O.I.C. Greenock is requested to arrange fighter co-operation as follows.
(Capt. S.3. 1335A/8). *See also p. 178*

EAGLE.

My 1514A/6. Sailing of EAGLE delayed 24 hours. (N.O.I.C. Liverpool 1358A/8).

/Informing....

War Diary.

8.1.1942.
Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Movements-Contd.

Informing
LOCH
MONTEITH. Convoy W.N. 28 Kinnaird Head 2000. SALTASH
Buchan Ness 1830 southbound 12 knots. Expect
to meet a cruiser and three large ships escorted
by destroyers about 0530/9. (C. in C. Rosyth
1532/8 to LOCH MONTEITH).

Informing
RUBIS. The following movements will affect you. M/L
Squadron passes Noss Head southbound 0530A/9
14 knots. Convoy W.N. 28 passes Kinnaird Head
southbound 2000A/8. SALTASH off Buchan Ness
1830A/8 southbound. (Capt. S.9. 1547A/8 to
RUBIS).

LORD GREY.
AIGLON. F.O.I.C. Greenock 1108/2.
ROosalIND. M/S Trawlers LORD GREY, AIGLON, ROSALIND and
ROSEMONDE. ROSEMONDE should be routed via Gibraltar instead
of Azores.
2. F.O.C.N.A. is requested to arrange for onward
passage to Freetown. (D.O:D.F. 1621A/8).

KENT.
NORFOLK. V.A. 2 in KENT is to sail for Hvalfjord on 9/1
(2) After meeting V.A. 2, C.S.1 in NORFOLK is
to return to Scapa.
(C. in C. H.F. 1641A/8).

SEALION. Sailed SEALION escorted by LA CAPRICIEUSE in
accordance with Capt. S.5 1141A/7. (N.T. & W.D.)
(N.O.I.C. Greenock 1824A/8).

UPRIGHT.
TRIUMPH. Subject to operational commitments permitting
request F.O.S. 1312A/20/11 para. 2 may be amended
as follows.
UPRIGHT Holy Loch 1st March Blyth. TRIUMPH
Devonport 7th April Devonport.
(F.O.S. 2054A/8 to C. in C. Med.)

Operations.

M.L. MACKAY. A.M. 2006A/2. MARIE LOUISE MACKAY confirms that
Cable inshore work will be completed 9/1 and that she
Laying. will be ready for escort at Valentia p.m. 9th.
(D.O.D. H. 1103A/8).
N.O.I.C. Londonderry is to detail one A/S Trawler
to meet MARIE LOUISE MACKAY in 270° Bray Head. Valentia Island,
5 miles at 0900A/10 and escort to Belfast. Trawler is not to
enter territorial waters. (C. in C. W.A. 1723A/8).
Your 1723A/8. NORTHERN PRIDE detailed. (Capt. D. Londonderry
1829A/8).

/Biscay.....

War Diary.

8.1.1942.
Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operations-Contd.

Biscay
S/M
Patrol.

Following signals are cancelled, My 2342A/15, 1736A/16, and 1534A/23 December. (F.O.S. 1153A/8).

TIGRIS
Patrol.

F.O.S. 1656A/7.
(1) Pass through (A) 061° 36' N. 004° 20' E. at 2000A/9 thence through (B) 062° 02' N. 002° 01' E. (C) 061° 29' N. 000° 10' W. to R/V WHITE BEAR in (D) 060° 51' N. 000° 40' W. at 1400A/10 for onward passage to Holyloch.
(2) H.M.S. TIGRIS is to proceed diving by day when east of the meridian of Greenwich, thereafter on surface at C.O's discretion.
(Capt. S.J. 1413A/8 to TIGRIS).
My 1413A/8. S.B.R. and T.B.R. arranged as follows.
(Capt. S.J. 1449A/8 to TIGRIS). *See p. 176.*

Operation "Curlew".
(landing at 7 1/2% of defences at St. Laurent, N. Coast, France.)
Operation Curlew (corrupt Group) appendix 1 (one) Item 3 (a). Add Motor Gunboat 312.
(C. in C. Portsmouth 1577A/8). *See 11/1 - p. 250*

East Coast
Patrols.

Patrol to-night. (1) Two M.G.B's. Q.E. (3) (2) two M.G.B's Q.E. (six A) (3) one M.G.B. returns to Aldeburgh buoy and Harwich at daylight.
(C. in C. Nore 1603A/8).

Denmark
Strait
Patrol.

V.A.2. is requested to maintain one Cruiser and two Corvettes on Patrol "White".
(C. in C. H.F. 1641A/8).

Dover
Patrol.

My 1656A. Add M.Ls. 102 - 103 operating between V and West Hinder Buoys. Expected time of departure 2200, expected time of return 0530/9.
(V.A. Dover 1833A/8).

British Air Activity.

A/C in
North
Atlantic.

(a) Following received from F.O.C. N.A. Begins. As transit flying boats now carry out A/S sweep it is necessary that they are informed of all relevant bombing restrictions in force in both Home and North Atlantic Commands.

2. Intend to repeat all bombing restrictions in force in North Atlantic area to Admiralty and request similar restrictions affecting transit aircraft in Home Command may be passed to me.
3. To avoid passing local bombing restrictions propose transit aircraft should not repeat not attack S/Ms in Gibraltar Approaches East of 08° W. 1614A/7. Ends.

(b) It is proposed that H.Q.C.C. should include 200 Group R.A.F. in the address of all signals regarding bombing restrictions affecting aircraft in transit between North Atlantic and U.K.

(c) If you concur F.O.C.N.A. will be so informed and directed to repeat bombing restrictions in force in North Atlantic to H.Q.C.C. (d) Paragraph 3 of F.O.C.N.A's signal propose to approve.
(D.O.D.H. 1927A/8 to H.Q.C.C.)

War Diary.

8.1.1942.
Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

British Air Activity-Contd.

233 Squadron. Ops. 41 8/1. All aircraft and crews and maintenance personnel of 233 Squadron are to move to Thorney Island forthwith. (H.Q.C.C. 2020A/8 to R.A.F. Gibraltar).

Enemy Air Activity.

LODDON. (Bombed 6/1). At 0615/6 LODDON had her Compasses deranged and engine room damaged by near miss resulting in reduction of speed to 5 knots. 2 slight casualties. No damage to aircraft claimed. 3.5 miles E.N.E. Ravenscar. 4 bombs dropped in LLB attack. 2 stripped Lewis guns carried but fire not opened. Attack observed by F.S.92 convoy escorts. (C. in C. Rosyth 0009/8).

KAIDA (British, 510 Tons) attacked on 7/1. At 1750/7 KAIDA was attacked in 50° P.W.S.S. Aberdeen 8 miles. 11 bombs. Fire opened before bombs dropped. Slight damage to ship. No damage to aircraft claimed. (C. in C. Rosyth 1403/8 to 13 Group).

Mining.

Operation Q.O. Proceed in accordance with programme. You will be recalled if fog prevents air co-operation after daylight. (C. in C. Nore 0600A/8 to M/S 9).
Area north of B.S. 26 cleared of Dan Buoys. 53 mines exploded in B.S. 28 and 13 cut. First and third laps blank, all mines swept by second, third, and fourth ships in second lap. 2 sweeps lost. Am returning to harbour to draw new gear and land surplus Dan Buoys. (S.O. M/S 9 1658A/8).
M.S.9 1658A/8. I congratulate all concerned on a very fine day's work. (C. in C. Nore 2115A/8 to M/S 9, M/S 13).
Propose 13th M.S.F. sail from Harwich 0830/9 at 12 knots via C. and A. and search overlapping portions of Q.Z.X. 384 and 403 to eastward and then to westward of B.S. 26 between 1300 and 1600. 9th M.S.F. sail by same route 45 minutes later and search area 120° for 10 miles from A in 2 Laps between 1300 and 1630. Flotillas returning by same route from A at 1630. (M/S 9 2306A/8 to C. in C. Nore.)

Yarmouth. L.L. sweepers detonated red magnetic mine at 1323 in 52° 51' 30" N. 02° 07' 30" E. (F.O.I.C. Gt. Yarmouth 1546A/8 and 1159/9).
L.L. Sweepers detonated one blue magnetic mine at 1325 in 52° 52' N. 02° 07' 12" E. (F.O.I.C. Gt. Yarmouth 1731A/8 and 1159/9).

S.N. 15A. Departures R.A. (M) in SOUTHERN PRINCE. MENESTHEUS, AGEMEMNON, NEWARK and WELLS. (N.O.I.C. Port Z.A. 1711A/8).

War Diary.8.1.1942.
Thursday.HOME COMMANDS.Mining-Contd.

Humber. One Acoustic mine exploded by Sweepers at 1120/8. Two Magnetic mines also exploded at 1434 and 1633 respectively. Details. (F.O. Humber 2106A/8 and 2350A/8).

Enemy Intelligence.

U-boat. D/F Bearings at 1832Z indicate U-boat may be in your vicinity. (D.D.I.C. 2122A/8 to WELSHMAN).

Navigational.

Gap "A". C. in C. Rosyth's 1235A/6. Concur. Submarines will not use Gap "A" except in grave emergency. (F.O.S. 1151A/8).

Casualties and Defects.

HALCYON. HALCYON starboard shaft considerably distorted. Consider unwise to sail her with P.Q.8. Propose she should return to Scapa sailing with R.U.5 tomorrow. (A.O.I.C. 0958N/8 to C. in C. H.F.)
N.O.I.C. Iceland's 0958N/8. In view of C. in C. Nore's 1816A/16/12/41, and satisfactory performance of HALCYON during operation "Anklet", consider ship is fit for service unless distortion of intermediate shaft has increased, which is unlikely. (R.A.D. 1715A/8 to C. in C. H.F.)
Your 0958N/8. Concur. (C. in C. H.F. 1651A/8 to A.C.I.C.)

ALDER ^{N.T. n. W.D}
(M/S Trawler) Your 1605A/7. ALDER is total loss. (A.C.O.S. 1809A/8 to Admty.)

WIVERN. A.M. 1247/27/12. WIVERN is delayed at Plymouth with engine defects. Estimated time to complete repairs probably some days. (C. in C. Plymouth 2203/8).

Shipping and Convoys.

P.Q. Convoys. Your 1512A/6. Consider necessary to retain 3 A/A Escorts. trawlers for commitments in paragraph (3) (c). (A.C.I.C. 0053N/8 to C. in C. H.F.)

S.C.62. Alter course at daybreak to new MOMP in 061° 40' N. (? 20°) 00' W. at 1200Z/9. (U.S. Chief of Naval Ops. 0145Z/8 to Task Unit 4.1.17).

/Sailed....

8.1.1942.
Thursday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping and Convoys.

S.C.62
- Contd. Sailed Reykjavik 1530A/8 SHERWOOD, ROSE, MONTBRETIA, HIBISCUS in company. Have requested P.C.S. of S.C. 62 from ASSINIBOINE who has not yet replied. Am making for R/V quoted in Your 0049A/8^{/N.T.W.D.} at 10 knots. (ST. ALBANS 2215A/8 to C. in C. W.A.)

O.N. 53.
IRISH
POPLAR. When clear of convoy report if IRISH POPLAR rejoined O.N. 53. (C. in C. W.A. 1128A/8 to WANDERER). Your 1128A/8. IRISH POPLAR has not rejoined O.N. 53. (WANDERER 1533A/8 to C. in C. W.A.) Repeat your 1531A/8 direct to U.S. Destroyer PLUNKETT. (C. in C. W.A. 2142A/8 to WANDERER).

BRISBANE STAR. Masters of BRISBANE STAR, CLAN MACAULEY, ANDALUCIA
CLAN MACAULEY. STAR, should be asked if they made position reports
ANDALUCIA STAR. on crossing 40.00 W. and 18.00 W. Admiralty is to be informed by signal times of transmission and frequencies used. (D.T.D. 1458A/8).

O.N. 54. LETHBRIDGE, MATAPEDIA, DIANTHUS, GALT, NANAIMO sailed 1400. NIAGARA defective. (A.C.I.C. 1548N/8). Message received by aircraft A/206 at 1250 from S.N.O. Convoy O.N. 54, addressed Admiralty. Begins. Numbers 62, 72, and 82 not present at daylight 8th. T.O.O. 1212. (Liverpool 1605/8 to Adty.)

W.S.15. My 1825/6 amend as follows Commodore noon R/V 11 to read 55° 31' N. (N.C.S.O. Mersey 1720A/8).

Convoys
H.X., S.C.
O.N. and
O.N.S.
Proposals
for
Routeing
and
Escorts. Proposals for escorting H.X., S.C., O.N., and O.N.S. Convoys on approximate Great Circle Route. 1. These proposals are based on the opinion (a) that the ideal escort consists of a combination of Destroyers and Corvettes. (b) that the S.O. of the Group should be with his Group, both at sea and in Harbour, as much as possible. (c) that every consideration should be given to retaining existing Group Organisation with minimum amount of dislocation.

2. Through escort of H.X. and O.N. Convoys between vicinities of St. Johns and Londonderry to be provided by the 7 R.C.N. Corvette Groups, with S.O. in a U.S. Longleg Destroyer.
3. Similarly, through Escort of S.C. and O.N.S. Convoys to be provided by 7 W.A. Corvette Groups (formed out of the 8 existing Groups) with S.O. in a W.A. Longleg Destroyer.

War Diary.8.1.1942.
Thursday.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping and Convoys.

Convoys
H.X., S.C.
O.N. and
O.N.S.
Proposals
for
Routeing
and
Escorts
- Contd.

4. The system of Escort for H.X., O.N. Convoys may differ from that for S.C., O.N.S. Convoys, owing to the facts stated in para. 13. Until the system of Escort is known, the limits of routes for H.X., O.N. Convoys cannot be proposed.
5. The route for S.C. and O.N.S. Convoy would normally lie within mid-way Ocean Area bound by following points:- (a) 062° 00' N., 020° 00' W. (b) 057° 30' N., 045° 00' W. (c) 042° 00' N., 037° 00' W. (d) 047° 00' N. 020° 00' W.
6. The four corners of the Mid-Ocean Area represent the extreme distance at which short-leg Destroyers, operating from Londonderry and St. Johns respectively could meet or escort a Convoy, sailing one way empty-handed.
7. Since the object of the scheme is to shorten the Convoy Route and avoid the worst weather, it is assumed that the Great Circle would be adhered to as closely as possible.
8. The Mid-Ocean Area, however, has the following advantages:-
 - (a) Opportunity for wide diversion is maintained Convoys can be routed by Minches or St. George's Channel, and by Belle Isle Strait or well South of Cape Race if desired.
 - (c) A Northerly route can be adopted if required in the Summer without altering the escort system.
9. The M.O.M.P. and Western R/V would be abolished and superseded by Eastomp, which would be roughly on a line A.D., and Westomp, which would be roughly on line B.C.
10. Escort system for O.N.S. Convoys would be as follows:-
 - (a) W.A. Corvettes Escort from vicinity of Londonderry to vicinity of St. Johns.
 - (b) W.A. Shortleg Destroyers Escort from vicinity of Londonderry to Eastomp, returning empty-handed.
 - (c) W.A. Longleg Destroyers from Londonderry Escort between Eastomp and Westomp or as much further as is practicable, thence proceeding to St. Johns.
 - (d) Local Escorts (See Paras. 17 and 18) Escort from Westomp to Halifax.
11. Reverse procedure would be adopted for S.C. Convoys.
12. System of local Escorts proceeding one way empty-handed, rather than being tied up to M.O.M.P.'s allows for maximum diversion.
13. The position regarding Longleg Destroyers in W.A. and U.S.N. differs in the following respects:-
 - (a) In W.A. the numbers are variable, since W.A. Escort Force is regarded by the Admiralty as a Pool from which Destroyers and Corvettes can be drawn to meet the frequent operational requirements which arise in other commands. Whereas in U.S.N. a fixed number of Longleggers is allocated to Mercantile convoys.
 - (b) In W.A. there are numerous calls for special escorts, involving longleggers, over and above the routine Mercantile convoys, whereas it is understood that in U.S.N. the Mercantile convoys would be the sole duty of the longleggers allocated.
 - (c) The U.S.N. Destroyers available are longer in the leg than the Western Approaches Destroyers available, and whereas the W.A. Destroyers could not normally do more than escort the mid ocean area, the U.S.N. Destroyers could probably give through escort between vicinities of St. Johns and Londonderry.

8.1.1942.
Thursday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping and Convoys.

Convoys
H.X., S.C.,
O.N. and
O.N.S.
Proposals
for
Routeing
and
Escorts
- Contd.

14. It is proposed, for the present, at any rate, that the only Destroyers allocated to groups for S.C. and O.N.S. convoys should be one longlegger per group. Other longleggers should remain in special groups and act when available as supporting forces in mid ocean area as and when required.

15. U.S. might decide to organise all their longleggers into groups for through escort, rather than use the majority, as Western Approaches will use theirs, as supporting forces.

16. U.S. might also decide to use their short leggers (most of which we should call longleggers)

on mid-ocean escort.

17. Decisions re paragraphs 15 and 16 rest, of course, entirely with U.S., but they will affect W.A. organisation of short leg Destroyers. If W.A. is not required to provide local escort in U.K. waters for H.X. and O.N. convoys, half the Western Approaches shortleg Destroyers would be available to provide local escorts for S.C. and O.N.S. convoys in Canadian Waters.

18. No account has been taken of R.C.N. Destroyers, Destroyers lent to Newfoundland by Western Approaches, or R.C.N. Corvettes not employed in Newfoundland, it is suggested that the United States should make proposals for employing these on local Escorts of Mercantile convoys, on convoys between Canada and Iceland, and, if possible, on T.C., C.T. and N.A. convoys where they would relieve W.A. long leggers for service with Mercantile Convoys. Amount of local escort to be undertaken by these ships on Mercantile Convoys depends on considerations in preceding paragraphs.

19. Should it be decided to retain a system of divided operation control as at present, the institution of a through escort system would entail transfer of operational control from Opnav to C. in C. W.A. and vice versa taking place at an agreed time instead of at the M.O.M.P. as now this in turn would entail both W.A. and U.S. Escorts being operated by Opnav in the Western Spheres and by C. in C. Western Approaches in the Eastern Sphere.

20. Captains Hanrahan and Baker of U.S. Navy both fully agree in their personal capacities with the above proposals.

(C. in C. W.A. 1951A/8 to 1st Lord, 1st S.L. V.C.N.S. A.C.N.S.(H), A.C.N.S. (F), A.C.N.S. (T), N.A. 1st.S.L., D.O.D. (H), DD.O.D. (H), D.O.D. (F), D.D.O.D. (F), D.T.D.(2), D.T.D.(M), D.T.D.(C), D.A/S.W. D.D.I.C.(2). D.C.(2), I.P.(2), D. of P. (2) E.P.S. Hd. of M. D.M.S. A.E. (5), W.D.)

Note. Para. 5 of this signal (included above) received in Naval Cypher as separate signal T.O.O. 2058A/8.

Diesel Oil
at
Murmansk.

Following for MaClay. Your 2520C/5 para 10. Is bunker Diesel oil available as well as fuel oil at Murmansk. If so please state how replenished if not could it be stored separately and in what quantities. (D. of S.T. 2042A/8 to N.C.S.O. Archangel.)

/P.Q.....

War Diary.

8.1.1942.
Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping and Convoys-Contd.

P.Q.7B.

All ships of P.Q.7B should proceed to Kola Inlet. S.O.M/S F 1 in BRAMBLE with HAZARD and HEBE will be at R/V M.Z. at 1200C/10.

If you are not in company of convoy you should proceed with Destroyers to position Y to intercept and escort convoy to Kola Inlet reporting E.T.A. at M.Z. (S.B.N.O. North Russia 2122C/8 to CUMBERLAND.)

War Diary.8.1.1942.
ThursdayFOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic.

IMPERIALIST.

Departure for Y.3.
(V.A.C.N.A. 0905A/8 to Admty.)French
Shipping.Passings 7/1. French westward ALGERIE, LINOIS,
THESEE, MEN GWEN, full; AISNE, KERPAPE, in
Ballast.
(V.A.C.N.A. 0921A/8 to Admty for M.E.W.)Return of
Sunderlands.Sunderlands W3989 and W3990 proceeding 1030 8/1.
Sunderland T9084 owing to inexperience of pilot
leaving Gibraltar p.m. 8/1 landing Mt. Batten
in daylight. Air Ministry pass to Admiralty.
(R.A.F., Gib., 0945/8 to H.Q. C.C.)Sunderland W3990 Airborne 1055 8/1. Sunderland W3989 temporarily
U/S. Expected time of departure both W3989 and T9084 now 2300
8/1. (Gibraltar 1150/8 to H.Q.C.C.)A.O.C. R.A.F. informs me he has received orders from Coastal
Command to send all Sunderlands now here to Plymouth.

(2) This leaves only one long distance flying boat available here*.

(3) Can I be informed when the 12 Catalinas allotted to Gibraltar
are likely to be available? (4) I fully realise the difficulty
in present situation of balancing requirements with material
available, but absence of any cruiser force here renders presence
of long range aircraft in lieu particularly desirable.

(5) Admiralty pass to A.O.C. in C.C.C.

(F.O.C.N.A., 1246A/8 to Admty.)

My 1246A/8. I feel that some intimation should be given me by
Admiralty when drastic changes of this sort take place. 2. I
should then know that T.L. are aware what is contemplated and that
full consideration has been given it from Naval point of view.
3. This raises question of degree of operational control which
is enjoyed by me and should be clearly defined. Admty. 1951A/
28/11 also refers.

(F.O.C.N.A. 1250A/8 to Admty.)

* Amplified by {1014/9}
{1645/9} pp. 210-211.SEVERN
CLYDE.Cancel A.M. 1736A/16/12. SEVERN and CLYDE are
now available for general operations with 8th
S/M Flotilla.
(A.C.N.S.(F) 1037A/8 to F.O.C.N.A.)Intelligence
for P.39My 1508A/7. Cancel exercise with aircraft.
Enemy S/M reported in eastern entrance of Straits.
1 destroyer on patrol on longitude 5° W.
(F.O.C.N.A. 1836A/8 to P.39 (R) A.C.H.Q.)French
Shipping.Gibraltar 1030 Armed Trawler L'AJACCIEUNE, S.S.
CHEF MECANICIEN ARMAND BLANC. full MEDIE II,
ARIZONA, KITA, all laden, eastbound.
(F.O.C.N.A. 2357/8 to Admty., C. in C. Med.)

War Diary.

8.1.1942
Thursday

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic.

→ W.S.14 Durban movements CERES, DERBYSHIRE and BRIDGEWATER escorting Durban portion W.S.14 arrived 0522. (2) DERBYSHIRE sailed, E.T.A. Simonstown 1600Z/10 S. of A. 15 knots. Route R.2. (N.L.O. Durban 0524Z/8 to Admty., etc.)

Operation Admty. 1635A/19/12. Have discharged 17 mark "Churn". 2 C and 7 mark 2 B and loading 39 mark 2 B Hurricanes. (ATHENE, 0855Z/8 to Admty. (R) C. in C. S.A.) For V.C.A.S. from Thorold. Operation "Churn", loading of 39 Hurricanes completed 7/1. This is absolute maximum capacity of ATHENE. Understand from Captain of ATHENE that he reported this capacity figure to Admiralty, and R.A.F. Embarkation Officer, Glasgow, reported similarly to Air Ministry before ATHENE left U.K. All aircraft loaded without damage and well protected from corrosion and weather. Consider great credit due to Captain of ATHENE and ship's company for efficient stowage arrangements. ATHENE sailing 8/1 operation completed. (Takoradi, 0950/8 to Air Min.)

VELOX. VELOX 0445/8 (N.T. in W.D.) Request you will instruct VELOX her final destination is Chatham. (C. in C. S.A. 0935Z/8 to C. in C. W.A.)

CERES Your 0837Z/8 (N.T. in W.D.) Following received Finnish barque LAWHILL. from CERES (begins) At 2312/7 identified 4 masted (? barque) LAWHILL in 031° 20' S. 030° 55' E. bound from Bunbury West Australia to East London. (? barque) was illuminated searchlight. This information was passed to DERBYSHIRE but it is not known what action if any was taken T.O.O. 0624Z/8 (Ends) (N.O.I.C. Durban 1018Z/8 to N.O.I.C. Simonstown)

SAVANNAH U.S.S. SAVANNAH left Bermuda 5/1 for Recife due 12/1. (D.O.D.(F) 1056A/8 to C. in C. S.A., R.A.S.A.D.)

ENGADINE. Your 1857/7. No objection. (D.O.D.(F) 1102A/8 to F.O.I.C. Simonstown.)

DUNNOTTAR CASTLE → DERBYSHIRE. Cancel my 1401Z/5. DUNNOTTAR CASTLE (? is to be sailed when ready to patrol an area to southward of Cape. Object to intercept possible blockade runners and Vichy (? merchant ships.) 2. Possibly (? this) could be combined with patrol by Beaufort aircraft. 3. DERBYSHIRE might join DUNNOTTAR CASTLE later. (C. in C. S.A. 1135Z/8 to N.O.I.C. Simonstown.)

WARTENFELS My 1541/2/12 and my 1805/10/12. Reliably reported ...

War Diary.8.1.1942
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic.WARTENFELS
contd.reported that this vessel is still at Diego
Suarez.

(C. in C. S.A. 1146Z/8 to S.A. Sqdn.)

A/C Cape
Verde.British Consul St. Vincent reports a large
twin engined plane dark grey, no national
markings, low over Cape Verde about 1300/7.
Crossed Island at low altitude four times.
Nationality not identified but similar Condor
type.

(S.O.I.) Freetown, 1148/8 to Admty. etc.)

U/B
Reports.Following sighting reports of an unknown S/M
received. First seen on 4/1 60 miles 267°
from Takoradi reported by R.A.F. Second seen
on 5/1 by Pilot of Lanair lying in mouth of
Grand Bassam Harbour. Third seen on 6/1 by
U.S. aircraft? Pilot same as in second report
but it circled and dived on sighting (?aircraft).
(C. in C. S.A. 1149Z/8 to Admty.)
Add to my 1149/8 considered to be probably Vichy.
(C. in C. S.A. 1705Z/8.)French ship
CEPHEE.My 2141Z/13/12 and my 1109/27/12 FRANCOIS L.D.
now called CEPHEE reported to be sailing from
Casablanca to Safi thence to Saigon to load
with rubber.

(C. in C. S.A. 1205Z/8 to S.A. Sqdn.)

Vichy
Treatment of
Captives.Your 1654/12/12. Information about treatment
British subjects in unoccupied France is scanty.
Details. No particular information about
Union Nationals.

(Head of M. 1242A/8 to S.O.I. Capetown.)

TEJO, firing
report.Your 1845/5. Cancel my 2200Z/7. Now confirmed
Sunderland sighted the destroyer at 1600/20 but
not at 1900. The same Sunderland was fired on
at 1303/20 in 012° 12' N. 017° 41' W. by escort
of Vichy Convoy, so it is probable that
Portuguese destroyer encountered this escort at
1900 on same day.

(Sierra Leone, 1245Z/8 to Admty.)

BIRMINGHAM,
Visit to
Punta ArenasYour 2207Z/7. Permission visit Chilean port
not necessary. Notice of E.T.A. will be given
to authority here late on 9/1.

(N.A. Santiago de Chile, 1840/8 to R.A.S.A.D.)

/Routeing ...

War Diary.8.1.1942.
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic - contd.

Routeing of U.S. Naval Attaché instructed by Navy Dept.
U.S. Shipping to report on feasibility of setting up
organization in Buenos Aires for routeing U.S.
Merchant Shipping. At present U.S. Shipping
from Rio de la Plata is routed by N.C.S. Staff at Buenos Aires
and Montevideo, and N.A. asks if this arrangement, so far
satisfactory from his point of view, may continue. Subject
to your approval I have informed N.A. of my willingness to
continue and Navy Dept. have been advised accordingly.
(N.C.S.O. Buenos Aires, 2015Z/8 to Admty.
No objection. (D.T.D. 1858A/9.)

CILICIA. My 2251Z/6. Permission for you to visit Rio de
Janeiro has been requested. Unless you hear to
contrary you are to arrive at harbour entrance
1230Z/13 where pilot will board. Estimated requirement of fuel
and provisions have been ordered. 24 hours visit is calculated
from time of passing Fort Villagagnon. On leaving Rio de
Janeiro proceed to patrol J.33, 34.
(R.A.S.A.D. 2115Z/8 to CILICIA.)

Mediterranean.

JUMIEGES Following received. S O S de JUMIEGES (French
1707 tons), 40° 35' N. 4° 25' E. DANS NORD DE
MINORQUE CALES PLEINES D'EAU.
*See also
p. 192.*
(Nore W/T 0030/8 to Whitehall W/T.)

Following received from Lands End Radio (begins) To Admiral
Plymouth. Intercept at 0754 G.M.T. Addressed JUMIEGES from
Prefet Maritime 3 E M E Region. Listen. Sloop L'IMPETUEUSE No.
NR.352 sent to you at 0650 G.M.T. Signal her your position
and state. 0710/8/1. (Ends.)

(C. in C. Plymouth 0858/8 to Admty.)

Following received from Lands End Radio (Begins) Admiral
Plymouth, intercept 0929, G.M.T., addressed JUMIEGES. Give
precise details of present situation and possibilities of
towing, 0730/8. (Ends.)

(C. in C. Plymouth 1030/8 to Admty.)

Following received. Intercept 1730 G.M.T. from Toulon LA CRAU
to L'IMPETEUSE (unread) 1. Only signal received from JUMIEGES
is her S O S at 0000 hours. Ship has not replied to any of
our signals. 2. Tug LOBSTINE under weigh from Marseilles at 1230
hours at 11 knots. 3. Proceed according to state of sea so as to
be able to continue search as soon as weather permits. 1655/8/1.
Prefet Maritime, 3me Region.

(C. in C. Plymouth 1833/8 to Admty.)

War Diary.

8.1.1942
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean - contd.

U/B. At 2212B/7 a German U-Boat was coasting in approx. longitude of Bardia. (C.O.I.S. Alexandria 0222B/8 to DIDO.)

Troop Transport. Your 1131/6, concur. (D.S.T. 0423A/8 to P.S.T.O. Egypt.)

NEREUS
GLAUCOS Capt (S)1's 1115B/18/12. Owing to greatly delayed work through continuous bombing consider it inadvisable for NEREUS to come to Malta until completion of GLAUCOS. (V.A. Malta, 1105B/8 to C. in C. Med.)

Convoy
A.T.15. Code word "Rusty". BINTANG, ALISA, FLORA NOMICOS, Escort PEONY, HEYTHROP, M.L. No.1051, M.L. No. 1023, Striking Force HERO, ARROW sail 0700/9 by searched channel F, 2000, A 0530/10, B 1645, W 0001/11 Z 0730, S 1130, Tobruk Boom 1215/11 S. of A. 6 knots. M.L. No.1023 to be detached to enter Mersa Matruh 0700/10. (R.A. Alexandria 1106B/8 to S.O. Force I 235 Wing H.Q. 201 Group.)

Air Report. Opsum No.591. Night 5/6. My Opsum 590, further 1 Wellington reached Tripoli and bombed S.W. side of town without visible effect. Wellingtons operating against Tripoli now using El Adem as forward landing ground as all aerodromes west are water logged after exceptional rainfall. Limited Wellington effort only possible from El Adem through temporary petrol shortage. Day 7/1 Tomahawks and Hurricanes maintained standing protective patrols over Benghazi Harbour during most of day. 2. Egypt. Night 5/6, single enemy A/C crossed coast near Damietta and passed over Suez Canal near Kantara being last plotted on S.E. course 6/1 single enemy A/C reconnoitred Alexandria Harbour during morning, Hurricanes unable to intercept. (H.Q. R.A.F. M.E. 1209/8.)

U/Bs. Submarines reported by fighter aircraft positions approx. 1015, 347° Sidi Barrani 30. 1110, 50 miles North of Taifa Rock. (C. in C. Med., 1242/8 to Force I., Med Fleet.)

Malta Movements. Arrival 8/1 GLENGYLE, SIKH, LANCE, LIVELY, JAGUAR, UPHOLDER. (V.A. Malta 1310B/8 to C. in C. Med.) My 1310B/8. No incidents after parting company with C.S. 15. (V.A. Malta, 1428B/8 to C. in C. Med.)

/Axis ...

War Diary.8.1.1942
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean - contd.

Axis Shipping, Danube. Your 1650/12 was considered by Chiefs of Staff and investigated by Air Ministry who report as follows:- Use of British bomber units for this task is out of the question, as we could not maintain them. Nearest reasonably secure aerodrome in Russia is 750 miles away from main Danube Winter harbours. As far as we know, Russians do not possess, in any quantity, bombers with adequate range for the task. If and when the Russians advance sufficiently to secure aerodromes West of Sea of Azov or in Crimea, the attack of these harbours might become a practicable proposition and we could then urge the Russians to undertake it, provided the Danube was still frozen. Even so, a more attractive target would probably be the oil refineries at Ploesti, which lie in the same region as the Danube harbours.
(V.C.N.S. 1357A/8 to C. in C. Med., (R) Adm. Miles.)

ELENI (German)
CAPO PINO (Italian)
My 1107/7 (1110B/7 intended) (Re arrival of German S/V ELENI from Piraeus) Ship Freight 145 gross register. Will load cargo from Burgas for Salonika. Turkish Motor Vessels now prohibited proceeding Greek ports. Crew Greek with exception 1 German, probable Gestapo. Italian CAPO PINO arrived 8/1 from Trieste and Salonika with 4922 tons general cargo for Istanbul (S.O.I. Istanbul 1550B/8 to S.O.I. Med.)

U/B. Following has been read. Alexandria P.W. Guard. 1 submarine - 340 - 6 - 340, 31.26 N. 26.52 E. S. (LEGION 1706B/8.)

Note.- LEGION with convoy A.T. 15 ("Rusty")
Following has been read. S/M dived 5 miles ahead. (LEGION 1711/8.)
My 1706. Am hunting with D.S. ISAAC SWEERS in 032° 04' N. 026° 40' E.
(LEGION 1843B/8 to R.A. Alexandria (R) ERIDGE.)
My 1706. Unsuccessful. Hunt abandoned am rejoining convoy. (LEGION 2020B/8 to R.A. Alexandria (R) ERIDGE.)
Cancel my 2020. My 1706. Unsuccessful. Hunt abandoned, am rejoining convoy. (LEGION 2059B/8 to R.A. Alexandria (R) ERIDGE.)

Troop Movements. Your 2349A/7. Proposals for shipping to be used. (P.S.T.O. Egypt 1725B/8 to D. of S.T.)

Enemy Convoys, THUNDERBOLT. Escorted convoys, one each from East and West, E.T.A. a.m./9th also one trawler with lighter from Eastward. Escorted convoy to West, E.T.D. 0700B.
(Capt. S.1 1731B/8 to THUNDERBOLT.)

/LAMORICIERE ...

MOST SECRET

MOST SECRET

MESSAGE

IN

1703E/8th January

From:- B.N.A. Ankara.

Date. 11.1.42.

Naval Shore code (I.P.T.) by cableAddressed:- C.in C. Mediterranean, repeated Admiralty
H.M. Ambassador Ankara (Saving)

AIDAC

Report from Admiral Kelly.

Discussed war with Marshal Cakmak. Turkish Intelligence have possession of Japanese document demanding necessary arrangements for Germany co-ordinating in operations, Germany to attack through Turkey to short circuit Caucasus and attack India while Japan attacks from eastward. Japanese Military Attaches everywhere impress on their Turkish unofficial colleagues the advantages of allowing Germany a free passage through Turkey, suggesting a more amenable Government might be set up.

Marshal Cakmak believes in possibility of such an attack for which 15 well trained Bulgarian divisions are available, also 20 Italian divisions and 30 German divisions re-formed after heavy losses on Russian front. Otherwise German spring offensive would be to advance not beyond line of Volga, holding that and advance south - east through Persia. He does not think it possible Germans can do both attacks simultaneously. Advantage of attack on Turkey is in 15 Bulgarian Divisions which would not fight against Russia.

Turkish military Attaches report Germans anxious to call up 17 and 18 years old class on account of losses on Russian front.

Turks have received from Russians non-confidential map and information about Turkish defences, all most accurate, found on German, but no plan of attack. He stated he had trained bands, on Russia model, for work behind enemy lines in case of invasion.

He spoke of letters from Generals Dill and Auchinleck, and of necessity of confidence between Allies. I confirmed reassurance. He said President and he had both served with Germans and realised what a German victory means, he also spoke of Germany's Allies all in state of mild revolt, but he also feels a sweeping victory for Stalin would be just as great a menace to liberty of small countries as that of

(? Fascists)/..

190^B

He needs 10,000 tons barley, or oats per month, for 4 months, and (corn) or wheat. Barley most needed. 40,000 tons of each.

1703B/8

Advance copy sent D.N.I.

1st Lord

- 1st S.L.
- V.C.N.S.
- A.C.N.S. (F)
- A.C.N.S. (T)
- Secy.
- N.A. 1st S.E.
- P.A.S. (S)
- D.O.D. (F)
- D.D.O.D. (F)
- D.C. (2)
- D.D.I.C. (2)
- D.N.I. (4)
- D. of P. (2)
- Hd. of M.
- E.P.S.
- W.C.
- I.P. (2)
- N.I.D. 10

AMT

(?) Fascists

(?) Fascists

War Diary.8.1.1942
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean - contd.

LAMORICIERE, (French) distress. Following received - Admiral Plymouth. Intercept 1704 G.M.T. from LAMORICIERE to COMAR (Commandant Marine) Marseilles. Unable make further headway or manoeuvre. Boiler rooms gradually flooding. 4 boiler fires extinguished and 2 difficult to maintain. Endeavouring to get rid of water as best as we can. Urgently request vessel able to tow if required. Approx. position at 16.30 40° 38' N. 4° 38' E. Estimate drifting at about 3 knots in S.S.E. direction. Will keep you informed. 1650/8. Ends.
(C. in C. Plymouth 1811/8 to Admty.)

ELIZABETH HENDRIK FISSER. Arrival 7/1.
(Cartagena T.H.I. 1845/8 to M. of W.T.)

UPRIGHT. Returning to Malta, E.T.A. 0830B/9th. Suspect main ballast leaks into battery tank.
(UPRIGHT 2010B/8 to Capt. S. 10.)

Malta Air Report. Enemy Activity. 7/1 1520 hours, 12 bombs and Fighters. Luqa, 4 Airmen 1 civilian killed, 3 Airmen 1 Private wounded. No other damage. Ta Kali slight damage one Barrack Block no casualties, slight civilian damage.
1625 hours 3 Bombers no casualties or damage.
1752 hours 1 R/C.
Night 7/8, 2116 hours, 2 Bombers, no damage or casualties.
0051 hours, 4 Bombers, no damage or casualties 8th, 0730 hours, 27 Bombers and Fighters. Luqa, 1 Bomber destroyed, 1 damaged, 14 houses demolished, 3 civilians seriously injured 4 still under debris. Hurricanes from Luqa on Convoy Patrol. 1000 hours R/C very high, Hurricanes on Convoy Patrol.
1158 hours weather R/C.
(H.Q. Malta 2020/8.)

Libya. Enemy advance units now withdrawn to Marsa Brega area. 1 small ship reported Ras el Pinchi attacked by Marylands. 10 Kittyhawks engaged 52 Italian and German Fighters, 7 shot down 4 initially 7 damaged for loss of 1.
(N.L.O. 8th Army 2027B/8 to C. in C. Med. (R) S.O. Force, I.)

War Diary.8.1.1942.
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies.Burma
Report.

Japanese seem now to be concentrating on night bombing of Mingaladon, Rangoon has not been touched. Damage had been negligible and casualties nil. Day bombing discouraged at least for the time being.
(Govr. Burma, 0110/8 to S. of S., Burma.)

JUMIEGES,
distress.
See p. 188

Your 0050Z/8 (N.T. in W.D.). Following heard at 2325Z/7 (begins) FOPE (JUMIEGES) DE FUG (Alger-Amiraute Radio) RR. S O S (Ends.) (GLASGOW, 0249Z/8 to C. in C. E.I.)
Your 0249Z/8 not to Admiralty.
This message was originated by French Ship JUMIEGES in distress North of Minorca.
(D.D.I.C., 0940A/8 to GLASGOW.)

Troop
Convoys.

My 0604/5 para. C. MANON will not now proceed S.R.3. Para. D, add one extra personnel ship NEURALIA. Revised date of sailing S.R. 4 is now 22/1. Para. E, name of ship is CHILKA. Following additional moves are being arranged.
(S.S.T.O. India, 0432Z/8 to C. in C. E.I.)

B.M. 10.

Signal one.
Sailed 0630Z/8. Details.
(N.C.S.O. Bombay, 0636Z/8, 0640Z/8.)

Base
Craft

Your 2131/31/12. Local crews can be provided.
(C. in C. E.I., 1508Z/8 to Admty.)

China.

ALDEGONDA.

Dutch tanker, 2088 tons, left Singapore 27/12 for Soesoe, was attacked by enemy A/C on 28/12 and received a direct hit in largest tank. Resulting fire was extinguished and she reached her destination. She will proceed to Java for repairs.
(D.S., 857.)

War Diary.8.1.1942.
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.China - Contd.

S.W.Pacific Command. Gen. Wavell, appointed to the supreme command in S.W. Pacific area, has an area which, roughly speaking, covers Burma and then, excluding Indo-China, goes up to the north to the Philippines, then on a line drawn down to the north coast of Australia, then sweeping round the islands of the Malay Archipelago. It excludes India and Australia.
(Mr. Attlee, H. of C., 8/1/1942.)

Mines. Dutch broadcast reports 6 drifting mines at southern extremity of Malacca Strait on 5/1.
(D.S. 856.)

Jap. Hospital Ships. Japanese Govt has informed U.S.A. following being used as hospital ships: ASAHI MARU, 8326 tons, HIKAWA MARU, 11622 tons, TAKASAGO MARU, 9347 tons.
(D.S. 856.)

Allied Air Forces, Command. Ref. 62305 (M.O.1) dated 5/1. For C.O.S. from Gen. Wavell. Very grateful for offer of Air Marshal Peirse as Commander Allied Air Forces. You will realise that such an opportunity may raise delicate issues with Dutch and Americans whose Air Forces are integral part of Navy and Army. I shall discuss the question with them at conference arranged Batavia on 10/1. Propose to do the same about proposal for American Naval Officer to represent Hart when latter at sea.
(C. in C. F.E., 0103/8 to W.O.)

ENDEAVOUR. Your ?1149/6. ENDEAVOUR due depart Singapore 12/1 via Sunda Strait to Colombo. Ship is armed with one - 12 pounder L/A aft and 2 .303 M.Gs. Stiffening of position in your para. 2 not provided.
(R.A. Malaya, 0116Z/8 to Admty.)

Signalling for C. in C. There is temporarily considerable congestion of cypher traffic for C. in C. E.F. at Batavia due to accumulation of line telegraphy messages during my absence at sea. Request every effort may be made to control traffic by use of suitable exertion of priority and non-priority and elimination of messages not of immediate operational importance.
(C. in C. E.F., 0531Z/8 to Admty.)

/Singapore ...

War Diary.8.1.1942.
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.China - Contd.

Singapore Stocks. Your 2116/29 addressed C. in C. E.F. and C. in C. E.I's 1120/7. Commercial stocks at Singapore 1/1 (? approx.) 82,000 tons estimated sufficient for 4½ months. Naval stocks at Singapore Harbour 1/1 899240 (89,240?) tons estimated sufficient for 2½ months. Propose PANAGHIOTIS be sailed Singapore to discharge Harbour Board for Admiralty account. Will report when commercial (? stocks) fall to 50,000 tons so further shipment(s) can be arranged. (R.A. Malaya, 0849Z/8 to Admt.)

Enemy Landing Craft. New Military landing craft carrier not J.T.F.J. identified off Singora 5/1. Intention may be: (A) To disembark landing craft for transportation overland to west coast with object of either carrying out attacks against Sumatra or Andaman group or for further landings on west coast Malaya. (B) Standing by for further operations on east coast Malaya possible Mersing. Aerial R/C has been requested of railway from Alor Star to Haadyai and also of harbour at Pulau Langkawi. N.I.D. Comment. J.T.F.J. are the signal letters of the Japanese landing craft carrier which has been in use for the last 3 years and of which N.I.D. has full details. Haadyai is a railway junction in the Kra Isthmus near Singora. Pulau Langkawi is an island off the Kedah coast close to the Thai-Malaya border. (D.D.M.I. Far East, 0859/8 to W.O.)

Policy, Supreme Command. Following from Chiefs of Staff Committee No. (S.W.P.) 1 for Supreme Commander. A. Following telegram for Gen. Wavell has been received from Chiefs of Staff in Washington. (Begins).

1. Your 32/C of 1/1. Chiefs of Staff agree generally with your appreciation subject to following comments.
2. Your paras. 4 and 6 (B). We cannot count on active French co-operation but opportunity to stimulate it will be much more likely to arise if we and not Axis are in Tripoli. In any event it seems important to exploit success to maximum extent, to destroy as many as possible of enemy's forces in North Africa and to give as much depth as possible to the defence of Egypt from attack from the West.
3. Para. 6 (a). We do not altogether agree with line you propose taking on Burma. It is of highest importance Chiang Kai Shek should be given every possible support and encouragement. We must in conjunction with him ensure that the Burma Road is kept open and that a flow of warlike stores reaches him. Continuation of Chinese resistance is indispensable and will pay good dividend. Americans feel very strongly on this.
4. Para. 7. You already know decision to transfer Persia and Iraq to Middle East Command.
5. We fully realise need for more transport aircraft. Americans are being asked to help.
6. Best wishes for your new task. (Ends).

War Diary.

8.1.1942.
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

China.

Policy,
Supreme
Command.
(Contd.)

B. Extent to which advice given in your 32/c of 1/1 is followed will depend upon decisions on broad Allied strategy which are taken in Washington, and, in a lesser degree, on results of a detailed study which we are conducting in London with representatives of Middle East Planning Staff.

C. Your para. 4. Battle of Atlantic must remain our primary anxiety, but we agree that it may, and probably will, extend to the Indian Ocean.
(W.O., 1325/8 to C. in C. Far East.)

Penang
Evacuation.

Following from Chiefs of Staff No. F.E. 71. Penang evacuation is still the subject of comment in Parliament and the Press, and a statement in the House will probably be necessary. Request full report from officer responsible for evacuation, together with your comments.

(W.O., 2030/8 to C. in C. F.E.)
Reply: 1810/9.

America and West Indies.

N.A. 1.

Your 1355Z/7. Approved.
(D.O.D.(H), 0002A/8 to N.S.H.Q. Ottawa.)

QUEEN MARY.

Arrived.
(N.C.S.O. Port of Spain, 0900Q/8 to Admty.)
Departure QUEEN MARY E.T.A. ?0300Q/12.
(N.C.S.O. Port of Spain, 1736Q/8 to Admty.)

Clipper
A/C fired
on, Tamar
Is.

Your 1305/5. Pan-American Airways have been instructed by Opnav to conform to 20 mile rule.
(B.A.D., 1201R/8 to C. in C. S.A.)

Casablanca
Intelligence.

Casablanca 6/1 (A.2). Departed 5/1 from Eastward Dakar escorted by Fr. Sloop Minesweeper COMMANDANT DELAGE in convoy max. speed 10 knots, HOGGAR with Senegalese troops, PORTHOS with troops and ROUBAISIEN with unknown cargo.

/Departed ...

War Diary.8.1.1942.
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies.

Casablanca Intelligence. (Contd.)
 Departed 1100/6 for Oran and Marseilles escorted by LAJACIENNE in convoy maximum speed 12 knots, C.M. ^{REG. ELA 11/11/42} ARMAND BLANC with phosphates, MEDIE II with general cargo and ARIZON thought to have 600 tons of cotton loaded at Dakar in number 3 hold. Submarine ACTEON left harbour with above, but not known whether she is to accompany convoy.
 (B.A.D., 1523R/8 to S.O.I. Freetown.)

N.A. 1. N.A. 1. Your 1745A/7. Cancel my 2020Z/6 (Course and date of sailing of N.A. 1, N.T. in W.D.). Will sail N.A. 1 1800Z/10 passing through (X) 41.30 N. 55.00 W. at 0000Z/12. S. of A. 14.0 knots. Arrival E. 0100Z/18. (C.O.A.C., 1541Z/8 to Admty.)

EYEBRIGHT. Is to leave Charleston for Halifax a.m./14/1. C. in C. A.W.I. is requested to issue necessary route orders.
 (B.A.R.M., 1544R/8 to EYEBRIGHT.)

U/B. Enemy submarine sighted on surface by aircraft at 1635Z/7 in 40° 50' N. 70° 40' W. Investigation being made.
 (Opnav, 1600Z/8 to Admty. etc. amended 2237/8.)

Facilities in South American Ports. My 0119/5 and your 1727/7. In particular we are anxious to know what line is being taken concerning granting of facilities to Allied warships in S. American ports. Doubtful whether a formal resolution at the Conference advocating special facilities for Allied warships is advisable. Axis may be provoked by such a resolution to retaliate against S. American trade and territory, with result that we shall be expected not only to provide cruiser and A/S protection for S.A. ships but also to supply aircraft, A/A guns and coast defence guns. Axis may decide to do this in any case, but important they should not be able to allege as a justification the facilities granted to us. We already get a measure of benevolent treatment in S. America, which will in all probability be sufficient for our present purposes. Therefore thought that advantages and disadvantages of gaining special facilities must be very carefully weighed before we urge proposal of a formal resolution at Rio Conference. Request you consult H.M. Ambassador.
 (Head of M. Approved 1st Lord, 1604A/8 to B.A.D.)

/Vichy ...

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War Diary.8.1.1942.
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies. - Contd.

Vichy Fishing, Newfoundland. Your 1902/26. Considered unlikely that Vichy fishing vessels will risk capture by fishing on Newfoundland Banks this season. But if they do, it is not intended to change our present policy. Vessels concerned operate from ports in Occupied France, and it is important to deny their catch to the enemy. C.A.F.O. 479/41 refers. 2. U.S. are well aware of H.M.G.'s policy concerning Vichy French vessels, and Opnav have not been informed of this particular application of it. (A.C.N.S.(H), 1756A/8 to N.S.H.Q. Ottawa.)

DESPATCH. My 0952Q/1. As only light oil grade .89 27 is available at Callao request provisional arrangements be made for DESPATCH to visit Tirana instead. This will be confirmed when reply is received from Opnav to whom matter has been referred. (C. in C. A.W.I., 1823Q/8 to S.O.I. Callao.)

MONTCALM. Canadian Govt. S.S. MONTCALM to sail Halifax in few days for White Sea for sale Russian Govt. as ice-breaker. Please confirm coal bunkers available Reykjavik. (N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 2116Z/8 to N.O.I.C. Reykjavik.)

U.S. Shipping, Routeing. N.O.I.C. Trinidad 1121/6. Renewed representations made to Navy Dept. verbally to encourage more efficient method of routeing. Present system admitted unsuitable and it is intended to issue new instructions which will -
 (a) prevent routeing on parallel straight lines,
 (b) prevent routeing beyond next suitable port for re routeing.
 (2) Not advisable to force the pace and N.O.I.C. Trinidad suggestion for combined routeing office does not find immediate favour. Hoped U.S. routeing authorities will be encouraged to make use of experience of (b) and British methods. (B.A.D., 2159R/8 to C. in C. A.W.I.)

Australia and New Zealand.

LE TRIOMPHANT. F.S. LE TRIOMPHANT with FALKEFJELL, E.T.A. Suva (Fiji) 2359Z/11. (LE TRIOMPHANT, 0700Z/8 to N.O.I.C. Suva.)

See next page.

/US Transports ...

War Diary.

8.1.1942.
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Australia and New Zealand.- Contd.

U.S. Transports, positions. → Your 2003R/5. REPUBLIC at Sydney (N.S.W.)
CHAUMONT, HOLBROOK at Darwin. M/MEIGS, COAST
FARMER, ADMIRAL HALSTEAD at Brisbane.
(A.C.N.B., 0743Z/8 to B.A.D.)

U.S.N. in Australia. → Arrival Darwin 6/1 U.S. Cruisers HOUSTON,
BOISE, U.S. Destroyers POPE, BARKER, WHIPPLE,
ALDEN, EDSALL, STEWART, BULMER, U.S.D. Tender
BLACK HAWK, U.S. Auxiliaries DEVIS, BROOK,
CHAUMONT, U.S. oil tanker GEORGE G. HENRY,
H.M.S. TOOWOONBA, H.M.A.S. WOOLONGONG (? and
BLOENFONTEIN.
(A.C.N.B., 1159Z/8 to Admty., etc.)

Rabaul, air attacks. My 0136Z/5. 9 T 97 Kawanisky Flying Boat
attacked Vunakanae Aerodrome, Rabaul, (corrupt
group) 0807Z/6 and dropped bombs on ?runway.
1 of 3 Wirraway aircraft which attempted
interception received direct hit and burst into
flames. 10 bomb craters south end runway.
Further attack Rabaul 7/1. No details yet
available.
(A.C.N.B., 1842Z/8 to Admty., etc.)

LE TRIUMPHANT. Sailed before arrival of your 2118A/7. Please
repeat your 2038A/7. LE TRIUMPHANT Suva -
E.T.A. Suva 2359Z/11. Inform F.N.F.L. London.
(Consul, Noumea 2100Z/8 to Admty.)

See previous page

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Submarines Reported.

Am investigating suspicious oil patch in 58.58 N.
7.49 W.
(A/C using call sign BG3T, 1155/8 to 336 Sqdn.)
Enemy S/M previously reported periscope only
sighted, course 110° speed 4 knots.
(A/C BG3T, 1210/8.)

Estimated approx. positions of U/Bs.
(D.D.I.C., 1406A/8.)

South Atlantic.

C. in C. S.A., 1149Z/8. See South Atlantic.

War Diary.

9.1.1942.
Friday.

SITUATION REPORT.

British Air Operations.

116 aircraft of Bomber Command aircraft last night attacked Brest and 11 Cherbourg.

Mining.

4 Hampdens laid mines last night off the Frisian Islands.

VIMIERA was mined and sunk whilst escorting southbound convoy this afternoon in the Thames Estuary; it is possible that she was out of the swept channel at the time. ROTHESAY (Minesweeper) was slightly damaged when detonating an acoustic mine in the Thames Approaches this afternoon.

North Atlantic.

Owing to the situation at Brest, Coastal Command consider that reinforcement of the long range aircraft in 19 Group is essential. A.O.C. R.A.F. informs F.O.C.N.A. that he has received orders to send all Sunderlands now at Gibraltar to Plymouth. This will leave only one long distance flying boat at Gibraltar (and this machine is now due for major inspection); the Catalinas allotted have not yet arrived. The absence of any cruiser force at Gibraltar renders the presence of long range aircraft in lieu particularly desirable. No intimation of the move was given by the Admiralty to F.O.C.N.A., and the latter does not know whether T.L. are aware of what is contemplated. F.O.C.N.A. asks that the degree of operational control which he enjoys should be clearly defined.

In view of the reduction of the local U-boat threat, the Hudson squadron at Gibraltar (the only operational aircraft apart from the Sunderlands which are being withdrawn) is to be sent home as soon as 3 Catalinas arrive.

War Diary.

9.1.1942.
Friday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Mediterranean.

There were no air raids on Malta last night.

Operation
M.F.2.

GLENGYLE has arrived at Malta and BRECONSHIRE at Alexandria without incident on passage. There were no air attacks on either force.

U.577
SUNR.

(X.230)
A Sunderland aircraft reports hitting with bombs and depth charges and ~~probably~~ sinking a U-boat at 1525 today in 32° 22' N., 26° 54' E. U-boats continue to be sighted along the convoy route.

The petrol situation in the Tobruk area has improved and increased Wellington effort is possible. There were air raids on Tobruk this morning; no material damage was caused.

The clearance of Benghazi harbour has been held up by rough weather but is now proceeding.

America & West Indies.

Convoy H.X.168 is badly scattered by a gale which has been blowing since 2000/7. The escort leader, in 56° 36' N., 34° 0' W., at 1900 today reports wind and sea both highest numbers on the scale.

China.

4 aircraft raided Rangoon early this morning; no damage was caused.

American aircraft attacked Raheng (Siam) and Meh-sed today, damaging and destroying enemy aircraft. Catalinas attacked ships and objectives at Singora.

War Diary.

9.1.1942.
Friday.

SITUATION REPORT.

China. - Contd.

Radio interception last night indicated a force of 60 to 80 ships moving north past Manila Bay at a distance of 30 to 70 miles off shore. 7 vessels were stationary opposite the entrance to Manila Bay. 20 enemy ships were located off Iligan Bay.

9 U.S. bombers attacked ships and objectives in the Davao Bay area today. In Malalag Bay a Japanese battleship was hit on the waterline and set on fire.

9.1.1942.
Friday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Policy.

Coal Stock
at Faeroes.

Admiralty 1807A/8. In view of frequent air attacks on shipping and consequent difficulty of maintaining stock at Thorshaven, request proposal contained in N.O.I.C. Faeroes 1732A/8 may receive favourable consideration.
(A.C.O.S., 0953A/9 to Admty).

Iceland
HECLA.

My 1703R/4. Admiral Turner has suggested that A.C.I.C. should consult Admiral Kauffman as to whether the U.S. repair ship now in Iceland could undertake temporarily such additional British work as would allow HECLA to be withdrawn without relief. (B.A.D. Washington, 1721R/9 to Admty).

WORCESTER.

WORCESTER must be retained in Home Fleet for the present. (A.C.N.S. H., 1936A/9).

Movements.

LORD GREY.
AIGLON,
ROSALIND,
ROSEMONDE.

C. in C. W.A. 2308A/8 and Admiralty 1621A/8. Intend sailing ROSEMONDE, LORD GREY, AIGLON, and ROSALIND at 1600A today for Milford Haven to complete with coal and for onward routeing to Gibraltar. E.T.A. 1000A/11.
(F.O.I.C. Greenock, 0724A/9).

RESOLUTION.

Intend sailing V.A.3 in RESOLUTION escorted by ANTHONY and VERITY passing Clyde Boom 1330A/10 to arrive Milford Haven Boom 0930A/11. VERITY thence to Liverpool. (N.O.I.C. Greenock, 0946A/9).

ADVENTURE.
Op: S.N.15A.

Scapa departure 0400. (A.C.O.S., 0952A/9).

O.24.

After passing through 049° 30' N., 012° W., R/V Trawler LOCH MONTEITH in 270° Bishop Rock 3 miles at 0900A/12 for passage Falmouth and onward escort to Dundee.
(Capt. S.9., 1049A/9 to O.24).

7th S/M
Flotilla.

(Sent to
training ^{areas} ~~stations~~)

Your 1446A/7. NORTHERN GEM detailed, arriving Rothesay a.m./11th.
(Capt. D. Londonderry, 1154A/9 to Capt. S.7).

See p. 156

/KENT...

War Diary.9.1.1942.
Friday.HOME COMMANDS.Movements - Contd.

KENT. Your 1641A/8 and RENOWN 1226N/7 and 1136N/8. Intend sailing in KENT for Hvalfjord at 1530A/9 E.T.A. R/V with RENOWN 1030N/11 in 360°, Skagi Light 7 miles, entering harbour on completion of exercises. (V.A.2., 1255A/9 to C. in C. H.F.) Scapa Departure KENT. (A.C.O.S., 1611A/9 to A.C.I.C.)

A.F. D. XV. My 1021/4. EMPIRE LARCH towing A.F.D. XV with SOUTHCOATES and CASTELNAU is proceeding to Methil for tonight 9/10 owing to weather. E.T.A. about 1800. (C. in C. Rosyth, 1515/9). Your 1515/9. Now approaching Methil anchorage. (N.O.I.C. Methil, 1800/9 to C. in C. Rosyth).

EAGLE. Sailed EAGLE escorted by BLYSKAWICA and SKATE. E.T.A. Greenock, 0845A/10. (N.O.I.C. Liverpool, 1600A/9).

TETCOTT. Sailed TETCOTT in accordance with my 1838A/8. E.T.A. 1400A/10. (F.O.I.C. Greenock, 1649A/9 to F.O.I.C. Southampton).

WELSH ROSE. My 1306A/9 Secret. Sailed by inshore route. (N.O.I.C. Kirkwall, 1658A/9 to N.O.I.C. Methil)

Informing KRAKOWIAK. You may meet during night (A) Destroyer southbound (B) Escorted S/M southbound. (N.O.I.C. Milford Haven, 2005/9 to KRAKOWIAK).

Operations.MARIE LOUISE

M.L. MACKAY (cable-laying) Sailed NORTHERN PRIDE to comply with C. in C. W.A. 1723A/8. (N.O.I.C. Londonderry, 0325A/9).

Denmark Strait Patrol. Intend to sail at 2145 today to relieve NORFOLK on patrol "White". HECLA inform S.O. Present U.S. Navy. (BERWICK, 0835N/9 to A.C.I.C.) Intend sailing ANEMONE and ABELIA on 10/1 to relieve BELLWORT and SWEETBRIAR so as to pass Straumness at 0700/11. Request patrol position and latest ice information from BELLWORT. In absence of other orders BELLWORT and SWEETBRIAR will return to Hvalfiord on relief. (ANEMONE, 1130A/9).

Channel Patrol. 3 A/S trawlers patrolling between St. Helens and Beachy Head. (C. in C. Portsmouth, 1507A/9).

War Diary.

9.1.1942.
Friday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operations - Cont d.

SEAWOLF
Patrol.

If your Patrol Area is compromised you are to withdraw to seaward at once. Proceed to patrol off Hustad Viken and Bjornsund 63° N., 6° 45' E. (F.O.S.1836A/9 to SEAWOLF). Although I have given SEAWOLF instructions in my 1836A/9 intend you should retain operational control until she leaves Vest Fiord. (F.O.S. 1838A/9 to S.B.N.O. North Russia).

Rosyth
Area.

One A/P trawler patrolling between 29 and 32 buoy tonight. (C. in C. Rosyth, 1916/9).

Off Hebrides.
A/S Patrol.

3 M.Ls. to be sailed to carry out A/S patrol to the prudent limit of endurance within the radius of 20 miles of 59° 30' N., 9° 30' W., arriving on patrol at daylight 11th. 3 further M.Ls. are to be sailed as requisite as reliefs. Until completion of this operation local convoy escort duties must be maintained as far as possible by A/P trawlers only. S.O. of patrol has discretion to return to base if weather is unsuitable. (C. in C. W.A., 1918A/9 to N.O.I.C. Stornoway).

British Air Activity.

Attack on
S/Ms off
Gibraltar.

Your 1927A/8 concur.
(H.Q.C.C., 0022/9 to Admty).

Bombing
operations.

On day 8/1 no operations took place. On night 8/9, 116 A/C bombed the Battle Cruisers and Docks at Brest, and 10 A/C bombed Cherbourg. (H.Q., B.C., 1800/9).

Enemy Air Activity.

