

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.

ADM 199 2239

War Diary.1.5.1942.
Friday.SITUATION REPORT.Home Commands.Passage of
Convoys
P.Q.15 &
Q.P.11.

Three enemy destroyers attacked convoy Q.P.11 early this afternoon in approx. 73° 30' N 25° E; they were driven off and AMAZON was damaged and one merchant ship sunk by torpedo. In all there were 5 brushes with the enemy, who retired by 1900. As they are unable to refuel from EDINBURGH some of the destroyer escort may run short of fuel before reaching their destination, and Force Q is to remain available. There were indications this afternoon that U-Boats had reported Q.P.11 and/or EDINBURGH.

At 1545B PUNJABI was sunk after collision with KING GEORGE V, the latter being damaged by depth charges. Over 200 Officers and men were saved from PUNJABI. DUKE OF YORK and 2 destroyers were ordered to join the covering force to replace KING GEORGE V, who is remaining with the covering force until relieved.

Convoy P.Q.15 was under constant observation today by enemy aircraft who worked in relief by pairs. The convoy was attacked at 2217 damage was caused and one enemy aircraft was shot down.

Convoy C.T.15, after being delayed 24 hours, sailed from the Clyde at 1955.

SCIMITAR was damaged in collision last night.

North Atlantic.

Trawler IMPERIALIST engaged a F/W aircraft at 1900 and obtained hits, 24 miles W of Cape Espichel. A/C disappeared to north, apparently losing height.

South Atlantic.

S.S. MENELAUS at 0657 today reported a suspicious merchant vessel in 25° 16' S 13° 23' W. C. in C. S.A. reports that from the shipping plot it appears probable that this is a raider.

/Convoy...

War Diary.1.5.1942.
Friday.SITUATION REPORT.South Atlantic.- Contd.

Convoy S.U.4 (returning ex W.S. troopers) left Durban for Fremantle escorted by CHITRAL.

Durban portion of W.S.17A and 17B, escorted by HOLLY and DAUNTLESS, sailed at 0700 G.M.T. to R/V with Capetown portion at 0800 G.M.T. Aden portion is due there at 1400Z/15, India portion at Bombay at 0300Z/17.

C. in C. S.A. reports that congestion of merchant shipping in Capetown and Durban is serious, causing delay, and risk to ships lying in the outer Roads. He urges that Lourenco Marques and Beira should be exploited for our purposes.

It is intended to use Saldanha Bay as an overflow anchorage for Capetown as soon as the minimum facilities and necessary defences are available. (A.M.1539B/3.)

Mediterranean.

U-Boat incidents.

At 1330A a Hudson aircraft attacked a U-Boat in 36° 40' N 1° 52' W no further action was taken pending position, course and speed report from P.42.

An aircraft from Gibraltar at 1500A attacked a U-Boat in 37° N 1° E and reports a direct hit; the U-Boat disappeared and eventually surfaced in a vertical position, disappeared and reappeared again conning tower up and crew seen. Two destroyers were detached from 5 which were carrying out a sweep and Hudson aircraft left at 1700A to attack.

P.42 proceeding to Gibraltar was attacked unsuccessfully by a U-Boat about 2330 in approx. 36° 30' N 2° W.

Malta.

Alerts were practically continuous last night but up to early this afternoon enemy air activity consisted largely in patrolling and no damage is reported.

Cyrenaica.

Of 11 Wellingtons which left to bomb Benghazi last night, 7 returned owing to overheating. 3 bombed Benghazi, starting a large fire on base of Central Mole.

/Port Said...

War Diary.

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Friday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Mediterranean - Contd.

Port
Said.

About 12 JU.88s attacked Port Said last night. R.A.F. Marine workshop was destroyed. British THISTLEFORD and Greek MARIKA PROTOPAPA were damaged.

East Indies.

A U.S. aircraft attacked Rangoon Docks last night. No shipping was reported.

America and West Indies.

Three tankers which are urgently required at Freetown are to be sailed from Curacao, accepting U-Boat risk.

Three ships were torpedoed today, east of Trinidad, north of Florida Strait and off Long Island respectively.

U-Boats were attacked off Cape Hatteras and Long Island.

A large number of S/M radio fixes centred in 36° N to 38° N and 56° W to 59° W over a period lasting 5 days indicates the possibility of either a damaged S/M or S/M R/V in that area.

Aircraft attacked U-Boats today in 34° 29' N 74° 27' W (75' S.E. of Cape Hatteras) at 0310Z. At 1435Z in 34° 8' N 72° 41' W and at 2300Z in 40° 2' N 72° 53' W.

War Diary.

1.5.1942.
Friday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Australia.

Port Moresby Seven Mile Aerodrome was twice attacked today by 3 Zero fighters.

New Zealand.

Commodore Sir Atwell Lake assumed duty today as Chief of Naval Staff and 1st. Naval member of New Zealand Naval Board at the Navy Office, Wellington.

War Diary.1.5.1942
Friday.HOME COMMANDS.Defence of U.K.

Poole Harbour. Information just received that Coastal Command, Ministry of Aircraft Production, Air Ministry Bristol and British Overseas Airways Corporation are conjointly arranging with Poole Harbour Commissioners for a large undertaking involving removal of steel stakes and other navigational aids, without any prior consultation with Naval authority.

F.O.I.C. Portland has directed that no work is to be commenced which interferes with proper working of defences or with other important naval interests, but matter should be taken up by Admiralty with Air Ministry now as it appears that Coastal Command contemplate establishment of operational base which would include use of piers and accommodation on shore.
(C. in C. Portsmouth 2017B/1.)

Movements.

66th M/S Group. My 1133B/30. Sailed.
(F.O.I.C. Portland 0640B/1 to C. in C. Portsmouth.)

ICARUS. Proceed 0001/2 or as soon as ready ^{to} Scapa.
(C. in C. Rosyth 0953V/1 to ICARUS.)

CUMBERLAND. My 1116/26 and your 1316/29. In view of acute shortage of escorts in Rosyth and Nore Command propose sailing CUMBERLAND with 2 Nore destroyers as far as Flamborough Head, thence one until daylight, thence independently. Daylight position off St. Abbs Head. Request your remarks or concurrence.
(C. in C. Nore 1010B/1 to C. in C. Rosyth. Your 1010B/1. Concur, provided S.A. is operated.
(C. in C. Rosyth 1305B/1 to C. in C. Nore.)

THUNDERBOLT
UTMOST. Intend sailing JAN VAN GELDER at 0800B/3 via Minches to R/V THUNDERBOLT and UTMOST in 360° Duncansby Head 2 miles, E.T.A. 1000B/4. Thence in accordance with Capt.(S) 6 2210/30. On completion of escort duties with THUNDERBOLT intend JAN VAN GELDER return Holy Loch, E.T.A. 0001B/9,
(Capt. S.3 1037B/1.)

PUFFIN. On completion of ranging at approx 1100 tomorrow intend sailing PUFFIN by inshore route for Harwich, S. of A. 15 knots.
(F.O.I.C. Yarmouth 1102B/1.)

P.222.
P.45. Intend to sail P.222 and P.45 in company 1215B/2 for Clyde escorted by LA CAPRICIEUSE. E.T.A. 0530B/3 for P.45 and LA CAPRICIEUSE, and 1200B/3 for P.222.
(N.O.I.C. Barrow 1122B/1.)

/ANSON ...

War Diary.1.5.1942
Friday.HOME COMMANDS.Movements - contd.ANSON
ONSLow
WALLACE
WESTMINSTER
WOLSEY.

Detach WOLSEY at 0900/2nd to enter Tyne.
(C. in C. Rosyth 1221B/1 to VALOROUS.)
(1) Capt. (D) 17 take WALLACE and WESTMINSTER
under your orders and leave Rosyth at 2100/2.
WOLSEY will join you from the Tyne. (2) R/V
with ANSON off Stonehaven Pierheads at 0645/3
and screen her on passage and during gun trials
(3) ONSLOW to proceed Scapa when ANSON passes
Eyebroughy buoy. (4) WESTMINSTER and WOLSEY are
fitted S.A.
(C. in C. Rosyth 1301B/1 to ONSLOW, etc.)

WELSHMAN.

Fleet unit sailed Plymouth 1600/1 routed
through 180° The Lizard 10 mile, 180° Bishop
5 mile. Speed 25 knots.
(C. in C. Plymouth 1311B/1 to WHITE BEAR.)

MIDDLETON
LAMERTON
HURSLEY.

E.T.A. 2030B/1. LAMERTON and HURSLEY in
company.
(MIDDLETON 1345B/1 to A.C.O.S.)

MANCHESTER
BERKELEY.

Intend to sail MANCHESTER escorted by BERKELEY
from Needles 2000/2nd for Scapa. Route.
E.T.A. 1600/4. (2) BERKELEY will part company
after dark on 2nd. and return to Yarmouth (I of W)
(C. in C. Portsmouth 1837B/1.)

Operations.Convoys
P.Q.15 and
Q.P.11.

Operations to cover. See Shipping.

Sweep by
M.Ls.

M.Ls 181 and 186 are to R/V 153 and 159
positions 180° Eddystone 10 at 2000 today and
carry out a sweep from 048° 51' N. 004° W.
towards 048° 44' N. 004° 30' W. Attention is
called to Q.Z.X. 684 and 688. (2) Object destruction of any
enemy vessels met. (3) S.O. has discretion to abandon operation
if circumstances require. The number of S.Os boat is to be
reported. (4) M.Ls to arrive 180° Eddystone 10 by 0800/2.
(C. in C. Plymouth 1346B/1.)
Your 1346/1. S.O. of Falmouth boats M/L 181.
(F.O.I.C. Falmouth 1710B/1 to C. in C. Plymouth.)

War Diary.1.5.1942
Friday.HOME COMMANDS.British Air Activity.A/C in
EMPIRE MORN.

My 1257C/20. R.A.F. officer who has visited Vaenga reports it will be impossible to remount aircraft on catapult without dismantling after test flight.

2. If it is not practicable reassemble aircraft on catapult request EMPIRE MORN may be instructed not to fly off her aircraft for non-operational flights.
(Ad. Miles 1112C/1 to Admty.)Bombing
operations.On day 30/4, 6 A/C attacked shipping at Havre and 6 A/C attacked Docks and Oil Storage at Flushing. On night 30 April/1 May no operations took place.
(H.Q.B.C. 1240/1.)Bombing
restrictions.Request surface bombing restrictions from 2000/1 to 0800/2 15 miles either side line joining Eddystone and 048° 43' N. 004° 15' W.
(C. in C. Plymouth 1350B/1 to H.Q.C.C.)Enemy Air Activity.Lowestoft
bombed.Lowestoft bombed by single A/C at 0213/1. A to D Nil.
(N.O.I.C. Lowestoft 0240B/1.)A/C
crashed.The Master of S.S. LYNN TRADER has reported that at 0245/1 he observed an unidentified A/C crash in flames into the sea between 20A and 20Q buoys.
(N.O.I.C. Blyth 1045B/1.)Convoy
W.P.149.Your convoy has been reported by enemy A/C.
(C. in C. Plymouth 2118B/1 to Escorts of W.P.149)Mining.

Q.S.7.

Departure KELLETZ and ROSS in accordance with M/S 4s 1727/30.
(F.O.I.C. Yarmouth 0408B/1.)Departure FITZROY, ELGIN, SELKIRK and ALBURY at 0535.
(F.O.I.C. Gt. Yarmouth 0601B/1.)Following received from M.S.4. Begins. Following area swept today. Details. 2 British mines cut in 052° 40' 07" N. 002° 47' 01" E. It seems likely these belong to B S 8 lines.
(C. in C. Nore 2240B/1 to Admty.)

/M/S Craft ...

War Diary.1.5.1942
Friday.HOME COMMANDS.Mining - contd.

M/S Craft for detached duty. Your 1520/26 can be complied with. (F.O.I.C. Portland 1102B/1 to Admty.) A number of trawlers and drifters from each command will be required from time to time to be sailed to Tilbury to operate under C. in C. Nore. 2. These vessels will be required to arrive at Tilbury with charts between Tilbury and Falmouth including the approach charts and plans of ports. They should not require boiler cleaning for one month from date of arrival. 3. Signals ordering these movements will be prefixed "Consular". (D.O.D.(H.) 1424B/1.)

Humber. 2 mines exploded today by Sweepers at 1206B. Details. (F.O. Humber 2025B/1.)
My 2025B/1. This occurred in the centre of the observed minefield. Officer in charge reports that they were not controlled mines that exploded. (F.O. Humber 2037B/1.)

Enemy Intelligence.

Straits of Dover. Enemy shipping plotted by R.D.F. in Dover Strait from 0900/30/4 to 0900/1/5. Track E9D. 2 vessels from Boulogne at 2220 eastbound at 14 knots faded off Gravelines at 0025. Probably M Class Minesweepers. Vessels were seen at 2315 from P W S S Dover as they crossed path of moon in exceptional visibility, but cloud conditions caused strike laid on for cannon fighter to be cancelled after aircraft was airborne. (V.A. Dover 0957B/1.)

2 M/Vs. 2 M/V 47° 23' N. 8° 26' W. 350° 10 knots. Unidentified yet. (A/C R Sqdn. 1429/1 to 19 Group.)
My 1429. Trawler Spain zone has W/T. Suspicious. Went stop BNX. (A/C 1530/1 to 19 Group.)

North Norway on 29/4. Russians report 29/4 convoy left Kirkenes to northward, second convoy on passage to Kirkenes. Fugloy Sound, one destroyer. Persfiord, one 2000 ton tanker with escort two trawlers. Two M/Vs escorted by five trawlers sailed Sylte Fiord to westward. In 70° 20' N. 31° 30' E. one U.Boat. In 71° 25' N. 33° 56' E. one U.Boat. (Ad. Miles 1432C/1 to Admty.)

Trondheim. W/T signal from Pru A/C at 1800B/1 states all four units present Trondheim. (D.D.I.C. 1937B/1.)
Photographic R/C. Trondheim at 1700B/1 shows TIRPITZ, HIPPER, PRINZ EUGEN in usual positions. SCHEER at anchor off Trondheim. (D.D.I.C. 2300B/1.)

War Diary.1.5.1942
Friday.HOME COMMANDS.Navigational.Ice in
Denmark
Straits.Aircraft on ice R/C report following conditions.
Bearing and distance from Straumnes Light.
Brash 334° 57 miles, fast ice 334° 79 miles.
(A.C.I.C. 0115B/1.)

Nore.

54 C Buoy reported extinguished.
(C. in C. Nore 1033B/1.)

Clyde.

Clyde No.7 Channel Buoy Light extinguished.
(F.O.I.C. Greenock 1615B/1.)Casualties and Defects.

SCIMITAR.

Your 1526B/29. Owing to collision damage
SCIMITAR unable to sail as escort of D.S.26.
(Commodore, Londonderry 0125B/1 to C. in C. W.A.)PUNJABI sunk.
KING GEORGE V.
damaged.
AMAZON
damaged.

See Shipping.

Wreck.

Request permission to attempt to disperse
upper portion of wreck in 51° 47' 25" N. 01°
30' 25" E.
(C. in C. Nore 1019B/1 to Admty.)

M.L.240.

M.L.240 reports fuel containing 30% water.
Auxiliary motor out of action. Magneto landed
Oban. Intend to sail her for Fort William at
1400. E.T.A. 1700.
(WESTERN ISLES 1220B/1.)COTSWOLD
(Mined
20/4.)Subject to weather intend to carry out following
programme for COTSWOLD. Saturday p.m. Float her
and bring to Parkeston Quay for removal of gun
and shipment of portable generator for D.G.
Proceed to buoy adjacent to Shotley Spit with
Salvage Vessel DAPPER and tug in attendance. Sunday. Remain at
buoy all day. Monday. 0600. Leave Buoy and proceed to Sheerness
for Chathan, tug and DAPPER towing alongside. Speed not
expected to exceed 5 knots. Request destroyer escort and an
additional tug to meet tow at Thames Boom be arranged. Request
fighter protection.
(F.O.I.C. Harwich 1220B/1 to C. in C. Nore.)

BRIGHTON.

Your 1928/30. Approved.
(D.D.O.D. (M.) 1254B/1 to F.O.I.C. Glasgow.)

/SALTWICK ...

War Diary.1.5.1942
Friday.HOME COMMANDS.Casualties and Defects - contd.

SALTWICK. S.S. SALTWICK successfully refloated 1450/1. Proceeding Aberdeen in tow 0900/2. (N.O.I.C. Peterhead 1541/1.)

HURSLEY. Proceed passing Switha 0500 tomorrow to Greenock for Boiler cleaning. (R.A.D. 1821B/1 to HURSLEY)

WOODRUFF. Owing to engine room defect WOODRUFF will not be ready to sail until 4/5. (F.O.I.C. Falmouth 1844B/1.)

SPIREA. Admy. 1130B/30. SPIREA working up completes 12/5. (WESTERN ISLES 2120B/1.)

Shipping and Convoys.

Convoys
P.Q.15 and
Q.P.11.
Q.P.11
attacked by
Destroyers.
AMAZON
damaged.
One M/V
torpedoed.
PUNJABI sunk
KING GEORGE V.
damaged.

Reliable Fix and D/F Bearings of two U-Boats in 73° 30' N. 31° 17' E. at 2229/30. (S.B.N.O. North Russia 0201B/1 to 18 C.S. M.S.F.6 Q.P.11. (R) P.Q.15.)

Reliable fix and D/F bearings of enemy unit (corrupt group) time G.M.T. (?04)00 probable U.Boat estimated position 073° 12' N. 032° 37' E. Admiralty pass to ships escorting P.Q.15. (S.B.N.O. North Russia 0859B/1 to C.S.18, 6 M.S.F. P.Q.15.)

Reliable fix and D/F bearings of U.Boat in 71° 15' N. 33° E. at 0438/1. (S.B.N.O. North Russia 0902B/1 to 18 C.S., 6 M.S.F. P.Q.15.)

As they are unable to refuel from EDINBURGH, some of destroyer escort Q.P.11 may run short of fuel before reaching destination unless (?Force) Q remains available. (S.B.N.O. North Russia 0928B/1 to C. in C. H.F., A.I.G. 47.)

Unreliable fix and D/F bearing at 0817 G.M.T./1 of U.Boat in 073° 55' N. 024° 50' E. (S.B.N.O. North Russia 1132/1 to P.Q.15. Q.P.11. D/F bearing at 0848/1 probably U/B estimated position 73° 35' N. 33° (?40') E. (S.B.N.O. North Russia 1307B/1 to 6 M.S.F. 18 C.S. EDINBURGH.)

Following has been read from escort odd Q.P. convoy. Begins. 3 destroyers bearing 170° distance 8 miles, course unknown. My position 73° 32' N. 24° 25' E. Ends. (? Origin 1350B/1.)

D/F bearing 1039/1 probably U/B, position 72° 18' N. 30° 10' E. (S.B.N.O. North Russia 1408B/1 to C.S.18, EDINBURGH, M.S.F.6.)

/Convoy ...

War Diary.1.5.1942
Friday.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping and Convoys. contd:

Convoys
P.Q.15 and
Q.P.11.
Q.P.11
attacked by
destroyers.
AMAZON
damaged, 1
M/V torpedoed.
PUNJABI sunk
KING GEORGE V.
damaged
contd.

Convoy Q.P.11 being attacked by enemy light forces in 073° 30' N. 025° 06' E. at 1400B. One merchant ship torpedoed. Course and speed convoy 317°, 8 knots. (OXLIP 1450/1 to Admty. Rept. C. in C. H.F.) Have driven off 3 German destroyers. One M/V sunk. AMAZON damaged but able to steam. My P.C.S. are 073° 33' N. 023° 53' E., 370°, 8 knots. (BULLDOG 1455B/1 to Admty. C. in C.H.F.) There are indications that U-boats have reported Q.P.11 and/or EDINBURGH since 1200Z. (D.D.I.C. 1556B/1 to Q.P.11, EDINBURGH.) Q.P.11. Several of the oil burning American vessels in this convoy will probably require bunkers before proceeding to U.S.A.

2. Our representative Murmansk reports that masters of Panamanian ships are experiencing difficulties with crews as regards discipline. A. Hughes Mess Room boy on STONESTREET, British subject of 99 Allington Street, Liverpool, refused duty and he recommends that he should be dealt with on arrival of steamer at Iceland. (D.S.T. 1610B/1 to D.S.T.O. Iceland.) D/F bearings reliable fix at 1233, probably U/B, position 72° 22' N. 33° 35' E. (S.B.N.O. North Russia 1613/1 to C.S.18, M.S.F.6, EDINBURGH) My 1350B/1. Am engaging enemy. (Escort of Q.P.11 1615B/1.) Proceed in DUKE OF YORK with two destroyers with all convenient despatch to R/V with covering force in position Z 067° 32' N. 010° 25' W. Report your estimated time of arrival position (Z) before sailing. (C. in C. H.F. 1709B/1 to V.A.2.) PUNJABI sunk after collision with KING GEORGE V at 1545B/1st. KING GEORGE V damaged by depth charges. 2. My P.C.S. at 1700B/1, 66° 50' N. 08° 48' W. 255°, 18 knots. 3. PUNJABI survivors Captain, 4 officers, 201 ratings. (C. in C. H.F. 1841/1 and 2300/1.) After 5 brushes with enemy he appears to have retired for present. Convoy is picking its way through heavy drifting ice which extends south to my present position. My P.C.S. 073° 31' N. 021° 34' E, 270° 8½ knots. (BULLDOG 1901B/1 to Admty. C. in C. H.F.) Reliable fix and D/F bearing 1557 G.M.T. U-boat estimated position 071° 48' N. 033° 12' E. (S.B.N.O. North Russia 1912B/1 to M.S.F.6 C.S.18.) Reliable fix D/F bearing of U-boat in 73° 47' N. 23° 10' E. at 1507/1. (S.B.N.O. North Russia 1914B/1 to P.Q.15, Q.P.11, C.S.10.) Estimated position of U-Boat by D/F bearing at 1549/1 in 73° 54' N. 25° 18' E. (S.B.N.O. North Russia 1916B/1 to Q.P.11, P.Q.15, C.S.10.) Q.P.11 was attacked at 1400/1 by 3 enemy destroyers who were driven off in 073° 32' N. 024° 25' E. (F.O.S. 2019B/1 to S/Ms.)

/Your ...

War Diary.1.5.1942
Friday.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping and Convoys. contd:

Convoys Your 1709/1. E.T.A. position Z 2359B/2
 P.Q.15 and approaching on course 80°.
 Q.P.11. (V.A.2 2032B/1 to C. in C. H.F.)
 Q.P.11 My 1709/1 and my 1841/1. Am remaining with
 attacked by covering force until relieved by DUKE OF YORK.
 Destroyers. (C. in C. H.F. 2044/1 to Admty. Reptd. V.A.2.)
 AMAZON Your 1840B/1 and 1709B/1. MIDDLETON, LAMERTON,
 damaged, 1 WHEATLAND, BLANKNEY sail Seidisfjord at 0500B/2.
 M/V torpedoed If you are not there they will (?comply with)
 PUNJABI sunk your instructions received via MIDDLETON.
 KING GEORGE V. (R.A.D. H.F. 2201B/1 to C. in C. H.F.)
 damaged My 1027/25 para.6. For "position Y" read
 contd. "position YY" (069° 30' N. 001° 30' W.)
 2. Para.7. For "Monday 4th May" read "Tuesday 5th May".
 (C. in C. H.F. 2212/1 to LEDBURY.)
 BLANKNEY with MIDDLETON, LAMERTON, WHEATLAND proceed all
 convenient despatch to Seidisfjord at 0500B tomorrow, routed
 West of Iceland-Faeroes mine barrage.
 2. On arrival act as ordered by C. in C. H.F.
 3. If C. in C. H.F. is not at Seidisfjord and if no further
 orders are received, complete with fuel and proceed to
 Skaalfjord. On arrival complete with fuel and await further
 orders.
 (R.A.D. H.F. 2241B/1 to BLANKNEY, etc. (R) C. in C. H.F.)
 DUKE OF YORK and 2 destroyers joins covering force in position
 Z 067° 32' N. 010° 25' W. at 2359B/2.
 (F.O.S. 2336B/1 to S/Ms.)
 P.Q.15. P.C.S. 073° 20' N. 009° 35' E. 063°, 8 knots. Convoy
 has been under constant observation by enemy A/C who work in
 relief by pairs. Attack by 6 JU.88 developed at 2217. No
 damage to convoy. (?one) A/C shot down. Am detaching LONDON
 now. Admiralty pass to S.B.N.O. North Russia.
 (C.S.10 2359B/1 to C. in C. H.F.)

O.G.83
SALVONIA.Your 1525B/23. Sailed SALVONIA from Campbeltown
to R/V O.G.83 for Gibraltar.
(F.O.I.C. Greenock 0748B/1.)

H.X.186.

H.X.186 your 2017Z/30. No escort need be
detailed Clyde portion.
(C. in C. W.A. 0822B/1 to CHURCHILL.)

D.S.26.

C. in C. W.A. 0156/1. Intend sailing ST.MARYS
at 1100B/1 to R/V with D.S.26 in 059° 17' N.
015° 30' W. at 0600B tomorrow.
(R.A.M. 1028/1 to C. in C. W.A. SHIKARI.)
Sailed ST. MARYS.
(N.O.I.C. Port Z.A. 1109B/1.)

/TJALDUR ...

War Diary.1.5.1942
Friday.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping and Convoys - contd.

TJALDUR. Intend sailing TJALDUR escorted by EDAY at
 EDAY. 2230 today for X with 3 civilians, 83 military,
 CONQUEROR. 4 officers and one naval officer personnel.
 Routed through 061° 56' N. 006° 40' W, 061°
 50' N. 005° 20' W. Speed 10 knots. EDAY
 returns independently to Scapa.
 (N.O.I.C. Faroes 1140B/1 to A.C.O.S.)

My 1140/1. Add CONQUEROR will sail in company as far as 060°
 30' N. thence returning Thorshavn independently.
 (N.O.I.C. Faroes 1210B/1 to A.C.O.S.)

O.N. Commodores of O.N. convoys should be informed
 Convoys. that they will receive instructions from Western
 Local Escort if St. Lawrence ships are to be
 detached.
 (D.T.D. 1239B/1 to F.O.I.C. Liverpool.)

Movements Serial No.44.
 of Russian (D.T.D. 1756B/1 to Ad. Miles.)
 Ships.

Oil Fuel S.B.N.O. Archangel's 1359/30. Necessary that
 in North requirements Admiralty oil Murmansk and
 Russia. Archangel areas be co-ordinated. Cargo of
 SCOTTISH AMERICAN or HOPEMOUNT now Murmansk may
 be available for Molotovsk. Request local
 consultation and further report of requirements
 in P.Q.17.
 (4th S.L. 1922B/1 to S.B.N.O. Archangel etc.)

C.T.15 C.T.15 and ANDALUCIA STAR sailed. Commodore
 ANDALUCIA is Captain of MUNARGO.
 STAR. (N.O.I.C. Greenock 2014B/1 to Opanav.)
 C.T.15 sailed 1955/1.
 (D.S.T.O. Greenock 2005/1.)

War Diary.1.5.1942.
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic.20-30 M.Vs.
and 8
destroyers.

V.A.C.N.A., 0450B/1 see Mediterranean.

P.42
passage to
Gibraltar.At 0114Z/1 by D/F German U-boat between 000°
and 002° W.
(F.O.C.N.A., 0940B/1 to P.42).
5 destroyers sailed 1330A/1 for A/S Sweep routed
south of Alboran.2 M.L. escorting 1 merchant ship sailed 1500A/1 for Almeria
1 destroyer on patrol 15 miles E. of Panderma.

(F.O.C.N.A., 1410B/1 to P.42).

A/C reported S/M in 036° 40', 001° 55' W., at 1310A/1. Report
your position.

(F.O.C.N.A., 1536B/1 to P.42).