HOLYROOD,
ALSATIAN,
REPORTO,
EDIAN
(Trawlers)
attacked on
8/1.

My 1729A/8. Trawlers HOLYROOD, ALSATIAN, REPORTO, EDIAN, Scrabster to Faeroes, were attacked by one twin engined German A/C at 1115/8 20 miles South East of Nolso. No damage or casualties to our ships but one A/C came out dive too late and crashed into sea. No survivors, but REPORTO has landed at Thorshavn Rubber Dinghy with its portable wireless set which will be despatched in NORTHERN FOAM to Kirkwall tomorrow. (N.O.I.C. Faeroes, 1225A/9).

War Diary.

9.1.1942.
Friday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Mining.

Operation QO. Your 2306A/8. Approved. Reference 9th M.S.Fs. programme, second lap should not be done if Flotilla is being shadowed or enemy aircraft are active. Expect air escort from 0930. (C.in C. Nore, 0030A/9 to M/S 9).
Weather unsuitable for sweeping. Both Flotillas returning to harbour. E.T.A. Cork 1615. (S.O. M/S 9., 1424A/9).
In view of weather operation Q.O. will not take place tomorrow. (C. in C. Nore, 1756A/9).
Bad weather prevented sweeping today and Dans at position A were not sighted. It will be necessary to run taut wire before continuing operation.
3. Tidal conditions preclude entering Q.Z.X.403 before B/1 at earliest unless conditions of safe tide sweeping are largely disregarded. Propose remaining in harbour till 13/1. (M/S 9., 2143A/9).

Thames Estuary. One Magnetic Mine detonated by sweepers at 2030/8. Details. (Capt. M/S Sheerness, 1114/9).

VIMIERA sunk. At 1415/9 VIMIERA exploded a Mine close to East Spile Buoy. (Commodore Sheerness, 2252A/9).

ROTHESAY damaged. When returning to harbour today at 1510 in 51° 49' 18" N., 1° 42' 29" E., ROTHESAY detonated acoustic mine 30 to 40 yards on starboard bow. Hull apparently undamaged, no major leaking, but various equipment on board smashed including gyro completely. Lighting and other gear broken, 3 inch gun unseated. Ship can steam but not considered fit for operation yet. (S.O. 13th M/S F., 1615/9).

Operation S.N.15 A. Completed. (R.A.M., 1625A/9).

Enemy Intelligence.

Unknown Ship. Following has been read. One unknown, bearing 273°, 2 miles, steering 300° (A/C D/ Sqdn. 1213/9 to Port II C/sign). P.C.S. of enemy is 50° N., 8° W., 300°, 20 knots. (A/C D/ Sqdn. 1220/9).

Brest. Photographic R/C Brest 1100/9 shows GNEISENAU and SCHARNHORST probably in numbers 8 and 9 docks, PRINCE EUGEN in dock camouflage mostly removed. Nothing at T/B station. (D.D.I.C., 1544A/9)

Norwegian Coastal Convoys. Latest information as to routes. (F.O.S. 1836A/9 to SEAWOLF) See Lion Copy.

205A

SECRET

MESSAGE

1836A/9 January.

IN

From. F.O.S.

Date. 9.1.42.

Recd. 1851

P/L BY T/P.

Addressed SEAWOLF. Repeated. S.B.N.O. North Russia Admiralty.
C. in C. Home Fleet. A.C.O.S. H.Q.C.C.

IMPORTANT

~~71~~ Following is latest information from recent operations in Lofoten Area.

Northbound Convoys in Vest Fjord usually take following routes from Folla 67 degrees 38 mints. North 14 degrees 50 mins East due West thence leaving Brennsund 67 degrees 38.6 mins. 14 degrees 28.5 mins. Utgrunnsflesa 67 degrees 41 mins. 14 degrees 20 mins. and Maeloy Skarholme 67 degrees 46.3 mins. 14 degrees 24.5 mins. close to starboard. Thence convoys to Narvik proceed those under 21 ft. draught through leads emergin through Okssundet those over 21 ft. draught keep to vicinity of hundred fathom line. Convoys to Tromso proceed from Maeloy Skarholme to a point midway between Skraeven 68 degrees 09 mine 14 degrees 39 mins. and Moholmen 68 degrees 09.5 mins 14 degree 24.5 mins thence Store Molla Island to port and onwards through Raftsund.

(2) Moderate A/S and air activity may be expected, and recent experience confirms that A/S conditions are good.

(3) If your patrol Area is compromised you are to

(A) withdraw to seaward at once

(B) Signal brief report when well clear.

(C) Proceed to patrol in vicinity of Husted Viken and Bjornsund 63 degrees North 6 degrees 45 mins. East.

1836A/9

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

1st Lord.

1st S.L.

4th S.L.

V.C.N.S.

A.C.N.S. (H)

A.C.N.S. (T)

A.C.N.S. (W)

Naval Sec.

N.A. 1st S.L.

Captain Pim Admiralty House.

Ops. (3)

O.D. (5)

D.N.I. (4)

D.T.D. (4)

L.T.D. (M)

D.T.L. (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)

A.E. (3)

War Diary.

9.1.1942.
Friday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Technical.

Depth-charge setting.

C.A.F.O. 1018/40 Para. 3. (E) Depth charges should always be set to 50 feet when attempting to ram a U-boat for use in case of missing it or to complete its destruction.
(C. in C. W.A., 1907A/9 to W.A.G.M.)

Navigational.

Ice in Denmark Straits.

2 ice R/Cs. carried out 8/1. Details.
(A.C.I.C., 0240N/9).

Arbroath Danger Areas.

Two A.A. firing ranges have been established near Arbroath (areas)
(R.A. N.A.S., 1232A/9).

Casualties & Defects.

MONTGOMERY.

Have developed leak in condenser. Endeavouring to effect repairs and hope to rejoin convoy shortly. My position is 067° 25 miles from position L. (MONTGOMERY, 0525A/9).
My 0525A/9. Rejoining now. (MONTGOMERY, 0700A/9).

HALCYON.

In view of R.A. (D) H.F., 1715/8 HALCYON is being sailed in pursuit of P.Q.8. M.S.6 was of opinion that position would deteriorate in Russian Waters without repair facilities being available. Speed on voyage to Iceland was greater and weather worse than on Anklet, and stern gland had to be repacked. (A.C.I.C., 1019N/9 to C. in C. H.F.)

My 1019 HALCYON has been delayed owing to damage sustained by ship dragging on to Reykjavik breakwater. Hope that repairs will be effected by morning/11 and the ship will then be sailing. (A.C.I.C., 2154A/9 to C. in C. H.F.)

EASTWOOD,
ARCADIA.

Following received. From EAGLESCLIFF HALL. Following received at 1324 G.M.T. from VCLD begins S O S SS. EASTWOOD and Tug ARCADIA disabled 8 miles South from Skegness. Require immediate assistance.
(C. in C. Rosyth, 1325G.M.T./9).
Departure at 1635 Tug SCOTSMAN to assist EASTWOOD and ARCADIA. (F.O. Humber, 1710A/9).

/LEAMINGTON...

War Diary.

9.1.1942.
Friday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Casualties & Defects. - Contd.

LEAMINGTON. LEAMINGTON did not sail with O.N.55 owing to dynamo defect. (Capt. D. Londonderry 1811A/9).

GASTON RIVIERE. (L.L/S.A. Sweeper) Has arrived Ardrossan with engine trouble, several hull defects and defective fresh water tank. Time required approx. 6 days. (F.O.I.C. Glasgow, 1902/9).

LORD NUFFIELD. Owing to defects LORD NUFFIELD will not have completed working up if sailed with O.G.78. If desired working up can be completed and ship sailed with O.G.79 on 25/1. (C. in C. W.A., 2347A/9).

Shipping & Convoys.

P.Q.7 B. Your 2122C/8. Not met. Leaving position Y 0300C/10. E.T.A. M.Z. 1200C/10. Request group A Radio Beacons at 2000C/9 and 0200C/10 both for 30 minutes. (CUMBERLAND, 0907A/9). Cancel my 0907A/9th not met. Destroyer(s) leave(s) position Y 0300C/10 to fuel. E.T.A. position M.Z. 1200C/10. Request group (?V) Radio Beacon at 2000C/9 and 0200C/10 both for 30 minutes. CUMBERLAND remaining in vicinity position Y. (CUMBERLAND, 1600A/9).

H.X.166. Average speed 8.47 knots. EMPIRE FOAM joined S.C.61. BRITISH FAITH, ALGONQUIN, and CARDITA never joined convoy, latter torpedoed and sank on 3/1. Other ships arrived. (D.T.D., 0927Z/9 to Opnav).

WAZIRISTAN, COLDHARBOR My 1604C/6th SHARPSHOOTER arrived Murmansk. WAZIRISTAN and COLDHARBOR not met now 96 hours overdue. Admiralty pass to Admiral Miles. (S.B.N.O. North Russia, 1039A/9 to Admty).

See also next page

/Ferry...

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Friday.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping & Convoys. - Contd.

x DARINCE
p. 68

Ferry steamers
x DARINCE,
DARICA,
for Turkey.

Admiralty 2006/3 and my 1200/5. DARINCE now docking 15/1 for survey. Both ships expected ready to sail 18/1. (N.C.S.O. Clyde, 1225/9).

S.C.62. Failed to rejoin convoy S.C.62. Present position 61° 37' N., 23° W., proceeding to Iceland as per sailing orders. E.T.A. 0900Z/10. (CHICOUTIMI, 1400Z/9).

WAZIRISTAN,
COLDHARBOR.
See previous page -

Request following may be broadcast to WAZIRISTAN, COLDHARBOR. Radio Beacon Gorodetski/Kanin Nosk in operation at each hour and half hour for 5 minutes from 1800C to 0600C. Gorodetski light each hour and half hour for 5 minutes 1800C to 0600C. Russians also endeavouring to contact ships on commercial wave 500 kc/s. (S.B.N.O. Archangel, 1535/9 to Admty). Your 1535/9. Information re radio beacons has not been passed as neither ship holds secure tables. (D.T.D., 2133A/9 to S.B.N.O. Archangel).

O.S.17
RICHMOND HILL,
PENTRIDGE
HILL.

RICHMOND HILL and PENTRIDGE HILL loading at Swansea and Cardiff respectively are expected to be ready to sail in O.S.17. Both ships have important military stores for Persian Gulf. (D.T.D., 1805A/9).

P.Q. Convoys. Best flying hours are now about noon. Recommend that P.Q. Convoys should aim to reach M.Z. approx. 4 hours before daylight observing that Teribes light (is to?) be exhibited. Convoy would then reach entrance to Kola Inlet at daylight when A.A. protection is afforded and Russian fighter protection more certain P.Q.7 and P.Q.8 have been routed to arrive M.Z. at 1200C. (S.B.N.O. North Russia, 1846A/9 to C. in C. H.F.)

D.S.20
BATORY.

S.S. BATORY allocated for Convoy D.S.20 leaving Clyde 16/1. (D.O.D. (H.), 1938A/9 and 1748A/12.)

/Reorganisation...

War Diary.9.1.1942.
Friday.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping and Convoys - Contd.Reorgani-
sation of
N. Atlantic
convoy
escorts.

Navy Dept. has shown us Spenavo's 1146/7 concerning reorganisation of North Atlantic Convoy escorts.

2. It appears that at conference in Admty. the following were considered practicable - (A) corvettes are able to make trans-Atlantic voyage with H.X. or S.C. Convoys. (B) Mixed U.S.

British Groups are acceptable but very desirable to keep present formed groups together as far as possible. (C) Entire Western Approaches Corvette force of 52 might be allocated to H.X., S.C. and O.N. Convoys.

3. Request your comments on the following suggestions, (a) 14 Groups to be formed of two long-leg destroyers and seven corvettes each. (b) H.X. or S.C. Convoys leave Halifax with long-leg destroyers and R/V in about 45° W., with corvettes of same groups from St. Johns. Complete group proceeds to Londonderry by Southerly route. (C) Long-leg destroyers to be reinforced on section between Halifax and 45° W., by two A.M. three short-leg destroyers which would return to Halifax or Newfoundland after corvettes join. (d) Groups of Short-leg destroyers to be ready at Newfoundland and Londonderry to reinforce escorts of convoys passing through area believed on information to be dangerous. (e) Procedure reversed for O.N. convoys except reinforcement by short-leg destroyers West of 45° W., not necessary when convoys can be dispersed. (f) Two Groups of five or six short-leg destroyers each to be allocated to convoys between United States and Iceland (C).

4. Advantages of this scheme appear to be - (a) only one junction point. (b) C.O. of escort can attend conference and remain with convoy throughout passage. (c) shortest trans-Atlantic passage for corvettes (d) reinforcing only those convoys believed to be threatened more economical in employment of short-leg destroyers and increases chance of destroying U-boats. (e) Although existing groups will be partly broken up new groups of long-leg destroyers and corvettes can be formed which it should be possible to keep together.

5. The above scheme raises the question of operational command which at present changes in mid-ocean. What would be Admiralty's views about this.

6. If scheme were accepted, it might be agreed that some of the short-leg destroyers held ready for reinforcement of convoy escorts might be detached for other urgent duty by arrangement.

(B.A.D. Washington 2001R/9 to Admty).

It has now been ascertained that Spenavo's 1146/7 mentioned in B.A.D. Washington's message T.O.O. 2001/9 did not include Admiralty in the address.

N.T.H.W.D.

SOMMERSTAD.

Your 1430/9. RISKATO will be off Sunderland at 1030 tomorrow.
(F.O.I.C. Tyne, 2008/9 to N.O.I.C. Sunderland).

War Diary.9.1.1942.
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic.French
Shipping.Passing 8/1. Eastward MEDIE II (HITA?), CHEF
MECANICIEN, ARMAND-BLANC, ARIZONA, all full.
(V.A.C.N.A., 0925A/9 to Admiralty for M.E.W.)VIDETTE,
WISHART.T F X 25 para. 7. On completion of exercise
VIDETTE to assume U Patrol. WISHART to return to
Harbour and should be duty destroyer until noon/10.
After arrival Cape Trafalgar, Patrol should be
manned by CROOME today Friday. (Capt. D.13,
0947/9 to WISHART, VIDETTE).

COLTSFOOT.

Arrived Ponta Delgada 1130 G.M.T./9.
(N.C.S.O., Ponta Delgada, 1001/9 to S.O.I. Gib.)French
Shipping,
20/12.Following is a repetition of my 1725A/20.
Gibraltar 0900 light cruiser LE FANTASQUE
S.S.CAP BLANC full deck cargo. Mica Mediateo.
1033 survey vessel ESTAFETTE, S.S. CAPITAINE LUIG!
full deck cargo motor transport, MENHR BRAZ laden,
VILLE D'ORAN, light trawler, CAPITAINE ARMAND, westbound. T.O.O.
1725A/20. (S.O.I., Gib., 1003A/9, to Admty. etc.)Recall of
Sunderlands
and Hudsons.My 1246A/8. Para. 2. This aircraft now due for
major inspection. (ii) A.O.C. has now received
orders to send all Hudsons to U.K. This will leave
Gibraltar without any operational aircraft.
(F.O.C.N.A., 1014A/9 to Admty.)My Ops. 418/8/1. Maintenance personnel of 233 Sqn. are not to
return until further notice. (H.Q.C.C., 1105A/9 to R.A.F. Gib.)My Ops. 418/8/1. Aircraft and flying crews of 233 Sqn. are not
to move until three Catalinas from 19 Group arrive Gibraltar to
re-inforce 202 Squadron. (H.Q.C.C., 1300A/9 to R.A.F., Gib.)Your 1246A/8. Sunderlands, which were loaned to replace
4 Catalinas sent to Far East, are being replaced by 3 Catalinas
leaving U.K. within next four days.2. You should then have 8 Catalinas; the remaining 4 will leave
as soon as they are available, the first within the next 10 days.3. In view of reduction of your local U/boat threat it is also
intended to remove the ten Hudsons for urgent operational work in
U.K., as the 3 Catalinas arrive. Ground staff will remain so that
Hudson Sqn. can be sent out immediately should situation demand.4. Your requirements are fully realised, but situation in Far
East necessitates a reduction in previous allocations of our very
limited resources. (A.C.N.S.(F), 1329A/9 to F.O.C.N.A.)Your 1250A/8. Admty. had agreed to removal of 3 Sunderlands in
expectation that 3 Catalinas would arrive before they left.

2. Much regret you were not previously informed of this move.

3. Not questioned that operational control is vested in you of
such aircraft as Admty. and A.O.C. in C., C.C., agree to allocate
to Gibraltar. (A.C.N.S.(F). 1358A/9 to F.O.C.N.A.)F.O.C.N.A. 1246A/8. Situation at Brest is of such importance that
reinforcement of long range aircraft in 19 Group essential.Situation at Gibraltar quiet. Temporary reduction of force at
Gibraltar therefore appears justified. Following Catalinas leaving
for Gibraltar on dates given; 1 9th, 1 10th, 1 11th, 2 promised 12th

War Diary.9.1.1942.
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic.

Recall of Sunderlands and Hudsons. (contd.) 2 promised 19th. Hudsons will not leave until first 3 Catalinas arrive. In view of steady drain on Coastal Command for reinforcements to Far East and Middle East unlikely there will be more than 9 operational Catalinas at Gibraltar until major overhauls can be undertaken there. This dependent on building programme Gibraltar which is Naval responsibility. (H.Q.C.C., 1645/9, to Admty.)

A/S Sweeps by F/B's.

Your 1614A/7. Para. 2 H.Q.C.C. will pass relevant bombing restrictions to 200 group R.A.F. B.R's in force in N. Atlantic area should be repeated to H.Q.C.C., in addition to Admty. Para. 3. approved. (D.O.D. (H) 1044A/9, to F.O.C.N.A.)

PONTET CANET, ? Arrived. (Oporto, 1100/9 to M. of W.T.)
French.

P.38. Onward route through position J. 038° N. 011° W. K. 036° 40' 009° 10', L. 036° 30' 007° 00' to R/V escort in M. 350^b Spartel 5 at 0830A/14. If unable to comply within 2 hours report when past position J. Dive by day until south of 042° N. T.B.R. arranged. (F.O.C.N.A., 1138A/9 to P.38).

Rating of good record who intentionally missed S/M P.38 on sailing states discontentment in crew. All available evidence points to contrary but consider you should know. (F.O.S., 1902A/9 to Capts. (S) 8 and 10).

S.B.R's. Ops./435 9/1. Serial number G.1. My Ops./430/9/1 (N.T. in W.D.) para. 4B, cancel forthwith S.B.R. in area 54, W. of 06° 30'. Para. 4C, cancel at 0001/10 S.B.R. in area 76, N. of 45°. Institute S.B.R. in area 51, E. of 06° from 2000/10 to 0800/11. (H.Q.C.C., 1325/9 to Gib.)

CARDAK,
SILIVRI.

My 1032/9. (Arrival BDV BARFORD, BARCLOSE, BARFOAM, N.T. in W.D.) S.O. reports CARDAK dropped behind dusk 1/1 engine trouble. (?Reported) by Horta ship arrived there 8th. SILIVRI probably did not receive signal to disconnect for Gibraltar at 0600/2 and is probably on passage to Horta. Bad weather experienced throughout voyage. (F.O.C.N.A., 1614A/9 to Admty.)

WELSHMAN.

E.T.A. 0300A/10. (WELSHMAN, 1800A/9 to F.O.C.N.A.)
Arrived. (F.O.C.N.A., 0300A/10 to Admty.)

War Diary.9.1.1942.
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic.

Operation 'Strong.' ASTURIAS, BIRMINGHAM. (1) Amend para. 6 as far as Morro Sudlight to read: ASTURIAS is to proceed from Port William to position (a) 054° S. 060° W. She is (corrupt group) patrol area "X P" bound by 052° 40' and 054° 00' S. and 060° 00' and 065° 00' W. until necessary to leave so as to enter Le Maire Straits on afternoon 12/1, and to R/V with BIRMINGHAM at 1800Z/12.
2. Amend last sentence of para. 7 to read "when out of sight of land, is to return to patrol area XP with object given in para.5".
3. ASTURIAS acknowledge. (R.A.S.A.D., 0329Z/9 to ASTURIAS).
Departure 2030Z/9th R.A. S.A.D. in BIRMINGHAM on patrol, 0805Z/9 ASTURIAS on patrol.
(N.O.I.C. Falkland Islands, (Port Stanley). 0819Z/9 to Admty.)

Transports in S.L. Convoys. Your 1650A/7. Concur and these ships have normally been routed independently. In certain cases, however, e.g. MOOLTAN, speed of returning transports has been insufficient to enable them to be sailed in accordance with Sec. 1. para. 6 of A.M. (ten groups missing) sailed in S.L. convoys. MOOLTAN's declared speed of voyage was 14.5 knots. ALMANZORA due Freetown 16/1 will be well over permitted numbers for independent sailing. No ocean escort available unless (a) an AMC is taken off patrol, or (b) DAUNTLESS is held for about 7 days, but endurance of DAUNTLESS would necessitate her fuelling Azores on passage or routeing via Gibraltar. Should ship be sailed in S.L. convoy and detached after passing Azores to proceed independently.
(C. in C. S.A., 1241Z/9 to Admty.) Reply: 1755A/10.

CAMBRIA. CAMBRIA is expected back at Freetown on completion of Accra Lagos cable repair about 13/1. Intend she shall then repair Freetown-Bathurst cable which has just been interrupted at entrance of Freetown Harbour.
2. As in certain eventualities the Bathurst Bussau cable now interrupted would be very useful intend CAMBRIA then to repair this before sailing for South America about 20/1. (Ref. your 1736/30). (C. in C. S.A., 1359Z/9 to Admty.)

A/C over Cape Verde. Following is a repetition of my 1546/9. (Begins). My 1148/8. Island flown over would appear to be St. Vincent and plane now identified by local military authorities German built, probably on observation and photographic service. Another plane with Navigation lights flew once round Island at 2130 G.M.T. 7/1. Both planes came from N.E.
2. B.C. St. Vincent, reports that Governor of C.V. Islands has notified Air France to surrender their complete establishment in St. Jago Island by 16/1. Italian Air lines in Sal Island are also affected but date will be communicated later.
(S.O.I. Freetown, 1549Z/9, to Admty.)

Routeing of U.S. Shipping. Your 2015Z/8. No objection. General question is under discussion with U.S. Authorities.
(D.T.D. 1858A/9 to B.C. Buenos Aires).

/M.L's ...

War Diary.

9.1.1942.
Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic. - contd.

M.L's needed C. in C. East Indies' 0422Z/2/1. Boats allocated at Trincomalee. Mombasa owing to terms of service requiring them to remain on African coast. 2. In view of urgency of requirements at Trincomalee, N.O.I.C. Simonstown is requested to report whether conditions can be amended to permit service anywhere on E.I. Station.
(A.C.N.S.(F) 1909A/9 to N.O.I.C. Simonstown).

Minesweepers. Your 0852/19 (N.T. in W.D.) Para. 1. Concur. Para. 2. As more A/S vessels are badly needed the conversion of these 3 further vessels to L.L. cannot be concurred in. Para. 3. This proposal should now be dropped. Para. 4. 6 Motor Minesweepers (Nos. 99-104) now building in Canada are proceeding to Mediterranean early this year. Admty. would be willing to turn these over to the S.D.F. provided that, if no mining threat has developed in S.African ports, they are employed in Mediterranean. Para. 5. Concur that Admty. appreciation does not assist in increasing S.D.G. but present world-wide shortage of small vessels does not justify further allocation to S.D.G. Para. 6. Your weakness in A/S and M/S resources is fully appreciated. We have insufficient vessels to meet all our requirements and at present we are unable to strengthen our forces in areas where the threat is potential at the expense of areas where the threat is actual.
(A.C.N.S.(F) 2143A/9 to F.O.I.C. Simonstown).

BRILLIANT (?E.T.A.) Bathurst for (corrupt group) 1400Z/10.
O.S.15. Intend to rejoin convoy O.S.15 which is 3 hours late at daylight/11.
(BRILLIANT, 2158Z/9 to C. in C. S.A.)

Mediterranean.

Raiding Craft Carriers. Your 1947/5. Only one Raiding Craft Carrier has sufficient endurance to make passage. She cannot be spared at present and in any case Atlantic weather conditions are unfavourable. Your proposal will be borne in mind.
(A.C.N.S.(F) 0037A/9 to C. in C. Med.)

Battleship attacked by UNIQUE.

At 1530B/5 in 040° 07' 017° 07' fired 4 torpedoes at long range at 1 battleship escorted by 1 cruiser and 5 destroyers approaching Taranto. 1 very heavy explosion after 9000 yards run range indicated possible hit on battleship. My position 038° 00' 012° 50'. Weather report.
(UNIQUE, 0201B/9 to V.A. Malta), (Capt. S.10, 1202B/9 to 30KOL).

/LAMORICIERE ...

War Diary.9.1.1942.
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean. - contd.

LAMORICIERE (French) distress. No. 0069 LAMORICIERE in distress at 0250 hours at about 27 miles 43° from Caballeria light. Signal your position 0450/9/1. Admiral South. (Tug (Algiers Admiralty), 0542/9 to ? F.N.S.E.)

Movements. Arrival 8/1 GRIFFIN, HASTY, CUMBRAE. Departure 8/1 TORBAY, COCKER, BULLFINCH. Arrival 9/1 BRECONSHIRE, HEARTSEASE, EURYALUS, FOXHOUND, KINGSTON, DIDO, GURKHA, HAVOCK, THUNDERBOLT, KIPLING. Departure 9/1. ARROW, HERO, HEYTHROP, PEONY, M.L.1023. (S.O.I. Alexandria, 1050B/9 to Admty. C. in C. Med. V.A.Malta).

Air Report Cyrenaica. Aerodromes between Benghazi and Derna have been waterlogged but are improving. Until aerodrome Benghazi area becomes serviceable and sector control with R.D.F. cover is established there, standing fighter patrols based Msus are necessary for defence of port. Day 8/1, Maryland Squadron despatched to attack Marble Arch landing ground found no aircraft there and bombed coastal vessel and small stores dumps in bay 15 miles S.E. Ras Aali, hitting latter. (H.Q. R.A.F., M.E. 1209/9).

U/B sunk. U.577 M 1, destroyed sub, position 32.22 N., 26.54 E. (Aircraft of No.230 Sqdn. Duty X. (Middle East Command), 1525/9 to 201 Group H.Q. W.D. Note. - U/B destroyed by Sunderland. See C. in C. Med., 1947B/9. X.130

UPHOLDER, UPRIGHT, Sinking of AMIRAGLIO SAINT BON. UPHOLDER reports at 2315/3 sighted 2 ships in 38.14 13.22 attacked and fired 3 torpedoes at 4000 ton Westbound laden M/V on broad track, missed. (ii) At 0535/4 sighted unescorted Westbound M/V later proved by distress signal to be SIRIO 5300 tons in 38.07 14.00. Whilst blowing up torpedo tube hot run occurred and 2 torpedoes were fired to clear this. At 0612 remaining 2 torpedoes fired by moonlight submerged, securing one hit amidships, enemy settled considerable on even keel, gun action at 0645 frustrated by firing from merchant ship who was last seen in tow 10 miles from Palermo. UPHOLDER loaded last torpedo. (iii) At 0534/5 in 38.21 15.21 sighted U-Boat SAINT BON. Enemy sighted UPHOLDER first and approached with forward gun close up zigzagging continuously. UPHOLDER dived and fired at 0539, torpedo hit amidships range 800 yards. (iv) Only 3 survivors seen were rescued, comprising Torpedo Officer, Petty Officer and Torpedo man injured slightly. Prisoners segregated, rating talkative but information unimportant due to ignorance. Four other opportunities for attack occurred in 3 days. (v) UPRIGHT report blank, returned due to leak developing between No.3 main ballast and No. 1 battery tank. (Capt. S.10, 1530B/9, to Capt. S.1).

/Troop ...

War Diary.9.1.1942.
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean. - contd.

Troop Movements. Proposals for movement from M.E. to Far East of personnel of Armoured Brigade and 2 Australian Divisions plus Corps H.Q. and corps troops, total about 60,000. (D.S.T. 1542A/9 to P.S.T.O's Egypt, Simonstown and India). See Lion Copy.

Libya. Cositrep, 201. 3. Frontier Area. 8/1 our patrols continued harassing Halfaya and R.N. carried out bombardment.

4. Air. 8/1. Marylands bombed stores dumps and small coastal vessel in bay 15 miles east Ras Aali, hitting former.

5. Beaufighters damaged ship about 4,000 tons. (W.D. Note, amended to 300 tons, see 2145/9).*

(C. in C. M.E., 1635/9). *Beurat El Hsun setting is on fire.

COETLOGON (French) DERNA (Italian). Departure 8th COETLOGON - Sete, DERNA Genoa. (Barcelona, 1713/9, to Admty.)

Malta Air Report. Enemy activity. 8th Raid. 0730 hours see my I.14, 4 more civilians dead, 2 injured. 1 injured has also since died. 1610 hours 4 bombers, bombs sea. Night 8/9 nil. 9/1 0742 hours raiders did not cross coast. (H.Q. R.A.F. Malta, 1730/9.

T.A.10. Intend sailing T A 10 comprising TONELINE, ST.MONANCE escorted by SOUTHWOLD, AVON VALE, HYACINTH 1530/10 through S, then Z 2000/10. J.0430/11, Y. 1100, A. 2200, E.T.A. 1830/12. S. of A. 7 knots. Fighter protection required p.m./10, daylight hours 11th and 12th. Codeword "Empire." (S.O. Force I, Tobruk, 1751B/9 to R.A.Alexandria, 201 Group). My 1751/9. ST. MONANCE sailing Mersa Matruh with ROC. (not in file) (S.O. Force I, Tobruk, 2132B/9 to R.A. Alexandria),

ROBERTS, EREBUS. My 1810/6/10. These two Monitors will shortly reach Cape whence consideration has been given to diverting them for defence of Indian Ocean bases. Request whether you anticipate finding useful employment for them in Mediterranean. (D.O.D. (F) 1812A/9 to C. in C. Med.)

Convoy 'Minor'. Position 'Minor' at 1800B/9 was 033° 022° 10'. S. of A. 6½ knots. E.T.A. end of Benghazi Searched Channel 1500B/10. (KIMBERLEY, 1914B/9 to N.O.I.C. Benghazi) Not acceptable, see Benghazi 0859B/10.

Situation report 182. GLENGYLE has arrived Malta and BRECONSHIRE Alexandria without incident on passage. No air attacks on either force. 2. Western Desert. Clearance of Benghazi harbour /held ...

215A

MOST SECRET

MOST SECRET.

MESSAGE.

OUT.

1542A/9th January.

To: P.S.T.O. Egypt,
Repeated: C. in C. Mediterranean. Date: 9.1.42.
C. in C. East Indies.
P.S.T.O. India.
P.S.T.O. Simonstown.
C. in C. Eastern Fleet.
C. in C. Middle East.
C. in C. Far East.
C. in C. India.
F.O.R.S.
F.O. Malaya.
F.O.C.R.I.N.
Australian Commonwealth
Naval Board.

*Troopships from Middle East to
Far East.*

NAVAL CYPHER (D).

From: Director of Sea Transport.

IMPORTANT TO P.S.T.O.s Egypt, Simonstown and India.

Troopships available for movement from Middle East to Far East of Personnel of Armoured Brigade and Two Australian Divisions plus Corps H.Q. and Corps Troops totalling about 60,000 in all appear to be as follows.

2. FIRST FLIGHT.

(a) ORCADES Capacity 3,400 Ex W.S.14. Ready about 30.1.

(b) ILE DE FRANCE and MAURENTANIA total capacity about 8,100 ready about 27.1.

(c) ASCANIUS ex B.A.12. Ready about 16.1.
SALWEEN and BURMA total capacity 4,900 ex East Coast movements ready late January.

3. Proposed that Ships in (b) should tranship to smaller ships to be nominated by P.S.T.O. India. Transhipment Port will be either Bombay or Colombo as desired by C. in C., East Indies.

4. P.S.T.O. Egypt should arrange for ships in (C) to be available.

5. SECOND FLIGHT.

(a) FELIX ROUSSEL, JOHAN DE WITT, KOSCIUSZKO and one other Ship ex B.A.14. ready about 10.2. Capacity about 6,000.

(b) ~~NEELW~~ capacity 4,000 ready Suez early February.

MOST SECRET

[Measures to increase capacity - see p. 236A]

2.

(c) ARONDA ELISABETHVILLE LLANDAFF CASTLE PULASKI CHANTILLY total capacity about 6300. Can be ready Suez early February.

(d) STRATHALLAN DURBAN CASTLE DUCHESS OF ATHOLL ex W.S.14 total capacity about 8,000. Can be ready Suez about 10.2.

6. Remarks in paragraph 3. Will apply to NIEUW AMSTERDAM.

7. Ships in paragraph 5 (e) except ARONDA were presumably being ordered to India by P.S.T.O. Simonstown in accordance with my 0104/28 paragraph 4. Not to all addressees. They should now be sent to Suez together with ARONDA and anticipated dates of arrival notified to P.S.T.O. Egypt. If not included in W.S.14 A they should conform to Admiralty regulations for unescorted sailings.

8. P.S.T.O. India should instruct ships in paragraph 5 (d) to proceed to Suez as soon as possible after disembarkation at Bombay from W.S.14.

9. Third Flight.

(a) Ships of paragraph 2 (b) should return to Suez where they should be available again late February. Capacity 8,100.

(b) Balance of about 11,000 should be provided by (i) using any ships arriving Suez in B.A. Convoys in second half of February (ii) ships available ex W.S.15 at beginning of March.

10. From shipping point of view approximate dates of sailing convoys from Suez would be 1st February 15th February and 4th March. War Office consider it impossible to over-estimate operational urgency of these moves and all interference with moves from south and east Africa will have to be accepted. Arrangement of flights into Convoys should be proposed by P.S.T.O. Egypt to Commanders-in-Chief Mediterranean East Indies and Eastern Fleet.

11. Arrangements for the movement of 8,200 vehicles of the above formations are being dealt with separately. Those M.T. Ships whose speeds and dates of availability are suitable should be included in these convoys.

12. P.S.T.Os. India and Egypt should comment on above proposals. Reference paragraph 2(c) if speed of BURMA and SALWEEN is unacceptable suggest HIGHLAND MONARCH be used to transshipment port but essential that she be released as early as possible.

13. Agreed.

1542A/9.

for D. of S.T. M.W.T. Ext. 2187.

ER.	1st Lord	D.D.C.D. (H)	
	1st S.L.	D.N.I. (4)	D.T.D. (M) Duty Captain
	V.C.N.S.	D.D.I.C.	E.P.S.
	A.C.N.S. (F)	D. of P. (3)	N.I.D. (10)
	N.A. 1st S.L.	D. of S.T.	I.P. (2)
	D.O.D. (F)	D.T.D. (2)	W.D.
			Hd. of M.

War Diary.9.1.1942.
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean.

Situation held up by rough weather but now proceeding. First report 182. convoy has commenced unloading. Other Western (contd.) Desert convoys moving normally. Derna in use as supply port. M.L. spotting for army artillery fire Halfaya, APHIS bombarding same area.

3. Sunderland A/C reports sinking U Boat in 32.22 N. 26.54 E. ^{U.S.T.} at 1525/9. Other sightings of U Boats continue to be reported along convoy route.

4. Submarines. PROTEUS sank one of two 8,000 ton transports steering S.E. with troops on board at 0800/5 and torpedoed 4000 ton transport which probably sank at 0900/30, both off ^{Citta di Palermo} Cephalonia. UNIQUE reports very heavy explosion possibly from battleship when force of one battleship, one cruiser, five destroyers making for Taranto was attacked at 1530/5 in 40.07 N. 17.07 E.

Malta. Aircraft activity hampered by heavy rain and bombing. Two merchant ships torpedoed off Kuriat, see H.Q. Malta 1710/7, near miss damage to P.31 in dock, repairs estimated three to four weeks. (C. in C. Med., 1947B/9 to Admty.)

Petrol, Ref. Cositrep 98, para. 3. Petrol position Tobruk area improved and increased Wellington effort possible. Increased demands on Tobruk unavoidable and likely to continue temporarily owing to unserviceability forward aerodromes Benina area through water-logging.

3. Ref. Cositrep 201 para. 5. Ship damaged by Beaufighters at Buerat El Hsun was 300 tons. (C. in C. ME., 2145/9).

Boats for Your 1058B/7. Boats for harbour service immediately. Hastener was cabled U.S.A. 5/1. Service. (D.S.V.P. 2229A/9 to C. in C. Med.)

War Diary.9.1.1942.
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies.

- Burma Report. Rangoon undisturbed except for alarms. Night raid in vicinity of Mingaladon but quite harmless. No military damage Moulmein though labour is reported as having vamoosed. Some damage to Maptaban Station and ferry, not serious.
2. Apparently our bomber raid on Bangkok was very successful. Fires were seen for 70 miles and air R/C today reports smoke pall still persists.
4. Hutton is (? concerned) about Mergui (?and) Tavoy (?especially former which he thinks may conceivably have to be temporarily ceded if Japanese are allowed to collect enough craft to ooze up to it by sea.
(Govr. Burma, 0120/9 to S. of S. for Burma.)
- B.M.11 American ships WEST POINT and WAKEFIELD lent for onward transport portion 18 Div. to Malaya. Am despatching following in these ships which will sail in B.M.11 17/1.
(C. in C. India, 0230/9 to G.O.C. Malaya.)
- Bangkok bombed. Bangkok Dock and commercial area alongside was attacked by a force of 10 Blenheims at approx. 0300 hours. All bombs fell in target area and a number of fires and one conflagration ensued which was visible 70 miles on return journey.
(G.O.C. Burma, 0330/9.)
- B.M.10. Sailed from Bombay 8/1.
(P.S.T.O. India 0513Z/9.)
- Ex-Shah. My 0319/26/12 and subsequent telegrams. F.O. now state movement of ex Shah is not firm. Further signal will be made when position is clear so that revised shipping arrangements can be made.
(D.S.T. 0628A/9 to P.S.T.O. India.)
- B.P.31 Departure Greek Cruiser GIORGIO SAVEROFF providing cover for B.P 31 A and B.
(S.O.I. Bombay 0644Z/9 to Admty., F.O.C.R.I.N., S.O.(I) Colombo, S.N.O. P.G., S.O.(I) Singapore.)
- A/A Defences. Admty. 2018/1, para 6 and my 1226/3 para 6. Defence Commander reports 12 sites for (?4) gun sections of heavy A/A have been reconnoitred. He considers 6 heavy A/A batteries can be effectively mounted and that 48 light A/A guns would be required for protection of sniping positions, vulnerable points, and anchorages.
(C. in C. E.I., 0724Z/9 to Admty.(R) C. in C.E.F.)

MOST SECRET

MOST SECRET

MESSAGE

1145Z/9 January IN

From N. C. S. O. Abadan.

Date 16.1.42.

Recd. 1439.

Naval Shore Code (N 2) by W/T

Addressed C. in C. East Indies.

In compliance with your 1400/22nd December the following lettered positions are suggested.

R O 024 degs. 061 degs.
 R A 013 degs. 050 degs.
 R M 004 degs. South 044 degs.
 R D 030 degs. South 037 degs.
 R S 000 degs. 055 degs.
 R V 004 degs. South 059 degs.
 R L 018 degs. South 057 degs.
 R C 005 degs. South 069 degs.
 R K 025 degs. South 070 degs.
 R R 052 degs. South 090 degs.
 R F 030 degs. South 105 degs.

1145Z/9.

Advance copies D.C., D.O.D. (F) & D.T.D.

1st Lord.
 1st S.L.
 4th S.L.
 V.C.N.S.
 A.C.N.S. (F)
 A.C.N.S. (T)
 N.A. 1st S.L.
 D.O.D. (F)
 D.D.O.D. (F)
 D.T.D. (2)
 D.T.D. (C)
 D.T.D. (M)
 D.A/S W.
 D.D.I.C. (2)
 Duty Captain (2)
 I.P. (2)
 D. of P. (2)
 Hd. of M.
 D.N.I. (4)

War Diary.

9.1.1942
Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

WORCESTERSHIRE C. in C. S.A. 2031/4. Please retain
WORCESTERSHIRE in Cape-Durban area as suggested.
(C. in C. E.I. 0752Z/9 to N.O.I.C. Simonstown.)

A.J.
Convoys. Letters A.J. have been allocated to convoys
from Aden to Colombo and Far East.
(C. in C. E.I. 1314Z/9 to P.S.T.O. Egypt.)

GUNDA. Your 1527/7 GUNDA (Norg.) arrived Colombo 6/1.
(S.O.I. Colombo 1650Z/9 to Admty.)

Iraq -
Persia. Your O/46891 7/1 (Proposal to assume
operational control of Iraq - Persian 12/1)
Your para 1 Agreed. Will forward suggestions
regarding boundary later. Your para 2. Agreed.
(C. in C. India 1700/9 to C. in C. M.E.)

Abadan. H.M.G. have agreed establishment by U.S. Govt.
as purely American operation of base at Abadan
for assembling bomber aircraft for Russia.
Details.
(W.O. 1700/9 to C. in C. India, General, Iraq)
See Lion Copy.

"R"
Report. At 1736Z/9 R R R R made once only was heard
strength six.
(CALEDON, 1936Z/9 to C. in C. E.I.)

Defence of
Andaman and
Nicobar
Islands. 2. Troops are only for defence of Port Blair and
landing ground at Port Blair, now under con-
struction. Proposal later to send 2 Lysanders
from Burma for seaward R/C. Garrison cannot
deny whole Andaman group to enemy.
4. Your 57858 (A.A.4) of 14/12 ordered install-
ation defences at Mancowry not to be proceeded with. Our
20873/G of 16/12 in reply asked whether small garrison required
if flying boat base being established. No reply received.
Defence Andamans and Nicobars is now responsibility of Abdacom
and has been delegated to G.O.C. Burma by Gen. Wavell.
(C. in C. India 2120/9 to W.O.)

MOST SECRET

MOST SECRET

1700/9. Jan.

From: The War Office. 9.1.42.

Cipher.

Addressed C. in C. India, General Iraq, repeated C.
in C. Middle East, M.A. Teheran.

63098 Cipher (M.O.12) 9/1.

IMPORTANT.

Following for information.

One. H.M.G. have agreed establishment by U.S. Govt. as purely American operation, of base at Abadan for assembling bomber aircraft for Russia subject following conditions:

(a) Owing limited capacity Abadan port aircraft must be broken down so that 15 to 30 can be carried on each ship.

(b) General cargo berths on which ships will be discharged will not be exclusively under American control since they are required for discharge supplies for A.I.O.C.

(c) Oil jetties not to be used.

It is possible however that Americans may decide to offload from ships moored in stream.

Two. U.S. Govt. have been asked to make all arrangements for delivery aircraft to Russians.

Three. Essential that U.S. Govt. authorities and personnel enjoy all facilities and privileges to which British are entitled. Accordingly U.S. Govt. being informed that under draft Treaty Persian Govt. must furnish us with all facilities and assistance in their power and that we shall in effect be sub-letting to U.S. Govt. site made available to us by Persians under Treaty. If Treaty is not in force we would assist U.S. authorities establish base by virtue of our being in military occupation of that part of Persia.

Four. Pending establishment aircraft assembly base at Abadan H.M.G. have agreed that bomber aircraft for Russia shall be assembled by R.A.F. at Basra.

Five. H.M.G. have accepted an offer of Soviet authorities to ferry aircraft across Persia. Detailed arrangements

/ are

are to be made between Air Mission in Russia and A.O.C. Iraq. Present Russian proposals are that they send -

(a) Small party technical personnel and up to 15 aircraft crews to Basra.

(b) Small party to Hamadam to provide communications link in air line from Basra to Baku.

Six. First aircraft not expected Basra until end January. These not likely to be erected and fitted before end February.

1700/9.

Received by hand from War Office
at 1931/10.

1st Lord.
1st S.L.
4th S.L.
5th S.L.
V.C.N.S.
A.C.N.S. (F)
A.C.N.S. (T)
Sec.
Nav. Sec.
N.A. 1st S.L.
P.A.S. (S)
D.O.D. (F)
D.D.O.D. (F)
Duty Capt. (2)
D.D.I.C. (2)
D.N.I. (4)
D. of P. (2)
D.N.A.D.
E.P.S.
Hd. of M.
D.T.D. (2)
W.D.
I.P. (2)

Circulation by War Office:

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D.D.S.D.
S.D.4.
Q.M.G.
D.Q.M.G.
Q. (Ops)
E. in C.
D.E. in C.
E. (Ops)
D. Th.
D.D.Th.
Th.1.
D. of Plans (Admiralty)
H.W.R. Admiralty.
D. of Plans (Air Ministry)
India Office (Col. McCay)
Foreign Office (Mr. Pink.)

War Diary.

9.1.1942
Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

China.

Air Report. 1 600 ton ship sighted in 5° 39' N. 106° 05' E. believed to be Japanese Wireless Beam Ship mentioned in my Oprep/17. Attack made from low height with 250 lb G.P and S.A.P bombs. 4 direct hits and several near misses observed. All bombs appeared to break up or bounce off ship owing to heavy armour plating, no damage believed to have been done. A P/L message from ship intercepted stating no damage suffered or casualties to personnel. (A.H.Q. F.E., 0232/9.)

⁶
KWANTUNG sunk. ⁶
KWANTUNG, Sourabaya to Colombo, sunk by submarine gunfire 2000Z/4, 9° 12' S. 111° 10' E. 20 Chinese survivors. (S.O.I. Singapore 0825Z/9 to R.A. Malaya.)

DEVONSHIRE. (?H.M.T.) DEVONSHIRE arrived Singapore 3/1 sailed 5/1 to Colombo due 12/1. Following embarked. (R.A. Malaya, 0915Z/9 to D. of S.T.)
(Transport)

ABDIEL. My 0840Z/31. After fuelling Colombo ABDIEL is to join escort first Singapore bound convoy. (C. in C. E.F. 0951Z/9 to C. in C. E.I.)

Penang Evacuation. Your 62972. (M.O.10) 8/1. As Easfar closes tomorrow I have instructed General Singapore to forward report with his comments. This will save time and his comments more likely to be useful than mine as Penang was under his operational command and he was here at the time of evacuation and knew local conditions there. Have also instructed him to answer your 62895 (M.O.10) referring to his Sitrep 29. (C. in C. F.E., 1810/9 to W.O.)

America and West Indies.

Movements. Summary at 1800 G.M.T./9.

<u>Ship</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Course</u>	<u>Speed</u>
MARSDALE	44° N. 26° W.	064°	12
MARON	38° N. 38° W.	Patrol	Blank
ALBATROSS	15½° N. 76° W.	294°	14
D.S. DIRKJE	18½° N. 75° W.	134°	9
DEVONSHIRE			
CANTON	03° N. 28° W.	Patrol	Blank
CILICIA	10° S. 32° W.	208°	14
BULOLO	28° S. 30° W.	Searching	Blank

/H.M.T. ...

SECRET

M E S S A G E

1708/9th January. IN.

From: Governor Straits Settlements Date: 10.1.42.
Recd: 0100.

CYPHER

Addressed: Secretary of State for the Colonies.

No. 26 Government House. 8th January.

There were various alerts up country yesterday and Tanjong Malim was raided 6th January, but I can get no information in regard to civilian damage and am asking the military authorities to supply. Singapore two nights of bad weather and peace. General attitude of the population satisfactory and the Indian and Chinese leaders fully alive to the importance of maintaining this and are doing all they can. Evacuation of women and children from here proceeding as shipping becomes available, but there are at least 2,500 applications from Europeans mostly for Australia, apart from considerable numbers still up country. Indian women and children get priority on the ships to India but generally refuse to sail without their menkind and offer of one man to five women not generally acceptable. I have informed the Government of India, and also (?group omitted) that there is ship here now which can take 550 if they wish.

Our first duty is clearly to get away as many women and children as possible. As regards Chinese, applications to Burma and India for permission to enter on transit visa or as temporary residents have not been answered, and I have therefore taken the responsibility of approving transit visas to Rangoon for one hundred of good character and independent means by ship leaving immediately and have informed the Governor I have done so. There are not many applications but China is our ally and it is essential we should give some facilities to the women and children if only as a gesture.

Initial enemy successes came as severe shock to the population as a whole, but I think it can be said there is now more sign of determination, though not of optimism, which needs some success or arrival of reinforcements. Campaign is difficult for everyone as enemy tactics are to get into the country, live in it, and harass communications. He has the advantage of being rice-eater and much less dependent on communications than our forces. He enters village and lives there, fed by the villagers who under threats can hardly be expected to do anything else. Thence he

undertakes/

undertakes guerilla warfare. We are trying to play him at his own game and are doing all we can to foster determination by food distribution, propaganda, etc. The Sultan of Johore has agreed to broadcast tomorrow night, which should have much value.

1708/9.

- 1st Lord
- 1st S.L.
- 4th S.L.
- 5th S.L.
- V.C.N.S.
- A.C.H.S. (H)
- A.C.N.S. (F)
- A.C.H.S. (T)
- A.C.N.S. (W)
- Nav. Sec.
- N.A. 1st S.L.
- Capt. Pim
- D.N.A.D.
- H. (2)
- Ops. (3)
- O.D. (5)
- D.N.I. (7) (and for A.E. & D.N.L.O.)
- O.I.C. (3)
- D. of P. (3)
- D.A/S.E.
- I.P. (3)
- ~~W.D.~~
- D.P.D.
- D.S.D. (2)
- Admiral Bailey
- Admiral Bellairs
- Admiral Somerville
- E.P.S.
- D.T.D. (4)
- D.T.D. (M)
- D.T.D. (C)

Recd. from Colonial Office at 1423/11.

ES.

War Diary.9.1.1942
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies.Movements
contd.

<u>Ship</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Course</u>	<u>Speed</u>
H.M.T. EMPRESS OF CANADA	14° S. 91° W.	030°	17½
WESTRALIA (D.O.D.(F) 0925Z/9 to Opnav.)	Approaching Sydney from N.		14

ALCANTARA.

On completion of refit ALCANTARA about 20/1 will proceed to Bermuda to carry out one week's Gunnery Practices in accordance with Admty. 1609/23 and 1354/1 and then to Halifax to embark passengers for the U.K.
(B.A.R.M. 0928R/9 to ALCANTARA.)

S.S. FIDRA
(Finnish)

My 1144R/9 FIDRA taken over by Maritime Commission chartered to Alcoa expected to sail shortly Curacao.
(S.O.(I) Kingston 1039R/9.)

CASTLE
HARBOUR
ADVENTURESS.

Your 1201Q/22. Urgent requirement for CASTLE HARBOUR in Near East has caused necessity to accept less valuable vessel in replacement. Yacht ADVENTURESS is reallocated as relief for CASTLE HARBOUR. As vessel is now due for docking and overhaul this should be put in hand as soon as possible and vessel prepared generally to sail on relief.
(D. of L.D. 1203A/9 to C. in C. A.W.I.)

BISHOPDALE

Your 2232Q/7. It seems a pity not to make full use of BISHOPDALE's large capacity and as she is proceeding so far on voyage to New Zealand in order to carry out her first task it would be advantageous for her to go on to New Zealand to discharge the remainder of the cargo of oil fuel and petroleum which is needed there.
Could you spare her?
(B.A.D. 1751R/9 to C. in C. A.W.I.)

Destroyer
Base.

Following from B.A.S.R. Lonus 41 Para.2. Lieut. Cdr. E. Ellsberg U.S.N.R. in addition to taking charge of salvage operations has been appointed to take charge of the operation of the Destroyer and repair base when completed. The skilled personnel and other labour for this base will be provided by U.S. Authorities.
(B.A.D. 1803R/9 to Admty.)

/Washington ...

War Diary.9.1.1942
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies - contd.

Washington Report. Washops 30. (i) Philippine Is. Air R/C on 7/1 located 50 enemy vessels including cruisers, destroyers, transports and submarines and 40 other craft in Davao area mostly lying off W. Coast the Gulf. Further air R/C on 8/1 showed that these vessels were still there and that 5 more transports were entering the gulf. No bombing activity took place on 9/1 and whole front is reported quiet with enemy moving his troops forward into position. Commander of the 2 Visayan Divisions ordered to Mindanao on 30/12 1941 reports that the bulk of his troops have arrived and that his G.H.Q are now established at Del Monte.
(J.S.M. Washington 1803R/9 to Admty. etc.)

CIRCASSIA
DESPATCH
DIOMEDE
Your 1242/12/12. CIRCASSIA. Dealt with in my 1805/5. 2. Concur in principle with your proposals in regard to DESPATCH and DIOMEDE but definite arrangements cannot yet be made.
(A.C.N.S.(F) 1811A/9 to C. in C. A.W.I.)

Casablanca Shipping. Meter Casablanca. 6/1 B.2.

Arrivals		From
31/12	FAUZON	Marseille
2/1	SCHAEFFINO	Oran
3/1	PORTHOS	Marseille
2/1	OREGON	Marseille
2/1	KITA	Marseille
2/1	MONTESQUIEU	Marseille
2/1	HOGGAR	Marseille
2/1	QUED TIFLET	Marseille

Departures
30/12 CANADA for unknown.
(B.A.D. 1813R/9 to Admty.)
Navy Dept. have received report from Casablanca dated 29/1 that ILE DE NOIRMOTIER and ILE D'OUessant anticipate departure for Philadelphia 9/1.
(B.A.D. 1817R/9 to Admty., S.O.I. Gibraltar.)

Coal at Reykjavik for MONTCALM. Your 2116/8. Confirmed, if demand not over 200 tons.
(A.C.I.C. 1938A/9 to N.S.H.Q. Ottawa.)

St. Pierre. Your 2216/5. Following for Adm. Muselier. H.M.G. are most anxious that no Free French personnel or naval or military stores should be sent to St. Pierre whilst negotiations are still proceeding in Washington for settlement of St. Pierre incident. Gen. de Gaulle has been so informed.
(Head of M. 1943A/9 to MIMOSA.)

War Diary.9.1.1942
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies - contd.

H.X.168 Following received from Com. Task Unit 4.1.6 (Begins) At 1900/9, H.X.168 badly scattered having been in a storm since 2000/7. No sights since 6/1. Situation not helped by O.N.52 running through at 0030 GCT/9 1900 GCT position by D.R. of escort leader 56° 36' N. 34° 04' W. Nothing in sight since 1300 GCT when remaining vessels commenced scatter without orders to ride out storm. DICKERSON and 10 vessels missing at 1100 GCT/9. Wind from S.E. force 10 sea 9 (The numbers don't go higher). Barometer has been jumping between 29. and 28.7 for past 3 days. Doubtful if any ships can be reassembled prior to reaching M.O.M.P. unless the weather moderates. No.6 was the last serial received (Ends). (Opnav 2340Z/9 to Admty.)

Australia and New Zealand.

Air My 1842Z/8 (N.T. in W.D.) R.A.A.F. aircraft
Operations. attacked Kapingamurangi 7/1 and destroyed 1 enemy seaplane. Also damaged slipway and submarine sighted in low altitude attack.

At 0120Z/7 18 type 96 2-engined heavy bombers attacked Vunakanau aerodrome (Rabaul) and dropped 14 bombs on runway. 1 Hudson aircraft on ground set on fire.
(A.C.N.B. 0511Z/9 to Admty., C. in C. E.F. etc.)

Trans- My 1913A/2. M. of W.T. is anxious to know how
Tasman long it is estimated trans-Tasman convoys will
Convoys. continue. Delay which this convoy involves to shipping and tankers in particular will necessitate arrangements being made for the entire oil supply for Australia to come from Abadan. This arrangement is not favoured in view of inequitable distribution of tankers this involves and congestion at loading ports. Remarks are requested.
(A.C.N.S.(T) 2346A/9 to A.C.N.B.)

War Diary.

9.1.1942
Friday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Ships Attacked.

KWANTUNG

Sunk 4/1. See China, 0825Z/9.

Submarines Reported.

Estimated approx. positions of U/Boats.
(D.D.I.C. 1417A/9, 1418A/9.

10.1.1942.
Saturday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT.

British Air Operations.

60 Aircraft of Bomber Command attacked Brest last night.

Coastal Command aircraft this evening attacked shipping off the Dutch coast. A 6000-8000 ton merchant ship in convoy was hit and a 2000 ton tanker was set on fire, both off the Texel.

Enemy Air Operations.

Coaster KOOLGA sailing independently was slightly damaged by near miss this morning in 56° 34' 30" N. 2° 20' W.

Mining.

3 Hampdens laid mines in the Brest area last night.

North Atlantic.

The Spanish Minister of Marine states that he has given orders to remove all crew, except one man, from the German tankers at Vigo and Ferrol, and put armed guards on board. At Vigo are NORD ATLANTIC and ANTARKTIS; at Ferrol MAX ALBRECHT.

War Diary.

10.1.1942.
Saturday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Mediterranean.

Slight damage was caused at Luqa last night by air attacks. There were 2 alerts today, but no damage or casualties were caused.

China.

The H.Q. of the Supreme Commander in the South West Pacific opened at Batavia today.

The Chiefs of Staff Committee today sent to the Middle East Defence Committee a message outlining our policy in the Far East.

Malaya.

S.S. KINTA was attacked by enemy aircraft off Muar today but is safe. A small merchant vessel is reported to have been sunk in this attack.

Celebes.

Japanese landed at Manado last night; the enemy force consists of about 10 transports with cruiser and destroyer escort. 800 parachute troops are reported to have landed near Tenando Lake, 20 miles south of Manado.

America & West Indies.

Convoy HX168 which has been badly scattered in a gale (see 9/1) about 24 hours late at Momp. SKEENA escorting S.C.63 reported at 0114 that she was hove to 360 miles South of Cape Farewell; she has sustained heavy weather damage and will return to St. Johns N.F. when the weather moderates.

War Diary.10.1.1942.
Saturday.HOME COMMANDS.

Zig-zagging. Instructions regarding zig-zagging only apply to ships of a speed of 10 knots or over. (D.T.D., 1508Z/10, A.M. "HQ" to G.B.M.S. all areas except A.I.G.12.)

Movements.

A.F.D.XV. Your 1515/9. Arrived. (N.O.I.C. Methil, 0036/10 to C. in C. Rosyth.)

STURGEON. Your escort SHARPSHOOTER. Convoy 9 ships with escort 2 destroyers and minesweepers expected to pass position 360° Killdin Island 5 miles approach course - 280° speed 8 knots between 0001 and 0200. Admty. pass to STURGEON on H.S. routine. (S.B.N.O. North Russia, 0850A/10 to STURGEON, Repeated S.O. M/S.F. 1., TARTAR.)

UTMOST. My 1312A/20/11 para. 2. Destination of UTMOST is now Holy Loch, refitting ~~port~~ Blyth. (F.O.S. 1111A/10.)

H. 32. At 2100/11 intend to sail H.32 escorted by NORTHERN GEM from Rothesay to arrive ~~Loch~~ Foyle 0900/12. S. of A. 8 knots. F.O.I.C. Greenock is requested to arrange fighter protection. (S.7, 1437A/10.)

HERMIONE. Intend to sail HERMIONE flying flag of R.A. Syfret leaving Plymouth 1230/11 routed (c) 180° Bishop 10. (d) 049° 00' N. 011° 00' W. (e) 045° 30' N. 015° 00' W. (f) 039° 30' N. 015° 00' W. (g) 036° 30' N. 010° 00' W. or as ordered by F.O.C.N.A. (C. in C. Plymouth, 1720A/10.)

13th M/S.F.
9th M/S. F. 13th M.S.F. negative BLYTH is required to arrive at Belfast by p.m./22. Request they may be sailed accordingly. 2. In order that operation Q.O. may be completed expeditiously request remaining ships of 9th M.S.F. now available at Portsmouth may be sailed to join their Flotilla. (D.M.S., 1829A/10.)

War Diary.10.1.1942.
Saturday.HOME COMMANDS.Operations.Patrol
"White".

BERWICK sailed for Denmark Strait 0001A/10.
(A.C.I.C., 0159A/10.)
ANEMONE's 1130A/9. ANEMONE has received
superficial damage. Add 24 hours to times
for ANEMONE and ABELIA.
(RENOWN, 1300A/10 to BELLWORT, SWEETBRIAR,
Repeated ABELIA, BERWICK, HECLA, ANEMONE,
F.O.C. 1st C.S., A.C.I.C.)

Operation
"Curlew".

Carry out operation "Curlew" tonight 10th.
(C. in C. Portsmouth, 1137A/10 to TORMENTOR,
M.G.B. 316, 11 Group, repeated Admty., 16 Group.)
Cancel my 1137A/10.
(C. in C. Portsmouth, 1732A/10 to same.)

Search for
U-Boat.

Proceed forthwith East of Orkneys to vicinity
of position 240° Fair Isle 9 and investigate
report of U-Boat. Further signal follows on
port wave..

(R.A.D., 1245/10 to BEDOUIN, ESKIMO, FORESIGHT, INTREPID,
repeated C. in C. Rosyth, C. in C. H.F., A.C.O.S., D.3, D.8,
CHIDDINGFOLD.)
My 1242/10th. S/M sighted on surface by coast watcher and
confirmed by R.D.F. S/M dived at noon course North.
CHIDDINGFOLD will join you. Re W/T communication.
(R.A.(D) H.F., 1314A/10 to FORESIGHT.)
5 destroyers and one A/S trawler searching for suspected
U-Boat reported in position 240 South Fair I. Light 9 miles
at 1200/10th. Aircraft co-operating. Pass to TIGRIS.
(A.C.O.S., 1614A/10 to WHITE BEAR.)
Attacked with one pattern and used Starshells. Contact now
lost. Carrying out anti-submarine sweep.
(CAPE PALLISER, 1945A/10 to S.O.N.T., (R) KINGSTON AGATE.)
Position by D.R. 062° 44' 014° 17'. Visibility 2 miles.
Am searching area to Northwards.
(KINGSTON AGATE, 2043A/10 to S.O.N.T.) *See also p 245.*

Patrols
C. & D.

WHITSHED is carrying out patrols D and C
tonight returning to base daylight. Patrol
to commence 2100.
(C. in C. Nore, 1414A/10, 1725A/10.)

Brightlingsea
A.P.

Brightlingsea Auxiliary Patrols (except H.A.)
remaining in harbour until weather moderates.
(F.O.i/c Harwich, 1530A/10.)

/Operation ...

War Diary.10.1.1942.
Saturday.HOME COMMANDS.Operations - Contd.

Operation "Buttercup". Important to E.G. 36. Your operation "Buttercup". Reliance should not be placed on sided searches: Offensive action must be taken both sides of convoy after an attack.

2. After a U-Boat attack the maximum effort must be made to counter-attack, consideration should be given to more escorts taking part possibly searching some of the area not at present covered.

3. Ref. para. 18. This possible delay of 5 minutes in commencing offensive action must be avoided. Suggest executive for "Buttercup" should be ordered by R/T by any escort immediately a torpedoing occurs.
(C. in C. W.A., 1547A/10 to E.G.36, repeated Capt. D. Liverpool, D.A/S.W.)

A/S Patrol. Your 1918A/9. M.L.S. 235 (S.O.) 225 and 239 sailed to carry out A/S Patrol within a radius of 20 miles of 059° 30' N. 09° 30' W. keeping constant W/T watch 1740 kcs. T.O.O. 1842A/10. (N.O.I.C. Stornoway, 1915/10 to C. in C. W.A.)

Patrol "Black". Admty. 1848A/10 and H.F. 11Z of 1451A/25/11. NIGERIA and KENYA are to proceed to establish North "Black" and South "Black" patrols as ordered by F.O. C.S.10.
(C. in C. H.F., 2321A/10 to C.S.10, KENYA.)

British Air Operations.

Day/9. No Operations.
Night 9/10. 59 aircraft attacked Brest. Few results were seen.
3 Hampdens successfully laid mines in their allotted area.
(H.Q.B.C., 1545/10.)

Torpedoes. C.C. signal A.P.355 13/12/41 (T.O.O. 2007/13) not to Air Ministry. In view of aircraft torpedo situation and their great value most desirable that torpedo dropping should be avoided when conditions are such that half the torpedoes may not be expected to run.
(Controller, 1611A/10 to Air Min.)

Air co-operation with A/S Patrol. My 1918A/9 one Catalina A/C will be co-operating throughout the day to-morrow 11th together with a sweep by Hudson A/C if possible. N.O.I.C. Stornoway pass to M.L's.
(C. in C. W.A., 1856A/10.)

War Diary.10.1.1942.
Saturday.HOME COMMANDS.Enemy Air Operations.Trawler
CAPETOWN.

Trawler CAPETOWN reports when 23 miles S. of Galley Head at 1830A/7 being attacked by 2 Heinkel 115 Seaplanes from the south and one JU.88 Bomber from the north. 3 bombs dropped near misses no damage no casualties. Skippers are now reporting dusk patrols by enemy seaplanes off S. and S.W. Ireland. (F.O.I.C. Milford Haven, 1211/10.)

Scapa
Flow.

At 1336 hostile aircraft carried out R/C over the Flow at height 25,000. Fighters failed to intercept. Visibility good and enemy aircraft would have seen into fleet anchorage. (A.C.O.S., 1356/10, D.D.I.C. 1616A/10, 2134A/10.)

S.S.
KOOLGA.

Air attack 1109/10 on coaster KOOLGA. Independently routed Aberdeen to Methil. Slight damage from near miss. No casualties. no damage to aircraft claimed. Position 56°

34'30" N. 02° 20' W. L.L.B. by one 2 engined midwing monoplane 3 bombs and machine-gunfire - vessel armed with one 12 pounder, one twin Marlin, three Lewis, and one strip Lewis - fire opened with 2 Lewis and strip Lewis before bombs. (C. in C. Rosyth, 1811/10.)

Mining.

VIMIARA.

VIMIARA at 1415/9 in Thames Estuary, while escorting southbound convoy, was mined under foremost boiler room while in Swept Channel off

East Cant Buoy. Ship broke in half and both halves sank. Eight Officers, one Canadian Army Officer, and 32 ratings landed unwounded, also 1 Officer and 13 ratings wounded. (C. in C. Nore, 0300A/10.)

Following report of loss of VIMIARA at 1335/9.

Ship was in position close to East Spile Buoy proceeding at 5 knots on port side of a line of ships of F.S.693 convoy. Depth of water approx. 7 fathoms. Explosion took place under forward boiler room. Vessel broke in two abaft Bridge. Stern grounded in 50° 28'16" N. 00° 54'56" E. Bow remained afloat and drifting for a short time. Survivors were picked up by M/S and patrol vessels in vicinity. (Cdre. i/c. Sheerness, 1156A/10.)

My 0300A/10/1. It seems probable that VIMIARA was out of swept channel at the time she was mined. (C. in C. Nore, 1646A/10.)

S.N. 15.A.

Arrivals Port Z A, R.A.(M) in SOUTHERN PRINCE, MENESTHEUS, AGAMEMNON, ADVENTURE, and WELLS. (N.O.I.C. Port Z A, 0821A/10.)

/Operation ...

War Diary.

10.1.1942.
Saturday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Mining - Contd.

Operation Q.O. Your 2132/9 para. 3 approved to remain in harbour until 13/1.
(C. in C. Nore, 0955A/10 to M.S.9.)

Thames Approaches. My 1615/9 mine explosions on bearing of Green 60. ROTHESAY being leading ship of 5 in line ahead with leading ships operating S.A. gear. Position is almost on route normally taken by all ships proceeding to and from Operation Q.O. if very slightly to northward of it. 13th M/S.F. with S.A. operating passed very close to this position when proceeding outwards yesterday morning.
(S.O. 13th M/S.F., 1040/10 to F.O.i/c Harwich, M/S.9, repeated Admty., C. in C. Nore.)

Operation S.C. (Clearance? mining of Gap A.) Before commencing operation ordered in Admty. 1539A/7 it will be necessary to boiler clean FITZROY and LYDD. Request information as to whether this can be taken in hand commencing LYDD a.m./11 FITZROY a.m./12.
(A.C.O.S., 1325A/10 to N.O.i/c. Aberdeen.)
Your 1121A/8. Necessary information not yet received but it is understood that Admty. is forwarding this to me at Aberdeen. As FITZROY will require boiler cleaning on arrival at Aberdeen operation cannot commence before 17/1. Admty. approve this proposal. I intend to carry out my own dan buoy laying.
(M/S.F.4, 1437A/10 to C. in C. Rosyth.)
Your 1539A/7. Short title for this operation "S.C."
(C. in C. Rosyth, 1655/10 to Admty.)

Enemy Intelligence.

Photographic R/C of Brest at 1030/10 shows PRINZ EUGEN's dock unoccupied and a vessel probably PRINZ EUGEN proceeding from Porte de Commerce to Rade-Abri. Docks 8 and 9 both occupied. Photographs poor.
Kiel 1300/10. LUTZOW present.
(PRU 1350/10, D.D.I.C. 1934A/10 to A.I.G. 21, F.O.(S), F.O.C.N.A., S.O. Force H, C. in C. S.A., C. in C. A.W.I., V.A.2, H.Q.C.C., H.Q.B.C.)

2 destroyers. Reported that 2 destroyers passed Hellefiord at 1100 G.M.T. course South. Graded A.1.
Comment: These destroyers are believed to have come from Northern Norway.
(D.D.I.C., 1847A/10 to C. in C. H.F., C.S.I., C.S.10, C.S.18, V.A.2, A.C.O.S., F.O.S., H.Q. C.C., S.B.N.O. Murmansk.)

War Diary.10.1.1942.
Saturday.HOME COMMANDS.Navigational.

Q.Z.S. 298. I.5 buoy missing from station request promulgation.
(F.O.i/c. Liverpool, 1556A/10.)

Casualties and Defects.ILLUSTRIOUS
RODNEY.

N.O.I.C. Liverpool reports:-

Owing to damage suffered in collision with FORMIDABLE, ILLUSTRIOUS cannot complete before 14/2.

RODNEY cannot be taken in hand at Liverpool until mid-February at earliest but on account of tides cannot enter basin except between 14th and 17th Feb. or 3rd and 5th March.
(A.C.N.S.(H), 1302A/10 to C. in C. H.F.)

S.S. PLAUDIT.

Your 1131A/10 and my 1003N/7th PLAUDIT sailing delayed indefinitely owing to boiler defects.
(N.C.S.O. Reykjavik, 1406/10 to C. in C. W.A.)

AUSONIA,
CALIFORNIA,
RANPURA.

Anticipate will be ready for service respectively on 21/1, 27/1, 18/1.
(S.O.W.P., 1520A/10 to Admty.)

S.S.
EASTWOOD.
Tug ARCADIA.

Your 1214A/3 to C. in C. Nore. EASTWOOD and Tug ARCADIA in difficulties off Skegness 1300/9. EASTWOOD towed into Humber by United Towing Company's tug SCOTSMAN and now in Immingham Dock. ARCADIA being towed into Humber 1055A by M/S Trawler FYLDEA E.T.A. Spurn 1900/Sat.
(F.O. Humber, 1055A/10, 1615A/10 to F.O. Harwich.)

Shipping and Convoys.

P.Q. 7.

In consulting with Russian Authorities Maclay and I have agreed that JUTLAND, EMPIRE REDSHANK, and BOTAVON ex P.Q. 7B discharge Molotovsk also COLDHARBOUR ex P.Q. 7, but failing COLDHARBOUR arriving in time, Russians will nominate a further ship ex P.Q. 7 B. Notice will be given you as soon as possible of STALIN's readiness at R/V to be arranged, and it is requested ship may be sailed with local escort. Accordingly. Remaining ships of P.Q. 7B discharged at Murmansk.
(S.B.N.O. Archangel, 0934C/10 to S.B.N.O. North Russia.)

/S.S. COLDHARBOUR ...

War Diary.10.1.1942.
Saturday.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping and Convoys - Contd.

- S.S. COLDHARBOUR, WAZIRISTAN. If no news of COLDHARBOUR, WAZIRISTAN by 1800/ today suggest Admiralty be requested to order W/T silence to be broken. (S.B.N.O. Archangel, 0950C/10 to S.B.N.O. North Russia.)
- S.C. 61. Average speed 6.27 knots. Heavy sea and snow until 24/12, then rain and poor visibility up to 29th. RUDBY lost convoy night of 21/12. All ships now arrived. (D.T.D., 1144A/10.)
- P.Q. Convoys. C. in C. H.F. 1512A/6. Para. 4. Concur.
2. The question of administration of trawlers has been discussed with C.O.S. to A.C.I.C.
3. It is intended that C. in C. W.A. should be the responsible authority for the sailing of P.Q. Convoys from Loch Ewe keeping C. in C. H.F. informed.
4. C. in C. W.A. and A.C.I.C. are requested to arrange the transfer of the 41st and 42nd A/S groups to W.A. Command as convenient in order to provide escorts as in C. in C. H.F. 1512A/6, paras. 3 (A) and (B).
5. Two trawlers will require to be available for the escort of P.Q. 10. (D.T.D., 1236A/10 to C. in C. H.F., A.C.I.C., C. in C. W.A.)
- Ships in M.050396/41. Your 1231/9. Binney is to be given every latitude to adopt any stratagem which may be of assistance in getting the ships away, which is all that matters. Hoisting of White Ensign is admittedly of doubtful value, but approval has been given to do this merely as a ruse. H.M. Govt. will raise no claim that the ships were in fact converted into British warships. (Hd. of M., 1405A/10 to N.A. Stockholm.)
- H.X.168. My 2027A/9. H.X.168. Badly scattered in gale will probably be 24 hours late. New M.O.M.P. will be signalled. (C. in C. W.A., 1657A/10 to WANDERER, AUBRETTIA, VERVAIN, RENONCULE, ROSELYS.)
- W.S. 15. W.S. 15 Clyde Section delayed by fog. Liverpool Section proceeding to Belfast and awaiting orders. Do not pass Mew Island before 0800A. B.B.23 sails 0700A/11th. (C. in C. W.A., 2325A/10 to WALKER, VANOC, Capt. (D) Londonderry.)

War Diary.10.1.1942.
Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic.

- COLTSFOOT. COLTSFOOT left Ponta Delgada 1100 G.M.T./10th. MIRROR is being informed. (N.C.S.O. Ponta Delgada 0951/10 to S.O.I. Gib.) COLTSFOOT E.T.A. south end of (?sest) channel 0830Z/11. (F.O.C.N.A. 2204A/10 to COREOPSIS, Admty., COLTSFOOT).
- SILIVRI. My 1614/9. Ferry steamer SILIVRI arrived Horta 9th. (F.O.C.N.A. 1004A/9 (?10) to Admty. etc.)
- TURBULENT. From Westward E.T.A. Spartel 1500A/10, TURBULENT: thence to Gibraltar in company with HAARLEM. (F.O.C.N.A. 1019/10 to CROOME, EXMOOR, Ships on Patrol).
- S.B.R. Institute S.B.R. in area 53 from 0001/11 to 2359/11 and in area 41 from 0800/11 to 1200/12. (H.Q.C.C. 1047/10 to R.A.F. Gibraltar). Cancel S.B.R. in Area 76 South of 45° from 2359/10. (H.Q.C.C. 1142/10 to R.A.F. Gibraltar).
- German tankers at Vigo and Ferrol. Minister of Marine repeated today that he had given orders to remove all crew (except one man) from German tanker at Vigo and Ferrol and put armed guards on board. I am awaiting report from there on what has been done. (N.A. Madrid 1241/10). Note. German tankers, at Vigo NORD ATLANTIC, ANTARKTIS, at Ferrol MAX ALBRECHT. (D.S. 860).
- French Shipping. Gibraltar 10/1 1130. Cruiser LE TERRIBLE, S.S. MONTESQUIEU loaded, BELLE ISLE Light, CEPHEE (Ex FRANCOIS L.D.) laden, eastbound. (S.O.I. Gib., 1311A/10 to Admty., C. in C. Med.)
- MIRROR. Cable ship MIRROR escorted by COREOPSIS and COLTSFOOT in vicinity of Fayal. Situation 1959A/10. (F.O.C.N.A., 1324A/10 to A.I.G. 64).
- TEMPEST. Your escort from 350° Spartel 5 is a trawler. EXMOOR on patrol between Spartel and Trafalgar Cape. (F.O.C.N.A. 1336A/10 to TEMPEST).
- LORD HOTHAM. Your 1640/26/12/40. Intend sailing LORD HOTHAM (sic) for refit in U.K. with convoy H.G. 78. Request name of refitting port and that LORD HOTHAM may be fitted with Armament similar to LEYLAND. My 1513/12/8 and your 2145A/21/9 refer. (F.O.C.N.A. 1820A/10 to Admty.)

War Diary.

10.1.1942.
Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic-Contd.

O.G. 78. F.O.C.N.A. 1314/10. Intend sailing LORD NUFFIELD for Gibraltar at 0615A/11 as additional escort to O.G. 78. (N.O.I.C. Oban 1829A/10 to F.O.C.N.A.)

S/M's. Submarines sighted off Ponta Delgada 4th and 5/1. (N.A. Lisbon 1830/10 to Admty. (R) S.O.I. Gib.)

A/C Report of Shipping. Following reported by transit A/C. One convoy (? 6) merchant ships in 2 groups 3 in line ahead escorted by 1 escort vessel in 042° 52' N. 009° 20' W. steering 160° speed 8 knots at 1040A/10. All ships appear about 1000 tons, funnel amidships. 2. No long distance aircraft (? available) Gibraltar. (F.O.C.N.A., 2318A/10 to Admty. (R) C. in C. Plymouth, HERMIONE, S.O. Force H.)

South Atlantic.

Convoys W.S.14A D.M.2. As result of transshipment following alterations in composition of component parts of W.S.14 are communicated for information. (N.O.I.C. Simonstown 0817Z/10 to C. in C. E.I., (R) RAMILLIES etc.)

CAMBRIA. ^{NT in W.D.} Your 1649/9 CAMBRIA is required to repair Freetown Bathurst cable which is interrupted at entrance to Freetown Harbour as soon as practicable after return to Freetown. (C. in C. S.A. 0917Z/10 to SURPRISE).

ENGADINE. If time permits request you will hold Board of Enquiry on damage to aircraft in ENGADINE. Her programme did not permit of this being carried out at Freetown. (C. in C. S.A., 1131Z/10 to F.O.I.C. Simonstown (R) Admty.)

"R" Report. Your 0810Z/7. (Re partially intercepted RRRR message) Have you any further information? (D.D.I.C. 1257A/10 to C. in C. S.A.)

American aircraft. Following types of American aircraft may be sighted flying across South Atlantic from Natal to West Africa Boeing B 17 bombers. Liberators bomber Catalina flying boat Clipper. (C. in C. S.A. 1245Z/10 to S.A. Stn.)

/BIRMINGHAM....

War Diary.10.1.1942.
Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic-Contd.

BIRMINGHAM. Punta Arenas, Chile, 10/1 BIRMINGHAM wearing flag of R.A.S.A.D. arrived and leaves on patrol same day. (R.A.S.A.D., 1431Z/10 to Admty. C. in C. S.A.)

Rio Conference. Your 1604/8. Present requirements of S.A.D. are adequately met by facilities already afforded in South American ports and it is thought that further benevolent treatment will be given if needed without any necessity for formal resolution (R.A.S.A.D., 1433Z/10 to Admty. (R) B.A.D.)

CEPHEE (French) Your 1205Z/8. Gibraltar reports CEPHEE passed Gibraltar eastbound at 1130/10. (D.D.I.C. 1602A/10 to C. in C. S.A.)

DAUNTLESS ALMANZORA. Your 1241Z/9. DAUNTLESS should not be held for this purpose. 2. If you can spare an A.M.C. for ocean escort to ALMANZORA ship should embark to capacity. A/S escort could be provided in Home waters if she sails by 18/1. 3. If no ocean escort available ship should be sailed in accordance with Admty. 1936A/25/9 and 1650A/7. (D.O.D.(F) 1755A/10 (? 1753A/10) to C. in C. S.A.)
Your 1753A/10. Numbers in ALMANZORA considerably in excess of limits given in A.M. 1936A/25/9. Not possible to reduce to these limits as balance cannot be accommodated at Freetown. (2) One A.M.C. is being withdrawn from patrol to provide ocean escort. Owing to water situation unlikely ship will be able to sail before 19th/1. (C. in C. S.A. 1853Z/10 to Admty.)

DEVONSHIRE. Parted company with CANTON and PRETORIA CASTLE at 1030Z in 004° 55' N. 025° 00' W. CANTON making good 15 knots intending to pass through positions 003° 00' N. 025° 00' W. equatorial 035° 00' W. 001° 20' N. 035° 00' W. thence steering course 70°. CANTON fuel remaining 83% at 1200Z/10. (DEVONSHIRE, 1912Z/10 to C. in C. S.A.)
E.T.A. 0619 eastbound Monday 12/1. Request Sierra Leone Light from 0430. (DEVONSHIRE 1901Z/10 to C. in C. S.A.)

War Diary.

10.1.1942.
Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

Troopship Capacity. To be increased as an emergency measure. Proposals (D.S.T., 0307A/10 to P.S.T.O's, Egypt, India, Simonstown). See Lion Copy.

Convoy "Minor". Your 1914/9. Unable to accept "Minor" in existing weather. Arrive end of searched channel at 0730/11. (N.O.I.C. Benghazi 0859B/10 to KIMBERLEY).

OTTO LEONHARDT (German). Left harbour 10 p.m./9 clearance direct to Genoa although only 700 tons cargo. (Alicante, 0900/10 to D.N.I., (R) Gibraltar).

Enemy M/V. P.C. and S. of 1 small enemy M/V (under 2,000 tons) 090° Kuriat 2 miles 180° 4 knots. (A/C of "C" Flight No. 3. (A.A.C.U) Malta). 0923B/10 to Halfar.

Tobruk M/S Summary, of week end 11/1. Nil minelaying raids during the period. Routine sweep of harbour anchorages and approaches daily negative result. 0458/8 explosion 200 yards from north shore inside boom, may have been D.A. bomb dropped early/6 or acoustic mine detonated by noise of waves breaking on shipwreck on shore sown between 17th and 19th Dec. 1941. (B.S.N.O. Tobruk 1029B/10).

ROBERTS. EREBUS. Your 1812A/9. I am very anxious to have one of these monitors. The seaward defence of Benghazi is a cause of anxiety and a monitor may also be most useful for operation "Acrobat". (C. in C. Med. 1129B/10 to Admty.)

Air Report. A.899. WX. 1381. 10/1. Night 8/9th January. Tobruk bombed twice shortly before dawn, 2 killed 14 wounded, no material damage. Day 9/1. In afternoon a Sunderland hit with bombs and depth charges and probably sank Enemy Submarine 8 miles North of Sidi Barrani. (H.Q. R.A.F. M.E. 1146/10).

Tobruk. Situation report. Air raid at 0600 on El Adem area. Naval. Muroto Oropesa of Derna Channel from S. All operations stopped by strong S.W. gale and sand storm p.m. H.S.L. 121, and later SOUTHERN ISLE towing Jaffa lighter sailing for Derna. GIBELKEBIR completed 12th ROBERT MAERSK 14th TRAJANUS started back loading 14th. Derna. 9/1 DARIEN (2) HILMI arrived, former discharged 114 tons in 7 hours, latter not started. No air activity. (S.B.N.O. Tobruk 1148B/10 to C. in C. Med.)

/Derna.....

MOST SECRET

MOST SECRET

MESSAGE

0307A/10th January

OUT

Date 10.1.42

To: P.S.T.O. Egypt
 P.S.T.O. India
 P.S.T.O. Simonstown

NAVAL CYPHER (D)

From Director of Sea Transport.

As an emergency measure and on instructions of a very high authority capacity of Troopships is to be increased as far as practicable. It is proposed that this should be done mainly by fitting hammock billets or tiered borths or providing mattresses in (a) all possible suitable store and baggage rooms (b) more of the public rooms and (c) covered-in promenade and other deck spaces. At discretion of P.S.T.O. and as far as time permits without delaying the ships to be used for the movement mentioned in paragraph 1 of my 1542/9 their capacity should be increased on these lines either before leaving India or South Africa or on arrival in Egypt. It is realised that exercise space will have to be reduced and it is not proposed to increase the present number of latrines and washplaces whilst the daily allowance of fresh water may have to be reduced below the present allowance of six gallons per head. Only essential additional ventilation lighting and galley ranges should be installed. Numbers should not be increased beyond those which can all be mustered at one time in emergency and lifeboats or rafts must be provided for all on board. P.S.T.O's India and Simonstown in some cases may be able to undertake part of necessary work leaving completion to P.S.T.O. Egypt. They should inform P.S.T.O. Egypt fully what they have done and what is required repeating to D. of S.T. All actual increases effected should be reported to D. of S.T. and to P.S.T.O's concerned.

0307A/10

Director of Sea Transport
 2184.

1st Lord
 1st S.L.
 2nd S.L.
 4th S.L.

SECRET
 V.C.N.S.
 A.C.N.S. (F)
 A.C.N.S. (P)
 N.A. 1st S.L.

MOST SECRET
 D.O.D. (F)
 D.D.O.D. (F)
 D.C. (2)
 E.P.S.
 D. of P. (2)

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

237

War Diary.10.1.1942.
Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean-Contd.Derna
P.W.SS.

Derna Port War Signal Station and W/T established at Navy Office 248° north Molelight 3 Cables. (C. in C. Med. 1157B/10 to S. & A. Med. 874B).

ALPHERAT.

Your 0959/4, understood that Turkish Salvage Corporation tug has proceeded to Mersin to salvage Dutch S.S. ALPHERAT. (Head of M. 1337A/10 to C. in C. Med.)

VARLAM
AVANASON
torpedoing.Your 1837/9. Sent by W.R. (A.B.N.A. Istanbul's 1306B/23/12 refers.) Following is a repetition of my 1441/21/12. (Begins) My 1059/20. Consul at Cannaka reports AVANASON torpedoed all crew landed at Cape Baba one man injured and admitted into hospital.
(2) Further reports will follow when details known.
(3) Admty. pass to Adm. Miles T.O.O. 1441/21. (ends). (2) This signal was passed to you immediately by W/T through C.X. organization. (N.A. Istanbul, 1523B/10 to Admty.)AURORA.
PENELOPE.

AURORA and PENELOPE are to be considered as belonging to Mediterranean Fleet. (A.C.N.S. (H) 1543A/10 to C. in C. Med., F.O., Force H.)

Malta Air
Report.

To 1600 hours 10/1/1942. Enemy Activity, Night 9/10, 2 alerts 1622 to 1824 hours, 18 Raiders, Bombs Land Sea, Slight Damage Houses. 10/1, 3 Alerts, 3 Raiders, Cloud Cover, Bombs Sea and Luqa. 1 Barrack Block slightly damaged. Night 9/10, all operations cancelled bad weather wind across runway Luqa and Halfar. (H.Q., Malta, 1700/10 to Air Min.)

UNIQUE.
URGE.N.T. in W.D.
My 1131B/7. Anticipate UNIQUE completed 24 hours arriving 0800B/11 from N.E. URGE same time by S.E. Channel. (Capt. S.10, 1800B/10 to UNIQUE, URGE).

PROTEUS.

My P.C. and S. are 033° 56' 025° 02' 108° 12. Estimate can arrive Sanctuary dawn 12th. Weather report. (PROTEUS 1830B/10 to Capt. S.1.).

Enemy M/V's.

Sighting report by delivery Aircraft 10/1:-
(1) One M/V 10,000 tons 036° 30' N. 002° 58' W. Course W. 15 - 20 knots at 1052B/10.
(2) One M/V 8,000 tons 036° 35' N. 002° 10' W. Course W. 10 - 15 knots at 1102B/10.
(3) One M/V 1,000 tons 036° 38' N. 001° 30' W. Course W. 15 - 20 knots at 1111B/10. (V.A. Malta, 1921B/10 to F.O.C.N.A.)

/SAKHALIN.....

MOST SECRET

MOST SECRET

MESSAGE

1355/10th January

IN

From Governor and C. in C. Malta.

Date 10.1.42.

Recd. 2345.

CIPHER

Addressed C. in C. Middle East Repeated The War Office.

IMPORTANT

025177 AQA 0071 cipher 10/1 Most Secret.

Reference Troopers 62497 (M.O.5) 6/1 and Admiralty signal T.O.O. 1932/6.

Personal for General Auchinleck from General Dobbie.

(A) In the recent bombing attacks, I have tried to provide adequate protection for the places attacked by moving Bofors from one place to another. This has proved inadequate. If these attacks are greatly intensified, as seems likely, I consider I need two more Bofors regiments to give adequate protection to all the aerodromes, aircraft dispersal areas and harbour. Can you lend me these until these attacks have been broken.

(B) Although a full scale airborne and sea borne attack is not considered by J.I.C. to be immediately likely, yet it is a contingency which must be provided for in view of the vital importance of Malta. The great increase in the aerodrome and dispersal areas in recent months has forced me to use up more and more troops for their protection, with the result that mobile reserves have been gravely depleted. For this reason I would like to borrow until the present threat has been liquidated, one Inf. Bde. or at any rate two battalions to form a central reserve which at present is non existent I would also like to borrow one squadron of American or Valentine tanks (Martel suggested these as suitable) so as to ensure that no enemy footing on any aerodrome could be maintained. Since it may become increasingly difficult to get reinforcements here as enemy's air strength increases, ~~it~~ it would be wise to send them soon if they can be made available. But (A) must take precedence of (B). If we can really break the air attack with the help of (A) (B) may never materialise. The heads of services here agree with this telegram.

1355/10.

Received from War Office at 1221/11.

1st Lord

War Office Distribution:-

1st S.L.

S. of S.

D.D.S.D.(W).

V.C.N.S.

C.I.G.S.

S.D.2.12.

A.C.N.S. (F)

V.C.I.G.S.

D.A.F.V.

N.A. 1st S.L.

D.M.O. & P.

A.F.V.1.

D.O.D. (F)

D.P.

D.A.A. & C.D.

D.D.O.D. (F)

D.D.M.O.(O)

A.A.4.

D.C. (2)

M.O.1.5.

C.N.S. (Admiralty)

D. of P. (2)

D.M.I.

D. of Plans (Admiralty)

E.P.S.

D.D.M.I.(I).

C.A.S. (Air Ministry)

Hd. of M.

M.I.2.14.

D. of Plans (Air Ministry)

I.P. (2)

D.Q.M.G.(4)

Col. Jacob.

N.I.D. 10.

Q (Ops).

Sec. J.P.S. Cabinet Office.

Pay. Cdr. Wilson.

D.S.D.

Col. Rolleston Colonial Office(4)

W.D.

D.D.S.D.

Head of War Reg. Admiralty.

D.N.I. (4).

EML.

War Diary.

10.1.1942.
Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean-Contd.

SAKHALIN.

Tanker, left Dardanelles 2359/7 speed 9 knots for Famagusta via Turkish territorial waters. She has black hull, funnel aft, counter stern, and may have false funnel and upper works amidships. (Capt. S.I., 2141B/10 to PORPOISE, TRIUMPH).

TONELINE.

"Empire". My 1801/10 (N.T. in W.D.) TONELINE engine broken down proceeding in tow of ST. MONANCE through S, 2150/10, position 052° 20' N. 025° 09' E. 0700/11, thence in accordance with S.O. Force I 1731/9 all times add 5 hours.

→ ST. MONANCE to enter (Mersa Matruh) and destroyer to take over towing if required. Estimated S. of A. 6 knots. (B.S.N.O., Tobruk, 2215B/10 to N.O.I.C. Alexandria, 201 Naval Co-operation Group).

A.11. (Lighter.)

N.T. in W.D.
C. in C. 1235/9th not to R.A. Alexandria and S.B.N.O. Tobruk 2215/10th. H.M.S. ST. MONANCE is to be employed to salvage "A.11". (S.O. Force I 2317B/10 to N.O.I.C. Mersa Matruh).

War Diary.10.1.1942.
Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies.

Air Sqdns., India, Burma. Following for Gen. Wavell from Chiefs of Staff. No. S.W.P. 2. We must agree with Arminia that A.O.C. Burma cannot control air forces in India while he is under your operational control. As soon as your command established, these squadrons must revert to operational control of India. India will continue responsible for administration and supply of air forces in Burma. (W.O., 0030/10, to Supreme Comdr., A.O.C., Far East).

B.P.31B. VARELA with troops and stores for Basra sailed 0230Z/10. Route. (N.C.S.O. Bombay 0236Z/10).

WINDSOR CASTLE, My 0628/9 and your 0631/7 and 1036/6. WINDSOR CATHAY. CASTLE should not call Mauritius. 2. Did crew of CATHAY embark WINDSOR CASTLE? If not what are your proposals? 3. As fittings for CATHAY are urgently required can they be loaded in one of returning W.S.12X. ships instead of PRESIDENT MONROE and EXMINSTER? (D.S.T., 0239A/10, to P.S.T.O., India).

S.S. ELYSIA. Your 1528 7th at 1633Z/28th. See N.C.S.O. Bombay 1150Z/28th passed by W/T NR 22/627. (S.O. Bombay, 0640Z/10, to Admty.) / s.s. ELYSIA - overdue. /- Sent to M. of W.T. for decoding 29.1241

OPHIR, PLANCIUS. Dutch ships OPHIR and PLANCIUS which have arrived Bombay from Batavia with internees and are returning empty are suitable ships for British troops. Dutch N.L.O. Bombay is approaching Dutch Authorities Batavia with a view to getting permission for these ships to carry troops on return voyage. If they agree it is intended to embark 1700 troops of 18th Div. in these ships for Singapore and sail them in B MO 11 (as received) 18/1. Do you agree to these ships being used? (P.S.T.O. 1., 0959Z/10 to D.S.T.)

East Indies Escort Group. My 1136Z/10th part 1. (1) The following ships are to form the East Indies Group FALMOUTH, JUMNA, BATHURST, LISMORE, INDUS, HINDUSTAN, SUTLEJ, SONAVATI.

(2) Instructions for East Indies Escort Group (short title E.I.E.G's) will be issued shortly to all addresses and repeated to addressees of this signal.
 (3) The following are requested to acknowledge receipt of E.I.E.G. Army H.Q. in convoy 221 Group 222 Group.
 (4) Army H.Q. in convoy, 221 Group and 222 Group are requested to inform me (A) whether they concur in portion relating to aircraft (B) when necessary instructions have been issued to aircraft likelihood of co-operation with E.I. convoy escort.
 (5) E.I.E.G's are not to be brought into force until ordered by signal. (C. in C. E.I., 1136Z/10 to E.I. Sqdn. Group 222, Group 221, Burma and H.Q. India, N.O's i/c. Bombay, Calcutta, Cochin, Colombo, Rangoon, READY, (N.O's i/c pass to N.C.S.O's) Repeated Admiralty C. in C. E.F., N.O.I.C. Malaya, F.O.C.R.I.N., Cmdre. R.I.N.)

/Convoys ...

War Diary.10.1.1942.
Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies. - contd.

Convoys

A.J.

M.R.

B.K.

Your 1545/5 the following short titles for convoys on E.I. Station had been allocated prior to receipt of your 1545/5. Request your concurrence.

A.J. Middle East to Colombo Singapore and N.E.I. (Military) M.R. Madras to Rangoon (Military)

B.K. Bombay to Karachi (Military).

(C. in C. E.I., 1402Z/10 to Admty.) *Concur (OTD, 1106M/12)*

Port Blair.

1 Indian Inf. Battn. and 4 18 pdr. guns have arrived Port Blair for defence.

S.S. MAHARAJA due Port Blair 16/1. Propose taking opportunity to remove British detachment. Do you agree. No further ship likely to visit Andamans for considerable period. (C. in C. India, 1430/10, 1615/12 to W.O.)

China.

MIRAMAR.

Swedish, 1555 tons, reported seized with her cargo at Saigon by Japanese (D.S., 858, 10/1).

Malaya
Army Report.

Singapore. Low level attack by 2 enemy aircraft on Seletar and high level attack by 3 enemy aircraft on M.T. Faber area A.M./9. A few Civilian casualties and minor damage to civilian property only. 9/1. Attack by Glenn Martins on 4,000 ton and 1,400 tons ships in Kuantan estuary resulted in one direct hit and seven near misses on former vessel. R/C at Kuching showed 2,000 ton ship and ten large barges in Kuching Harbour. Two sunk transports observed in estuary N.W. of Kuching and two sunk ships and one cargo boat off Pulau Stang Besar. Kuching Aerodrome partially repaired and appears serviceable. (G.O.C., Malaya, 0210/10, to W.O.)

Command
S.W. Pacific,

1. H.Q. of C. in C., Far East will close at 0001 hours G.M.T. 10/1. H.Q. Supreme Commander in S.W. Pacific will open Batavia same day.
2. His Command covers American, British, Dutch, Australian Area which includes Burma, Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Malaya, N.E.I., and Philippines. It does NOT include Australia, China Indo-China or Thailand.
3. Supreme Commander will be responsible for co-ordination in his area of strategical operations of all armed forces of American, British, Dutch, Australian Governments. He will command all forces of American, British, Dutch, Australian Governments which are or will be (a) stationed in area (b) located in Australian territory when such forces have been allotted by respective Governments for service in or in support of the American, British, Dutch, Australian area.

War Diary.

10.1.1942.
Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

China.

Command. 4. Supreme Commander will have no responsibilities
S.W. Pacific. in respect of internal administration of forces
- Contd. under his command but is authorised to direct and
co-ordinate creation and development of adminis-

materials. 6. Signals for Supreme Commander should be addressed
personal for him to Abdacom, Batavia. (W.O., 0230/10 to C's
in C. M.E., India, etc.)

Japanese C. in C. E.F. 0333Z/10 to Admiralty, N.O.I.C.
A/S methods. Colombo, N.O.I.C. Malaya).

Aircraft Ref. Mge. 61990 from Troopers of 3/1 and A.M.
Reinforce- 2115A/3. (N.T. in W.D.) It would be convenient
ments. if Aircraft could be flown off 3 batches of 16 to
reduce escort commitments. Request information
of size of largest batch that can compose one
flight and interval between flights. R.A. Malaya pass to A.O.C.
Far East. (C. in C. F.E., 0531Z/10 to Admty.)

Oil Stocks, Reply to Admty. 2240/2 and in continuation my 0401/
Malaya. 7. (R.A. Malaya 0907Z/10 to Admty.) See Lion Copy.

Air Force Agreed at conference today that Air Marshal Peirse
Command. should be Chief of Air Staff at my H.Q. He will
also be Commander of all Air Forces put under his
operational control from time to time. This will
generally mean all except Naval Air Arms. Glad if he can be
sent out as soon as possible. (Abdacom, Batavia, 1000/10 to W.O.)

Signalling Eastern Theatre message 45X. When in south
positions. latitude and the sum of scrambling correction for
the daylight and the true latitude exceeds 60°,
the number of degs. in excess of 60 is to be
coded north latitude. Example: when true lat. is 055° South and
correction for daylight is 29, false lat. is to be coded as 004° N.
Charts should be marked daily with the corrected co-ordination
letter. A.C.N.B., N.Z.N.B. Pass to Air Board. (C. in C. E.F. 1103Z/10)

Policy in 63443 cipher (M.O.1) 10/1. Following for M.E.
Far East. Defence Cttee. from Chiefs of Staff Cttee. No. 24
Your GJP/46855 cipher 7/1.

1. We have discussed with members of your Joint Planning Committee
the points which you raise in connection with instructions to
General Wavell.

2. Our policy during the next few months must of necessity be
confined to plugging holes and to strengthening our hold on the
Malay Barrier, thereby securing our sea communications against a
heavy scale of enemy attack.

3. Offensive operations must be our ultimate object but we do
not visualise being in a position to pass to the offensive for
some time to come. We therefore do not propose at the present
to divert more of our resources than are necessary to hold the
Japanese. (W.O. 1910/10 to C. in C. M.E.)

0907Z/10 January.

SECRET

MESSAGE

IN

From R.A. Malaya.

Date 10. 1. 42.

Received 2250.

Naval Cypher (D) by W/T.

Addressed Admiralty, Repeated C. in C. Eastern Fleet.
 Australian Commonwealth Naval Board, C. in C. East
 Indies. Air H.Q. Far East.

IMPORTANT

106. Your 2240 January 2nd to C. in C. Eastern Fleet paragraph (2) (3) and (4), and in continuation of my 0401 January 7th. Para (2). (?After reconsideration) Pladjoe's exportable output of motor spirit outside Netherlands East Indies is approximately 36,000 tons per month repetition month. This does not include Sungai Gerong, figures for latter requested, not yet available, but estimate approximately equal to that of Pladjoe. Total to lift say 70,000 tons monthly. Large tanker can only lift 6,000 to 9,000 tons over bar repetition bar, depending on state of tide and topping-up with white oil outside not practicable, owing to fire danger. Ends.

(a) To ensure despatch full cargo (?by sea) to destinations outside Netherlands East Indies - Singapore, necessary for approximately 2 ebb tides every (?3) large tankers to lift maximum possible at Pladjoe - Sungai Gerong to cross bar, discharging Singapore, thence Pladjoe - Sungai Gerong to reload maximum, and return to Singapore to fill up for ocean voyage. When and as small tankers become available, they will lift white oil regularly from Pladjoe - Sungai Gerong to Singapore, thus reducing slightly number of interim large tanker-trips required. Intend to carry out routine (a) as long as general situation permits.

When (a) no longer possible, either (b) oilers lift maximum possible white oil to cross bar repeat bar, completing outside bar with black oil and commencing ocean voyage forthwith. This will save time, and, if same tankers returned Pladjoe regularly, no resulting cleaning difficulties because same proportion of white black always lifted, but doubt circumstances allowing (?voyages) regularly (?ebb tide), or (c) oilers fill maximum possible white oil at Pladjoe and commence part - loaded ocean voyage forthwith.

(a) will be carried out to maximum possible extent for motor spirit, aviation, raising its components. Pladjoe motor spirit storage expects to be filled to maximum by 15th January. Can take LCFE PANEUROPE(Nor) and other tankers mentioned at Pladjoe in first instance loading motor spirit for Australia by routine (a). Asiatic Singapore's 942/8th January to Asiatic London suggests GBMD(BRITISH PRINCESS), to lift, by routine (a), motor spirit for Australia, instead of voyage proposed in your 2240/2nd January, and in view of my 0401/7th January re not shipping more than 100 or 90 octane at present, concur..

/Paragraph 3.....

Paragraph 3. Concur.

Paragraph 4 (FU KWANG) and (HO KWANG) detailed for this task, in first instance to lift valuable aviation spirit components via Malacca Strait direct route. Use of small tankers will test enemy reaction and at the same time minimize extent of loss of these octanes. In view of situation on west coast of Malaya, even if all possible evading actions are taken, their attack appears only a matter of time but it must be tried. Approach to Brandan (Soesoo) by northabout route present equal difficulties and is in addition much longer. Request inform Asiatic Petroleum Co, London gist of this signal.

0907Z/10.

4th S.L.
 V.C.N.S.
 A.C.N.S.(T).
 N.A. 1st S.L.
 Ops. (3).
 O.D.(5).
 D.N.I.(4).
 D. of S. 2A.
 D.T.D.(4) for action.
 D.T.D.(M).
 D.T.D.(C).
 D. of S.T.(2).
 I.P.(3).
 D.A/S...
 O.I.C.
 W.D.
 M.(2).

BIW

War Diary.10.1.1942.
Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.China. - contd.

Oil Stocks, Your 0401Z/7. View urgent needs, particularly in
Malaya. Middle East, Air Ministry after full consideration
of requirements in British and N.E.I. wish
following shipments to be made. (Details).
Request confirmation that this programme can be implemented.
(D.T.D., 1926A/10 to R.A. Malaya).

Defence of For Chiefs of Staff from Gen. Wavell.
Port Darwin. 1. Not clear from my directive whether or not I
am responsible Defence Port Darwin. Since this
defence must depend on control of Timor Sea which
is in my area it appears Port Darwin should be my responsibility,
but should like confirmation.
2. Am not clear as to position in Portuguese Timor or intentions
there, please inform me.
3. Arrived Batavia today 10/1 with nucleus staff and held
conference with Hart, Brett, Burnett and Dutch representative.
Will cable result in separate telegram.
(Abdacom, Batavia, 2126/10 to W.O.)

America & West Indies.

SKEENA. Reports hove to in 054° 30' N. 041° 20' W. with
serious weather damage and will return St. Johns
N.F. when weather moderates.
(C.C.N.F., 0707Z/10 to Commodore S.C.63,
PRIMROSE Cdr. Task Unit No. 4.1.11.)

ADVENTURESS. Your 1203A/9 is ADVENTURESS fitted with Asdic.
If not it is essential she should be fitted before
leaving U.K. (2) Request E.T.A. Bermuda.
(3) Further signal will be made regarding crew.
(C. in C. A.W.I., 1002Q/10 to Admty.)

IRISH POPLAR. O.N.53. IRISH POPLAR is missing from convoy.
Other ships of her company have formerly broken
convoy regulations. Master should be questioned
on arrival and report made by signal.
(D.T.D. 1204/10 to N.C.S.O. St. John (N.B.)).

DESPATCH. My 1823Q/8. C. in C. U.S.Fleet has approved of
DESPATCH proceeding to ^{*}Talara instead of Callao.
(C. in C. A.W.I., 1232Q/10 to DESPATCH).

*Tuana - See p. 147

/BISHOPDALE ...

War Diary.10.1.1942.
Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies - Contd.

- BISHOPDALE. Your 1751R/8 being passed to Admty. BISHOPDALE can be spared so far as I am concerned but Admty. stated on 5/1 that she was required for service elsewhere as early as practicable, ship to dock in U.S. first. Request early decision in order that loading instructions may be amended for BISHOPDALE to embark full.
(C. in C. A.W.I., 1242Q/10 to B.A.D.)
- PANDORA. A.M. 1705/9. Preferred for operational reasons that PANDORA shall call at Bermuda and not Halifax and it is intended to instruct her accordingly. C. in C. A.W.I. is requested to issue route instructions. Date of readiness for sailing will be reported shortly.
(B.A.R.M., 1322R/10 to Admty.)
- Convoys Dates &c.
N.A. 2,3,4,5. (N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 1437Z/10 to Admty.)
T.C. 17.
- VAN KINSBERGEN. Departure VAN KINSBERGEN (Task Unit 6.3.1.) for patrol Bauxite route Surinam - Trinidad.
(N.O.I.C. Trinidad, 1622Q/10 to C. in C. A.W.I.)
- Vichy French Ships. Your 0959/9 (Requested verification of 1756/8) verification and slight amplification para. 2 of my 1756/8 (begins). U.S. are well aware of H.M.G.'s policy concerning Vichy French vessels and for this reason Opnav have not been informed of this particular application of it.
(Ends.)
(Head of M., 1658A/10 to B.A.D.)
- SCOTTISH HEATHER. Have you any news of SCOTTISH HEATHER due Sydney C.B. 1/1 from Curacao?
(D.T.D., 1705A/10 to D.N.I. Ottawa.)
- MANCHESTER. B.A.R.M. is requested to arrange for MANCHESTER, manned in accordance with A.M. 2217A/3/10, to carry out one week's work up in U.S.A. waters and then to be sailed for Bermuda. 2. Ship should pick up one Walrus aircraft at Bermuda. 3. C. in C. A.W.I. is requested to arrange onward passage to U.K. Destination Portsmouth. 4. Circumstances permitting, it is intended that 14 days leave in one watch shall be given to personnel who remained in ship during refit. 5. After completing to full complement ship will work up in U.K. before joining Home Fleet.
(D.O.D.(F), 1754A/10 to B.A.R.M., C. in C. A.W.I.)

SECRET M E S S A G E 1318/10 January OUT
To "A" Message Home and Abroad 37A. Date 10.1.42.
Naval Code (J) Secret. NOTPRINT.

From Admiralty.

NITE BASEGRAM

37A Following is Summary of Anglo-United States Recognition.

1. All H.M. Ships and Aircraft use current British recognition systems. ANDUSREC is used in Andus area as ordered by C. in C. Eastern Fleet.
2. All U.S. Warships.
 - (a) Are fully conversant with British recognition procedure and can understand all British recognition signals.
 - (b) Employ British flashing signals.
3. VF gear, submarine pyrotechnics and display signals are now being fitted in U.S. warships. Until equipment is complete U.S. warships and aircraft use systems detailed in following paragraphs.
4. U.S. Major War Vessels in the Atlantic:
 - (a) Use VF from S.P. 02294 Series.
 - (b) Do NOT use either Day or Night U.S. Emergency Signals from S.P.O. 2414.
5. U.S. Major War Vessels in the Pacific:
 - (a) Use Day and Night U.S. Emergency Signals from S.P. 02414.
 - (b) Do NOT use VF.
6. U.S. Major War Vessels in ANDUS Area:
 - (a) Use ANDUSREC.
 - (b) Use Day and Night U.S. Emergency Signals from S.P. 02414
 - (c) Do NOT use VF.
7. U.S. Minor War Vessels in the Atlantic:
 - (a) Use Display Signals from S.P. 02295 Series.
 - (b) Do NOT use either Day or Night U.S. Emergency signals from S.P. 02414.
8. U.S. Minor War Vessels in the Pacific:
 - (a) Use Day and Night Emergency Signals from S.P. 02414.
 - (b) Do NOT use Display Signals.
9. U.S. Minor War Vessels in ANDUS Area:
 - (a) Use ANDUSREC.
 - (b) Use Day and Night U.S. Emergency Signals from S.P. 02414
 - (c) Do NOT use Display Signals.
10. U.S. Submarines in the Atlantic:
 - (a) Use Identification Flares from S.P. 02293 Series.
 - (b) Use Day Smoke Grenades from S.P. 02293 Series when on surface and submerged (U.S. use Black smoke when British use Blue smoke).
 - (c) Use U.S. Night Emergency Signals from S.P. 02414 to surface vessels.
 - (d) Do NOT use U.S. day Emergency Signals from S.P. 02414.

11. U.S. Submarines in the Pacific:
 - (a) Use Day Smoke Grenades from S.P.02293 Series when on surface and submerged (U.S. use Black smoke when British use Blue smoke).
 - (b) Use U.S. Night Emergency Signals from S.P.02414 to surface vessels.
 - (c) Do NOT use identification flares from S.P.02293 Series
 - (d) Do NOT use U.S. Day Emergency Signals from S.P.02414

12. U.S. Submarines in ANDUS Area:
 - (a) Use ANDUSREC.
 - (b) Use Day and Night U.S. Emergency Signals from S.P.02414
 - (c) Do NOT use identification flares from S.P. 02293 Series.
 - (d) Do NOT use Day Smoke Grenades from S.P.02293 Series.

13. All U.S. Submarines use Yellow Smoke Candle as a stand-by recognition signal when submerged.

14. Aircraft.

ALL U.S. Aircraft are fully conversant with British recognition procedure and able to understand British signals. Flashing lamps and two-star cartridge gear now being fitted. Until equipment is complete, position of U.S. Aircraft is as stated below:

 - (a) All aircraft in the Atlantic and Pacific (except fighters) use flashing signals from S.P.02292 Series.
 - (b) Aircraft in ANDUS Area not yet equipped with flashing lights, use U.S. Night Emergency Signals from S.P.02414.
 - (c) Aircraft based on Iceland use two-star cartridge from S.P.02292 Series.

15. Reference paras. 4 and 7, U.S. Major and Minor War Vessels of Greenland Patrol are not yet equipped with VF or Display Signals and will employ flashing signals only.

16. Cancel Admiralty 776A/5th Nov. 1941 and 986A/31st Dec. 1941.

1318/10.

for D.S.D. (284)

V.C.N.S.	M.(15) and for:-
A.C.N.S.(H)	War Office (Captain Jones A.A.4
A.C.N.S.(F)	(a))
N.A.1st S.L.	Air Min.(F.O.6 and Sigs.5)
O.D.(5)	H.Q.F.C.
Ops.(3)	H.Q.B.C.
A.E.(Commander Leppert) (3)	H.Q.C.C.
D.N.I.(4)	W/T Room (2)
D.S.D.(2)	A.C.R.N.
D.of P.(3)	A.C.R.
N.I.D.10	D.T.D.(4)
O.I.C.(3)	Hydrog.
I.F.(3)	D.of V.
W.D.	File X.
D.N.A.D.	D.of S.
H.W.R.(2)	D.A.S.(3)
M.Books (2)	D.N.Os(4)
	S.W.R.

} Bath.

War Diary.10.1.1942.
Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies.- Contd.

ST. PIERRE. Is aground on Wips Rock Halifax Harbour.
(C.O.A.C. Halifax, 1939Z/10.)

Convoy Escorted by ROCKINGHAM and HAMILTON sailed
N.A. 1. Halifax 1800Z/10. S. of A. 14 knots.
Route as in Admty. 1745A/7.
BEVERLEY will relieve HAMILTON at 1200Z/13 in
041° 50' N. 044° 15' W.
QUEEN OF BERMUDA did not sail. Request Admiralty allocate
fighter protection code word.
(C.O.A.C. Halifax, 1951Z/10.)

S.C. 63. S.C. 63 serial 8 reply to this message describing
position at which convoy may reform on the 11th
and 12th at 1200Z. Stragglers will then be
informed by Admiralty Broadcast.
(U.S. C.N.O., 1953/10 to Cmd. Task Unit No. 4.1.11. Repeated
N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, Admty., Cmdr. Task Force No.4, Cmdr. Task
Group No. 7.5 and 4.6, C. in C. Atlantic Fleet (U.S.), C. in C.
A. & W.I., C.C.N.F., C.O.A.C. Halifax.)

NIKOLINA Following received from Iceland. S O S DE
MATKOVIC. NIKOLINA MATKOVIC lost rudder 53.22 N. 43.00 W.
about, please assistance immediately. Belle
Isle Labrador W/T 74.5 approx.
(Scapa W/T, 2134/10.)

Australia and New Zealand.

Convoy Your 1545A/5. Following groups in use in
Short Australia: A.T, T.A, N.E, V.K, Z.T, O.W, M.S,
Titles. Q.L, L.Q, P.G, G.P, C.O, O.C, C.F, F.C. If
necessary request you supply alternative groups.
(A.C.N.B., 0803Z/10 to Admty.)

Convoy KANIMBLA escorting convoy M.S.1. (List of ships)
M.S.1. departed 0514Z/10 from Port Phillip.
(A.C.N.B., 1447Z/10.)

Convoy Arrival Wellington 1702Z/9 ADELAIDE escorting
V.K. 1. convoy V.K.1.
(N.B. Melbourne, 1841Z/10.)

War Diary.

10.1.1942
Saturday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Submarines Reported.

1200

U-boat suspected in position 240° S. Fair
Isle light 9 miles at 1200/10.
(A.C.O.S. 1229A/10.)

Estimated approximate position of U-Boats.
(D.D.I.C. 1416A/10, 1417A/10.)

Submarines Attacked.

By CAPE
PALLISER.

Scapa W/T from CAPE PALLISER one enemy
submarine submerged in 62.44 N., 14.17 W.
(CAPE PALLISER, 1720/10.)
Submarine submerged still in contact and
attacking. Position (as 1720/10).
(CAPE PALLISER 1845/10 to S. and A.,
Orkneys etc.)

See p 227

War Diary.

11.1.1942.
Sunday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

Enemy coastal batteries fired 14 rounds between 2021 and 2142 today during the passage of C.W.64. No damage or casualties are reported.

British Air Operations.

Wilhelmshaven.

86 aircraft of Bomber Command attacked ~~Brest~~ and 23 Emden.

Mining.

Enemy aircraft laid mines between 1830 and 1945 today, in the outer Thames Estuary. R.D.F. reports of mines in the Thames area were of areas in which there were no patrol vessels stationed.

Mediterranean.

Malta had several alerts today. No damage or casualties were caused.

War Diary.

11.1.1942
Sunday

SITUATION REPORT.

China.

The general organisation of H.Q. of the Supreme Command Commander S.W. Pacific is given in a message from General Wavell today.

Malaya.

S.S. WULIN was bombed and is presumed to have been sunk in the Muar River. (Johore Strait) today, and another small ship is also reported to have been sunk in the river. Another ship is believed to have been hit during air attack on coastal shipping between Muar and Malacca. Small damage was caused at Malacca.

Burma.

A concentration of 60 barges is reported at Raheng (Burma).

Borneo.

The enemy landed at Tarakan (N.E. coast of Borneo) last night. 16 enemy transports, 6 cruisers and 6 destroyers were sighted near Poalce Boensoe (about 25 miles from Tarakan. A later report estimates that this force also includes a battleship and additional auxiliaries.

Celebes.

Australian Hudson aircraft flying from Ambon report 2 probable and 2 possible hits on cruiser and transport off Menado and Lemo.

America and West Indies.

Several ships are in distress of weather in the western North Atlantic.

A report from Comdr. Furse on the despatch of U.S. troops to Brazil and Peru was forwarded by N.O.I.C. Trinidad today.

Australia and New Zealand.

Samoa was attacked by aircraft at 1335 and by surface craft at 1350 local time today.

War Diary.11.1.1942.
Sunday.HOME COMMANDS.Policy.

Force J. Rear-Admiral Hamilton. Your 1046A/9, 1230A/9, and 1129A/10. Flag of F.O.C. Force J was struck on 4/1. Request your 1840A/5 may be cancelled. (C. in C. H.F., 1035A/11 to Admty.)

HECLA. Re replacement by BLENHEIM. (A.C.I.C., 1335A/11, 1940/12 to Admty.)

CLEOPATRA. Request you will report date on which CLEOPATRA will be ready for service. (A.C.N.S. (H.), 1927A/11 to C. in C. H.F.)

British Ambassador. Ambassador left by plane today 1100C for Murmansk. (S.B.N.O. Archangel, ?2015C/10.)

Flag of V.A. 2. Flag V.A. 2 transferred to RENOWN p.m. today. (V.A.2, 2337A/11.)

Movements.

NIGERIA, KENYA. Scapa departure C.S.10 in NIGERIA with KENYA. (A.C.O.S., 0356/11.)

MAYO, LEARY, BABBITT, SCHENCK, SIMPSON. My 0120A/11. U.S. Destroyers MAYO, LEARY, BABBITT, SCHENCK, SIMPSON have returned Reykjavik owing to weather. (N.O.I.C. Iceland, 0631A/11.) O.N.J.55. 5 U.S. destroyers off Reykjanes to southward. (A.C.I.C., 1851A/11 to Ships.)

H. 28. At 2100/13 intend to sail H. 28 escorted by BREDA from Rothesay to arrive Lough Foyle 0900/14. (Capt. S.7, 1022A/11.) *Cancelled 13/1 - See p. 303*

SUFFOLK. My 1150/8/1. Passes Pierheads 2100/14. Request fighter protection. (F.O.I.C. Tyne, 1100/11 to C. in C. Rosyth.)

RUBIS. RUBIS passes through 270° Wolf Rock 3 miles at 1900A/12, thence diving by day through 48° N. 8° W., thence south-eastward. (Capt. S.9, 1155A/11 to S/Ms Area A.)

War Diary.11.1.1942.
Sunday.HOME COMMANDS.Movements - Contd.

ILLUSTRIOUS. Admiralty's 1653A/29 and your 2315A/29.
Tentative programme as follows. Details.
Complete with Oil Fuel 2nd March low angle day
and night fill calibre firings and A.D.T. or A.R.T.
Above absolutely dependent on good weather and facilities
being available. Working up practices could be carried out
on passage after leaving U.K. and at ports of call.
If Admiralty considers ranging and deperming necessary,
further time will be required.
(ILLUSTRIOUS, 1347A/11.)

→ HERMIONE. Sailed 1230 HERMIONE flying flag of R.A.
Syfret.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 1418A/11.)
HERMIONE E.T.A. 0830/14. S. of A. 21½ knots.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 1744A/11.)

O. 24. Cancel my 1049A/9 and my 1851A/10. (1) Pass
through 049° 30' N. 012° W. adjusting your
speed to R/V with LOCH MONTEITH in 180° Lizard
Head 3 miles at 0900A/13 for passage Falmouth
and onward escort to Dundee.
(2) Lights arranged as follows.
(Capt. S.9, 1449A/11 to O.24.)

DEWSBURY. Rescue ship DEWSBURY reports 7 days coal
remaining noon today. NARCISSUS ordered to
escort her to Iceland (C) and return alone to
rejoin group with all despatch.
(BOADICEA, 1701A/11.) *See also p. 255*

A.F.D. XV. My 1621A/10. Sailed.
(N.O.I.C. Methil, 1724/11.)

EDINBURGH. Your 1417A/11.
S.A. escort one destroyer from Rosyth and one
from Nore can be provided for EDINBURGH.
Consider S.A. escort should commence 26 buoy and that
destroyers should R/V EDINBURGH at 26 Buoy at 0930/15.
(C. in C. Rosyth, 1913/11 to C. in C. H.F.)

→ Informing HERMIONE. Position of O.24 at 0800/11 was 049° 40' N.
009° 45' W. diving by day, due R/V 270° 3 at
0900/12.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 1302/11 to HERMIONE.)

LORD GREY, Your 1541A/11. 3 Trawlers are to sail as
ROSALIND, arranged. AIGLON will be dealt with separately.
ROSAMONDE. (D.M.S., 1913A/11 to F.O.I.C. Milford Haven.)

War Diary.

11.1.1942.
Sunday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operations.

Denmark Strait Patrol. NORFOLK arrived Hvalfjord 2125/10.
(A.C.I.C., 0220A/11.)
2159A tonight. Cruiser and 2 corvettes on patrol "White". 2 corvettes 048° N. 024° 30' W. to patrol "White".
(A.C.I.C., 1703A/11.)

White Sea Approaches. One Russian destroyer is on patrol north of line Svyatoi Nos to Kanin.
(S.B.N.O. Archangel, 1010C/11 to CUMBERLAND.)

Exercise. Exercises with RENOWN cancelled. Weather unsuitable.
(RENOWN, 1048A/11 to KENT.)

M.L. A/S Patrol. My 1842A/10. S.O. reports weather non-operational and deteriorating and is returning to harbour.
(N.O.I.C. Stornoway, 1106A/11.)
Cancel my 1918A/9. M.L's are to be recalled unless they are in contact.
(C. in C. W.A., 1155A/11 to N.O.I.C. Stornoway.)

Operation "Curlew". Carry out operation "Curlew" tonight 11/12.
(C. in C. Portsmouth, 1137A/11 to TORMENTOR, M.G.B.316, 11 Group.) *See p. 178*
(Landing at, 7/12 of defences at St. Laurent, N. coast France.)

Patrol. 3 M.G.Bs. and 2 Eureka's operating to southward of Isle of Wight 1800/11, 1000/12.
(C. in C. Portsmouth, 1417A/11.)

→ SEALION. (1) R/V with KINGSTON JACINTH and 3 trawlers (U.S. S/M) 050° 31', 000° 41' at 0845.
see below. (2) Trawlers will be spread at visibility distance 2 each side E.A 5.00 on line bearing 90-270° with KINGSTON JACINTH West Centre.
(3) At 0945 all trawlers advance 5 miles 180°.
(4) 3 M.G.B. and 2 assault landing craft arrive E A 5 from southward about 1030 and C.W. convoy at E A 3 from eastward about 1000.
(5) 3 Swordfish aircraft will be in the vicinity of R/V to assist you make contact.
(6) Sanctuary in force 0800 to 1200.
(Capt. S.5, 1430A/11 to SEALION.)

→ Informing BLENCATHRA. Following ships may be met. U.S. S/M SEALION due E A 5 0900/12. 2 or 3 M.G.Bs. and 2 A.L.C. approaching E A 5 from southward 1030/12. 4 trawlers covering approach of vessels in para. 2 and 3. 3 Swordfish A/C will be operating south and east E A 5 from 0845/12.
(C. in C. Portsmouth, 1503A/11 to BLENCATHRA.)

War Diary.11.1.1942.
Sunday.HOME COMMANDS.Operations - Contd.East Coast
Patrols.

Patrols tonight (1) two M.G.Bs. Q E three.
(2) two M.G.Bs. Q E 4A. (3) three M.Ls.
Q E 6A. (4) two M.G.Bs. Q E 9. (5) two
M.G.Bs. Q P 24. (6) One M.G.B. returns to
Aldeburgh buoy and Harwich from eastward at
daylight.
(C. in C. Nore, 1600A/11.)

British Air Activity.A/C Firing
Practices.

Your Confidential Postagram 1255/5/12/41.
Request F.O.I.C. Tyne may be added to para.(3)
so that he is aware when these practices are
taking place.
(F.O.I.C. Tyne, 1015/11 to C. in C. Rosyth.)

A/C in
ILLUSTRIOUS.

Consider nine folding Martlets, six fixed
Wing Martlets or Hurricanes could be operated
as deck stowage provided additional handling
party asked for in my 1631A/10 were provided.
Request decision including type.
(ILLUSTRIOUS, 1155/11 to Admt.)

Bombing
operations.

On day 10/1 no operations took place. On
Night 10/11 86 A/C bombed Wilhelmshaven, 23
A/C attacked Emden, and 1 A/C bombed Boulogne
Docks.
(H.Q.B.C., 1430/11.)

HOPECROWN
attacked.

S O S AAAA from HOPECROWN in 55° 7' N. 1° 6' W.
attacked by own Avion.
(HOPECROWN, 1519/11.)

Mining.Operation
"Tincture".

Operation completed. Negative result.
(N.O.I.C. Milford Haven, 0919A/11.)

Enemy Intelligence.

Brest.

Brest 0950/11. PRINZ EUGEN alongside T/B
Station. SCHARNHORST and GNEISENAU in Dry
Docks.
(D.D.I.C., 1423A/11.)

Off
Corunna.

One M/V and one S/M escort bearing 240° 4 miles,
steering 150°, position 44° 5' N. 10° 15' W.
(A/C. LCKD, 1615/11.)
(C. in C. Plymouth, 1720A/11 to HERMIONE.)

War Diary.11.1.1942.
Sunday.HOME COMMANDS.Navigational.