Your 1537B/1 (1536B/1 intended). My position 036° 45', 001°
46' W. Course 230°. S. of A 2 knots until 2115B/1 subsequently
7½ knots on surface. My 0801B/30 (N.T. in W.R.) am delayed
9 hours. Acknowledge.

(P.42, 1745B/1 to F.O.C.N.A.)

Your 1745B acknowledged. Were you attacked by A/C about 1410B.

(F.O.C.N.A., 1910B/1 to P.42).

Your 1910B/1. No 2 explosions heard at 1408B.

(P.42., 2006B/1 to F.O.C.N.A.)

W.M.P.13 from position A proceed to patrol within 5 miles
position 036° 30' N., 003° 30' W., during daylight 2/5 thence
to Gibraltar crossing 005° W., at 0900B/3 to arrive gate at
1200B/3.

(F.O.C.N.A., 2006B/1 to P.42).

Cancel my 2006B/1. R/V with 2 Motor Launches in 36° 30' N.,
03° 30' W., at 0900B/2 and proceed with escort to Gibraltar
to arrive Gate 2130B/2 if not met proceed to Gibraltar on
surface reporting at 1100B if still not met. Acknowledge.

(F.O.C.N.A., 2306B/1 to P.42).

U-boat in 036° 32', 002° 01' W., course easterly.

(P.42, 2322B/1 to F.O.C.N.A.)

At 2318B first estimated enemy course and speed 070° 14 knots.

U-boat may have dived on sighting me or when my torpedoes
exploded on bottom. Torpedo missed.(P.42., 2359B/1 to F.O.C.N.A.) *See p. 21.*Your 2322B/1 acknowledged. Comply with my 2306B/1. Destroyers
sweeping between 036° 20' and 036° 50' and 001° 20' W., and
002° 10' W.

(F.O.C.N.A. 0340B/1 to P.42).

Tankers.

Tankers arriving here carrying aviation spirit
are not allowed inside harbour.Therefore they have to anchor outside in
exposed position.(N.C.S.O. Ponta Dégada, 1255/1 to Admty (R)
F.O.C.N.A.)A/C report,
U/B.Following has been read. Am over enemy S/M
in position GNDS 4005 (Position indecypherable)
periscope only sighted. Course of S/M 270°
speed 10 knots.

(A/C B/- Squadron 1310/1 to Gibraltar W/T).

/Have...

War Diary.

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Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

- A/C report. Have attacked enemy S/M with depth charges.
U/B. Contd. Result unknown.
(A/C B/- Sqdn. 1330/1 to Gibraltar W/T).
- A/C report, Am over enemy S/M in position JVQG 0000 (incorrect)
U/B. (A/C M.1. Sqdn. 1500/1 to Gibraltar W/T).
- A/S Sweep. Sailed WESTCOTT, WISHART, VIDETTE, WRESTLER,
GEORGETOWN for A/S sweep eastward.
(F.O.C.N.A., 1316A/1 to Admty).
- IMPERIALIST 1 A/P unknown bearing 324° Espichel 24.
A/C. (IMPERIALIST, 1845A/1 to Gibraltar W/T).
My 1900 no mast on A/C.
(IMPERIALIST, 1945/1 to F.O.C.N.A.)
- U-boat F.O.C.N.A., 1956B/1 2246B/1 See Mediterranean.
attacked.
- Air Report CHQ Ops. 488 1/5 resume for 1/5.
U.573 ~~damaged~~ U-boat sighted and attacked 1500 posn. 37° N., 1°
(~~by M/233~~) E. by M/233, direct hit U/B disappeared eventually
resurfacing (V2?) vertical disappeared again to reappear
conning tower up and crew seen strike. A/C despatched to posn.
also 2 D/Rs b /233 attacked U-boat 1305 sighted on surface
posn. 36° 36' N., 2° W., 3 miles no result observed.
(R.A.F. Gibraltar, 2006/1 to Air Min. H.Q.C.C. (R) H.Q., R.A.F.,
M.E.)
- French Gibraltar 1417/1 A.P.V. SERGENT GOUARWE
Shipping SS. SAINTE MAXIME, MONACO (ex Greek ALIKI) both
movements. light deck cargoes - drums casks Eastbound.
(S.O.(I) Gibraltar, 2145B/1).
- Unidentified Large unidentified A/C passed overhead bound
A/C. N., my position 31 OPCL 20. (position
indecypherable).
(LOCH OSKAIG, 2230A/1 to Gibraltar).

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Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic.

MENELAUS Following received Raider Signal.
 "Q" Report. 25° 1' S., 13° 23' W., suspicious vessel following
 (MENELAUS, 0657/1).
 Following received at 0936B/1 (begins) QQQQ from
 MENELAUS 025° 16' S., 013° 23' W. patrol vessel follows (Ends).
 2. From shipping plot, it appears probable that this is a
 raider.
 (C. in C. S.A., 1003B/1 to C.T.F.23 (R) R.A. W. Africa, Admty).

PATRICIA RRRR PATRICIA SKAKEL 19° 28' W., 06° 30' N.,
 SKAKEL, Strange vessel following if approach too close will
 Raider fire on her.
 Report. (? T.O.R., 0737G.M.T./1).
 Following has been read, from PATRICIA SKAKEL.
 Strange vessel now heading west diesel type
 Scandinavian tanker. Two Masts, Cruiser Stern. Long high
 bow.

(Freetown, 0857/1 G.M.T.)
 Please cancel your RRRR Message in Merchant navy code.
 (R.A.W. Africa, 1012Z/1 to PATRICIA SKAKEL).
 Freetown S 0737/1/5 G.M.T. PATRICIA SKAKEL is ex EXCHESTER.
 Have you any previous information of movements of this ship?
 (C. in C. S.A., 1417B/1 to R.A. West Africa (R) Admty. F.O.C.N.A.)
 Your 1417B/1. PATRICIA SKAKEL left Halifax on 13/4 due
 Freetown 30/4. This ship made raider signal at 0737/1 adding
 that she was being followed by strange vessel. Subsequently
 stated strange vessel was Scandinavian type tanker and was
 steering west. FAGERSFEL (?FAGERFJELL) was in this position
 steering west and PATRICIA SKAKEL has been requested to cancel
 raider signal.
 (R.A. West Africa, 1550Z/1 to C. in C. S.A., Admty (R)
 F.O.C.N.A.)
 My 1550/1 not to ships in Area P. PATRICIA SKAKEL has cancelled
 her Raider report made at 0737Z/1.
 (R.A. West Africa, 2121Z/1 to All As. Afloat, all H.M. Ships
 and Vessels operating in or passing through Area P. S.A.S.,
 C. in C. S.A., Admty. F.O.C.N.A.)

W.S.17 Convoy sailing telegram. (1) W.S.17 A to Aden,
 17 B to Bombay. (2) 0700Z/1 (3) R/V Capetown
 portion end of Durban swept channel 0800Z/1.
 (4) 10 knots, India portion 13 knots from (W). (5) (Routes)
 (6) REVENGE, DAUNTLESS.
 (N.C.S.O. Durban, 0847Z/1 to Admty etc).
 W.S.17 sailed 27/4. List, fuel and water.
 (S.S.T.O. Capetown, 0917Z/1, 1007Z/1, to D.S.T., N.O.I.C. Aden,
 etc).
 Durban portion W.S.17 A and 17 B escorted by HOLLY and
 DAUNTLESS sailed to R/V with Capetown portion at outer end of
 Durban searched channel at 0800Z/1. S. of A whole convoy to
 position 005° 30' N., 050° 02' E., 10 knots, then Aden portion
 10 knots, India, portion 13 knots. E.T.A. Aden 1400Z/15,
 Bombay 03(?00)Z/17. ADAMANT sailed with convoy for Mombasa.
 (Cdre I/C Durban, 1054Z/1 to Admty etc).

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Friday.

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FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic - Contd.

- F.S. Signals. Your 2015/29 (2015/27 intended) Shipping information. It is not intended to abolish F.S. signals. Encounter signal will be made in addition to these.
(R.A. West Africa, 0901Z/1 to C. in C. S.A. (R) Admty).
- Whalers. Admty. 2053/3/4 (N.T. in W.D.) Intend (1) Commissioning SOBKRA, SORSRA, SOLVRA, SONDRRA, SIMBRA, SIGFRA, MASTIFF and LURCHER as tenders to AFRIKANDER, Durban.
(2) Transferring accounts to LANKA on departure from Durban after working up.
(C. in C. S.A., 0935B/1 to C. in C. E.I. (R) Admty etc).
- Conversion of Whalers. C. in C. E.I. 1249/22. Conversion of vessels can be undertaken in South Africa.
(C. in C. S.A., 0942Z/1 to Admty).
- Congestion in S. Africa Ports. Congestion of Merchant Shipping in Capetown and Durban is serious. During last week there were never less than 30 ships in outer Roads both at Capetown and Durban. Apart from delay this is an unacceptable and partly unnecessary war risk.
(2) Situation is likely to get worse as Durban is developing as a Naval Base, and stores for Eastern Fleet are unloading at both ports.
(3) Increased use is already being made of Port Elizabeth and East London but this is limited owing to lack of fuel facilities and steep gradients on Railway close to these ports.
(4) Practical solution is to use Lourenco Marques and Beira to a much greater extent. These Harbours are the natural ports of Transvaal and Rhodesia and have good inland railway connections. South African Railways are anxious for more employment of these communications to ease congestion on their other lines.
(5) There may be diplomatic or (?security) reasons against full exploitations of these neutral ports, but it is urged they should be used to maximum possible extent for (a) landing cargoes (b) fuelling (c) Merchant Ship repairs.
(C. in C. S.A., 1007B/1 to Admty (R) C. in C. E.F.etc).
- EMPIRE AMETHYST. Overdue shipping EMPIRE AMETHYST sailed New Orleans 5/4 due Freetown 28/4 not arrived (S.O.(I) Freetown, 1009Z/1).
- S.U.4 Convoy S.U.4 sailed for Fremantle escorted by CHITRAL. S. of A. 15 knots. E.T.A. 0500Z/13. Great Circle route.
(Cdre I/C Durban, 1149Z/1 to Admty etc).

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War Diary.1.5.1942.
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic.- Contd.COLOMBO,
EMPRESS OF
RUSSIA.Intend to use COLOMBO as escort to EMPRESS OF
RUSSIA Cape to Freetown and Freetown to U.K.
leaving Capetown about 8/5.2. EMPRESS OF RUSSIA will be filled to capacity
with Polish Naval and Air Force personnel and
service personnel for U.K.3. COLOMBO will require fuel at Ponta Delgada on passage
Freetown to U.K.(C. in C. S.A., 1211B/1 to Admty (R) R.A.W.A., C. in C. W.A.,
F.O.C.N.A.)Wireless
guards at
Montevideo.Your 1025/19/4. In view of change in Falkland
Island shipshore watch Montevideo wireless station
is now keeping the following wireless guard.

Request approval.

(S.O.(I) Montevideo, 1334Z/1 to C. in C. S.A.)

W.S.18,
HECLA.HECLA should proceed with Durban portion of
W.S.18 and thereafter as required by C. in C. E.F.
(D.O.D. (F), 1723B/1 to R.A.W.A., (R) C. in C.
S.A., C. in C. E.F., HECLA, GAMBIA).Tankers
Routeing.For the present the majority of Tankers bound
for U.K. from Gulf of Mexico and West Indies
are being routed via Freetown.(D.T.D., 1859B/1 to R.A.W.A. (R) C. in C. S.A.,
C. in C. A.W.I.)

C. in C.

Your 1748/15. No objection to transfer to
Capetown on the understanding that Prime Minister
of South Africa has no objection.

(Hd. of M., 2225B/1 to C. in C. S.A.)

Suspicious
Ship.Ship reported herself to DAUNTLESS as BOLTON
CASTLE at 0220/1 in 031° S., 031° E. BOLTON
CASTLE was not in this area. Vessel(s) not
shown on shipping plot should be closely
(?examined).(C. in C. S.A., 2345B/1 to S.A.S Sqdn. (R) Admty.
C. in C. E.F.) Cancelled, see 1542B/2.

War Diary.1.5.1942.
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean.Anticipated
arrivals
during May
at Port Said
and Suez.

D. of S.T., 0044B/1.

S/Ms
reported.Aircraft report S/Ms in following position and bearing distance Ras-El-Tin $328^{\circ} 25'$ miles and $350^{\circ} 30'$ miles.
(Capt. (S) I., 0129C/1 to P.612).20-30 M.Vs.
and 8
destroyers
reported.Bomber Command delivery aircraft reports sighting at 1902 G.M.T./30/4 20-30 merchant ships escorted by 8 destroyers in $037^{\circ} 40'$ N., $009^{\circ} 45'$ E., course S.W., speed slow.
(V.A. Malta, 0145B/1 to F.O.C.N.A.)
Your 0145B/1. Was report made by competent

observer?

(2) Request observer may be closely interrogated and any further details available reported.

(3) I have no aircraft available capable of carrying out R/C over this distance.

(V.A.C.N.A., 0450B/1 to V.A. Malta).

My 0145/1 and your 0450/1 (1) Planes passed about 2 miles from the nearest ship. (2) Convoy was in 4 or 5 lines and was not zigzagging. (3) Escort was identified as Destroyer but crew unable to say whether with one or 2 funnels. (4) Period was dusk but ships were clear by day by all members of crew.

(5) Comment. In spite of circumstances nature of the evidence of the crew is very inexperienced and report must be treated with reserve.

(V.A. Malta, 1501B/1).

→ URGE.
P.31.Your 0558/1 URGE passing through $034^{\circ} 53' 020''$ and $032^{\circ} 12'$, $029^{\circ} 06'$ to arrive Alexandria searched channel 0530C/6. P.31 on same route E.T.A. dawn 5th.
(Capt. (S) I., 0653C/1 to PORPOISE).

TRITON

Greek S/M TRITON sailed 1830C/1 routed from end of searched channel through $033^{\circ} 30'$, $027^{\circ} 14'$ and $035^{\circ} 09'$, $021^{\circ} 32'$ and thence as routed by V.A. Malta. TRITON has been ordered to adjust speed to pass second position about dawn 6th and arrive Malta p.m. 9th.
(Capt. (S) I., 1031C/1 to C. in C. Med).Loss of
UPHOLDER.

UPHOLDER left Malta 6/4 after full rest period for patrol West of Tripoli (Libya) and to carry out special operation which was reported successfully completed 2301/9. Night 10/11/4 transferred Capt. Wilson, R.A. to UNBEATEN.

2. P.M./12 UPHOLDER was ordered by Capt. (S) 10 to establish patrol in vicinity of $033^{\circ} 10'$ N., $014^{\circ} 23'$ E., by 0001/15/4.

→ URGE and THRASHER also ordered to this vicinity to form

/patrol...

War Diary.1.5.1942.
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean.

Loss of UPHOLDER patrol line to intercept important convoy bound for Tripoli (Libya).
Contd. 3. a.m./13 UPHOLDER was ordered to patrol between 033° 08' N., 012° 56' E., and 033° 10' N. 012° E. to intercept Westbound traffic until necessary to proceed to patrol line previously ordered.

4. THRASHER unsuccessfully attempted Asdic communication with UPHOLDER at 2030/14 and 1430/15 and confirmed depth charges heard by URGE on 14/4.

5. Consider UPHOLDER probably successfully hunted and sunk on 14/4. S.10 0545/25 not to Admiralty, with (?which) I concur, refers. Compromise of books unlikely.

6. Loss of this valuable submarine and her outstanding C.O. after a long and brilliant career in Mediterranean is much regretted.
(C. in C. Med., 1137C/1 to Admty (R) F.O.S. etc).

Enemy CC/33 of 1st May 1942.
seaborne and Following for Chiefs of Staff from Cs. in C.
airborne 1. Request following amendments be made to my
attack on CC/32 (1330/30).
Cyprus. 2. Para. 6. Add to approved garrison 1 armoured
car Regt.
3. Para. 7. Add to garrison at present in
island 1 armoured Regt. and 1 armoured Car Regt.
4. Para 7. (C). Delete words in brackets and substitute
excluding light A.A. guns of which we are very short.
(Mideast, 1200/1 to Air Min).

Tugs. Your 1641/28. (1) Tug PAULINE MOLLER is at Aden employed for: (a) Rescue Tug (b) Towing damaged (?ships) from Suez to Aden (c) Dredging work.
(2) Tug ST. AUBIN is at Aden employed on dredging work. (M/S Y.W.L.)
(3) No large Tug at Massawa.
(4) In view of Admty. 0054/22/3 and earlier signals stressing importance of dredging at Aden it is not possible to spare a Tug from Red Sea.
(C. in C. Med., 1203C/1 to Admty (R) C. in C. E.I., F.O.C.R.S., etc).

SS. POTARO SS. POTARO now at Aden. Isship to be held for inclusion in M.W.11?
(C. in C. Med., 1235C/1 to Admty).

DUC French ship DUC D'AUMALE.
D'AUMALE. (Trugillo, 1631/1).

THORN. If nothing sighted by dusk, act independently in area C.
(Capt. (S) 1., 1715C/1 to THORN).

/If...

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Friday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

THORN Contd. If A/S activity is too great you may proceed to vicinity of 032° 50', 015° 05' keeping west until 0430C/3rd.
(Capt. S.l., 2155C/1 to THORN).
R/C shows eastbound coastal traffic of sailing vessels tugs and Lighters under way in Western half of Gulf of Sirte today first.
(Capt. S.l., 2321C/1 to THORN).

Malta air raids. WX. 3495. I.260 1/5. C.S.R.1/5. My I.259/30. LMG damaged 1 Me. 109 3 alerts 1419, 1528, 1655 hours. Me. 109s, 10 Ju.88s, 4 probable Cant Z1007Bs. 1 Do.24 Rescue search Luqa out building destroyed. Camp no damage elsewhere civilian casualties. Spitfires up no combats A.A. destroyed 1 Ju.88, 1 Me.109 damaged 1 Me. 109.
Night 30/1. 5 alerts 1947, 2227, 2345, 0105,0218 hours, 13 raiders bombs land sea no damage A.A. fired.
1st. 7 & alerts 0427, 0502, 0543, 0755, 1126, 1208, 1351 hours 22 probable Me. 109s on patrol only 2 crossed coast, 1 Me. 109 destroyed 2 damaged by 2 Spitfires.
30th. 1 Beaufort 3 Hudsons 4 Wellingtons ex Gibraltar arrived, all except 1 Wellington left same night to M.E. 1st, 1 Wellington to M.E. no aircraft missing.
(H.Q., R.A.F., Med., 1725/1).

SULLBERG (German). Departure 30th SULLBERG Marseilles Oranges.
(Valencia, 1919/1 to M.W.T.)

U-boat attacked. (1) At 1330A Hudson Aircraft attacked U-boat in 036° 40' N., 001° 55' W., no further action taken pending P.C. and S. report from P.42
(ii) At 1500A aircraft reported U-boat in 037° 00' N., 001° 00' E. Amplified report U-boat disabled on surface. 2 destroyers detached from sweep to attack. Hudson aircraft left at 1700A to attack.
(F.O.C.N.A., 1956B/1) See also Air Report. (R.A.F. Gibraltar 2006/1, in North Atlantic)
My 1956/1st P.42 was not attacked. WISHART, WRESTLER E.T.A. 037° 00' N., 001° 00' E., at 0145A/2nd. WESTCOTT, VIDETTE, GEORGETOWN searching area by Cape de Gata.
(F.O.C.N.A., 2246B/1) ~~3~~ p.14. (P.42)

S/M Reported. R/C aircraft reported sighting a S/M in your area at 1500 today.
(Capt. (S) l., 2015C/1 to PROTEUS).

TREDINNICK, CONECTICUT, overdue. S.O.(I) Capetown 0955/30 passed to U.S.C.N.O. and C. in C. A.W.I. C.O.A.C. Halifax's 0404/9/4 (Raider Signal N.T. in W.D.) passed to all addressees refers.
(N.S.H.Q., 2027Z/1 to Admty. U.S.C.N.O.
C. in C. A.W.I., C. in C. S.A., S.O.(I) Kingston, S.O.(I) Capetown, S.O.(I) Freetown).

OLYMPUS You have probably been sighted by warship.
(V.A. Malta, 2344B/1 to OLYMPUS).

War Diary.

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Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

Eastern Fleet Your 0306/10. (N.T. in W.D.) Your policy to remain on the defensive if contact is made during clear weather thus leaving the initiative to Japanese is as unattractive to us as I am sure it is to you, as unless your fighters can eliminate the Japanese some must get past your fighter defence. You would thus be open to grave risk of carriers' decks being damaged and still be confronted with an undamaged enemy. Request you will signal more fully the reasons supporting your policy.
(1st S.L., 0110B/1 to C. in C. E.F., (R) R.A.A., Dep. C. in C. E.I)

Movements, NEWCASTLE, FORMIDABLE and KELANTAN arrived.
Seychelles. (N.O.I.C. Seychelles, 0537Z/1 to Admty., etc.)
NEWCASTLE, FORMIDABLE, NESTOR, NORMAN, FOXHOUND, DECOY left.
(N.O.I.C. Seychelles, 1330Z/1 to Admty., etc.)

VULCANIA, Noon position of VULCANIA, SATURNIA 1st May 3.50 S.,
SATURNIA. 46.01 E. course 020° speed 17 knots.
(Portishead Radio, 0930/1, Mombasa Radio, T.H.I. 1315/1).

DAUNTLESS, DAUNTLESS arrived 0606 CHESHIRE arrived 0858 to
CHESHIRE. land sick man. CHESHIRE sailed for Capetown.
S. of A. 13 knots, route R 2. E.T.A. 0600Z/4.
(N.O.I.C. Durban, 1345Z/1 to Admty., etc.)

3 Destroyers. Following has been read:- 3 Destroyers. Bearing 170°. Distance 8 miles. Course unknown. My position LTMA 3225 (in correct position).
(C. in C. E.F., (as received) 1350B/1).

WUCHANG. Admty. 2248/22/4. Intend to commission WUCHANG with R.N. Officers retaining present Chinese Crew on T.124 agreement. Request information of agreement under which present crew are serving terms of Charter of ship, and instructions for disposal of Ship's Officers.
(C. in C. E.I., 1421Z/1 to D.S.T.)

Convoy S U 4. Convoy S U 4 Comprising DUNTROON, FELIX ROUSSEL and WILLARD A. HOLBROOK sailed 1100Z/1 May for Fremantle. E.T.A. 0500Z/13. *WILLARD CENTRAL.*
(S.S.T.O., Durban, 1426Z/1). *See p. 17.*

EMPIRE Request purport of your 0301/29/4 (N.T. in W.D.)
FIELD. to EMPIRE FIELD.
(D.T.D., 1506B/1 to C. in C. E.I.)

War Diary.

1.5.1942.
Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies. - contd.

- SONTAY attacked by S/M. Continuation my 20713 of 29/4 (1130/29). From I. Ship was SONTAY previously Vichy ship intercepted by Navy 26/1/1941 now requisitioned by Union Govt. and en route Berbera. Position when attacked 1200/23, 15° 45' S., 41° 28' E. Ship arrived undamaged Mombasa. S/M again sighted by sailing ship 2100 hrs. 24/4 15° 40' S., 40° 31' E. Approached to within 2 miles but could not be identified. Navy Mombasa informed. (G.O.C. in C. E.Africa, 1545/1 to W.O.)
- Air Report. Intelligence Summary No.47 on information received up to 1800/1/5. Attacks. Low level bombing attack by twin flying boats on Akyab 1/5, no damage. 1 B.17 of U.S.A. Air Force attacked Rangoon Docks night of 29/4. 14 ships 5000 to 7000 tons reported in river. (A.H.Q. India, 1732/1 to Air Min.)
- Addu Atoll. Notwithstanding suspension of work, medical R/C of Addu Atoll which you are arranging with Govt. of India and should be carried out and completed as soon as possible and result reported. This would avoid delays later on if it were decided to proceed with the development of Addu. (5th S.L., 2025B/1 to C. in C. E.I.)
- MANCHESTER CITY, JAY. Cancel my 1311/10/3. On completion of Controlled Minefield at Grand Port, Mauritius, MANCHESTER CITY and JAY should be sailed to Durban or any other East African Port you may select to await further instructions. (D.T.M., 2256B/1 to C. in C. E.I.)
- Co-operation with U.S.N. My 0013/22. Has procedure been tried and with what result? (A.C.N.S.(F), 2358B/1 to C. in C. E.F., C. in C. E.I (R) B.A.D.)

1.5.1942.
Friday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies.Caribbean
port
defences.

Navy Dept. say that a small amount of A/T net has been laid in Curacao Area but they do not know exactly where, as the operation was organised by Com. Caribbean.

2. They also believe that a baffle of apparently U.S. manufacture recently arrived in a British ship at Bahia Boca, Las Piedraux, and is to be laid off the oil jetty by local U.S. resources about 4/5.

3. Except for a request for a baffle at the U.S. Base at Vieux Forte, Navy Dept. have not been asked by Com. Caribbean to supply nets for the oil or any other ports, and at present they are making no provision for such requirements.

4. They are now concentrating on six miles of net for Trinidad and until this operation is completed there is little chance of getting any for other ports especially as requirements for convoy assembly points on east coast have been given a high priority.

5. I suggest you ask Com. Caribbean direct for details asked for in your 1842/28 as he is in a better position to answer and also he should be able to confirm assistance in laying.
(B.A.D. 0029Z/1 to C. in C. A.W.I. (R) Admty.)U/B
fixes
by D/F.

Within 30 miles 43° N 69° W 2049Z/30 (N.S.H.Q. 0031Z/1)

Within 60 miles 36° N 69° W 2359Z/30 (N.S.H.Q. 0244Z/1)

Within 100 miles 37° N 57° 30' W 2334Z/30
(N.S.H.Q. 0621Z/1)

Within 100 miles 37° 30' N 69° 30' W 0027Z/1 (N.S.H.Q. 0823Z/1)

Within 60 miles 35° N 75° W 0318Z/1 (N.S.H.Q. 0956Z/1)

Within 75 miles 31° N 75° W 0520Z/1 (N.S.H.Q. 1000Z/1)

Within 60 miles 39° N 61° W 0351Z/1 (N.S.H.Q. 1236Z/1)

Within 60 miles 34° 30' N 27° 30' W 1531Z/1 (N.S.H.Q. 2132Z/1)

Curacao,
Shipping
Suspension.

Your 1142P/30. Concur. (D.T.D. 0100B/1 to C. in C. A.W.I. (R) B.A.D. etc.)

Aruba-
Trinidad
Convoys.Personal from 1st. S.L. Your 2053/30/4 para 3. This has already been under consideration but no decision can be arrived at until I have received proposals regarding additional Russian convoys which I understand Adm. King is sending me.
(1st. S.L. 1043B/1 to B.A.D.)O.N.S.92.
O.N.93.My 1825B/25. ^{N.S. W.D.} and 1730B/27. ^{John E.} C.T.U. 24.1.3. in U.S. Destroyer GLEAVES, plus SPENCER, ARVIDA, ALGOMA, SHEDIAC, BITTERSWEET Designated Escort of O.N. ~~Number~~ S.92. C.T.U. 24.1.13. in SKEENA (Plus) SAGUENAY, RIMOUSKI, EYEBRIGHT, KAMSACK Designated Escort of O.N. Number 93. (C.T.G.24. 7.25. 1215B/1 to C.T.F.24.)U/B
Report.

Intercepted 1018 G.M.T. de NAA. WGBC1 de NAA S/M attack 17.01 N 66.03 W at 2150Z/30. S/M sighted 35° N 75.53 W at 2350Z/30. Suspicious

/ship...

War Diary.1.5.1942.
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies. conts.