54D Buoy. 54D buoy reported light extinguished. Request Q Z H and that buoy may be relit as soon as possible.
(C. in C. Nore, 0947A/11.)
(Hydrographer, 1228A/11.)

Hvalfiord. Head Hvalfiord light buoy number 8 is now 300 feet 240°, and number 13 200 feet 310° from charted position. Request Q Z H.
(A.C.I.C., 1520A/11.)

VIMIERA (Mined 9/1.) Bow portion of wreck of VIMIERA located in 150½° 2.71 miles from south-west Admiralty measured Mile Beacon. Wreck is dangerous to navigation.
(C. in C. Nore, 1726A/11.)

Casualties and Defects.

Unknown Ship. Following received from Lands End Radio. Intercept 0738 G.M.T. Begins. To X.U.D.1 from 34. 53 has collided with my port bow causing (unread) to bulk (unread). Require survey before proceeding. Please inform D.S.T.O. Ends.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 0841/11 to Admty.)

AIGLON. C. in C. W.A. 2308A/8. AIGLON has engine defects which will delay departure for six days.
(F.O.I.C. Milford Haven, 1541A/11.)

Unknown Ship. W C C de BLTD (Not known). Reykjavik noon position 11/1, about 280 miles 95° off Dormouse South Storm, drifting about north. Engine trouble, heavy list, pumps not working, lost 3 lifeboats. Situation critical. Send assistance immediately. Master.
(Reykjavik, T.O.R. 1754/11.)

CROMARTY. Am aground Head of Loch Bay, Isle of Skye. Request tug as soon as possible.
(CROMARTY, 1901A/11.)

Your 1901A/11. 2 Tugs are coming to your assistance.
(R.A.M., 2107/11 to CROMARTY.)
Have despatched ST. OLAVES to Loch Bay to assist CROMARTY.
(N.O.I.C. Stornoway, 2112A/11.)
Return to Stornoway.
(F.O.I.C. Greenock, 2207A/11 to ST. OLAVES.)

War Diary.

11.1.1942.
Sunday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Casualties and Defects - Contd.

HALCYON. Your 1601A/11. ^{N.T. W.D.} Concur if you do not consider HALCYON fit for service in North Russia she is to return to Scapa and may be used to escort ships of Q.P. 4 from Seidisfjord. Otherwise she should sail from Hvalfjord with P.Q.9. (C. in C. H.F., 1935A/11 to A.C.I.C.)

Shipping and Convoys.

O.G. 78. Clyde portion O.G.78 did not sail owing to fog. (N.C.S.O. Clyde, 0101/11.) Intend sailing Clyde section O.G.78 at 0030/12. Weather now clear. (N.C.S.O. Clyde, 2110/11.)

P.Q. 7B. P.Q. 7B with ICARUS and TARTAR arrived Murmansk. (S.B.N.O. North Russia, 0937A/11.)

S.C. 61. Warmest congratulations on bringing safely to the U.K. all ships in your convoy S.C. 61. (C. in C. W.A., 1041A/11 to Rear-Admiral Candy.)

W.S. 15. C. in C. W.A. 1238A/9. ^{N.T. W.D.} Arrived. (N.O.I.C. Milford Haven, 1109A/11 to N.O.I.C. Greenock.)

My 2325A/10 and 0946A/11. N.C.S.O. Belfast is to sail Liverpool section escorted by WALKER, VANOC, and HEEMSKERCK to R/V in (A) 270° Oversay 16 miles at 0930Z/12. (C. in C. W.A., 2144A/11.)

F.N. 601. My 1750/10. No ships sailed from Humber owing to fog. (N.C.S.O. Humber, 1115/11.)

North Atlantic Convoys. Your 2001R/9. These proposals are generally concurred in. The following are comments:-
(i) para. 2 (A) and (B) concur.
(C) Concur as regards 52 corvettes employed on N. Atlantic convoys, but 16 corvettes over and above these are required for Gibraltar convoys.
(ii) para. 3 (A) Concur as regards number of groups and corvettes but on account of numerous calls for special escorts it would not normally be possible for more than one W.As' Long-leg destroyer to be available in any one group though it is agreed that two are desirable.
(B) British Long-leg destroyers have not sufficient endurance for the trip from Halifax to Londonderry at convoy speed.
(C) Concur but in groups having British Long-leg destroyers local escort would have to be supplemented by corvettes or additional short-legged destroyers as British long-legged destroyers would have to start from St. Johns.

/(D) As ...

War Diary.11.1.1942.
Sunday.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping and Convoys.North
Atlantic
Convoys.
(Contd.)

(D) As danger areas may be encountered in mid-Atlantic it is suggested that these support groups should when possible be formed of long-legged destroyers.

(E) Concur but it is considered unlikely that dispersal can take place in 45° W.

(F) Presumably these would be U.S. short-leg destroyers or Canadian long leg destroyers. British short-leg destroyers could not do this trip.

(iii) para. 4. Concur generally.

(iv) para. 5. It is proposed that the transfer of operational control from British to U.S. Authorities should take place at an agreed time rather than on reaching a position. The time selected would be approx. that at which the convoy was expected to pass from British to U.S. areas of control and vice versa and would be referred to as "Chop".

(v) para. 6. Concur.

3. The following are detailed proposals for implementing the scheme.

(a) The minimum ocean escort for any convoy to consist of not less than 1 long-leg destroyer and 5 corvettes.

(b) Ocean escort of H.X. - O.N. convoys to be provided by 7 groups composed of U.S. long-leg destroyers and R.C.N. corvettes.

(c) Ocean escort for S.C. - O.N.S. convoys to be provided by 7 groups composed of a British long-legged destroyer and R.N. Corvettes operating between St. Johns and Londonderry.

(d) Local escorts to be provided as follows:-

(i) From Halifax: H.X. convoys 2 or 3 U.S. short-leg destroyers, S.C. convoys 2 or 3 British short-leg destroyers and 3 or 2 R.C.N. corvettes.

(ii) From Londonderry: H.X. - O.N. convoys none. S.C. - O.N.S. convoys one or two British short-leg destroyers to relieve or turn over to British long-leg destroyers about 22° W.

4. Since W.A. would not be required to provide local escort in U.K. waters for H.X. - O.N. convoys half the Western Approaches short-leg destroyers would be available to provide local escort for S.C. - O.N.S. convoys in Canadian Waters.

5. Convoy routes would normally adhere to the Great Circle as closely as possible but the scheme proposed allows for wide diversions by an extension of the route up to about 4 convoy days.

6. The position in 45° W. where the escorts from St. Johns join and leave to be known as the "Westomp", that where those from Londonderry join and leave to be known as the "Eastomp". This latter would only apply to S.C. - O.N.S. convoys.

7. If the above scheme is agreed it is proposed that the escort of T.C., C.T. and N.A. convoys should be provided by the R.C.N. long-leg and U.S. destroyers not included in the convoy escort groups, as Western Approaches will not have sufficient long-leg destroyers to meet this commitment.

8. These proposals supersede those for S.C. - O.N.S. convoys given in my 1119/6/12.

(A.C.N.S. (T), 1239A/11 to B.A.D. Washington.)

War Diary.11.1.1942.
Sunday.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping and Convoys - Contd.

- ELONA. Tankers for Russia. Following for M.W.T. from Maclay. ELONA discharges 8200 tons in 304 hours of which 147 hours were stoppages mainly due to delay in clearing shore tanks into tank waggons.
(2) What is your suggested tanker programme after two tankers in P.Q.8. Consider no further white oil tankers should be included in convoys until position is clearer.
(S.B.N.O. Archangel, 1240C/11 to Admty.)
- P.Q. 9. Following for M.W.T. from Maclay Archangel. Urgent present advice is that P.Q. 9 intends sailing Iceland 15/1. Consider wise postpone sailing for several days until we are able to judge performance discharging P.Q. 7B.
2. If Admiralty consider essential arrange sailing date now of P.Q. 9, suggest not earlier than 20/1.
(Archangel, 1420/11 to Admty.)
- W/T silence. Cancel instructions to break W/T silence when crossing certain longitudes.
(D.T.D., 1510Z/11 to Ships Areas 1 and 7.)
- N.A. 1. Canadian troop convoy N.A. 1 consisting of BERGENSFIORD and STRATHEDEN escorted by ROCKINGHAM and BEVERLEY expects to pass through 41° 50' N. 44° 15' W. at 1200Z/13.
2. Convoy is routed thence through positions (C) 46° N., 34° W. (D) 49° N., 24° W., (E) 180°. Fast net Rock 10 miles thence by Q Z F 18 to Clyde.
3. Speed of advance 14 knots.
(D.O.D. H., 1643A/11.)
- S.C. 63. Am proceeding towards Iceland with DEWSBURY who requires bunkering. Intend leaving her on making landfall to R/V with S.C. 63 at M.O.M.P. My P.C.S. at 1200Z, 055° 30' N. 25° 40' W., 003°, 10½ knots.
(NARCISSUS, 1716Z/11.) *See p. 249*
- F.S. 696. My 1454/11. Amend to read F.S. 696 weighed and proceeded from 18A buoy at 1700.
(C. in C. Rosyth, 1752/11.)
- P.Q. 10. 41st and 42nd A/S groups will be employed to escort P.Q. and Q.P. convoys between Loch Ewe and Seidisfjord starting with P.Q.10 on 25/1.
2. These groups will be based on Stornoway and are to be administered by N.O.I.C. Stornoway.
3. A.C.I.C. Is requested to sail groups to comply with Admiralty 1236A/10.
(C. in C. W.A., 1935A/11.)

War Diary.11.1.1942.
Sunday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic.

- UTMOST. Your 1536A/7th. Anticipate I will be 5 hours late at 0700A/11 Position due to weather. (UTMOST, 0001A/11 to F.O.C.N.A.) CLYDE and SEVERN exercise with Destroyers and M.Ls. between 005° 05' W., and 005° 20' W., from 0900A/12. (F.O.C.N.A., 2238A/11 to UTMOST).
- WELSHMAN. ^{N.T. in W.D.} My 1520/10 sailed. WELSHMAN. Q.G.A. 64, Q.G.B. 84. (F.O.C.N.A., 0902A/11 to C. in C. S.A.)
- French Shipping. Passings 10/1. Eastbound BELLE ISLE in ballast, MONTESQUIEU, CEPHEE, laden. (V.A.C.N.A., 1009A/11) Gibraltar 0925 Destroyer TEMPETE, S.S. PARAME, CARIMARE, all laden and deck cargoes lorries, PORT DE BOUC full, Westbound. (S.O.(I) Gibraltar, 1747A/11).
- 2 ships. Your 1824A/10 (N.T. in W.D.) in existing circumstances and as escort cannot be provided these two ships should be held for the present. (D.T.D., 1224A/11 to F.O.C.N.A.)
- S.B.R. Institute S.B.R. as follows (1) 30 miles either side of a line joining 049° 57' N., 005° 53' W. and 048° N., 008° W., from 1800/12 to 2359/13. (ii) in area 54 from 2359/12 to 2359/14. All B.S.T. (H.Q.C.C., 1320/11 1615A/11 to Gibraltar).
- TALISMAN. T.B.R. by night and S.R. by day arrange that you will be in following positions at 2000A. 037° 56' 007° 18' E., on 11th 037° 40' 005° 18' E., on 12th 037° 24' 003° 18' E., on 13th 037° 11' 001° 18' E., on 14th 036° 33' 000° 33' W., on 15th 035° 53' 002° 25' W., on 16th 035° 55' 004° 15' W., on 17th. Report if unable to keep within 2 hours of these times. (F.O.C.N.A., 1438A/11 to TALISMAN). Serial No. G.6 (6). Institute S.B.R. in area 51 South of 50° 10' N., and East of the Meridian Bishops Rock from 1200/12 till further notice. (H.Q.C.C., 2335/11 to R.A.F. Gibraltar) Your 1438A/11 a.m./15 hours astern of schedule my position no sight no log 038° 07' 08° 37'. Have (?no information) of P.36. weather report 1856 0975. (TALISMAN, 2000A/11 to F.O.C.N.A. (R) P.36).

War Diary.

11.1.1942.
Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic. - Contd.

CAMPBELTOWN. Your 1050A/31/12. In view of unsatisfactory state of H.M.S. CAMPBELTOWN machinery I am sailing her with S.L.97 G to Davis Strait calling at Ponta Delgada for fuel and with a view to her refit in U.K.
(F.O.C.N.A., 1620A/11 to C. in C. W.A.)

Reporting and attacking S/Ms. AP/405 11/1 please confirm that instructions relating to reporting by W/T and attack of S/Ms between Gibraltar and Latitude of 43° N., are similar to those contained in para. 12, 13, 14, and 16 of F.S.A.5. (H.Q.C.C., 1636/11 to Admty).

Duties of Force H. The instructions contained in A.M. 1152/30/12/40 were designed to meet the case of F.O. H., being either senior or junior to V.A.C.N.A. No alteration to these instructions is contemplated as a result of Admiral Syfret's appointment.
(V.C.N.S., 1926A/11 to F.O.C.N.A., F.O. Force H).

South Atlantic.

ARNDALE. My 1128Z/3 and your 1300Z/9. Leave patrol to arrive Montevideo 1230Z/19 embark provisions and mails.
(2) Regret no cable available but it may be possible to recover your lost cable with shore resources.
(3) Possibly fairlead can be fitted but you must arrive Port Stanley not later than a.m./26.
(4) As necessary acknowledge.
(R.A.S.A.D., 0108Z/11 to ARNDALE)

DAUNTLESS. My 1241/9. May DAUNTLESS take up to 200 tons of fuel at Ponta Delgada (?). Otherwise she cannot make passage Bathurst to Plymouth at more than an average of 15 knots through water which, particularly in view of cargo carried in accordance with Admty 1629/29/11 and 1513/21/11 is not considered sufficient. Even this speed would allow little to spare for diversion. Alternatively she could be routed via Gibraltar.
(C. in C. S.A., 0911Z/11 to Admty). *See also next page*

/Raider...

War Diary.

11.1.1942.
Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic. - Contd.

Raider
report.

Your 1237A/10. No.
(C. in C. S.A., 1254Z/11 to Admty).

CILICIA.

Following is a repetition of my 2113Z/8 to
N.A. Assistant Rio de Janeiro.
Visit (a) CILICIA (b) 1230Z/13 (c) 24 hours.
(refuel etc).
(R.A.S.A.D., 1438Z/10 to CILICIA).

DAUNTLESS.

Your 0911/11. Approved for DAUNTLESS to call
at Ponta Delgada for fuel.
2. F.O.C.N.A. is requested to divert her to
Gibraltar if U-boat situation is unfavourable in
the Azores as ship approaches.
3. DAUNTLESS should embark sufficient oil to
allow for 2 days extra at sea between Azores and
U.K. (A.C.N.S. (F), 2154A/11 to C. in C. S.A.,
F.O.C.N.A., C: in C. W.A., DAUNTLESS).

See preceding page

W.S.14
Ships to
proceed to
Durban.

Following is a repetition of my 0104Z/5 ^{N.T.W.D.}
addressed RAMILLIES, DERBYSHIRE repeated N.O.I.C.
Simonstown Admty. Begins. Cancel my 1531Z/2 ^{N.T.W.D.}
to RAMILLIES only. Ends. _{W.D.}
(C. in C. S.A., 2358Z/11 to Admty).

Mediterranean.

INDOMITABLE.

1401Z/10 arrived NAPIER, NESTOR, NIZAM,
INDOMITABLE. (N .O.I.C. Aden, 0631Z/11)

SAVORGNAN
DE BRAZZA.

Instructions for sailing to Durban.
(N.O.I.C. Aden, 0642Z/11).

A/S Search.

On arrival of ^{x Not identified} NAUSANG at Benghazi KIMBERLEY
and HOTSPUR return forthwith to Tobruk and carry
out A/S search in approaches tonight 11/12.
U-boats suspected to be operating close in by
night. Convoy "Rusty" E.T.A. Tobruk about 2300/11.
(C. in C. Med., 0931B/11 to KIMBERLEY, S.O.
Force I (R) HOTSPUR, HERO, N.O.I.C. Benghazi,
N.O.I.C. Tobruk, 201 N.C. Group).
My 1902B/11. Search is to be carried out in
Eastern Approaches to Tobruk as far as 024° 40' E.
(C. in C. Med., 1945B/11 to KIMBERLEY (R) HOTSPUR)

War Diary.

11.1.1942.
Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean. - Contd.

Unidentified Ship.

Small unidentified ship probably warship reported in approx. 035° 53' N., 035° 50' E., at 0930C/11. Investigate. Cancel N.O.I.C. Port Said's 1211B/10.*(N.O.I.C. Syrian Ports., 1015C/11 to ERICA).* No trace in War Reg.

ALPHERAT,
ROACH.
DESTRO.

ALPHERAT in tow of DESTRO and ROACH left Mersina 1600/8 for Alexandretta and have not yet arrived. They were ordered to make use of Turkey territorial waters. If nothing suspicious found from investigation ordered in my 1015C/11 proceed to search along-side route from Mersina to Alexandretta and in Gulf of Alexandretta keeping outside Turkey territorial waters. DESTRO has been ordered to report her position to me. R.A.F. will send plane to search as soon as weather permits. (N.O.I.C. Syrian Ports., 1046C/11 to ERICA).

S/M.

My 1015C/11. Submarine was reported in same position at 1830 last night. (?S.O. Force I., 1107C/11 to ERICA). Following has been read. Shift patrol 80 miles westward position of enemy submarine is 32° 18' N., 25° 43' E. (R.A.F. Call sign VONI, 1224/11).

FARNDALE,
ERIDGE,
PEONY.

Detach FARNDALE and ERIDGE to return to Harbour to assume full escort duties. PEONY sailing when ready to join you. (R.A. Alexandria, 1243B/11 to Capt. (D) 2, (R) FARNDALE, ERIDGE, R.A. (D) Med., C. in C. Med. PEONY, HASTY.) My 1243/11 FARNDALE and ERIDGE should arrive Alexandria before dark. PEONY sailed 1500. (R.A. Alexandria, 1519B/11 to Capt. (D) 2., FARNDALE).

Air Operations.

Night 9/10/1. Three Wellingtons bombed Buerat El Hsun causing large fires and explosions among stores dumps alongside road and near jetty. Two Wellingtons bombed Spanish Mole Tripoli and Stores dumps Sirte respectively. 6. Day 10 January. Severe sandstorms limited operations preventing afternoon flying. Standing fighter patrols maintained over Benghazi Harbour. (C. in C. M.E., 1350/11)

Enemy activity 10th 2 alerts 1405 and 1459 hours 3 raiders cloud cover bombs land no damage or casualties. Night 10/11 1 alert 2052 hours 1 raider bombs sea A.A. fire 11th 5 alerts 0701 1047, 1208, 1318, 1615 hours 11th raiders cloud cover bombs sea and land no damage or casualties.

Part 2. 10th 3 Blenheims despatched attack M/V sighted 0732 hours see my 1.23 found nothing Cape Bon Kerkennah p.m./ R/C sighted 1444 hours 1 small trawler possibly wreck 080° WGAX 20 miles. Night 10/11 no operations heavy rain strong cross wind Luga and Hal Far. (H.Q., R.A.F., Malta, 1750/11.)

War Diary.11.1.1942.
Sunday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean. - Contd.UNIQUE,
Patrol
report.

(1) URGE and P.34 reported blank. UNIQUE reported at 1500B/5th in 040° 07' 017° 07' sighting northbound battleship with cruiser astern and screen of 5 destroyers and 2 flying boats.
(2) UNIQUE right ahead went deep to run out but lost trim returning to periscope depth result that torpedo fired late on (?largest) track range 6000.

(3) 1 heavy explosion 9 minutes after firing, too heavy to be torpedo hitting bottom and water too deep. Consider it was aircraft bomb or possibly a hit.

(4) Periscopic observation 20 minutes later showed much black smoke probably due to destroyer laying screen. No counter attack. (Capt. (S) 10, 1531B/11).

THRASHER.

It is intended to recall you to leave patrol p.m./15 and arrive Alexandria a.m./21.

(Capt. (S)1, 1709B/11 to THRASHER).

It will be necessary for you to remain on patrol until 19th or as ordered by Capt. (S) 1 who will shortly be assuming operational control of all submarines. (Capt. S.1., 1945B/11 to THRASHER).

Information
for PROTEUS.

(? one) escorted Merchant ship expected time of arrival from Haifa A.M./12. (Capt. S.1., 1947B/11 to PROTEUS).

Petrol
shortage.

General situation unchanged. At 1400 aircraft sighted 3 medium 3 small ships and 2 lighters at Buerat. Will be attacked as soon as petrol situation permits, probably tomorrow.

(N.L.O. 8th Army, 2044B/11 to C. in C. Med.,
(R) S.O. Force (I))

~~■~~.
TONELINE.
(misc: Vessel)

B.S.N.O. Tobruk's 2215B/10. ST. MONANCE continue towing to Alexandria if still required otherwise enter Mersa Matruh.

(S.O. Force I., 2144B/11 to SOUTHWOLD).

Enemy
Shipping.

Sighting report by (?)an aircraft 11/1.

(1) one merchant ship 4,000 tons unladen 036° 43' N., 002° 18' W., course 260° 14 knots at 1029B. (2) One merchant ship 4,000 tons 036° 40' N 002° 20' E., course 090° 10 knots at 1153B.

(3) One tanker 3,000 tons 037° 00' N., 006° 30' E. course 270° 6 knots, at 1255B.

(V.A. Malta, 2303B/11 to F.O.C.N.A.)

War Diary.

11.1.1942.
Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

U.S.
Transports.

American Transports ORIZABA, LEONARD WOOD and JOSEPH T. DICKMAN sailed from Bombay on 10/1 for U.S. via the Cape. Approx. date of arrival Capetown 25/1. (P.S.T.O. India, 0535Z/11 to D.S.T.O. Simonstown).

M.V's &
Aircraft
recognition.

Your 1234/8. Following is a repetition of my 1406/15/12. (q.v.)
(C. in C. E.I., 1434Z/11 to Admty.)

Raider
report.

Caledons 1936/9. Have you any further information.
(A.C.N.S.(F) 1909A/11 to C. in C. E.I.)

Addu
Atoll.

Re defences. (C. in C. India, 2185/11).
See Lion Copy.

Raider
Report.

Following received by Colombo Radio at 2203Z/11th strength 3 begins. Q.Q.Q.Q.Q.Q.T.T.Q.Q.U.Q. B.A.A. Any ship or station having fuller detail is to report. (C. in C. E.I., 2314Z/11 to E.I. Station N.C.S.O. Bombay, Admty.)

China.

Burma
Situation
report.

1. At 0405 hours (?Mingaladon) bombs no (? damage) or casualties.
2. Raheng attacked late afternoon 9/1 with 7 P.40.s of A.V.G. and 6 Buffaloes led by American Squadron Leader. Damage caused to Japanese (?Bombers). (G.O.C., Burma, 0145/11).

Philippine Is.
Samoa.

Washops 31. (1) Philippine Is. Commander Philippine Is. reports radio interception night 8th/9th Jan. indicated Force 60 to 80 ships moving north past Manila Bay at distance of 30 to 70 miles off shore. 7 vessels stationary opposite entrance Manila Bay. Thought to indicate further landings are to be made on coast North of Bataan. Japanese landings threatened in north Mindanao. 8 enemy ships located off Initao on east coast Iligan Bay and 12 enemy vessels off Oroquieta on west coast of Iligan Bay.
2. Samoa. C. in C. Pacific Fleet reports Samoa attacked by aircraft at 1335 and by surface craft at 1350 local time 11/1.
3. No Washops signal was made 10/1.
(Joint Staff Mission Washington, 1357R/11).

/Supreme ...

MOST SECRET **MOST SECRET** IN
2103/11th January.

From: C in C. India.

Date. 11.1.42.
Time. 2230.

CYPHER.

Addressed: C in C. East Indies, repeated The War Office.

MOST IMMEDIATE.

025367. 663/G. cipher. 11/1. Most Secret.

ddu ATCU

Reference paras: of Troopers No. 62326 (M.O.12) dated 5/1/42.

First. From information available here we can not estimate scale of defence necessary. Appears that land defence should be adequate in event of fleet being absent. Suggest whole plan best correlated by you with M.N.B.D.O. advice available in light of measures already taken.

Second. Para. 6 (A) (I) read with Para: 3. Suggest ultimately 9.2 inch guns should be provided if mounting feasible. Presume no difficulty in installing interim (?6 omitted) inch 45 degree guns. Comment.

Third. 6 pr. twin guns backed by armour piercing heavy or medium M.Gs. and C.SLS. would appear necessary at all channels against small craft. Forward numbers and sites and possible use of depth charges.

Fourth. Para: 6 (A) (II) Defence against Troop landing. Understood that reefs are not insurmountable to determined attack which in view of experience Hong Kong Malaya might include light tanks. Japanese landed Malaya in N.E. monsoon and big surf. Forward scale of defences including those for landing ground in terms of A/Tk. weapons M.M.Gs, L.M.Gs. A/Tk. mines wire concrete pill boxes beach flares Lyon lights and other devices and views on mobile reserve including number of M.L.Cs. required.

Fifth. Para: 6 (C) A.A. arty. consider deterrent scale density would be 4 gun heavy and 1 gun light entailing three four gun 3.7 inch positions and 12 Bofors. Latter cover to land installations and sea-plane anchorage only as range precludes cover to ship anchorage. If you concur estimate time to instal.

Sixth. Request Major Newling or other officer with first hand knowledge being Delhi your answers to above together with (1) appreciation called for in para: 4 (11) recommendations for outline administrative plan including points mentioned in 6 (B) and 6 (C). To facilitate reply to Troopers para: 6 (D) he should also be prepared to say what personnel and material to meet requirements can be provided from local Naval sources.

Seventh/.

-2-

Seventh. Para: 3 (D) gives no guide as to possible scale of troop landings. As attack on Ceylon estimated at two divisions in Troopers 52490 (M.O.12) dated 18 Nov. 1941 should we provide against major landing operations. Troopers confirm.

Advance copy D.C. 2105/11.

D.O.D. (F) D.D.I.C. Recd. from W.O. A.M./1200

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HMB

War Diary.11.1.1942.
Sunday.FOREIGN STATIONS.China. - contd.

Supreme Commander S.W. Pacific, H.Q. organisation. From General Wavell for Chiefs of Staff. Arrived Batavia morning 10/1. Held conference in afternoon at which Hart, General Brett, Dutch C. in C., Air Marshal Burnett, &c. were present. 3. H.Q. will be established about 10 miles N. of Bandoeng at Lembang, being more suitable than either Batavia or Surabaya.

4. General organisation of H.Q. agreed as follows.

(a) Supreme Commander with Deputy (Brett) and C.O.S. (Pownall) has under him naval land and air branches and administrative branch. Also Intelligence section and publicity section responsible to Supreme Commander through C.O.S.

(b) Naval branch under Hart with British deputy (probably Palliser). He will advise Supreme Cdr. on all naval questions and will also exercise operational control over all naval forces in the area. When necessary task of forces will be designated and commander appointed, otherwise national forces will operate under own commanders, their efforts being combined by directives issued by naval branch which will contain planning operational and organising staff officer of American British and Dutch navies.

(c) Air Branch will be similarly organised under Peirse when available (see my tel: 00005 of 10/1) with American deputy, and will function on same lines. Naval Air Forces of American and Dutch Navies will continue to act under naval command. Until arrival of Peirse American General Brereton with deputy from Dutch Air Force will control air branch. Air Branch will contain Australian representative.

(d) Land forces branch will have similar organisation under General Ter Poorten with Major General Playfair as deputy. General Ter Poorten will continue to exercise functions as C. in C. N.E.I. In practice he will attend daily meeting of service chiefs (see para: (F) below) to advise supreme commander but deputy will control work of branch at other times subject to Gen. Ter Poorten's general direction.

(e) Administrative branch directly under British commander will be controlled by Brett and will deal with general administrative problems. Deputy (?may be) Australian from Middle East if available.

(f) Normally, there will be daily meeting in morning of heads of Navy Air and Land Branches under Supreme Commander. As result of decision given by Supreme Commander operational instructions will be by branches concerned.

5. Naval land and Air representatives are meeting 11/1 to consider detailed composition and work of their respective staffs on above lines. Conference will be held in afternoon to consider their recommendations and also to lay down general lines of action for immediate future in view of present situation and expected reinforcements.

6. Organisation outlined in para: 4 must not be taken as final and is subject to revision as result of to-day's discussion and subsequent experience. Hope to move to new H.Q. in next few days and will take over as soon as possible, in practice am already being referred to for decision on certain points.

(H.Q. Sup. Comdr. S.W. Pacific, 1515/11).

S.S.KINTA. Enemy aircraft attacked S.S.KINTA off Muar. No further details available.
(A.H.Q. F.E., 1900/11).

/North ...

War Diary.

11.1.1942.
Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

China. - contd.

North Borneo. 1. West coast. Original enemy force occupying Beaufort on 3/1 was reinforced that night. Review of position. Unidentified warship was seen off Labuan on 2/1. After arming released internees (there were 142 male internees at Membakut) enemy on 4th January withdrew their military force, but it is believed that a military force has by now arrived by sea at Jesselton. Unconfirmed report received from Kudat today that Resident and Commandant have returned to Jesselton.

2. Sandakan. (a) It must be expected at any moment Japanese regular or irregular forces will arrive at Sandakan. They may come by sea from the west in vessel captured at Labuan or in Brunei vessels or from the east (e.g. Sulu Archipelago) but such precautions as are possible have also been taken against surprise approach overland via Kinabatangan or Labuk rivers. No resistance can be made against either approach - see also advice of C. in C. F.E. conveyed to me in tel. of 19/12 from British Agent. (British Agent, Singapore, 1657/11).

America & West Indies.

Japanese S/M's. Following for San Francisco begins. U.S. Navy reports intercepted messages and recent inactivity indicates Japanese S/M's operating on this coast have been ordered to return to base known to be at (A one) Jaluit Island in Marshall Islands. (Ends). (N.S.H.Q., Ottawa 0450/11 to C. in C. E.F. Repeated N.Z.N.B., A.C.N.B., Admty. Seagoing Authority, B.A.D. Washington, C.O. Pacific Coast).

Casualty. Important. Intercepted at 0435 G.M.T. De 14. S.S.S.S.14. 14 De 14 Colliers? At 0437 G.M.T. from Cape Race S.S.S.S.14 14 Collision 14 14 Collision 23 Collision. (Port Patrick Radio 0538/11). Intercepted at 0455 G.M.T. De Cape Race S.S.S.S.23 sinking position 44.03 N. 61.23 W. (Port Patrick Radio 0546/11, Valentia T.H.I.0548/11, Burnham-on-Sea No T.O.O.) No other details sent, bearing Camperdown 75° very approx. = O.I.C. (Halifax N.S., 0642/11).

QUEEN OF BERMUDA. Refloated and returned to harbour. (C.O.A.C. Halifax, 0606Z/11).

S.S.NIKOLINA MATKOVIK. Intercepted at 0508 G.M.T. S.O.S. NIKOLINA MATKOVIK lost rudder 53.32 N. 43.00 W. about. Please assistance immediately Q.T.W. V.C.M. (Belle Isle Labrador) 74.5 approx. V.C.E.M. (N.O.I.C.Greenock 0609/11, &c.)

War Diary.11.1.1942.
Sunday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America & West Indies. - contd.

- S.C.63. S.C.63 serial No.9 this amends serial No.8 recommend positions at which convoy may reform at 1200Z/12th and 13th. (U.S.C. No. 0610/11 to Task Unit 4.1.11).
- H.P.X.U De H.P.X.U. at 0549 G.M.T. begins S.O.S. 46 North (undecipherable) 45 West need immediate assistance, ends. No bearing obtained. (Valentia, 0549/11 &c.)
or P.H.X.U. Intercept De H.P.X.U. Addressed Cape Race Radio begins, we are sinking and lifeboats gone, ends. (Admiral Devonport, 0657/11 &c. to Admty.)
De H.P.X.U. to Cape Race Radio at 0754 G.M.T. begins: Any help yet sinking fast. Ends. (Valentia Radio, 0754/11 &c. to Admty.)
Intercept at 0820 G.M.T. 500 KC's De V.C.E. Begins:-
S.C.S. De H.P.X.U. 46.00 N. 45.00 W. sinking fast lifeboats smashed need immediate assistance Q T E V C E 106 approx. V G S 95=1/2 approx. V A X 75=1/2 approx. V C M 155 approx. V A W 148=1/2 approx. ends. Not re-broadcast by this station. (Wick Radio No. T.O.O./11).
- PANDORA. ^{/N.T. in W.D.} Admty's 1804A/9. Request you will sail PANDORA accordingly. (C. in C. A.W.I. 1202P/11 to C.O.A.C. Halifax).
- BISHOPDALE. Ref. my 1431 R 7th and my 1751 R 8th being passed to Admiralty and C. in C. A. and W.I. 1242Q 10th please say if BISHOPDALE can be spared for voyage to New Zealand. (B.A.D. Washington, 1323R/11 to Admty.)
See also next page
- BOUGAINVILLE, Ex-VICTOR Report graded C 2 from Dakar states that armed auxiliary BOUGAINVILLE, ex Banana Ship VICTOR
SCHOE LCHER, SCHOE LCHER, which escorted last convoy to arrive
CANADA. from Casablanca prior to 8/1 has been loading munitions including bombs secretly at night from Arsenal Wharf. Unconfirmed rumours vessel will leave for Diego Suarez, Madagascar, vessel painted grey with black band round top of funnel. Hospital Ship CANADA left 8/1 for Conakry. (B.A.D. 1327R/11)
N.I.D. Comment. It is believed that BOUGAINVILLE left Casablanca for Dakar about 27/12.
- U.S. Forces in Following from Commander Furse. U.S. Admiral in
Brazil and Panama states in confidence that U.S. were sending
Peru. troops to Natal without obtaining the permission of Brazilian authorities in view of the continual delays by Braxilian Govt. U.S. troop-carrying aircraft have passed through Trinidad to Natal recently. U.S. intend to expand this small force into a strong occupation force by gradual reinforcements. U.S. Admiral also states that Peru has agreed to the U.S. occupation of Talara provided that Peruvian General has nominal command and U.S. have agreed. (N.O.I.C., Trinidad, 1333Q/11 to S.O.I., Kingston).

/Joint ...

War Diary.11.1.1942.
Sunday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America & West Indies. - contd.Joint Staff Mission Washington 1357R/11 see
China.

S.S. SCOTTISH
HEATHER. Your 1705A/10 addressed D.N.I. Ottawa only.
SCOTTISH HEATHER due Sydney C.B. 1/1 from Curacao
has not arrived.
(N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 1358Z/11 to Admty.)

Tanker EMPIRE
FLINT. Position 052° 30' N. 044° 00' W. both hydraulic
steering gear rams broken. Intend trying to reach
Halifax using steam winch emergency steering gear.
(EMPIRE FLINT 1605 G.M.T./11 to N.S.H.Q. Ottawa,
Admiral Plymouth).

Reporting. In view of circumstances instructions in A.M.
0001/1/5/41 Section II para. 9 have been temporarily
suspended and ships will not break W/T silence to
make these reports.
(D.T.D. 1611A/11 to N.S.H.Q. Ottawa).

S.S. SURREY. Following received via Lands End radio S.N.O.
Halifax SURREY rudder lost require immediate
assistance (?) 51° 02' 36° 42' 1400 G.M.T. approx.
T.O.O. 1300/11 (C. in C. Plymouth 1714/11 to Admty.)

S.S. EMPIRE
FRANKLIN. Ship unmanageable whole gale heavy list on port.
Boats and rafts all gone position 54 R 15 N. 45 R
30 W. approx. (EMPIRE FRANKLIN 2015/11).
Bearing from VCM (Labrador Belle Isle) 62.5 approx. VAW
(Resolution Island) 121.5 approx. (EMPIRE FRANKLIN 2333/11).

S.S. TUNGSHA. TUNGSHA ex O.N. 52 is in critical, weather distress
in approx. 56° 30' N. 36° 00' W. at 1200/11.
Intercept from Reykjavik T.O.R. 1754/11 refers.
(D.T.D. 2126A/11 to A.C.I.C.)

BISHOPDALE.. Your 1242/10. No objection to BISHOPDALE acting in
accordance with B.A.D. Washington's 1751/9.
BISHOPDALE should after completing first task
proceed to Wellington for orders. It is intended that she should
dock in Australia and remain there for Fleet attendance duties.
(A.C.N.S.(F) 1911A/11 to C. in C. A.W.I.) *see previous page*

War Diary.

11.1.1942.
Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Australia.

CHEVREUIL.

A.N.B. Please repeat F.N.F.L.London.
French High Commissioner reports:- F.S.CHEVREUIL
from Noumea towards Vila. Return to Noumea dawn
13th. Knots 15. ends.
(Consul ?Noumea 0428Z/11 to Admty.)

War Diary.

11.1.1942.
Sunday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Submarines Reported.

Estimated approx. positions of U/Bs.
(D.D.I.C., 1355A/11, 1357/11)

Approx. position of one homeward bound U-boat
is 049° 30' 011° 30'.
(F.O.S., 1617A/11 to S/MS.)

Submarines Attacked.

By A/C.

Am over enemy submarine on surface in position
44° 5' N., 10° 15' W. (A/C ICKD, 1615/11)
CCC My 1605* Have attacked enemy S/M with depth
charges and estimate 2 hits.
(A/C D. Sqn. 1800/11) * 1615/11 refers -
sighting of enemy submarine.

War Diary.

12.1.1942.
Monday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

Convoy S.L.96 and escort have been scattered by a gale in approx. 50° 48' N. 22° 34' W. TRITON is reported badly damaged by the weather and is being escorted to Belfast by NIAGARA. The port of Blyth was closed on account of weather at 2219A today.

British Air Operations.

24 Aircraft of Bomber Command attacked the battle cruisers at Brest last night.

Mining.

Mines were detonated in the War Channel off Norfolk today.

Minelaying by enemy aircraft last night is suspected in the Thames Estuary. S.S. QUICKSTEP in F.N.603 was sunk by a ground mine in 51°46.5' N. 1° 26.5' E. (Thames Estuary) at 1315 today.

Mediterranean.

Malta had several alerts today; some damage was caused at Luqa.

5 Wellingtons attacked shipping in Tripoli harbour last night and again from 1755 to 1905 today. 1 Wellington obtained a near miss with a 500-lb. bomb on a destroyer entering harbour during the night raid. APHIS bombarded the Halfaya area again today.

/KIMBERLEY.....

War Diary.

12.1.1942.
Monday.

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SITUATION REPORT.

Mediterranean.-Contd.

KIMBERLEY was torpedoed presumably by a U-boat whilst carrying out a U-boat search early this morning in approx. 32° 18' N., 24° 43' E. and was towed to Alexandria arriving 14/1. Her damage is beyond station resources, but ship is seaworthy in tow.

(u.77)

C. in C. Med. reports that at 0930/4 THUNDERBOLT sank by gunfire the ~~mine sweeper~~ ^{handler buoy} SANTO PIETRO in 38° 7' N. 20° 30' E.

Excluded from Italian list of MV losses. (Indr. Tillerton.)

China.

The appointment of C. in C. Far East has been abolished. The office of Supreme Commander, South-west Pacific Area (known as ABDA Area) has been established with headquarters on Java. The responsibilities of the Supreme Commander and the boundaries of the command are given in A.M. 1319A/12. The responsibility of C. in C. Eastern Fleet for the conduct of naval operations and strategy in the ABDA area has ceased. (R 288)

Mingaladon Aerodrome was bombed and slightly damaged early this morning.

A Blenheim, despatched to destroy fuel tanks at Port Swettenham which have not been demolished failed to reach the objective.

There were three daylight air raids on Singapore today. No naval damage is reported.

It is reported that S.S. LANGKOEAS (Dutch) was torpedoed and sunk on 2/1 north of Bawean (Java Sea). The lifeboats were machine gunned and one was rammed by the submarine. There were 3 survivors. U.S. ship LIBERTY (9,000 tons) carrying a cargo of rubber has been lost in Lombok Strait.

War Diary.

12.1.1942.
Monday.

SIUTATION REPORT.

America and West Indies.

About 000Z today S.S. CYCLOPS sailing independently from Halifax to U.K. reported being torpedoed in $41^{\circ} 51' N.$ $65^{\circ} 48' W.$ (about 160 miles south of Halifax).

U.S. troops transport CLEVEDON with 400 troops on board is reported from Fort Richardson, Alaska to be ashore on the Pacific coast of U.S.A. The ships is a complete loss, but there was no loss of life.

S.S. FRISCO (Norwegian) is reported to have been torpedoed and sunk at 2200Z today in $44^{\circ} 50' N.$ $68^{\circ} 20' W.$

Australia and New Zealand.

Air R/C of Truk (Caroline Is.) carried out by R.A.A.F. aircraft from Kavieng showed a floating dock and 24 ships which appear to be 8 inch cruiser, 14 destroyers, 4 seaplane carriers, a hospital ship, 2 large modern merchant ships, and possibly a landing craft carrier.

8 or 9 heavy bombers concentrated on a new attack on Doublon Island.

War Diary.12.1.1942.
Monday.HOME COMMANDS.Policy.

Information for Cs. in C. With reference to the attack carried out yesterday by Liberators from 15 Group on U-boats and M/Vs. in Bay of Biscay, neither I nor A.O.C. 19 Group were informed of suspected movements of these vessels or that an operation had been planned.

2. I trust in future I shall not be kept in the dark as, apart from principle that it is usual to inform C. in C. of likely happenings in his command, it may be possible on occasions to supplement the forces taking part from those at my disposal. (C. in C. Plymouth, 1624A/12 to Admty).

C. in C. Plymouth's 1624A/12. Orders for anti-shiping patrol during which this attack was made were repeated to 19 Group by 15 Group but information on which orders were based was not passed. It is understood Admiralty pass this information to Coastal Command who informed A.C.H.Q. Liverpool. Coastal Command orders to 15 Group were also passed concurrently to 19 Group (C. in C. W.A., 2247A/12 to Admty).

Movements.

CAVINA. ^{N.T. in W.D.} Your 0028A/12. Position 044° 24' N., 024° 41' W. (CAVINA, 0700Z/12 to Admty).

A.F.D.XV In view of weather report EMPIRE LARCH and tow are to proceed to Cromarty or, if weather is considered unsuitable to Peterhead. (C. in C. Rosyth, 1001/12 to WILLIAM BRADY).

NIGERIA, KENYA. NIGERIA and KENYA are to return to Scapa now. (C. in C. H.F., 1001A/12).

ILLUSTRIOUS. My 1347A/11. Amend 21st February to read "Proceed Tail of the Bank embarking squadron on 22nd on passage". (ILLUSTRIOUS, 1015A/12). Programme forwarded in 1347A/11 is not concurred in. Amended proposed programme follows by letter. (F.O.I.C. Liverpool, 1731A/12 to Admty).

EDINBURGH. C. in C. Rosyth 1913/11. Owing to absence of MONTROSE, WORCESTER, WALPOLE and provision of additional escort due to fog and loss of VIMIERA, this destroyer cannot be provided from the Nore without reduction of anti E-boat patrol or delay to convoy sailings. Request consideration may be given to use of WORCESTER for this duty. (C. in C. Nore, 1028A/12 to C. in C. H.F.) Your 1028A/12. WORCESTER will be sailed with EDINBURGH for this duty. (C. in C. H.F., 1802A/12 to C. in C. Nore).

War Diary.

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HOME COMMANDS.

Movements. - Contd.

- P.37. (1) Intend to sail P.37 escorted by SCALBY WYKE for Dundee at 1500/13. E.T.A. 0930/14. (A.C.O.S., 1105/12).
- VELOX. In view of weather and fuel shortage am proceeding direct to Plymouth. My P.C.S. 050° 24' N., 021° W., 095° 10 knots. (VELOX, 1400A/12).
- RUBIS. Have to with RUBIS 317° Longships 5 miles. (LOCH MONTEITH, 1600/12).
- DEWSBURY. Am hove to with DEWSBURY position 060° N., 025° W. Unable to maintain contact with her during present weather conditions. (NARCISSUS, 1603Z/12)
- TUNA. (1) Intend sailing TUNA escorted by ^{*}SEVERN at 1700A/14 for 270° Wolf Rock 3.0 miles. E.T.A. 0600A/16.
(3) Thence TUNA diving by day through 048° 28' N. 006° 01' W., to patrol in Bay of Biscay North.
(4) TUNA will leave patrol on the night of 19/1 pass to eastward of Q.Z.X. 547, 549, and 555 and proceed to dive by day through 048° 31' N., 006° 02' W., to R/V with escort in 180° Lizard Head 3.0 miles at 0900A/21 proceeding thence Holyloch or Falmouth as circumstances demand.
(5) N.O.I.C. Greenock, is requested to arrange following fighter co-operation. (Capt. S.3., 1619A/12). ** Not S/M - letter re N.A. Sta: TUNA sailed 14/1 with WHITE BEAR*
- Informing 0.24. RUBIS and LOCH MONTEITH hove to in 317° *See P. 225* Longships 5 miles at 1600A/12. You may meet both ships during the night. (Capt. S.9., 1843A/12 to 0.24.)
- NORFOLK. My 1815A/12. Add NORFOLK leaving Reykjavik to south eastward. (A.C.I.C., 2020A/12). F.O.C.S.1., in NORFOLK sailed 2022A/12. (A.C.I.C., 2147A/12).

Operations.

- Convoy C.W.64 shelled. Enemy coastal batteries fired 14 rounds between 2021 and 2142 yesterday during passage of C.W.64. Majority of shells believed to have fallen in the sea to the eastward of Dover and astern of the convoy. No damage or casualties reported. (V.A. Dover, 1028A/12).

/Patrols...

War Diary.

12.1.1942.
Monday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operations.- Contd.

Patrols
C and D.

^{N.T. in W.D.}
My 0958A/12. Sailing of GARTH cancelled. EGLINTON is to carry out patrol C and D. If weather suitable for E-boats at 2359 proceed to anchor as convenient N.W. of (corrupt group) entering Harwich when ordered. Do not pass 51 buoy before 0300.
(C. in C. Nore, 1655A/12 to EGLINTON).

Denmark
Strait
Patrol.

Estimated local situation 2158A tonight. Cruiser and two corvettes on patrol "White".
(A.C.I.C., 1815A/12).

British Air Activity.

Bombing.
operation.

On day 11/1 no operations took place. On night 11/12, 24 A/C attacked the battle cruisers at Brest between 1900 and 2008 hours. In intense flak our A/C dropped their bombs including several of 4,000 lbs from 11,000 to 17,000 feet but no results other than a few bursts were observed. The smoke screen was in operation.
(H.Q.B.C., 1200/12).

Enemy Air Activity.

A/C over
Faeroes.

One enemy A/C over Faeroes today between 1150 and 1245. No incidents reported.
(N.O.I.C. Faeroes, 1625A/12).

Mining.

Operation
Q.O.

Propose proceeding as follows. Details.
(M/S 9., 0955A/12).
Your 0955A/12 approved.
(C. in C. Nore, 1217A/12 to M/S 9).
In view of weather forecast operation Q.O. will not take place tomorrow.
(C. in C. Nore, 1600A/12 to M/S 9).

Yarmouth.

LL Sweepers detonated 2 red magnetic mines at 1129., and 2 red magnetic mines at 1133. Details
(F.O.I.C. Gt. Yarmouth, 1214A/12 and 2214A/12)
My 1622/6. For ST. MARY'S read WELLS.
(R.A.M. 1238/12)

N.T. in W.D.

/Thames...

War Diary.12.1.1942.
Monday.HOME COMMANDS.Mining. - Contd.Thames
Estuary.

There was some enemy activity over the outer estuary between 1830 and 1945 on 11th. Enemy A/C were plotted in the area between the Edinburghs and North Foreland, North Barrow, and off Harwich.

R.D.F. reports of mines actually falling included the area B.6. buoy, Channel between B.5. and B.6. Buoys, Cork area, Shipwash area, and Middle of Knock Deep.

There were no reports from the Inner Estuary, and none of mines actually seen or heard from the Outer Estuary. R.D.F. reports of mines in Thames area were of areas in which there were no patrol vessels stationed. (S.O. T.L.D.F., 1312/12).

Convoy F.N.⁶⁰ 3
QUICKSTEP,[^]
(British,
2722 tons)
sunk.

QUICKSTEP mined and sunk in 257° B.8. Buoy, 1.2 miles. (WINCHESTER, 1415A/12 and 1544A/12).

My 1545A/12. This casualty was due to ground mine. 13 survivors being landed at Harwich.

(C. in C. Nore, 1741A/12 to Admty).

Following received from F.O.I.C. Harwich.

QUICKSTEP mined at 1315/12. Details.

(C. in C. Nore, 2112A/12 to Admty).

N.P.7 B.

M.L.s. 101 - 102 - 103 carrying out operation N.P.7 B. Expected time of departure 1800 expected time of R/V 0030/13.

(V.A. Dover, 1756A/12).

R.A.Ms. No. 636/M.L. 01126/3 of 31st December. Concur in proposed minelays but consider this operation should be given priority, observing enemy air R/C was reported during the clearance operations. (A.C.O.S., 1903/12 to Admty).

Spurn Point.

One magnetic mine exploded by Sweepers at 1316/12. Details. (F.O. Humber, 2120/12).

Enemy Intelligence.St. Nazaire.
Havre.

Air R/C on 11/1 shows 2 T/Bs at St. Nazaire and 3 T/Bs at Le Havre. The latter are new arrivals and are believed to have passed down channel night 9/10 January. (D.D.I.C., 1027A/12).

Brest.

My 1423A/11 R/C of Brest shows no change. (D.D.I.C., 1400A/12)

War Diary.12.1.1942.
Monday.HOME COMMANDS.Navigational.

- Oban Bay. Four depth charges set to "safe" have been inadvertently dropped from a Flying Boat in Oban Bay in 17 fathoms. A dan buoy has been laid in about 56° 25' 1" N., 5° 29' 30" W. Vessels are not to approach within 200 yards of this position until further notice. Request instructions. (N.O.I.C. Oban, 1103A/12 to Admty).
- B.7 Buoy. Request position may be verified. Appears to be about 3 cables to N. and W of charted position. (WINCHESTER, 1544A/12).
- Milford Haven. No. 2 lightbuoy Milford Haven temporarily removed. Request Q.Z.H. (F.O.I.C. Milford Haven, 1743/12).
- Buoy on Porcupine Bank. If visibility is good pass over Porcupine Bank and keep look out for buoy reported on it. If seen buoy is to be recovered if situation permits. Report if buoy is sighted. (C. in C. W.A., 1849A/12 to VERITY, LAMERTON).
- H.7. H.7 buoy reported missing from station. Request Q.Z.H. (C. in C. Nore, 1923A/12).
- Blyth. Blyth Port closed owing to weather. (N.O.I.C. Blyth, 2219A/12).

Casualties & Defects.

- LETHBRIDGE. Returned to Iceland with flooded Asdic compartment from Convoy O.N.54. (A.C.I.C., 0005A/12).
See p. 277
- CROMARTY (Grounded 11/1) Refloated 0001. Am under own steam. Assistance not now required. (CROMARTY, 0029A/12) Arrived CROMARTY. CROMARTY reports no damage. (WESTERN ISLES, 1208A/12).
- H.X.168 KIEV. Following received from Soviet S.S. KIEV begins. Straggler from convoy H.X.168. Deck cracked, cargo has moved on deck, approx. position 62° N. 22° W. Require assistance. (Lands End Radio, 0325/12).
Following received from KIEV. My vessel is very seriously damaged. I require a pilot. (Reykjavik No. T.O.O. Recd. 1202/12).

/DELFSHAVEN...

War Diary.12.1.1942.
Monday.HOME COMMANDS.Casualties & Defects. - Contd.

- DELFSHAVEN. Following received from "Formost 18" at 0204 G.M.T. DELFSHAVEN to Admiralty. Lost one propellor blade. Returning Clyde. Position 56° N., 14° 25' W. at 0130 G.M.T. (Malin Head Radio, 0330/12).
- TRITON.
(Norwegian) Am escorting TRITON, which was badly damaged in hurricane, into Belfast. (NIAGARA, 1345Z/12).
- LADY ELSA. My 1721A/12. LADY ELSA has dynamo defects which cannot be repaired here. Suggest vessel returns to her base to effect repairs. (N.O.I.C. Aultbea, 1855A/12). U.R.7. Your 1855A/12. Sail LADY ELSA to Londonderry. (C. in C. W.A.2303A/12 to N.O.I.C. Aultbea). *See also next page.*
- WIVERN. My 2203/8. Anticipate sailing WIVERN 17th. (C. in C. Plymouth, 1947A/12)
- Unknown Ship. Following received by Wick Radio begins:- Intercept at 2006 G.M.T. bearing 001. De PTSII (PBII) or ENOWZ (ROWZ) to ENOW 4 (ROW4) begins:- Have run ashore. Ends. (Scapa W/T, 2110/12).
- EMPIRE PARSONS. EMPIRE PARSONS. Request light until further notice. Am standing by (From TARANTELLA) (Scapa W/T, 2120A/12). From TARANTELLA. EMPIRE PARSONS believed between Scarton Point and Swilkie. Difficult maintain contact owing to tide. Request tug. (Scapa W/T, 2225A/12). Request you sail tug MARAUDER with all despatch to assist EMPIRE PARSONS, 6000 tons aground on St. Roma Island 58° 41' N., 03° 06' W. (F.O.I.C. Greenock, 2347A/12 to N.O.I.C. Stornoway.)

War Diary.12.1.1942.
Monday.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping & Convoys.

- O.N. 54. LETHBRIDGE returned to Iceland with flooded asdic compartment. Hope rejoin when repaired. (A.C.I.C., 0005A/12). *See p. 275*
- W.S. 15. Convoy W.S. 15 sailed 24 hours late. Dates in paras. 1 2, and 3 of my 1241/4 (as amended by my 1358/6) and in A.M. 1923/30 December, para 6 should be one day later. (D.O.D. (F.), 0023A/12)
- My 1223A/9. Sailed JACOB VAN HEEMSKERCK. (F.O.I.C. Belfast, 0304A/12).
- A.M. 2004A/3 and A.M. 0023A/12. Sailed F.O. B.S. 3 in RESOLUTION with NORMAN, ANTHONY, and GARLAND. Codeword to limitation of aircraft range "Faith". (N.O.I.C. Milford Haven 1821A/12).
- A.M. 1241A/4. Amend route from position X to new position. P. 36° N., 27° 50' W. Q. 10° N., 18° W. thence to Freetown.
2. Cancel paras. 2, 3 and 4, BROWN RANGER and destroyers from Force H will not now be required.
3. RESOLUTION is to arrange, when in the vicinity of the Azores, for BOREAS, NORMAN, and DEMIRHISAR to proceed on at a time to fuel at Ponta Delgada rejoining convoy on completion. *See p. 271*
4. Para. 5. HEEMSKERK and ANTHONY are to part company as convenient after R/V X. (A.C.N.S. H., and F. 2246A/12).
- O.N. 58 (TUNGSHA). Your 2126A/11. Intend sailing RESTIVE escorted by trawler BUTTERMERE as soon as possible. (A.C.I.C., 0213A/12 to Admty).
- F.N.⁶⁰₂. F.N.⁶⁰₂ anchored North and South of Sheringham Buoy. Visibility one to four cables. Convoy dispersed in snowstorm. (WOOLSTON, 0333A/12). F.N.⁶⁰₂ weighed and proceeding. (WOOLSTON, 0655A/12).
- H.M. 2. My 1055A/11. Sailing delayed 24 hours. Stress of weather. (N.C.S.O. Holyhead, 1037A/12).
- P.Q. 9. Your 1935A/11. HALCYON will sail with P.Q. 9. (A.C.I.C., 1300A/2 to C. in C. H.F.)
- NOT REVD* My 1500A/12. Commodore has dispersed convoy and ordered ships to make port independently Escort returning to base. (ST. ALBANS, 1600A/12)
- U.R. 7. LADY ELSA unable to sail with U.R. 7 owing to defects. Will sail to overtake if possible. (N.O.I.C. Aultbea, 1721A/12). *See previous page*

War Diary.12.1.1942.
Monday.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping & Convoys. - Contd.

- P.Q. 8. My 1727C/4. It is noted that both P.Q. 8 and
P.Q. 9. P.Q. 9. are routed to position Z in the White Sea
approaches. It is requested convoys may be
routed to Kola Inlet through position M. Z.
(S.B.N.O. North Russia, 1724A/12).
- ~~COLD HARBOR~~ Soviet Authorities report ~~COLD HARBOR~~ arrived
WAZIRISTAN. Iokanka 1850C/12. Enquiries re WAZIRISTAN are
being made. (S.B.N.O. North Russia, 1745Z/12).
- Brodick Request that convoy assembly ports abroad be told
Bay. that all vessels for Ayrshire ports must first
call at Brodick Bay for the private signal
without which they cannot enter these ports.
The delay involved should be negligible and this
measure is necessary to safeguard the security
of these ports. This refers to vessels which
are exempt from examination. Those not exempt
were dealt with in A.M. 1500/30/3/41 and
1313/7/7/41.
(F.O.I.C. Greenock, 1825/12).
- O.S. 17. R.F.A. GOLD RANGER is to embark approx.
GOLD RANGER. 1000 tons Admiralty Furnace Oil and is to be
sailed in O.S. 17 for Freetown. She is fitted
for oiling at sea and will be available for
fuelling escorts. She will not be available for
returning with the corresponding S.L. convoy.
(D.T.D., 1923A/12).
- Minefield at C.O. LETHBRIDGE, who anchored in controlled
Hvalfiord. minefield Hvalfjord, states most C.O.'s Canadian
ships are in ignorance of this minefield. It is
shown on chart number 677 as a dangerous area
North West of Halsnes. Request you will take
appropriate action. (A.C.I.C., 1949A/12 to
F.O. N.F.)
- S.L. 96. S.L. 96. Convoy and escort scattered by gale.
Still hope to on course 295° approx. position
050° 48' N., 022° 34' W. (ROCHESTER, 2002A/12).
- O.N. 54 Your 0911A/12. Have not been able raise Commodore
S.C. 63 of Canadian Corvette on R/T. Am now leaving vicin-
ity of O.N. 54 to make M.O.M.P. of S.C. 63.
(HEATHER, 2149A/12).
- P.Q. 9. Following for Maclay. Begins.
Your 1420/11. P.Q. 9 sailing date from Iceland
is 18th. Convoy will not be postponed unless
as a result of weather or other unforeseen
circumstances. Ends. (D. of S.T., 2309A/12 to
N.C.S.O. Archangel).

War Diary.12.1.1942
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic.

REINE DES FLOTS, LA MOQUEUSE. Trawler REINE DES FLOTS may arrive Horta p.m./19 for 80 tons coal. Sloop (F.S.) LA MOQUEUSE in company will not require fuel. Call will not be made unless fuel remaining in REINE DES FLOTS necessitates it.
(F.O.I.C. Milford Haven 0901A/12 to F.O.C.N.A., N.C.S.O. San Miguel, Admty.)

French Shipping. Westward PORT DE BOUC, PARAME, IMERETHIE II, CARIMARE.
(V.A.C.N.A. 0915A/12.)

Damaged German M.V. German Merchant Vessel without name about 8000 tons half laden entered at Ferrol early this morning presume damaged as dry dock was kept ready for her until midday but finally not used. Will report developments.
(Guvatt, Corunna 1030/12 to Admty. (R) Gibraltar, Madrid.)
Later identified as ELSA ESSBERGER, see D.N.I. 1939A/16.

Extra staff for intelligence work. My 2246A/17/11 (1) Request information of E.T.A of staff and equipment (2) If this is not soon consider that Commander Birley will be wasting his time and should return to U.K.
(F.O.C.N.A. 1146A/12 to Admty.)

S.L.97. U-Boat has made sighting report at 1138 G.M.T. on approx. bearing 268 226 Gibraltar.
(F.O.C.N.A. 1259A/12 to Escort S.L.97.)
Sailing LAFOREY, HESPERUS, CROOME, WESTCOTT as A/S striking force to S.L.97 G.
(F.O.C.N.A. 1702A/12 to Admty., C. in C. W.A.)
D/F Bearings at 2032Z/12 indicate U-Boat still in vicinity of Convoy S.L.97 G.
(D.D.I.C. 2218A/12 to Escorts S.L.97 G.)

BARCLOSE, BARFOAM, BARFORD. Intend sailing at 1800/13 unescorted for Freetown. Route etc.
(F.O.C.N.A. 1302A/12 to C. in C. S.A.)

HERMIONE. HERMIONE expects to arrive Gibraltar 0830A/14th from north westward. Speed 21½ knots.
(F.O.C.N.A. 1506A/12 to P.38.)

COREOPSIS. Propose to oil on 18/1. As MIRROR cannot complete operation in Azores area before 19/1 request relief of COLTSFOOT may join off Ponta Delgada 20/1.
(COREOPSIS 1535A/12 to F.O.C.N.A.)

War Diary.12.1.1942
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic - contd.

AIGLON Ref. A.M.2308A/8th.* Onward route from position
LORD GREY (C) pass through (D) 039° 00' 018° 00' (E) 035°
ROSA MONDE 36' 010° 00' thence to Gibraltar.
ROSALIND. (F.O.C.N.A. 1557A/12.) * 2308/8 from C. in C.
Western Approaches intended.

Bombing F.O.C.N.A.'s 1614A/7. Present method instituting
restrictions. bombing restrictions on North Atlantic Station do
not fully meet requirements of H.Q.C.C.
It would be preferable to institute restrictions
in strips which would be in force for definite periods as on
home stations. A minimum of 24 hours is required between
receipt of signal in U.K. and for consideration of commencement
of restrictions in order to brief air crews satisfactorily.
(F.O.(S) 1714A/12 to Capt. S.8.)

French Casablanca 11/1. Al, A. Add to arrivals
Shipping. mentioned in my 1651/12 SIMOUN. Departed since
my 1641/8 PSYCHE, OREADE, BOUDEUSE and SABLaise.
B. CEPHEE, BELLE ISLE and MONTESQUIEU left in
convoy at 1400/9 Jan for Marseilles, name and class of escort
unknown. MONTESQUIEU returned owing to engine trouble. All
carried general cargoes MONTESQUIEU included 1600 tons oil cake
and CEPHEE 10 tons graphite, 250 tons scrap material and 15,000
parcel post packages.
(B.A.D. 1831R/12 to S.O.(I) Freetown.)

Spanish Your 2020/18/12. Shortage of fuel at Ferrol does
naval fuel not necessarily immobilise squadron. According
shortage. to our information the destroyers usually fuel
at Corunna whilst cruisers either go to Corunna
or a tanker is sent to Ferrol. Stocks of
fuel in Ferrol on 20/12 were 850 tons. Ships of squadron had
on board 5842 tons, i.e., about 75% capacity. It appears from
your telegram under reference that Spanish difficulties are
largely those of internal allocation and we are not prepared to
assist in overcoming these as we see no great disadvantage in
the Spanish Navy being immobilised. We note too that PLUTON
loaded a cargo from OLTERRA for Teneriffe. Explanation in
reply to last sentence of para.2 of my 1642/12 does not appear
to strengthen Spanish case. You should therefore do what you
can to discourage Minister from raising question but if he does
you should inform him that we feel unable to approve this
unnavicerted voyage.
(A.C.N.S.(F) 1832A/12 to N.A. Madrid.)

S.B.R. Institute S.B.R. in area 56 east of 06° W. from
2359A/13 until 2359A/20 and T.S.B.R. in area
within 21 miles of 49° 54' N. 05° 12' W. from
0800A/13 until 1400A/13.
(H.Q.C.C. 2103A/12 to R.A.F. Gibraltar.)

War Diary.12.1.1942
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic - contd.BOREAS
NORMAN
DEMIRHISAR.

Will arrive Ponta Delgada independently between p.m./16 and p.m./17 each requiring approx. 350 tons of oil fuel. Request you will make the necessary arrangements.
(Adty. 2248A/12 to N.C.S.O. P. Delgada.)

*See p. 277*South Atlantic.A/A and
A.T. guns.

My 0923/11 para.2. At request of Mid East as many A/A and anti tank guns as possible will also be loaded in Monsters without delaying vessels.
(P.S.T.O. Simonstown 0739Z/12 to D. of S.T.)

Patrol
south of
Cape.

Your 1135/8. DUNNOTTAR CASTLE has completed defects but requires 72 hours to make final adjustments. (2) If you do not require DERBYSHIRE for any other service propose to sail her independently for this patrol. (3) Beaufort aircraft will not be ready for service before 6/2. My 0959/6 to C. in C. S.A. only refers.
(F.O.I.C. Simonstown 0839Z/12 to C. in C. S.A.)
Your 0839Z/12 para 2 approved. DUNNOTTAR CASTLE is to be sailed to join DERBYSHIRE when ready.
(C. in C. S.A. 1331Z/12 to N.O.I.C. Simonstown
(R) Adty. DERBYSHIRE, DUNNOTTAR CASTLE.)

DAUNTLESS

298. Admiralty's 2154A/11. DAUNTLESS is to leave Bathurst 0600Z/13 and proceed Ponta Delgada for fuel at S. of A. 16 knots passing through positions - A. 014° 20' N. 020° 00' W.
B. 020° 00' N. 022° 00' W. C. in C. W.A. is requested to issue orders for onward passage. DAUNTLESS report amount of fuel required at Ponta Delgada.
(C. in C. S.A. 1201/12 to DAUNTLESS.)

*See also next page*BULOLO
STUNDALE
(not identified)

Unless reply is received to my 2232Z/7th to C. in C. S.A. BULOLO is to leave patrol as necessary to make R/V with STUNDALE as in my 1800Z/30 but on 18/1. After R/V BULOLO proceed patrol K.33 K.34.
(R.A.S.A.D. 1248Z/12 to C. in C. S.A., BULOLO.)

/S/M ...

War Diary.12.1.1942
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic - contd.

S/M.

Pan American aircraft reports conning tower of S/M in 04° 25' N. 08° 15' W. at 1020Z/12 course 110°. If true may be Vichy (C. in C. S.A. 1508Z/12 to Admty.)

S.S.
SHANTUNG.

GULLMAREN arrived p.m. today with six shipwrecked R.A.F. Personnel which Pilot Officer i/c stated were passengers in SHANTUNG which caught fire in 059° 37' N. 022° 07' W. on 24/12 while on passage in convoy from Halifax to U.K. Draft took to boats 0130/25 and were picked up by TUNAHOLM daybreak/27 and were transferred to GULLMAREN when former developed engine defects. Pilot Office i/c reports remainder of his draft on Board TUNAHOLM except 3 R.A.F. Personnel who were drowned when leaving SHANTUNG. Swedish N.C.S.O. on board GULLMAREN states TUNAHOLM believed to be proceeding to Buenos Aires but may call here for engine repair crew of SHANTUNG being part in TUNAHOLM part in GULLMAREN.
(R.O. Rio de Janeiro 1514/12.)

Ships of
11 - 14.9
kts.speed.

Ships of speeds between 11 and 14 point 9 knots sailing between South Africa and the U.K. are to be routed to Freetown for convoy. 2. My 0001/1/5/41 will be amended in due course.
(A.C.N.S.(T) 1605A/12 to C. in C. S.A. (R) F.O.I.C. Simonstown.)

Use of
Brazilian
ports.

Wrong construction has been placed on my 1841/19 by Washington who have informed Admiral Beauregard American N.A. here that British merchant ships had been granted authority by Brazil to visit ports whenever desirous and remain as convenient for purpose of their stay. Secretary of State Nabuco particularly stressed Canadian ships when volunteering this information confidentially to me which I considered most necessary to pass to you.
(B.N.A. Rio de Janeiro 2025Z/12 to Adty. for D.N.I.)

DAUNTLESS

Your 1201Z/12. E.T.A. Ponta Delgada 0930/17. 450 tons oil fuel required allowing 3 days at 20 knots through water 2 days at 17 knots 10% remaining on arrival Plymouth. 2. S.P. 02458 * series not held.
(DAUNTLESS 2129Z/12 to C. in C. S.A.)
* ? 02358 intended. *See previous page.*

War Diary.12.1.1942
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean.Enemy
Shipping.ELIZABETH HENDRIK FISSER, OTTO LEONHARDT,
ESPIQUETTE (? ESPIQUETTE).
(Valencia No T.O.O to M. W.T.)KIMBERLEY
torpedoed
by U-77.Have struck mine, or been struck by a torpedo.
Am uncertain which my position (course and
speed) at commencement of current watch were
032° 18' 043° 00'.
(KIMBERLEY 0240B/12 to C. in C. Med.)
My 0240 amend my position 032° 18' 024° 43'.
(KIMBERLEY 0305B/12.)
Hit in stern and on fire aft.
(KIMBERLEY 0320B/12 to C. in C. Med.)Unable to steam. Fire extinguished nothing seen but presume
submarine torpedo. HOTSPUR carrying out search.
(KIMBERLEY 0344B/12.)On arrival of ^{RIPLEY} join KIMBERLEY who has been struck by
torpedo R R 32° 18' 24° 43' hunt S/M.
(C. in C. Med. 0355B/12 to HEYTHROP, ARROW, HERO (R) S.O. Force
I., KIMBERLEY, HOTSPUR, Alexandria.)
HERO, (ARROW?) and HEYTHROP. E.T.A. in your vicinity 0700 be
ready to take KIMBERLEY in tow on their arrival.
(HERO 0455B/12 to HOTSPUR.)When joined by HERO, ARROW, HEYTHROP you are to be towed by a
destroyer towards Alexandria. Tug BRIGAND is being sent.
(C. in C. Med., 0515B/12 to KIMBERLEY repeated Alexandria
HEYTHROP, ARROW, HOTSPUR, HERO, S.O. Force I.)
Stern (corrupt group) 3 abaft 77 bulkhead. Ship floating well
making very little water. One killed and three missing.
(KIMBERLEY 0530B/12 to C. in C. Med.)Fighter protection required for KIMBERLEY in tow proceeding
Alexandria. ? HERO report position and time of crossing 025°
00' E.

(S.O. Force I. 0725B/12 to H.Q.F.C. W.D.)

X 1 position KIMBERLEY four destroyers D P H A 1858 (indecipher-
able) request pass A H Q W D.

(A/C 230 Sqn. 0950/12 to 201 Group H.Q.)

Request fighter protection during daylight hours 13 for
KIMBERLEY estimated P.C. and S. 031° 45' N. 026° 36' E. 110°
4 knots at 0700 in addition to BOOTY both priority two.

(S.O. Force I. 1916B/12 to Fighter H.Q. W.D.)

Position course and speed of KIMBERLEY in tow 32° 0' N. 26° 9' E.
113°, 5 knots at 2030. HOTSPUR E.T.A. Alexandria 0615B/13.

R.A. Alexandria acknowledge.

(HOTSPUR 2031B/12 to C. in C. Med.)

U-Boat
report.U-Boat in 032° 18' 024° 43' ^(M/V) RIPLEY 0305B.
(C. in C. Med. 0403B/12 to S.O. Force I.)GOUVENEUR
GENERAL
GUEYDON

Barcelona No T.O.O. to M. W.T.

/S/M ...

War Diary.12.1.1942
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean - contd.

S/M reported. P.C. and S. of enemy S/M 33° 48' N. 15° 16' E. 250° 12 knots. (Med. A/C 1300/12.)

AURORA and PENELOPE are to join 15th C.S. temporarily. (C. in C. Med., 1417B/12.)

Axis Re-inforcements S. Italy. Gen. Gunduz states following information obtained from Turkish Military Attaches in Italy and elsewhere (a) German (?land) forces moving from north to south Italy at the rate of 50 to 60 trains per day. (b) German Air Forces continue to arrive in Italy. (c) Local opinion Rome emphatic that presence of Marshal Keserling means serious business; theory is attack on Malta followed by reinforcement of Libya. (d) Presence of German parachute troops in Albania reported. Gen. Gunduz appreciation of situation is that Germans intend to establish 2 air barrages across Mediterranean, one Greece - Crete, coast Cyrenaica and other Sicily - Malta - Tripoli and strongly reinforce Libya between barrage. Motive at all costs to retain strong British air and land forces in North Africa.

(M.A. Ankara, 1645/12 to W.O.)

N.I.D. Comment. It is not considered by W.O. that any German troops have recently moved or are moving into Southern Italy. On previous occasions German air forces and equipment have often been mistaken for German army units. Nevertheless, our sources for information such as this are not good and the possibility that German troops are going south through Italy cannot be excluded.

C.S.R. Malta. Enemy Activity. Night 11/12. 2 alerts 2041 and 0035 hours 2 raiders. Bombs sea A.A. fired. 12th. 5 alerts 1710 0822 1017 1108 1235 hours 5 raiders. Cloud cover. Bombs land. Luqa 1 Wellington slight damage. 2 craters on runway. Part 2. Hal Far and Ta Kali still unserviceable during period. 11th. Delivery Beaufighter sighting. 0830 hours 1 M/V 4,000 tons south Cape Gata 3 miles course west 14 knots. 0953 hours 1 M/V 4,000 tons west Algiers 40 miles eastbound 10 knots. 1055 hours 1 tanker 3,000 tons north Di El Goufi 5 miles course west 6 knots. Night 11/12. 5 Wellingtons Mark 1 C shipping Tripoli Harbour. Bombs dropped 30 250 pound Sap, 16 500 pound GP and flares. Red Flash from 1 M/V probably hit. Other results unobserved. 12th. Tripoli Sirte recco saw 1 submarine 035° Homs 64 miles course 250° 12 knots. Deliveries. 3 Blenheims 6 Hudsons arrived. No aircraft missing. Deluge continues. (H.Q. R.A.F. Malta 1700/12.)

/2 Italian ...

War Diary.

12.1.1942
Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean - contd.

2 Italian
Ships.

Meter. U.S. State Dept. report information from French Military Authorities Tunis that two Italian ships are leaving there 12/1. First loaded Phosphates, destination unknown. Second loaded foodstuffs for Libya. (B.A.D. Washington 1731R/12 to C. in C. Med., V.A. Malta.)

→ APHIS.

Your 1515/12 and R.A. Alexandria 1301/12. Motor Launch 1004 due Bardia 1500/14 and patrolling by night with M.L.1015, latter to screen you during bombardment. APHIS pass to M.Ls. (S.O. Force I. 1831B/12 to APHIS.)

SALVIA.

Your 1210B/4 approved. (Adty. 1857A/12 to C. in C. Med.)

Italian and
Vichy Ships.

Meter same B.2 sources in my 1731/12 reports. (1) Single ships have lately been arriving off Sousse at Dawn and leaving at dusk for Southward. French make them anchor four miles out. (2) Ships of the Tunisia-French line are shortly to carry large quantities of supplies to Libya packed, in innocent cases. (B.A.D. Washington 1901R/12 to C. in C. Med., V.A. Malta, Adty.)

Activity at
Pantelleria.

Meter. Tunis. 9/1 C.3. Great activity is reported at Pantelleria including arrival of large stocks of munitions and food and assembling of speedboats and human torpedo carriers. (B.A.D. 1903R/12 to S.O.I. Malta, S.O.I. Alexandria, Admiralty.) N.I.D. Comment. There is no

evidence to confirm or contradict this report. No R/C of Pantelleria has been carried out for some time.

Situation
Report 183.

KIMBERLEY torpedoed aft ^{10.77)} presumed by U-Boat at 0240/12 in 032° 18' N. 024° 43' E. while conducting A/S search in approaches to Tobruk. Now in tow to Alex reported stern blown off abaft 77 bulkhead. 1 killed 3 missing.

2. DERWENTDALE has left Alex. for Benghazi with 15 M.L.Cs urgently required to increase rate of unloading which has nearly stopped due to continued bad weather and absence of suitable tugs or lighters.

→ 3. My 1947/9 para.2 APHIS fired 130 rounds. APHIS again bombarding Halfaya Area 12/1.

4. THUNDERBOLT attacked by gunfire 2000 ton merchant ship in ballast entering Argostoli Harbour at 1300/2 scoring 10 hits. Ship last seen after shore batteries opened fire heavily, on fire and down by stern. At 0930/4 THUNDERBOLT sank by gunfire

MINOR LOSS OF SANTO PIETRO in 38° 07' N. 20° 20' 30" E.

amended from Italian list of MV losses
per Cmdr. T. Thornton.

War Diary.

12.1.1942
Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

Situation
Report 183
contd.

5. UPHOLDER torpedoed SIRIO 5,300 tons westbound in 38° 07' N. 14° 00' E. at 0535/4. Subsequent gun action frustrated and SIRIO last seen in tow approaching Palermo. At 0540/5 in 38° 21' N. 15° 21' E. UPHOLDER torpedoed and sank U-boat*ST. BON. Three survivors rescued.
6. Swordfish aircraft attacked U-Boat in 32° 50' N. 24° 10' E. at 1955/11 result unknown. (C. in C. Med., 1958/12.)

*AMIRALLO SAINT BON.

Air patrols,
Benghazi.

Fighter patrols are provided throughout daylight hours from M S U S. Team work between controllers and aircraft not possible until fighter squadron is based locally. When may this be expected and which squadron is being sent "Jumbo" is expected to operate 13th or 14th January. Do not consider it advisable to cease constant patrol over harbour until "Jumbo" is working to full efficiency and aircraft available for instant scrambling from local aerodrome.
(N.O.i/c Benghazi 2155/12 to Advance 201 Group.)

M.T.Bs.

Admiral Sakellariou is anxious that Greek Navy should take over 4 or 6 M.T.Bs. It is realised that the arrival of M.T.Bs both from America and the U.K. is behind programme but should you wish any to be taken over by the Greeks request you will arrange with Admiral Cawadias to train up the necessary crews locally.
(A.C.N.S.(F) 2247A/12 to C. in C. Med.)

German
U-Boat
report.

German U-Boat reported in approx. 032° 30' N. 025° 00' E. at 1640B/12th.
(Capt. O.S. Alexandria 2330B/12 to Med. Fleet.)

War Diary.

12.1.1942.
Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

Addu Atoll
Diego
Garcia
P.W.S.S.

In view of the fact that Indian Troops are to be employed on shore defences both at Addu Atoll and Diego Garcia it is considered it will be far easier for administrative purposes if the P.W.S.S. and two W.S.S. at Addu and the P.W.S.S. at Diego Garcia could be manned by the R.I.N. Request your remarks whether this scheme is feasible and can be carried out. (C. in C. E.I. 0808Z/12 to F.O.C.R.I.N.)

C. in C. E.F.

Your 1224Z/7. My stay on shore at Colombo will only be temporary. (C. in C. E.F. 0825Z/12 to C. in C.E.I.)

Convoy short titles.

Your 1402Z/10 concur. (D.T.D. 1106A/12 to C. in C. E.I.)

Andamans,
Nancowry
defence.

63754. Agree withdrawal British detachment Andamans subject to approval General Wavell. Question of scale of defence for Nancowry still under consideration. (W.O. 1720/12 to C. in C. India).

China.

Burma
Situation.

1. Reliably reported but not confirmed now about 50 (?000) Japanese in area Meshod - Raheng air R/C's have not disclosed any particular (?ground) movements except as reported 2 days ago concentration 60 barges Raheng which may indicate stocking advanced base.

2. Early this morning mount bombed by 3 aircraft with navigation lights flying 4000 feet no damage service personnel or property. A.A. fire opened one plane reported down in flames but not confirmed. (G.O.C. Burma 0215/12).

S.S.
LANGKOEAS
(Dutch).

Torpedoed and sunk north of Bawean (Java Sea) 2/1. Three survivors lifeboats machine gunned and one rammed by submarine. (S.O. (I) Singapore 0241Z/12).

/Situation....

MOST SECRET

287A.

M E S S A G E. 1757/12th Jan.

MOST SECRET.

I N.

From Governor (Sir S. Thomas)
Straits Settlements.

Date. 13.1.42.

Recd. 0530.

C Y P H E R.

Addressed Secretary of State for the Colonies.

No. 38 Government House. Secret.

Air Raids, 11th January.

Serenban, one Customs shed, two rice godowns hit, three killed seventeen wounded Muar where two small ships sunk in the river, Tampin where railway and rolling stock seriously damaged, Tebong where train was hit some service casualties, Malacca six killed ten wounded small damage. 12th January Singapore 8.30 a.m. For two hours no damage reported as yet.

News from up-country has been exceedingly difficult to obtain as telegraphs and telephone almost entirely absorbed by the army, but as result of the military situation civilian population has evacuated Selangor and Negri Sembilan and Malacca will follow shortly. For the most part this means Asiatics staying where they are or going into rural areas and Europeans coming to Singapore which is nearly full to capacity. To all Asiatic staff who stood by us Federal Secretary authorised advance of two months' pay and food was freely distributed such as rice, flour, milk to anyone who applied. Destruction and denial carried out with military assistance but owing to the rapid change in the military situation, final notice to quit from the military authorities very short especially in Negri Sembilan. C.M.R., who just arrived, informs me that owing to damage to Tampin considerable amount of rolling stock and evacuated material has been immobilized in the North but at Gemas which is now railhead there is sufficient to work section Singapore Gemas to full capacity, provided its evacuation which is now proceeding can be completed. There has been raid there this morning. Should say all his arrangements have been made with the knowledge and approval of military authorities but notice to him to evacuate rolling stock north of Serenban which was originally the minimum of three days had to be reduced to twenty-four hours. Result is that accumulations of rolling stock at Kuala Lumpur, Serenban and Tampin including Malacca

MOST SECRET

branch have not been got away. Tunnel north of Kuala Lumpur has been blocked, workshop destroyed, all large bridges blown up north of Seremban. Three months advance of pay given to Asiatic staff who stayed at their posts and were unwilling to move south.

Programme for the destruction of dredgers and rubber stocks in Selangor successfully completed in the main. Wireless and broadcasting station, Government printing press, plant of the Malay Mail destroyed. Very few motor vehicles left except those in military possession. Malayan collieries destroyed. Rubber in Kuala Lumpur town left to military to destroy at the last moment. All useful fire engines evacuated. Federal Secretary who has just arrived considers very little of value is left.

1757/12

Received in War Registry at 1930/13

Copies sent by Colonial Office to:-

J.E. Coulson, War Cab. Office.
 Brig. L.C. Hollis, War Cab. Office.
 Major Howkins, Joint Planning Staff,
 War Cab. Office.
 Lt. Col. F.S. Reid, War Cab. Office.
 Commander S. Barry, N.I.D., Admiralty (2).
 C.H.M. Waldock, M. Branch, Admiralty.
 Lt. Col. Archibald, M.O.10., War Off. (4)
 Major F.D.P. Chapman, M.I.2.C. War
 Office (2)
 Wing Commander G.M. Grierson, Air Min. (9)
 J.C. Sterndale Bennett, C.M.G., M.C.,
 For. Office. (3)
 S.L. Holmes, Dominions Off. (2)
 Duty Officers, War Staff, India Office.
 W. Johnston, Burma Office.

1st Lord.	Ed. of M. (2)	W.D.
1st S.L.	D.O.D. (H)	D.P.D.
4th S.L.	D.D.O.D. (H)	D.S.D.
5th S.L.	D.O.D. (F)	Ad. Bailey.
V.C.N.S.	D.D.O.D. (F)	Ad. Bellairs.
A.C.N.S. (E)	D.C. (2)	E.P.S.
A.C.N.S. (F)	D.N.I. (7) and for	Ad. Somerville
A.C.N.S. (T)	A.E. & D.N.L.O.	D. of L.D.
A.C.N.S. (W)	D.D.I.C. (2)	
Naval Sec.	D. of P. (2)	
N.A. to 1st S.L.	D.A/S.W.	
D.N.A.D.	I.P. (2)	

287 ^C

MOST SECRET

MOST SECRET M E S S A G E 2228/12th Jan. IN

From Abdacon Batavia.

Date 12.1.42

Recd 2000.

Cipher

✓ Addressed War Office, British Joint Staff Mission
Washington, repeated C. in C. India.

MOST IMMEDIATE.

025590 00029 Cipher 12/1.

Following for Chiefs of Staff from
General Wavell.

My present idea of final lay-out of land
forces in A.B.D. area is as follows:-

(a) For Burma. As arranged i.e. 3 or 4 divisions
made up of Burmese Indian and African troops.

(b) For Malaya. 6th 7th and 8th Australian
Divisions with (? probably) 18th British Division and
armoured brigade.

(c) For Sumatra Java and other N.E.I. Islands
as required. Indian troops from Malaya and India.

(d) For Port Darwin, Timor, Amboina, New Guinea.
Australian troops from Australia.

2. In word I should like if circumstances allow
to have complete Australian formation for counter
offensive in Malaya and to use Indian troops at present
in Malaya to garrison N.E.I. This will avoid splitting
up Australian troops. Troops in N.E.I. may have to be
spread in brigade groups over wide areas on protective
duties at first at least and it will be easier to use
Indian troops for this and may give them time to
recover from their misfortunes in Malaya.

3. It may not however be easy to distribute troops
as I wish. Enemy has initiative and we may have to
use reinforcements as they arrive at points of greatest
danger. I propose however to aim at target.

4. Reference my 00013 of January 11th paragraph 3
not to C. in C. India. Have discussed with Ter Poorten
and Brett holding of forward air bases. Reinforcement
by land forces (? impossible) at present but we may be
able by air action to prevent or hinder enemy attack.

2228/12.

Received from War Office at 0110/13.

Distribution over...

1st Lord	War Office Distribution:-
1st S.L.	<u>Internal.</u>
5th S.L.	S. of S.
V.C.N.S.	C.I.G.S.
A.C.N.S. (F)	V.C.I.G.S.
N.A. 1st S.L.	D.M.O. & P.
P.A.S. (S)	D.P.
D.O.D. (F)	D.D.M.O. (O)
D.D.O.D. (F)	M.O.I. 10.
Duty Captain (2)	D.M.I.
D. of P. (2)	D.D.M.I. (I)
E.P.S.	M.I. 2.
Hd. of M. (10)	<u>External.</u>
I.P. (2)	C.N.S. Admiralty
N.I.D. 10.	D. of Plans Admiralty
W.D.	C.A.S. Air Ministry
D.N.I. (4)	D. of Plans Air Ministry
D.N.A.D.	Sec. Joint Planning Staff.
	Col. Jacob.
	Hd. of War Registry Admiralty.

jf

War Diary.12.1.1942.
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.China-Contd.

Situation Report. Johore. Enemy aircraft bombed and machine gunned Muar and also attacked Coastal shipping between Muar and Malacca during 11/1 2 ships believed hit details not known. Other damage trivial.

Singapore. Enemy aircraft dropped pamphlets in Hindustani during 11/1 calling on Indians to desert. Our fighters failed to intercept.

Borneo. Christmas Island. Nothing to report. (G.O.C. Malaya 0442/12).

WULIN sunk. WULIN bombed presumed sunk in Muar River (Johore Strait) 11/1. (S.O. (I) Singapore 0819Z/12).

Command of South West Pacific Area. The following changes of command are promulgated for information:-

A. The appointment of C. in C. Far East has been abolished.

B. The office of Supreme Commander, South West Pacific Area has been established with headquarters in Java. For the present communications with Supreme Commander should be addressed to C. in C. Eastern Fleet; personal for General Wavell. A further signal will be made regarding direct communications to the Supreme Commander later.

C. The South West Pacific Area is bounded as follows:-

(1) On the north by the boundary between India and Burma thence eastward along Chinese boundary and coastline to lat. 30° N. thence along parallel 30° N. to meridian 140° E. Note, Indo-China and Thailand are excluded from the area.

(2) On the east by meridian 140° E. from 30° N. to the Equator thence east to Longitude 141° E., thence south to the boundary between Dutch and British New Guinea on South coast thence east along New Guinea coast to 143° E. then south down this meridian to the coast of Australia. (3) On the South by the Northern coast of Australia from 143° E. westward to meridian 114° thence Northwestward to position 15° S. 92° E. (4) On the West by the meridian of 92° E. The short title of this area is ABDA Area.

D. The Supreme Commander, ABDA Area is responsible for co-ordination in his area of strategical operations of all land, sea and air forces of American, Dutch, British and Australian Governments. He will command all land, sea and air forces of above Governments which may be stationed in ABDA or located in Australian territory when such forces have been allocated by respective Governments for service in or support of ABDA area.

E. The responsibility of C. in C. East Fleet for the conduct of Naval operations and strategy in the ABDA has ceased.

F. A further signal will be made regarding naval command in the ABDA area. (V.C.N.S. 1319A/12 as amended 1757A/14).

Situation report. Washops 52.

Japanese battleship set on fire. (1) Philippine Is. Davao Bay area was attacked by 9 aircraft of United States 19th Bombardment Group on 9/1. In Malalag Bay one Japanese battleship received a direct hit on water line and was set on fire. One hit was also obtained on shore front battery.

War Diary.

12.1.1942.
Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

China.

Situation Report - Contd. 16 Enemy aircraft bombed Malay - Balay and 10 enemy aircraft bombed Cotabato on 9/1. On 10/1 enemy bombing of Bataan position was weak and sporadic. A sharp attack on right of United States position was repulsed with heavy losses to enemy.

Landing at Manado. (ii) N.E.I. U.S. Military Observer at Bandoeng reports Japanese landed Manado during the night 10th/1. Enemy force consists of approx. 10 transports with cruiser and destroyer escort. 800 parachute troops are reported to have landed near Tenando Lake (20 miles South of Manado).

S.S. LIBERTY lost. U.S. ship LIBERTY 9000 tons carrying cargo of rubber has been lost in Lombok Strait. Enemy landed Tarakan (N.E. coast of Borneo) on night of 10/1 no details yet received. 16 enemy transports 6 cruisers and 6 destroyers were sighted near Poalce Boensoe (about 25 miles from Tarakan). A later report estimates this force also includes a battleship and additional auxiliaries.

Enemy land at Tarakan. (Joint Staff Mission, Washington 1531R/12).

M.T.B's. It is necessary to re-allocate the two M.T.B. Flotillas previously earmarked for Penang and Hong Kong. Sabang, Batavia and Thursday Island appear possible places from which Malacca, Sunda and Torres Straits could be watched by M.T.Bs. but it is essential to provide base facilities.

It is anticipated that shipments of M.T.Bs. from U.S.A. can commence next May at rate of about two per month working up to four per month. Request your views after consultation with A.C.N.B. as to where these Flotillas should be disposed within the ABDA area. (A.C.N.S. (F). 1836A/12 to C. in C. E.F.)

Burma. Early this morning 11/1. 4 planes bombed Tavoy runway hit 1700 hrs. 3 planes machine gunned Tavoy (? or Tabelik) no damage or casualties. 0505 hours this morning Mingaladon bombed by 3 aircraft slight damage to runway no other damage or casualties. (G.O.C. Burma 2320/12)

America and West Indies.

EMPIRE 1
FRANKLYN. De Bomb S.O.S. ship unmanageable whole gale heavy list to port. Boats and rafts all gone position QTE VCM 62.5 VAW 121.5 at 2030/11 ends. (Valentia: Radio 0052/12). See also next page.

7 p. 291

/HAMILTON.....

War Diary.

12.1.1942.
Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies.-Contd.

HAMILTON.
N.A.1.

Remain in company with N.A.1 until dusk 13/1 if fuel permits. (C.O.A.C. Halifax 0008Z/12 to HAMILTON).

NIKOLINA
MATKOVIC.
EMPIRE
FRANKLIN.

Intercepted at 0259 G.M.T. NIKOLINA MATKOVIC S.O.S. Dangerous position in (unread) for lost rudder. Please send immediate help. Last position given 53° 22' N. 43° W. (Port Patrick Radio 0405/12 etc.) Position approx. 52.30 N., 46.00 W. please help and take bearings. V.C.E. apparently dealing now. (C. in C. Plymouth 0518/12).

Following received via Lands End radio Important Admiral Plymouth received 0430 G.M.T. 461 K.C's De G.P.K. S.O.S. DEVCM. S.O.S. B.C.M.B. Ship unmanageable whole gale heavy list to port. Boats and rafts all gone position 54.15 N. 45.33 W. approx (unread) 205/11 bearing from V.C.M. 62½ approx. V.A.W. 121½ approx. S.O.S. Y.T.T.E lost rudder 53.22 N. 43.00 W. about please assistance immediately Q.T.E.V.C.M. 74.5 approx. De VCM. (C. in C. Plymouth 0530/12).

Intercepted at 0715 GMT De unknown Station. V.C.M. says please tell Y.T.T.E. that N.N.W.S. was searching in vicinity 2132 G.C.T. position Y.T.T.E. please Q.T.G. at intervals for N.N.W.S.2. she is searching for you. (Port Patrick Radio 0815/12) Rescue Tug proceeding P.M. today to search for NIKOLINA MATKOVIC and EMPIRE FRANKLIN. (F.O. Newfoundland 1511Z/12 to Admty.) *See previous page 7 p. 291 -*

TUNGSHA.

At 1754/11. Admiralty interrupted message TUNGSHA ex O.N. 52 is in critical weather distress in approx. 056° 30' N. 036° 00' W. at 1200/11. (Opnav 0459/12 to Cdr. Task Unit No. 4.1.11. Cdr. Task Group No. 4.6. Cdr. Task Group No. 7.5. Cdr. Task Force No. 4. C. in C. Atlantic Fleet (U.S.)).

Air
Operations.

Operations 11/1.
(1) Hudson 11 Squadron Dartmouth made square search at 1525 G.M.T. position TCSY (0337 or 0333 corrupt) for Merchant Ship reported sinking. Results Nil. Operations proposed 12/1. 4 Cansos 116 Squadron A/S search at first light covering area bounded by JD JE 5005 HCVM 5238 HCUJ 4248 BFSY 0020, for enemy unit which torpedoed S/S CYCLOPS at 2359 G.M.T. 11/1 position (BMZQ or RMZQ corrupt) 5112. 4 Digbys 10 Squadron sweep for HX 169 to 45° W. Outward sweep at twice visibility distance North of convoy returning at twice visibility south of convoy. 1 Hudson 11 Squadron Torbay to carry out Patrol "A" and on completion to search for S/S AFRICA ANDER reported in distress on Bearing 082° distance 12 miles from Cape Race. 1 Hudson 11 Squadron Torbay to carry out Patrol "B" also complete search of Conception Bay. (A.O.C. E.A.C. 0515/12).

/Approaching.....

War Diary.

12.1.1942.
Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies-Contd.

Approaching
Nantucket.

G.B.M.S. for ships under 15 knots in Area 7. No ship north or westbound is to approach within 300 miles on Nantucket Island. Ships in or approaching this area proceed forthwith to nearest port. Negative ships from Fanad Head and British Renown convoys which are being given separate individual instructions. (A.C.N.S. (T) 1135Z/12 to G.B.M.S.7).

S.O.S. from
P.H.X.U.
(Unknown).

Chilean Naval Authority informs me that 2 of their Wireless Stations picked up following (corrupt group) signal on 600 metres very weakly at 0720 G.M.T./11 begins. S.O.S. 046° 45' S. P.H.X.U. ends. Strong atmospherics at time interfered reception. (B.N.A. Santiago 1130/12).

Assistance
to ships in
distress.

Request information of any action taken to assist ships reporting recent weather distress. C.A.F.O. 1672/41 para. 5 refers. (D.T.D. 1213A/12 to C.C.N.F. C.O.A.C. Halifax., A.C.I.C. 4, Repeated: N.S;H.Q. Ottawa, Opanav, C. in C. W.A.)

BISHOPDALE.

Admty. 1911A/11. BISHOPDALE will have following cargo on board on leaving Balboa. (Details) (C. in C. A.W.I., 1252P/12 to N.Z.N.B.)

S/M refits
REGENT.

U.S. Navy Dept. is changing refitting base of S/M's to Philadelphia. Ref. F.O.S. 1651/6. It is desired REGENT should proceed to Philadelphia. Request E.T.A. be given so that ship can be given instructions as to hour and other local information. (B.A.R.M. Washington 1352R/12 to Admty.)

PANDORA.

My 1322/10. PANDORA will leave New London Connecticut for Bermuda on 18/1. (B.A.R.M. Washington 1358R/12).

NIKOLINA
MATKOVIC.
EMPIRE
FRANKLIN.

Rescue tug PRUDENT proceeds p.m. today to search for NIKOLINA MATKOVIC. If not found, tug will search for EMPIRE FRANKLIN. (F.O.N.F. 1513Z/12)

*See pp 289 & 290
also p 292*

S.S. TOLTEN.

H.X. 168. TOLTEN returned after collision with OCEAN VANGUARD. (N.C.S.O. Halifax 1619Z/12).

/WARRINGTON.....

War Diary.12.1.1942.
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies-Contd.

- WARRINGTON
SAMPSON. Ordered report south east Pacific Force. Left
Narragansett area early morning 12th E.T.A.
Panama morning 16th. (C. in C. U.S. Fleet 1639/12)
- MOA. ^{N.T. in W.D.}
My 2340Z/8. Route to Tahiti, Suva, Auckland.
(N.S.H.Q. Ottawa 1650Z/12).
- Enemy
ships. B.A.D. Washington 1731R/12, 1901R/12, See
Mediterranean. 1831R/12, See North Atlantic.
- Convoy
reported
by S/M. D/F bearing at 0851 and 1336 G.M.T/12 indicates
submarine or submarines within 200 miles of 47
30 N. 40 W. transmission at 1336 was probably
sighting report. (N.S.H.Q. Ottawa 1745Z/12 to
British Warships Area 7A, Admiralty, C. in C.
A.W.I. U.S.C.N.O.)
- Sailing
telegrams. In view of present U-boat situation request you
will give prefix immediate to all sailing
telegrams of independently routed ships.
(D.T.D. 1905A/12 to C.O.A.C. Halifax, N.C.S.O.
St. John N.B. (? N.F.) (R) N.S.H.Q. Ottawa).
- St. Johns. Harbour normally closed at night. Unless reasons
to contrary adjust speed to arrive during daylight
hours. (F.O.N.F. 2037Z/12 SAGUENAY, SKEENA).
- PRUDENT. My 1511Z/12 PRUDENT delayed and will sail A.M/13.
(F.O.N.F. 2106Z/12 to Adty.) *See previous page.*
- Minesweepers. Your 1227A/11. Confirmed that R.C.N. is providing
4 (?Oropesa) and 2 L.L. M/S for St. John's N.F.
3 BANGOR class have been allocated to F.O.N.F.
4th and 2 L.L. will be (?transferred) by end
of January. C.O.A.C. Halifax is to take necessary
action. (N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 2124Z/12 to Admty.)
- Appreciation
of scale of
attack on
Trinidad. Your 2231Q/6. Substance of despatch of 12/12
can be seen in copy addressed to Governor,
Bermuda.
2. Para. 4, to Governor Trinidad, only follows.
Begins "4. In the case of Trinidad, the position
is as follows:-
(a) Scale of Attack. It is considered that the
Colony is exposed to the danger of (i) heavy ship or cruiser
raid (ii) gunfire, landing party, or mine-laying, from Armed
Merchant Vessels (iii) gunfire, mines or torpedoes in approaches
or torpedoes in harbour, from submarines (iv) occasional air
attack by ship-borne aircraft. (b) (c) Defences.
In addition there are seven under water indicator loops at the
Northern approaches and three at Serpent's Mouth". Ends.
(Adty. 2223A/12 to C. in C. A. & W.I.)

/S.S. SURREY.....

War Diary.

12.1.1942.
Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies-Contd.

S.S. SURREY. Following received in from Lands End Radio 2135 G.M.T. from SURREY begins:-
S.N.O. Halifax C. in C. W.A. additional to my 1400/11. Investigation revealed rudder completely gone. Part of stern frame also gone. Endeavouring to make southerly course with (aid?) of wind speed 10 knots. Position at 1400/12 G.M.T. 50° 15' N. 35° 40' W. (assistance?) imperative please advise (SURREY). (Lands End Radio 2236/12 to Admiral Plymouth).

S.C.63. S.C.63 still dispersed. Request broadcast of PRIMROSE R/V 257° 79 miles and 066° 74 miles from damaged. Muskrat at 1200Z/14th and 15th respectively. Intend proceeding U.K. escorting any vessel of convoy met and for repair of following heavy weather damage. Bridge front and 4 inch gun shield set back. Numerous leaks. My P.C. and S. 057° 18' N. 032° 30' W. 066° 8 knots. Weather report, 9272 9257. (PRIMROSE 2300Z/12).

U.S. Naval movements. New U.S.N. locations 12 January.
Atlantic. BBS. TEXAS at New York. IDAHO ready 16/1. NEW YORK ready 31/1 CVS no change. CAS. QUINCY, VINCENNES, at New York. CLS. SAVANNAH at Recife. MEMPHIS due Recife 15/1. OMAHA at San Juan. MILWAUKEE at Norfolk.
Pacific. BBS. MISSISSIPPI, NEW MEXICO, left Balboa 12/1 CVS. YORKTOWN left San Diego 7/1. CAS. LOUISVILLE Left San Diego 7/1. PENSACOLA en route Pearl. NEW ORLEANS due San Francisco 14/1. CLS. ST. LOUIS left San Diego 7/1. HELENA due San Francisco 14th/1. PHOENIX left San Francisco 12/1. RICHMOND, TRENTON, due Balboa 15/1. DETROIT at Pearl.
Asiatic. MARBLEHEAD, BOISE, at Surabaya. HOUSTON Darwin area 24 VPBS now new area. (C. in C. U.S. Fleet 2315Z/12).

Shipping movements. My 1530A/12 and 1720A/12 (N.T. in W.D.) were made firstly to keep ships clear of danger area, secondly to bring them to port so that they might be given such fresh routeing instructions as might be considered desirable by U.S. authorities in view of new situation which has arisen in Western Atlantic.
2. Since Opnav is likely to receive earlier information about U-boat activities in this area than Admiralty it is hoped U.S. authorities will issue any instructions to British Merchant ships they consider desirable.
3. It is proposed that sailing of H.X. and S.C. convoys should continue on normal schedule and we are naturally anxious to get ships dispersed from convoy and proceeding to convoy assembly port moving again as soon as situation permits. (A.C.N.S. (T) 2355A/12 to Opnav, (R) C. in C. A.W.I. N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, C.O.A.C. Halifax, B.A.D. Washington).

War Diary.12.1.1942.
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Australia.

Enemy intelligence. 3 4-engined bombers flew over Nauru 0100Z/9 but dropped no bombs. Enemy aircraft also sighted at (?Kieta) Bougainville Island and Tulagi Solomon Is. 9/1 possible Submarine sighted off Salambo New Guinea 8/1. (A.C.N.B. 0019Z/12).

Submarine sighted 60 miles W.N.W. Darwin 2300Z/10 by U.S. Destroyer WHIPPLE contact lost before attack possible. Air R/C of Truk carried out by R.A.A.F. aircraft from Kavieng revealed floating dock and 24 ships whose composition from examination of photographs appear to be one 8 inch cruiser, 14 destroyers, Japanese Seaplane Carriers KAMOI, KASIMA, *ITUKUSIMA, *TITOSE, 2 large modern merchant ships, 1 Hospital ship, 1 possibly landing craft carrier. 8 4-engined Flying boats observed in harbour and 8 or 9 heavy bombers concentrated on new attack Dublon Island. 3 fighter formations unsuccessfully attempted interception. A.A. fire from North End Fefan Island most inaccurate. (A.C.N.B. 0854Z/12).

* Alternative name CHITOSE (C.B. 1815)

* Mincelaye - C.B. 1815

Convoy short titles.

Your 0805Z/10. Request you discontinue use of A.T., T.A., C.F., F.C. and substitute B.T., T.B., G.F., F.G. Request details of convoys to which short titles refer. (D.T.D. 2002A/12 to A.C.N.B.)

War Diary.12.1.1942.
MondayU-BOAT CAMPAIGN.Ships Attacked.

S.S. CYCLOPS. Intercept WAG 0002Z/12. GPZK 41.51 N. 63.48 W.
CYCLOPS torpedoed. Ship not heard on 600
Meters no bearing obtained.

(Halifax, 0010Z/12.)

(As previous) Torpedoed 0001/12 ends.

(C. in C. Plymouth 0014/12.)

(As previous) 0002Z/12.

(N.S.H.Q. Ottawa 1347Z/12.)

N.S.H.Q. Ottawa 1347Z/12 RED DEER returning Halifax with
89 survivors.

(C.O.A.C. Halifax 2244Z/12.)

Submarines Reported.

Estimated approx. positions of U/Bs.
(D.D.I.C. 1432A/12, 1433A/12.)

Submarines Attacked.

By WHITEHALL. S/M sighted on the surface (?and) attacked
in position 35.32 N. 08.00' W. no result.
(WHITEHALL 1210A/12.)

By A/C. R.C.A.F. report attacking enemy S/M in 046°
34' N. 059° 43' W. at 1437Z/12.
(C.O.A.C. Halifax 2117Z/12.)

ADM 199/2235

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

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

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

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

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

War Diary.

13.1.1942.
Tuesday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

NORFOLK is returning to Hvalfiord from Reykjavik with her fore turret stove in by a heavy sea. The ship is not seaworthy in any weather.

arrived 0400A - See p. 298

The port of Blyth was reopened at 1432A today.

Enemy air operations.

S.S. LERWICK in Convoy F.N.⁶⁰3. was bombed and sunk this afternoon in approx. 54° 26' N. 0° 24' W.

Convoy F.S698 was attacked at 1454 in 54° 22' N. 0° 20' W. and again at 1527 in 54° 18' N. 0° 14' W. S.S. EMPIRE MASEFIELD was damaged in the first attack and went aground at the mouth of the Tees, but, without blocking the Channel.

Lowestoft was bombed by a single aircraft at 1627. Minor Naval damage was caused.

Mediterranean.

Reports received show that between 120 and 140 German fast motor boats have recently arrived in the Mediterranean via the Rhine - Rhone Canal. These boats are probably not E or R boats, but may possibly be some type of assault boat.

Great activity is reported at Pantellaria, including the arrival of large stocks of munitions and fort and assembling of speedboats and human torpedo carriers. There is no evidence to confirm or contradict this report; no R/C of Pantellaria has been carried out for some time.

There were further air raids on Malta last night. No naval damage is reported.

ARROW was unsuccessfully attacked by a U-boat this afternoon in 31° 40' N. 27° 46' E. Subsequent hunt by HERO and ARROW was unsuccessful.

War Diary.

13.1.1942.
Tuesday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Mediterranean. - contd.

Benghazi was bombed and mines were dropped in the harbour about dawn today, but no damage is reported. APHIS carried out a very successful bombardment today in the Halfaya area.

China.

Convoy D.M.1 with troops and supplies arrived at Singapore early this morning. Eleven Hurricanes also arrived.

Singapore was raided this morning by over 50 heavy bombers escorted by some 20 fighters. There was slight damage to R.A.F. buildings and private property, but no casualties.

America & West Indies.

It is reported in the press that U.S. Naval control has been established over the Panama Canal and Panamanian waters.

Convoy S.C.63 was ordered to disperse at 1145Z today (see 10/1).

ARCHER, auxiliary aircraft carrier, which left Norfolk at 0300Z today reported at 2245R having collided with American BRAZOS in 32.54 N., 74.14 W. She was holed forward, could not go ahead, and requested a tow (See 17/1).

The Panamanian FRIAR ROCK, proceeding independently from New York to Archangel was torpedoed and sunk at 1000/13, 100 miles S.E. of Cape Race.

War Diary.13.1.1942.
Tuesday.HOME COMMANDS.Policy.

Information to U.S. Authorities. General restrictions on subject matter of consultations with, and information given to, U.S. Authorities and official representatives are withdrawn except as follows:-

(a) Future operations which are being planned and which do not directly concern U.S. interests or U.S. forces should not be mentioned.

(b) Our sources of intelligence and most secret methods of acquiring it should not be divulged.

2. Private correspondence of U.S. naval observers attached to H.M. Ships or establishments is subject to the same censorship regulations as British Officers. Official correspondence between these observers and U.S. Naval Attaches or other official U.S. Authority is not repetition not subject to censorship.

3. As regards the giving of Press interviews U.S. Naval observers are under the same restrictions as British Officers as laid down in Art. 17 KR and AI and A.F.O.1795/40.

4. A.M. 1159/19 April 1941 is cancelled.
(Head of M. 1517A/13).

Defence of U.K.

Belfast Lough A/A Defences. Your 1804/7. The mounting of A/A guns in PRESIDENT SERGEANT is not acceptable, as this ship may be required at short notice in her legitimate role.

2. As a temporary measure until Maunsell Forts can be installed consideration should be given to mounting light guns in suitable small craft. Request report.

(D. of L.D. 1433A/13 to F.O.I.C. Belfast).

Movements.

VELOX. My position 050° 20' N. 016° W.
(VELOX, 0800A/13).

Route to Plymouth through (A) 180° Bishop 5 (B) 180° The Lizard 8 (C) 049° 54' N. 5° 5' W., then by Q Z S 278 to Plymouth. (C. in C. Plymouth, 1812/13 to VELOX).

Request you sail VELOX to Chatham for refit after refuelling. (C. in C. W.A., 1843A/13 to C. in C. Plymouth).

My position 050° N. 013° 10' W. (VELOX, 1900A/13).

NORFOLK. C.S.1 in NORFOLK arrived 0400A.
(A.C.I.C., 0920A/13).

REGENT. My 1651A/6. Destination of REGENT is now Philadelphia. (F.O.S., 1046A/13).
F.O.S.1651A/6 and your 1420A/12. Proposed route through Plymouth Command 180° Bishop 10, 049° 30' N. 011° W. thence as ordered by C. in C. W.A.,
(C. in C. Plymouth, 1106A/13 to Capt. S. 5.)
Your 1046A/13. 1st February. (Capt. S.5, 1112A/13 and 1522A/14 to F.O.S.) See a/50 p. 315-

NIGERIA. NIGERIA, E.T.A. 1800/13. (.C.S.10, 1049A/13 to A.C.O.S.)
/LA MOQUEUSE ...

War Diary.

13.1.1942.
Tuesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Movements. - contd.

LA MOQUEUSE. Admty's 2004A/22/12 and C. in C. W.A. 2205A/23/12.
REINE DES FLOTS. Sailed LA MOQUEUSE and REINE DES FLOTS for Freetown, calling Horta, Fayal. 20/1, or Bathurst if trawler requires coaling. S. of A. 8 knots. (N.O.I.C. Milford Haven, 1105A/13).

LORD GREY, C. in C. W.A. 2308A/8 and F.O.C.N.A's. 1557A/12.
ROSALIND, Sailed ROSEMONDE, LORD GREY, ROSALIND. Anticipated
ROSEMONDE. S. of A 8 knots. E.T.A. 22/1.
(F.O.I.C. Milford Haven 1237A/13).

LASSO. Belfast 0115A/13. Request LASSO be sailed for Plymouth to load following cable for passage to Iceland (C). Vessel should complete with fuel and stores at Plymouth. On completion C. in C. Plymouth is requested to sail LASSO in convoy to Iceland. (C). (D.A/S.W. 1311A/13 to F.O.I.C. Milford Haven).

CLEOPATRA. Your 1927A/11. Saturday, 24/1.
(C. in C. H.F., 1342A/13).

FORESIGHT. My 1600/12/1. Sailed FORESIGHT. E.T.A. 1400A/14. (R.A.D., 1413A/13 to F.O.I.C. Humber).
My 1616/13. FORESIGHT now passes May Island about midnight. (C. in C. Rosyth, 2154/13).

P.37. Scapa Departure P.37 escorted by SCALBY WYKE. (A.C.O.S., 1457/13).

O.24. Intend sailing LOCH MONTETH escorting O.24 at 0900/14 for Dundee. E.T.A. approx. noon 18th. (F.O.I.C. Falmouth, 1621/13).

EDINBURGH. F.O.I/C Tyne's 1821/12. EDINBURGH is required to complete refit and sail from Tyne 4 March. (C. in C. H.F., 1925A/13).

Operations.

Operation E M. Carry out operation E M sailing from Scapa P.M. 13th. (C. in C. H.F., 1025A/13 to CITY OF DURBAN)
(Anti-shipping, Inner Leads, N. Norway.) My 1025A/13. Postponed 24 hours. (C. in C. H.F., 1158A/13 to CITY OF DURBAN).

East Coast Patrols. Brightlingsea Auxiliary Patrols remaining in harbour until weather moderates. (F.O.I.C. Harwich 1052A/13).

Dover Patrol. On Night 13/14. No patrols due to weather. (V.A. Dover, 1614A/13).

/Russian ...

War Diary.13.1.1942.
Tuesday.HOME COMMANDS.Operations. - contd.Russian
Operations
in Baltic.Your 1445A/25. C.N.S. tells me that they are proposing to carry out offensive operations in Baltic soon and any later mine information if available would be most welcome.
(Ad. Miles, 1615/13, to Admty.)Denmark Strait
Patrol.

Estimated at 2200A to-night. Cruiser and 2 Corvettes on patrol "White." (A.C.I.C. 1700A/13).

British Air Activity.A/C in
MAPLIN,
ARIGUANI.

Work of fitting MAPLIN to carry three Hurricanes is being completed at Liverpool. MAPLIN is being sailed with O.G.80 about 23/2 and will carry three aircraft of 804 Squadron. ARIGUANI is being returned to trade. (D.N.A.D., 1335A/13).

Enemy Air Activity.

Convoy F.S698. One aeroplane shadowing convoy "Parallel" in 54° 47' N. 1° 5' W. (QUANTOCK, 1035/13).
EMPIRE MASEFIELD Convoy "Parallel" in 54° 22' N. 0° 19' W. is being (British, 7023 shadowed by one enemy A/C. (QUANTOCK, 1452/13). tons) damaged. Convoy "Parallel" in 54° 22' N. 0° 20' W. is being bombed by enemy A/C. (WESTMINSTER, 1454/13).
EMPIRE MASEFIELD damaged by bomb in 54° 22' N. 0° 19' W. Returning to Tees. (WESTMINSTER, 1520/13) (C. in C. Rosyth 1807/13).
Convoy "Parallel" in 54° 18' N. 0° 14' W. is being bombed by enemy A/C. (WESTMINSTER, 1527/13).

Unknown
Ship.Following received from Lands End Radio begins: Intercept 1136 G.M.T. De unknown station. Help "conflict" 3 hostile aircraft passed 4 miles West Tuskar, 1236/13 Lands End Radio.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 1243/13).Convoy F.N.⁶⁰3.
LERWICK
(British, 5626 tons) Sunk.(1) LERWICK sunk by bombs in 48° 18' D. Vessel 8 cables. (9) Trawler MARLBOROUGH with 12 survivors proceeding direct to Hartlepool. WINCHESTER with 26 proceeding direct to Methil. (WINCHESTER 1600/13).
Your 1600/13. Rejoin convoy forthwith and remain with it. (C. in C. Rosyth 1804/13 to WINCHESTER).
WINCHESTER reports at 1600/13 S.S. LERWICK in Convoy F.N.⁶⁰3 sunk by bombs, approximate position 54° 26' N. 00° 24' W. 38 Survivors of which 12 proceeding Hartlepool in trawler MARLBOROUGH, 26 in WINCHESTER proceeding Methil. 6 of crew missing.
(C. in C. Rosyth, 1933/13 to 13 Group).Lowestoft
bombed.

Lowestoft bombed by single enemy aircraft at 1627/13. Estimated 30 Civilian casualties. No naval casualties. Minor damage to Naval living Quarters and Stores. (N.O.I.C. Lowestoft 1735A/13).

War Diary.13.1.1942.
Tuesday.HOME COMMANDS.Mining.

Operation Q.O. Q.O. will not take place today owing to unfavourable weather. (C. in C. Nore, 0605A/13).

Thames Estuary. One magnetic mine detonated by Sweepers at 0035/13 in 305° B.7 buoy 3/4 cable. (Capt. M/S. Sheerness, 1104/13).

M/S Groups 143 and 153. Your 1830/11. Approved. (Admty. 1120A/13 to Capt. M/S. Granton).

POOLE. ^{N.T. W.D.} Your 1207A/13. Decision will be made on completion of operation Q O. (C. in C. Nore, 1600A/13 to M/S.9).

Enemy Intelligence.

Brest. At 1400/13, positions of 3 major Naval units unchanged since 12/1. PRINZ EUGEN protected by Boom. No Netting Camouflage visible on PRINZ EUGEN and that of SCHARNHORST and GNEISENAU unaltered. GNEISENAU emitting smoke. Floating Crane working at SCHARNHORST Dock Gates. EUGEN's former Dry Dock still unoccupied and partially flooded. GUEYDON Unit seen usual position off Lanveoc. Two S/M's visible Port Militaire which part clouded. The 530 ft. Tanker returned to Rade, now anchored South East Ile Ronde without Boom Protection. Also seen Rade 380 ft. M/V, A/C Security, Vessel, and Vehicle Transport Vessel. SCWABENLAND and 500 ft. M/V departed usual anchorages but Rade not fully photographed. Brest Guipavas A/D, Eight Small A/C visible. (P.R.U. St. Eval, 1730/13).
Photographic R/C of Brest at 1710/13 shows no change. (D.D.I.C., 1809A/13).

U-Boat. D/F bearings at 1610Z/13 indicate that a U-Boat may be in your vicinity. (D.D.I.C., 1815A/13 to Escorts of C.T.9).

Navigational.

Blyth. My 2219A/12. Blyth Port open. (N.O.I.C. Blyth, 1432A/13).

Buoys, 57 D. 57 A. 60. EGLINTON reports:- 57D Buoy flashing 2 every 15 secs. not 3, 57A Buoy 1.5 miles 115° out of position, 60 Buoy 2.0 miles 180° out of position. (F.O.I.C. Harwich, 1521A/13).

Ice off Jan Mayen. Ice sufficient to impede navigation encountered N.W. of (? line joining) 070° 45' N. 005° 20' W. 071° 50' N. 000° 00' E. Further ice met in 073° 25' N. 004° 30' E. and extends 040° and 220°. (CUMBERLAND, 1536A/11).

War Diary.13.1.1942.
Tuesday.HOME COMMANDS.Casualties & Defects.

NORFOLK. Am returning to Hvalfiord. Fore turret stove in. (C.S.1, 0010A/13 to A.C.I.C.)
Half roof of A turret unshipped and port side of gunhouse (?bent) down 050° by one heavy sea. Ship not seaworthy in any weather. Returning to Hvalfiord for temporary repairs. Casualties one killed and 4 injured. (C.S.1. 0058A/13 to C. in C. H.F.). *Arrived - See p. 298.*

EMPIRE PARSONS (Grounded 12/1). EMPIRE PARSONS aground on Stroma. Tug MARAUDER is being sailed from Stornoway. TARANTELLA was standing by at 2225. (A.C.O.S., 0023A/13). Your 2347A/12. MARAUDER sailed. (N.O.I.C.Stornoway, 0120A/13).
Most of crew of EMPIRE PARSONS ashore. Her engine room flooded and no power available. Contacted lifeboat off Swilkie but she appears unable to stem tide. Suggest lights be left for lifeboat and tug. Am proceeding to rejoin E.N.31. (TARANTELLA, 0155A/13).
Am standing by until daylight, nothing to report. (Longhope Lifeboat, 0213/13).
EMPIRE PARSONS from E.N.31 ran aground on East side of Stroma at approximately 2000/12. C.S.V.O. in JAUNTY and MARAUDER standing by. C.S.V.O. unable to board owing to heavy swell but reports flooding or leaking in many compartments. Vessel in dangerous position and salvage doubtful. (A.C.O.S., 1600/13).

Fleet Tender "C". STARLING. One M/V in collision Fleet Tender C. Am endeavouring to pass tow. Request tug. (WINCHESTER, 0530A/13).
Your 0530A/13. Tug is being sent from Humber.
Fighter protection under code word 'Yokel'. (C. in C. Nore, 0653A/13 to WINCHESTER).
My 0530. S.S.STARLING now clear of wreck and proceeding Humber under own steam escorted by KITTIWAKE and M.L.214. Holed forward and probably requires dock. Consider tug should stand by. Her present position 59 A buoy, speed 6 knots. Am joining convoy. (WINCHESTER, 0708A/13).
Immingham departure Tug PRIZEMAN at 0740 to assist unknown M/V. in vicinity of wreck of Fleet tender 'C'. (F.O.Humber, 0800A/13).
STARLING diverted into Humber damaged. (N.C.S.O. Humber 1135A/13).
*Unknown M/V. proved to be STARLING, who arrived Humber under own steam 1115/13. Now in Immingham Dock. Tug PRIZEMAN arrived back Humber 1435/13. (F.O. Humber 1805A/13).
*My 0800/13.

? Intercepted at 0724 G M T De unknown station. In bay GARDSKAGAVITI position 64° 04' 57" N. 22° 41' 52" W. unread every 5 sec. ends. No distress signals heard. (Port Patrick Radio, 0824/12).

KIEV. Your 1502A/12. Sailed Rescue Tug FRISKY 0800A/13. (A.C.I.C., 1240A/13).

RADHURST. Following received from (MACE) addressed Admiralty begins:- RADHURST heavy weather damage. Expect to lose funnel. Returning. Position 1800 G.M.T. 12th. 057° 42' N. 025° 41' W. (Port Patrick Radio 1300/13) /TUNGSHA...

War Diary.13.1.1942.
Tuesday.HOME COMMANDS.Casualties & Defects. - contd.

TUNGSHA. My 2021A/12. BUTTERMERE and RESTIVE returned owing to very heavy weather. (A.C.I.C. 0320A/13).
Your 2126A and my 0213A/12. RESTIVE and BUTTERMERE having returned due to very heavy seas now running, and in view of long distance, it is not proposed to sail rescue tug in search of TUNGSHA unless a more definite position can be obtained. (A.C.I.C., 1343A/13).
Your 1213A/12. TUNGSHA now reports improvement. Proceeding Reykjavik under own steam. (A.C.I.C., 2022A/13).

TOKEN. My 1731/23/12. Steam Drifter TOKEN, grounded and abandoned in Eastern entrances, broke up in gale last night and is a total loss. (R.A. Scapa, 1602A/13).
(H.M. Drifter.)

NIAGARA. My P.C.S. at 1400Z/13, 58° 38' N. 10° 50' W., 139° 12. Am escorting S.S. TRITON bound Belfast. E.T.A. North Channel 0800Z/14. Request permission to proceed to Greenock for repairs. (NIAGARA, 1735Z/13).
Your 1735Z/10. *Approved. (C. in C. W.A., 2115A/13 to NIAGARA). *1735/13 intended.

ANCHORITE. Admiralty letter D. 1034/41 dated 29.1.41. and P.45470/41 dated 25.5.41. Condition of boilers of machinery in H.M.M.V. ANCHORITE is now such that any passage outside Scapa Flow would be dangerous. Consider it essential that vessel should be sent as early as practicable in fine weather and with escort to first class firm, preferably on Clyde for thorough overhaul and if possible for re-boiling. Owing to amount of mooring work to be completed, it is essential that a relief mooring vessel should be provided in absence of ANCHORITE. (A.S. Lyness, 1831/13).
(Mooring V.)

H.28. H.28 is delayed approx. 48 hours by defects. Cancel my 1022A/11. (Capt. S.7, 2154/13).

Shipping & Convoys.

S.L.96. My 2002A/12. Cdre. and ships in company alter course 060° 6 knots at 0500A. Insufficient knowledge to recommend R/V. (ROCHESTER, 0659A/13).

F.N.⁶⁰.3. STARLING, Thames to Methil, diverted into Humber damaged. (N.C.S.O. Humber, 1135A/13).
^

H.G.77. Warmest congratulations on bringing safely to U.K. all the ships of your Convoy H.G.77. (C. in C. W.A. 1229A/13 to Commodore J.Elliot).

WAZIRISTAN. My 1745A/12th. Master of COLD HARBOR reports last company with WAZIRISTAN vicinity 074° N. 16° E.

/at ...

War Diary.

13.1.1942.
Tuesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping & Convoys.

- WAZIRISTAN. at 1600/1. COLD HARBOR experienced strong
(contd.) easterly gale on passage being set to Meridian
approx. 49° E. Admiralty pass to Admiral Miles.
(S.B.N.O. North Russia, 1230A/13).
- H.X.167. Warmest congratulations on bringing safely to the
U.K. all the ships in your convoy H.X.167.
(C. in C. W.A., 1233A/13 to Admiral A.J.Davies).
- P.W.97. My 1123A/13. Sailing postponed for 24 hours on
HILARY. account of weather.
(C. in C. Portsmouth, 1555A/13).
- W.S.15. A.M.2246A/12. HEEMSKERK is to proceed direct to
Freetown without calling at Gibraltar.
2. Request you will arrange for her to leave
convoy in the vicinity of Azores to fuel at Ponta Delgada
rejoining on completion if her endurance permits.
(A.C.N.S. H. 1602A/13 to V.A.3.) *See also p.307*
In addition to your three destroyers and HEEMSKERK due to fuel at
Ponta Delgada between p.m. 16th and p.m.17th the following also
require fuel:- (A) DAUNTLESS due Ponta Delgada 0930/17. *See p.308*
(B) WOODRUFF and ALCA p.m.16th. *See also next page*
2. Request you will issue any instructions you consider necessary
to DAUNTLESS and WOODRUFF so that fuelling programme of ships
with you may proceed as expeditiously as possible.
3. It is most undesirable that any ship should remain stopped off
harbour entrance. (A.C.N.S. F., 2048A/13 to V.A.3.)
ROYAL SOVEREIGN and RAMILLIES made the trip from U.K. to Freetown
without refuelling under the following conditions:-
(A) Good weather, (B) Steaming as economically as possible at
convoy speed. (C) Accepting the consequent delay in raising steam
to Full Speed.
2. Arrangements were made for C. in C. S.A. to make an Oiler
available in the vicinity of Cape Verde Islands should this
be necessary.
3. It is important that you should inform C. in C. S.A. as early
as practicable whether this Oiler will be required or not.
(A.C.N.S. F., 2052A/13 to V.A.3.)
- O.S.17. SENNEN sailing with O.S.17 will be ordered to leave
SENNEN. convoy to take mails to Las Palmas subsequently
proceeding to Bathurst or to rejoin group.
(C. in C. W.A., 1607A/13).
- O.N.52, Your 1248A/13. No unlettered position given.
O.N.53. (N.C.S.O. Reykjavik, 1636A/13).
- S.C.63. S.C.63. Convoy has been dispersed. Escorts return
to base forthwith. BOADICEA independently,
corvettes in company. NARCISSUS is to escort
DEWSBURY to Clyde if in company.
(C. in C. W.A., 1756A/13 to BOADICEA, etc.)