U/B Reports (Contd.) ship sighted 21.38 N 59.41 W at 1400Z/30. S/M sighted 42.30 N 69.35 W at 2145Z/30. Controlling station Arlington Virginia Radio. (Portishead Radio T.H.I. 1218/1)

PHOEBE. NK alter course forthwith to new W 048° 00' N 040° 00' W thence direct to D omitting A, B and C. Admiralty diversion. (C.N.O. Navy Dept. 1258/1 to PHOEBE (R) Admty. etc.) *2/5 - p. 36.*

A.T.15 P.552. Following is a repetition of 1323Z/1 (Begins) Addressed C.T.F. 38, P. 552, repeated C. in C. U.S. Fleet C.E.S.F. N.S.H.Q. Ottawa from C.O.A.C. Halifax. Anticipate convoy A.T.15 will meet P.552 on surface steering 090° 9 knots in 043° 00' N 065° 10' W at 0130Z/2 (Ends) (C.O.A.C. Halifax 1326Z/1 to P.552.)

Shipping Diversion. S.N.O. pass to S.O.I. Kingston. Temporary diversion in Straits of Florida during period 11 (?) to 16/5 inclusive, all merchant shipping should be routed to clear aids to navigation by 15 miles between Sombrero Key to Cosgrove Light. (Opnav 1347/1 to Admty. etc.)

S.C.81. S.C.81. In order that Icomp may be arranged request you will order escorts to report P.C. and S of convoy. (C. in C. W.A. 1446Z/1 to C.T.F. 24 (for action) (R) Opnav, Admty, N.S.H.Q. F.O.N.F. C.O.A.C. C.T.G. 24.7, C.T.G. 24.6.)

U.S. and Barbados. Re. U.S. sending troops and aircraft warning equipment to Barbados if situation in Caribbean demands. Such proposals will be favourably received. (W.O. 1455/1 to J.S.M. Washington.)

Tankers for Freetown. My 0100B/1/5. Following tankers are urgently required at Freetown and are to be sailed as soon as possible by safest route accepting U-Boat risk. (a) SAN GASPARD from Puerto la Cruz loading at Curacao en route. (b) HOEGH GIANT and ATHELCSULTAN from Curacao. (D.T.D. 1505B/1 to C. in C. A.W.I.)

U/B Area. Large number of S/M radio fixes centred 36° N to 38° N and 56° W to 59° W over period lasting 5 days indicate possibility of either a damaged S/M or S/M R/V in area. (C. in C. U.S. Fleet 1523/1 to Cinclant (R) N.O.B. Bermuda, Admty. C. in C. A.W.I.)

PARNAHYBA. (Brazilian) Following received (Begins) 1852 G.M.T. S.O.S. /PARNAHYBA...

War Diary.1.5.1942.
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies. cont'd.

PARNAHYBA (Brazilian) PARNAHYBA torpedoed 10° 12' N 57° 16' W (Ends) Opnav pass to Cominch. (Cdre I/C Bermuda 1643P/1 to Admty.)

BURNHAM My 1909/28 and B.AD. Washington 1723/29. escort of Following tankers under charter to Canadian Fuel tankers. Controller have been ordered to Charleston for escort by BURNHAM to Cartagena: BRITAMER, ALAR, VANCOLITE, and POLYCASTLE. In addition

CALGAROLITE reported proceeding to Key West in a U.S. Convoy. 2. Request C.E.S.F. sail BURNHAM and tankers by most direct route to Cartagena and arrange for CALGAROLITE to join convoy if practicable. (N.S.H.Q. 1656Z/1 to Cominch) Cancelled by N.S.H.Q. 1731/2. q.v.

Escort of Tankers for Halifax. In view of heavy losses in Caribbean Sea and present lack of escort there, Oil Controller of Canada has refused to allow the few remaining tankers under charter to him to move without Naval Escort.

2. Fuel remaining at Halifax and St. John's on 28/4 was only 21 days stock. It was therefore necessary to take immediate measures indicated in my 1908Z/28 and 1909Z/28.

3. These measures will only provide very temporary relief and until introduction of U.S. escorted convoys from Caribbean Sea ports about July it will be necessary to continue escorting tankers from Halifax to Trinidad and other ports in Venezuela.

4. Consider Corvettes would be more economical than Destroyers for this duty and that a minimum of 4 Corvettes will be required.

5. In view of heavy commitments of C.O.A.C. propose 3 Corvettes be allocated from Midocean Ocean group to C.O.A.C. for this duty.

6. Request your early concurrence. (N.S.H.Q. 1658Z/1 to Admty. C. in C. U.S. Fleet.) Concur (V.C.N.S. 1306B/2.)

S.C.82. C.T.U. No. 24.1.18 in HIGHLANDER plus WINCHELSEA ASPHODEL, PENNYWORT, ANEMONE designated ocean escort for S.C.82. (C.T.24 1701/1 to Opnav Admty. etc.)

U/B. ^{? 26-1-42} B.O.A.C. CUPPER reports U-Boat on surface at 1742Z/1 in 35° 07' N 69° 47' W course N.N.W. U-Boat submerged on being sighted. (C. in C. A.W.I. 1843P/1 to Admty. (R) B.A.D. N.S.H.Q. C.O.A.C. Opnav, Cominch.)

U/B Intelligence. Sub attack and sighting Summary. LESLIE sunk. 28° 35' N 80° 20' W 0330Z/13. 1 torpedo. Sub not seen. DERRYHEEN sunk. 31° N 69° 30' W 0730Z/22. 2 torpedoes. No sub description.

FEDERAL torpedoed 21° 15' N 76° 05' W about 1400Z/30. LAPAZ, WORDEN and ALCOA LEADER reported themselves torpedoed today. First two considered not enemy action. Latter definitely not. One sighted 22° 22' N 77° 38' W 1441Z/1. 1 sighted 25° 04' N

/80° W...

War Diary.1.5.1942.
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies. cont'd:U/B
Intelligence.
(Contd.)

80° W 0324Z/1. 1 attacked by plane 34° 29' N 74° 27' W 0310Z/1. Sub was on surface and was straddled with two bombs within 15 feet. Damage possible. Plane sighted periscope 42° 30' N ? 1 Group missing 69° 35' W 2145Z/30. Fisherman sighted C/T and deck of sub 43° 32' N 69° 15' W 1315Z/30 consider possible. Opanav and B.A.D. informed. (C. in C. U.S. Fleet 1917/1 to Admty.)

Convoy
Escorts.

Your 0124B/28. Consider objections you raise to paras (c) and (d), my 1901/23 are capable of adjustments by authorities controlling convoys Western Atlantic. C.T.F. No. 24 state all past Midocean escorts have been continued to 53° with few instances of fuel shortages. Opanav informed. (C. in C. U.S. Fleet 1926/1 to Admty.)

Opanav
Reports
of
Movements.

Cancel my 2025/28/2 and my 1930/31/3. Following procedure applies to arrivals and departures of Naval vessels of British or other United Nations. Cominch will (a) transmit to Opanav, Fleet and Frontier commanders, notice of arrivals and departures from and to areas outside of U.S. strategic control (b) Transmit pertinent information to appropriate foreign Authorities. Opanav will (a) issue appropriate routeing instructions to outgoing ships to first port of call or position designated within area of British strategic control, information Cominch Fleet Commanders, Sea Frontiers Commanders, appropriate foreign authorities; (b) make diversions for both incoming and outgoing vessels whilst within area of U.S. strategic control; (c) issue a chop date. Sea Frontier Commanders will arrange for provision of coverage and/or escort as for comparable U.S. ships. Admty. please pass to R.A. West Africa. (Cominch and Opanav 1927/1 to Commanders all Sea Frontiers (r) Cinclant, F.O.N.F. C. in C. Pacific Fleet, B.A.D. Admty, C.O.A.C. N.S.H.Q. A.C.N.B. N.Z.N.B. C. in C. A.W.I. F.O.C.N.A. C. in C. W.A. C. in C. S.A. C.O. Pacific Coast, R.A. West Africa, Commandant 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15.)

Italian
Repatriations.

Following has been read by Barradio. Position of TAIGETE and ARCOLA at noon Sat. 1/5 19.57 N. 49.32 W course 236° speed 10.3 knots. (S.B.N.O. TAIGETE 2000/1)

OKLAHOMA
Replacement.

Your 1734/21 and B.A.D's 1733/27. Understand suitable replacement for OKLAHOMA has now been found but in order to prevent ship making 1 trip for present owners, it is essential British crew take over immediately. M.W.T. New York are unable to provide engine room complement and have requested me to do so. Only available personnel are ex EMPIRE PEREGRINE and approval is

/requested...

War Diary.1.5.1942.
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America & West Indies. contd:

OKLAHOMA
Replacement.
(contd.) requested before using them in view of D. of S.T's 2003/29. Intended to protect the suitability of some reappointments in any case, but this point will not be pursued pending your reply to this signal.
(B.A.R.M., 2022Z/1 to Admty.)

S.S. QUEEN
ELIZABETH. B.N.A. Rio de Janeiro's 1934/29. U.S. Authorities are aware that a leakage of information has taken place and C.T.F.23 has been asked if he can provide air cover for arrival and departure of ship at Rio de Janeiro. Request early information if you are considering any alteration in plan.
(B.A.D., 2043Z/1 to Admty.)

Ships
Attacked
by U/B's. FEDERAL, American Tanker, torpedoed and sunk 30/4 20.15 N. 76.05 W. 14 known survivors.
HARRY G. SEIDEL, American Tanker, reported 29th, now confirmed sunk, 6 miles E. Los Testigos Islands.
LA PAZ, British, torpedoed 1st May 28.15 N., 80.20 W. (Opnav, 2056/1).

Routeing
by U.S.N. Your 1656/28. It has now been found desirable to centralise the routeing and diverting of British warships in one authority, see C. in C. U.S. Fleet's 0119/27.
(B) Hoped this will simplify procedure. It does not alter the main policy that a U.S. Authority will be responsible for routeing ship to first port of call or designated geographical position in area of British control, and that such authority is responsible for diversion while ship is within area of U.S. strategic control.
(C) C. in C. U.S. Fleet concurs in paras. 2, 5 and 6 of your signal.
(D) C. in C. U.S. Fleet questions advisability of your suggestion in para.4, but suggests that Admty. should act as in your para. 6A should R/V or other arrangement be seriously affected by a diversion advised by Opnav.
(E) C. in C. U.S. Fleet agrees to arrangements being reciprocal and suggests Admty. should operate U.S. ships leaving U.K. waters and British C's in C. on other stations.
(B.A.D., 2135Z/1 to Admty. (R) C. in C. A.W.I., N.S.H.Q.)

U.S.
Troopships. Following army troop ships expected to sail Charleston in company about 31/5 for destinations indicated. MARIPOSA, SANTA PAULA for Freetown to join W.S. convoy which sails from that port about 12/6. MOR(?MAC)SUN for Monrovia, Liberia, to unload troops and cargo remaining there 3 or 4 weeks before returning to U.S. unescorted. Convoy speed 15. Advise escorts you can provide to Eastern limit of your area considering definite possibility of movements of 4 troop ships New York to U.K. about 31/5. Opnav informed. N.O.I.C. Freetown please pass to R.A. West Africa and Alusnob, Freetown.
(C. in C. U.S. Fleet, 2200/1 to C. in C. Atlantic Fleet (U.S.) (R) R.A. West Africa, Alusnob Freetown, B.A.D. Washington, Commandant 6th U.S. Naval District (Charleston) C.T.F.23 C.E.S.F., C.C.S.F.)

War Diary.

1.5.1942.
Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies. - contd.

836 Sqn.

Your 0914/27. Date of sailing may leave too small a margin in view of essential overhaul after long flights and present likelihood that ship will be well up to programme. Arrival North one week before 25/5 very desirable. Can this be arranged?
(B.A.R.M., 2210Z/1 to R.N.A.S. Kingston Jamaica
(R) C. in C. A.W.I., Admty., R.N.A.S. Piarco, BITER)

ARUNDO.

My 2001/28 ARUNDO (Dutch) torpedoed 28/4.
(N.S.H.Q., 2251Z/1 to C. in C. A.W.I., etc.)

A.T.15.

Your 0245/29. Reply to para. (1) will be made shortly. Ref. para. (2) (a) none. (b), (c) and (d). Details of speed, fuel, etc.
(B.A.D., 2333Z/1 to D.S.T. amended 1245Z/2).

U/B. ship
attacked.

Intercepted 2357 G.M.T. DE WCC (unread). S/M attacked 10.12 N., 57.16 W. at 1852Z/012211. Controlling Station Chatham Mass. radio.
(Portishead Radio, No T.O.O., Recd. 0237/2).

War Diary.1.5.1942.
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Australia and New Zealand.Movements.

U.S. Destroyers WHIPPLE and J.D. EDWARDS left Sydney (N.S.W.) 0300Z/30 for Hervey Bay (Queensland). WARREGO arrived Sydney (N.S.W.) 2347Z/29. U.S. Aircraft Tender WRIGHT and U.S. destroyer MANUS arrived Port Philip Bay 0205Z/30. VOYAGER left Melbourne 0003Z/30 for Fremantle. (A.C.N.B. 0956Z/1 to C. in C. Pacific Fleet (U.S.) etc.)

Departure Port Moresby 2206Z/29 CESSNOCK.
Departure Noumea 1925Z/29. U.S. Dest. PERKINS and U.S. cruiser CHICAGO for R/V. (A.C.N.B. 1042Z/1 to Admty. etc.) As amended 1621Z/2.

Situation.

Serial No.100 from C.W.R. 30/4. Tulagi 1945Z/29. 2 Catalinas on water damaged by 3 T 97 Kawanisi flying boats.

- (2) Air R/C 30/4 reported 1 very large transport 2 destroyers 003° 20' S. 153° 25' E. course 200°, 1 freighter 003° 32' S. 151° E. course 120° a large transport approx. 003° 32' S. 151° 26' E. course 105°, 2 freighters 5/6000 tons at Alexishafen (New Guinea).
- (3) R/C over Buka and north coast of New Britain 30/4 negative.
- (4) Enemy air R/C over wide area south (?of) New Guinea 30/4.
- (5) 8 bombers probably T 96 and 3 zero fighters bombed Horn Island (Torres Strait) at 0055Z/30 3 A/C damaged. 1 enemy fighter probably shot down.
- (6) 3 B 26s, 13 P.39s, bombed Lae aerodrome 2302Z/29. At least 30 A/C on aerodrome. Four direct hits and large fires observed. Medium and inaccurate heavy A/A fire. 13 zero fighters attempted to intercept. 3 shot down 2 probably damaged. 1 P 39 crashed 1 missing, 2 forced landed. Fuel dump and supplies set on fire at Salamoia.
- (7) C. in C. 4th Fleet and Commander 24th Air Squadron are now addressing traffic collectively to 4th Fleet 5th cruiser division (RYUKAKU, KAMIKAWA MARU.) (of 6th Air Squadron) and others. (A.C.N.B. 1718Z/1 to Admty. etc.)

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.Submarines Reported.

Estimated U/B positions.
(D.D.I.C. 1359B/1.)

War Diary.2.5.1942.
Saturday.SITUATION REPORT.Home Commands.

Convoys
P.Q.15,
Q.P.11.
EDINBURGH
sunk.

At 0609 EDINBURGH in 71° 51' N. 35° 10' E. in tow fore and aft towards Murmansk with her stern blown off up to No.7 turret, was again attacked by 3 Enemy Destroyers, was hit at 0657 by one of four torpedoes, abandoned at 0749, and finally sunk by a torpedo from FORESIGHT. The enemy were engaged by EDINBURGH, FORESIGHT, FORESTER, HARRIER and HUSSAR and one of their Destroyers is believed to have been sunk and another damaged. FORESIGHT however was damaged and her speed reduced to 15 knots and FORESTER appears also to have been damaged. EDINBURGH's casualties are 2 Officers, about 56 ratings, and 2 foreign passengers killed and 1 Officer and 12 ratings wounded; but at 1652 C.S.18 and her survivors were returning in HARRIER, NIGER and HUSSAR to Polyarno, where they expect to arrive at 2130C.

At 1901B C. in C. H.F. in the damaged KING GEORGE V was proceeding from 68° 41' N. 7° 43' W. with MARTIN, MARNE and ORIBI towards Seidisfiord; whence after embarking PUNJABI's survivors, he intends to return to Scapa with 4 Hunt-Class Destroyers. MARTIN, MARNE and ORIBI will sail again from Seidisfiord after fuelling, to R/V in 68° 25' N., 5° 14' W. at 0600B/4 with V.A.2. who will continue to cover Convoy Q.P.11 until it has crossed 6° W.

Air attack
on P.Q.15.

Convoy P.Q.15 was reported by enemy A/C at 1910B/1 and 1310/2 and by a U-Boat at 1908Z/2; and Convoy Q.P.11 was reported by A/C at 1315/2; at 2327Z today Convoy P.Q.15 was attacked by 6 torpedo aircraft in 73° N. 19° 40' E. and SS BOTAVON, JUTLAND and CAP CORSO were sunk. Heavy drifting ice is reported to extend to the northwards from 73° 31' N. 21° 34' E. and Convoy P.Q.15 has been so informed.

Operation
KC.1.

4 M.T.B's of the 11th M.T.B.Flottilla passed the Needles at 2150 to carry out Operation KC.1.

Sabotage in
PELICAN.

A case of sabotage was discovered in PELICAN at Londonderry today.

Enemy Air Activity.

An enemy A/C, probably an F.W.Condor, is reported to have flown over Jan Mayen at 0257 yesterday.

/Air ...

War Diary.

2.5.1942.
Saturday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Enemy Air Activity. - contd.

Air Attack
on P.Q.15.

See Home Commands.

Mining.

The barge UNIQUE was mined and sunk with all hands in the Thames Estuary this morning.

North Atlantic.

A transit aircraft sighted a U-Boat at 0748 G.M.T. in 45.20 N., 09.48 W., which crash dived on sighting A/C.

U.74
Sunk.
(Cdr. Row-
botham
lent
cmd: 6843.)

At 1312, an aircraft ^{12/202} sighted a U-Boat in 37.32 N., 00.10 E., and dropped depth charges without result. WISHART and ~~WESTCOTT~~, which co-operated in search, obtained a firm contact in 37.16 N., 00.01 W., and attacked from 1600A to 1800A without visible result.

*WRESTLER - See p. 44

In view of the remote possibility of passing M.L's through the Mediterranean and the fact that if they attempted to make the passage to Alexandria round the Cape, they would require new engines on arrival the 27th M.L. Flotilla is reallocated to West Africa. The four boats of the 3rd Flotilla are to remain at Gibraltar ready to make the passage through the Mediterranean when conditions permit.

The Governor of Gibraltar asks for a statement of policy to be adopted should large French warships attempt to pass through the Straits of Gibraltar in either direction.

War Diary.

2.5.1942.
Saturday.

SITUATION REPORT.

South Atlantic.

As a Press report from Washington refers to the arrival at Madagascar of French cruisers MONTCALM and MARSEILLAISE and depot ship JULES VERNE, Admty. today asked for an air R/C of Dakar.

SS DALFRAM was damaged by a mine today in 34° 10' S., 17° 49' E. but reached Capetown safely.

Mediterranean.

U/B damaged. A Cartagena report states that a damaged German U-Boat of 410 tons was towed inside a reef at 1315 today. The damage is believed to be serious. (Note. - An aircraft claimed a direct hit on a U-Boat at 1500/1 in 37° N., 1° E.; 115' E. by S. Cartagena).

Malta. Continuous intruder patrols were maintained last night by 24 raiders, and slight damage was caused at Luqa and Hal Far and in Grand Harbour. 9 bombers attacked in this morning's raids, causing civilian damage and casualties. Chiefs of Staff have no evidence of preparations to carry out an airborne invasion of Malta, nor any evidence indicating a seaborne invasion of the island. On the other hand, they have reliable information of the withdrawal of 1 bomber group and 1 fighter group, and indications of a further withdrawal from Sicily.

Air operations. During the past week our bombers continued their attacks on Benghazi port and bombed the submarine base in Leros. Fighter protection was given to Tobruk convoys by day. One night bombing attack was made on enemy aerodromes in Crete. The weather interfered with operations on 3 days.

Patrol Ship CALDERON, in convoy was bombed about 2030 today 35 miles West of Alexandria and sank later.

War Diary.

2.5.1942.

Saturday.SITUATION REPORT.East Indies.Colombo
Shipping.

The congestion in Colombo Harbour having been relieved, restrictions imposed by C. in C. E.I. in his 1427/9 were cancelled today, and ships with cargoes for Ceylon are to sail normally.

"Q" Reports.

SS AWATEA made a "Q" report at 1445Z today in 8° 28' S., 42° 24' E.

SS OCEAN VANGUARD at 2352 G.M.T. made a "Q" report from 34.34 S., 25.16 E., stating she had been ordered to stop by a suspicious vessel.

America & West Indies.

SS OCEAN VENUS was sunk today off Cape Canaveral (North of Florida Strait) and there were other reports of U-Boats off the U.S. East coast as far North as Wilmington and also off Kingston, Jamaica. British tanker SANDAR, Gibraltar to Trinidad was torpedoed at 2045Z today N.W. of Tobago and 35 survivors landed at Trinidad.

N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, referring to the decision of Oil Controller of Canada not to allow the few remaining tankers under charter to him to move without naval escort, and to the measures taken on 28/4, to provide escorts, states that these will afford only temporary relief, and until the introduction of U.S. escorted convoys from Caribbean Sea ports about July it will be necessary to continue escorting tankers from Halifax to Trinidad and other ports in Venezuela. He asks for the allocation of 3 corvettes from Mid-Ocean Group to C.O.A.C. for this duty. C. in C. U.S. Fleet agreed to this.

War Diary.2.5.1942.
Saturday.SITUATION REPORT.Australia.

Japanese SEIA MARU reported (no time given) having been struck by 2 torpedoes in 09.24 N., 156.18 E., but able to proceed Imieji, where she was due on 3/5.

7 U.S. medium and heavy bombers attacked Rabaul today damaging transports and buildings; a light cruiser, one destroyer and 19 transports were seen in the area. Fifteen Zero fighters attacked Seven Mile Aerodrome, Port Moresby today and bombers escorted by fighters attacked the aerodrome again at 2258Z; there were losses of planes on both sides. There were 6 air raids on Tulagi (Solomon Is.) from 1929Z/1 to 0615Z/2; all personnel was evacuated at 2335Z/1, except the signal staff and communications ceased at 0825Z today.

War Diary.2.5.1942.
Saturday.HOME COMMANDS.Policy.Neutral
Waters.

HUDDERSFIELD TOWN should not proceed into neutral waters, vide your sailing orders. (F.O.I.C. Milford Haven, 0958B/2 to MARIE LOUISE MACKAY).

S.S. MANXMAID
? MANX MAID.

Your 1423/1. ^{N.T. W.D.} MANXMAID has been released to War Transport in accordance with Superintendent of Conversion's 1406/25/4. BOURNEMOUTH QUEEN is being retained in lieu. My 1505/26/4 refers. (C. in C. Rosyth, 1239B/2 to Admty).

W.A. Command
Coastal
Forces.

Your 1628/10/12. Report of coastal forces available on 2/5. Details. (C. in C. W.A., 1532B/2 to Admty).

KENT,
BERWICK.

Your 1806B/29/4. KENT can be taken at Devonport mid-May for refit or BERWICK with turbine defects can be taken at Rosyth on 1/6 for refit. 2. It is not considered that both these ships can be spared to refit concurrently in view of the recent reduction in cruiser strength by enemy action. 3. Request your remarks. (A.C.N.S. (H), 1826B/2 to C. in C. H.F.)

Movements.

WARWICK.

Sailed WARWICK by Great Circle route to Argentina. E.T.A. 7/5. Speed 15 knots. (Commodore, Londonderry, 0700B/2).

RODNEY,
NEWMARKET,
BLEASDALE.

NEWMARKET S.O. and BLEASDALE are to R/V with RODNEY at Bar L.V., 1700B/4 and escort to Scapa. (2) NEWMARKET is to be detached off Scapa to Rosyth in compliance with Admty. 1821B/1. (C. in C. W.A., 1047B/2)

AZALEA.

Intend to sail AZALEA for Tobermory at 2215 today. E.T.A. Tobermory 0700/5. (F.O.I.C. Tyne, 1050/2).

THUNDERBOLT,
UTMOST.

My 1037/1. Add two hours to all times. (Capt. S.3., 1108B/2).

PHOEBE

PHOEBE sailed from Norfolk Virginia 1530Z/27 for Plymouth. Routed through following positions.

2. S.A. to position D 15 $\frac{3}{4}$ knots, from D. 20 $\frac{1}{2}$ knots.
 3. C. in C. Plymouth is requested to route onward from position D.
- (D.O.D. (H), 1228B/2 to C. in C. Plymouth).

War Diary.

2.5.1942.
Saturday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Movements.- Contd.

- CUMBERLAND. My 1116/26 and 1010/1.
Intend sailing CUMBERLAND escorted by MEYNELL and CATTISTOCK. MEYNELL part company off Flamborough Head and CATTISTOCK off St. Abbs, whence CUMBERLAND proceed independently.
(C. in C. Nore, 1228B/2 to C. in C. H.F.)
- CROCUS. F.O.I.C. Tyne's 0958/22. When ready for sea CROCUS should be sailed to Tobermory for short work up.
C. in C. W.A. is requested to arrange for onward routing to S.A. Command.
(D.O.D. H., 1313B/2 to F.O.I.C. Tyne).
- SEINE Intend to sail rescue Tug SEINE from Barry Roads 2200/3 to Appledore E.T.A. Bar 0800/4, to carry out purport of Admiralty 1909B/29.
(F.O.I.C. Cardiff, 1654B/2).
- ANSON. My 1251/1. Understood that fighter escort for ANSON will not be provided for a short period when in the vicinity of Acklington and that escort will be by Fulmar aircraft North of Berwick on Tweed from approx. 1030 to 1600. I consider this escort not adequate for such a ship and her sailing will be deferred until adequate escort can be provided. Request immediate reply.
(C. in C. Rosyth, 2005B/2 to H.Q. 13 Group).
My 2005/2. Ship is to sail as previously arranged at 0645/3.
(C. in C. Rosyth, 2247B/2 to 13 Group).
- KENT Intend sailing KENT at 1700B/3. E.T.A. Scapa 1215B/4. S. of A 21 knots.
(F.O.I.C. Greenock, 2056B/2 to C. in C. H.F.)
- MANCHESTER, My 1837B/1. Sailed 2015/2.
BERKELEY. (C. in C. Portsmouth, 2104B/2 to A.C.O.S.)
- ONSLOW, Departure ONSLOW, WALLACE, and WESTMINSTER.
WALLACE, (C. in C. Rosyth, 2155/2 to F.O.I.C. Tyne).
WESTMINSTER,
→ (ANSON).

Operations.

Convoys
P.Q.15 and
Q.P.11

Operations to cover Convoys. See Shipping.

/Sweep...

War Diary.2.5.1942.
Saturday.HOME COMMANDS.Operations. - Contd.

Sweep by M.L.s. Your 1346B/1. Dartmouth part of "Range" arrived. (N.O.I.C. Dartmouth, 1014/2).

N.W. Norway S/M Patrols. (a) Following S/Ms will be required to leave Lerwick about 14/5 as cover P.Q.16 and Q.P.12. SEAWOLF, TRIDENT, P.46, P.614, P.37, O.10 and MINERVE if latter has no defects. (b) P.615 is to carry out A/S training in place of O.10 but will be required as cover for P.Q.17 and Q.P.13, as will probably O.9. (F.O.S., 1046B/2).

Operation K.C.1. (a) Operation K.C.1. M.T.Bs. (?48) 49, 52, 54, 56. (b) 2/3 May (c) Yarmouth (d) 274 W.W. 19 (e) Small convoys. (f) 050° 15' N. (g) ADVENT (h) 3 U.V.F. (i) Nil. (C. in C. Portsmouth, 1247B /2 to 11th M.T.B. Flotilla).

Carry out operation K.C.1. tonight. (C. in C. Portsmouth, 1257B/2 to 11th M.T.B. Flotilla). My 1247B/2. Passed Needles 2150, less M.T.B.55. S.O. in M.T.B.56. (C. in C. Portsmouth, 2227B/2 to Admty).