War Diary.

13.1.1942.
Tuesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping & Convoys. - contd.

P.Q. and
Q.P. Convoys.

Request I may be kept informed of routes and progress of P.Q. and Q.P. convoys. At present I rely on intercepts for this information. (F.O.C.O.S., 1814A/13).

MF/DF.
Guard Ships.

The ship selected for MF/DF guard in ocean convoys is to be indicated in sailing Telegrams by the letters M/F against her name. Commodores are to be requested to include in their reports remarks as to the efficiency or otherwise of the carrying out of their duties by the MF/DF guards. Before selecting a ship for MF/DF duties the Local Service Depot should be consulted as to suitability. Only ships whose MF/DF receivers can receive a CW signal without reradiating should be selected. (D.T.D., 1823A/13).

ALCA.

ALCA escorted by WOODRUFF is to proceed to Fayal to coal arriving at daylight. Detach WOODRUFF after dark on the night before arrival at Fayal to refuel at Ponta Delgada. WOODRUFF is to proceed at best speed consistent with weather conditions and after refuelling R/V as arranged by ALCA off Fayal. Ships are then to proceed to U.K. in accordance with my 1107A/13 omitting position (A). (C. in C. W.A., 1848A/13 to ALCA).

?

Your 1849C/10. Concur but ships should have minimum speed of eight and a half knots. Anglo Soviet Shipping Company, London have already been notified. (D.T.D., 1915A/13 to S.B.N.O. Archangel).

War Diary.

13.1.1942.
Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

BARCLOSE, Cancel my 1302A/12 para. (1). Sailing
BARFOAM, deferred till S/M situation clears.
BARFORD. (F.O.C.N.A. 1104A/13 to C. in C. S.A.)

S/M Areas. Your 1714A/12 not to Admty. Due to delay in
changing restrictions and necessity for
frequent rerouteing of S/Ms in North Atlantic
area restrictions (corrupt group) must be large.

(2) Propose N.A.S. be divided into following areas:-

Area	Between Longitudes.	Between Latitudes.
G.1.	East of 013° W.	043° 039° N.
G.2.	013° 018° W.	043° 039° N.
G.3.	018° 022°	043° 039°
G.4.	008° 013°	039° 035°
G.5.	013° 018°	039° 035°
G.6.	018° 022°	039° 035°
G.7.	008° 013°	035° 030°
G.8.	013° 018°	035° 030°
G.9.	018° 022°	035° 030°

(3) Intend to continue present arrangements with station
aircraft.

(4) Request confirm transit aircraft will not attack S/Ms
in given approach east of 008° W.
(Capt. S.8. 1138A/13 to F.O.S.).

MAURO CROCE
alleged
attack in
Spanish
Waters.

Spanish Gov. allege that Italian steamer
MARIO CROCE (? MAURO CROCE) when off Calella
about 1900 hours on 3/9/41, was fired at by
a British vessel of about 150 tons, trawler
type, painted khaki, with two masts and white
funnel. Alleged that MARIO CROCE was
steaming about 2 miles from Spanish coast
and was forced to take refuge in Palamos.
Can you provide a report of this alleged
incident?

(Head of M. 1243A/13 to F.O.C.N.A.)
Reply 1555/14.

19th D.F.

CROOME and one destroyer detailed by you
are to return to Gibraltar at best A/S
sweeping speed forthwith passing through 270
Larache Light 10 thence just outside
territorial waters to Spartel thence Gibraltar.
Lat. 035° 30' N. is not to be passed before
0600A/14. Remaining 2 destroyers are to
continue to act as A/S striking force in
vicinity of S L 93 G.
(F.O.C.N.A. 1258A/13 to Capt. (D) 19, repeated
Adty, WESTCOTT, CROOME, HESPERUS, Escort S/L
9 Y G.)

S,B.R.

Cancel my serial No.G.6 forthwith. Times
quoted in S.B.R. signals are B.S.T. or M.S.T.
whichever in force.
(H.Q.C.C. 1415A/13 to R.A.F. Gibraltar)

/DAUNTLESS ...

War Diary.13.1.1942.
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic contd.

- DAUNTLESS. Ref. A.M. 2154A/11 and C. in C. S.A. 1201/12. F.O.C.N.A. is requested to issue orders to DAUNTLESS for onward passage to limit of his command.
(C. in C. W.A. 1515A/13 to F.O.C.N.A.)
- HEEMSKERK. Will arrive Ponta Delgada approx. A.M./17 requiring about 400 tons of oil fuel. Request you will make the necessary arrangements.
(A.C.N.S.(H) 1601A/13 to N.C.S.O. P. Delgada.)
See p. 304
- S.S. MENHIR BRAZ. French MENHIR BRAZ will probably sail on 15/1 for Oran. Captain Vichy, Chief Engineer doubtful, one third crew de Gaulle, will signal time of sailing.
(B.N.A. Lisbon 1655/13 to F.O.C.N.A.)
- French Ships. Gibraltar 1228 Destroyer FRONDEUR escorting trawler B. 1461, A.P.V. CAPITAINE ARMAND, S.S. OUED TIFLET covered deck cargo, FORT DE FRANCE laden Eastbound.
(F.O.C.N.A. 1821A/13 to Adty., C. in C. Med.)
- SLEMDAL FORTUNE SLEMDAL not met 030° 56' 017° 31'
(FORTUNE 1945A/13 to F.O.C.N.A.)
- U-Boats in Straits Approaches. There may be strong concentration of U-Boats in Western Approaches to Strait.
(F.O.C.N.A. 2128A/13 to P.38. HERMIONE.
Repeated: S.O. Force H.)

South Atlantic.

- SULTAN HISAR. Turkish Destroyer SULTAN HISAR sailed 1420 to rejoin WORCESTERSHIRE.
(N.C.S.O. Walvis Bay 1433Z/13.)
- CANTON, PRETORIA CASTLE. Leave patrol to arrive Freetown P.M./17.
(C. in C. S.A. 1459Z/13 to CANTON, PRETORIA CASTLE)
- Takoradi. The increased use of Takoradi makes it advisable to increase the size of protecting anchorage if gear can be made available.
Proposal. (C. in C.S.A. 1501Z/13 to Admty.)

/DAUNTLESS ...

War Diary.13.1.1942.
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic/contd.

- DAUNTLESS. Following is a repetition of my 1531Z/13 to N.C.S.O. Ponta Delgada. Inform British Consul DAUNTLESS will arrive a.m./17 will require 450 tons of fuel. (C. in C. S.A. 1533Z/13 to F.O.C.N.A. Admty. C. in C. W.A. DAUNTLESS.) *see p. 304*
- S.T.13. Convoy S.T. 13 (through routed ships of O.S.15) pass to Commodore, open envelope Z, route D middle route. (C. in C. S.A. 1655Z/13 to VANSITTART. (R) Admty)
- Shipping, Freetown. Admty. 0001/1/5/1941, sec. (4) para. 6. Instructions contained in first sentence, besides tending to delay vessels assembled for convoy, are no longer considered necessary since introduction of patrolled sector system. Request following may be substituted: "Vessels proceeding to Freetown should make port at best speed between 0700 and 1800 G.M.T. The port closes at 1900 G.M.T." (2) Consequent on the above my 1315N/27/4/1941 (re code word 'Potato') is cancelled. (C. in C. S.A. 1735Z/13 to Admty.) (Concur (D.T.D. 1315A/15)
- Naval Personnel for U.K. It would appear that there will be about 1500 Naval personnel at Durban ex DILWARA, EMPRESS OF RUSSIA and ORDUNA by the end of January for onward shipment to U.K. 2. Request your proposals. (D.O.D.(F) 1828A/13 to C. in C. S.A.)
- R.A.F. Survivors in → CILICIA. Swedish ship which arrived yesterday picked up 6 R.A.F. survivors. To prevent any question of these men being interned they are being put on board CILICIA with view to their being transferred to homeward bound British Merchant ship should opportunity occur. (B.N.A. Rio de Janeiro 1907Z/13.)
- Dispositions. Following are present and intended future dispositions of S.A.D. BIRMINGHAM and (?ASTURIAS) vicinity of Falkland Is. (?BULOLO) (?patrol) K 33 K 34. R/V with BROOMDALE, SARABANDE 33 (C) 18/1 then return to patrol. Will probably fuel Montevideo about Thursday (?) 29/1. → CILICIA fuelled Rio de Janeiro 13/1 then to patrol J (?33), 34. (R.A.S.A.D. 2049Z/13 to Admty. etc.)

War Diary.13.1.1942.
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean.

Benghazi mined. (a) 13/1.
(b) about 5 (1) approach at dawn dropped bombs overland and mines type G in harbour. One J.U. 88 dropped single mine after daylight yesterday flares used. Moonlight last quarter about S.E. (e) (g) Enquiry nil. (k) One exploded in harbour and one ashore about 4 miles N.E. of town.
(N.O.I.C. Benghazi 0857B/13.)

TRIUMPH. Ref. Memo. S.O. 62 para. 6. If you have not already done so comply with para. 2 and 4 of appendix. If operation referred to in para. 2 of appendix has not been practicable leave your area and return to Alexandria.
(Capt. (S) 1 0917B/13 to TRIUMPH)

TRUANT. Left Suez 12/1 with following officers and spare crew.
(Capt. S.I. 0937B/13 to Capt. (S) 5, F.O.S.)

Enemy convoy. Aircraft 7YFR No.1 reports P C and S of enemy 3 destroyers 6 medium sized merchant vessels 36° 40' N. 11° 12' E. 180° 9 knots.
(Halfar D/F 1020/13 to ? V.A. Malta 1137B/13 to UNA, P.35).
My 1137B/13th Convoy not sighted again probably entered Sousse.
(Capt. (S) 10 1943B/13 to P.35, (R) C. in C. Med. S.1, UNA.)

Operation. Following is a repetition of my 1019 * 13th begins reference M K 1768 and 1791 intend sailing ZULU, JAGUAR, LANCE, and LIVELY, at 1830 today to intercept these ships Ends.
(V.A. Malta 1026B/13 to C. in C. Med.)
* Undecypherable in War Registry.

R.N. Draft in ORDUNA. Your 0446Z/12. ORDUNA only vessel available and draft has been embarked with C. in C. Med.'s concurrence.
(P.S.T.O. Egypt 1226B/13 to C. in C. E.I.)
/ Escort requested for ORDUNA carrying R.N. draft numbering 450 to U.K.

ARROW attacked. Search for U-Boat. HERO and ARROW hunting submarine in 031° 39' N. 028° 03' (?East) - 1 torpedo fired at ARROW.
(HERO 1548B/13 to C. in C. Med.).

/ARROW ...

War Diary.13.1.1942.
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean.ARROW
attacked.
Search for
U-Boat
contd.ARROW attacked. Contact was then lost am
searching area till dusk then ARROW will rejoin
KIMBERLEY. HERO will remain in area till 2000
and then rejoin KIMBERLEY.
(HERO 1646B/13.)

KIMBERLEY.

Add to my 1548B?. KIMBERLEY in tow of BRIGAND
proceeding towards Alexandria escorted by
HEYTHROP.
(HERO 1600B/13.)

AURORA.

My 2230/25/12 not to F.O. 15th C.S. Approx.
date of completion of repair of AURORA now end
of February.
(N.S. Dockyard, Malta 1630B/13.)

Air Operations. Night Jan. 11/12 1 Liberator 2 Wellingtons
bombed base of Spanish Mole Tripoli Harbour
smoke screen obscured results 3 bombs also
dropped on Homs without visible effect 5 ships seen about 300
yards off jetty Buerat El Hsun with 2 possible warships 2 miles
out to sea. Attack by Malta Wellingtons on Tripoli shipping
reported in Malta C.S.R. for 12/1 enemy bombed Tobruk shortly
before dawn damaging ordnance depot.
(H.Q. R.A.F. M.E. 1637/13.)

Malta
air report.

Enemy activity night 12/13 3 alerts 1902 2020
0147 hours 8 raiders bombs land sea no damage
13th 5 alerts 0635 0800 0913 1119 1322 hours
total 38 fighters and bombers cloud cover bombs
land military & civilian casualties slight damage houses Hal
Far 1 Hurricane destroyed direct hit Hal Far and Ta Kali
waterlogged no runways.
Part II. Night 12/13 heavy rain cloud and severe electrical
storms special Albacore shipping search Pantellaria Maritimo
found nothing 4 Swordfish shipping sweep same area saw nothing.
5 Wellingtons 1 CCG attacked shipping Tripoli Harbour 1755
to 1903 hours bombs dropped from 10,000 feet on main quay and
southern edge harbour further results unobserved owing cloud
13th R/C Maritimo Pantellaria saw (02828?) hours 6 medium
M.V.'s 3 D/R's 157° Kelib 12 miles course probably south
another recco still out 201 Group please pass C. in C. Med.
(H.Q. R.A.F. Malta 1715/13)

Arrival of
German
motor boats

Reports received show that between 120 and 140
German fast motor boats have recently arrived
in the Mediterranean via Rhine - Rhone canal.
These boats are probably not "E" or "R" boats
but may possibly be some type of assault boats.
These are additional to "E" boats mentioned
in A.M. 1859A/13/12.
(D.D.I.C. 1811A/13 to C. in C. Mediterranean,
V.A. Malta, C.O.I.S. Alexandria, F.O.C. N.A. S.O. Force H.)

/Benghazi ...

War Diary.13.1.1942.
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean - contd.

Benghazi mines. Work of port interfered with by 3 G (?mines).
Discharged 2 Jaffa Tugs 2 South Africa 152
and 170 tons. Fluff without result. 2
lighters salvaged. Air activity. Minelaying
between 0600 and 0726 by about 5 aircraft. Bits of last
one found in town. R/C at 1027. "Jumbo" operating late p.m.
General outlook improved.
(N.O.I.C. Benghazi 1928/13 to C. in C. Med.)

Admiral Ford; (Personal for Admiral Ford) On hauling down
message of your flag the B. of A. wish to express their
appreciation. high appreciation of the able manner in which
you have carried out your arduous and
responsible duties at Malta during the last
5 years, and note with much satisfaction the
many successful actions carried out by the
forces under your direction.
(Naval Secretary 2246A/13 to F.O.I.C. Malta)

ROWALLAN
CASTLE,
GLENGYLE.

Your 1253B/11 ROWALLAN CASTLE ready for sea.
If GLENGYLE is off loaded by D 2 would you
consider sailing them with Force "K"? I am
anxious to clear congestion in the harbour.
Both ships 16 knots.
(N.O.I.C. Malta 2335/13 to C. in C. Med.)

War Diary.13.1.1942.
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies.

Raider report. Your 1909/11. No further information received. (C. in C. E.I., 0546Z/13 to Admty.)

Stores and M.T. for Singapore. Following 10 ships carrying stores and M.T. will be ready to sail from Bombay to Singapore 20/1. (P.S.T.O. India, 1237Z/13 to C. in C. E.I.)

Convoys C.M. 25 W.S. 14. Durban departures 13/1. DORSETSHIRE escorting C.M.25 sail 1154Z to R/V ORCADES outer end Durban searched channel. E.T.A. Aden p.m./22. S. of A. 16 knots. Routed in accordance with C. in C. E.I. 1652Z/3. (2) CORFU escorting Durban portion of W.S.14 sail 1315Z to R/V RAMILLIES and Capetown portion of convoy ~~at~~ 1400Z outer end Durban searched channel. E.T.A. at 008° S. 042° 30' E. 0500Z/19. S. of A. 11 knots. Routed in accordance with C. in C. E.I. 1648Z/3. (N.O.I.C. Durban, 1451Z/13 to Admiralty, C. in C. E.I., C. in C. S.A., N.O.I.C. Aden, S.N.O.R.S., N.O.I.C. Kilindini, D. of S.T.)

SOFALA
Q Report. QQQQ Signal originated by SOFALA in 002° 04' S. 042° 04' E. at 1022/13 was subsequently cancelled in code. (C. in C. E.I., 1646Z/13 to E.I. Sqdn.)

GLENARTNEY. Admty. 1902/13 GLENARTNEY due Bombay a.m./15. (2) No naval stores off loaded at Colombo. (3) Cmdre. R.I.N. is requested to inform all authorities time required for unloading 15-inch guns. (C. in C. E.I., 2330Z/13 to C. in C. E.F.)
See also p. 314

China.

Abdacom Batavia 0222/13. See Lion Copy.

Fuel tanks at Port Swettenham.

Daily Operational Summary up to 1030Z/12. One Blenheim despatched destroy fuel tanks Port Swettenham not demolished failed to reach target owing to engine trouble. (Air H.Q. F.E., 0425/13.)

MOST SECRET~~MOST SECRET MESSAGE~~

IN

0222/13th January.

From: Abdacon Batavia.

Date. 13.1.42.

Time. 0135.

CYPHER.

Addressed: The War Office and C. in C. Middle East;
repeated G.O.C. Malaya, C.G.S. Australia,
British Joint Staff Mission, Washington.

IMMEDIATE.

025641. S.D.2/3011/M.O.10.

00030 cipher 12/1.

Ref. W.O. telegram 62996 (M.O.10) 8/1 to C. in C.
Far East, repeated C. in C. Middle East only.

1. Present intention is to send to Singapore whole
A.I.C. Corps ex Middle East and then to back (?load)
some or all Indian formations to N.E.I.

Feasibility of this will depend on development of
situation at Singapore and on sea approach.

If it is found for any reason impracticable or
undesirable we must be prepared to divert some at least
of corps. to N.E.I.

2. The Administrative problems involved in receiving
at Singapore are relatively simple. For ships arriving
in N.E.I. most likely ports are (a) for Sumatra -
Padang and Oostraven (b) for Java - Batavia and Sourabaya
failing which Tjilatjap(?a).

3. We will obtain all possible information from
Dutch regarding facilities but we are only in process of
collecting bare nucleus of administration staff officers
from Malaya since Easfar had none. We have no base or
L. of C. staffs and no services. For the present we must
rely on Dutch help but though willing they are not
accustomed to big troops movements. My telegram No.00007
dated 11th January (not to Washington or Singapore)
refers.

4. It is therefore imperative whatever ultimate
destination may be that Corps. H.Q. should be despatched
early and that Corps Commander and nucleus staff
especially administrative staff should come by air
earliest. Middle East Movements 1/47285 of 8th January
to Singapore refers.

5./

MOST SECRET

5. Reference Middle East SD/47802 of 10th January not to Washington or Melbourne. Agreed with proposed General priority in your para. 4 viz:- Armoured Brigade Group 7 Australian Div. 6 Australian Div. Request Middle East to distribute corps. troops and base and L. of C. Units among divisions in light of foregoing. If practicable would welcome early shipment of heavy and light A.A. regiments. W/O 63018(Q(M)2c) of 8th January refers. Message ends.

63005(S.D.2a) is not to hand for reference.

C222/13.

Received from War Office 1000/13.

War Office distribution:

S. of S.	D.Q.M.G.
C.I.G.S.	D.Mov.
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1st Lord.	
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D.D.C.D.(H)	D.P.D.
D.O.D.(F)	D.S.D.
D.L.O.D.(F)	Admiral Bailey
E.F.S.	Admiral Bellairs
	Admiral Somerville.

MOST SECRET MESSAGE 0200/13th January IN

From The War Office.

Date 13.1.42

CIPHER.

To G. O. C. Malaya.

IMPORTANT.

No. 63834 cipher (M.O.10) 12/1.
M.O.10 00/223.

Your 0.576 - 9/1.

Further information required as follows:-

- (a) Was Asiatic civilian population given any option to evacuate.
- (b) Sikh Police. Your 0.434 - 30/12 second refers.
- (c) Details of measures taken to remove or destroy following - Tin, Rubber, Oil and Lubricants. Estimate of amounts left undestroyed.
- (d) Detail of measures to destroy port installations and wireless station and to sink shipping which could not be removed. Any comment as to extent that assembling of craft by enemy might have been hindered. Your 0.386 refers.
- (e) Any further or more accurate information on other points covered in your 0.256 - 19/12 and 0.434 - 30/12, e.g. is it known whether delay action demolitions were successful?.

State name of late commander Penang Fortress and where he has gone.

0200/13.

Received from W.O. A.M/13th January 1942.

1st Lord.		War Office Circulation.
1st S.L.	D.D.I.C. (2)	S. of S.
4th S.L.	D. of P (2)	C.I.G.S.
5th S.L.	D.A/S.W.	V.C.I.G.S.
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A.C.N.S. (H)	W.D.	D.P.
A.C.N.S. (F)	D.P.D.	D.D.M.O. (O)
A.C.N.S. (T)	D.S.D.	M.O.I. 10.
A.C.N.S. (W)	Ad. Bailey	D.M.I.
Nav. Sec.	Ad. Bellairs.	D.D.M.I. (I)
N.A. 1st S.L.	F.P.S.	M.I.2.
D.N.A.D.	Ad. Somerville	C.N.S. Admiralty.
Hd of M.	D.N.I. (7) &	D. of Plans Admiralty.
D.O.D. (H)	for A.E. &	C.A.S. Air Ministry.
D.D.O.D. (H)	D.N.L.O.	D. of Plans Air Min.
D.O.D. (F)		Sec. Joint Planning Staff.
D.D.O.D. (F)		Col. Jacob.
D.C. (2)		Hd of W.R. Admiralty.
		Col. Off. (Lt. Col. Rolleston) (4)

War Diary.13.1.1942.
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.China - Contd.

S.S. KINTA. Part 2. Line patrols maximum fighter cover R/C
Air raids on and close A/S patrols in connection with
Singapore. reinforcement convoy carried out by Dutch.
Ref. Oprep. 28 S.S. KINTA safe 1 small M/V sunk
in this attack. 3 air raids on Singapore.
First raid approx. 67 plus enemy aircraft
including fighter escort. Bombs and incendiaries dropped
adjacent to Tengah aerodrome. 16 Buffalos despatched to
intercept. Second raid approx. 20 plus enemy aircraft 16
buffalos despatched to intercept. Third raid approx. 35
plus enemy aircraft including fighter escort. Bombs and
incendiaries dropped at Tengah west of aerodrome. 22 Buffaloes
despatched to intercept. No damage to R.A.F. establishments
during raids. Our losses 6 Buffalos destroyed 2 damaged 1 pilot
killed 1 missing. Enemy losses 6 fighters destroyed 4
fighters probable.
(Air H.Q. F.E., 0426/13.)

Convoy Convoy D.M. 1 arrived.
D.M. 1. (R.A. Malaya, 0530Z/13.)

Movements. Singapore arrival 13/1 EMERALD, EXETER, DURBAN,
VAMPIRE, JUPITER, ENCOUNTER, GOULBURN, BURNIE,
JUMNA. 12/1 arrival Amboina SWAN.
(S.O.I. Singapore, 0831Z/13 to Admty.)

W/T C. in C. E.F., 0845Z/13. See Lion Copy.
organisation.

Recognition Ref. your 0050Z/28 (N.T. in W.D.) Steps are
Signals. being taken by Admty. to comply with your request.
Pending notification of new procedure to all F.F.
merchant vessels, instructions have been issued
that when a vessel fails to give recognition signal on request,
she will not repeat not ipso facto be regarded as hostile. As
far as possible, inform masters that this procedure must be
considered as strictly secret.
(F.N.F.L. London, 1659A/13 to LE TRIOMPHANT.)

Situation (ii) N.E.I. U.S. observer Bandoeng reports
Report. communication with Tarakan and Menado a.m./11.
Situation obscure. Australian Hudson aircraft
flying from Ambon reported 2 probable hits and
2 possible hits on cruiser and transport off Menado and Kema.
(iii) U.S. Pacific Coast. A message from Fort Richardson
Alaska dated 12/1 reports U.S. troop ship CLEVEDON ashore.
About 400 troops were on board but there was no loss of life.
The ship and bulk of cargo a complete loss.
(Joint Staff Mission, Washington, 1241R/13.)

/GLENARTNEY ...

313A.

SECRET.

M E S S A G E.

0845Z/13th January. I N

Date 13.1.42.

Rcd. 1842.

From C. in C. Eastern Fleet.

NAVAL CYPHER (D) BY W/T.

Addressed Australian Commonwealth Naval Board and Admiralty.
Repeated C. in C. East Indies, New Zealand Naval Board,
F.O.C.R.I.N. R.A. Malaya.

IMPORTANT.

Present southern boundary of China Station involves a change of W/T organisation for all ships proceeding between Darwin and Netherlands East Indies or Malayan waters, in which operational control of British warships will be carried out by F.O.J. or from Australia. Shift from one W/T organisation to another may also compromise secrecy of movements by permitting enemy to observe W/T linkages and while this is unavoidable when changing from East Indies W/T Organisation to China W/T organisation it is considered risk should be avoided where possible. Intention is that ocean convoy escorts not repetition not proceeding inside Malay barrier should remain on W/T. organisation of station from repetition from which they are operating. To satisfy requirements for other forces operating in A.B.D.A. area it is proposed for W/T purposes southern and eastern boundaries China Station should be made CO - incidental with those of A.B.D.A. area between points 015 degs. south 092 degs. east and equator 141 degs. east.

This would involve Coonawarra W/T taking part in group U and maintaining watch on China ships high frequency 7435/5600 KC/s if necessary instead of Australian equivalents. Also intended that Batavia W/T base synchronized shall take part in group U as a transmitting station though not normally a repeating back station. Additional advantage will be to leave unaffected U operative if Singapore W/T goes temporarily out of action.

Co-operation in group U of Fremantle W/T previously proposed would not be required when Coonawarra is included.

Australian Commonwealth Naval Board is requested to signal very early remarks or concurrence. If the latter, information is requested when plan can be implemented.

0845Z/13.

V.C.N.S.
A.C.N.S. (F)
A.C.N.S. (T)
N.A. 1st S.L.
Ops. (3)
O.D. (5)
O.I.C. (3)
D.N.I. (4)
D.S.D. (2)
D.A.S.W.
D.T.D. (4)
N.I.D. 10(2)
M. (2)
H.W.R.

D. of P. (3)
E.P.S.
I.P. (3)
W.D.
File X.

R.

War Diary.13.1.1942.
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.China - Contd.

GLENARTNEY. The early arrival in ABDA Area of Military stores in GLENARTNEY is of great importance. Delay in her arrival due to disposal of 15" gun and naval ammunition is not acceptable. Disposal of such naval ammunition as has already been unloaded should be reported by C. in C. E.I. (A.C.N.S. (W), 1902A/13 to C. in C. E.F., repeated C. in C. E.I., F.O.C.R.I.N. R.A. Malaya, Abdacom Batavia.)

p. 312

U.S. Pacific Fleet. Following changes in disposition. (D.O.D.(F), 2227A/13 to C. in C. E.F.)

America and West Indies.

S/M reports. Your 1743Z/12. Home bearings put both units West of Gibraltar East of 10° W. (D.D.I.C., 0840A/13 to N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, Repeated British Warships Area 7A, C. in C. A.W.I.)

Convoy S.C. 63 S.C. 63 serial 10 convoy disperse. All ships to pass South of Rockall Bank to destinations. Admty. will instruct (? stragglers) G.B.M.S. Admiralty recommendation. (U.S. C.N.O., 1145Z/13 to Cmdr. Task Unit No. 4.1.11, Repeated No.6, Cmdr. Task Force No. 4, N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, Cmdr. Task Group No. 7.5, Cmdr. Task Group No. 4.6, C. in C. A.W.I.)

N.E.I. J.S.M. 1241R/13. See China.

CLEVEDON grounded, lost. U.S. troopship, 7314 tons, has gone ashore at Fort Richardson, Alaska. 400 troops on board landed without loss, but ship and bulk of cargo are a complete loss. (D.O.R., 14/1.)

Eire, shipping Information. Montreal shipping agents for Eire vessels sailing in convoy wish to ensure that sailing and arrival information of these ships is available to agents or owners in Eire. Request information as to whether this is passed out by Ministry of War Transport as for U.K. agents or failing this whether there is any Naval authority in Eire to whom this information can be transmitted in code. (N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 1403Z/13 to Admty.)

/REGENT ...

MOST SECRET

MOST SECRET

MESSAGE

0120/13th January 001

From The War Office,

Date 13.1.42.

CIPHER.

To Supreme Commander, South West Pacific, C. in C.
India. repeated G.O.C. Burma.

IMMEDIATE.

63795

Cipher (M.O.10)

12/1.42

Following from Chief of Staff No. (S.W.P.) 3.

The inclusion of Burma in the A.B.D.A. area requires a definition of the respective responsibilities of the Supreme Commander and C. in C. India vis - a-vis Burma.

2. Accordingly the following Directive has been drawn up in consultation with our Delegation in Washington.

Begins.

(1) The Supreme Commander in the South West Pacific, in view of his responsibility for all operations in the A.B.D.A. area (which includes Burma) is responsible for issuing all operational instructions to Burma.

(2) At the same time, India is necessarily closely concerned with the defence of Burma as part of the defence of India itself, and must play a large part in the provision and administration of the forces in Burma. Consequently C. in C. India must be kept in the closest touch with the events in and requirements of Burma and Supreme Commander will give C. in C. India earliest possible information of the demands likely to be made on India.

3. The Supreme Commander in the South West Pacific will in any case repeat to C. in C. India, direct, and to the War Office, all instructions (including administrative) whether for land or air operations issued to Burma. C. in C. India will comment, if he so desires, on any instructions which affect him, repeating such comments to the War Office. Burma will repeat to C. in C. India any demands made to the Supreme Commander or War Office for personnel and Material.

MOST SECRET

314 B

TOP SECRET

4. Should conflict of views arise between the Supreme Commander in the South West Pacific and the C. in C. India matter will be referred to H.M. Government for decision. Ends.

0120/13.
Received from W.O. 1339/13.

Advance Copy D.C. D.O.D. (F) D.D.I.C.

- | | |
|--------------------|-------------------------|
| 1st Lord. | War Office Circulation. |
| 1st S.L. | |
| V.C.N.S. | S. of S. (6) |
| A.C.N.S. (F) | C.I.G.S. (8) |
| N.A. 1st S.L. | Col. Jacobs (7) |
| P.A.S. (S) | |
| D.O.D. (F) | |
| D.D.O.D. (F) | |
| D. of P (2) | |
| E.P.S. | |
| Hd of M. (10) | |
| I.P. (2) | |
| N.I.D. 10 | |
| (Pay Cdr. Wilson.) | |
| W.D. | |
| D.N.I. (4) | |
| D.C. (2). | |

maf.

TOP SECRET

314 B

MESSAGE 0820/13th January

IN

MOST SECRET

MOST SECRET

Date 13.1.42

From The War Office.

CIPHER

Addressed: Supreme Commander, South West Pacific.

MOST IMMEDIATE.

63887. Cipher (M.O. 1) 13/1.

Following from Chiefs of Staff No. (S.W.P.) 4.

Your Abdacom 00001 dated 10/1, paragraph 2, position as regards Portuguese Timor is as follows.

1. For some time before outbreak of war with Japan we had been concerned by Japanese interest in Portuguese Timor exemplified by appointment of Japanese Consul at Dilli and pressure on Portuguese Government, which led to conclusion of an air convention providing for Japanese air service from Palau to Dilli. H.M.G. consulted Portuguese Government regarding action to meet this danger and a few days after outbreak of war with Japan they made Portuguese Government an offer, in virtue of the Anglo-Portuguese Alliance, of assistance in event of Japanese attack. This assistance was to be furnished by Australian and Netherlands troops, and the hope was expressed that Portuguese Government would instruct Governor of Portuguese Timor to invite assistance if occasion arose, or to acquiesce in its being furnished in event of there being no time for an invitation.

2. Portuguese Government accepted these proposals on December 12th, and it was arranged that there should be Staff Conversations at Singapore to work out details. On December 15th, the Netherlands East Indies authorities decided that, in view of Japanese submarine activity, it was essential to send troops to Portuguese Timor at once, and in agreement with the Commonwealth Government, arranged for Australian and Dutch troops to be landed at Dilli on December 15th. The Governor protested, and is reported to have subsequently taken to the hills with small local armed force & the administration.

3. Reaction of the Portuguese Government was violent and unfavourable, and they are being subjected to Japanese and other Axis pressure. It is now clear that they never had any intention of invoking our assistance unless actual attack developed, and they did not interpret our understanding with them as meaning that an Allied force could be landed in the event of a threat of attack. The question has become one affecting Portuguese pride and honour, and it is considered possible that Portuguese Prime Minister, who is peculiarly difficult to deal with, might go to the length of breaking off relations if a satisfactory solution is not found.

4. When Allied forces landed, Portuguese Government were informed that they would be withdrawn when the emergency was past and we regard ourselves as committed by subsequent conversations to withdraw when adequate Portuguese forces can be provided for defence of territory. Portuguese Government have now decided to send to Timor some 800 troops (including a company of native engineers and a light mobile battery from Lourenco Marques). We understand that departure of these troops is held up until solution has been reached and informal suggestion has been put forward from Portuguese side that an assurance should be given that the Allied troops will be withdrawn when these Portuguese troops arrive.

/5.....

5. In deciding our policy, we have to consider on the one hand the importance of Portuguese Timor in its relation to defence of Port Darwin and the N.E.I., the inadequacy of 800 Portuguese troops to defend territory against major attack, the fact that no further Portuguese reinforcements would be within call and absence of any arrangements at present to call upon assistance from Allied forces. On the other hand, it cannot be argued that the Allied forces at present available could withstand a major attack, while failure to reach solution of present dispute will lead not only to deterioration of Anglo-Portuguese relations and increased Axis influence in Iberian Peninsula, but might result in rupture with Portugal, which would have most serious strategic effects, more especially as regards the Atlantic Islands. Operations of the convoy route to the Cape, which is largely dependent upon refuelling facilities provided by the Portuguese, would be seriously affected, our air communications via Lisbon would be interrupted and vital supplies of wolfram and cork, which we draw from Portugal, would cease. Any increased convoy difficulty would affect problem of maintaining our forces in Middle East and despatch of reinforcements to Far East. The worst result of all would be to accept a breach of relations with Portugal and still fail to protect Portuguese Timor.

6. After consideration of all circumstances, we have reached the conclusion that the importance of retaining Allied troops in Portuguese Timor would not justify, from the point of view of the war as a whole, risk of a rupture in our relations with Portugal.

7. Sir R. Campbell's return to Lisbon cannot safely be delayed and he cannot return without a proposal to put before Portuguese Government. We should have liked to have had your considered opinion on the problem at this stage, as urged by the Commonwealth Government, but this does not seem practicable in view of the danger of deferring a decision.

8. Therefore, after consultation with Australia and with the Netherlands Government, instructions are being given to H.M. Ambassador at Lisbon with our full concurrence to work for a solution on the following lines. The three Governments would agree to a formal announcement, which could be used publicly without qualification, to the effect that the Allied troops now in Portuguese Timor would be withdrawn on the arrival of the proposed Portuguese forces of approximately 800 men. But before agreeing to this announcement, they would require a private and secret assurance that the Staff conversations contemplated before the landing of the Allied troops would be immediately renewed with the object of agreeing on arrangements for Allied forces to be called in again the event of a Japanese attack. (H.M. Ambassador sees no possibility of the Portuguese Government agreeing at present to accept assistance in the event of a threat of attack, but it is hoped that the Staff conversations if skilfully handled might be widened to cover this eventuality). A further corollary of the proposed statement would be that the Governor of Portuguese Timor should be instructed to facilitate, or at all events not to obstruct, the task of the Allied forces, pending the arrival of the Portuguese reinforcements.

MOST³ SECRET

9. The Commonwealth Government have made the proviso that negotiations should be conducted on the basis that (a) road between DILLI and the Dutch border should be improved, (b) Australian troops should be camped as closely to DILLI as Portugal will agree. It is suggested that the Staff Conversations should cover these matters and also the manner in which the change over should be effected when the Portuguese reinforcements arrive. It is being left to the discretion of H.M. Ambassador to arrange where the place of the Staff Conversations should be. Alternatives appear to be (a) London, (b) Singapore, (c) your headquarters in the N.E.I., or (d) Port Darwin, and Ambassador has been asked to bear in mind the importance of the rapid conduct of conversations so that agreement may be reached before departure from Portuguese Timor of Allied troops.

CS90/13

Received from War Office 1206/13

War Office Circulations:-

S. of S.	Head of W.R.
C.I.G.S.	C.N.S. (Admiralty)
V.C.I.G.S.	C.A.S. (Air Ministry)
D.M.O. & P.	Col. Jacob (Cabinet Offices)
D.D.M.O. (O).	Foreign Office (Mr. Sterndale
M.O.I., 3, 10.	Bennett).
D.M.I.	
D.D.M.I. (I)	

1st Lord.
 1st S.I.
 V.C.N.S.
 A.C.N.S. (F)
 N.A. 1st Lt.
 P.A.C. (S)
 D.D.O.D. (F)
 D.N.I. (4)
 D. of P. (2)
 D.G. (2)
 E.P.S.
 D.C.D. (F)
 Hd. of M.
 I.P. (2)
 W.D.
 Admiral Somerville.

War Diary.13.1.1942.
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies.- Contd.

REGENT. Your 1352R/12 ^(p. 29) (██████████) REGENT will arrive Philadelphia 29/1.
(F.O.S., 1536A/13 to B.A.R.M.) *See p. 298*

Casablanca Intelligence. Meter. Casablanca 10/1 B.2. 37 tons diesel oil has been removed from the bunkers of Norwegian ship BATAVIA and 211 tons from NYHORN, both at Port Lyautey.
(B.A.D., 1753R/13 to S.O.I. Freetown, Gib. Admty.)

Amendment No. 46 to A.M.0001/1/41. ^{5/} Section I para. 5(b). Add new sentence. "Ships should not enter St. Johns (N.F.) for repairs unless they are unable to proceed farther".
Section IV para. 8 sub-para. 4(b). For "8½ knots to 11 knots" read "8½ knots to 14.9 knots".
(D.T.D., 1626A/13.)

Minesweepers for Pacific Coast. As a result of drastic changes in disposition of H.M.C. Ships caused by formation of N.E.F. and strengthening of local escort from Atlantic ports, the forces allocated to C.O.P.C. are extremely meagre.

2. Therefore requested that consideration be given to temporary allocation of 6 R.N. BANGOR Class minesweepers building on Pacific Coast to C.O.P.C. Force. 3. If para. 2 is agreed to, R.C.N. will continue to man 4 of these 6 for as long as they remain in Canadian Waters.
(N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 1652Z/13 to Admty.)

OCEAN VIGIL. OCEAN VIGIL sailed H.X. 170 before ranging could be made. Ship is new construction 9500 ton class built San Francisco. Range records of sister ship OCEAN VANGUARD indicate probably of strong PLM and ship unlikely to be safe in less than 25 fathoms until depermed.
(C.O.A.C., 1707Z/13 to Admty.)

Changes U.S. Forces on A.W.I. Station since A.T. 1215A/7. D.O.D. (F), 1805A/13.

Navigation. W.J.B.27, cancel W.J.B.26, Bermuda, MILLS BREAKER is missing from its station.
(Bermuda W/T, 1853P/13 to A.W.I. Stn.)

ARCHER. Norfolk sailed 0300Z/13.
(N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 1929Z/13 to Admty.)

See next page

/Use of ...

War Diary.13.1.1942.
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies - Contd.Use of
Brazilian
ports.

Repetition of B.N.A. Rio de Janeiro 2025Z/12.
Take necessary action to dispel this misunder-
standing and emphasise that original message
referred to Canadian warships. Merchant ships
have always had full facilities.
(A.C.N.S. (F), 1932A/13 to B.A.D. Washington.)

ARCHER
collision.

Collided with American ship BRAZON^S, 032° 54' N.
074° 14' W., holed forward and cannot go ahead.
Require towage. Naval authorities Norfolk
(Virginia) informed.
(ARCHER, 2245R/13 to C. in C. A.W.I.)

*See previous page*Australia and New Zealand.Ocean
Island.

Food stocks, Ocean Island, abnormally low and have
already been rationed since November as no supply
ship has reached the Island since early in
October. Provisions for native labour will
not last beyond the end of March. Ref. para. 3 of your
telegram No. 1 practically all such craft already destroyed in
order to deny their use to the enemy in accordance with
instructions to demolish all loading gear. Grateful, therefore,
if you will consider possibility of assembling small vessels
in the Solomons, say at Ontong Java or Vanikoro in the Santa
Cruz group, to make quick dash to Ocean Island at opportune
moment possibly under the protection of aircraft. Such a
plan might also have the advantage from your point of view of
meeting situation at Nauru.
(High Commr. Western Pacific, 1230/13 to S. of S. for Colonies.)

Enemy
Intelligence.

Maori 2.

(1) Further Japanese R/C of Gilbert Island and
Ellice Island as follow.

(a) Nukufetau reports aircraft 8th and 10th

Jan. over Island engines, not heard. Grade D.2.

(b) Kuria 10/1 flying boat sighted 0112Z and 2357Z.

(c) Maiana 10/1 aircraft heard but not seen.

(d) Nououti 10/1 4-engined flying boat sighted bearing figure 20.

(e) Funfuti 11/1 aircraft heard.

(f) Maiana 13/1 aircraft heard.

(2) Nukunona Tokelau Group (Union) reports at 0130Z/1 single
engined seaplane.

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Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Australia and New Zealand.

Enemy Intelligence. (Contd.) (3) 0440Z/13 Mauke, Cook Is. heard heavy detonations southward. 0700Z/13 Mitiero Cook Is. reports heavy intermittent gunfire south east. Grade C.4 no vessels known to be in vicinity.
(4) Fiji garrison being reinforced by 3936 all (? ranks) final movement due 14/1.
(N.Z.N.B., 2147Z/13.)

CHEVREUIL. Following from Chief of Staff Noumea. 21/16. Schedule for F.S. CHEVREUIL. A.M./14 departs from Noumea. 15th, Vila, 16th Amstemryn, 17th Mallicolo, 18th Santo, 19th Aoba Amagea, 20th Santa Maria, 21st Pentecote, E.P.I., 22nd refitting, 23rd Tanna Erromano, 24th Aneytium, 25th Noumea. (Ends). Not all ports of call New Hebrides.
(Chief of Staff, Noumea, 2307Z/13 to LE TRIOMPHANT.)

Routeing of Tankers. In order to provide a secure method of diverting tankers in Indian Ocean to (a) clear of raiders reported potentially in the vicinity of original route (B) change of port for loading or discharging. The routeing instructions to each tanker should contain a number of conveniently placed reference positions and also letters referring to the following ports - Durban, Mombasa, Aden, Seychelles, Mauritius, and Fremantle. These reference positions and port letters should not be given to any other ship.
(A.C.N.B., 2339Z/13 to A.I.G. 111, A.I.G. 112.)

War Diary.

13.1.1942.
Tuesday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Ships attacked.

S.S. CYCLOPS
(torpedoed
12/1).

RED DEER arrived with 89 survivors.
(S.O.(I) Halifax, 1232Z/13).

Submarines Reported.

Estimated approx. positions of U-boats.
(D.D.I.C., 1416A/13 , 1417A/13).

Submarines attacked.

By
CHEDABUCTO..

At 1632Z CHEDABUCTO sighted submarine 44° 06' N., 63° 18' W., attacked and lost contact.
(C.O.A.C., 0037Z/13).

By A/C

Sighted enemy S/M at 1437 G.M.T. in 32° 34' N., 129° 17' E., submarine attacked with two 250 A/S Bombs. S/M submerged and no further contact. 3 BLBK? 119 Br. Squadron Sydney carried out independent search from where submarine last seen. Nil results. DELPHINULA attacked S/M

By
DELPHINIUM
*Not Corvettes -
above in Part 1.*

at 1020 G.M.T./12 in 44° 2' N., 63° 26' W. (End of Part 1) (A.O.C. E.A.C., 0400/13)

War Diary.

14.1.1942.
Wednesday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

Rosyth was closed owing to low visibility at 0630 today.

S.S. EMPIRE SURF and CHEPO in Convoy O.N.55 were torpedoed early this morning, and at 1035A DOUGLAS reported both had sunk in 58.40 N., 20° W.

D/F bearings last night and early this morning corroborate the belief that 3 U-Boats were in about 47° N. 15° W. at noon yesterday, proceeding to the westward at about 7 knots; and RESOLUTION escorting Convoy W.S.15, has been so informed.

After considering the U.S. proposal that U.S. Naval Forces should take over the operation and maintenance of the Naval Base in Iceland, Adty. today informed B.A.D. Washington that, since the Base exists mainly to serve British Naval Forces and Aircraft, and since the U.S. Navy has neither fast heavy ships nor efficient R.D.F., it is desirable that the maintenance and defence of the Hvalfiord - Reykjavik area should remain a British commitment. Except in that area, however, and except for the R.D.F. stations proposed to be erected to watch the Denmark Strait, relief of our forces in Iceland by those of the U.S. would be welcomed.

Enemy Air Activity.

One A/C attacked the R.A.F. Camp at Graven, Sullom Voe at 1130 today, dropping 2 bombs, injuring one R.A.F. rating, and doing slight damage.

War Diary.

14.1.1942.
Wednesday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Mining.

The Tug MERCIA, while well out of the Swept Channel in the Bristol Channel, struck a Mine at 1635 and was destroyed with all hands.

One Ground Mine was exploded yesterday by Sweepers in the Thames Estuary.

There was some enemy air activity over the Thames Estuary between 1840 and 2250 today and minelaying is suspected.

North Atlantic.

R.A. Syfret assumed command of Force H. on 10/1. His Flag was transferred to MALAYA today.

r/ With reference to a proposed visit of Free French trawler REINE DES FLOTS and sloop LA MOQUEUSE to a Portuguese port, N.A. Lisbon points out that Portuguese Govt. do not recognise the Free French, and the visit should therefore only take place if entry of the trawler can be requested on grounds of 'force majeure' and the sloop should not enter.

The 3rd B. Type M.L. Flotilla at Gibraltar is to be passed through the Mediterranean to Alexandria as soon as practicable and will be replaced by a flotilla from U.K. as soon as weather conditions permit.

HERMIONE returned to Gibraltar at 0832A today from U.K.

War Diary.14.1.1942.
Wednesday.SITUATION REPORTSouth Atlantic.

DEVONSHIRE is to proceed to an American East Coast port to refit without awaiting relief. G.N.O. Washington is being asked to land DIOMEDE to South Atlantic during DEVONSHIRE's absence. Heavy weather damage and defects to Home Fleet cruisers have prevented a relief from home waters.

DERBYSHIRE left Simonstown early this morning, to patrol an area from 40° S. to 42° S. and from 20° E. to 21° 50' E., to intercept possible blockade runners and Vichy merchant ships. DUNNOTTAR CASTLE will sail when ready to patrol an area adjoining to the westward.

C.N.S., Brazil, informs N.A. Rio de Janeiro that the German WINDHUK had been sabotaged, and that action was being taken.

Mediterranean.Transport
for R.A.F.

Air Ministry state that in addition to squadrons already moving 1300 R.A.F. personnel require to be moved from Suez to Singapore as quickly as possible.

INDOMITABLE.

INDOMITABLE (ferrying aircraft to the Far East) accompanied by NAPIER, NESTOR, NIZAM arrived at Port Sudan at 0500Z today.

Malta.

7 alerts were sounded between 1750 and 0606 last night and damage to houses is reported. There were 6 more alerts today up to 1259, and some R.A.F. and military damage and casualties were caused.

Captain M.F.S. [unclear]
XMAS, miscellaneous ship, was to leave Malta at dusk today to operate within 15 miles of the coast between Cape Passero and Catania during the night.

Submarines.

PORPOISE was ordered at 1625B today to proceed to the vicinity of Suda Bay and await further orders.

/Libya ...

War Diary.

14.1.1942.
Wednesday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Mediterranean -, contd.

Libya and
Western
Desert.

MALINES, convoy escort vessel, was bombed at 1102B today without damage.

DERWENTDALE escorted by FARNDALE, was bombed this afternoon without damage.

3 Wellingtons kept up a nuisance raid on Tripoli from 2340 to 0426 last night, starting fires.

Vichy
Sqn.
Alexandria.

If he should at any time be suddenly called upon to take over the Vichy Sqn., C. in C. Med. is authorised to give the pledge of repatriation proposed in his 1250/15/12 to those who do not attempt to scuttle their ships.

East Indies.

Addu Atoll

C. in C. East Indies asks for Admty. guidance on the question of operational and administrative responsibility for the land defence of Addu Atoll, which Armindia would prefer to be vested in the Navy but the commitment for which he is reluctant to undertake.

MAURITIUS.

When she can be spared from the heavy escort programme, MAURITIUS is to be sent to Simonstown to repair her fire main and refit.

China.

Singapore was raided by over 12 aircraft at 1050, but 16 Buffalos intercepted and the main raid proceeded to Johore and faded out at 1143.

/As ...

War Diary.14.1.1942.
Wednesday.SITUATION REPORT.China - contd.

As ABDIEL is now at Colombo, C. in C. E.F. is asked to discuss with Gen. Wavell and Adm. Hart what minelaying is required in the ABDA area and if necessary arrange for ABDIEL to be used.

Mingaladon Aerodrome was bombed early this morning; no damage or casualties were caused.

C. in C. U.S. Pacific Fleet states that S/M POMPANO reports sinking a large Japanese M/V (KAMAKURA or YAWATA class) off Wotje Atoll.

America and West Indies.

B.A.D. is considering sending all Martlet aircraft and spares from ARCHER (damaged in collision 13th) to Capetown should it be found that the ship will be appreciably delayed for repairs.

Panamanian tanker NORNESS was torpedoed and sunk at 0130R today in 40° 28' N. 70° 50' W.
by U-123.

At 2341 G.M.T., Cape Race Radio reported DAYROSE torpedoed in position later reported to be 8 miles S.E. of Cape Race. She was proceeding independently to Portland, Maine, from St. Johns N.F.

Australia.

There is evidence of considerable enemy naval activity at the Marshall Is.; 5 warships, 19 chartered merchant ships and 8 other units were at sea there today.

War Diary.14.1.1942.
Wednesday.HOME COMMANDS.Policy.

Iceland. Your 1703/4. As U.S. Navy has neither fast heavy ships nor efficient R.D.F. it is essential that we remain responsible for watch of Denmark Straits. Western Approach Escort Groups will also continue to use Iceland (C) though possibly not to the same extent. Aircraft working from Iceland (C) in co-operation with both these forces must also be under British control. Thus it appears that British naval activities will predominate over those of the U.S.A. in this area.

2. The Base in the Hvalfjord - Reykjavik area will, therefore, exist mainly to serve British Naval Forces and aircraft co-operating with them. Furthermore Iceland (C) lies East of meridian of 26° W. which it is understood is to be the line of demarkation between British and U.S. areas of responsibility. Consequently our opinion is that it is logical and desirable that the whole maintenance and seaward defence of the base in the Hvalfjord - Reykjavik area should remain a British commitment.

3. As regards outlying stations other than in the Hvalfjord - Reykjavik area we would welcome relief by the U.S. with the exception of the R.D.F. stations we contemplate erecting in order to watch the Denmark Strait. This we should prefer to retain in British operation.

4. Your para.6. Subject to accommodation being available, liaison officers welcomed in Combined Headquarters.
(V.C.N.S. 1050A/14 and 1956A/14 to B.A.D. Washington.)

Minesweepers Your 1142/24/12. The 9 LL/SA Sweepers are all for North ex whalecatchers of 116 ft. length and 14 ft. Russia. 3 ins. draught.

2. They are fitted for oil fuel and have bunker capacity of 100 tons of which 30 tons should not be used for stability reasons. This gives endurance of 1600 miles at 8 knots.

3. All ships are fitted with LL mark II+ sweep and S.A. Gear Type A Mark II. They have armament of 1 twin 0.5" machine gun, 1 Oerlikon and 2 twin Lewis guns. The Oerlikons may not be mounted before ships sail, and if not will be freighted with LL generators.
(Head of M. 1942A/14 to S.B.N.O. North Russia.)

R.A.D. H.F. Your 1035A/11. Rear Admiral Hamilton re-appointed Rear Admiral Commanding Home Fleet Destroyer Flotillas vice Caslon to date 4/1.
(Head of M. 2143A/14 to C. in C. H.F.)

Movements.

VELOX. Your 1812/13. E.T.A. position (A) 2200A/14 and Plymouth 0800A/15.
(VELOX 0131A/14.)
You should not arrive 180° Rame Head Chapel 2.2 miles before 0930/15.
(C. in C. Plymouth 0930/14 to VELOX.)

/BRADFORD ...

War Diary.14.1.1942.
Wednesday.HOME COMMANDS.Movements - contd.

- BRADFORD. To keep clear of outward bound convoy steer 360°
forthwith until daylight.
(C. in C. W.A. 0543A/14 to BRADFORD.)
- LEDA Scapa arrivals. LEDA, SPEEDY and SEAGULL.
SPEEDY (A.C.O.S. 0933/14.)
SEAGULL.
- HOLDERNESS. Return to Sheerness.
MEYNELL. (C. in C. Nore 0935A/14 to HOLDERNESS, MEYNELL.)
- 13th M/S F. Admiralty 1829A/10. Request you will sail all
available ships of 13th M.S.F. for Belfast on
18/1. Route. Attention is called to F.N.
to M. 3043T/41. 29 fighter protection for whole
passage will be arranged by C. in C. Nore. Code
word "Scurry".
(C. in C. Nore 1100A/14 to F.O.I.C. Harwich.)
- P.37. Dundee arrival P.37.
(Capt. S.9, 1109A/14.)
- REGENT. F.O.(S) 1651A/6, your 1420A/12, and C. in C.
Plymouth 1106A/13. Onward route for REGENT to
Philadelphia as follows.
(C. in C. W.A. 1205A/14.)
- EDINBURGH C. in C. H.F. 1403A/13. Intend leaving Scapa
WORCESTER. at 0300A/15 proceeding S. of A. 20 knots.
E.T.A. Tyne 1530A/15.
(EDINBURGH 1236A/14.)
- WORCESTER is to proceed at 0230/15 to R/V with EDINBURGH in Hoxa
Sound and provide S.A. Escort to the Tyne. 2. One destroyer from
Rosyth command will join off 26 buoy at 0930/15 as additional
S.A. Escort. 3. On being released return to Scapa.
(R.A.D. 1526A/14 to WORCESTER.)
- MALLOW. Intend to sail MALLOW 2300A/19 to arrive Bar L.V.
1400A/20.
(F.O.I.C. Belfast 1303A/14.)
- TUNA. TUNA escorted by WHITE BEAR sailed Holy Loch
1700/14, southbound, 11 knots.
(C. in C. W.A. 1551A/14.)
Sailed TUNA acting in accordance with Capt. (S)3
1619/12. Code word "Eager".
(F.O.I.C. Greenock 1734A/14.)

War Diary.14.1.1942.
Wednesday.HOME COMMANDS.Movements - contd.

H.28. At 2230/16 intend sailing H.28 escorted BREDA from Rothesay to arrive 180° Wolf Rock 5 miles at 0830/19th. Thence BREDA return to arrive Tobermory 1200/21st and H.28 proceed independently diving by day to R/V vicinity of Portsmouth at 0845/21st as ordered by C. in C. Portsmouth. C. in C. Plymouth and C. in C. Portsmouth are requested to detail route through their commands. C. in C. Portsmouth is requested to arrange onward passage of H.28 to make Sheerness not later than p.m./26. N.O.I.C. Greenock is requested to arrange fighter protection for BREDA, S. of A. southbound, 8 knots, northbound, 10 knots. (Capt. (S) 7 1726/14.)

NIGERIA. Scapa arrival F.O.10th C.S. in NIGERIA. (A.C.O.S. 1841A/13.)

AMARANTHUS. Your 1515/14. Route to Plymouth. Details. Fighter protection will be arranged. (C. in C. Plymouth 2006A/14 to AMARANTHUS.)

Operations.

Denmark Strait Patrol. Intend to sail in NORFOLK at 0900N/14, for Scapa. (C.S.1 1015A/14 to C. in C. H.F.)
1. (?Ships) patrolling. (a) ANEMONE 67.40 N. 22.30 W. (b) 075° (c) (?175°) 165° (d) Out. Ice report. 2. BERWICK patrolling, also corvettes and NORTH CAPE. 3. Last air report received was A.C.I.C's 0025A/10. Request air R/C of line A B and to north east of C. (BERWICK 1841/14 to R.A.2.)

East Coast Patrol. Patrols tonight (1) 2 M.G.Bs Q E 4A. (C. in C. Nore 1859A/14.)

Exercise VICTOR II. Admiralty 1233A/23/12. Request you will nominate an officer of appropriate seniority to express your views and that he may visit Admiralty, as soon as convenient to confer with Rear-Admiral Renouf, G.H.Q. Home Forces. (A.C.N.S. H. 1945A/14 to A.C.O.S., F.O.C. Dover)

Enemy Air Activity.

EMPIRE MASEFIELD. (Bombed 13/1) WESTMINSTER's 1520/13. EMPIRE MASEFIELD now aground at mouth of River Tees. Pilot aboard. Tugs in attendance. Tees Channel not blocked. Vessel is not making water. (N.O.I.C. Hartlepool 0805/14.)
My 1807/13. EMPIRE MASEFIELD is still aground. Salvage Officer in attendance. (C. in C. Rosyth 1707/14 to Admty.)

/My 1807/13 ...

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War Diary.14.1.1942.
Wednesday.HOME COMMANDS.Enemy Air Activity - contd.

EMPIRE
MASEFIELD
(Bombed 13/1)
contd. My 1807/13. EMPIRE MASEFIELD bombed at 1455/13 in 54° 22' N. 0° 19' W. After part badly damaged, 3 killed, 2 seriously injured. No damage to aircraft claimed. Dive bombing attack 3 bombs. Fire opened simultaneously with attack. (C. in C. Rosyth 1751/14.)

Enemy Bombers. My 1129A/10. Four of the JU.88 long range bomber A/C at Trondheim have moved to Bardufoss. (D.D.I.C. 1142A/14.)

Lowestoft
(Bombed 13/1) Superficial damage by enemy action Lowestoft at about 1615/13 as follows. Details. (C.E. Gt. Yarmouth 1540/14.)

LERWICK
(Sunk 13/1) My 1933/13. LERWICK sunk by A/C at 1450/13 in about 54° 26' N. 0° 24' W. L.L.B., 3 bombs. No help message. No A.A. measures owing to weather. Very thick mist. (C. in C. Rosyth 1713/14.)
My 1713/14 based on information from survivors landed at Hartlepool. Survivors, including Master, landed at Methil report attack delivered from very low level, 2 bombs. Vessel armed with one 4 inch, one Bofors, 2 Hotchkiss, 2 Marlin. Fire opened with machine guns shortly before bombs dropped. (C. in C. Rosyth 2127/14.)

Shetlands
bombed. Junkers 88 attacked R.A.F. Camp at Graven, Sullom Voe at 1130 and dropped two bombs. One R.A.F. other rank slightly injured by splinter and some windows broken. A/C came in at about 600 feet. Defences opened fire with what effect is not known, but aircraft made off to the Eastward. (N.O.I.C. Lerwick 1823A/14.)

Mining.

Operation
Q.O.
(Mine Clearance,
Thames Estuary.) Propose sailing 9th M.S.F. and PETERHEAD at 0745/15 at 12 knots, returning from position A at 1530. (M/S 9 1059A/14 and 1430A/14.)

? Your 1219/8. Concur. (A.C.N.S. H. 1230A/14 to R.A.M.)

S.N.15 B. Intend to carry out with SOUTHERN PRINCE, LANCASTER, ST. MARYS, and ADVENTURE on 18/1 as follows. Details. (R.A.M. 1416A/14) See Lion Copy.

MOST SECRET

MESSAGE

From R.A. (M).

MOST SECRET

1416A/14th January

IN

Date 14.1.42.

Naval Cypher A.1 by T/P.

Addressed - Admiralty, C. in C. Home Fleet, C. in C. Rosyth,
A.C.O.S. Repeated F.O. (S)., C. in C. Western
Approaches, R.A.D. Home Fleet, H.Q.C.C., H.Q.F.C.,
Air Ministry, H.Q. 18th Group.

IMPORTANT.

Intend carrying out Operation S N 15 B as follows -

- (a) Surface mine fields laid north to south.
- (d) (1) H.M.S. SOUTHERN PRINCE, LANCASTER ST. MARY'S ADVENTURE.
- (e) Air A/S escort is requested from 1100 till dusk, January 18th, initial R/V 020 deg South Rona 3 miles and from 0900 till arrival off south Rona January 19th Initial R/V 000 deg Cape Wrath 5 miles.
- (f) from (1) 058 deg 38' North 001 deg 32' West through
 - (2) 058 deg 25' 001 deg 30' to
 - (3) 058 deg 17' 001 deg 26'
- (g) 0915 January 18th.
- (h) R/V with Home Fleet destroyers in position 260 deg Cape Wrath 13 miles at 1430 January 18th.
- (j) Pass northward of Muckle Skerry and direct to start of laying.
- (k) 14 knots
- (l) 2345 January 18th.
- (n) From end of Langstone Point direct to Duncansby Head thence direct
- (o) Port "ZA" 1630 January 19th
- (p) H.F. Destroyers to Scapa 1200 January 19th.
- (w) 21 miles 15 knots.
- (x) Mark 20/17 3 Star immunise set to 10 feet below chart datum.
- (y) Full Outfit standard line.
- (z) A.F.O. "S" Series. 2 Table 2 line 3 and 4.

1416A/14.

Advance Copy Duty Capt. D.O.D. (H) D.D.I.C.
D.D.O.D. (M)

1st Lord.	D. of P. (2).	D.D.I.C. (2)	W.D.
1st S.L.	D.D.O.D. (M).	D.N.I. (4).	E.P.S.
V.C.N.S.	D.O.D. (H).	Hd. of M.	C.C.L.S.
A.C.N.S. (H).	D.D.O.D. (H).	D.S.D. and to	Hd. of M.
A.C.N.S. (T).	D.C. (2).	inform W/T Rm.	
A.C.N.S. (W).	D.M.S.	D.A/S.W.	
N.A. 1st S.L.	D.T.D.	I.P. (2).	

War Diary.14.1.1942.
Wednesday.HOME COMMANDS.Mining - contd.

Thames Estuary. One Ground mine detonated at 2310/13. Details. (Capt. M/S Sheerness 1641/14.)

Mines in Baltic. Your 1615/13. No further information but you will be kept informed. (D.N.I. 1825A/14 to Ad. Miles.)

Operation "Tincture". Request you repeat operation "Tincture" by p.m./17 in the manner described in my 1207A/10/9/41. (D.M.S. 1830A/14 to F.O.I.C. Milford Haven.)

MERCIA (Tug) sunk. MERCIA sunk at 1635A/14 in 51° 31' 21" N. 2° 46' 44" W. Vessel was a long way out of Swept Channel, and was disintegrated by mine explosion. No survivors. (F.O.I.C. Cardiff 1859A/14.)

Enemy Intelligence.

U-Boats. A.M.1416A/13. D/F Bearings at 2054A/13 and 0133A/14 corroborate estimate of three U-Boats in approx. 47° N. 15° W. at 1200A/13. It is estimated that these U-Boats are westbound at 6½ to 8 knots. (D.D.I.C. 1009A/14 to RESOLUTION, VERITY, LAMERTON.)

Navigational.

Rosyth. Port closed owing to low visibility at 0630/14. (C. in C. Rosyth 0640/14.)
Cancel my 0640/14.
(C. in C. Rosyth 1640/14.)

Oban Bay. Your 1103A/12. Area should be kept clear for period of 7 days from time of dropping charges after which area may be considered safe. H.Q.C.C. were informed as above in A.M.1300A/11. (D.T.M. 1612A/14 to N.O.I.C. Oban.)

H.8 Buoy. F.O. Humber reports:- H.eight Buoy reported damaged and extinguished. Request Q Z H. 1815A/14 Ends. (C. in C. Nore 1907A/14) (Hydrographer 2058A/14)

Hvalfiord. Light buoys marking N.W. side of Hvalfjord Boom Gate damaged and extinguished. Request Q.Z. message. (A.C.I.C. 1932A/14.)

War Diary.14.1.1942
Wednesday.HOME COMMANDS.Casualties and Defects.

- HELGIVE. Following received from Wick Radio. Intercept at 0220 G.M.T. De Reykjavik begins:- M.V. HELGIVE 333 position 140° 3 miles S. of W. Mannaeyjar. Rudder broken. Ships in vicinity requested to assist her. Ends. Wick Radio (C.G. Wick 0345/14.)
- PIMPERNEL R. D/F type 271 broken down. Request permission to proceed (? Merville) for repairs. (PIMPERNEL 1315A/14.) Your 1315A/14. Proceed to Merville. F.O.I.C. Londonderry is to report by signal time required for repairs as it is essential that ship should rejoin convoy. (C. in C. W.A. 2132A/14 to PIMPERNEL.)
- DIANTHUS. Arrived DIANTHUS with W/T out of action and other defects. (N.O.I.C. Londonderry 1520A/14.)
- BORDERDENE. BORDERDENE, 122 tons, left Newport p.m./10 for Bridgewater and has not arrived at her destination. Wreck of small steamer has been sighted in 51° 16.8' N. 3° 5.2' W. and is thought to be BORDERDENE. Wreck is being investigated at low water tomorrow. (F.O.I.C. Cardiff 1618A/14.)

Shipping and Convoys.

- W.S.15. ALCA. C. in C. W.A. 1848A/13 has been passed to V.A.3. (D.O.D. F. 1253A/11.)
- W.P.96. SIR WALTER RALEIGH is to be sailed to R/V two A/S trawlers 180° Rame Head Chapel 2.2 miles at 1700/14. The two A/S trawlers will then escort SIR WALTER RALEIGH to join W.P.96 and continue as escort. (C. in C. Plymouth 1454A/14.)
- P.Q.9. P.Q.9. INTREPID and FAULKNER detailed. INTREPID will be ready to sail with ARETHUSA. FAULKNER will be sailed as soon as gyro compass is completed about 1600/15. This will entail her joining convoy at daylight 18th. (R.A.D. 1525A/14.) C. in C. H.F.'s 1905A/10 Convoy P.Q.9 has to be sailed to programme on 18/1. 2. Request you will provide escort calling upon R.A.M. to assist you with destroyers for Iceland (C) heavy ship screen until return of escort of Q.P.5 if necessary. 3. The postponement of operation S.N.15 B will have to be accepted. (V.C.N.S. 1736A/14 to C. in C. H.F.)

/Q.P.5 ...

War Diary.14.1.1942
Wednesday.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping and Convoys - contd.

- Q.P.5. Request you will report time of sailing.
(D.T.D. 1616A/14 to S.B.N.O. North Russia.)
Q.P.5. sailed 1600C/13th as stated in my
1843A/13th. Admiralty pass to other addressees.
(S.B.N.O. North Russia 2103A/14 to Adty. (R)
A.C.I.C. C. in C. H.F. A.C.O.S.)
- H.X.167. Average speed 8.35 knots. Three days gale
ending on 2/1 then good weather. One straggler
on 5th. All ships now arrived.
(D.T.D. 1651A/14.)
- E.N.32. Intend sailing DIANELLA a.m./15/1 to act as
additional escort to E.N.32.
(F.O.I.C. Aberdeen 1720/14.)
- Tanker for North Russia. A.M.1219A/27/12 and 1828A/10/1. Request another
vessel may be sent instead of MIRLO before end
of Jan.
(S.B.N.O. North Russia 1836A/13.)
- Convoy Routes. Pass to F.O.I.Cs and N.C.S.Os. Ref. A.M.0001/1/
5/1941. Sect.II para 9 and Sect IV para 5 (4)
are temporarily suspended as until further
orders W/T silence is not to be broken for making
these reports. As it may be necessary to
reintroduce these reports for ships which have
already sailed, instructions for making these
reports as applicable to their ships are to be given to Masters
in a sealed envelope "HW", with orders that this envelope is
not to be opened unless a G.B.M.S. or individual signal is
received telling them to do so.
(D.T.D. 2232A/14 to A.I.G.21 Negative Dover, C. in C. A.W.I.,
N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, C.O.A.C. Halifax, F.O.C.N.A., C. in C. S.A.,
F.O.I.C. Simonstown, S.O.(I) Jamaica, A.C.I.C., B.A.D. Washington)
- O.N.56 O.N.56. Detach FENNEL at M.O.M.P. to proceed
O.N.59 to Iceland. She is required to escort ON.59 with
FENNEL. Comtask 4.1.11.
(C. in C. W.A. 2241A/14.) *See also p.341*

War Diary.

14.1.1942.
Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Raiders.

Intelligence. My 1759A/7. Para. 1. No further information.
(2) RRRR made once only intercepted by CALEDON at 1736Z/9 in Cape Cormorin Area.
(3) Six Q's followed by other letters intercepted by Colombo at 2314Z/11.
(4) ELYSIA overdue at Bombay, since 28.12.41 from Capetown.
(5) No confirmation of presence of German Armed Merchant Raider in Indian Ocean, but presence of Japanese unit now seems possible.
(D.D.I.C., 2358A/14 to Cs. in C. etc).

North Atlantic.

HERMIONE Arrived (from U.K.)
(F.O.C.N.A., 0832A/14 to Admty).

UTMOST. My 1408A/13 and F.O.S. 2314A/13 UTMOST will now pass through 043° 00' 011° 30' about 0600A/19.
(?F.O.C.N.A., 0906A/14 to Admty., F.O.S.)
Capt. (S) 8's 1138A/13 to F.O.S. Request T.B.R. for UTMOST in Area G.4 from 0700/16 to 2200/17 and in Area G.1. from 1800/17 to 0800/19.
(F.O.C.N.A., 1106A/14 to Admty., H.Q.C.C. (R) F.O.S.)

→ TURBULENT. Intend sailing TURBULENT and P.39 for working
P.39. up patrol in vicinity of Alboran Island p.m./15 and p.m./16 respectively. C. in C. Med., pass to Capt. (S) 1.
(F.O.C.N.A., 1208A/14 to C. in C. Med).

CROOME. Your 1322A/14 (N.T. in W.D.) Return to Harbour forthwith. (F.O.C.N.A., 1409/14 to CROOME).

TALISMAN. Shift normal wireless watch to Gibraltar broadcast at 1930A/16. TURBULENT and P.39 sail to patrol North of Alboran Island p.m./15 and 16th respectively. (F.O.C.N.A., 1438A/14 to TALISMAN).

S.L.97 G. If not in contact part company with convoy at dawn 15th. Return to Gibraltar at best A/S sweeping speed passing through 34.30 10.00 then 36.00, 07.00. When 100 miles clear of convoy report P.C. and S. (F.O.C.N.A., 1528A/14 to Capt. (D) 19 (R) Ships escorting convoy S.L. 97 G. WHITEHALL, HESPERUS, S.O. Force "H", Admty.) U/B in area. (D.D.I.C., 1607A/14) See U-boat Campaign.

/You...

War Diary.14.1.1942.
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic.contd:-

- S.L.97 G. Contd. You have been reported by Long Range Enemy Aircraft at 1723Z/14. (D.D.I.C., 1804A/14 to S.O. Escort to Convoy S.L.97 G).
Cancel my 1528A/14. LAFOREY and HESPERUS remain with convoy S.L.97 G until reaching position J, or prudent limit of endurance if earlier, returning direct Gibraltar.
(2) S.L.97 G is due to R/V with S.L.97 in position J at 0900A/17. (F.O.C.N.A., 2304A/14 to Capt. (D) 19., (R) Admty, C. in C. W.A. S.O. Force H., VIDETTE, WISHART, EGRET.)
- EXMOOR, ACTIVE. Leave harbour at 1900 and assume U Patrol. At daylight tomorrow Thursday proceed through Straits to relieve ACTIVE on Spartel patrol. ACTIVE then return to harbour. (Capt. D.13, 1535/14 to EXMOOR (R) ACTIVE).
- Fuelling P. Delgada. Ships addressed are due to arrive at Ponta Delgada 16th and 17th. S.O. present is to arrange order of fuel so that not more than 3 ships are in Port at any one time. (F.O.C.N.A., 1540A/14 to DAUNTLESS, BOREAS, NORMAN, WOODRUFF, CAMPBELTOWN, HEEMSKERCK, DEMIR HIS\$AR, ALCA, Repeated F.O. 3rd B.Sq. Admty).
- MAURO CROCE. Your 1243A/13. My 1246A/10/9/41 refers. Letter follows. (V.A.C.N.A., 1555A/14 to Admty).
- S.L.97. Not now necessary for ALCA go Fayal. Maintaining speed of convoy and safe margin fuel for U.K. Explanation my 1900Z/12 will be made on return. 2 attempts refuel WOODRUFF unsuccessful due to swell. She is proceeding Ponta Delgada. Commodore anxious NURTURETON be given chance R/V position (J) 0800Z/17. If approved request necessary information be passed to her. (EGRET, 1604Z/14 to C. in C. W.A. (R) F.O.C.N.A. C. in C. S.A., Admty).
- ALOUETTE, SCOTTISH. Departures 0925, ALOUETTE for Y.1. 1500 SCOTTISH for Y.3. (V.A.C.N.A., 1635/14 to Admty).
- Free French Visit to Horta. Your 1234A/12. (recoded version of F.O.I.C. Milford Haven's 0901/12 re trawler REINE DES FLOTS and LA MOQUEUSE). Portuguese Govt. do not recognize Free French. ?Proposed visit should therefore only take place if entry of trawler can be requested on grounds "force majeure" and sloop should not enter. (N.A. Lisbon, 1905/14 to Admty).

War Diary.

14.1.1942.
Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic - Contd.

3rd M.L.
Flotilla
for Alex.

3rd B. Type M.L. Flotilla now at Gibraltar is to be passed through Mediterranean to Alexandria as soon as practicable. Extra tanks are to be fitted if these have been removed. Flotilla maintenance staff and so many spare parts as can be shipped without overloading should accompany the boats. Base maintenance staff in Eastern Med., must be provided from Med., resources. 3rd Flotilla will be replaced at Gibraltar by a flotilla from U.K. as soon as weather conditions permit passage. Suggested that 3rd Flotilla should be passed through in pairs flying French flag when necessary. F.O.C.N.A. is requested to inform C. in C. Med., and V.A. Malta of sailing dates. (V.C.N.S. 2036A/14 to F.O.C.N.A.)

South Atlantic.

→ DERBYSHIRE,
DUNNOTTAR
CASTLE.

Your 1331/12. DERBYSHIRE departed Simonstown 0512Z/14 to patrol an area from 40° S., to 42° S. and from 20° E., to 21° 50' E., to intercept possible blockade runners and Vichy merchant ships E.T.A. patrol area 0300Z/15. 2. DUNNOTTAR CASTLE will sail when ready to patrol an area from 40° S., to 42° S. and from 18° 10' E. to 20° E., Her departure will be reported. (F.O.I.C. Simonstown, 1003Z/14 to C. in C. S.A.)

→ DERBYSHIRE.

Admty 1828A/13. It is my intention to relieve DERBYSHIRE for refit about end of January if possible. She could then escort ship or ships carrying this personnel to U.K. (C. in C. S.A., 1311Z/14 to F.O.I.C. Simonstown).

CILICIA.

Your 2116/8 (2115/8 intended revisit of CILICIA to Rio de Janeiro for refuelling) CILICIA left 1230Z/14. (N.A. Rio de Janeiro 1330Z/14 to S.O.(I) Montevideo).

/WINDHUK...

War Diary.14.1.1942.
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic. - Contd.

- WINDHUK
(German). C.N.S. informs me that WINDHUK had been sabotaged engine or boiler. It would appear as yet no one has been put aboard to determine what has been done. He said action is being taken.
(N.A. Rio de Janeiro, 1451Z/14 to Admty).
- Wreckage. Admty no. 171 and all W.G.A. Distribution. W.G.A.6 Capetown Approaches submerged object presumably wreckage reported on 13/1 in approx. 33° 30' S., 17° 30' E.
(Capetown, 1537B/14 to Admty).
- O.S.15. O.S.15 arrived. Stragglers HARTINGTON with engine defects at St. Vincent, Cape Verde. ESTRELLA proceeding to Bathurst.
(C. in C. S.A., 1544Z/14 to Admty).
Arrivals 1139/14 BRILLIANT, LAVENDER, BERGAMOT, WALLFLOWER with O.S.15.
(S.O.(I) Freetown, 1933Z/14 to Admty).
- WIVERN. Delayed with engine defects and cannot sail before 17/1. (D.O.D. (F) 1720A/14 to C. in C. S.A.)
- M.Ls. for Trincomalee. Your 1103Z/11/1 para 3. Confirmed. Subject to any further instructions from C. in C. E.I.
(D. of L.D. 1824A/14 to F.O.I.C. Simonstown).
- CONTE GRANDE. Santos reports following telegram addressed to Herald Tribune New York has been sent local correspondents Rio de Janeiro for Censor. (Begins) CONTE GRANDE alongside dock since Italy's entrance into War, may shortly be prepared for sea. Event of Latin America breaking off relationship with Axis result of your conference probably CONTE GRANDE used for transportation of Consular Service in South America about 3,000 in all. (Ends).
(S.O.(I) Montevideo, 1837Z/14 to Admty).
- SEMLA. Your 0835Z/4. SEMLA is to proceed to East London for repairs. Conversion to LL Mk. V is to be progressed as far as possible without delaying vessel. LL equipment will be fitted in Ceylon. Additional fuel is to be stowed in drums in hold for passage to Ceylon.
(D.M.S., 2045A/14 to F. O.I.C. Simonstown).

War Diary.14.1.1942.
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic. - Contd.

DEVONSHIRE.

C. in C. S.A. 0903/13 and A.M. 2342/3.
Decided that DEVONSHIRE is to proceed forthwith to an American East coast port to refit without awaiting relief.
2. B.A.R.M. is requested to signal port of refit and date when DEVONSHIRE can be accepted.
3. Work will include repairs given in A.M. 1724/29/11 and 1740/14/12. Confirmation is requested that necessary boiler tubes are still available B.A.R.M. 1349/17/12 refers.
(V.C.N.S. 2207A/14 to C. in C. S.A., B.A.R.M.)

Mediterranean.Air Sqdns
for
Singapore.

My 1903/11. Air Ministry now state that in addition to Squadrons already moving 1300 R.A.F. personnel are required to be moved from Suez to Singapore as quickly as possible.
2. Suggest as many as possible be embarked in YOMA. Air Ministry are instructing H.Q., R.A.F., M.E. to this effect.
3. Request you arrange for balance to sail as soon as possible. (D.S.T., 0446A/14 to P.S.T.O. Egypt).

INDOMITABLE
and escort.

Arrival 0500Z/14 INDOMITABLE, NAPIER, NESTOR, NIZAM. (N.O.I.C. Port Sudan, 0710Z/14 to Admty).

F.O. 7 C.S.,
AJAX.

The flag of F.O.C. 7th C.S. is to be struck in AJAX at sunset on 15/1 on his proceeding on leave. During the absence of F.O.C. AJAX is to be administered by F.O.C. 15th C.S.
(C. in C. Med., 0935B/14).

Enemy
Units.

P.C. and S. of 1 vessel, 1 Vessel medium (10,000) tons, 1 aircraft 38.10 N., 12.00 E. Course 360, speed 10 knots. (A/C using call sign B 6 K.F. 1040/14 to Med., A/C)
Wellington returning Tripoli (Libya) reports at 0640B/14 3 small vessels and 2 S/MS, 020° Tripoli (Libya) 30, apparently stationary.
(V.A. Malta, 1113B/14 to C. in C. Med).

MALINES.

MALINES bombed, no damage.
(? 1102B/14 to S.O. Force I (R) C. in C. Med., R.A. Alexandria).

/XMAS...

War Diary.

14.1.1942.
Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean. - Contd.

- XMAS. XMAS leaves Malta dusk 14/1 direct to operate within 15 miles of coast between Cape Passero and Catania during the night.
(Capt. S.10., 1125B/14 to UNBEATEN, UNA, UPHOLDER).
- Air Report. My Opsum 596 night 11/12. Further 1 Wellington obtained 1 near miss with 500 pound bomb on destroyer entering Tripoli harbour.
Day 13/1. 2 early morning raids Benghazi by 5 unidentified aircraft and 1 Ju. 88 respectively. 1 mine dropped in outer harbour Apollonia and road west of Luigi Raza also bombed. No damage.
(H.Q., R.A.F., M.E., 1214/14).
- Vichy Sqdn. Para. 3 of your 1250/15/12/41. If you should at any time be suddenly called upon to take over the Vichy Squadron you are authorised to give the pledge proposed. But as the return of naval personnel to certain colonies like Madagascar might be undesirable you are simply to promise repatriation without the choice of proceeding to Colonial territory.
(Hd. of M. Approved by War Cabinet, 1217A/14 to C. in C. Med).
- Italian Fleet. Following is estimated disposition effecting Italian main units on 14/1.
Taranto, 4 Battleships (1 LITTORIO class., 3 CONTE DI CAVOUR Class) 4 6-inch cruisers, Palermo, 1 6-inch cruiser. Messina, 2 8-inch cruisers, unknown, 1 6-inch cruiser, Fleet destroyers approx. 29.
(C.O.I.S. Alexandria, 1223B/14 to C. in C. Med).
- GLAUCOS, Greek S/Ms. C. in C. Med., 1114B/8. I have received a visit from Rear Adm. Sakellariou Cawadias and after discussing this question with him we agreed that, if C. in C. Med., concurs, it would be preferable for GLAUCOS to return to Eastern Med., as soon as essential repairs have been completed and that manufacture at Malta of hand inboard venting gear should proceed and the gear be forwarded to Alexandria for fitting when completed. Manufacture of similar gear for other two submarines of Class and for submarines of Katsonis class should also be put in hand at Malta.
Requested above proposals be communicated to C. in C. Med. (F.O.S., 1319A/14 to Admty amended 1518A/15).

/"Booty"...

War Diary.

14.1.1942.
Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean. - Contd.

- "Booty"
Bombed. Enemy bombing convoy "Booty". Position 33.84 (sic) N., 21.14 E. (FARNDALE, 1531/14 to WITHERINGTON).
My 1531 attacked by (?4) Junkers 88 (corrupt group) no damage. (FARNDALE, 1545/14 to S.O. Force (I))
- M.F. 3. Operation M.F. 3. Amend when opened para. 10. A. after Force B add JAGUAR.
(C. in C. Med., 1610B/14 to Alexandria Operation M.F. 3, N.O.I.C. Tobruk, N.O.I.C. Benghazi).
- M.T. Bs. Ref. A.M. 1929A/12/12/41 (Shipment of M.T.B 58 and M.T.B. 59 to Eastern Med.) Port of shipment is Liverpool. (D.D.O.D. (C) 1621A/14 to R.A.C.F.)
- PORPOISE. My 0953B/14 (N.T.) Cancel orders for PORPOISE. PORPOISE proceed vicinity Suda Bay and await further orders. (Capt. S.1., 1625B/14 to PORPOISE (R) TRIUMPH).
- Black Sea. Cdr. Ambrose left Moscow by air for Tuapse 14/1.
2. Request W/T communication between Alexandria and Tuapse may be started again as soon as possible (frequencies and call signs)
3. C. in C. Black Sea Fleet would much appreciate early information of shipping entering Black Sea. Could this be sent via A.N.A. Istanbul to Ankara and thence via C. in C. Med., to N.L.O. Black Sea at Tuapse?
(Adm. Miles, 1751C/14 to Admty).
- Malta Report. Enemy activity 13th. 2 alerts, 1414 hours 7 raiders A.A. fired. 1332 hours 2 raiders approached did not cross coast.
Night 13/14. 7 alerts, 1750 to 0606 hours, 22 raiders, bombs land and sea. Slight damage houses. A.A. fired. 14th, 6 alerts 0613, 0715, 0754, 1006, 1045 1259 hours, total 51 fighters and bombers. Cloud cover. Bombs land sea. Hal Far 1 Swordfish destroyed direct hit also 2 Stukas 4 soldiers badly wounded. Unserviceable aircraft unable to take off.
Night 13/14. 3 Wellingtons in nuisance raid Tripoli 2340 to 0426 hours. Fires started 1 east of harbour 3 railway station. 14/1.
4 Blenheim shipping sweep lines Kerkennah Tripoli 1122 hours sighted 1 M/V 5,000 tons 1 D/R East Melita 49 miles course N.W. 8 knots. Bombs dropped Mast high. 1 Blenheim hit masts and crashed into sea. Second Blenheim hit by A.A. and crashed into sea. Possible hits on M/V clouds smoke from M/V.
(H.Q., R.A.F., Malta, 1824/14).

/Operation...

War Diary.

14.1.1942.
Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean. - Contd.

Operation. Following is a repetition of my 1821B/14:-
C. in C. Med., repeated Admty from V.A. Malta.
My 1019B/13. Destroyer returned to harbour.
No interception. (V.A. Malta, 1829B/14 to Admty).

P.35. Cancel area K. Establish patrol within 30 miles
Susa proceeding through 035° 45' 011° 30' and
035° 55' 011° 20'. Spend daylight hours near
port retiring to charge.
Indications are that supplies to Libya being sent
in (?) single ships which arrive from north at
dawn anchor 4 miles out and leave for southward
at dusk. O.U.63 29. (2) number 137 known to
have arrived short while ago. You may sink any
ship outside territorial waters day or night
(?) except Vichy warships but particular care
must be taken that:-

No ships are sunk by day inside territorial waters unless
definitely identified as enemy. By night ships may be sunk
if under way inside territorial waters south of 35° 46' N.
Suspect route for Susa 36° 18' 10° 55' 36° 01' 10° 55' and 35° 49'
10° 46' and from Susa close round Kuriat to southward.
Port light believed visibility reduced to 2 miles. Make full
use of M.D.V. but Mine field not suspected except possibly within
5 miles of 035° 48' 011° 18'.
(Capt. S.10., 1845B/14 to P.35)

UPHOLDER. Departure 14/1 UPHOLDER.
(V.A. Malta, 1925A/14 to Admty (R) C. in C. Med.,
Capt. S.1).

Adm. Ford. Your 2246A/13. I very much appreciate T.L's
kind Mge(V.A. Malta, 1936B/14 to Admty).

Australian Troop Movements. Admty 1628/10 and D. of S.T. 1542/10. Australian
corps moves. 1st flight not now (?word omitted)
Suez till 5/2 2nd flight 15/2. (Eastern Fleet
pass to ABDA Commander Batavia).
(C. in C. Med., 2046B/14 to C. in C. E.F.,
C. in C. E.I.)

Defence of Aden. To Chiefs of Staff from Cs. in C.
1. Ref. your 221 of 1/1. We have examined
questions raised by Governor Aden in his telegram
651 of 28/12 in conjunction with J.I.C.
cable No. 62537 (M.I. (J.I.C.)) of 6/1. We agree with J.I.C.s
estimate of probable scale of attack.
2. To meet type of raid mentioned in J.I.C. cable quoted above
we consider that following reinforcements are necessary.
3. Naval for the present, Naval reinforcements should be
confined to mine-sweepers, A/S vessels, and controlled minefields
and small craft and equipment for defence against M.T.Bs. and
Midget submarine attacks. None of above can be provided by
C. in C. Med., 4.5.6. (Army.) (7) Air Forces. (a) Blenheim Sqdn.
made up to strength. (b) One flight modern torpedo bombers
(c) Additional CD/CHL set to complete all round warning of
approach of surface craft. A.O.C. in C. can provide for (a) only.
(C. in C. M.E. 2250/14 to W.O.)

14.1.1942.
Wednesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

Use of Dutch Troop Ships. My 0959/10. As PLANCIUS is now considered more suitable for Indian Troops than British, ship being included in B.M.12 not B.M.11. OPHIE (?OPHIR) is not now being used.
(P.S.T.O. India, 0451Z/14 to C. in C. E.I.,)

Addu Atoll, defence. (1) Armindia are raising question of operational and administrative responsibility for land defence of Addu Atoll. In due course they will doubtless raise a similar question in regard to Diego Garcia and any other secret anchorages.
2. Clear they would prefer this responsibility to be vested in Navy.
3. I am reluctant to accept the commitment, (reasons):- Recent calls on Indian personnel and resources have been overwhelming and it has become difficult for them to maintain their traditional standard. At the same time, the defences of these anchorages promise to become of vital importance and, in my view, nothing but highest standard of importance can be accepted.
5. Glad of Admiralty guidance.
(C. in C. E.I., 0608Z/14 to Admty. (R) C. in C. E.F.)

FALMOUTH. Your 1727/21/10/40. (N.T. in W.D.)
A. 6. B. 0925/26/12. C. H.M.S.FALMOUTH.
D. 3° 20' N. 83° 37' E. E. Nil. F. Nil.
H. Nil. (C. in C. E.I., 1322Z/14 to Admty.)

HERMES. Following from HERMES (begins). Owing to non arrival of essential stores it is probable that HERMES will have to sail with following important A and A items divided (as received) as far as possible but operationally ineffective, Homing Beacon type 72, additional petrol tanks, night flying equipment. (Ends). Request hastening action for these vital stores be taken.
(C. in C. E.I., 0758Z/14 to Admty.)

HECTOR. Govr. of Seychelles and three others embark in HECTOR 15/1 and will arrive Mombasa 18/1.
(C. in C. E.I., 0832Z/14 to Admty., Govr., Kenya).

ELYSIA. Your 0640Z/10. No mention of ELYSIA on N.C.S.O. Bombay's 1150Z/28/12 or 1158Z/28/12. Report ship's position urgently.
(D.T.D. 1456A/14 to S.O.I. Bombay) Reply 0349Z/16.

Navigation. Cancel W C 74 and W C 76 promulgated in Notice to Mariners. (Bombay W/T, 1604Z/14 to All concerned W C 104).

CERES, ANDES. CERES escorting H.M.T.ANDES left Durban 1632/14 to overtake Troop Convoy W.S.14. (D.O.R., 15/1).

/MAURITIUS ...

War Diary.

14.1.1942.
Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies. - contd.

MAURITIUS. A.M.1017/31/12. When MAURITIUS can be spared from the heavy escort programme she should be sent to Simonstown to repair fire main. C. in C. S.A. is requested to arrange for any preliminary work to be advanced and it is intended that MAURITIUS should remain at 6 days notice throughout refit. (A.C.N.S.(F). 2300A/14 to C. in C. E.I., C. in C. S.A.)

China.

W.S.12 Z M. Convoy W S 12 Z M arrived.
(N.C.S.O. Singapore, 0137Z/14 to Admty.)

Malaya Oil Stocks. Your 1926/10. Shipment programme can be implemented. Revised figures in tons for stock held 1/1. (R.A.Malaya, 0355Z/14 to Admty.)

Air Report Singapore Raid. Singapore raided A.M. 13/1 by 50 plus enemy heavy bombers escorted by some 20 fighters. 20 fighters were despatched to intercept. Bombs were dropped in salvoes from above clouds. 30 Bombs seen to land in sea and a further 20 on reclaimed land about 1 mile east of Kallang. Slight damage to R.A.F. buildings. No casualties. Further damage to private property.
(A.H.Q., F.E., 0432/14, 0715/14).

Movements. Singapore departures 14/1 EMERALD, EXETER, ELECTRA, STRONGHOLD. (S.O.I., Singapore, 0957Z/14 to Admty.)

ABDIEL. ABDIEL is now at Colombo. Request you will discuss with Gen. Wavell and Adm. Hart what minelaying is required in the Abda area and if necessary arrange for ABDIEL to be used.
(A.C.N.S.(F) 2136A/14 to C. in C. E.F.)

War Diary.14.1.1942.
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America & West Indies.

- Shipping. Your 2355A/12. Opnav has instructed British C.S.A's U.S.A. as follows. All coastwise merchant shipping proceeding North of New York is to use Cod Canal and if this is not possible to keep as close to coast in this area as navigational safety will permit. Similar instructions have been passed to Canadian N.C.S.O's. It is not clear whether this cancels last sentence of your 1530A/12 or modifies your 1720A/12. (N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 0243Z/14 to Admty.)
- ARCHER collision. ARCHER's 2245R 13th passed to you. Request you arrange towage with U.S. Authorities if not already done. (C. in C. A.W.I., 0319P/14 to B.A.D.)
Your 0319/14. Arrangements made. (B.A.D., 1127R/14)
C. in C. A.W.I. 0319P/14. We are exploring possibility of sending all Martlet aircraft and spares ex ARCHER to Capetown should it be found that ship will be appreciably delayed for repairs. Will keep you informed. (B.A.D., 1651R/14 to Admty.)
- S.S. SURREY. My present position at 0400 G.M.T. 045° 00' N. 039° 45' W., will attempt to rig jury rudder when weather allows.
(SURREY, 0530/14 to Adm. Plymouth).
- SURCOUF. F.N.F.L. SURCOUF arrived Halifax from St. Pierre escorted by H.M.C.S. ALGOMA ex St. Johns N.F. (S.O.I., Halifax, 1009Z/14 to Admty. N.S.H.Q. Ottawa C. in C. A.W.I., F.O.N.F., B.A.D., C. in C. W.A., A.C.I.C., F.N.F.L., MIMOSA).
- Washington Report. Washops 34. (ii) Hawaii Is. 12/1. Continued S/M activities with few contacts reporting definite results. (iii) Marshall Is. Signal from C. in C. Pacific Fleet 14/1 stated U.S. S/M POMPANO reported sinking a large Merchant Ship of KARNAKURA (? KAMAKURA) or YAWATA Class off Wotje Atoll. (J.S.M. Washington, 1401R/14 to Admty. etc.)
- FENNEL O.N. 59. N.O.I.C. Greenock (?) 1204A/12. Due to weather damage Commander Task Unit No. 4.1.11 which normally would escort O.N. 59 is reduced to 3 (?corvettes) only. Request FENNEL who sailed from U.K. with O.N. 56 be detached at M O M P to Iceland and join Commander Task Unit No. 4.1.11 for O.N. 59. (C.C.N.F., 1422Z/14 to C. in C. W.A.) See p. 330
- Shipping Routes. Opnav's 2011Z/13. Request you will issue necessary instructions to N.C.S.O's and C.S.A's in conformity with this and any future suggestions for local routeing made by Opnav. (A.C.N.S.(T) 1454A/14 to C. in C. A.W.I., N.S.H.Q. Ottawa).
- REGENT. Intend to sail REGENT at 1400/16 via QZS 111, 169 thence (A) 049° 40' 005° 00' (B) 180° Bishop Rock
/10 ...

War Diary.14.1.1942.
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America & West Indies.

REGENT. 10 miles. (C) 049° 30' 011° 00' (D) 044° 00' 022°
(contd.) 00' (E) 040° 00' 040° 00' for onward passage to
Philadelphia as ordered by C. in C. A.W.I.
(2) REGENT will dive by day as far as 015° West
thence on the surface at C.O.'s. discretion (3) W/T watch in
accordance with S2/41 table 2. (3) until 1200Z/25 when REGENT
enters A.W.I. Station and will shift watch to table 2. (3) Section
A C of S1/41. REGENT is painted grey with light grey letters and
figures on conning tower.
(Capt. S.5, 1503A/14 to C. in C. A.W.I., C. in C. Portsmouth).
Following is a repetition of F.O.S. 1536A/13 to B.A.R.M.
Washington. Your 1352R/12. REGENT will arrive Philadelphia 29/1.
(F.O.S., 1549A/14 to Admty.)
My 1536A/13. For 29/1 read 1/2.
(F.O.S., 1838A/14 to B.A.R.M.)

NIKOLINA, Ref. NIKOLINA, MATKOVIC in distress, no rudder.
MATKOVIC. Been since first distress signal located. On
arrival 2315 G.M.T./13 signalled by lamp ? no
reply acting suspiciously. Appears to be under way
and making approx. course and speed 210°. Approx. pos. 051° 22' N.
047° W. Have (? turned away). Master.
(DONOVANIA, 1510/14 to Portishead Radio).
NIKOLINA MATKOVIC reported at 2315Z/13 in approx. 51° 22' N.
47° W. steering 210° at slow speed.
(C. of W. 2325A/14 to F.O.N.F., (R) PRUDENT).

AUSONIA. Your 1052Q/6. Concur. 2. Anticipated AUSONIA
will arrive Bermuda about 7/2, having called at
Halifax en route. (D.O.D.(F) 1553A/14 to
C. in C. A.W.I.)

U.S. ^{JOSEPH T.} ORIZABA, LEONARD WOOD and DICKMAN left Bombay 10/1
Transports. for U.S.A. E.T.A. Capetown 25/1. Request
information as to final destination.
(D.O.D.(F) 1617A/14 to B.A.D.)

Dakar Intelligence. Dakar 12/1. A.2 (A) BOUGAINVILLE has sailed for
Madagascar. (B) ILE DE BREHAT, DAHOMEY, FORTS DE
DOUAMONT, and FORMALHAUT sailed for Southern ports
on following course: 8° N. 16° 40' W. 4° N. 14°
30' W. 3° 20' N. 3° 20' W. 3° 10' N. 2° 40' W. to
a point 100 miles south of Lorne. (C) HOGGAR and PORTHOS arrived
from North, SAVOIE from Konakri.
(B.A.D., 1641R/14 to Admty. C. in C. S.A.) N.I.D. Comment.
(A) Information re BOUGAINVILLE (ex VICTOR SCHOELCHER) confirms
that reported in B.A.D. Washington's 1327/11/1. N.T. & W.D.

FIDRA Renamed My 1039R/9. Flag Panama name changed to TAMBOUR.
TAMBOUR. (S.O.I. Kingtton, 1706R/14, to N.S.H.Q. Ottawa,
C.O.A.C. Halifax, C.O.P.C. etc.) W.R. Note:-
My 1144R/9/12 (OHUK) FIDRA taken over by Maritime
Commission.

Vichy Rubber Meter Algiers. 12th and 13/1. B.2.
Traffic. 1. My 1517/31, DJEBEL NADOR carried 1150 tons
/crude ...

War Diary.

14.1.1942.
Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies.

Vichy Rubber Traffic. (contd.) crude rubber from Oran 20/12 for Marseilles.
2. CAP FIGALO carried 140 tons crude rubber from Algiers 11/1. for Marseilles.
3. 640 tons arrived Algiers 11/1 from Oudjda by rail and are now in railway trucks alongside

VILLIERS and CROUMIR.

4. My 1729/6, on her last trip CROUMIR carried 120 tons rubber. (B.A.D., 1951R/14, to Admty.) N.I.D. Comment.
1 Washington's 1517/31 reported that DJEBEL NADOR sailed from Oran 20/12 for unknown destination with miscellaneous cargo including 30 tons rubber.
4. Washington's 1729/6 stated that cargo of KROUMIA included 30 tons of rubber for Marseilles. KROUMIA left Algiers 22/12 for Marseilles.

DEVONSHIRE,
DIOMEDE.

As DEVONSHIRE's state makes her refit essential, requested you will ask C.N.O. if DIOMEDE could be lent to C. in C. S.A. during DEVONSHIRE's absence.
2. Heavy weather damage and defects to Home Fleet cruisers have prevented a relief for DEVONSHIRE being provided from Home Waters. (V.C.N.S., 2034A/14 to B.A.D.)

Australia & New Zealand.

PEIK
overdue.

Tanker PEIK left Colombo 26/12 due Fremantle 9/1 has not arrived.
(A.C.N.B., 0426Z/14 to Admty. etc.)

M/V
signalling.

Need for all merchant ships sailing independently to carry a day signalling lamp for identification purposes again emphasized for following reasons:
(a) To avoid necessity for close range

identification.

(b) To save time in boarding and/or to avoid sending ship to a British port for identification. My 1030Z/23/12 refers.
(A.C.N.B., 0618Z/14 to Admty.)

S.W. Pacific
Area.

Admty. 1319/12. Para. C. (2) For Portuguese New Guinea read British New Guinea.
(D. of P., 1757A/14 to C's in C., etc.)

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War Diary.14.1.1942.
Wednesday.U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.Ships Attacked.

EMPIRE SURF, CHEPO. (O.N.55). EMPIRE SURF and one other Merchant Ship torpedoed. (DOUGLAS, 0416A/14 to C. in C. W.A.) Your 0416A/14 if any ship salvable report without delay. (C. in C. W.A. 1014A/14 to DOUGLAS)

My 0416A/14 EMPIRE SURF and CHEPO torpedoed. Both ships have sunk. Have proposed M.O.M.P. in 058° 30' N. 022° 00' W. at 1200Z/14 but am not in direct communication with relief escort. (DOUGLAS 1035A/14 to C. in C. W.A.) Position of sinking 58.40 N., 20° W., about 200 miles W.N.W. of Rockall. (D.S.862)

DAYROSE DE Cape Race Radio, SSSS, DAYROSE torpedoed, no position given but very near Cape Race. (Valentia Radio, 2350/14 to Admty., Adm. Devonport)

Submarines Reported.

0044Z Your 1756A/13 (re S.C.63) acknowledged. DEWSBURY (Brit.) in company, am escorting her to Clyde. DEWSBURY reports U-Boat transmissions at 0044Z/14 bearing 170°. My position 062° 30' N. 025° 20' W. (uncoded weather reports) (NARCISSUS, 0115Z/14, to C. in C. W.A.)

Estimated approx. positions of U/B's. (D.D.I.C. 1425A/14, 1427A/14).

1019Z D/F bearings at 1019Z indicate U-Boat in area within 60 miles of 35° 30' N. 16° 30' W. (D.D.I.C. 1607A/14 to Escorts S.L.97G, LAFOREY)

Submarines Attacked.

By FORTUNE Following has been read - Gibraltar. One (? S/M submerged) 031° 28' N. 16° 20' W. (FORTUNE 1217/14)

My 1217, not to Admiralty. Gained contact and sighted periscope in 031.18' 016.22'. Carried out three attacks expending 82 depth charges. Lost contact after third attack am searching. S.S. SLEMDAL not met. Weather report. (FORTUNE, 1410A/14, to F.O.C. N.A. (R) Admty.) Cancel my 1329 (N.T.). Continue hunt until 1400A/15. Star shell is to be fired throughout the night. (F.O.C.N.A. 1705A/14 to FORTUNE)

By UPHOLDER Their Lordships congratulate you, your Officers and ship's company on the destruction of the Italian U-Boat, SAINT BON on the 5/1/1942. (A.C.N.S.(T) 1603A/14 to UPHOLDER)

/By ...

War Diary.

14.1.1942.
Wednesday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Submarines Attacked. - contd.

By BLANKNEY.

7 STANLEY.

(U.434 Sunk.)

Their Lordships congratulate you, your officers and ship's company on your share in the action between BLANKNEY and STANLEY and a German U-Boat on 18/12/1941 which resulted in the destruction of the enemy.
(A.C.N.S.(T) 1604A/14 to BLANKNEY)

15.1.1942.
Thursday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

Several ships are in distress of weather in the North Atlantic and off the northern coasts of the British Isles. DOUGLAS has been damaged in collision with U.S. Destroyer MAYO in the Atlantic. (DOUGLAS arrived at Reykjavik 1200A/16.) In the Western Approaches BROKE has weather damage and Convoys O.N.S. 57 and S.L. 96 are scattered and hove to. The Commodore of O.G. 78 considers it advisable that owing to dispersal and damage the convoy should be recalled to harbour to reform. Hvalfiord Gate (Iceland [C]) is out of action, having been fouled by a U.S. ship and repairs cannot be effected at present owing to a violent gale. DIANTHUS sustained weather damage after leaving Iceland and failed to find convoy O.N.54. The sailing of Convoy R.U.6 from Reykjavik is postponed 24 hours. Wick harbour was closed at 0840. (Damage at Iceland [C] see 16/1.)

R/C of Wilhelmshaven at 1545 today showed no major naval units present.

British Air Operations.

54 aircraft of Bomber Command attacked Hamburg, 15 Emden, and 5 Rotterdam docks and Waalhaven Aerodrome last night.

Enemy Air Operations.

Soviet ice-breaker STALIN has been attacked and damaged by enemy aircraft whilst bunkering off Sosnovets.

S.S. EMPIRE BAY was bombed and is presumed sunk in Tees Bay this evening.

S.S. CORMORANT was damaged by bombing this evening off the Humber and entered the port.

War Diary.15.1.1942.
Thursday.SITUATION REPORT.North Atlantic.

S.L. 97G. U-Boats and long range enemy aircraft are in the vicinity of Convoy S.L. 97G. EGRET and 3 escorts are to transfer to this convoy a.m. tomorrow. A Catalina diverted to S.L. 97G from the search for tanker SLEMDAL was recalled to Gibraltar owing to weather forecast.

U. 93 sunk. HESPERUS sank U. 93 at 0115 today, in approx. 36° 40' N. 15° 52' W., by ramming, gunfire and depth charges. 40 survivors were picked up. HESPERUS sustained some damage.

U/B. EXMOOR at 1851/15 attacked a good contact 3 miles off Cape Trafalgar with no results.

Cable Operation. MIRROR at 0800/15 reported her cable operation B completed. Weather prevented operation A.

Tangier Signalling. At 2357A, EXMOOR was directed to investigate reported signalling from seaward to Tangier.

Siege Craft, Gibraltar. Chiefs of Staff have approved on allocation of assault craft to Gibraltar. F.O.C.N.A. is asked to report after trials with such craft in unloading a storeship during siege conditions.

R.A.F. Units. The return of 233 Sqdn. (Hudsons) to Thomey Island is postponed until further orders.

South Atlantic.

The following paragraph should be read in conjunction with A.M. 0039A/20 to C. in C. S.A. and C. in C. S.A. 1559Z/19 to Admiralty which show what really took place.

The German press alleges that on the night of 14/1 a destroyer and a tug entered the harbour of Santa Isabel, Fernando Po, destroyed the anchor cables by depth charges and towed out of harbour 3 Axis ships which had been lying there. The ships concerned were no doubt the Italian DUCHESSA D'AOSTA and 2 small German

/vessels. ...

War Diary.

15.1.1942.
Thursday.

SITUATION REPORT.

South Atlantic - Contd.

vessels. At 0845Z today R.N.O. Lagos instructed VIOLET to investigate the report of strange merchant ships sighted south of Calabar. Before VIOLET could intercept them she ran aground, but got off subsequently. (See 18/1.)

An S O S from an unknown ship was made in about 05.16 N., 22.07 W. some time before 2236Z. CANTON is to investigate at daylight.

German S.S. WINDHUK at Santos and MONTEVIDEO at Rio Grande were taken over by the Brazilian Govt. today. The former is reported to have been damaged by sabotage.

Mediterranean.

Slight damage to houses was caused at Malta in 6 raids last night and one this afternoon. Ta Kali and Hal Far aerodromes are still unserviceable.

Gozo lighthouse was machine-gunned in the course of 6 raids up to 1340 today.

S/M's on Taranto and Messina patrol are being disposed to prevent enemy warships moving southward between 16/1 and 19/1, (i.e. during operation M.F. 3.)

INDOMITABLE (ferrying aircraft to the Far East) left Port Sudan accompanied by NAPIER, NESTOR, NIZAM at 1300Z/15.

3 out of 5 Swordfish at 2335 successfully attacked a vessel escorted by a destroyer 50 miles E. by N. of Melita, which had been sighted earlier by a special Wellington on shipping search.

Libya &
Western
Desert.

A Wellington employed on a nuisance raid on Tripoli scored hits on the town and harbour last night.

/Benghazi ...

War Diary.15.1.1942.
Thursday.SITUATION REPORT.Mediterranean.Libya &
Western
Desert.
(Contd.)

Benghazi and Tobruk were bombed early this morning; one mine was dropped on Juliana Mole, Benghazi. There were no casualties or damage.

Troop
Movements.

P.S.T.O. Egypt is asked to ensure that every vessel is loaded to capacity and that ships are not kept waiting to load so long as later ships able to keep sailing dates are known to be available. This is essential as the movement constitutes a most serious reduction on an already dangerously low U.K. import loading programme.

East Indies.

HERMES.

Admty. ordered today that HERMES is to be attached to Australian Sqdn. on completion of her refit, for operation in Anzac area, and she is to sail for Fremantle as soon as ready.

China.

General Wavell took over command of the ABDA area, with the exception, for the present of the Philippines, at noon G.M.T. today. He sent an appreciation of the situation on taking over.

The Dutch, Australian and New Zealand Governments agreed to General Wavell assuming command, but without prejudice to their acceptance of his Directive.

Admiral Hart (U.S.A.) has assumed control of the Allied Naval forces in the ABDA area (short title Abdafloat).

Flag of C. in C. Eastern Fleet will be transferred from DRAGON to EMERALD at 0830Z/16 and C. in C. will leave that day for Colombo, where his flag will be transferred to the shore. The broad pendant of Cdre. J.A. Collins, R.A.N., as Cdre. Comdg. British Far Eastern Sqdn. (short title F.O.J.) will be hoisted in ANKING at Batavia at 0800/16.

/He will ...

War Diary.

15.1.1942.
Thursday.

SITUATION REPORT.

China - Contd.

He will command and operate all British Naval forces in the ABDA area and is specially charged by Admiral Hart with the provision of escort and routeing of convoys carrying British personnel and supplies to Malaya and N.E.I. The present composition of the Far Eastern Squadron is given in C. in C. E.F. 0440Z/15. Instructions to R.A. Malaya, and F.O.J. are given in C. in C. E.F. 0436Z/15, 0438Z/15, and 0504Z/15.

Malaya.

R.A. Malaya reported heavy air activity over Singapore Island today. In one raid on the Naval Base slight damage was caused to living quarters and there were some casualties, but no damage is reported in the Dockyard. Enemy shipping and barges were seen approaching Sungei Tengah; and air striking force was despatched and attacked them successfully. Successful air attacks were made on 5 barges filled with troops approaching S. Linggi; 20 miles N.W. of Malacca. 60 to 70 small native vessels, a 500-ton vessel and launch towing 2 barges were seen near Malacca. A Blenheim successfully attacked barges off the coast near Muar. Oil installations at Port Swettenham which is now in enemy occupation were bombed and set on fire today by our aircraft. Dutch tanker GADILA, mined today off Peak Island by a mine of unknown origin whilst leaving Singapore, is now at Singapore, extensively damaged.

America and West Indies.

Newfoundland Destroyers.

Owing to weather damage, F.O. Newfoundland has only 4 running destroyers, and requests the loan of 2 R.N. long leg destroyers until the return of BROADWAY and READING, refitting in U.K. (None could be spared, however.)

British tanker COIMBRA was sunk by torpedo about 0800Z today in 40° 25' N. 72° 21' W.

War Diary.

15.1.1942.
Thursday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Australia.

S.S.QUEEN ELIZABETH is to be prepared for leaving Sydney, probably for San Francisco.

It is reported today that R.A.A.F. Hudsons from Namlea (Amboina) obtained hits on 2 cruisers in an attack on enemy concentrations in Kema Bay (N.E. Celebes). (Note. This probably refers to attack made on 11/1.) 5 enemy S/Ms. are reported to have been sighted at Piru Bay (N.W. of Amboina) at 1030Z today.

War Diary.15.1.1942.
Thursday.HOME COMMANDS.Policy.

Food H.M. Govt. have decided to prohibit the despatch
Parcels. from U.K. of food parcels for persons abroad,
including civilians, other than prisoners of war.
Reasons for decision are (a) much of food becomes
uneatable during long voyage. This waste cannot be afforded:
(b) recipients are disappointed by receiving useless food;
(c) members of H.M. Forces, to whom most of parcels are sent,
already receive adequate food supplies; (d) Navy especially
will appreciate that convoying of goods not strictly necessary
must be avoided. (Head of N. 0004A/15).

CLEOPATRA. CLEOPATRA may be required for Foreign Service
and should make necessary preparations.
(D.O.D. F. 1704A/15).

Defence of U.K.

Lough The anti torpedo defences at Lough Foyle and the
Foyle A/T boom vessels employed on their maintenance are
Defences. urgently required for use at an Indian Ocean port.
2. They are of very little value where they are
owing to the tidal conditions and observing
that the approach from seaward is covered by a controlled
minefield and taking into consideration the targets likely to
be available the risk of submarine attack is thought to be
negligible.
3. We feel however that, since the defences were originally
laid to provide a fully defended base for the U.S. North West
Escort Force on American entry into the war, U.S. concurrence
in the removal of the boom should be obtained.
4. It is requested therefore that you will inform the Navy
Dept. in the sense of the above and ask their consent to the
removal of the boom. (A.C.N.S. F. 2141A/15 to B.A.D. Washington)

Movements.

SEAWOLF. Admiralty's 2005A/5 para. 2. S.3 is to arrange
onward route, bombing restrictions, and escort
for SEAWOLF. (F.O.S. 1013A/15).

REGENT. My 1205A/14. Cancel position reference letters
(C) and (D) and substitute (D) and (E) respectively
as in Capt. (S) 5th S.F. 1503A/14. (C. in C. W.A.
1108A/15 to Capt. S.5.)

HEATHER. Hove to in 056° 07' N. 013° 20' W. COMMANDANT
DETROYAT in company. Unable to raise LOBELIA
on R/T. (HEATHER 1200A/15).

NEWCASTLE. When ready for sea NEWCASTLE should be sailed
for Scapa to work up. (D.O.D. (H.) 1332A/15 to
C. in C. Plymouth).

/LONDON.....

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15.1.1942.
Thursday.War Diary.HOME COMMANDS.Movements-Contd.

- LONDON. When ready for sea LONDON should be sailed for Scapa. (D.O.D. H. 1553A/15 to F.O.I.C. Tyne).
- AUSONIA. AUSONIA and RANPURA are expected to be ready to
RANPURA. leave the Clyde shortly for Bermuda and Baltimore respectively.
2. Both ships will carry a number of passengers and will proceed to their destinations via Halifax.
3. Destroyers mentioned in para. 4 will be available to provide escort for convoy N.A.3. leaving Halifax about 9/2.
4. C. in C. W.A. is requested to: (a) provide escort of 2 destroyers from U.K. to Halifax, (b) sail AUSONIA and RANPURA with escort on 24/1 (c) arrange route. (D.O.D.(H.) 1350A/15).
- AMARANTHUS. My 1525A/14. E.T.A. 6 hours late. My position is 180° 8 miles Bishop Rock, S.O.A. 12 knots. Request instructions. (AMARANTHUS 1415A/15).
- TRINIDAD. 250 Polish Airmen and Sailors (21 Officers 229
Polish men) have been waiting in Archangel since 21/12
Personnel. to embark in EXPLORER for passage to U.K.
Viewing complete uncertainty of sailing date, and undesirability of risking carrying 250 passengers through White Sea, MacKay and I consider and Admiral Miles concurs that these passengers should now be sent to Murmansk for embarkation in TRINIDAD. Request your early approval, also that TRINIDAD may await their arrival if necessary. Admiralty pass to C. in C.H.F. and TRINIDAD. (S.B.N.O. Archangel 1526C/15 to Admty.)
- SUFFOLK. Scapa arrival SUFFOLK. (A.C.O.S. 1546A/15).
- BERWICK. Boom and Gate damaged and out of action. Suggest you remain at sea and later anchor off Reykjavik until situation is cleared up. (A.C.I.C. 1610A/15 to BERWICK). Other Signals in Casualties and Defects give details.
- EDINBURGH. EDINBURGH arrived. (F.O.I.C. Tyne 1630/15).
- AFD. XV. EMPIRE LARCH towing AFD XV escorted by STELLA PEGASI arrived Thurso Bay for shelter. (A.C.O.S. 1712A/15).
- CHELSEA. MIGNONETTE, CONINBEG hove to approx. south of
MIGNONETTE. Skerryvore. Intend await daylight or visibility
? CONINBEG. to improve before entering sea of Hebrides and
not identified Minches. Wind force 10, high sea, visibility
four. (CHELSEA 2031A/15).

/WALKER.....

War Diary.15.1.1942.
Thursday.HOME COMMANDS.Movements-Contd.

WALKER. Left with WALKER, VANOC, and WITHERINGTON at
 VANOC. 1900A/15 on account of weather. (Corrupt group)
 WITHERINGTON. estimated P.C.S. 2100A, 048° 02' N. 017° 51' W.
 VANQUISHER. 180°, 9½. VOLUNTEER left independently.
 VOLUNTEER. (VANQUISHER 2212A/15 to V.A.3.)

BRAMBLE. My 1757A/12. Request name of M/S detailed to
 return with BRAMBLE. (C. in C. H.F. 2217A/15 to
 M.S. 1.) *See p.387*

WHITEHALL. E.T.A. 0645A/16. (WHITEHALL 2359A/15 to F.O.C.N.A.)

Operations.

Denmark KENT sailed for patrol "White" 2359A/14th.
 Strait (A.C.I.C. 0229A/15).
 Patrol. Have altered Patrols as follows. (A) ANEMONE
 67° 40' N. 23° (?10' or 38') W. (B) 45°. (C)
 ABELIA (? 135°). (D) Out. (ANEMONE 2000A/15 to
 KENT). *See p.356*

A/S Request you will sail 2 destroyers to carry out
 Patrol. A/S patrol to northwards of Cape Wrath.
 (ii) C.S.1. in NORFOLK bound for Scapa is estimated
 to pass Cape Wrath at 0500A/16. (iii) Destroyers
 on patrol are to rendezvous NORFOLK and provide
 A/S screen to Scapa. (C. in C. H.F. 1224A/15 to
 R.A.D.)

C. in C. H.F. 1224A/15. BEDOUIN, ESKIMO detailed.
 (R.A.D. H.F. 1330A/15).

My 1224A/15. Request you will maintain A/S patrol of 2 destroyers
 in this area commencing when destroyers screening NORFOLK
 return to harbour. (C. in C. H.F. 1837A/15 to R.A.D.)

Operation
 "N.Q."

PLOVER and 4 M.G.B's will be operating between
 approximately Dover and West Hinder buoy suitable
 nights until 22nd/23rd Jan. Operation, short
 title N.Q., will normally be completed during
 dark hours. In event of fighter protection being
 required code word "Pontoon" will be used.
 (V.A. Dover 1308A/15 to H.Q.F.C. H.G.C.C., etc.)
 Intend to carry out Operation "N.Q." Group A tonight
 (V.A. Dover 1526/15).

CAVINA. CAVINA takes the W.P. Area N. 46 forthwith.
 (S.O.W.P. 1520A/15).

/CHIDDINGFOLD.....

War Diary.15.1.1942.
Thursday.HOME COMMANDS.Operations-Contd.CHIDDINGFOLD
Patrol.

Patrol from 270° Torness 8 miles to longitude 004° 15' W. Object to cover passage of westbound convoy due Dunnet Head at 0130/16.
(A.C.O.S. 1812A/15 to CHIDDINGFOLD).

East Coast
Patrols.

If weather is unsuitable for E-boats return to Base passing 51 Buoy not before 0600 and VIVACIOUS East Spile not before 0930.
(C. in C. Nore 2250A/15 to EGLINTON, VIVACIOUS).

British Air Activity.A/S Air
Patrols.

My 1232B/June 26th 1941, para. 1.
Request A/S air patrols may be established by day and night in area between latitude 60° N. (? and) north coast of Scotland and longitude 005° W. to 003° W. (C. in C. H.F. 1226A/15 to A.C.O.S.)
C. in C.H.F. 1226A/15. Request 18 Group will comply. (A.C.O.S. 1525A/15 to C. in C. Rosyth).
Your 1525/15. 18 Group will carry out search commencing 1st light 16th.
(C. in C. Rosyth 1753/15 to A.C.O.S.)

Bombing
operations.

Days 12 to 14/1 inclusive no operations took place. On Night 14/15, 49 A/C bombed shipyards at Hamburg, 14 A/C attacked Emden, and 6 A/C bombed the docks at Rotterdam. Bombs were also dropped at Borkum, Cuxhaven, Bremen, Brunsbuttel, Texel and Wangerooge. (H.Q.B.C. 1500/15).

Enemy Air Activity.STALIN
damaged.

Soviet authority submits report Icebreaker STALIN attacked by enemy aircraft while bunkering off Sosnovets and damaged by bombs; request further details if available. Admiralty pass to Admiral Miles. (S.B.N.O. North Russia 1741A/15 to S.B.N.O. Archangel).

CORMORANT
(British,
1220 Tons)
bombed.

Departure tug HEADMAN, MAR 1830 to assist CORMORANT damaged by bombing in vicinity of H.5. buoy. (F.O. Humber 1836A/15).

EMPIRE BAY.
(British,
2824 Tons)
sunk.

S.S. EMPIRE BAY damaged by air attack in Tees Bay now reported in a sinking condition in approx. position T.B1. Buoy. Crew reported safe. Tugs and lifeboat in attendance.
(N.O.I.C. Hartlepool 2055/15).
My 2055/15. EMPIRE BAY presumed sunk in about 54° 40' 51" N., 1° 8' 24" W. All crew landed safely and without casualties.
(N.O.I.C. Hartlepool 2255/15).

War Diary.15.1.1942.
Thursday.HOME COMMANDS.Mining.

- Searches.** Your 1416A/14. Intend to carry out Oropesa searches (1) 17/1, centre line joining A 058° 43' 18" N. 002° 49' 54" W. B 058° 39' 52", 002° W. (2) 18/1, Centre line joining A 058° 36' 46" N. 002° 53' W. B. 058° 24' 42", 002° W. (A.C.O.S. 1527A/15 to R.A.M.)
- Operation Q.O.** One lap swept without result embracing Western two miles of Q.Z.X. 403. Propose sailing 9th M.S.F. and PETERHEAD at 0900/16 at 12 knots arriving at position A 1245, sweeping for 10 miles 120° between 1300 and 1430, returning from position A at 1545. (M/S 9 1618A/15). In view of weather forecast Operation Q.O. is cancelled tomorrow. (C. in C. Nore 1756A/15).
- Thames Estuary.** There was some enemy air activity over the estuary between 1840 and 2250/14. There was no evidence of any actual minelaying but several hostile planes were over the Barrow Deep and Oaze area. At 2131 and 2134 explosions possibly of mines were observed in the Maplin area. (S.O. T.L.D.F. 1735/15).
- Navigational.
- Wick.** Wick Harbour closed, weather, at 0840/15. (R.N.O. Wick 0851/15).
- Lowestoft.** Silting of entrance to Lowestoft harbour creating danger to navigation may arise within 24 hours if winds between E.S.E. and N.N.E. should prevail. Request assistance of Landguard Bay be available at 24 hours notice. (N.O.I.C. Lowestoft 1045A/15).
- Hvalfiord Gate.** Hvalfiord Gate is out of action having been fouled by U.S. ship KAWEAH. Unsafe for any vessels to enter or leave. In real emergency all wires can be slipped. Owing violent gale impossible effect repairs at present. (A.C.I.C. 1251A/15) (D.O.D. H. 2051A/15).
- St. George's Channel.** Light on S.G.3. buoy St. George's Channel reported extinguished. Request Q.Z.H. (F.O.I.C. Milford Haven 1835/15).
- Ice in Denmark Strait.** Hard ice encountered. Have altered patrol as follows. (ANEMONE 2000A/15 to KENT).
See p. 354

War Diary.15.1.1942.
Thursday.HOME COMMANDS.Technical.Anglo-Soviet
Recognition.

Signals in force. (D.S.D. 1933A/15).

Casualties and Defects.Unknown
ship.

De unknown station at 1107 begins S.O.S. drifting ashore. Ends. No position received. (Valentia Radio 1123/15). (C. in C. Plymouth, Recd. 1420/15 by Admty.)

NORFOLK.

NORFOLK can be taken in hand for turret repairs at Palmers Hebburn-on-Tyne. (D.O.D. H. 1127A/15) A.M. 1127/15. Request that on arrival of NORFOLK at Scapa a report may be made as to whether the gunhouse can be repaired or must be replaced.

2. Pending decision on this report NORFOLK should remain at Scapa. (D.O.D. H. 1853A/15 to C. in C. H.F.)

DOUGLAS.

Regret to report Gunner (T) missing and must be presumed lost overboard.

U.S. Destroyer MAYO is remaining in company and now reports being in collision with DOUGLAS. E.T.A. Hvalfjord p.m. tomorrow. My P.C.S. at 1100A are 059° 27' N. 025° W., 340°, 13.

After cabin flat, wardroom, and Captain's quarters are flooded, but the forward bulkhead of captain's cabin is tight and shored up. Ship's side badly holed on after bulkhead of wardroom. Consider there is a reasonable margin of buoyancy aft. (DOUGLAS 1142A/15).

DIANTHUS.

After leaving Iceland DIANTHUS group became separated in heavy weather and failed to find O.N. 54. At 0400A/12, DIANTHUS was struck by heavy sea which put out of action W/T, R.T., and most of electrical fittings on bridge and also caused structural damage to bridge, upper deck, and forecastle. Expect to complete repair p.m. 23rd. (Capt. D. Londonderry 1241A/15).

BROKE.

Returning to Moville with weather damage including dynamo and gyro. Regret two men lost overboard. (BROKE 1320A/15).

Anchored between Portrush and Lough Foyle, position unknown. Starboard engine out of action, minor defects in port engine. Tug may be required if weather deteriorates. 7 Non cot hospital cases. Arriving Moville daylight. (BROKE 2356A/15).

CAPSA.

Unable to contact CAPSA broken down 270° Otarusay 6 miles. She does not know convoy now proceeding through Minches. (CAMELIA 1321A/15) /Unknown...

War Diary.15.1.1942.
Thursday.HOME COMMANDS.Casualties and Defects-Contd.Unknown
Ship.