Combined Operation. Request you will sail all available R Craft to TORMENTOR as soon as practicable. On arrival at TORMENTOR they are to be prepared for operations.

2. Flotilla maintenance staff should accompany the craft. (C.C.O., 1317B/2 to N.O.I.C. Brightlingsea). Full censorship of all correspondence should be instituted forthwith. Report if the ships have adequate supply of "Passed by Censor" stamps for this to be done on board. (C.C.O., 1320B/2 to S.O. A.S.C.) 35 R-boats and 2 M.L.s Portland to Hamble, 0130/3, 0900/3 (C. in C. Portsmouth, 1527B/2). C.C.O. 1320/2. Request reports be made direct to C.C.O. repeated to S.O.A.S.C. and D.N.I. (S.O. A.S.C., 2123B/2 to QUEEN EMMA, PRINCESS J. CHARLOTTE, PRINCESS ASTRID, PRINCE ALBERT).

Unknown operation. FIDELITY. There is no objection to FIDELITY carrying out the operations they propose under your direction subject to concurrence of Force Commanders of Operation "Blazing". (A.C.N.S.(F), 1410B/2 to C. in C. Portsmouth).

Denmark Strait Patrol. Situation 2201 tonight. BERWICK on patrol "White". (A.C.I.C., 1501B/2).

Patrols Night 2/3. 5 M.T.Bs. operating south of St. Alban's Head. 3 Chasers patrolling between St. Helens and Beachy Head. (C. in C. Portsmouth, 1527B/2).

War Diary.2.5.1942.
Saturday.HOME COMMANDS.British Air Activity.A/C at
Hatston.Aircraft Operationally Serviceable. Details.
(R.N.A. Station, Hatston, 1158B/2 to A.C.O.S.
(R) C. in C. H.F., V.A.2).Bombing
operations.On day 1/5, 6 A/C bombed La Soie factory at
Calais.
(H.Q., B.C., 1430/2).WASP,
Air Escort.(a) One aircraft carrier and four destroyers
(b) 0600B/3 to limit of endurance (c) Two.
(d) Leave Clyde Boom 0600B/3 to IC 8392, thence
to Westward. S. of A. 16½ knots.
(F.O.I.C. Greenock, 1656B/2 to 13 and 82 Groups)A/C in
EMPIRE MORN.Your 1112C/1 and my 2123B/8/4 para 6. Instruc-
tions to G.A.M. Ships, copies of which are in
EMPIRE MORN, state A/C will not be launched on
arrival at Murmansk.
(D.T.D., 1754B/2 to Ad. Miles).Enemy Air Activity.Fasroes
Craft.
Attacked.Your 1457B/30. Request further details of these
attacks.
(D.D.I.C., 1813B/2 to A.C.I.C.)

Jan Mayen.

Jan Mayen reports aircraft, probably F.W. Condor,
at 0257/1. Course S.W.
(A.C.I.C., 2359B/2).Mining.M/S
Trawlers at
Plymouth.Your 1430/1. ^{H.T.N.W.D.} Following "O" trawlers of 52nd
53rd and 76th groups and ungrouped available now,
BILSDEAN, TREVO TERCEIRO, LOCH PARK, LORRAINE,
SCARRON, POINTER. This will leave 15 "O"
trawlers in my command of which 10 are refittingSweeping of swept channel will have to be reduced to a minimum
and that of convoy route will be abandoned.Unless 74th A/S M/S group returns to this command trawler
escort group will also be reduced which, in view of increase in
air attack, is undesirable observing number of ocean-going ships
for Southampton is rising.

(C. in C. Plymouth, 1312B/2).

UNIQUE
(Barge)
sunk.R.N.O. Burnham reports following received from
sailing barge H.A.C. Begins; UNIQUE mined in
West Swin this morning. Total loss, no survivors.
1514. Ends.
(N.C.S.O. Thames, 1603B/2).

/M/S...

War Diary.

2.5.1942.
Saturday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Mining - Contd.

M/S Craft
on detached
duty.

"Consular".
Groups 4 and 5 and T.L.C/48 arrived.
(C. in C. Portsmouth, 2217B/2).

Enemy Intelligence.

Straits of
Dover.

Enemy shipping plotted by R.D.F. in Dover Strait
from 0900/1 to 0900/2.
Track E 4 D three small vessels from 6 miles N.W.
of Calais at 2355 to one mile North of Boulogne
at 0001. Speed 16 knots. Possibly E/R boats.
(V.A. Dover, 0902B/2).

North
Norwegian
Waters on
29/4 and
30/4.

Russians report on 29/4 in 71° 05' N., 28° 50'
E., Convoy proceeding West escorted by one
Minesweeper. Kongs Fiord Convoy proceeding East.
Fugloy Sand Eastbound Convoy escorted by one
Destroyer. On 30/4 in 72° 40' N., 33° 30' E.
one U-boat. Same U-boat reported later in 73°
30' N., 41° 17' E. North side of Varanger Fiord
one Destroyer. In 73° 03' N., 33° 05' E., one U-boat. Same
U-boat reported later in 73° 48' N., 28° 00' E. Single
U-boats in 73° 33' N., 27° 50' E., and 71° 15' N., 33° 00' E.
(Ad. Miles, 1641C/2).

U-Boats.

U-boats
reported.

Am over enemy S/M in 45° 30' N., 12° 50' W.
(A/C 1703/2 to 19 Group).
Enemy S/M previously reported was sighted on
surface and observed to submerge. When first
sighted was on a course 270° speed 6 knots.
(A/C, 1708/2 to 19 Group).
Position of submarine reported 1650 read 45° 30' N., 11° 50' W.
(A/C 1830/2 to 19 Group).
Am over enemy submarine in 47° 20' N., 6° 59' W., enemy S/M
previously reported was sighted on surface and observed to
submerge.
(A/C JU.5V. T.O.R. 1845/2).

Navigational.

Ice off
N.W. Norway.

Heavy drifting ice extends North of 073° 31' N.
021° 34' E.
(D.O.D. H., 0853Z/2 and 1310Z/2 to Convoy P.Q.15)

Casualties & Defects.

BELVOIR

Proceed passing Switha at 0745B today to Greenock
for boiler cleaning.
(R.A.D., 0716B/2 to BELVOIR).
Sailed BELVOIR. E.T.A. Greenock, 2359B/2.
(R.A.D., 0750B/2).

/M.L...

War Diary.2.5.1942.
Saturday.HOME COMMANDS.Casualties and Defects - Contd.

- M.L.483. M.L.483 departed Fort William for Inverness. Defective propeller. Approx. two days. (ST. CHRISTOPHER 0940/2.)
- SALTWICK. Sailed SS.SALTWICK towed by rescue tugs ABEILLE 4 and ATTENTIF escorted by WILLIAM BRADY and M.L.494 and salvage vessels IRON AXE and BJORG. E.T.A. Aberdeen 1300/2. (N.O.I.C. Peterhead 1005/2.)
SALTWICK in tow ABEILLE IV and ATTENTIF arrived. (F.O.I.C. Aberdeen 1500/2.)
- COTSWOLD (Mined 20/4) My 1220/1. Weather unsuitable for today's programme. Postpone Saturday's programme 25 hours. Cancel Sunday's programme. Monday's programme to stand. Condition of tow as follows. (F.O.I.C. Harwich 1120B/2.)
COTSWOLD in tow of KENIA with DAPPER in attendance leaves Harwich 0600/4 for Chatham.
2. EGLINTON is to part company with F.S.793 as requisite to R/V with tow at Cork Light Vessel and form escort to Sheerness.
3. Cdre. Sheerness is to arrange for additional tug to meet tow at Medway Gate about 1600. (C. in C. Nore 1148B/2.)
- FARNDALE. Sheerness departure FARNDALE for London Graving Dock, Poplar. (Cdre. Sheerness 1210B/2.)
Arrival FARNDALE. (F.O.I.C. London 1531B/2.)
- BOBIE. Wreck of BOBIE raised today and beached Oystermouth. (N.O.I.C. Swansea 1256B/2.)
- EXPONENT. (Tender) Trawler EXPONENT on passage to Scapa delayed at Milford Haven with engine defects. E.T.C. 3 or 4 days. (F.O.I.C. Milford Haven 1449/2.)
- ST. YVES. (M.L. 246) ^{N.T. in W.D.} My 2130B/1 arrived ST. YVES with engine defects. Intend sailing at 0700/3 under cover of W.P.150. E.T.A. Padstow 1030/3. (R.N.O. Penzance 1545B/2.)
- STARWORT. ^{N.T. in W.D.} My 1450/2. Delete STARWORT who has returned with defects. (C. in C. Nore 1612B/2.) ^{/Sheerness}
- KING GEORGE V. Re telephone conversation with Director of Dockyards. KING GEORGE V can be received at Liverpool on 6/5 and dry docked on 14/5. Preliminary work can be put in hand on arrival. Ship should arrive Bar Light Vessel at 1430/6. (N.O.I.C. Liverpool 1808B/2 to Admty.)

/Intend...

War Diary.2.5.1942.
Saturday.HOME COMMANDS.Casualties and Defects.

→ KING
GEORGE V.
Contd. Intend to sail from Seidisfjord for Scapa at 1600B/3 in KING GEORGE V, screened by BLANKNEY, MIDDLETON, LAMERTON, and WHEATLAND route through positions. A. 063° 04' N 013° 15' W. B. 058° 50' N 007° 20' W. S of A 17 knots. (2) Admty. are requested to arrange air escort. (C. in C. H.F. 1941B/2 to Admty.)

VICTORIOUS. Your 1831/28. VICTORIOUS can be taken at Rosyth from May 23 for a quick docking. (A.C.N.S.(H) 1837B/2 to C. in C. H.F.)

STINGRAY. My 0930/25/4. A.R.B. STINGRAY still delayed at Scarborough with further engine defects. (N.O.I.C. Hartlepool 2204/2.)

Shipping and Convoys.

Convoys
P.Q.15
and
Q.P.11. Enemy aircraft reported Convoy P.Q.15 at 1910B/1. (D.D.I.C. 0130B/2 to C.S.10. P.Q.15 (R) C. in C. H.F. V.A.2.)

One destroyer bearing 040° distance 4 miles course unknown. My position 72° 31' N 34° 31' E. (C.S.18 0636B/2 to Murmansk.)

My 0636B/2. 3 destroyers. (C.S.18 0645/2 to Murmansk.)
Am in danger of sinking. (C.S.18 0711B/2 to Murmansk.)

→ Scapa departure * LAMERTON, WHEATLAND, MIDDLETON and BLANKNEY. (A.C.O.S. 0931/2.) * 0509. See next page

R.A.18th C.S. in HARRIER with NIGER and HUSSAR E.T.A. (?Toros) 2130C. Request berth alongside Polyarno for 50 and 250 ratings on board HARRIER. Also accommodation and transport to base sick quarters for 54 non-hospital patients under EDINBURGH M.Os. Only loss EDINBURGH. Believed one German Destroyer sunk and one damaged. (C.S.18 1419B/2 to S.B.N.O. North Russia.)
Q.P.11 was reported by enemy aircraft at 1315. (D.D.I.C. 1603B/2 to A.I.G.47. P.Q.15. Q.P.11.)

3 Enemy Destroyers opened fire in thick weather at 0609B today while EDINBURGH was in tow fore and aft in 071° 51' N 035° 10' E. Enemy engaged by EDINBURGH, FORESIGHT, FORESTER, HARRIER, and HUSSAR. GOSSAMER and Russian Gunboat and tug also present. EDINBURGH hit by one of 4 torpedoes at 0657, abandoned at 0749, and finally sunk by torpedo from FORESIGHT. Only other known major damage FORESIGHT, reduced to 15 knots. One enemy destroyer believed blown up, and one damaged.

Casualties in EDINBURGH majority at first torpedo. Fatal Lieutenants (E) R.N. Manfield and Moir about 56 ratings and 2 Foreign passengers. Wounded Sub Lieut. R.N.V.R. Rendel and 12 ratings. Names etc will be signalled when known. Survivors returning to Polyarno in Minesweepers. Damage and casualties in FORESIGHT and FORESTER will be reported when known.

EDINBURGH had been hit by 2 torpedoes at 1613B/30 one of which blew off stern up to 7 turret. Between then and sinking ship had made good maximum 2 knots under own steam and proved unmanageable under tow. All S.Ps of EDINBURGH disposed of in accordance with regulations. (C.S.18 1652B/2 to Admty. (R) C. in C. H.F.)

/P.Q.15...

War Diary.2.5.1942.
Saturday.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping and Convoys.

Convoys

P.Q.15

and

Q.P.11.

Contd.

P.Q.15 was reported by enemy aircraft at 1310. (D.D.I.C. 1819B/2 to A.I.G.47, P.Q.15, Q.P.11.) R.A.(D) H.F. 2241B/1. Await KING GEORGE V at Seidisfiord. (C. in C. H.F. 1836B/2 to BLANKNEY, LAMERTON, WHEATLAND, MIDDLETON.) *In previous page*

Am proceeding Seidisfiord with MARTIN, MARNE, and ORIBI to embark PUNJABI survivors and fuel destroyers, thence proceeding Scapa West of minefields, screen 4 Hunts. (2) After fuelling, MARTIN, MARNE and ORIBI will proceed to R/V with you in position (Y) 068° 25' N 005° 14' W at 0600B/4. (3) Request you will continue to cover Q.P.11, if destroyers fuel permits, until convoy passes 006° W, and then detach U.S. ships to Hvalfjord and return to Scapa with remainder. Passage between Faeroes and Scapa should be preferably west of minefields to avoid possible U-Boats and air attack. My position 68° 41' N 07° 43' W. (C. in C. H.F. 1901B/2 to V.A.2) Convoy P.Q.15 was reported by U/Boat at 1908Z/2. (D.D.I.C. 2129B/2 to P.Q.15, A.I.G.47.)

SANDHILL.

Intend sailing SANDHILL escorted by LEICESTER CITY from Sorvaag to Kirkwall at 2200 today for onward routing to Aberdeen. Route. E.T.A. 2100/3. (N.O.I.C. Faroes 0956B/2.)

W.S.19.

Admiralty's 2256/30/4. para 7 B. CASTLETON and ST. MARYS detailed. (R.A.M. 1054/2.)

"Heavy" signal.

My 1120/30. Since rescue ships now sail with most convoys which include steel iron and ore cargoes it is proposed to discontinue the "Heavy" signal. (D.T.D. 1345B/2 to F.O.I.C. Greenock.)

North
Russian
Convoys.
Liaison
Officer.

S.B.N.O. North Russia's 2004B/27. Russian speaking British Officer is embarked in EMPIRE LAWRENCE. He should remain in that ship for voyage to North Russia in addition to Russian Officer.

2. Russians will use own R/T procedure. A revised version of C.A.F.O. 1474/41 to suit their conditions and list of their code words are being sent in Q.P.11. (D.T.D. 1906B/2 to A.C.I.C.)

War Diary.2.5.1942
Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic.

- P.42. Your 2306B/1 acknowledged. No torpedoes left.
(P.42 0142B/2 to F.O.C.N.A.)
Arrival P.42.
(F.O.C.N.A. 2114B/2 to C. in C. Med. (R) Admty.
Capt.(S) 10, V.A. Malta, F.O.S. Capt. (S) 1.)
See p. 50.
- ARGUS. Intend ARGUS shall proceed to sea for exercise
and D/F calibration daylight 3/5 returning p.m.
(F.O.C.N.A. 0946A/2 to Admty. (R) ARGUS.)
My 0946/2. Postponed 24 hours.
(F.O.C.N.A. 1809A/2 to Admty. ARGUS.)
- WELSHMAN. From C pass through (d) (7041°) 01' N. 014° 28' W.
(e) 220° Capt St. Vincent 20 thence Gibraltar.
Report E.T.A. Gate after passing position D.
(F.O.C.N.A. 1156B/2 to WELSHMAN (R) Admty.)
- Force W. I am not clear from your 0109/22/4 whether
Force W. should remain in being when not
actually engaged in operations and, if so what
is its composition. I am at present administering
RENOWN and CHARYBDIS in addition to EAGLE and
ARGUS.
(F.O.C.N.A. 1202A/2 to Admty.)
- Movements. Arrival ST. NECTAN escorting BARON YARBOROUGH.
(F.O.C.N.A. 1241A/2 to Admty.)
- U/B attacked Have attacked enemy U/B with depth charges.
by A/C.c22 Estimate no hits.
(A/C using 7XMC 1310/2 to Gibraltar W/T.)
U.74 sunk
(Dr. Rowbotham's list 6843) Am over enemy S/M in 37.32 N. 00.10 E.
(A/C using 7XMC 1312/2 to Gibraltar W/T.)
S/M has dived in 37° 32' N. 0° 10' E. 2 destroyers hunting.
(A/C using 7XMC 1440/2 to Gibraltar W/T.)
While searching area WISHART and WESTCOTT obtained firm
contact in 037° 16' 000° 01' W. Have carried out prolonged
series of attacks from 1600A to 1800A without visible result.
Continuing hunt.
(WISHART 1804A/2 to F.O.C.N.A. (R) WESTCOTT.) *See p. 73*
** ? WRESTLER*
- Situation. 2001A/2. Area X.
1. H.G.82 (E) 43° 40' 16° 30' 360° 7½ S.O. STORK.
2. ANTELOPE (E) 36° (?36°) 07° 58' to Gibraltar
14. 3. GERANIUM, COLTSFOOT 40° 26' 14° 12' to Gibraltar 13.
4. COREOPSIS, escorting cable ship MIRROR in vicinity 37° 31' N.
10° 11' W.
5. LORD NUFFIELD 36° 25' 07° 30' to Gibraltar 10.
6. LOCH OSKAIG patrolling off Lisbon.
7. IMPERIALIST patrolling off Cape Espichel. *See next page*
→ 8. WELSHMAN 41° 01' 14° 28' through 14° 01' 14° 28' thence
136° 22'.
(F.O.C.N.A. 1318A/2 to N.A. Station) amended 1602/2.

/Situation ...

War Diary.2.5.1942
Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic - contd.

Situation Report. For area Z, situation 2001A/2.
 (1) S.L.108 22° 38' 21° 19' 353° 7½ S.O. EGRET.
 (2) BRITTANY 3 B.D.Vs 24° 30' 22° 35' 164° 7.
 (3) GLENGYLE 23° 58' 29° 48' through 27° 08' 30°
 32' thence 357° 16. *See p. 56*
 (4) O.S.26 27° 50' 23° 59' 191° 9 S.O. IBIS.
 (F.O.C.N.A. 1334A/2 to N.A. Station.)

German A/C crash. German A/C type not yet known crashed a.m. today near Esponsende North of Oporto.
 (B.N.A. Lisbon 1500B/2 to S.O.I. Gibraltar (R) Admty.)

U/B sighted by A/C. Transit Ensign A/C reports sighting S/M 045° 20' N. 009° 48' W. course 090° at 0748 G.M.T.2nd. S/M crash dived on sighting A/C.
 (F.O.C.N.A. 1541A/2 to Admty., C. in C. W.A. C. in C. Plymouth.)

Vichy Ships Gibraltar policy. Ref. to 80521 (M.O.4) 2040/4 and 80894 (M.O.4) 2330/7. For M.O.4. Latter infers that French warships attempting to pass through the Straits can only be engaged by the guns of the Fortress with the specific approval of the Chiefs of Staff. As the warning may be very short and to be successful Fortress plans must be co-ordinated beforehand I should be grateful for a statement of the policy to be adopted should large French warships attempt to pass through the Straits in either direction.
 (Govr. and C. in C. Gibraltar 1650/2 to W.O.)

IMPERIALIST attack on F/W A/C. IMPERIALIST reports engaging F/W A/C at 1900/1 with bofors and obtaining hits. Position was 24 miles to westward Capé Espichel. A/C disappeared northerly direction appearing to lose height rapidly and last seen close under land. No masts were visible on A/C.
 (V.A.C.N.A. 1738A/2 to Admty. (R) B.N.A.Lisbon.)

German A/C. German A/C passed BEVELICHE (as received) 2007/1 course N. British Patrol Vessel fired on German A/C off Cape Roca 2045/1, A/C continued Northern course.
 (B.N.A. Lisbon 1835/2 to Admty. (R) S.O.I. Gibraltar.)

Spanish Units and U/B. Spanish Gunboat CANALEJAS and some destroyers reported to have sailed from Cartagena 2/5. Information graded C O. Destination unknown possibly these may be proceeding to assistance of damaged German U-boat. u.573. *(See +15, p.15)*
 (F.O.C.N.A. 2302B/2 to WESTCOTT, WISHART (R) Admty. GEORGETOWN, VIDETTE, WRESTLER.)

/Following ...

45B

MOST SECRET

MOST SECRET

MESSAGE

IN

2355/2 May

From War Office.

Date 4 5.42

CIPHER.

Addressed British Army Staff, Washington.
Repeated Comdr. Br. Troops in Iceland(C).

85717 cipher QM2A/1/1 1/5/42

For D.D.Mov.(P) from D.Mov.

1. Continuation of relief of British Troops in Iceland(C) should be tactfully stressed on U.S. who may tend after end of first phase to overlook importance of completion by earliest possible date.
2. Obtain confirmation that plan for relief of N.E. Sector which provides for U.S. Ships proceeding direct to N.E. Ports includes intention to lift relieved personnel to U.K. in same ships. Lack of accommodation at Akureyri and Seydisfjordur makes immediate change over essential.
3. In view of shipping position most desirable that all British Troops relieved should be carried to U.K. in U.S. Transports.
4. Your G.O. 175 of 22 Apl refers.

2355/2

Recd. from W.O. 1246/4 May.

W.O. Circulation.

D.M.O. and P.	D.D.Mov(P) (S)
D.D.M.O.(H).	Q(M)2a (2).., 3
M.O.1., 3., 8.,	Q(Ops)
D.D.S.D.	Q.1.
S.D.5.	Admiralty(Comdre.Secker)
A.A.2.	" (War Registry)
D.Mov.	Min.of War Transport J.N.Wood Esq.for D.of S.T.

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

War Diary.2.5.1942
Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic - contd.Spanish
Units and
U/B.
contd.Following received from Cartagena (Begins)
damaged German S/M towed inside reef 1315/2
(Ends.) U.573 - ~~S~~ B.45.
(F.O.I.C. Gibraltar 2304A/2 to Admty (R)
B.N.A. Madrid.)M/S Convoy
Horta.Your 1307B/25 (N.T. in W.D.) Convoy arrived
and bunkering.
(R.O. Horta 2313/2 to Admty. (R) F.O.C.N.A.)
W.R.Note.- R.O. Horta's 2308/3 also refers.South Atlantic.

MAURETANIA.

MAURETANIA sailed 29/4 E.T.A. Bombay 10/5.
(Details, fuel, water and personnel on board.)
(S.S.T.O. Capetown 0805Z/2 to D. of S.T. P.S.T.O.
Bombay, (R) C. in C. S.A. P.S.T.O. Simonstown.)

NARKUNDA

NARKUNDA sailed 28/4. E.T.A. Freetown 8/5.
(Details of Fuel, water and personnel on board.)
(S.S.T.O. Capetown 0846Z/2 to Admty. for D. of
S.T., N.O.I.C. Freetown, (R) C. in C. S.A.
P.S.T.O. Simonstown.)→ REINE DES
FLOTS.Departure 0902 G.M.T./2 REINE DES FLOTS for
Durban by route R.1. Proceeding after adjusting
compass at S. of A. of 7 knots, E.T.A. 0500
G.M.T./4.
(N.O.I.C. E. London 0913Z/2 to Admty. etc.)Movement
Summary.→ 2000Z/2 area Q. CHESHIRE 034° 48' S. 024° 56' E.
to Simonstown 13 knots. WHITEHAVEN 033° 32' S.
028° 05' E. to Durban 11 knots.
(C. in C. S.A. 1127B/2 to S.A. Sqdn. (R) Admty.)Weekly
statement.S.A. Station 2/5. Area Q. Durban to Capetown
→ CHESHIRE. Simonstown to Durban WHITEHAVEN.
Walvis Bay SHAPINSAY, HILDASAY, PLADDA, SLUNNA.
Simonstown CANTON, EXPRESS, MILFORD, SHROPSHIRE,
COLOMBO. Capetown SOUTHERN GEM, SOUTHERN PRIDE, CILICIA.
Durban ABDIEL, VALIANT, SEAHAM, BOSTON. Port Elizabeth
ASTURIAS, PHILOMEL, KHETI, PACHECO, (?Italian) ships DUILIO,
→ GIULIO CESARE. East London F.S. REINE DES FLOTS, MEAD.
(C. in C. S.A. 1131B/2 to C. in C. E.I., C. in C. E.F. R.A.
West Africa, C. in C. A.W.I., F.O.C.N.A.)

/French ...

War Diary.2.5.1942
Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic - contd.

- French Units, Madagascar. Press report from Washington reports arrival of French Cruisers MONTCALM and MARSEILLAISE with Depot ship JULES VERNE at Madagascar. Request air R/C of Dakar. (D.D.I.C. 1219B/2 to R.A. West Africa.)
See also p. 57.
- H/A practices at Simonstown. Your 0744/8. Until a Naval F.R.U. has been formed at the Cape 1 Walrus may be used for towing targets. (D.N.A.D. 1239B/2 to C. in C. S.A.)
- 27th M/L Flotilla. Your letter No.40/032 of 26/3 not to F.O.C.N.A. the 27th M.L. Flotilla now at Gibraltar is re-allocated to West Africa. Request you will report port at which Flotilla will be based in order that the necessary spares may be sent. F.O.C.N.A. is requested to sail the 27th Flotilla to base indicated by R.A. West Africa arranging escort direct with R.A. West Africa and accommodating Flotilla maintenance staff in escort. (D.D.O.D.(C) 1309B/2 to R.A. West Africa (R) F.O.C.N.A., C. in C. S.A.)
- Suspicious Ship Report. Cancel my 2345/1 (re ship reported as BOLTON CASTLE) Ship was BRISBANE STAR. (C. in C. S.A. 1542B/2 to S.A. Stn. (R) Admty. etc.)
See CSA, 1615B/2, see p. 47A.
- ANGLO CANADIAN sighted 26/4. (Gen: MUNSTERLAND) Request you will signal brief report of investigation into PRETORIA CASTLE's A/C sighting alleged SS ANGLO CANADIAN on 26/4. (A.C.N.S.(F) 1753B/2 to R.A. West Africa.)
- Italian repatriations. A.M.2023/1. TAIGETE. This vessel will only be in my area for short time. Should approach St. Vincent from due West for last 400 miles and leave steering due north to 021° N. Request you will route to conform. (R.A. West Africa 1901Z/2 to F.O.C.N.A. C. in C. A.W.I. (R) Opnav, N.C.S.O. St. Vincent (C.V.) Admty. S.B.N.O. Curacao.)
- HYDRANGEA. Your 1545Z/2 (N.T.in W.R.) received and understood Fuel stocks remaining 110 at 1800Z/2. Permission is requested to return to Freetown for fuel. E.T.A. 0600Z/3. (HYDRANGEA 1920Z/2 to R.A. West Africa (R) Capt. (D) 18.)

CONFIDENTIAL.

M E S S A G E

1615B/2. May.

From: C. in C.
South Atlantic.

Date: 7.5.42.
Recd: 1706.

NAVAL CODE B BY W/T.

Addressed South Atlantic Stn. 445 G. S.O.(I)
Montevideo.

Cases have occurred in which merchant ships were assumed to be identified and allowed to proceed although in fact ships of the names given were nowhere near the area concerned.

2. Attention is drawn to necessity of an accurate merchant shipping plot in all H.M. Ships on patrol or passage. Any ship encountered which does not appear in shipping information signal or on shipping plot should be very closely investigated and if any manner of doubt exists W/T Silence should be broken to enquire whether a ship of name given could be in area concerned.

3. In cases where Bona Fides have been definitely established although ship does not appear in shipping information signal or on plot a report is to be made by signal on arrival in harbour to C. in C. South Atlantic and R.A. West Africa for areas Q and P respectively giving following details

(a) Name of ship (b) Position of encounter
(c) Time and date (d) How identified (e) Port of departure (f) Port of destination (g) Course and speed.

1615B/2.

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.A./S.W.

D.N.I. (5)

M. (2)

Cps. (3)

O.D. (5)

O.L.C. (3)

D.T.D. (4)

D.T.D. (M)

D.T.D. (C)

D.S.D. (2)

D.E.W.D. (3)

D. of P. (3)

I.P. (3)

W.D.

A.E. (3)

War Diary.2.5.1942
Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic - contd.M/V sighted
by A/C.A/C sighted as follows at 0710/1 one Merchant
Ship 6,000 tons in (? 002° or 014°) 29' N.
017° 46' W. course northerly speed 10 knots.
(S.O.I. Freetown 1947Z/2 to S.O.I. Gibraltar.)Bunkering at
Freetown.Pass to N.C.S.Os and M.W.T.R. Freetown. Some
Masters have reported that coal burning steamers
have been instructed to bunker to capacity at
Freetown. This is unnecessary and depletes

stocks which are difficult to maintain.

2. Considered that 30 days fuel at estimated consumption at
convoy speed is sufficient to provide adequate safety margin
for such ships leaving Freetown in S.L. convoys for U.K.
discharge port, particularly as emergency coal bunker stocks
are maintained at Loch Ewe.3. Masters should be warned to consider allowance for in-
creased consumption due to fouling if ships have been delayed
at Freetown.(D.T.D. 2122B/2 to R.A. West Africa, C. in C. S.A. (R) C. in C.
E.I., A.C.N.B., F.O.C.R.I.N., N.Z.N.B.)U/B
damaged.
(U.74 sunk)Off Cartagena.
(F.O.I.C. Gibraltar 2304A/2)
See North Atlantic.Giant Liners
Troop
Transport.QUEEN MARY, AQUITANIA, QUEEN ELIZABETH will
be carrying troops from U.K. to Suez according
to the following programme (details). They will
proceed unescorted relying on their speed for
protection against U-boats and surface raiders.
Communications.(D.O.D.(F) approved A.C.N.S.(F) 2329B/2 to R.A.
West Africa, C. in C. S.A., F.O.C. Red Sea.
C. in C. Med., F.O.C.N.A., C. in C. E.F.,
C. in C. E.I., C. in C. W.A., F.O.I.C.Greenock.
See Lion Copy.Mediterranean.June Malta
Convoy.Of the 12 ships allocated for June M.W. convoy
5 are already in Middle East. Can you take
steps to prevent fouling and ensure maintenance
of speed of 15 knots?2. Remaining ships are POTARO now at Aden, BHUTAM, CITY OF
LINCOLN, CITY OF EDINBURGH, REMBRANDT all in W.S.17, ABBEKERK,
my 2105/25 to S.T.O. Colombo refers, and KINA II due Bombay
in W.S.17 and possibly available Egypt by end of May.
(D.S.T. 0426B/2 to P.S.T.O. Egypt.)

/M.E. Air ...

MOST SECRET

48 A.

~~REF ID: A66232~~ ~~2320B/2nd May~~

OUT

MOST SECRET

Date 2. .42

To R.A.W.Af. 675
 C. in C. South Atlantic 184
 F.O.C. Red Sea
 C. in C. Mediterranean (Basegram) 701
 F.O.C.N.A. 902
 C. in C. Eastern Fleet (Basegram) 686
 C. in C. East Indies 247
 C. in C. V.A. 816
 F.O.I.C. Greenock.

NAVAL CYBER (D.O.T.T.)

From Admiralty.

AIDAC NITE.

QUEEN MARY, AQUITANIA and QUEEN ELIZABETH will be carrying troops from U.K. to Suez according to the following programme:-

	<u>QUEEN MARY</u>	<u>AQUITANIA</u>	<u>QUEEN ELIZABETH</u>
Leave U.K.	22nd May	30th May	17th June
Freetown	30th May	11th June	25th June
Capetown	7th June	19th June	2nd July
Suez	17th June	3rd July	13th July

2. They will proceed unescorted relying on their speed for protection against U-boats and surface raiders. Available air and surface A/S forces should therefore be used to sweep ahead of their track and not to provide close escort. In order to minimise the distance that these ships will be from possible life saving craft Commanders in Chief are requested to arrange for such A.M.C's and large warships as can be spared from other operations to be stationed at intervals along their route.

3. Communications

- (a) Complement. Total of nine W/T ratings including 1 P.O. Tel., 2 ldg. Tels. and ships radio officers, 3 coders, 1 Ldg. Sig. and two Sigs.
- (b) Transmitters. Tuned as follows W/T 6666, 3925, 375 and ship-shore frequencies R/T 2410 kc/s.
- (c) Books carried. Usual merchant ship outfit. Naval code and decode No.2
 S.P.02169 series
 S.P.02329
 Recoding tables of 02176, 02355, 02356, 02357, 02417, 02421 and 02459 series.
 S.P.02396 and 02318 series.
 A.V.S.B. Naval Aircraft Code and Syko machine with S.P.02266 current series.
 A.F.O. 3.1 and 2 and W.A.S.O. S.P. 02413
 S.P.02274 series
 S.P.02292 series
 Mersigs. Vol. 2.
 Operating signals.

Recall signs.....

(d) Call Signs and Delivery Groups. List of Navy numbers.

QUEEN MARY 435
AQUITANIA 469

QUEEN ELIZABETH 436

Additional war W/T call signs from S.P.02182 (2) page 365 Spare Groups 191 to 193 QUEEN ELIZABETH, Spare Groups 194 to 197 QUEEN MARY, page 397 Spare Groups 231 to 233 AQUITANIA.

(e) Routing of messages. Ship shore traffic using H/F Naval Procedure, Code and general call sign. Shore ship traffic via Naval Area Broadcast or I method with Naval Code. Alternative via GBMS using war W/T call sign and one ship pads or Indship tables.

4. For passage to Freetown. (F.O.I.C. Greenock is requested to issue necessary communication orders to ships).

(a) Wireless Watch. GBMS and 500 Kc/s. Constant watch on Naval Area Broadcast or I method applicable to area. Loudspeaker watch on R/T 2410 when surface or air escort in company or expected.

Convoy H/F by day when within air range but no surface escort present.

(b) Call Signs. Codeword and associated 3 letter call signs from A.F.O. S2/41 as allotted by signal from C. in C. W.A. to be used as R/T and W/T call signs when communicating with air escorts. If surface escort is present C. in C. concerned is to allocate R/T call sign for the S.C., informing aircraft.

(c) Homing of Aircraft by D/F. Procedure given in C.A.N.S.I. 595 is to be followed if required.

1st Lord

1st S.L.

5th S.L.

V.C.N.S.

A.C.N.S. (H)

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

A.C.N.S. (T)

N.A. 1st S.L.

D. of P. (2)

D.O.D. (H) (2)

D.O.D. (F) (2) (O.D. 1076/42)

D.C. (2)

D.D.I.C. (2)

Hd. of M. (6)

D.A/S.W.

D.T.D. (2)

D.T.D. (M)

D. of S.T.

I.P. (2)

D.N.I. (4)

D.S.D. (2)

H.V.R. (2)

D.S.O.

N.I.D. 10 (2)

2329B/2

D.O.D. (F) (164)

Approved A.C.N.S. (F) on O.D. 1076/42.

S.P. 02169 Indicating groups

02329 Ship Index

02176 World wide R/T (Naval Code B)

02355 Area 1 R/T (Naval Cde K1)

02356 Area 2 R/T (Naval Code K2)

02357 Area 3 R/T (Naval Code K3)

02417 Admiralty Code Out

(Naval Code QQ)

02421 C. in C. Mod. Code Out

02459 W.A. Code Out

02396 D.G.'s & War W/T Call Signs

02318 R/T for D.G.

02266 R.A.F. Syko Cards

02413 One Ship R/T for use

with Diversion Code

02274 Table of Lettered

Co-ordinates

02292 Key Memorandum

W.B.
E.P.S.
D.N.A.D.
D.P.S.

War Diary.2.5.1942
Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean.

M.E. Air Report. A.673 2/5 Biweekly Opsum No.17. Night 29/30/4. 4 enemy aircraft operated off Alexandria believed laying mines. 5 Beaufighters did not sight. Night 30/4 - 1/5. 11 Wellingtons left to bomb Benghazi of which 7 returned owing to overheating Wellington 11s concerned. 3 bombed Benghazi Harbour starting large fire on Base Central Mole, incendiaries dropped on Berka Aerodrome caused explosions. 1 Wellington bombed alternative target Martuba landing ground damage unobserved. About 12 JU.88s attacked Port Said 1 merchant vessel set on fire (group missing?) Damage slight R.A.F. Marine Workshop destroyed, some damage to Post Office and shops in dock area. 6 Beaufighters shot down 1 JU.88, damaged second. (H.Q. R.A.F. M.E. 0926 G.M.T./2.)

Malta, possible enemy attack. From Chiefs of Staff. Ref. your H.E.919. We have as yet received no evidence of preparations to carry out an airborne invasion of Malta. We believe that if such an attack was intended we should by now have seen some signs. There is also no evidence at present pointing to a seaborne invasion of the island. On the other hand, we have reliable information pointing to the withdrawal of one Bomber Group and one Fighter Group. Indications point to still further withdrawal from Sicily. We will notify you immediately we see any change from the existing situation. (Air Mins. 0930Z/2 to Govr. Malta.)

Air Routes for Personnel. Consider unsound to develop Lagos - Nile Valley route for transit of personnel. Suggest Congo-Nile Valley route be developed for transit personnel as well as stores and transport. (Mideast, 1010/2, for Chiefs of Staff from Cs. in C.)

TAKU. P.34. V.A. Malta 1155/27 and 0946/3 and my 1745/30. TAKU proceed through 034° 59' 019° 59' 033° 46' 023° 46' and 032° 32' 029° 12' thence direct to Alexandria searched channel. P.34 amend route to proceed direct from 032° 09' 028° 16'. TAKU adjust speed to pass through 033° 46' 023° 46' about 1700C/5 and arrive searched channel 0530C/8. P.34 is also to arrive at this time. (Capt. S.1 1051C/2 to TAKU, P.34 (R) C. in C. Med. etc.)

Movements. Arrival 1/5 SIKH, KIPLING, COVENTRY, AIREDALE, Gr. Dest. PAUL COUNDOURIOTIS. Departure 1/5 TURBULENT, Gr. S/M TRITON. Arrival 2/5 GLOXINIA, ANTWERP. (S.O.I. Alexandria 1114C/2.)

U/B PROTEUS. A submarine was sighted in your area at 0900C today. (Capt. S.1 1131C/2 to PROTEUS.)

War Diary.2.5.1942
Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean - contd.

P.42 (1) Propose that P.42 be sailed as soon as possible for Alexandria embarking 2 Sub-Lieuts and one T G M for 10th Flotilla and 4 torpedoes only.

P.43. (2) Propose P.42 calls at Malta for one night en route and embarks 9 additional spare crew and 4 mark 8 torpedoes.

(3) Propose sailing of P.43 from U.K. be considered.
(Capt. S. 10 1201B/2 to C. in C. Med.)

Malta Reports. Your 2221 30/4. Care should be taken reports are of value as a clear picture of the effect of attack on ships and dockyards cannot always be formed from combined service reports.
(C. in C. Med. 1202C/2 to V.A. Malta (R) Admty.)

27th M.L. Flot. A.M.1257/15/4. In view of remote possibility of passing M.Ls through Mediterranean it has been decided to re-allocate 27th Flotilla to West Africa. The 4 boats of 3rd M.L. Flotilla will remain at Gibraltar ready to make passage through Mediterranean when conditions permit.
(A.C.N.S.(F) 1301B/2 to C. in C. Med. (R) F.O.C.N.A. V.A. Malta)

HALLAREN. Swedish SS HALLAREN leaves Piraeus with safe conduct for Haifa 1500/4 (route)(J) S. of A. 10 knots. (Description).
(C. in C. Med. 1741C/2 to Med. Stn.)

Malta Air Report I.263 C.S.R. Malta 2/5. Part 1. 1st. 2 alerts 1418 1720 hours, Me.109s Macchi 202s probable Cant 1007Bs. Luqa no damage. 1 Me. 109 destroyed by 4 Spitfires. 1 Spitfire shot down pilot wounded, A.A. destroyed 1 Me.109.

Night 1st/2nd. Continuous intruder 24 raids. Luqa, night Beaufighter destroyed, craters aerodrome, numerous U.X.Bs. Hal Far, 1 soldier wounded, 1 Hurricane damaged, craters aerodrome, numerous U.X.Bs. Ta Kali no damage. Grand Harbour (ARMAN20?) proof yard slight damage. Elsewhere 1 civilian killed several houses destroyed, convent partially destroyed. 3 Hurricanes up, 1 interception, 6 illuminations, A.A. fired.

2nd. 5 alerts 0655, 0822 0917 1137 1315 hours, 7 Me.109s, 2 JU.88s. Ta Kali, craters dispersals. Elsewhere 21 civilians killed, 30 wounded, several houses destroyed, A.A. fired.

Part 2. Deliveries 1st. 5 Wellingtons 1 Sunderland ex Gibraltar 1 Hudson ex Middle East, arrived, latter crashed on landing, crew safe. 5 Wellingtons left Middle East. Sunderland to Gibraltar at night. 1 delivery Wellington arrived too late to go on. No aircraft missing.
(H.Q. R.A.F. Malta 1859/2.)

/Smyrna ...

War Diary.

2.5.1942
Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean - contd.

Smyrna.

For Adm. Kelly. Your 1834/17. Request you will enquire whether Turkish Authorities will arrange for (corrupt group) oil fuel tanks to be erected at Smyrna also for tank lighter to be taken up.
(C. in C. Med. 2012C/2 to A.N.A. Istanbul (R) Admty. N.A. Ankara.)

Cartagena.
U/B.

Damaged German U/B towed inside reef. See F.O. Gibraltar, 2304A/2 - North Atlantic.

War Diary.2.5.1942
Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies.

Movements. Colombo arrivals 1/5 0315Z FALMOUTH, 1130Z NAUTILUS, 1430 SCOUT, 1530Z ATHENE. Departures 1200Z Greek Destroyer IERAX. (S.O.I. Colombo 0245Z/2 to Admty. etc.)

Shipping Colombo. Pass to N.C.S.Os and S.T.Os concerned. (1) My 1427/9. Congestion in Colombo harbour having been relieved, these restrictions are now cancelled and ships with cargoes for Ceylon are to sail normally. (2) P.S.T.O. India and Director of Shipping Movements are requested to issue necessary instructions for ships bound for Bay of Bengal ports which do not contain (?cargoes) for Ceylon. (3) P.S.T.O. India pass to D. of S.M. (C. in C. E.I. 0401Z/2 to N.O.I.Cs Simonstown E. Africa, Aden etc.)

JACOB VAN HEEMSKERCK. HEEMSKERCK has developed defect in rudder pintle bearing which necessitates her immediate docking. She has been ordered to proceed Durban from Seychelles. (Dep. C. in C. E.F. 0457Z/2 to Admty. (R) B.S.O.)

Troops from Seychelles. Following received from P.S.T.O. Egypt. Can shipping be allocated to latter half of June from Seychelles to Mombasa for 160 pioneer reinforcements for Middle East? Request you make necessary allocations. (D.S.T.O. Mombasa 0731Z/2 to P.S.T.O. India (R) D.S.T. etc.)

Whalers Conversion. My 1249/22/4. These vessels are being converted at Mediterranean ports. (C. in C. E.I. 0807Z/2 to C. in C. S.A. (R) Admty. etc.)

C. in C. Med. 1951/27/4. Anticipate these vessels will leave Colombo about end of May. 2. In order to provide full equipment and spares it will be necessary to draw a few items from stocks originally intended for motor minesweepers building in Colombo but as these are still in earliest stages of building their completion dates will not be retarded on this account. 3. Full details of items drawn from M.M.S. stocks will be reported in due course. (C. in C. E.I. 0810Z/2 to Admty.)

NAPIER defect. My 0957/29 (N.T. in W.R.) NAPIER delayed about 4 days due to defective bulkhead stop valves. Further signal will be made. (D.7 0832Z/2 to C. in C. E.F. (R) C. in C. E.I. etc.)

/Movements ...

War Diary.2.5.1942
Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies - contd.

- Movements. RESOLUTION, DRAGON, CALEDON, GRIFFIN, FORTUNE, HOTSPUR arrived.
(N.O.I.C. Seychelles 0927Z/2 to Admty. etc.)
RESOLUTION, DRAGON, CALEDON, GRIFFIN, FORTUNE, HOTSPUR left.
(N.O.I.C. Seychelles 1420Z/2 to Admty. etc.)
- Italian Repatriations. GIULIO CESARE so far blank but DUILIO promised. Should like some contact at Berbera.
(Negretti 0923B/2 to Codrington, Gibraltar.)
Noon position VULCANIA and SATURNIA 2/5 02° 26' N. 49° 09' E. course 032° speed 17½ knots.
(S.B.N.O. VULCANIA 1047/2 to Admty.)
- Your 21128 of 30/4. Foreign Office request for major political reasons no discussion or contact with Jibuti at present. You should reply by letter stating that ships will not be using Jibuti for the present and that you are unable to enter into negotiations on the subject for the time being.
(W.O. 1700/2 to G.O.C. in C. E. Africa.)
- Enemy Intelligence. U/B Reports. My 0558/30. Japanese M.A. Teheran is reported to have stated that Japanese are seeking S/M bases in Persian Gulf. 4 Axis ships in Marmogoa appear ready to leave. Attacks on possible S/Ms in 001° 59' N. 074° 48' E. at 2240Z/30, result unknown. Unconfirmed sighting of S/M by aircraft in approx. 019° N. 069° E. at 0645Z/?30.
(C.O.I.S. Colombo 1224Z/2 to A.C.N.B.)
- Madagascar Report. Admty. 1217B/2 and B.A.D. 1547Z/2. See America and West Indies.
- Air Report. A.318 2/5. Intelligence Summary No.48 on information received up to 1800 hours 2/5. Burma. 1 B.17 of U.S.A. Air Force attacked Rangoon docks night of 30/4 dropping bombs in dock area. No shipping reported. Bay of Bengal. Three Hudson sea R/C 1/5. Dum Dum 140° - 170° to depth of 470 miles. No enemy sightings. Ceylon. Coast patrols and Catalina patrol 300 miles S.E. Ceylon 1/5 negative.
(Air H.Q. India 1410/2.)
- 814 Sqdn. Your 0307/25/4. Approved to operate 814 Sqdn. as a temporary measure until Beaufort situation improves. You no doubt appreciate difficult aircraft reserve situation so that every endeavour must be made to conserve 814 aircraft so far as is consistent with retaining efficiency.
(A.C.N.S.(F) 1459B/2 to C. in C. E.I. (R) C. in C. E.F. etc.)

War Diary.

2.5.1942
Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies - contd.

OCEAN
VANGUARD.
"R" Report.

Following has been read. QQQQ de BCTP 34°
34' S. 25° 16' E - ordered to stop by
suspicious vessel, cannot give correct reply
to challenge.
(OCEAN VANGUARD 2352 G.M.T./2.)

War Diary.2.5.1942.
Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America & West Indies.

U/B fixes Within 100 miles 32° N., 73.30 W. at 1918Z/1.
by D/F. (N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 0009Z/2).
Within 60 miles 30.30 N., 74.30 W. at 2135Z/1.
(N.S.H.Q., 0115Z/2).

Within 60 miles 42.30 N., 67° W. at 2121Z/1.
(N.S.H.Q., 0121Z/2).

Within 60 miles 42.30 N., 67° W. 2108Z/1.
(N.S.H.Q., 0458Z/2).

Within 100 miles 42.30 N., 66.30 W. at 0002Z/2.
(N.S.H.Q., 0458Z/2).

Within 75 miles 38.30 N., 54.30 W. at 0029Z/2.
(N.S.H.Q., 0458Z/2).

Within 100 miles 41.30 N., 54° W. at 0039Z/2.
(N.S.H.Q., 0458Z/2).

Within 100 miles 14° N., 58.30 W. at 0318Z/2.
(C. in C. U.S. Fleet, 0750/2).

Within 100 miles 15° N., 57° W. at 0318Z/2.
(N.S.H.Q., 0840Z/2).

Within 30 miles 42.30 N., 66.30 W. at 0239Z/2.
(N.S.H.Q., 0842Z/2).

Within 60 miles 43° N., 64.30 W. at 0801Z/2.
(N.S.H.Q., 1125Z/2).

Within 100 miles 34.30 N., 74.30 W. at 0738Z/2.
(N.S.H.Q., 1150Z/2).

Within 50 miles 43° N., 64.45 W. at 0801Z/2.
(C. in C. U.S. Fleet, 1238Z/2).

Within 60 miles 43° N., 64° W. at 1101/2.
(N.S.H.Q., 1445Z/2).

Moving Westward from 34.30 N., 54.30 W. at 1200/2.
(Opnav, 2040/2).

Within 50 miles 44° N., 63° W. at ?1719Z/2.
(N.S.H.Q., 2112Z/2).

Within 60 miles 37.30 N., 53° W. at 1909Z/2.
(N.S.H.Q., 2302Z/2).

In vicinity of tanker SALAMONIE at 1910Z/2. S. A. 60.
(C. in C. U.S. Fleet, 2008/2).

N.A.10. My 1959/25. Provisional arrangements for N.A.10
N.A.11. and N.A.11 are N.A.10 sailing Halifax about 3/6.
comprising BATORY, capacity 2219; N.A.11 sailing
Halifax about 16/6 comprising LETITIA, capacity
about 2500.

2. Request report what additional capacity will be
required for these convoys.
(D.S.T., 0021B/2 to N.S.H.Q., Ottawa).

A.T.16. Understand A.T.16 is planned to sail New York
mid-May. Request confirmation and if so
(a) Details of ships. (b) Whether they are to
return to U.S.A. after disembarkation. (c) Whether personnel
are for N.Ireland or G.B. (d) Whether they will have much
equipment with them.
(D.S.T., 0131B/2 to B.A.D.)
Your 0131B/2. Understand this convoy will probably leave at end
of May. No details yet available.
(B.A.D., 1417Z/2 to D.S.T., (R) N.S.H.Q.)

War Diary.

2.5.1942.
Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies. - contd.

Movements. San Pedro arrived 1615Z/1 PRINCE HENRY.
(N.S.H.Q., 0147Z/2 to Admty.)
St. Johns N.F. 1/5. Arrivals BUCTOUCHE ex
Argentina. Departures WITCH, NIAGARA, THE PAS, SASKATOON,
FREDERICTON to O.N.89. WANDERER, ROXBOROUGH, SUMMERSIDE,
SUDBURY to O.N.88. GEORGIAN escort C.L.30 to Halifax.
(F.O.N.F., 0214Z/2 to Admty.)
GANANOQUE arrived escorting C.L.28. ST. CLAIR arrived from
St. John N.B. FORT YORK sailed escorting C.L.11.
(S.O.I. Halifax 1910Z/2 to Admty., etc.)

NIAGARA Return St. Johns N.F. No.3 and 4 boilers
defect. leaking. E.T.A. 1100Z/2.
(NIAGARA, 0200Z/2 to F.O.N.F.)

Landing Please see British Army Staff signal to War
Craft, Office A L M dated 25/4 and reply No. 84973 of
requirements. 27/4. Considerable overlapping and confusion
unless all requirements for landing craft and
associated gear are put through one channel.
Agreed here that B A S R will handle all landing
craft material. If this is agreed request all
departments may be informed.
(B.A.D., 0231Z/2 to Admty.)

836 Sqdn. Your 1812Z/25. Intend 836 Sqdn. proceed New York
BITER. via Miami leaving Palisadoes and Camaguey (Cuba)
on 18/5. Personnel, stores and mobile equipment
will be embarked approx. 18/5.
(R.N.A.S. Jamaica, 0844R/2 to B.A.R.M. (R) Admty.)

Movement 1800 G.M.T. 2/5/1942.
Summary. Ship Position Course Speed
PHOEBE 48° N. 39° W. 085° 16
GLASGOW 29° N. 48½° W. 306° 16½
See p. 45 GLENGYLE 26½° N. 30½° W. 357° 16
ALCANTARA 01° N. 20° W. 030° 14
(D.O.D.(F) 0900Z/2 to Opnav (R) Comnav.)

U/B Intercept 1029 G.M.T. WGBC 1 De NAA. O. S/M
Sighting sighted 35.07 N. 69.47 W. at 1742Z 020030.
Reports. WGBC 1 De NAA. O. S/M sighted 40.02 N. 72.53 W.
at 2300Z. 020425. WGBC 4 De NAA. O. S/M sighted
22.22 N. 77.38 W. at 1441Z/1 X 011723. WGBC 4
De NAA. O. S/M sighted 19.15 N. 75.40 W. at
1525Z. 012245. Controlling Station Arlington
Virginia.
(Portishead Radio, No T.O.O./2 Recd. 1309/2).

/Russian ...

War Diary.2.5.1942.
Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America & West Indies. - contd.

Russian No. C.O.S. (W) 168. Following from Chiefs of Staff.
Supplies. Ref. C.O.S. (W) 156.

Following is summary of a memorandum now being sent to Hariman by Lyttleton.

2. At present time limiting factor is number of ships which it is possible to take in convoy to North Russian ports. In present circumstances British Naval Staff do not expect to be able to sail more than 3 convoys from Iceland every 2 months. Maximum number in each convoy 35 and possibly not more than 25.

3. If ships are fully and efficiently loaded on both sides of Atlantic with warlike supplies and bulk materials to maximum capacity it ought to be possible on basis of 6,000 short tons per ship to lift joint programme of 4.4 million tons a year in 730 ships or 60 ships a month, 45 by North Russian route and 15 by Persian Gulf. 6,000 tons a ship is far in excess of present loading and careful planning will be required to achieve it. (4. - 9.) Details, Aircraft, Tanks, Food, etc. (Air Min., 1035Z/2 to Britman, Washington).

HARRY G. U 2 D Article 13 (A) HARRY G. SEIDEL (B) 29/4
SEIDEL. 0250 G.M.T. 011° 30' N., 062° 50' W. (C) and (D)
Sank in St. Vincent West Indies. (E) 175 fathoms
(F) Ship sank in 30 minutes turning turtle.

(G) Master (L) Blank.

(N.O.I.C. Trinidad, 1057Q/2 to Admty.)

My 1033/29. ALETES and tug BUSY arrived Trinidad 1/5 with 48 survivors of HARRY G. SEIDEL including 6 U.S. Naval ratings. Survivors had landed at Rio Caribe. Formalities required by Venezuelan authorities completed satisfactorily and relations very cordial. B.A.D. pass to Cominch and Opnav. (C. in C. A.W.I., 1133P/2 to Admty., (R) C. in C. U.S. Fleet, etc.)

O.N. 91. ^{Left London 2nd day.} (1) 0700Z/2. (2) 0600Z/6. (3) NIBLACK,^{* U.S.S.} LUDLOW, AGASSIZ, BARRIE, MAYFLOWER, ROSTHERN, DUNVEGAN. (D.T.D., 1140Z/2 to Opnav).

* Bvt: LUDLOW inflicting a
Typhoid - (Pink List.)

Madagascar. Daily Mail correspondent Washington reports arrival at Madagascar of French warships MONTCALM, MARSEILLAISE and JULES VERNE. Request your remarks on this report.
(D.D.I.C., 1217B/2 to B.A.D.)

Your 1217B/2. Navy Dept. inform us that reports of French Cruisers arriving at Madagascar but giving no names have been broadcast from Rome and Melbourne for some time as coming from Tokyo. JULES VERNE arrived Dakar 27/4. MONTCALM and GEORGES LEYGUES and 2 destroyers returned to Dakar 17/4. These reports are from U.S. local sources. Navy Dept. consider that should these ships have sailed from Dakar they would have been informed. MARSEILLAISE last heard of at Toulon August 1941.
(B.A.D., 1547Z/2 to Admty.) See p. 47.