Following has been received from Valentia Radio intercept DE HPXF apparently addressed Reykjavik Radio at 1336 begins:- unread into us and broke both anchor chains we pounding on bottom, frames in engine room giving way, we are aground east side Akrey, unread, please hurry. Ends. (C. in C. Plymouth 1448/15).

Following has been received. De HPXF addressed M.A.S. (Iceland W/T) at 1549 G.M.T. Begins. We are leaking now, pounding heavily, east side Akrey Island. Ends. (Valentia Radio 1552/15). Following received. Intercept de HPXF addressed M.A.S. (Iceland W/T) begins. Engine room flooded, may have to abandon ship, please send boat at once. Ends. (Valentia Radio 1610/15).

ASTRELL
(Norwegian
Tanker).

S.O.S. de ASTREL. Have grounded near Barra Head Lighthouse 2 miles, dead reckoning bearing 307. (Liverpool W/T 1928/15).

Proceed with despatch to assist ASTRELL aground two miles 307° Barra Head Lighthouse.

(F.O.I.C. Greenock 2105/15 to CAROLINE MOLLER).

My P.C.S. 2100A/15 056° 09' N. 007° 18' W., 344° 10. Am going to try to assist (? ASTRELL). (EGLANTINE 2105A/15).

Following received. From Malin Head Radio. Received 2130 G.M.T. De ASTRELL. Everything O.K., we are on voyage again. Malin Head Radio. 2131/15 ends. (F.O.I.C. Belfast 2247/15). Your 2105A/15. ASTRELL has refloated and is proceeding. (C. in C. W.A. 2257A/15 to EGLANTINE).

Cancel my 2105A/15. Return to Harbour and remain at immediate notice. (F.O.I.C. Greenock 2329A/15 to CAROLINE MOLLER).

NORDALE.

Following received begins:- Fishing trawler NORDALE ashore near Mull of Kintyre. Coastguard reports little hope of salvage unless weather moderates quickly. 8 of crew including Master saved by breeches buoy, 5 drowned. 1806A/15. Ends. (F.O.I.C. Greenock 1959A/15).

VERITY.

VERITY's A/S Oscillator raft and Dome damaged and/or missing. (VERITY 2000A/15).

PRINCESS
J. CHARLOTTE.

It is proposed to hold steam trials on PRINCESS JOSEPHINE CHARLOTTE on 17th and 18th January subject to repairs being completed. (S.O. A.S.C. 2104/15).

WIGRY.

S.O.S. de VSOQ. Ashore 64° 05' N. 22° W. Immediate assistance required. (Liverpool W/T 2117/15).

S.O.S. aground 64° 05' N. 22° W. Need immediate assistance, pounding heavily, probably near Reykjavik. Ends. (Valentia Radio 2149/15).

/R.J. CULLEN.....

War Diary.15.1.1942.
Thursday.HOME COMMANDS.Casualties and Defects-Contd.

R.J. CULLEN. Vessel struck rock, engine room filling rapidly. (Liverpool W/T 2155/15).
S.O.S. Position on southern corner of Barra Island. Vessel struck rock, engineroom filling rapidly. (R.J. CULLEN 2255/15 to Admty.)
Following received from Malin Head Radio. Intercepted at 2157 G.M.T. de R.J. CULLEN position 58° 56' N. 7° 56' W. approx. Vessel struck rock. Engine room filling rapidly 2155/15 signed Malin Head Radio 2200/15 ends. (F.O.I.C. Belfast 2314/15).

ISLE OF ALDERNEY. Keep a look-out for ISLE OF ALDERNEY overdue on passage Ardrossan to Lamlash. (N.O.I.C. Greenock 2203A/15 to BOADICEA, ANGLE).

Shipping and Convoys.

- R.U.6. Sailing of R.U.6 postponed 24 hours owing to weather. (N.C.S.O. Reykjavik 1339A/15).
- O.G. 78. Owing to dispersal of convoy and Probable injuries suggest advisable convoy be recalled to harbour to reform. SPERO lost boats and rafts. SAPPHIRE and single 4 in company. (Commodore O.G. 78 1430A/15).
- S.L. 96. S.L. 96 has been hove to again and ships further scattered. In view of difficulty of ships and escort rejoining and the possibility of further gale, submit that ships be ordered to proceed independently. P.C.S. 053° 45' N. 014° 35' W., 040°, 10. No ships in company. (ROCHESTER 1430A/15).
Lost touch with S.L. 96 (1) during the night in strong gale. My P.C.S. 053° 34' N. 014° 24' W., 110°, Seven. Intend searching for convoy when heavy S.S.E. swell moderates. (SANDWICH 1500A/15).
My 1500A/15. No ship located. My P.C.S. 053° 50' N. 014° 41' W., 057° 12. (SANDWICH 2100A/15).
- S.L. 97G. Long range enemy A/C are operating in your vicinity. Attack may be expected. (D.D.I.C. 1505A/15 to Escort S.L. 97 G.)
- P.Q.9. Admiralty 1736A/14. Assistance of your destroyers will not be required, unless unforeseen circumstances arise. (C. in C. H.F. 1748A/15 to R.A.M.)

/Murmansk....

War Diary.

15.1.1942.
Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping and Convoys-Contd.

Murmansk.
Discharging
Facilities.

Following for Maclay repeated Cormack.
Your 2520/5/1 on Murmansk.

1. Mr Maisky states that Murmansk can discharge 14 ships simultaneously. In view of confusion caused by previous Russian overstatements we would appreciate any further facts you can give us.

2. Do you know if any improvements are being constructed or planned, if so can you forecast any improvement?

3. Even if discharge expedited presumably bottle neck remains on railway which you estimate can only clear 2000 tons daily. Is this governed by track condition or rolling stock capacity. (Min. of War Transport 1920A/15 to S.B.N.O. Archangel).

O.N.S. 57.

O.N.S. 57 scattered and hove to, Eastward of Barra. (CAMELIA 2129A/15).

War Diary.15.1.1942.
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic.S.L.97
S.L.97G

WISHART, VIDETTE intend remaining with convoy until P.M./16 then refuel Ponta Delgada. LAFOREY remains prudent limit of endurance. (Capt. D.19, 0423/15 to F.O.C.N.A.)

U/B sunk.

U. 93 sunk by HESPERUS. (HESPERUS 0500A/15 to F.O.C.N.A.) See U-Boat Campaign.

Your 0423/15 WISHART and VIDETTE are to leave convoy and return to Gibraltar direct if fuel permits. (ii) LAFOREY and HESPERUS are to remain with convoy until R/V is made Admty 0015A/15 refers. (iii) Undesirable to fuel at (?Azores) unless absolutely necessary.

(F.O.C.N.A. 0956/15 to Capt. D.19)

At 0914 G.M.T./15 U-Boats made sighting report approx. bearing 278° Gibraltar.

(F.O.C.N.A. 1023A/15 to Escorts of S.L.97, S.L.97(G), (R) Admty) Cancel my 0956A/15. WISHART and VIDETTE are to remain with convoy until prudent limit of endurance, oiling from BRITISH HUSSAR if practicable, EGRET 0630Z/15 refers, otherwise Ponta Delgada.

2. LAFOREY return to Gibraltar at prudent limit of endurance without fuelling at Azores.

(F.O.C.N.A. 1122A/15 to Capt. D. 19, Admty, C. in C. W.A. Escorts of S.L.97 and S.L.97G.)

German U-Boat sighting report on approx. bearing 283 Gibraltar at 1158 G.M.T. today.

(F.O.C.N.A. 1313A/15 to Escorts S.L.97, S.L.97G.)

Enemy transmission at 1159/15 G.M.T. indicates that U-Boat remains in contact with convoy S.L. 97G.

(D.D.I.C. 1349A/15 to Escorts of S.L. 97G, LAFOREY)

EGRET's 0630Z/15. Approved for S.L.97 to keep clear to westward of S.L.97G which is to follow prescribed route.

2. EGRET and 3 escorts are to transfer to S.L. 97G a.m./16.

3. CAMPBELTOWN and WOODRUFF on rejoining should join S.L.97.

(A.C.N.S.(T) 1351A/15 to EGRET, WISHART, CAMPBELTOWN, WOODRUFF)

Long range enemy aircraft are operating in your vicinity.

Attack may be expected.

(D.D.I.C. 1505A/15 to S.O. Escort to S.L.97G.)

1 Catalina search for Tanker SLEMDAL diverted to S.L.97G, recalled owing to weather forecast, 0805-1705.

(R.A.F. Gib., 1830/15 to Air Ministry)

233 Sqn.

Return of 233 Squadron to Thorney Island postponed until further orders are issued. (H.Q.C.C. 1135/15 to R.A.F. Gibraltar)

BARCLOSE,
BARFOAM,
BARFORD.

My 1104A/13 Intend sailing 1800A/15. Route as in my 1302A/12. (F.O.C.N.A. 1204A/15 to C. in C. S.A.)

/SEVERN ...

War Diary.15.1.1942.
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic. - contd.

- SEVERN. Is required to arrive at Portsmouth about end of Jan. for change of battery before proceeding to U.S.A. If she can be spared request you will sail her as soon as convenient to give leave. (F.O.S. 1221A/15 to F.O.C.N.A.)
- FORTUNE,
STELLA
CARINA. Your 1021A/15 (STELLA CARINA to expect FORTUNE to join as additional escort. (Not circulated).) and your (? 1001)A/15 (N.T. in W.R.) (2 corrupt groups) and fuel does not permit escorting ship ~~SAN ADOLFO~~. My E.T.A. Gibraltar 1225A/17. My position $031^{\circ} 36' 016^{\circ} 03'$. Weather report:- (FORTUNE, 1312A/15 to F.O.C.N.A.)
- TALISMAN. Proceed on surface with discretion on 18th adjusting speed to pass Europa Point 1300A/18. Do not pass 005° W. before 0830 A/18. Report if unable to comply within 2 hours. (F.O.C.N.A. 1338A/15 to TALISMAN)
- Situation. Situation 2001A/15.
(1) MARON Patrolling CZ1.
(2) CAVINA patrolling A 72. (3) QUANNET
19.50, 19.20, $020^{\circ} 4\frac{1}{2}$.
(F.O.C.N.A. 1426A/15 to N.A. Stn.)
- TURBULENT. My 1208/14th sailed (? TURBULENT.)
(F.O.C.N.A. 1604A/15 to C. in C. Med.)
See p. 331
- MIRROR
Operation B. My 1300/13. (N.T. in W.D.) MIRROR reported 0800/15 operation B completed. Weather prevented A.
(F.O.C.N.A. 1612A/15 to Admty.)
- Gibraltar,
supply during
siege. Your 1500A/11/12 and Govr. Gibraltar's 11196 cypher 30/12 to W.O. Difficulties referred to in your paras. 4 and 5 are fully appreciated, nevertheless if there is even a chance it is worth being prepared for it.
2. Remarks in para. 1 of Govr. Gibraltar's cypher on question of craft being too heavy for hauling inshore are not understood as intention was not to keep M.L.C.s on East side but to send them round from harbour when required for unloading.

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Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic.

Gibraltar, 3. Carrying capacity of A.L.C. and R-Boats is supply during considered inadequate for rapid unloading of siege. contd. storeship during siege conditions, but if trial with R-Boat is desired one of those now in ROYAL SCOTSMAN or ROYAL ULSTERMAN may be used.

This boat, however, must be returned to ship in the event of her leaving Gibraltar.

4. Request report on the state of the 2 M.L.C.'s and requirements from U.K. to make both craft fit for service.

5. Requested you report to Admiralty after carrying out such trials as you consider valuable after consultation with Govr. Gibraltar.

(A.C.N.S.(F) 1705A/15 to F.O.C.N.A. (R) Force H.)

Assault Craft, Chiefs of Staff have approved following Gibraltar. allocation of assault craft to be stationed at Gibraltar:- 4 T.L.C. 3 A.L.C. 1 S.L.C.

2. Dates of shipment cannot at present be given.

3. Request you will inform Govr. Gibraltar.

A.C.N.S.(F) 1824A/15 to F.O.C.N.A.)

→ EXMOOR Have attacked good contact in position 200°
U/B attacked. Cape Trafalgar 3 miles. No results.
(EXMOOR, 1851/15 to F.O.C.N.A.)

S.B.R. Serial No.G12. Institute S.B.R. in Area 52 S. of 48° 30' and E. of 7° from 2100/16 until 0800/17 and 35 miles either side of line joining Wolf Rock and 48° 30', 6° from 0500/16 and 0200/17. (H.Q.C.C. 1914/15, to R.A.F. Gib.) W.D. Note. Times were amended by 1649/16, q.v.)

WESTCOTT. Not met. My P C and S 034° 07' N. 010° 24' W. 061° 10 knots. Special uncoded weather report. (WESTCOTT, 2000A/15, to F.O.C.N.A.)

→ Suspicious Investigate reported Signalling from Seaward
Signalling. to Tangier.
(F.O.C.N.A. 2357A/15 to EXMOOR)

Las Palmas. H.M.Ship may call Las Palmas about 29/1/42 for about 500 tons coal bunkers. Request this may be made available. If necessary to borrow replacement can be arranged ex collier ZOUAVE due same time.
(A.C.N.S.(F) 2358A/15 to V.C. Las Palmas)

War Diary.15.1.1942.
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic.

Routeing of U.S. Shipping. Full concurrence with N.C.S.O. Buenos Aires's 2015/8, but suggest that U.S. be invited to provide representative in N.C.S. Office and any necessary additional staff that may be required. Close liaison would be required were separate organizations established, and I am sure present arrangement is more satisfactory and economical in time and staff. (F.O.C. S.A.Sq., 0238Z/15 to Admty.)

VIOLET to investigate DUCHESSA D'AOSTA. Cancel instructions in my S.L.14 and return to Lagos but first investigate report of strange merchant ships sighted south of Calabar. (R.N.O. Lagos 0845Z/15 to VIOLET (R) C. in C.S.A.) VIOLET, Corvette, ran aground in vicinity of Lagos p.m./14. (D.O.R., 16/1)

VIOLET runs ashore. Ref. VIOLET's 1813/14 and 0614Z/15 (N.T. in W.D.) Arrangements for getting her off. (N.O.I.C. Lagos 1341Z/15 to C. in C. S.A.)

SEMLA. My 0835/4 and C. in C. E.I. 1126/7. Request early confirmation that SEMLA is to be allocated to East London for conversion. (2) Only available ship to escort SEMLA to Ceylon would be BUSEN 6, due Capetown 19/1 and allocated to Ceylon by Admty. 2220/10/11. It would be necessary for SEMLA to be Docked before sailing and essential defects in SEMLA would entail delay to both ships. (N.O.I.C. Simonstown, 0916Z/15 to Admty.)

3rd B.S. Ref. A.M. 2052A/13. Oiler will be required a.m./22 in the vicinity Cape Verde Is. (F.O. 3.B.S. 1230N/15 to C. in C. S.A.)

Shipping, Freetown. Your 1735Z/13 para. (1). Concur. My 0001/1/5/1941 will be amended accordingly. (D.T.D. 1315A/15 to C. in C. S.A.)

Swordfish at Wynberg. Present state of Swordfish aircraft at Wynberg is as follows:- serviceable 12. In process of assembly 6 five of which will be serviceable by 1/2. Being repaired one which should be serviceable by 24/1 En route from Freetown due about 27/1 4. In view of increased numbers serviceable submit decision in your 1527/10/11/41 be reconsidered. (F.O.I.C. Simonstown 1417Z/15 to C. in C. S.A.)

HURWORTH. Sailing HURWORTH S. of A. 13 knots E.T.A. Kilindini 1600B/21 routed as in C. in C. E.I. 1110Z/18/4/1941. (N.O.I.C. Durban, 1420Z/15 to C. in C. S.A.etc.)

MOST SECRET

MOST SECRET MESSAGE 1533Z/15 January 42

From P.S.T.O. Simonstown.

Date 19.1.42.
Recd. 0045.

Naval Cypher (X) by W/T

Addressed D. of S.T. Repeated P.S.T.O. Egypt.
P.S.T.O. India, S.S.T.O. Durban.

Your 0307/10.

From experience here it is doubtful if accommodation of smaller transports could be increased while engaged on long voyages in tropical waters without discomfort causing discontent among troops. The larger ships could have accommodation increased by fitting of semi permanent tiered berths in American pattern but improvisations that could be effected at ports abroad during brief turn round periods while transshipments are taking place would bring little improvement. While American transport carry one soldier per five gross tons some of the British large liners are very uneconomical troop carriers. Recommend therefore that the accommodation of the large fast transports be permanently increased as suggested when they return to United Kingdom although no transports requiring improvisation are available here at present investigations are being made as to possibilities of obtaining locally supplies of tubular steel and springs for tiered berths.

1533Z/15.

1st Lord.
1st S.L.
2nd S.L.
4th S.L.
V.C.N.S.
A.C.N.S. (F)
A.C.N.S. (T)
N.A. 1st S.L.
D.O.D. (F)
D.D.O.D. (F)
D.C. (2)
E.P.S.
D. of P. (2)
Hd. of M.
D. of S.T. for action .
W.D.
I.P. (2)
N.I.D. 10.
(Pay. Cdr. Wilson)

War Diary.15.1.1942.
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic - contd.

- W.S.14A. Convoy W.S.14A Durban portion consisting of THYSVILLE sailed 14/1 for Aden. E.T.A. 1000Z/26. (S.S.T.O. Durban, 1600Z/15, to S.T.O. Aden.)
- C.M.25B. Convoy C.M.25B sailed 14/1 for Bombay via Aden. REINA DEL PACIFICO, ATHLONE CASTLE, STRATHALLAN, DURBAN CASTLE. (2) Vice Adm. Turner and Sec. on board ATHLONE CASTLE. (3) E.T.A. Aden 0700Z/22. (S.S.T.O. Durban 1608Z/15 to S.S.T.O. Bombay.)
- D.M.2. Convoy D.M.2 Durban portion sailed 14/1 for Port T, DUNERA, CITY OF CANTERBURY. E.T.A. Port T. 1100Z/27. (S.S.T.O. Durban 1612Z/15 to S.S.T.O. Singapore)
- B.N.L.O.
W. Africa. Your 2001N/7/10/1941. B.N.L.O. West Africa's appointment has been amended as requested to date 12/1/42. (2nd S.L. 1717A/15 to C. in C. S.A.)
- W.S.14B. Convoy W.S.14B. Durban portion sailed 14/1 for Bombay, ESPERANCE BAY, DILWARA and NOVA SCOTIA. ANDES sailed 15/1 to join convoy. E.T.A. 0100Z/29. (S.S.T.O. Durban 1730Z/15 to P.S.T.O. Bombay.)
- DEVONSHIRE A.M. 2207A/14. DEVONSHIRE sailed 1730/15 S. of A. (?18) knots to pass 13.00 N. 25.20 W. thence by Great Circle track towards Bermuda. (C. in C. S.A. 1825Z/15 to Admty. (R) B.A.R.M. C. in C. A.W.I. DEVONSHIRE.)
- WINDHUK
(German) Repeating N.A. Rio's 1451Z/14. (D.N.I. 2003A/15 to S.O.I. Montevideo)
- WINDHUK
MONTEVIDEO
(German) WINDHUK at Santos has been taken over by Brazilian Govt. and hoisted Brazilian flag today 15th. German crew has been landed. MONTEVIDEO at Rio Grande is being also taken over this afternoon. (S.O.I. Montevideo, 2028Z/15, to Admty.)
- S.L.98. Departures 15/1 WILD SWAN, NIGELLA, FRITILLARY, ORCHIS, AURICULA with S.L.98. (S.O.I. Freetown 2147Z/15 to Admty, F.O.C.N.A. C. in C. W.A. S.O.W.P.)
- S.O.S. Your 2236Z/15 (N.T.in W.R.). S.O.S. signal was received from Freetown. No name of ship. A.M.C. position at 2400Z/15 005° 16' N. 022° 07' W. Intend to hold off and investigate at daylight. (CANTON 2400Z/15 to C. in C. S.A.)

War Diary.15.1.1942.
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean.

Troop Transport. Ref. your 1725/8 and my 2349/7. Rely on you to ensure that every vessel used is loaded to utmost capacity including deck shipments, that as many vehicles as possible are carried on personnel ships allocated to this movement, and that ships are not kept waiting to load so long as later ships able to keep sailing dates are known to be available. This essential as movement constitutes a most serious reduction on an already dangerously low U.K. Import loading programme. (D.S.T., 0231A/15 to P.S.T.O.Egypt).

Operation M.F.3. Carry out operation M.F.3. D.1 day is 16/1. (C. in C. Med., 1035B/15 to All concerned Operation M.F.3.)
Open envelope M.F.3 A. Para. 6 line 5 for "retain" read "resume." (C.S.15., 1313/15 to All concerned in Operation M.F.3.)

S/M's. Object of present disposition is to prevent enemy warships moving southward between 16/1 and 19/1. Probable route from Taranto is 160° from 040° 17' 017° 05'. Probable enemy disposition 14/1:- Taranto, 4 battleships, 4 6-inch cruisers. Messina, 2 8-inch cruisers. (Capt. S.10, 1104B/15, to S/M's on Patrol).
My 1104B/15 applying to Taranto and Messina patrol only. North-bound targets of less than 5,000 tons do not warrant torpedo expenditure until 19/1. North or southbound destroyers not to be attacked. Normal salvos at cruisers and above, full salvos to be fired at U-boats by day. Condition A is to be brought into force at 0001B/16 for reporting southbound heavy enemy warships. (Capt. S.10, 2156B/15, to S/M's on Patrol).

Air Report. Benghazi and Tobruk bombed (14/1) in early morning. 1 mine burst on Juliana Mole, Benghazi. No other damage or casualties. 2. Egypt Day 14/1. 3 enemy aircraft approached Delta at Mid-day 1 of which dropped 3 bombs at Baltim without damage or casualties. Hurricanes patrolled over Alexandria. (H.Q., R.A.F., M.E., 1204/15).

Flag of C.S.7. My 0935B/14th. Office of R.A. 7th C.S. will also close temporarily and Squadron records etc. will be transferred to R.A. 15th C.S. to whom all mail correspondence and signals for R.A. 7th C.S. should be sent until further orders for action or redirection as necessary. (C. in C. Med., 1212B/15).

MARECHAL LYAUTEY. (French). Arrived 15th. (Barcelona, 1214/15).

INDOMITABLE. Intend sailing INDOMITABLE from Port Sudan p.m./15th. (C. in C. Med., 1235B/15 to Admty.)
Departure 1300Z/15 INDOMITABLE, NAPIER, NESTOR, NIZAM. (N.O.I.C. Port Sudan, 1603Z/15 to Admty.)
(R) C. in C. Med., C. in C. E.I., F.O.C.R.S.)

/U/B. ...

War Diary.15.1.1942.
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean. - contd.

- U/B. S/M sighted in 031° 57' N. 025° 41' E. at 0505/15.
(Malta W/T 1430B/15 to Med. Fleet, Force I.)
- German Ships. Arrival 15th SULLBERG. Departure 14th LORENZ L.M. RUSS, Marseilles. Oranges and 300 barrels Capers. (Valencia, 1545/15).
- Malta Air Report. 14/1. 1429 hours. 12 fighters and bombers, bombs land, slight damage houses, one civilian injured. Night 14/15. 6 alerts 1730 to 0449 hours, 25 raiders, 6 crossed coast, flares and bombs land sea, slight damage houses, 2 civilians injured, Takali and Halfar still unserviceable. 15th. 6 alerts 0631, 0737, 1100, 1239, 1340 hours, 10 raiders including Ju.88, 5 crossed coast, cloud cover, Gozo Lighthouse machine-gunned, bombs land sea, Hurricanes up, no interceptions. Night 14/15. Bad weather, 1 Wellington nuisance raid over Tripoli 2110 to 2230 hours, hits town and harbour. (H.Q., Malta, 1615/15).
- Enemy Units. My 1625B/14. At 1700B/15 R/C showed P.C. and S. of 3 M/V's escorted by 4 destroyers or auxiliary vessels 037° 33' 023° 51' 170° 9 knots. (Capt. S.1, 1801B/15 to PORPOISE).
- Australian Troop Transport. Personal to C.I.G.S. and Gen. Wavell from Gen. Auchinleck. Have personally examined dates of sailing of first flight Australians from Egypt, and am satisfied 5/2 is earliest. Delay caused by re-equipping and by formation of new base units so as to ensure arrival of force in properly organized state, on which Blamey rightly places great stress. (C. in C. M.E., 1825/15, to W.O., (R) Abdacom.)
- GLAUCOS, Greek S/M's. Your 1114B/8 and V.A. Malta 1105B/8. After discussion with Adm. Sakellariou consider (as in F.O.S. 1319A/14).
2. Request your remarks. (D.O.D. F., 2034A/15 to C. in C. Med., amended 1002A/16).
- Enemy Fleet. Following has been read. P.C. and S. of enemy battlefleet are 100 DJQ 020, 000, 10. (A/C using call sign B6KT. 2107/15).
- Situation report 184. KIMBERLEY has arrived Alexandria. Damage beyond station resources but ship seaworthy in tow.
2. Western Desert. My 1958/12, para. 3. Weather prevented bombardment 12th but APHIS carried out very successful bombardment 13th enfilading wadis and is doing good work.
3. Convoys continue normally. DERWENTDALE bombed without damage /by ...

War Diary.

15.1.1942.
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

Situation
Report 184.
(contd.)

by four Ju.88 1545/14. ARROW attacked by U-Boat 1540/13 in 31.40 N., 27.46 E., torpedo missed. Subsequent hunt by HERO and ARROW unsuccessful. 4. My 1947/9. Ship attacked by PROTEUS at 0900/30 thought to have been CITTA DA MARSALA which was beached. (C. in C. Med., 2351B/15 to Admty.)

War Diary.15.1.1942
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies."Q" Report
JALAVEERA

Following received 0102 G.M.T./15 QQQQ, 017° 48' N. 086° 50' E. JALAVEERA suspicious vessel following. Cancellation in plain language received. Code asked for.
(C. in C. E.I. 0200Z/15 to E.I Sqdn., (R) Admty.)
My 0200/15. Q distress message from JALAVEERA cancelled. Cancellation genuine.
(C. in C. E.I., 0934Z/15 to E.I Sqdn.(R) Admty.)

Need for
Colliers.

There is an increasing need for colliers to serve H.M. Ships and Auxiliaries of E.I. Squadron and Eastern Fleet, particularly at Trincomalee and Port T. Request information whether colliers referred to at (4) (A) of A.M. 2114/11/9/41 may be expected to arrive soon. I hear that collier MARIT MAERSK subject my 0738/7/12 and D. of S.T's 2150/12/12 has not yet been chartered by M. W.T. Representative in India. If there is no immediate prospect of arrival of collier from elsewhere suggest she might be reallocated as fleet collier to meet immediate need.
(C. in C. E.I. 0426Z/15 to Admty.)

R.D.F.
for Ceylon.

At the outbreak of the Japanese War I raised the question of R.D.F. for Ceylon with the Admiralty and they have informed me that I am to apply through you. 2. The present position is as follows. 4. The Naval requirements for Ceylon are as follows. (A) To provide as soon as possible early warning at Colombo and Trincomalee of the approach of hostile aircraft. (B) To provide as soon as possible at Colombo and Trincomalee the means of directing our Fighters on to the Enemy Aircraft. 5. I cannot too strongly urge the need for early action to provide efficient R.D.F. coverage in Ceylon.
(C. in C. E.I. 0602Z/15 to Armindia.)

PEIK

Your 0426/14 PEIK was delayed Colombo with engine trouble which may have recurrence. She left Colombo 26/12.
(C. in C. E.I. 0622Z/15 to A.C.N.B.)

GLENARTNEY

Your 2330/13 to C. in C. E.F. Ship's draught, it will be necessary to discharge about 4,000 tons cargo before guns can be landed, estimate 7 days required before ship can be ready to proceed to sea.

(Cdre. R.I.N., 1249Z/15 to C. in C. E.I.)

Your 1249/15. Gun is not to be landed. GLENARTNEY is to be sailed for Batavia forthwith at best speed diversively routed. She will receive onward routeing instructions at Batavia. She is to be warned in accordance with para.2 of my 0758/15.
(C. in C. E.I. 1548Z/15 to Cdre. R.I.N.)

War Diary.15.1.1942
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies - contd.Stores and
M.T. for
Singapore.

My 1237/13. In view of your 1454/12 intend sailing following ships independently. ANGLO INDIAN, DEUCALION, 17/1. CLAN ALPINE, BARON CAWDOR, HALIZONES, 18/1, all for Singapore via Batavia.
S.S.T.O. India, 1309Z/15 to C. in C. E.I.)

HERMES.

Decided that HERMES is to be attached to Australian Sqdn. on completion of her refit for operation in Anzac area.

2. C. in C. E.I. is requested to sail her for Fremantle as soon as ready, embarking 814 Sqdn. at Trincomalee. 3. If any reserve aircraft can be carried, they should also be embarked.
(A.C.N.S.(F) 2033A/15 to C. in C. E.I., A.C.N.B.)

Nancowry
Defences.

Ref. Troopers 57858 (A.A.4) of 14/12 stating that defences at Nancowry are not to be proceeded with. Also Troopers 63754 (M.O.12) of 12/1 stating scale of defence still under consideration.

1. Present situation Nancowry as known to us. Navy. Personnel nil. One short wave W/T set. Army. Personnel nil. R.A.F. Personnel nil, 80,000 gallons aviation fuel in storehouse put in order Far East Command. 2. From above it appears that Japanese can occupy Nancowry at any time without our knowledge.
(C. in C. India 2303/15 to W.O. Abdacom, G.O.C. Burma.)

China.Command,
S.W.
Pacific.

Following from Gen. Wavell.

1. Although I am not yet in a position to establish office or exercise sector operational control it is obvious that the sooner I am officially responsible for taking general decisions affecting whole area the better. It is desire of Hart, Brett and Dutch that I should do so at once. I therefore propose to take over command as from midday G.M.T./15th, excluding for the present Philippines since I am not sufficiently informed of position and should like indication general intention of allied strategy for islands in immediate future. 2. General appreciation follows.
(Abdacom, Batavia, 0200/15 to W.O.)

/Flag ...

371

War Diary.15.1.1942
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.China - contd.

Flag of C. in C.E.F. Flag of C. in C. Eastern Fleet will be transferred from DRAGON to EMERALD at 0830Z/16. C. in C. E.F. will sail same day Colombo where Flag will be transferred ashore. Broad pendant of Commodore J.A. Collins C.B. R.A.N. will be hoisted in ANKING at Batavia at 0800 G H Friday 16/1 as Commodore Commanding British Far Eastern Squadron (Short title F.O.J.) (C. in C. E.I. 0307Z/15 to Eastern Theatre 51 X (R) Admty.)

Burma. Situation report. 1. Tavoy bombed by 4 enemy aircraft, no damage. 0515 Mingaladon aerodrome bombed, no damage or casualties, also 2 villages between 20 and 30 miles north of Rangoon (G.O.C. Burma 0355/15 to W.O. and all concerned.)

Admiral Hart. Admiral Hart has assumed control of Allied Naval Forces in Abda area. Address Abdafloat Batavia. (Abdafloat 0430Z/15.)

Singapore Base. My 0435 (N.T.in W.D.) ^{Repeated in G.C.E.F. 1401Z/11/2. r.v.} para 3 of Adm. Hart's message. You are to keep me informed of progress of important operation(s) effecting the future use of Singapore as base for the (?reinforced) Fleet and consult me direct as necessary regarding provision and maintenance of base facilities. 2. You are to communicate direct with Admty. in regard to general administration and maintenance of H.M. Naval establishments in Malaya and at Rangoon, in the latter case informing Govt. of Burma as necessary. (C. in C. E.F. 0436Z/15 to R.A. Malaya.)

Instructions to F.O.J. My 0437/15 (N.T.in W.D.) Para 4 of Admiral Hart's message. You are to keep me informed of progress of important naval operations in your area and of general plan regarding movements of convoys. 2. You are to keep me informed and consult me on all matters affecting the future operation of the Eastern Fleet and the provisional bases for its maintenance. (C. in C. E.F. 0438Z/15 to Commodore Commanding Far Eastern Squadron.)

Eastern Fleet and Far Eastern Sqdn. As from 0001Z/16 the term Eastern Fleet will comprise all British Battleships, aircraft carriers, cruisers, minelayers, destroyers and submarines within the limit of British East Indies and China Station. 2. The Far Eastern Squadron will comprise all British warships allocated and operating in the Abda Areas except those engaged in the local defence of Singapore and that port. This force will operate as detached squadron of the Eastern Fleet under direction of the Commander (5 groups missing) forces in the area.

/Cruisers ...

War Diary.15.1.1942.
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.China.

Eastern Fleet and Far Eastern Sqdn. contd. Cruisers on the East Indies Station will continue to be operated and administered by the C. in C. E.I. subject to the general strategical control of the C. in C. Eastern Fleet. 4. For the time being the Far Eastern Squadron will comprise the following units: which will be operated by Commodore Commanding British Far Eastern Squadron DRAGON, DURBAN, DANAE, JUMNA, YARRA, JUPITER, ENCOUNTER, EXPRESS, ELECTRA, ~~VAMPIER~~ (~~Corrupt group~~). Any other ships coming within A B D A area will automatically form part of Far Eastern Squadron for the time being for operational purposes. The following vessels will operate under N.O.I.C. Malaya for the local defence of Singapore and as escort for Convoys when called upon under the direction of the Cdr. of the Combined Allied Naval Forces in the A B D A area, ABDIEL, THANET, TENEDOS, SCOUT, TRUSTY, TRUANT and all Auxiliary patrol and minesweeping vessels based Singapore.
(C. in C. Eastern Fleet 0440Z/15 to Eastern Theatre 52 X.)

Directive to F.O.J. Following from Adm. Hart, Commander Naval (?forces) in A B D A area (short title Abdafloat) (begins): You are to command (?and) operate all British naval forces which may be stationed (?here) for (?offensive) in A B D A area (except those employed in the (2 corrupt groups) Malayan and Australian ports) subject my direction.

[See corrected copy, page 372 A]

2. You are specially (?charged with) the provision of escort and routeing of convoys carrying British personnel and supplies to ports in Malaya (?and) the (?Netherlands East Indies).
3. You are to co-operate with R.A. Malaya in matters affecting the local naval defence of Malaya and direction of convoys and shipping to and from Singapore.
4. You are to communicate as necessary for the execution of these duties with Admiralty and with other authorities as directed by C. in C. Eastern Fleet.
(C. in C. E.F. 0504Z/15 to Cdre. Comdg. Far Eastern Sqdn.)

Malaya Air Report. 0800 hours 14/1 to 0800 hours 15/1.

1. Glen Martin R/C reported 2 small, grey vessels presumed enemy proceeding N. at 0900 hours 4° 20'N, 103° 30' E., No shipping Kuantan Estuary. Kuantan Aerodrome appeared serviceable. No aircraft on aerodrome. 5. Singapore raided 1050 hours by 12 plus aircraft. Main raid proceeded to Johore, then faded out 1143 hours disappearing to N.W. Full strength not indicated.
6. Unknown number of enemy aircraft bombed and machine gunned Segamat during the day. Some damage to buildings, service casualties. Extensive enemy R/C over A.I.F. H.G: Labis, during the day.
8. Reported that some bombs dropped on 12/1/42 contained small Marble sized bags. On exploding these caused skin blisters and burns,
9. Japanese order of battle. Information from Airboard Melbourne, suggests that 2 Squadrons of flying boats are based at Palau. No other changes.
(Air H.Q., F.E., 0800/15.)

/MOUNT VERNON ...

MOST SECRET

372^A

MESSAGE

MOST SECRET

0504Z/15th January

IN

From C.in C. Eastern Fleet.

Date 16.1.42.
Recd. 0152

Naval Cypher 'D' by W/T.

CORRECTION

Addressed - Commodore Commanding Far Eastern Squadron,
Repeated Admiralty, B.A.D. Washington, C.Z.M.,
ABDACOM, C.in C. East Indies, F.C.C.R.I.N.,
Navy Board Wellington, Naval Board Melbourne.

IMPORTANT.

Following from Admiral Hart, Commander
Naval Forces in ABDA Area (short title ABDALFLOMT) begins:
You are to command and operate all British Naval Forces
which may be station from time to time in ABDA Area
(except those employed in the local defence of Malayan
and Australian ports) subject my direction.

2. You are specially charged with the provision
of escort and routing of convoys carrying British
personnel and supplies to ports in Malaya and the
Netherlands E. Indies.

3. You are to co-operate with R.A. Malaya in
matters affecting the local naval defence of Malaya and
direction of convoys and shipping to and from Singapore.

4. You are to communicate as necessary for the
execution of these duties with Admiralty and with other
authorities as directed by C.in C. Eastern Fleet.

0504Z/15

Advance copies Duty Capt., D.O.D.(F)., D.D.I.C.

1st Lord.
1st S.L.
4th S.L.
5th S.L.
V.C.N.S.
A.C.N.S.(H).
A.C.N.S.(F).
A.C.N.S.(T).
A.C.N.S.(W).
Nav. Sec.
N.A. 1st S.L.
D.N.A.D.
Hd. of M.(35)
D.O.D.(H).
D.D.O.D.(H).
D.O.D.(F).
D.D.O.D.(F).
D.C.(2).

D.N.I.(7) and for A.E. and D.N.L.O.
D.D.I.C.(2).
D.of P.(2).
D.A/S.W.
I.P.(2).
W.D.
D.P.D.
D.S.D.
Admiral Bailey.
Admiral Bellairs.
Admiral Somerville.
E.P.S.

ML.

War Diary.

15.1.1942.
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

China - contd.

→ MOUNT
VERNON. Sailed Singapore 15/1 for Durban via Banka Strait and Sunda Strait thence Great circle track. Destroyer escort is being provided till South of Sunda Strait. B.N.L.O. Batavia pass to C. in C. U.S. Asiatic Fleet and C.Z.M. (N.O.I.C. Singapore 0905Z/15 to Admty., B.A.D., C. in C. Far Eastern Fleet, C. in C. E.I., C. in C. S.A., B.N.L.O. Batavia.

Movements. Singapore departures 14th THANET, EXPRESS 15th JUMNA, JUPITER, U.S. Naval Transport MOUNT VERNON, arrival Netherlands S/M O.19. (S.O.I. Singapore 0907Z/15 to Admty.)

INDOMITABLE. E.T.A. Port T 1000Z/21. (INDOMITABLE 0937Z/15 to C. in C. E.F.)

Timor. For Chiefs of Staff from Gen. Wavell. Your 63887 13/1. Have discussed Timor question with Governor N.E.I. in light of your tel. and also with Hart and Brett.

2. We are all deeply concerned at prospect of withdrawal of allied troops since we feel no confidence that any Portuguese troops would resist Japanese aggression and are sure that Japanese intrigue and pressure will be resumed in Timor (at present Japanese consul is under restraint) the moment allied troops are withdrawn. Japanese force established in Timor would be very serious threat to communications between Australia and N.E.I. Fighter aircraft cannot be flown from Australia without landing at Timor.

3. Since other considerations have necessitated negotiations with Portugal on lines indicated in your tel: we must do our best to avert or mitigate consequences we apprehend. Meantime, staff negotiations should be held in N.E.I. Portuguese Govt. should be pressed to exclude Japanese consul and refuse appointment of any other.

4. Is whole Portuguese force of 800 coming from Portuguese East Africa and has any date been settled? (Abdacom, Batavia, 1057/15 to W.O. for C.O.S., Britman, Washington, for C.O.S.)

Malaya Report. Singapore Raid (?time) Heavy air activity Singapore Island. One raid on Naval Base bombs Mata Area plus 6 Mata Batteries area. D Block demolished, Old Grande Tuah Road partially wrecked, several houses damaged. No damage to Dockyard. R.N. and civilian casualties. Bombers are being escorted by Navy O Type Fighters from Kuantan. Night 14/15. Our aircraft sent to Alorstar, Sungeo Patani, but due to bad weather only 3 bombs dropped. (?Port Swettenham) oil installations also bombed and set on fire 15th. Air R/C showed no ships Kuantan. D/F indicates additional units Moro Gulf, no other changes. Dutch tanker GADILA mined off Peak Island, now Singapore, damage being investigated. Own West Coast Naval Patrol operating from Batupahat. (R.A. Malaya, 1445Z/15 to C. in C. E.F., B.N.L.O. Batavia, C. in C. E.I.)

/Appreciation ...

War Diary.15.1.1942.
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.China - contd.

Appreciation To W.O. for Chiefs of Staff, Britman Washington
S.W. Pacific. for Chiefs of Staff, from Gen. Wavell.

Following is my general appreciation of
situation in S.W. Pacific area.

1. Philippines. With present resources see no possibility of affording Gen. MacArthur support he appears to expect. Japanese occupation of Tarakan and Menado make operations of Air Forces from Netherland East Indies into Philippines extremely difficult even if we had sufficient air resources available. Hart is sending submarines to Manila loaded to capacity with ammunition.
2. Burma. Position seems reasonably satisfactory at present.
3. Malaya. Provided that convoys arrive safely and up to time and that we can prevent fresh Japanese landing on East Coast, hope to hold Johore and Singapore and later stage counter offensive.
4. Sumatra and Java. No immediate threat but reinforcements of troops and A.A. equipment required as early as possible.
5. Borneo. Balikpapan, Samprinda (?Saparinda) on East Coast and possibly Pontianak on West likely to be objectives of further Japanese advance to obtain oil and air bases. Small reinforcements of land forces being sent to Sumatra, otherwise can do little except ensure destruction of oil and attack with bombers shipping and air targets. Establishment additional Japanese air bases in South Borneo would bring Sourabaya and other objectives in Java within range of effective bomber attack.
6. Similar considerations apply to air fields in South Celebes and Amboina which we can do little to defend against large scale attacks.
7. Timor is vital connecting link in air route from Australia. Its defence constitutes difficult problem, but it is not so immediately threatened as other points.
8. Defence of Port Darwin and port development there of vital importance to Abda area but my responsibility for it not yet determined.
(Abdacom, Batavia, 1610/15 to W.O. and Washington.)
- Part 2. 9. Immediate Japanese intention may be (a) Full scale effort against Singapore with fresh landing east coast.
(b) Advance south in Borneo and Celebes to establish air bases within range of Java.
(c) Measures to cut supply route between Australia and N.E.I. by occupation of Amboina, Timor, and positions further east to command Tojpes Straits. It is possible that Japanese may attempt any two or even all above simultaneously.
10. To meet above dangers over such wide area our resources by land sea and air are extremely limited. We must avoid too great dispersion of force and our immediate objective must be confined to (a) securing Singapore, (b) checking and hampering further Japanese advance in Borneo and Eastward.
11. General dispositions of available forces therefore as follows - (a) Naval. British and Dutch surface craft mainly employed in escorting convoys into Singapore. U.S.A. surface craft employed to East of Borneo as striking force if suitable target found. Submarines employed aggressively on most likely routes enemy shipping in area. If more cruisers and destroyers could be made available from U.S.A. to form striking force prospect of dealing enemy effective blow and preventing him establishing himself on route Australia and N.E.I. would be greatly enhanced.

/(b) ...

War Diary.15.1.1942
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.China.

Appreciation (b) Land. Reinforcements arriving must at present
S.W. Pacific be sent Singapore till that is secured. Air
contd. bases in South Sumatra must also be strengthened
with A.A., and defence of Java must be
reinforced. (c) Air. Objective must be (1) R/C
system to enable movement of enemy shipping to be watched and
rapidly reported. (2) Attacks on enemy shipping (3) Attacks on
enemy air bases. (4) Malaya co-operation with land forces and
attacks on enemy columns. Distribution of air effort for
immediate future between East and West threat is being worked
out.
(Abdacom, Batavia, 1838/15 to W.O. and Washington.)

America and West Indies.

TOLTEN. TOLTEN ex H.X.168 called at St. Johns N.F. 9/1
for minor repairs after collision. Was ordered,
to Bay of Bull as there was no room in St. Johns
N.F. Harbour. She sailed 11/1 for Halifax
without making any report.
(N.C.S.O. St. Johns N.F., 0159Z/15 to Admty.)
Arrived Halifax 1715/15 (D.O.R. 14/1.)

DAYROSE British Merchant ship DAYROSE reported torpedoed
(torpedoed at 2300 G.C.T. No definite position but very near
14/1.) Cape Race.
(Opnav 0200Z/15 to F.O.N.F.)
Following received from F.O.N.F. DAYROSE tor-
pedoed close to vicinity of Cape Race at 2344Z/14. NAPANEE,
THUNDER and MINAS being dispatched forthwith to search vicinity
for 24 hours and air search at dawn arranged.
(C.O.A.C. 0408Z/15 to Admty.(R) N.S.H.Q., C. in C. A.W.I.)
Most undesirable in present circumstances for ships to proceed
unescorted from St. Johns to Halifax for convoy. It would
have been better if S.S. DAYROSE had been sailed to join convoy
off St. Johns. Request N.C.S.O. be instructed accordingly.
(D.T.D. 1058/15 to N.S.H.Q. Ottawa.)
A.M.1058A/15. DAYROSE was in ballast destination Portland Maine
for loading, routed to Halifax till situation clarified. Every
effort is being made to provide local escort for all ships
joining convoys from St. Johns and no merchant ships are being
sent to Halifax for convoy.
(F.O.N.F. 1344Z/15 to N.S.H.Q.(R) Admty.)
Your 1058A/15. This ship was proceeding from St. Johns, N.F.
where she had discharged coal, to Portland, Maine, to load grain.
(N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 1410Z/15 to Admty.)

/Movements ...

MOST SECRET MESSAGE 1735/15th Jan. IN

MOST SECRET

From High Commissioner (Sir H. Luke). Date 15.1.42.

~~Western Pacific~~

Recd 1607.

Cipher

Addressed Secretary of State for the Colonies.

No. 16. No. 13029/42B/42.

Addressed to the S. of S., repeated to the Resident Commissioner Gilbert and Ellice Islands, Colony No.30 (reference his telegram No.36).

My telegram No. 8, paragraph 2.

For various reasons Europeans at Tarawa have not yet left.

2. On learning that 8,000 gallons of diesel oil and 1,400 tons copra are still at Tarawa, I requested immediate destruction in accordance with policy laid down for denial of resources to the enemy. Following reply has been received from Resident Commissioner. Begins.

No. 36.

I had considered giving instructions for the destruction of oil and copra but decided not to do so in view of the fact that the Japanese flag is flying and the Islands are presumably formally surrendered. In these circumstances will not destruction now constitute sabotage and expose Europeans at Tarawa to reprisals or even death? Ends.

Grateful for your early instructions.

1735/15.

Received from Colonial Office at 1141/17.

1st Lord	D.O.D.(H)	
1st S.L.	D.D.O.D.(H)	
4th S.L.	D.O.D.(F)	
5th S.L.	D.D.O.D.(F)	
V.C.N.S.	Duty Captain (2)	
A.C.N.S.(H)	D.N.I.(7) & for A.E. & D.N.L.O.	
A.C.N.S.(F)	D.D.I.C.(2)	
A.C.N.S.(T)	D. of P.(2)	Admiral Bailey
A.C.N.S.(W)	D.A/S.W.	Admiral Bellairs
Naval Secretary	J.P.(2)	Admiral Somerville
N.A. 1st S.L.	W.D.	E.P.S.
D.N.A.D.	D.P.D.	
Hd. of M.(35)	D.S.D.	

War Diary.

15.1.1942
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies - contd.

Movements.

Summary at 1800 G.M.T/15.

Ship	Position	Course	Speed
MARON	38° N. 38° W.	Patrol	Blank
CAVINA	39° N. 43° W.	Patrol	Blank
CANTON	06½° N. 26° W.	080°	15
PRETORIA	" "	"	"
CASTLE	" "	"	"
BULOLO	28° S. 35° W.	Patrol	Blank
MOA	09° N. 136° W.	210°	10
ADELAIDE	36° S. 158° E.	290°	12
CANBERRA	10° S. 130° E.	260°	20
AQUITANIA	" "	"	"
Convoy C.T.9	40½° N. 52° W.	270°	12½
VOLENDAM	" "	"	"
MONTCALM	" "	"	"
MONTGOMERY	" "	"	"
BELMONT	" "	"	"
Convoy N.A.1	43° N. 28° W.	066°	14
BERGENSFJORD	" "	"	"
S'TRATHEDEN	" "	"	"
ROCKINGHAM	" "	"	"
BEVERLEY	" "	"	"

(D.O.D.(F) 0937Z/15 to Opnav, (R) Spenavo)
A.M. 0937/15. Amend CANBERRA and AQUITANIA to read "Due Fremantle 15/1". 2. Cancel position given for these ships in A.M.'s 0956/13 and 0925/14. Ships proceeded southabout.
(D.O.D.(F) 2253Z/15 to Opnav, (R) Spenavo.)

PRINCE HENRY Leave Bermuda 16/1 and proceed San Juan, Puerto Rico, by direct route so as to arrive 18/1. On arrival San Juan place yourself under orders of Com Task Group 6.3.
(C. in C. A.W.I. 1002P/15 to PRINCE HENRY.)

Enemy Unit. D/F bearings at 0317Z/15 indicate enemy unit within 150 miles 47° N. 51° W.
(N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 1055Z/15 to Bri. Warships Area 7A, Admty., C. in C. A.W.I., Opnav.)
Considered to be a U/B. (D.D.I.C. 0026A/16.)

REGENT Your 1503A/14. From position (E) REGENT should be routed through position (F) 038° 25' N. 050° 40' W. (G) 038° 00' N. 060° 40' W. (H) 037° 50' N. 070° 10' W. (J) 038° 32' N. 074° 41½' W. to embark pilot at 2000R on 1/2 in vicinity of Overfalls L.V. Capt.(S) 5 pass to REGENT.

(C. in C. A.W.I., 1223P/15 to Capt. S.5.)

My 1352/12 and your 1838/14, request REGENT may proceed New London, Connecticut, for sound elimination trials prior to going to Philadelphia. Will time of arrival at New London be 1/2?

(B.A.R.M. 1646R/15 to F.O.S.)

/Washington ...

War Diary.15.1.1942.
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies - contd.

Washington Report. Washops 35. (1) Philippine Is. Commander Philippine Is. in message dated 11/1 stated no report received of enemy landings on N. coast of Mindanao. U.S. Troops holding Del Monte have not been attacked. He further reports 14/1 that enemy are now attempting infiltration. Corregidor raided, 9 heavy bombers 2 of which were shot down; damage and casualties slight. (ii) Gilbert Is. and Marshall Is. unaffected. Indications based mainly on Japanese W/T traffic point to increased air activity in this area; possible an air base is being set up. (J.S.M. Washington, 1309R/15 to Admty. etc.)

Use of Brazilian Ports. Your 1932/13. This misunderstanding has been dispelled by a signal from Opnav to U.S. Forces concerned. (B.A.D. 1311R/15 to Admty.)

MARON S.O.W.P. 1600A/11, paras. 2 and 3. You may direct MARON to an American port if you consider S/M situation makes it desirable to do so. 2. Mails for MARON have been sent to Halifax. (A.C.N.S.(F) 1348A/15 to C. in C. A.W.I.)

S.S. BELAIN D'ESNAMBUC. Report graded B.2. that French vessel BELAIN D'ESNAMBUC left Algiers 1830/14 with 1600 tons crude rubber for unknown destination probably Marseilles escorted by torpedo boat. (B.A.D. Washington 1405R/16 to Adty., S.O.(I) Gibraltar.)

NORNESS (torpedoed 14/1.) *64U/123* M.V. NORNESS, Panamanian Tanker, torpedoed and sunk 40.28 N. 70.50 W. at 0130R/14. Three hits. Two of crew unaccounted for. (C. in C. U.S. Fleet, 1411/15 to Admty., C. in C. A.W.I., etc.)

BELMONT. My 0314Z/15th (N.T.in W.D.) Steering engine damaged by flood and jammed. Am in hand steering. In view of weather conditions am making for St. Johns (N.F.) to fuel. Wireless oscillator and dome broken away. Stanchions fore lower mess deck bent, consider advisable to make external and internal examination foremost oil tanks before these are filled with fuel. (BELMONT, 1425Z/15 to C.O.A.C., F.O.N.F.)

/N.E.F. ...

War Diary.

15.1.1942.
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies - contd.

N.E.F. Destroyers. 1. Owing to recent weather damage to destroyers of N.E.F. F.O.N.F. reports he has only 4 running destroyers. 2. Therefore requested that two R.N. Long-leg destroyers may be loaned to the N.E.F. until the return of BROADWAY and READING, at present refitting in U.K. 3. If possible these destroyers should arrive at St. Johns N.F., in order to sail with escorts for S.C.67 and S.C.68 on 30/1 and 5/2 respectively. (N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 1551Z/15 to Admty., C. in C. W.A., F.O.N.F., C.O.A.C.) Reply: Admty. 0036/17.

→ C.T.9

MONTGOMERY's 2100Z/14 (N.T.in W.D.) Request HAMILTON be sailed when fuelled and ready to join C.T.9. (C.O.A.C. Halifax 1555Z/15 to F.O.N.F.)

U.S.N. Communications

Following arrangements made to provide for communication between British forces and U.S. Atlantic Fleet when engaged on a joint operation. (A.C.N.S.(H) 1620A/15, A.G.M.) See Lion Copy.

Unknown Ship Torpedoed.

Unknown M/V reported sinking 40.32 N. 72.23 W. at about 1430Z/15. Cause unknown but presumably submarine mine or torpedo. (C. in C. U.S. Fleet 1711/15 to Admty., C. in C. A.W.I., N.S.H.Q., F.O.N.F.)

BURWELL RAMSEY.

BURWELL and RAMSEY will leave Boston 1600R/22 if trials satisfactory and proceed Halifax by direct route for degaussing trials. BURWELL will ammunition at Halifax. See my 1738/30. BURWELL pass to RAMSEY. (B.A.R.M. 1832R/15 to Admty. etc.)

DONERAIL.

My 1504/28/12. Agent at Vancouver B C reports Panamanian DONERAIL arrived Honolulu 7/1. (N.S.H.Q. Ottawa 1923Z/15 to Admty. etc.)

→ C.T.9

MONTGOMERY's 2100Z/14. HAMILTON will sail from St. Johns N.F. 2130Z/15 to join C.T.9 and provide escort to Halifax. (C.C.N.F. 2012Z/15 to Admty.)

U/B

Plane sighted submerged Submarine 40.50 N. 71.23 W. 1826Z/15. (C. in C. U.S. Fleet, 2159Z/15 to Admty. (R) F.O.N.F., C. in C. A.W.I., N.S.H.Q.)

CONFIDENTIAL MESSAGE 1620A/15th January. OUT

To:- Admiralty General Message
 Home 709 AZ
 North Atlantic 269 AK
 South Atlantic 259 AG
 America and West Indies. 280 AJ

Date 15.1.42.

NAVAL CODE (J) & P/L BY T/P

WILLPRINT

From:- Admiralty.
 NINE

S.P. 02376 Article 24.

The following arrangements have been made to provide for communication between British forces and U.S. Atlantic Fleet when engaged on a joint operation. They do not repetition not alter the existing British - U.S. communication arrangements for Convoy escorts.

(1) All enemy reports of mutual interest to be in a British - U.S. code or cypher.

(2) 4400 Kc/s will not repetition not be used for inter-communication. British units are to maintain a guard on 4740 Kc/s when possible and U.S. Warships will shift to this wave if desiring to establish communication. British Warships wishing to communicate direct with U.S. units are to do so on 4295 Kc/s on which each U.S. unit will maintain a guard. Outside the Iceland area enemy reports of immediate import to U.S. Forces are to be reported on 4295 Kc/s.

(3) In the Iceland area, i.e. north of 60° N. and East of 30° W., ships are to repeat enemy reports on 500 Kc/s. Iceland W/T will broadcast important enemy information on 500 Kc/s. Units are to maintain a W/T guard on 500 Kc/s in this area if possible such guard taking precedence over the requirements of para.(2).

(4) Enemy reports from ships and aircraft received from Admiralty and considered to be of interest to U.S. forces. /~

will

- 2 -

will be broadcast on BN and passed by direct cable to Navy Department for further broadcasting on U.S. waves. U.S. unit east of 30° West who find difficulty in reading Washington Broadcast will guard Broadcast BN.

(5) Enemy reports from ships and aircraft received by C. in C. America and West Indies or by Canadian authorities are to be passed to Navy Department for further broadcasting on U.S. waves.

(6) Enemy reports from ships and aircraft received by Navy Department will be passed by direct cable to Admiralty for further broadcasting on British waves. If the report refers to a position West of 25° West Navy Department will also pass the report to Halifax for transmission on Broadcast L.

(7) Ships experiencing difficulty in clearing enemy reports to their own W/T stations should try to pass it to a W/T station of the other Navy. U.S. stations are given in S.P. 02576, Appendix 2, Calls should be made to U.S.S. and any station hearing such call will answer. U.S. forces have been informed that they should call GZZ on British waves in similar circumstances.

1620A/15

For Head of M (244)

Approved by A.C.N.S.(H)

1st Lord

1st S.L.

V.C.N.S.

A.C.N.S. (H)

A.C.N.S. (F)

N.A. 1st S.L.

O.D. (5)

Ops (3)

D.N.I. (4)

M. (2)

D. of P. (3)

D.S.D. (2)

O.I.C. (2)

D.S.O.

W/T Room (2)

Admiral Bailey

A.E. (3)

H.W.R. (2)

I.P. (3)

W.D.

War Diary.15.1.1942
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies - contd.

A.T.10

U.S. convoy A.T.10 sailed from New York ^{RATH P.487} 1430Z/15. CHATEAU THIERRY U.S. and STIFFHAIRD to Belfast, BORINQUAN sail from U.S. and MUNARGO U.S. to Reykjavik. Route reported by Opnav to Admty. and N.S.H.Q. Ottawa not repeated N.C.S.O. New York.
(C.S.A. New York, 2350Z/15 to Admty. (R) N.S.H.Q.)

Australia and New Zealand.2 enemy
cruisers hit.

Runway of Vunakanau Aerodrome (Rabaul) demolished 11/1 by D.A. (125 hours) bomb. R.A.A.F. Hudsons from Namlea (Amboina) obtained hits on 2 Cruisers in attack on enemy concentration Kema Bay (N.E.Celebes.) Unidentified aircraft sighted near Tanna Island (New Hebrides) 11/1. (A.C.N.B. 0056Z/15.)

Coonawarra,
Boundary with
China Stn.

C. in C. E.F.'s 0849Z/13. Equipment at Coonawarra does not at present allow station to carry out both group U and group A Z duties. Therefore impracticable for ocean escorts in N. Australian Waters to remain on Australian organization if Coonawarra is included in group U. Northern and N.W. Waters are not sufficiently covered by Belcomen, Perth or Wellington. Concur that boundary of China Station should coincide with A B D A boundary and that Coonawarra takes part in group U and keep watch on China ship-shore frequencies. Propose ships entering A B D A area from S. and E. set watch on China organization on passing Thursday Island. Coonawarra ready to operate at 3 days notice. Not possible for Coonawarra to answer calls on ship-shore frequencies, propose arrangements be made for calls to be answered on group U frequencies. At a later date when new W/T Station at Townsville is completed, probable that station will be included in group A Z when not required for local operations. My 0226Z/14 to Admty. and N.Z. N.B. only refers.
(A.C.N.B. 0600Z/15 to C. in C. E.F., Admty.)

PEIK
PERTSHIRE.

Cancel my 0426Z/14 (Tanker PEIK overdue) Vessel arrived Fremantle. My 2341/15 (sic) cancel reference to PERTSHIRE vessel has arrived.
(A.C.N.B. 0621Z/15.) *See also next page - Fremantle*

/M.T.Bs. ...

War Diary.

15.1.1942
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Australia and New Zealand - contd.

M.T.Bs.

Your 1836A/12. At present considered M.T.Bs could be more profitably used in N.E.I. Area. Therefore suggested that first boats delivered should be disposed in this area. Should situation change by June 1942 it is possible a flotilla could be profitably employed in Port Moresby - Torres Strait Area. Question will be re-examined at later date.
(A.C.N.B. 1102Z/15 to Admty. (R) C. in C. E.F., N.Z.N.B.)

S.S.QUEEN
ELIZABETH.

Request you prepare QUEEN ELIZABETH for sailing from Sydney in near future. Destination will probably be San Francisco. Date of readiness to sail should be reported immediately.
(D.S.T. 1307A/15 to A.C.N.B.)

ACHILLES

Intend docking ACHILLES on Tuesday 20/1. Ship will be ready for sea p.m./26/1.
(N.Z.N.B. 1445M/15 to Admty. etc.)

S.S.PERTSHIRE
TSINAN.

PERTSHIRE left Colombo 3/1 due Fremantle 11/1 has not arrived. TSINAN left Manila 13/12 due Fremantle 11/1 has not arrived.
(A.C.N.B. 2351Z/14.) *see previous page*

War Diary.

15.1.1942.
Thursday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Ships Attacked.

DAYROSE. Torpedoed 14/1. See America & West Indies.

NORNESS. Torpedoed 14/1. See America & West Indies.

Unknown M/V. Torpedoed 15/1. See America & West Indies.

DOUGLAS. Holed in Wardroom. Suspect rammed by Submarine. Situation in hand. U.S. Destroyer MAYO standing by. P.C. and S. 058° 50' N. 023° 30' W. 310° 13 knots. Weather. (DOUGLAS, 0801A/15 to C. in C. W.A. (R) A.C.I.C.). W.D. Note: See further signals 16/1 reporting DOUGLAS in collision with MAYO. DOUGLAS' 1142A which is being passed to you by C. in C. W.A. Request you will render assistance as necessary. (D.O.D. H., 2036A/15 to A.C.I.C.)

Submarine's Reported.

1200A. There may be a U/B in your vicinity. (D.D.I.C., 1200A/15 to Escort of N.A.1, (R) C. in C. W.A.)

Estimated approximate positions of U/B's. (D.D.I.C., 1419A/15, 1420A/15).

1826Z. Plane sighted submerged submarine 40° - 50' N. 71° - 23' W. 1826Z/15. (C. in C. U.S. Fleet, 2159Z/15 to Admty. etc.)

Submarine's Attacked.

By HESPERUS U.93 sunk. Have rammed and sunk U.93. Returning to Gibraltar with 33 Survivors including Captain. Considerable under water defects and probable damage to starboard propeller. LAFOREY has 4 Survivors. Unreliable information from Survivors indicates several more U Boats in area. (HESPERUS, 0500A/15 to F.O.C.N.A., (R) Admty. C. in C. W.A.) My P.C. and S. 036° 10' N. 010° 50' W. 094° 16. E.T.A. 1130A/16 number of prisoners 36, 6 Officers 30 others. Weather report. (HESPERUS, 1815/15, to F.O.C.N.A.)

By NESTOR. 15/12. Their Lordships consider that your attack on 15/12 1941, achieved the destruction of a German U-boat. u. 127 sunk. 2. They congratulate you, your officers and ship's company on this success. (A.C.N.S.(T) 1234A/15 to NESTOR).

By EXMOOR. 1851/15. See North Atlantic.