/St. Lucia ...

War Diary.2.5.1942.
Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America & West Indies. - contd.St. Lucia
defences.

C. in C. 1232P/10/3 (Construction of Boom Defences for Castries Harbour St. Lucia), suggests Port Castries Harbour obstruction is British commitment. Administrator informed by Gen. Pratt this is United States responsibility and a charge to U.S.G. Is this correct or is it an Admiralty commitment?
(R.N.O. St. Lucia, 1314Q/2 to Admty., (R) C. in C. A.W.I.)

BURNHAM,
escort of
tankers.

N.S.H.Q. Ottawa 1656Z/1, comply.
(C. in C. U.S. Fleet, 1440/2 to C.E.S.F., (R) Admty., etc.) *above letter 11-9 - See next page*

Suspicious
Ship, 9/4.

My 2027/1 (?N.T. in W.D.) Following is sense of C.O.A.C's 0404/9. Intercept from Connecticut U.S. at 0315Z/9/4. Being followed by suspicious vessel position 011° 13' N., 061° 35' W.
(N.S.H.Q., 1451Z/2 to Admty., etc.)

GULFWING.

Your 1114R/30.*U.S. Tanker GULFWING not due Guantanamo. Sailed Charleston 29/4 due New York 2/5.
(Opnav, 1505/2 to S.O.I. Kingston Jamaica (R) Admty., etc.) * Re GULFWING due Guanta.

P.514,
L.27.

C. in C. N.F. 1316/27. P.514 is to be sailed St. Johns on completion of defects. Probable completion date of L.27 is 25/7.
(N.S.H.Q., 1605Z/2 to C.O.A.C. Halifax (R) C. in C. W.A., C.C.N.F., Brit. Maintenance Comdr. Argentia).

LA PAZ
(torpedoed
1/5).

Ref. Admty. 1320/2/4/40, LA PAZ British, torpedoed but beached 1/5, 1940 G.M.T., 028° (215') N., 080° 20' W., all books burned, information from D.I.O., Miami, no casualties.
(B.R.O. Jacksonville Flo., 1621Z/2 to Admty.)

U/B attacked,
BAINBRIDGE.

U.S. Destroyer BAINBRIDGE reported in position 8 miles South of Plumb Point, Kingston, Jamaica, between 1130 R and 1157 today 3 sound contacts with presumed submarine. 3 attacks made with depth charges, no visible result.
(S.O.I. Kingston, 1628R/2 to Admty., etc.)

U/B,
EMERALDA.

Master of Sailing Vessel EMERALDA, British, reports at 0745 G.M.T. approx. 012° 45' N., 060° 35' W. sighted 3/M on surface distant 200 yards steering N.W. by N. at considerable speed. Report appears reliable.
(Harb. Mast., Barbados, 1630/2 to Admty., (R) S.O.I. Jamaica).

War Diary.2.5.1942.
Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America & West Indies. - contd.

- M.P.R.I. Amendment No.7 to M.P.R.I. Sec.1 Para. 5 and 6.
(Opnav, 1645/2 to N.S.H.Q., etc.)
- Corvettes to Escort Tankers. Your 1658Z/1/5 para. 5. Concur.
(D.T.D., Approved V.C.N.S., 1306B/2 to N.S.H.Q.)
- A.T.15. Arrival A.T.15 consisting of 1 battleship
1 cruiser 1 aircraft carrier 12 destroyers
13 transports and supply ships.
(S.O.I. Halifax, 1712Z/2 to Admty., N.S.H.Q., etc.
as amended 1343Z/3).
A.M. 2248/24. Convoy A.T.15.
Para.3 (b) amend destination of U.S.Store ships
SEATRAN TEXAS, JAVA and TANIMBAR to read Clyde.
(D.O.D.(H) 1852B/2 to C.O.A.C.Halifax, C.T.F.38,
etc.)
- BURNHAM, Cancel my 1656Z/1. BRITAMER and ALAR delayed New
escort for York with crew trouble. VANCOLITE being held
tankers. New York to sail with BRITAMER and ALAR.
(2) Request C.E.S.F. sail BURNHAM at best possible
speed to New York to escort these 3 tankers and
arrange for her to refuel at New York.
(3) Ref. B.A.D. 1723Z/29 B.R.O. New York is being instructed to
route convoy to Cartagena via Charleston where POLYCASTLE will
join convoy.
(4) N.S.H.Q. and C. in C. A.W.I. will be responsible for any
diversions in their respective areas.
(N.S.H.Q., 1731Z/2 to Cominch, C.E.S.F., (R) C.N.O., B.A.D.,
Washington Admty., etc.)
- Caribbean Your 1302/29 para.3. Ministry of Food is in close
Sugar touch with Minister Trujillo and some transfer of
Ships. sugar from exposed to protected ports has been
organized, cost probably borne by shippers.
Ministry of Food has made similar proposals in
Jamaica.
2. My 1916/16. Request procedure may be brought into force
forthwith amended as in your 1302/29 para.2.
3. Your 1752/29 will be answered separately.
(D.T.D., 1752B/2 to C. in C. A.W.I.)
My 1916/16/4 and my 1752/2/5. LLANASHE from U.K. due Ciudad
Trujillo 16th.
(D.T.D., 1907B/2 to C. in C. A.W.I.)
- U/B Sub attack and sighting summary. Later
Intelligence. information shows LA PAZ was torpedoed once, not
sunk, 28° 15' N. 80° 20' W. 0930Z/1. ASHKHABAD,
1 torpedo. BIDEVIND sunk 40° 13' N. 73° 46' W.
0250Z/1. 2 torpedoes, no sub description. U.S.S. BROOME Sound
Contact attacked 33° 50' N., 77° 17' W. about midday today.
Results negligible. Plane sighted sub on surface 40° 10' N.,
73° 10' W. 1358Z/2. Sound Contact attacked 29° 28' N., 80° 50' W.
0210Z/2. Results negative. Plane attacked suspected sub

War Diary.2.5.1942.
Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America & West Indies.

- U/B Intelligence. (contd.) 40° 02' N., 72° 53' W. 2300Z/1. Plane sighted sub on surface 34° 08' N., 72° 41' W. 1435Z/1. Attack made 8 seconds after disappearance. Damage probable. Possibly U.88 Type. Opnav and B.A.D. informed.
(Cominch, 1902/2 to Admty., for O.I.C.)
- U/B report. Following from Catalina V9728 in Flight Bermuda - U.K. S/M in 37.00 N., 52.00 W. at 1809 G.M.T./2. (T.A.C., Prestwick, 1925 G.M.T./2 to Air Min.)
- Ice Bulletin. C.T.24 1929/2 to Admty.
- Italian Repatriations. Position of TAIGETE and ARCOLA at noon 2/5 17.08 N. 52.36 W. course 226° speed 10 knots.
(S.B.N.O. TAIGETE, 2000/2 to Admty.)
- SALAMONIE (tanker) U/B. Refer to this as Cominch's 1948/2. U-Boat estimated in your vicinity by D/F at 1910Z/2 may have made a sighting report on you.
(C. in C. U.S. Fleet, 2008/2 to SALAMONIE (R) Admty., etc.) *See p. 55.*
- GLASGOW, U/B. R. D/F bearing indicates S/M at 34° 30' N., 54° 30' W. at 1200/2, moving westward.
(Opnav, 2040/2 to GLASGOW (R) C. in C. U.S. Atlantic Fleet, C. in C. W.A., C. in C. A.W.I.)
- Helicopters. B.A.D. Washington 2039/25/4. U.S. Army have approved our request for 2 Vought-Sikorsky Helicopters. Details.
(B.A.D., 2135Z/2 to Admty.)
- Jamaica Routeing Centre. Evident that Jamaica centre is unable to cope efficiently with work of disseminating increasing volume of routeing instructions to routeing authorities in Jamaica area. I have therefore decided to transfer this part of area routeing organization to Bermuda.
(C. in C. A.W.I., 2152P/2 to Admty.)
- Torpedo Nets. Your 0958/30. Individual ships anti-torpedo nets can only be spared for battleships and aircraft carriers and are therefore not available for Wellington.
(B.A.D., 2205Z/2 to N.Z.N.B.)

2.5.1942.
Saturday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Australia & New Zealand.

Situation. Serial No.101 from C.W.R. 1/5.
3 Zero Fighters twice attacked 7 mile aerodrome Port Moresby 1/5. 1 destroyed, 2 possibly shot down
(2) R/C aircraft slightly damaged in engagement with 7 Zeros 15 miles from Port Moresby 1 probable 2 Zeros shot down.
(3) Ref. serial No. 100. P.39 missing Lae attack located.
3 Seaplanes believed destroyed salvaged. Vessel Alexishaffen not sighted 1/5.
(4) 3 B.26's damaged buildings Gasmata 2320Z/30 no shipping or aircraft observed but A/A fire encountered.
(5) Tulagi attacked 0326Z/30 by 3 T.97 Kawanisi Flying boats, no damage.
(6) Well armed vessel possibly transport 2500 tons and small vessel sighted by R/C aircraft 0500Z/1 approx. 008° 24' S. 156° 13' E. A/A fire from first vessel.
(7) 2 unidentified aircraft sighted 02310Z/30 over Townsville. Balloon possibly released.
(8) SEIA MARU reported having been struck by 2 torpedoes in 009° 24' N., 156° 18' E. but is still able to proceed Imieji, arrives 3/5.
(A.C.N.B., 0802Z/2 to Admty., etc.)

Movements. Departure Sydney (N.S.W.) 0015Z/30. AUSTRALIA wearing flag F.O.C. Aus. Sqdn. with HOBART for Hervey Bay (Queensland). Departure Port Phillip 1020Z/1 KANIMBLA escorting MAETSUYCKER for Tongatabu via Brisbane. Departure Adelaide 0800Z/1 ABRAHAM CRIJNSSEN escorting D. S/M K.9 and D. S/M K.12 for Melbourne.
(A.C.N.B., 1052Z/2 to Admty., etc.)
BALLARAT escorting CREMER arrived Townsville 0206Z/1. ATREUS left Melbourne 2020Z/1 for Newcastle. U.S. Destroyer J.D.EDWARDS returned to Sydney N.S.W. arriving 1957Z/1.
(A.C.N.B., 1603Z/2 to Admty., etc.)

C.N.S. Cdre. Sir Atwell Lake assumed duty as Chief of Naval Staff and 1st. Naval Member of New Zealand Naval Board, Navy Office, Wellington, on Friday 1/5/1942.
(N.Z.N.B., 1509M/2 to General).

Wellington. Anti torpedo baffles not available.
(B.A.D., 2205/2). See America & West Indies.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Submarines Reported.

Estimated U/B positions.
(D.D.I.C., 1413B/2, 1424B/2).

3.5.1942.
Sunday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

The new battleship ANSON arrived at Rosyth this evening.

A Soviet S/M patrol zone has been established south of Barents Sea and will be occupied by one Soviet submarine during the passage of convoy P.Q.15, the S/M will have orders to attack submarines only.

British Air Operations.

Coastal Command aircraft raided shipping in the Aalesund area last night, setting on fire an "Altmark" class tanker and another merchant vessel.

Enemy Air Operations.

Convoy P.Q.15 was bombed at 2230Z today in 73° N 31° 51' E, but the only damage was minor to CAPE PALLISER.

Mining.

Bomber Command arranged a heavy minelaying programme for last night in the areas Lorient, La Pallice, St. Nazaire, Le Verdon (Rhône) Kiel, Danzig, Gdynia, Fehmarn Channel, Flensburg, north end of Langeland Belt and the south entrance to the south in the Baltic.

3.5.1942.
Sunday.War Diary.SITUATION REPORT.North Atlantic.

Two aircraft on passage report sighting this morning a battleship resembling STRASBOURG Class and two destroyers in 33° 30' N 8° 25' W. When first sighted they were steering 220° but altered course a few minutes later to 44°. STRASBOURG was at Toulon on 29/4. The ships sighted may have been JEAN BART carrying out steam trials and possibly the cruiser GLOIRE from Casablanca.

Mediterranean.

P.42 reports little shipping seen in the Gulf of Genoa during a 3 days patrol. She torpedoed and ~~probably sank~~ a 4000 ton merchant ship.
damaged

Hal Far and Luqa were again the objects of enemy bombers today.

East Indies.

All units in French Sudan were warned last night to be in a state of alert and on the same night a most immediate message, the purport of which is not known, was sent to all Vichy naval units.

There were two air attacks on Akyab today.

America and West Indies.

Mines.

Drifting mines are reported off the N and N.E. coasts of Newfoundland.

Convoy A.T.15 consisting of 16 transports and supply ships, escorted by one battleship, one cruiser, one aircraft carrier and 10 destroyers left Halifax today.

/Tanker...

War Diary.

3.5.1942.
Sunday.

SITUATION REPORT.

America and West Indies - Contd.

Tanker BRITISH WORKMAN a straggler from convoy O.N.89 was torpedoed today about 170 miles S by E of Cape Race. Dutch SS. LAERTES north of Florida Strait; Dominican SS. SAN RAFAEL 45 miles S by W of Little Cayman; and Tanker GEORGE W MCKNIGHT was attacked twice west of Tobago the second time unsuccessfully, and entered Port of Spain under her own steam, damaged by torpedo. Submarines were also sighted or attacked east of Cape Race and Cape Hatteras and in Florida Strait.

Sailings of British controlled ships from Curacao and Aruba and from the Caribbean for Curacao and Aruba, which were suspended on 28/4 were resumed today, but sailings between Trinidad and Caribbean ports are being suspended for the present.

Australia.

6 U.S. medium bombers attacked aircraft on Vunakanau Aerodrome, Rabaul at 2350Z today, damaging enemy aircraft and the aerodome. 20 to 25 transports and one probable heavy cruiser were sighted in Rabaul Harbour, and a small S/M headed for Rabaul.

3.5.1942.
Sunday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Policy.

→ UTMOST. Intend transferring UTMOST to 3rd S/M Flotilla
A.M. May 3rd.
(Capt. S.6., 0920B/3).

Chasseurs Your 1707/30. Decision to transfer Chasseurs to
42 and 43. French Equatorial Africa referred to in your
1543/18 is still under consideration.
(D.O.D. (H), 1248B/3 to C. in C. Portsmouth).

Defence of U.K.

Clyde A/A Your 1045B/18/4. 16 H.A.A. guns of Clyde Barrage
defences. already deployed directly covering projected
anchorage for QUEEN MARY and QUEEN ELIZABETH off
Gourock Pier. 12 additional H.A.A. guns will be
deployed as follows:-
4 South of Dunoon. 4 North of Dunoon. 4 South of Inverkip.
making a total of 28 H.A.A. guns. Smoke screen being investigated
but doubt efficacy in view of difficulties in establishing
screen at Faslane as reported to the last meeting of the
C.O.S. (A.A.) Sub-Committee.
(Air Ministry, 1640/3 to Admty.)

Poole My 2017B/1. It now appears that a meeting of an
Harbour. exploratory nature took place in January.
N.O.I.C. Poole was present but no decisions were
made and nothing further was heard and no
information from any official source has since been given to
Naval Authorities. It is known that a meeting on air aspect took
place in March but Naval representative was not asked to attend.
The inevitable result is that we suddenly discover a Surveyor
of Ministry of Aircraft Production laying Buoys near to
observation minefield and its cables because he has no knowledge
of their existence.
However the bloomer belongs to the past. Now we must resolve
conflicting interests observing that on no account is any work
to be carried out at Poole that would interfere with future
Naval commitments.
(C. in C. Portsmouth, 1917B/3 to F.O.I.C. Portland).

Movements.

SCOTT. Arrived. SCOTT.
(N.O.I.C. Port Z.A., 0731B/3).

RAJPUTANA. Sailed RAJPUTANA in accordance with my 2245B/2. ^{INT. 1}
(F.O.I.C. Greenock, 0733B/3).

THUNDERBOLT. My 2210/30. Sailed. (Bl, Th)
→ UTMOST. (Captain S.6., 0816B/3 to A.C.O.S.)
0.14. See next page

P.222. Clyde arrival P.222 and P.45 escorted by
P.45. LA CAPRICIEUSE. (F.O.I.C. Greenock, 0816B/3).

War Diary.3.5.1942.
Sunday.HOME COMMANDS.Movements. - contd.

O.14. O.14 sailed from Dundee for Scapa.
(Capt. S.9., 1015B/3).

RODNEY. Intend sailing BLEASDALE passing Clyde Boom at
BLEASDALE. 0500B/4 to comply with C. in C. W.A. 1047B/2.
NEWMARKET. (F.O.I.C. Greenock, 1044B/3).
Intend sailing RODNEY escorted by NEWMARKET and
BLEASDALE 1700B/4 for Scapa. Speed of advance
17 knots.
2. A turret gun trial will take place at 0800B/5.
3. Two hours full power trials will be carried out A.M.5th.
4. E.T.A. Cape Wrath 1800B/5 to comply with C. in C. H.F.,
1510B/27. (N.O.I.C. Liverpool, 1132B/3).

ARETHUSA. Admiralty 1509/26. Route for ARETHUSA.
(a) 270° Oversay 6 miles. (b) 055° 20' N.,
010° 03' W. (c) 047° 58', 19° 59', thence to
Ponta Delgada to fuel.
(C. in C. W.A., 1109B/3).

CUMBERLAND. Sheerness for Scapa, departure CUMBERLAND at 1303.
(C. in C. Nore, 1440B/3 to C. in C. H.F.)

ANSON. Rosyth arrival ANSON escorted by SPEEDWELL,
WESTMINSTER, WOLSEY.
(C. in C. Rosyth, 1555/3).

KENT. Sailed KENT in accordance with my 2056B/2.
(N.O.I.C. Greenock, 1702B/3 to C. in C. H.F.)

H.43. 1. Amend route to pass through following positions
(A) 050° 21', 002° 13' to R/V with CHASER 14 in
050° 28', 001° 44' at 0630/4. CHASSEUR
2. Total bombing restrictions are in force 10 miles either side
of line joining position (A) and R/V from 0500 to 0900.
3. 3 Swordfish will be in the vicinity to assist in making
contact with escort.
4. W.P.150, E.T.A. Needles 0730/4, have been warned of these
movements.
(Capt. S.5., 2145B/3 to H.43).

War Diary.3.5.1942.
Sunday.HOME COMMANDS.Operations.

Combined Operations. C.C.O. 1317B/2. Weather permitting intend sailing 10 R-craft at 1030/3 to Southend for onward routeing to Warsash. Request necessary authorities be informed and routeing order to Southend issued. (N.O.I.C. Brightlingsea, 0112B/3 to C.C.O.)
Your 1320/2 being complied with Adequate supply held. (PRINCE ALBERT, 0917B/3 to C.C.O.)

KC.1. My 2227B/2. Arrived Needles 0715.
(C. in C. Portsmouth, 0732B/3).
My 1247B/2 and 1257B/2. S.O. 11th M.T.B. Flotilla reports as follows:-

Cap La Hague was sighted 0045. 2 small patrol boats of harbour defence type were located about $\frac{1}{4}$ mile off shore. They were not engaged nor did they see M.T.Bs Alderney Light was switched on at 0300 and La Hague at 0310. At 0410 2 red leading lights were switched on at Alderney Harbour. Nothing was seen to enter or leave. The moon was in an ideal position for M.T.Bs and, as the enemy shipping route was kept between it and the M.T.Bs, it is considered improbable any shipping passed between 0045 and 0430 when patrol was discontinued.
(C. in C. Portsmouth, 1217B/3 to Admty.)

N.W. Norway S/M Patrol. (1) Leave patrol at 1200B/4 for Lerwick routed as follows. P. 43 through positions.
(a) 070° 10' N. 008° 20' E. (b) 090° Out Skerries 5 miles, thence to Lerwick.

Remaining S/M's to proceed direct to position (b) thence to Lerwick.

(2) S/M's are to proceed on the surface at C.O's discretion and are to adjust their speeds so as to arrive at Lerwick as follows STURGEON 2000B/6. MINERVE 0600B/7. UREDD 1100B/7. P.551 1600B/7. P.43 2200B/7.
(Capt. S.9., 1115B/3 to STURGEON, MINERVE, UREDD, P.551, P.43).

Denmark Strait Patrol. BERWICK on patrol "White."
(A.C.I.C., 1710B/3 to Ships).

Passengers. Consider Captains of H.M. Ships should not be asked to carry large numbers of badly sick and non naval passengers when employed on difficult operations.
Admiralty pass to C. in C. H.F.
(C.S.18, 1827B/3 to Admty.)

Soviet S/M Patrol Zone. S/M patrol zone has been established and is now occupied bound by lines joining the following positions
072° 30' N. 032° 10' E. 072° 00' 032° 10' 071° 43'
036° 05' 070° 55' 034° 20' 071° 30' 034° 20'. during passage of P.Q.15. One Soviet S/M will patrol area with orders to attack S/M's only. She has orders to keep (? word omitted ?clear) of all warships and convoys.
(S.B.N.O. N.Russia, 2158B/3 to Ships escorting P.Q.15).

3.5.1942.
Sunday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

British Air Activity.

M/Vs attacked. 4 small vessels were attacked between Boulogne and Calais by the Cannon Hurricane A/C of 32 Squadron from 2255/2 to 0140/3, and 3 more between 0145/3 and 0340/3. Hits were claimed by all pilots. (V.A.Dover, 1042B/3).

Escort for KING GEORGE V. Expect Northrop A/C until 0100B/4. (A.C.I.C., 1715B/3 to C. in C. H.F.) Your 1941B/2. Expect air escort as follows tomorrow. A/S one Catalina 1st light to 1830, one Hudson 1830 to last light. A/A Sorties of two Beaufighters from 0800 to last light. (C. in C. Rosyth, 1727B/3 to C. in C. H.F.) My 1727B/3 and your 1409B/3. Expect first sortie of Beaufighters at 0630. (C. in C. Rosyth, 1957B/3 to C. in C. H.F.) My 1727/3 and 1957/3. Beaufighter on 6000 KC/S W/T and 6440 KC/S R/T. Single Seater fighters will relieve Beaufighters about 2100/4 and escort you till last light. (C. in C. Rosyth, 2247B/3 to C. in C. H.F.)

Patrols. "Slips Two" will be flown 0630 till 1100/4, then "Slips One" until dark 4th, both by 18 Group Hudson A/C. (C. in C. Rosyth, 2247B/3 to C. in C. H.F.)

STORK. Expect Air Escort by Liberator from 0430B/4 to 1030B/4. (C. in C. W.A., 2334B/3 to STORK).

Enemy Air Activity.

Faroes Ships. Your 1813/2. Attacks made on two Icelandic trawlers attacked on 26/4 and 28/4. by F W at 1230B/26, 120 miles S.E. Oryholaeey Light. Two bombs dropped. No damage. Faroese Vessel attacked with machine gun at 2330B/28, 16 miles S.S.E. of Hofn. Two bombs dropped. Slight damage to hull and deck fittings. (A.C.I.C., 1359B/3 to Admty.)

R/C of Hvalfiord. One twin-engined enemy A/C carried out R/C of S.W. Iceland a.m. 2nd May. Was over Hvalfiord 0900B. (A.C.I.C., 1427B/3).

3.5.1942.

Sunday.War Diary.HOME COMMANDS.Mining.

UNIQUE (Mined 2/5). Your 1814/2 (?1603B/2). Barge UNIQUE mined yesterday, position $51^{\circ} 38' 20''$ N., $1^{\circ} 0' 20''$ E. Barge in ballast, drawing 2 feet, described as blown to pieces. Barge wooden planking on steel frame. No engine.
(N.O.I.C. Brightlingsea, 1725B/3 to N.C.S.O. Thames).

B.S. Operations. My 2148/2. M.S. 4 reports that subsequent investigation reveals that an additional 13 mines were swept making a total of 53 for the day.
(C. in C. Nore, 2154B/3 to Admty.)

Enemy Intelligence.

Straits of Dover. Enemy shipping plotted by R.D.F. in Dover Strait from 0900/2 to 0900/3.
Track E 18 D. four small vessels from Boulogne at 2255 entered Calais at 0140.
Track E 19 D. three small vessels from three miles West of Calais at 0030 eastbound at 8 knots faded at 0150.
Track E 21 D. Three or four small vessels from off Boulogne at 0145 eastbound at 12 knots faded off Calais at 0340.
(V.A. Dover, 1042B/3).

U-Boats.

U-Boats reported. By D/F at 2321Z/2 a U-Boat in approx. 48° N. 16° W. (D.D.I.C., 0206B/3).
Air escort reports submarine 4 miles North of S G 3.
(N.O.I.C. Milford Haven 1011B/3 to MANCHESTER).
Reliable fix and D/F bearings of U-Boat at G.M.T. 1127/3., in estimated position $071^{\circ} 50'$ N. $033^{\circ} 18'$ E. (S.B.N.O. North Russia, 1330B/3 to P.Q.15).
D/F bearing of U-Boat at 1140/3 in $071^{\circ} 40'$ N. $034^{\circ} 22'$ E. (S.B.N.O. North Russia, 1331B/3 to P.Q.15).
Outward bound U-Boat within 75 miles of 047° N. $010^{\circ} 30'$ W. at 1348B. (F.O.S. 1456B/3 to P.44).
D/F bearings of U-Boat at 1236 in $070^{\circ} 31'$ N. $034^{\circ} 32'$ E. (S.B.N.O. North Russia, 1625B/3 to P.Q.15).

Search for U-Boat.. A very reliable report from the air indicates a submarine dived in $51^{\circ} 42'$ N. $5^{\circ} 38'$ W. at 0954 approx
Coastguards at Wooltack also report a submarine on the surface in this vicinity at the same time.

Following dispositions have been made.

2 M/Ls escorting M.H. 99 returning at dusk.

2 M/Ls from Fishguard carrying out A/S patrol east of Smalls.

CAMBRIDGESHIRE carrying out A/S patrol west of Smalls.

Coastal Command have been asked to provide air patrol in vicinity day and night. Oropesa sweeping being carried out with all available craft.

(F.O.I.C. Milford Haven, 1149B/3).

Canadian Corvette BATTLEFORD has been instructed to carry out an A/S patrol West of Smalls until daylight tomorrow.

(F.O.I.C. Milford Haven, 1205B/3).

/Suspicious ...

War Diary.

3.5.1942.
Sunday.

HOME COMMANDS.

U-Boats. - contd.

- Suspicious object. Am investigating suspicious object as indicated in position:- Oil patch 54° 36' N. (longitude indecipherable).
(16 Group H.Q. 0830/3).
- U-Boats attacked. Sound contact 053° 40', 025° 50', 2000Z. Made repeated depth charge attacks. Result uncertain. (Iceland Escort T.U.24.6.4., 2110Z/3 to C. in C.W.A.)
Following received from A/C.
Am over enemy submarine in 45° 58' N., 16° 33' W. When first observed was on surface and then observed to submerge, course 250°. Have attacked with depth charges. Estimate no hits.
(16 Group H.Q., 2155/3).

Navigational.

- Yarmouth. Wreck Buoy in 052° 47' 13" N. 001° 50' 19" E. struck by M/V. Light extinguished.
(WIDGEON, 0002B/3) (F.O.I.C. Harwich 1111B/3).
(Hydrog. 1111B/3).
WIDGEON's 0002/3. V E S T A L will relight whilst on passage North today.
(F.O.I.C. Yarmouth, 1130B/3).
- 57 F. Buoy. 57 F buoy damaged and light extinguished.
(VIVIEN, 0716B/3).
- Letchworth Buoy. Light on Letchworth Buoy extinguished and lamp appears to have been knocked off.
(Commodore, Sheerness, 1043B/3).
- Rosyth area. No.33 Buoy is reported by JASON to be between 1.5 and 2 miles N.E. of its charted position.
Request Q.Z.H.
(C. in C. Rosyth, 1228/3).
- Nore. Light extinguished on buoy marking wreck in approx 51° 29' N., 00° 57' E.
(Hydrog. 1328B/3).
- Thames Estuary. South West Middle Buoy is missing from station.
(Capt. MS Sheerness 2214/3).

Casualties & Defects.

- BELVOIR. Arrival BELVOIR.
(F.O.I.C. Greenock, 0145B/3).
- GLEN CAIRN. SS GLEN CAIRN has engine defect. Diverted to Humber from H.3 buoy. Request return escort.
(SHEARWATER 1015B/3).

3.5.1942.
Sunday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Casualties & Defects. - contd.

KING GEORGE V. My 1808/2. If ship cannot arrive Liverpool on 6/5 she can be received if she arrives at Bar Light Vessel at 1530Z/7, 1700/8, 1815Z/9. Owing to conditions of light she can be received A.M. 11th or 12th by anchoring at Bar the previous evening.
(F.O.I.C. Liverpool, 1201B/3).

p. 42 My 1941B/2. For 1600B read 1430B. E.T.A. ^{3 days} 2200B/4, Gate 2300B/4.
2. KING GEORGE V cannot run paravanes. Request search sweep of Q Z L 31.
(C. in C. H.F., 1409B/3 to A.C.O.S.)

IMPERIOUS
(Tug).

^{N.T. in W.D.}
My 0715/3. Returned. Engine trouble.
(N.O.I.C. Peterhead, 1237/3 to A.C.O.S.)

EMPIRE
STEVENSON.

Following for Ives from D. of S.T. Your 1212/2. EMPIRE STEVENSON propeller. We agree blasting method provided you can ensure competent Russian. salvage engineer attends personally.
(D.T.D., 1605B/3 to S.B.N.O. Archangel).

Casualties
etc. at
Murmansk
awaiting
passage to
U.K.

Following now Murmansk and district awaiting passage to U.K.
* EDINBURGH, FORESIGHT, FORESTER, H.M. Whaler SILJA etc.
In (?If) NIGERIA not visiting Murmansk food situation remains difficult. Occupying bedding and other necessities for any other survivors also problem. I should like, therefore, to dispose of this large number of men as soon as possible without over-crowding H.M. Ships. Admty. pass to C. in C. H.F. (S.B.N.O. North Russia, 1936B/3 to Admty.) ^{See p 132}
*total 946. *S. R. 2/5

WINCHELSEA.

WINCHELSEA of Task Unit 24.1.18 delayed by defect. Will sail 4th May to overtake.
C.T.F.24 2359/3).

Shipping & Convoys.

O.S.27.
CORINTHIAN.

Sailed Largs CORINTHIAN to R/V O.S.27 in accordance with S.O.W.P. 1554B/28th April.
(F.O.I.C. Greenock, 0034B/3).

P.Q.15 and
Q.P.11.

D/F indications during night show P.Q.15 was shadowed and reported. U-Boats probable still in contact.
(D.D.I.C., 0800B/3 to P.Q.15).

→ Kola latest arrivals FORESIGHT, FORESTER.
(S.B.N.O. North Russia, 0801B/3).

P.Q.15 was probably reported by enemy aircraft at 1326.
(D.D.I.C., 1603B/3 to P.Q.15).

Be in position Y Y (69° 30' N., 1° 30' W.) from 0200B/4, ready to oil destroyers.
(BULLDOG, 1800B/3 to LEDBURY). ^{(awaiting} GRAY RANGER.)

3.5.1942.
Sunday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping & Convoys. - contd.

S.D.26. Sailed S.D.26 LEINSTER, ST. MARYS, SHIKARI at 2330B/3. Route C. in C. Western Approaches 1050B/2. Speed 15 knots. E.T.A. Clyde 0900B/6. (A.C.I.C. 2346B/3).

Soviet S/M Patrol. Protection of P.Q.15. See Operations 2158B/3.

3.5.1942.
Sunday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

Movements.

- Arrival ANTELOPE. (F.O.C.N.A. 0650A/3 to Admty.)
- Arrivals WESTCOTT, WISHART, VIDETTE, WRESTLER, GEORGETOWN. (F.O.C.N.A. 2340A/3 to Admty.)

- WISHART attacked U/B. 2/5 U. 74 *Sunk.* (Dr. Robotham's list 7 cm) 6843.) At 2130^{1/2} in 37° 15' N 00° 07' E WISHART attacked a very good S/M contact. Some time after attack area of thin oil with strong smell like shale observed half mile to windward of attack. No further contact obtained. Continuing search. Fuel stocks remaining 0800 WISHART 120 tons WRESTLER 90. Depth charges expended WISHART 67 WRESTLER 28 and 48 Hedgehogs. (WISHART 0817A/3 to F.O.C.N.A. (R) WESTCOTT.) *See p. 44*

- P.42 attack on M/V. *(Capt. (S) 10.)* P.42 obtained one hit on unescorted 4000 ton merchant ship in Gulf of Genoa on 24/4. Vessel probably sank. Little shipping seen during 3 days on this patrol. (F.O.C.N.A. 1036B/3 to C. in C. Med. (R) Admty. V.A. Malta, F.O.S. Capt. (S) 1. Capt. (S) 10.)

- Spanish Units, U/B. U.573. Your 2340A/2 (2304A/2 intended) May, I have Consul keeping me fully posted. Necessary action will be taken by Embassy. (Asst. B.N.A. Madrid 1345/3 to F.O.C.N.A. (R) Admty.)

- WISHART A/C sighted. Sighted large 2 or 4 engined A/C resembling F/W in the vicinity of 180° Cape De Gata 5 at 1500 steering eastwards. (WISHART 1520A/3 to F.O.C.N.A.)

- RIO MIERA. Ref. A.M. 1103B/2 (N.T in W.D) Spanish RIO MIERA seized. (C.C.S.O. Gibraltar 1710/3 to M.E.W.)

- French Shipping. Gibraltar 0800 French Armed Trawler LA SERVANNAISE, STRASBOURGEOIS full, TATIANA, Westbound. 1455 French Armed Trawler LA HAVRAISE, IMERETHIE II light, many civilian passengers Westbound. (S.O.I. Gibraltar 1739A/3 to Admty. C. in C. Med. etc.)

- M/S Convoy, Horta. *H.T.A. W.D.* My 2313/2. H.M.Ss. BUSHWOOD, HATSUSE, AIGLON, ESTRELLA DO MAR, completed with fuel and sailed 1930 G.M.T. Remainder still in harbour due to gale. Ferry DARICA will be delayed approx. 4 days to renew firebars. Request instructions. (R.O. Horta 2308/3 to Admty. (R) F.O.C.N.A.)

3.5.1942.
Sunday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic.

"Q"
Report.

Following received from Lands End Radio:-
Important intercept 2358 G.M.T. de*Z S Q QQQQ
de B C T P 34.34 S 25.16 E ordered to stop by
suspicious vessel cannot give correct reply to
challenge de Z H Q 2351 G.M.T./2. (C.C.O.
Plymouth T.O.R. 0217/3 to Admty.)* Algoa Bay Radio.

Movements.

EXPRESS departure 3/5. (Consul Genl. Luanda
1014/3 to S.O.I. Capetown etc.)

W.S.18.

Convoy sailing telegram (Ships and destinations)
(N.C.S.O. Freetown 1245Z/3 to Admty. (R) C. in C
S.A. N.O.I.C. Durban, C. in C. E.I.)

(1) Convoy W.S.18. (2) 0930/3/5. (3) Capetown 14/5.
Durban 17/5. (Route and secret positions) (N.C.S.O. Freetown 1251Z/3
to Admty. (R) C. in C. S.A. N.O.I.C. Durban. C. in C. E.I.)
N.C.S.O. Freetown 1245Z/3 and 1251Z/3. Convoy W.S.18 Escort
GAMBIA, FROBISHER, ALBATROSS, TETCOTT, WIVERN, BOREAS, VAN
GALEN. WIVERN, BOREAS return Freetown 1400Z/4 when HYDRANGEA,
DETROYAT join. HYDRANGEA, DETROYAT leave p.m./5 convoy R/V
DUNNOTTAR CASTLE. VAN GALEN after fuelling from cruiser in
vicinity of St. Helena proceed best speed Simonstown.
(R.A.W. Africa 1639Z/3 to C. in C. S.A. (R) Admty.)

COMMANDANT

See next page.

GLENGYLE.

C. in C. S.A. 1349/20/4. Onward route from
position O 048° 02' N 021° 27' W thence
W 055° 18' N 010° 03' W
X 000° Inishtrahull 10 miles thence Clyde.
(C. in C. W.A. 1533B/3 to GLENGYLE (R) N.O.I.C.
Greenock, Admty, H.Q.F.C. H.Q.C.C.)

Use of
Saldanha
Bay.

Your 1435/16. Confirmed that it is intended to
use Saldanha Bay as an overflow anchorage for
Capetown as soon as minimum facilities and
necessary defences are available.

2. Request, however, you will make it clear that
it is not intended in first instance that port should be
developed on scale suggested by reference to deep water quays,
but only for use in a manner similar to Loch Ewe, which is a
protected anchorage with very limited facilities ashore and no
rail communications.

3. Mast 3270 to Campbell, Capetown refers. (V.C.N.S. 1539B/3
to C. in C. S.A.) *See next page.*

Movements
Summary.

2000Z/3 Area Q. CHESHIRE from Durban by route
R 2 E.T.A. Simonstown a.m. 4/5.
WHITEHAVEN from Simonstown by route R 1 E.T.A.
Durban 0600Z/4.

CANTON off Capetown E.T.A. 4/5.

MILFORD, SOUTHERN GEM, SOUTHERN PRIDE, on patrol in False Bay.
MANXMAN 018° 20' S 009° 35' E to Simonstown 19 knots.
(C. in C. S.A. 1620B/3 to S.A. Station Sqdn. (R) Admty.)

War Diary.3.5.1942.
Sunday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic - Contd.Saldanha
Bay.

At suggestion of Union Authorities amend my 1542/27 as follows (details) Union Govt. are prepared to proceed immediately with defences of Saldanha Bay as detailed in para 3 but to facilitate provision of additional defensive armament as shown in para 4 a definite recommendation from U.K. Govt. should be made. (C. in C. S.A. 1723B/3 to Admty.) *See previous page.*

Movements.

Arrival 3/5 MALAYA, WILD SWAN, BOREAS, HYDRANGEA. Departures 3/5 GAMBIA, FROBISHER, HECLA, ALBATROSS, VAN GALEN, TETCOTT (?WIVERN) BOREAS, HYDRANGEA, with W.S.18. Will shift to area Q W/T organisation at 2000/8. (S.O.I. Freetown 1903Z/3 to Admty. C. in C. S.A.) *See previous page.*

O.S.26.

O.S.26 P.C. and S at 1859Z/3 023° 20' N 024° 48' W (A) (?129° 191° 301°) 9.7 knots. AMARANTHUS E.T.A. St. Vincent 1001Z/5. 50 tons oil fuel required. Weather report. (IBIS 2129Z/3 to N.O.I.C. Freetown (R) N.C.S.O. St. Vincent, AMARANTHUS, Admty. C. in C. W.A. F.O.C.N.A. B.N.A. Lisbon.)

Mediterranean.Enemy
Units,
PROTEUS.

P.M. 2nd R/C A/C reported merchant ship apparently aground in approx. 038° 41' 020° 34' destroyers and other small vessels in vicinity. (Capt. S.1. 0951C/3 to PROTEUS.)

Return to Alexandria through 037° 27' 020° 32' 034° 36' 023° 45' 032° 26' 028° 49' passing through 1st position about 1500C/5 and arrive searched channel 0530C/10. (Capt. S.1. 1331C/3 to PROTEUS (R) C. in C. Med. etc.)

See next page (Movements)

P.35.

See next page

Anticipate P.35 passes position (A) 038° 00' 011° 44' about 1300B/5 thence N.E. and will notify E.T.A. same position on return passage. (Capt. S.10. 1007B/3 to C. in C. Med. F.O.C.N.A. (R) Capt. S.1. Capt. S.8.)

If object is not achieved you should spend 24 hours on Palermo St. Vito convoy route before returning to Malta. (Capt. S.10 2214B/3 to P.35 (R) C. in C. Med. etc.)

Port Said
Minesweeping.

Fortnight ending 3/5. 22/4 2 magnetic red, probably Sammy, swept by LL/SA close to searched channel.. Further result of intensive search

War Diary.3.5.1942.
Sunday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean.

Port Said Minesweeping. (Contd.) of channel negative. 1/5 possibly two 11 'G' dropped in harbour. Result of sweeping negative. (N.O.I.C. Port Said 1031C/3 to Admty. (R) C. in C. Med. S.B.N.O. S.C.A.)

Cositrep No. 345. 2. Air. Summary for week ending 2/5. Night bombers continued attacks Benghazi port and bombed submarine base Leros Island. Fighters continued night attacks on objectives forward area and carried out offensive patrols and protection of Tobruk convoys by day. Enemy bombed Alexandria and Port Said. One night bombing attack on their aerodromes in Crete. Weather interfered with operations on three days. (C. in C. M.E. 1045/3 to W.O. (R) C. in C. Med.)

Middle East and India. Appreciation of needs of respective theatres, for C&O.S. from C. in C. (Mideast 1330/3 to Air Min.) See Lion Copy.

Movements. Arrivals 2/5 DULVERTON, HURWORTH, SOUTHERN MAID. Departures 2/5 HASTY, GLOXINIA, DELPHINIUM, PRIMULA, ERICA, COCKER, FALK, MAGNET, M.T.B. 261, 262, *PROTEUS. Departures 3/5 BEAUFORT. (S.O.I. Alexandria 1804C/3 to Admty. C. in C. Med.)
** See previous page*

Malta Air Report. I.264, CSR 3/5. 1. 2nd. Alert 1516 hours, Macchi 202s, ME.109s six Ju.88s. Luqa no damage. Elsewhere 1 soldier killed, 4 wounded. Gun damaged 1 ME.109, damaged by 7 Spitfires.

A.A. fired. Night 2/3 Two alerts 1920, 2009 hours, 3 raiders Bombs sea. A.A. fired.

3rd. 4 alerts 0712, 0852, 0958, 1136 hours, ME.109s 5 Cant Z1007s, 7 Ju.88s. Hal Far craters dispersals aerodrome. Elsewhere 1 civilian killed, 9 wounded, 1 house destroyed. 1 ME.109 destroyed, 1 ME.109 damaged by 6 Spitfires. A.A. fired.

Part 2. Night 2/3. Wellington 8 shipping search 0145 hours attacked 1 M/V 5000 tons escorted by 1 D/R entering Pantellaria. 4 500 GP from 700 feet. Direct hit M/V causing much smoke, near misses probably damaged D/R, latter also machine gunned. 2 Albacores shipping strike 0120 hours attacked two M/Vs 6000 tons escorted by two D/Rs 124° Lampion 14 miles course 320° 12 knots. 1 possible torpedo hit on 1 M/V. Deliveries 2nd. 1 Beaufort ex Gibraltar crashed on landing crew safe. 1 Wellington to Middle East. No aircraft missing. (H.Q. R.A.F. Malta 1810/3.)

H.D.M.Ls. Massawa. Ref. Admty. letter D.O. 9437/41 dated 20/6/41. request 4 H.D.M.Ls. may be allocated to Massawa. (C. in C. Med. 1845C/3 to Admty.)

OLYMPUS. P.35. *See previous page* Arrived OLYMPUS. Sailed P.35. (V.A. Malta. 2337B/3 to Admty.)

MOST SECRET

MOST SECRET

MESSAGE

1330/5rd May

Date 3.5.42

IN

76A

Recd. 1930

From Mideast

Addressed Air Ministry

MOST IMMEDIATE

IZ 158 & 159. CC/35 3/5

Following Most Secret and Personal all Chiefs of Staff from Commanders in Chief. Ref. C.O.S.M.E. 259.4

1. Your paragraph 17 causes us grave anxiety. If Japan takes Ceylon and Western India ports, sea communications on which we depend almost entirely for our existence will be interfered with. Moreover it is difficult to contemplate loss of vast resources of man power, raw materials and manufactured goods now obtained from India. Six of fourteen armoured and infantry divisions now in Middle East are Indian. If India goes difficult to see how these are to be maintained or replaced.

2. In your paragraph 15 India is said to be short of at least one Armd. Div. one Army Tank Bde. and four Inf. Divs. which cannot be made good till late 1942. Your para. 16 show India to be short of some 40 Air Force Squadrons.

3. If the danger is really as imminent as stated in para. 17 of your C O S ME 259 and in para. 7 Troopers 85392 ought we not now to consider urgently the desirability of reinforcing India even if this means having to forego idea of offensive in Libya this Summer and running further risk on our Northern front. We realise the disadvantages of remaining on the defensive in Libya and the probable consequences in Malta and elsewhere but it is for consideration whether on balance the security of India is a more important matter.

4. From information at our disposal it appears that threat to our Northern front cannot develop before August and probably later. The enemy's present resources do not appear to admit of his being able to make a serious attack on our Western Front during the next three months against the forces which we should have even with the reductions suggested later. On the other hand from the information you give us the danger to India is immediate.

5./.....

5. We are all naturally extremely anxious to launch an offensive in Libya at the earliest possible moment but in the light of the information you have given to us we feel bound to give you full information as to the extent of the assistance which we could render India if you consider the situation there to be sufficiently serious to justify radical change in strategic policy.

6. As regards land forces, if we remain on defensive in Libya we should, without running excessive risk of being driven back on Egypt, be able to reduce our land forces on that front by one Ind. Inf. Div. One Ind. Motor Bde. Gp. and possibly also one Armd. Bde. Gp. By withdrawing 6 Ind. Inf. Div. from Persia we should not really do much to lessen our power to withstand a determined attack on our Northern front. Our forces are already too weak to do more than fight a series of delaying actions as has been pointed out to you before. By this means we could make available for India one Armd. Bde. Gp. one Motor Bde. Gp. and two Inf. Divs. all seasoned troops and well equipped. Moreover India in spite of the grave danger she is in is still sending troops to Middle East which does not seem logical. For instance 251 Ind. Armd. Bde. is still under orders to proceed to Iraq shortly. We feel it would be more realistic if we were to return to India 252 Ind. Armd. Bde. now at Mosul, which is trained and about to be equipped with Stuart tanks. Again taking a further risk on our Northern front we could spare an Army Tank Bde. or two Bns. now preparing to join Eighth Army. From the transportation point of view, we believe that provided we could use all including American shipping calling in the Middle East during next five weeks, we could get bulk of these troops to India in four to six weeks from date order is given to move them.

7. We have considered the possibility of releasing further air forces but have reluctantly come to the conclusion that any further diversions are out of the question even if it is decided to abandon the offensive in the Western Desert.

8. To sum up - the question which we would submit for your most urgent consideration is whether, if repeat if the risk to India is as grave as appears from your C.O.S. ME 259 and Troopers 85392, we should

(a) Abandon the idea of an offensive in Libya for this Summer.

(b)/....

C
76

MOST SECRET

-3-

- (b) Concentrate our efforts on consolidating our defences throughout the Middle East with such resources as are left to us in the hope that we may get reinforcements before a serious threat materialises on the North or the West.
- (c) Send to India all the land forces we can spare at once.

1330/3

^ 1900/23
Received from Air Ministry 0250/4

1st Lord
1st S.L.
5th S.L.
V.C.N.S.
A.C.N.S.(F)(2)
A.C.N.S.(W)
N.A. 1st S.L.
P.A.S.(S)
D.O.D.(F)(2)
D.N.I.(4)
D. of P.(2)
Duty Capt.(2)
D.D.I.C.(2)
E.P.S.
Hd. of M.
I.P.(2)
W.D.
D.H.A.D.
Hd. of Air
Admiral Pellairs.

Air Ministry Circulation:-
Col. Jacob
S. of S. for Foreign Affairs
Head of Watch War Registry Admiralty
Head of Watch C.6 Telegrams, War
Office.
C.A.S.

War Diary.

3.5.1942
Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

Movements.

RANCHI left.
(N.O.I.C. Seychelles, 0230Z/3 to Admty. etc.)
Colombo departures 3/5 0215Z Dutch submarine
K.15, 1110Z NAUTILUS.
(S.O.I. Colombo 1125Z/3 to Admty. etc.)

AWATEA,
OCEAN
VANGUARD.

My 0558/30 (N.T.in W.D.) QQ (Group omitted ? Q)
Q from AWATEA at 1445Z/2 in 008° 28' S. 042° 24'E.
Unexplained explosion 14 miles off Trincomalee
on 2/5 possibly a floating mine. QQQQ from
OCEAN VANGUARD 035° 34' S. 025° 16' E. at
2359Z/2. Unidentified A/C observed to drop 2 objects in
Ulubaria Reach, River Hooghli, 0900Z/2. Possibly objects
were overloaded petrol tanks.
(C.O.I.S. Colombo 0526Z/3 to A.C.N.B.)

G.R. Air
Squdn.

in C. E.F. 1212/29 (1214/29 intended) addressed
A.O.C. Ceylon. A.O.C. Ceylon agrees with me
that when additional flying boat squadrons are
available at Mombasa and Madras the directive will be satis-
factory. But the note following para.6 if implemented would
mean that Ceylon might be deprived of any means of distant
R/C to East or S.E. If this occurs at a time when I par-
ticularly felt such R/C to be necessary the security of Ceylon
might be seriously jeopardised. I therefore consider that I,
as responsible for defence of Ceylon, must be allowed to use
my discretion in deciding priorities in such circumstances.
(C. in C. Ceylon 0757Z/3 to C. in C. E.F. (R) Admty.
D. C. in C. E.F.)

Movements
summary.

No.35 dated 3/5 Ref. summary number 34, BARLANE
arrived Cochin, ref. number 1, ADAMANT in
company; cancel number 10, sailing postponed;
amend number 11, CERES due 6/5.

Serial No.	Ship	From	To	Rmks.
(1)	BIRMINGHAM	Simonstown 30/4	Mombasa 7/5	Blank
(2)	LISMORE	Karachi 1/5	Bombay 4/5	Blank.
(3)	ALAUNIA	Mombasa 4/5	Colombo	Blank
(4)	KELANTAN	Seychelles 2/5	Mombasa	Blank
(5)	Grk.Dr. IERAX.	4 Cochin 2/5	Bombay 4/5	Sailing Aden 7/7

My 0917/3, part 2 follows.

(C. in C. E.I. 0904Z/3 to S. and A. E.I. Stn.
(R) Admty. etc.)

77B. EL
Lion

SECRET. MESSAGE. 1258Z/3rd May. IN.
From : C. in C. Eastern Fleet. Date. 10.5.42.
Time. 1211.
Naval Code (J) by W/T. (Secret)

Addressed : C. in C. East Indies S.O. Aircraft Carriers
Eastern Fleet COMNAS All Ships carrying
aircraft in Eastern Fleet Repeated Admiralty.

Has

77A. EL
Lion

SECRET MESSAGE 0403Z/3 May IN
From F.O.C.R.I.N. DATE 5.5.42.
REC'D 0349
Naval Cypher G by W/T

Addressed Commodore R.I.N Repeated C. in C. East Indies P 21, Admiralty.

~~395~~ Ex Persian Gunboats are to be renamed as follows.

OLD NAME	NEW NAME
SIMORGH	LAL
KARKAS	MOTI
CHAHBAAZ	HIRA
GHAROKH	NILAM

Admiralty requested to hasten reply to my 0912Z/7th March re supporting signals.

(FOCRIN. 0403Z/3 to Cdr, R.I.N. (R) C.C.E.I. Admt)

N.A. to 1st S.L.
Ops (3)
O.D. (5)
O.I.C.
M (4)
M Books
D.S.D. (2) (for action.
P.

~~O.D.8. P. A
D.T.S.D. S.W.R)T
S.N. Committee H
I.P. (3)
W.D.
H.W.R. (2)
N.I.D. 10 (2)~~

Air Br.
D.T.S.D.
File X.

77 B.

SECRET. MESSAGE. 1258Z/3rd May. IN.

From : C. in C. Eastern Fleet. Date. 10.5.42.

Time. 1211.

Naval Code (J) by W/T. (Secret)

Addressed : C. in C. East Indies S.O. Aircraft Carriers
Eastern Fleet COMNAS All Ships carrying
aircraft in Eastern Fleet Repeated Admiralty.

25. With effect from 23rd April, all aircraft
^{? in} borne capital ships and cruisers of Eastern Fleet
are formed into one squadron which will be operated
by S.O. Aircraft Carriers Eastern Fleet.

(2) The Squadron is to be commanded and administered
by Lieut. Commander T.W.B. Shaw, D.S.C., who is
borne H.M.S. WARSPITE.

(3) Movements of personnel are to be co-ordinated
by C.O. of Squadron and C.O. of ships concerned.

1258Z/3.

Advance copy Ops., J.D., O.I.C.

- 1st Lord.
- 1st S.L.
- 2nd S.L.
- 5th S.L.
- V.C.N.S.
- A.C.N.S. (F)
- A.C.N.S. (W)
- N.A. 1 S.L.
- Ops. (3)
- O.D. (5)
- O.I.C. (2)
- D. of P. (3)
- D.N.A.D.
- I.P. (3)
- W.D.
- N.A. 2 S.L.
- Air Br.
- D.T.S.D.
- File X.

78

War Diary.3.5.1942
Sunday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies - contd.HEINRICH
JESSEN.

Your 0428/3 (N.T.in W.R.) and Armindia's 1031. Fighters will be available at Chittagong at 0230Z/4 and will operate from there in support. Signal time of departure, route, and S. of A. of all ships and launches to N.O.I.C. Calcutta, for 224 Group (R) N.O.I.C. Chittagong. Part 2 follows (W.R. Note Part 2 not received) (F.O.C.R.I.N. 1116Z/3 to C.C. Burma Coast (R) C. in C. E.I. etc.)

My 1116/3, para 1. On receipt of information from C.C.B.C. sail one A/S ship from Sandheads to act as A/S escort for HEINRICH JESSEN. (2) Pass my 1116/3 and this message to 221 Group. (F.O.C.R.I.N. 1322Z/3 to N.O.I.C. Calcutta (R) C.C.B.C. C. in C. E.I. etc.)

America and West Indies.

U/B.

Following received from N.C.S.O. Georgetown (begins) A.1 S/M reported at 0245 G.M.T. 2/5 approx. 007° 41' N. 057° 58' W. T.O.O.2120/2 (ends) (C. in C. A.W.I. 0007P/3 to Admty., C. in C. U.S. Fleet, B.A.D. Opanav, Com.10.)

U/B.

Intercepted 2224 G.M.T. WGBC 1 V N A A. O. S/M sighted 34.08 N. 72.41 W. at 1435Z/1. 0314/2. Controlling Station Arlington Virginia Radio. (Portishead Radio T.H.I. 0024 B.S.T/3.)

Movements.

St. Johns N.F. 2/5. Arrivals NIAGARA returned from O.N.89 with defects. Departures MAHONE escorting CL 31 to Halifax. MINAS to escort PETROLITE from Argentia to St. Johns. (F.O.N.F. 0056Z/3 to Admty.)

Charleston arrived for refuelling POLYANTHUS 1744Z/2. Also landed 12 survivors from British DERRYHEEN, due to sail a.m./3rd. (N.S.H.Q. 0245Z/3 to Admty.) Kingston (Jamaica)'s 0625R/30 (re sailing of H.M.N.Z. Trawlers, INCHKEITH, KILLIGRAY, SCARBA, SANDA to Colon) Arrived 1145R/3. (C.S.A. Colon 1349R/3 to Admty. etc.)

GEORGE
WILLIAM
McKNIGHT.

Torpedoed and shelled 011° 45' N. 060° 47' W. at 0855Z/3. Assistance sent. (N.O.I.C. Trinidad 0542Q/3 to C. in C. A.W.I. (R) Admty. etc.) My 0542/3. Amend position 011° 18' N. 061° 15' W. (N.O.I.C. Trinidad 0702Q/3 to C. in C. A.W.I. (R) Admty. etc.)

/GEORGE ...

War Diary.

3.5.1942
Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies.

GEORGE WILLIAM McKNIGHT. contd. GEORGE W McKNIGHT torpedoed in 011° 18' N. 061° 15' W. at about 0500Q/3. (C. in C. A.W.I. 0943P/3 to Admty. (R) N.S.H.Q. C.O.A.C. Cominch, B.A.D. Opanv.) My 1702/3 (re position of G.W. McKNIGHT, N.T. in W.D.) SS G.W. McKNIGHT entered Port of Spain under own steam, torpedoed in Number 7 hold. No danger of sinking, no casualties. 2 attacks by 2 submarines 7 miles apart, 2nd of which missed. (N.O.I.C. Trinidad 1712Q/3 to C. in C. A.W.I.)

BRITISH WORKMAN torpedoed (O.N. 84) Intercept de Cape Race Radio. SSSS BRITISH WORKMAN 44.07 N. 51.53 W. torpedoed 0515 G.M.T. (Valentia Radio, 0550/3 to Admty. Adm. Devonport) (C. in C. Plymouth 0720/3 to Admty.) (Halifax 0838/3 to Admty.) C.T.F. 29's 0421/3. ALBERNI is to proceed to St. Johns Newfoundland. (F.O.N.F. 0635Z/3 to ALBERNI (R) C.T.U. 24.1.1 C.T.F. 24 etc.)

O.N. 88. Picked up survivors of BRITISH WORKMAN. ALBERNI has 17 cots proceeding St. Johns N.F. FORBIN and GITANO stragglers from O.N. 88. (ASSINIBOINE 1430Z/3 to Opanv (R) C.T.F. 24 Admty. etc.) Your 1345/3 (N.T. in W.R.) ASSINIBOINE, SOREL detached at 0845Z to search for BRITISH WORKMAN survivors. Survivors reported picked up at 0945Z but ASSINIBOINE not yet rejoined. DIANTHUS, ROXBOROUGH, FENNEL proceeding to position full speed independently. SUMMERSIDE with Cabot Strait Section detached at 1000Z. AMHERST with St. Johns N.F. Section detached 0800Z. WANDERER, SUDBURY, BRANDON with convoy. (C.T.U. 24.18.3. 1540Z/3 to C.T.F. 24 (R) Opanv, Admty. etc.) See also ROXBOROUGH 1900Z/3.) p. 82.

Movement Summary. 1800 G.M.T. 3/5.

Ship	Position	Course	Speed.
PHOEBE	48½° N. 30° W.	085°	16
GLENGYLE	33° N. 31° W.	357°	16
GLASGOW	33° N. 55° W.	302°	16½

(D.O.D.(F) 0944Z/3 to Opanv (R) Comnav.)

U/Bs. Intercepted 1013 G.M.T. De NSS. WGBC1 V NAA O S/M attack 44.08 N. 51.53 W. at 1515Z/03, X 030538. WGB V NAA O, S/M sighted 40.10 N. 73.10 W. at 1358Z/2, X 021615. WGBC1 V NAA O, S/M sighted 33.50 N. 77.17 W. at 1700Z/2, X 02175. Controlling station Annapolis Maryland Radio. (Portishead Radio No T.O.O./3 Recd. 1239/3.) Intercepted 1057 G.M.T. Unread, S/M attack 23.38 N. 80.21 W. at 0600Z/3, 1011/3. Controlling Station Unknown, American Coast Station. (Portishead Radio No T.O.O. Recd 1410/3.)

/Disposition ...

War Diary.3.5.1942
Sunday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies - contd.

Disposition. Operational Units in North Atlantic.
Northern Waters KING GEORGE V, DUKE OF YORK,
WASHINGTON, VICTORIOUS, BERWICK, KENYA, LONDON,
NIGERIA, NORFOLK, TUSCALOOSA, WICHITA, 10 Destroyers, 4
Destroyers (U.S.) - Area SCAPA. NELSON, LIVERPOOL, MAURITIUS,
1 Destroyer. - Area Clyde. WASP, 2 Destroyers, 2 Destroyers
(U.S.) - Area Gibraltar. RENOWN, ARGUS, EAGLE, CHARYBDIS.
(D.O.D.(H) 1045Z/3 to C. in C. U.S. Fleet (R) Opnav,
C. in C. Atlantic.)

Caribbean
Shipping.

My 1012/28. Sailings may now be resumed, but
sailings between Trinidad and Caribbean Ports
are to be suspended for present. Channel
between Trinidad and Grenada should be avoided
if possible.

(C. in C. A.W.I. 1102P/3 to N.C.S.Os, C.S.As.
& R.O. in Jamaica Intelligence area at Atlantic
Ports only, (R) Admty. S.O.I. Jamaica.)

My 1022/28. Sailings have been resumed, but sailings between
Trinidad and Caribbean ports are being suspended for the
present. Channel between Trinidad and Grenada is being avoided.

(C. in C. A.W.I. 1112B/3 to C. in C. U.S. Fleet, B.A.D.
Opnav, Com 10, N.S.H.Q. (R) Admty. S.O.(I) Kingston.)

My 1102P/3. KOSMOS II is to be held pending Admty. instructions.
Other ships should be sailed unless bound for Trinidad.

(C. in C. A.W.I. 1132P/3 to N.C.S.O. Kingston (R) Admty.)

Your 1132P/3. KOSMOS II, Norwegian, is at Curacao, my 1035R/21
and my 1748R/3/3 refer.

(S.O.I. Kingston 1746R/3 to C. in C. A.W.I. (R) Admty.)

C. in C. A.W.I. 1102P/3. KOSMOS II is to be held pending
further instructions from Admiralty.

(S.O.I. Jamaica 1748R/3 to S.N.O. Curacao (R) C. in C. A.W.I.
Admty.)

Your 1012/28. EMPIRE CHIVALRY (British) arrived due sail La
Guayra and Curacao with essential defence material 5/5.

May ship proceed?

(N.C.S.O. Trinidad 1203Q/3 to Admty. (R) C. in C. A.W.I.)

TAIGETE
ARCOLA
(Italian
repatriations)

R.A. West Africa 1901/2nd. Presume you will
issue route for TAIGETE.

(C. in C. A.W.I. 1122P/3 to Opnav (R) Admty.
etc.)

Position of TAIGETE and ARCOLA at noon 3/5
14.33 N. 56.09 W. course 233° 10.7 knots.

(S.B.N.O. TAIGETE via Barbados 2000/3 to Admty.)

/MERODA ...

War Diary.

3.5.1942
Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies - contd.

MERODA Your 1050R/30. Honduras MERODA. N.C.S.O.
ACONCAGUA Colon Vesca 2204R/22 decoded after receipt of
(reported Colon 1841R/23 which reported ship overdue.
overdue. Regret my 1107R/25 not cancelled. Chilian
ACONCAGUA. N.C.S.O. Havana Vesca 1318R/18
reported departure for Cristobal. This
information passed to Colon who reports ship overdue in his
1841R/23. First intimation that ship sailed for New York
was Chief Naval Operation Dept. 1532/27.
(S.O.I. Kingston 1137R/3 to Admty.)

Bangor C.O.A.C. Halifax 1842/2, not to Admiralty.
Minesweepers. Owing to the change of convoy routeing since A.M.
1714/6/10/41 was drafted propose changing
procedure for sailing Canadian-built Bangor
Minesweepers to U.K. Consider most practical and expeditious
method will be to sail them in pairs but not in convoy and
proceed direct St. Johns N.F. to Londonderry thence to Scapa.
Request concurrence.
(F.O.N.F. 1324Z/3 to N.S.H.Q. (R) C.O.A.C. Admty.)
Concur. (N.S.H.Q. 1656Z/4.)

Warship Your 0015/30. Most undesirable that aircraft
Recognition be permitted to challenge by V/S (reasons)
by A/C. 4. Imperative that flying personnel should have
full knowledge of appearance and silhouette of
Allied and enemy warships. Good operational
intelligence equally important.
(Admty. 1334B/3 to B.A.D.)

C.T.15 My 1617/23. C.T.15 was delayed 24 hours.
Sailed Clyde 1955/1/5.
(D.O.D.(H) 1336B/3 to C.O.A.C., N.S.H.Q. Opanav,
(R) Cominch, Cinclant, B.A.D. C. in C. A.W.I.
F.O.N.F.)

A.T.15. Departure A.T.15, consists of 1 battleship, 1
cruiser, 1 aircraft carrier, 10 destroyers,
16 transports and supply ships.
(S.O.I. Halifax 1342Z/3 to Admty. etc.)

Portuguese Your 1450Z/30 and Admty. 1800B/29. Question of
fishing, fuel for these two Portuguese trawlers has been
discussed by agents Imperial Oil and Oil
fuel. Controller, Toronto. Present situation does
not permit delivery of fuel unless direct
instructions be given by N.S.H.Q. to Oil
Controller to authorize delivery by Imperial Oil.
(C.O.A.C. Halifax 1444Z/3 to N.S.H.Q.)

War Diary.3.5.1942.
Sunday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies - contd.

SANDAR torpedoes. SANDAR Norwegian (?should be British) torpedoed 001° 42' N. 061° 10' W. at 2045Z/2.35 survivors landed Trinidad by ALCOA pilot. (N.O.I.C. Trinidad 1522Q/3 to C. in C. A.W.I. (R) Admty. etc.) (W.D. Note Position as given is inland in N Brazil. Should be 10° 42' N. ?)

C.T.F.38 AVENGER A.T.15 N.A.8. Sailed 1100Z/3 C.T.F. No.38 and AVENGER escorting A.T.15 and N.A.8, routed in accordance with Opnav's 1737/25. S. of A. 13 knots. (C.O.A.C. Halifax 1601Z/3 to Opnav, C. in C. U.S. Fleet, C. in C. Atlantic Fleet U.S., Admty., C. in C. A.W.I., F.O.N.F., C. in C. W.A. N.S.H.Q. N.O.I.C. Greenock, C.T.F.No.24.)

Escort of Tankers for Halifax. As to para.5 your 1658Z/1, withdrawal of 3 corvettes from mid ocean group is agreeable if Admiralty concur. (C. in C. U.S. Fleet 1614/3 to N.S.H.Q. (R) B.A.D. Admty., Cinclant, C.T.F.24, C.E.S.F.)

Floating Dock. My 0119/21 (N.T. in W.D.) para 4 and your 1158/3. Request confirmation that dock is to proceed unescorted from about 59° W. to 26° W. as C. in C. U.S. Fleet is unable to provide any escort further than to a position just eastward of the Leeward Islands. Arrangements for towage are in abeyance vide my 2237/29 and 1517/2. (B.A.D. 1717Z/3 to Admty. (R) R.A. West Africa, C. in C. S.A. C. in C. A.W.I.)

ATHELEMPRESS (torpedoed 29/4.) SS ATHELEMPRESS torpedoed 013° 21' N. 056° 15' W. at 2345Z/29. Survivor report Captain's boat red sail missing last seen 1600Z/30 heading for Barbados. Chief Officer's boat picked up by S.S. ATLANTIC at 1620Z/2 in 013° 34' N. 058° 45' W. Request air search. (F.O. Trinidad 1722Q/3 to C. in C. A.W.I. (R) Admty. S.O.(I) Jamaica, R.N.O. Saint Lucia, Harbour Master Barbados.)

ROXBOROUGH O.N.88. C.T.F.24 1305/3. Oil patch (?indicated) by Hudson aircraft in 044° 54' N. 052° 15' W. No further trace or contact in immediate vicinity. Am rejoining O.N.88. DIANTHUS operating, FENNEL continues search. Weather report. (ROXBOROUGH 1900Z/3 to C.T.F.24 (R) Opnav, F.O.N.F. Admty. etc.) *See p.79*

Ice bulletin 3/5. Halifax 1925/3 to Admty.

/U/B ...

War Diary.3.5.1942
Sunday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies - contd.

U/B.

S/M on surface sighted by A/C at 1830Z/3 in 45° 42' N. 52° 28' W. When sighted S/M submerged.
(C.O.A.C. 2010Z/3 to Admty.)

→ U/B

Intelligence.

Sub. attack and sighting summary. OCEAN VENUS and LAERTES, 2 torpedoes each approx. 0615Z/3 28° 23' N. 80° 21' W. Survivors being landed. BRITISH WORKMAN torpedoed 44° 07' N. 51° 53' W. at 0515Z/3. No other details. 2 unidentified ships reported torpedoed approx. 23° 38' N. 80° 21' W. at 0600 and 0905Z/3. G.W. MCKNIGHT reported torpedoed 11° 18' N. 61° 15' W. at 0900Z/3. No additional details. CHENANGE torpedoed and sunk 20/4. 2 survivors landed Norfolk. No further details. MOBILOIL torpedoed 26° 10' N. 66° 15' W. 0915Z/29, now considered sunk. PARNAHYBA torpedoed and sunk 10° 12' N. 57° 16' W. at 1852Z/1. S/M sighted 07° 41' N. 57° 58' W. 1945Z/2. Plane attacked S/M 44° 55' N. 52° 05' W. at 1345Z/3. Damage possible. S/M on surface sighted by plane 45° 42' N. 32° 28' W. at 1830Z/3. Plane attacked S/M 35° 55' N., 74° 35' W. 1850Z/3. No apparent results.
(C. in C. U.S. Fleet 2031/3 to Action Admty.)

→ OCEAN VENUS.

Ref. Admty. 1320/2/4/40. OCEAN VENUS, British sunk 2/5 off Cape Canaveral, all books thrown overboard, in deep water. No other information available at present.
(B.R.O. Jacksonville 2032Z/3 to Admty. (R) Ottawa)

O.N.94

N.O.I.C. Cardiff's 1132B/2/5 and your 1117/24. Will BURWELL be available to replace RESTIGOUCHE with O.N.94?
(F.O.N.F. 2039Z/3 to C.T.G. 24.7. (R) C.T.F. 24. C. in C. W.A. Cdre. Londonderry.)

U/B Fixes
by D/F.

Within 100 miles 45° N. 55° W. at 1628Z.
(N.S.H.Q. Ottawa 2041Z/3.)
Within 100 miles 38° 30' N. 54° ? 30' W. at 1612Z, and within 60 miles 35° N. 66.30 W.
at 1720Z. (N.S.H.Q. 2056Z/3.)
Within 60 miles 45.30 N. 52.30 W. at 2043Z.
(N.S.H.Q. 2256Z/3.)

→ LAERTES,
OCEAN VENUS.

A.M. 1320/2/4/40. LAERTES. Dutch, 3rd, 0900 G.M.T. 028° 21' N. 080° 23' W. approx., books thrown overboard. 48 survivors, 18 lost. My 2032/3. OCEAN VENUS, 42 survivors, 5 lost.
(B.R.O. Jacksonville 2301Z/3 to Admty. (R) Ottawa.)

War Diary.3.5.1942
Sunday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Australia and New Zealand.

Movements. Departure Townsville 0703Z/1 BALLARAT escorting U.S.S.*CREMBURI for Port Moresby. Darwin 2010Z/1 DELORAINIE escorting (?TULAGI) for Thursday Is. Melbourne 0001Z/2 B.D.V. KOALA (Aus) and U.S. Des. TUCKER for Fremantle. Sydney (N.S.W) 0314Z/2 U.S. Des. ALDEN. Fremantle 2300Z/1 H.M.I.S. PUNJAB for Addu Atoll. Arrival Albany 0605Z/2 U.S. Drs. PARROTT and PAUL JONES. (A.C.N.B. 0311Z/3 to Admty. etc.) * Not identified ? CREMER
see 2/5 - p. 61

Situation. Serial number 102 from C W R 2/5. Aircraft sighted 2 large 3 small vessels between Gatukai and Tetipari Island (Solomon Is.) a.m./2. Coast watcher reported 3 unidentified vessels, one possibly A.M.C. 2 small, off Santa Isabel Is. 0530Z/2 which later headed for Tulagi. 2. 6 air raids on Tulagi 1929Z/1 to 0615Z/2, one by 3 T.95 R/C float planes, other by 3 T 97 R/C float planes. All personnel evacuated 2335Z/1 except (?signal) staff. No communications since 0825Z/2.

3. Aircraft sighted enemy S/M 007° 53' S. 153° 33' E. 2/5.
4. Enemy S/M reported 2/5 022° 10' S. 157° 08' E., course south, grade B.2.
5. 7 B (?26) attacked shipping Rabaul 0020Z/2. Hits on buildings (?dash) wharves. Direct hit on 1 transport, 3 near misses on another. 2 Zeros shot down, 4 damaged. 1 B 26 missing. 1 light cruiser, 1 destroyer, 19 transports observed in area.
6. 6 probable S/M chasers sighted Alexishafen (New Guinea) 1/5.
7. Seven Mile Aerodrome Port Moresby attacked 2/5 by 15 Zero fighters. 2 destroyed, 1 probably destroyed, 2 damaged. One P.40 destroyed, 2 damaged.
8. Enemy air R/C 2/5 over Porlock harbour (new Guinea) Port Lucinda and Megeura (Queensland).
9. Aircraft giving Townsville fighter sector's call sign requested Townsville weather. Aircraft call sign not known, information not given.
10. Unidentified aircraft 2/5 over Broome and Wyndham.* (A.C.N.B. 1036Z/3 to Admty. etc.)

* Friendly, see 1219Z/4.

Minesweeping. Your 1136/30. Heavy ocean swell generally experienced in exposed portions of swept channels has caused repeated partings of M.K.3 sweeps fitted to 115-foot trawlers and larger. M.K.3. sweeps now regarded as properly effective only in sheltered waters. (N.Z.N.B. 1101M/3 to Admty.)

THELMA.
→ PUNJAB.

Fremantle 2/5 THELMA, Norwegian, Abadan 25/5 (Route and secret positions) In company H.M.I.S. PUNJAB at 10 knots to position (e) thence 14 knots. THELMA will fuel PUNJAB between position (c) and (d). (A.C.N.B. 1137Z/3 to S.O.I. Colombo.)

War Diary.

3.5.1942
Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Australia and New Zealand - contd.

MANCHESTER
CITY.
JAY, ATREUS,
ALSEY.

Ref. A.M.1311A/10/3 and 2256B/1/5. It is regretted that owing to changed situation in Indian Ocean it will not now be possible to spare MAHCHESTER CITY and JAY to operate in New Zealand. Request ATREUS and ALSEY may be sailed to New Zealand after the Controlled Minefields at Hobart and Sydney have been laid. A.C.N.B. pass Comsowestpac.
(D.T.M. 1916B/3 to A.C.N.B. N.Z.N.B.)

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Submarines Reported.

Estimated U.B. positions.
(D.D.I.C. 1348B/3, 1349B/3.)

4.5.1942
Monday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

C. in C. H.F. in KING GEORGE V. arrived at Scapa this evening with 4 destroyers. KENT, CUMBERLAND and MANCHESTER arrived at various times this afternoon.

ARETHUSA left Scapa this afternoon to rejoin the Mediterranean Fleet at best speed via the Cape, taking stores to full capacity at Greenock en route. The submarines on North West Norway patrol were withdrawn today.

A report graded B.2 states that one cruiser and 3 destroyers were outbound from Trondheim at 1600B today.

Two M.G.Bs which were despatched with 3 M.T.Bs last night to attack an escorted vessel detected off Gravelines, in which they were unsuccessful, had two brief inconclusive actions with R boats.

S.B.N.O. North Russia proposes that now there is no darkness he should be allowed to sail the Q.P. convoys within one day on each side of the scheduled date, in order to take advantage of any bad visibility; rigid adherence to a 14 day cycle has enabled the enemy to anticipate the sailings with certainty. C. in C. H.F. pointed out, however, that the 14 days cycle has not been maintained recently, the intervals between the last 3 convoys having averaged 20 days.

It is desired to start operating Weymouth as a Training Base for Coastal Forces as soon as possible.

British Air Operations.

Bomber Command aircraft last night attacked Hamburg; a minor attack was made on St. Nazaire. The power station at Le Havre was attacked today.

/Coastal ...

War Diary.

4.5.1942
Monday.

SITUATION REPORT.

British Air Operations - contd.

Coastal Command aircraft carried out successful attacks on shipping off Norway and Amsterdam last night, today and tonight.

North Atlantic.

Force W. (RENOWN, CHARYBIS, EAGLE, ARGUS) is to remain in being only when engaged on operations. F.O.C.N.A. is to continue to administer the ships.

South Atlantic.

Another ship, Dutch SS MANGKALIKAT (ex LINDENFELS) was damaged by a mine off Capetown today, in 34° 8' 30" S. 17° 49' 30" E., but reached Capetown safely.

This is the second ship to be mined in the swept channel within 48 hours; the channel has been swept daily for the last 6 weeks. C. in C. S.A.'s theory on the subject is given today. A new swept channel is being prepared and meanwhile ships of high value will not enter Capetown.

Mediterranean.

Air raids on Malta last night and this morning were less heavy than of late, but some damage was caused in the Grand Harbour and at Luqa. During the afternoon raids, the attacking planes included some Italian, and further damage was caused.

/C. in C. Malta ...

War Diary.

4.5.1942
Monday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Mediterranean - contd.

C. in C. Malta reports marked decreases in enemy air attacks after 28/4. He considers this to be due to the necessity of repair and maintenance after severe damage and strain, and that the German Air Force is preparing for a further offensive at Malta or elsewhere.

The bombing of Benghazi harbour continued last night and the previous night.

Incendiary bombs have been found on board SS SANDOWN CASTLE; the ship had a fire on board on 23/4 whilst loading at Haifa.

C. in C. Med. sends today a message regarding the low operational value of Greek destroyers serving with the Mediterranean Fleet.

The damaged U-boat at Cartagena entered dry dock this morning for repairs. Damage is believed by R.O. Cartagena to be due to bombs or depth charges dropped by A/C between Palma, Majorca and Alicante.

Alexandria was raided by about 20 enemy aircraft last night, but only slight damage was caused.

East Indies.

R.A.A.D. Read hoisted his flag today at Kilindini as F.O. East Africa and Zanzibar.

The evacuation of Akyab commenced this morning.

War Diary.4.5.1942
Monday.SITUATION REPORT.America and West Indies.

During the last few weeks the movements of tankers in the Caribbean has been reduced to the minimum, but the need to increase the flow is now great. The Admiralty have concurred in three corvettes being taken from the mid-ocean escort groups, to maintain the supply of oil at Halifax and St. Johns. In order to maintain adequate stocks of fuel in the U.K. Admiral King agreed to allow a group to be taken from the mid-ocean escort groups, to protect tankers on their run between Trinidad and Aruba until the U.S. are able to start the New York - Guantanamo convoy and its subsidiary convoys to and from Aruba.

Two S/Ms are operating in the area 11° 30' N. 61° 15' W. An aircraft sweep with support of 2 U.S. patrol vessels is being carried out between Trinidad and Grenada. The U.S. Comdr. Caribbean has ordered day and night patrol to be carried out by U.S. aircraft from Boca de Navios.

Another ship (U.S. EASTERN SWORD) was today reported sunk off Georgetown, and a schooner 65 miles north of Georgetown. C. in C. A.W.I. gave orders that if no air protection is available for ships arriving at and sailing from Georgetown the sailings of British managed ships should be suspended until the situation clears.

An unidentified ship was reported torpedoed at 2100Z in 7° N. 58° W; U.S. Tanker JOSEPH M. CUDAHY at 2350 G.M.T. 65 miles N.W. of Tortuga; U.S. MOKIHANA about 110 miles S. of Puerto Rico at 2016Z; British Tanker ECLIPSE at 1703 G.C.T. in 26° 30' N. 80° W. (off the Florida Coast) but reached Everglades; MUNGER T. BALL at approx. 0645Z in 25° 24' N. 83° 46' W; An unknown ship at 2350 G.C.T. in 25° 30' N. 83° W; U.S. DELISLE in 27° 6' N. 80° 3' W; and KENOGAMI was searching for a sinking ship at 1500Z in 43° 36' N. 59° 22' W.

An unknown ship reported being chased by a S/M at 0148 in 16° 20' W. 81° 4' W. and one was attacked at 2035Z in 16° 40' N. 65° 12' W.

War Diary.

4.5.1942
Monday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Australia.

B.17 aircraft attacked Lae aerodrome and bombed shipping at Rabaul.

B.26 aircraft attacked Vuna Kanau aerodrome, near Rabaul.

War Diary.4.5.1942.
Monday.HOME COMMANDS.Policy.

C.S.18. Propose to return with my staff in TRINIDAD. Request approval to hoist my flag in that ship. (C.S.18 2032B/4 to C. in C. H.F.)

Movements.

C.T.U.s. By D/F bearings at 0700Z you bore from me 128° my position course and speed are 055° 53' N 031° 25' W 060° 7 altering to 083° at 1500Z. (C.T.U. 24.1.16. 0700Z/4 to C.T.U. 24.6.4.)

H.43. Your 0951B/27 (not to Portland) H.43 arrived Needles 0822. (C. in C. Portsmouth 0907B/4 to Capt. S.3.)

CUMBERLAND. My 1440B/3. E.T.A. 1500B/4 Gate 1545B/4. (C. in C. Nore 0936B/4 to A.C.O.S.) Arrived Scapa (A.C.O.S. 1542/4 to C. in C. Nore.)

JAN VAN GELDER. Expect to be 2 $\frac{1}{4}$ hours late at R/V. (JAN VAN GELDER 0945/4 to C. in C. W.A. Admty. A.C.O.S. C. in C. Rosyth.)
If JAN VAN GLEDER is not at R/V off Duncansby Head continue to westward with 2 S/Ms until met then return Scapa. M/Ls will meet you off Duncansby Head and escort D.S.O.14 to Scapa. (A.C.O.S. 1202B/4 to SCALBY WYKE.)

WHITE BEAR. Intend sailing WHITE BEAR at 1800B/5 from Bute Sound via Minches and W of Orkneys for Lerwick. E.T.A. 1000B/7.
N.O.I.C. Greenock is requested to arrange fighter co-operation. S. of A 12 knots. (Capt. S.3. 1013B/4 to Admty. C. in C. W.A. H.Q.F.C. H.Q.C.C. F.O.S. N.O.I.C. Greenock, A.C.O.S. N.O.I.C. Lerwick, Capt. S.9. Capt. S.7.)

UTMOST. Intend sailing LA CAPRICIEUSE at 1900B/5 to R/V
LA UTMOST in 225° Mull of Kintyre Lighthouse 5 miles
CAPRICIEUSE. E.T.A. 0045B/6 and escort her Holy Loch. E.T.A. 0800B/6. Air co-operation already arranged by C. in C. Rosyth for passage Mull of Kintyre to Holy Loch, Codeword "Grain 2" Air co-operation not required for passage LA CAPRICIEUSE to Mull of Kintyre. (Capt. S.3 1043B/4 to F.O.S. N.O.I.C. Belfast. A.I.G. 196.) *See next page*

ARETHUSA. Departure Scapa. (A.C.O.S. 1300/4 to F.O.I.C. Greenock.)

WOODRUFF. My 1517/18. WOODRUFF to be sailed to arrive Londonderry p.m. 12/5 and subsequently to proceed with O.S.28 to rejoin S.A. Station.

/Boiler...

War Diary.4.5.1942.
Monday.HOME COMMANDS.Movements.

- WOODRUFF. Boiler cleaning not required before WOODRUFF
Contd. proceeds on service. (C. in C. W.A. 1306B/4 to
Cdre. WESTERN ISLES. N.O.I.C. Londonderry.)
- KENT. Arrived Scapa. (A.C.O.S. 1315/4 to F.O.I.C.
Greenock.)
- HAWKINS. It is requested that you submit a programme for
HAWKINS as she is urgently required for service.
(Admty. 1328B/4 to C. in C. Portsmouth.)
- GARLAND. Intend sailing GARLAND for Greenock at 1700/5.
E.T.A. 0430/7. Request fighter protection on
passage. (N.O.I.C. Middlesbrough 1610/4/5 to
C. in C. Rosyth.)
- PHOEBE. Estimate PHOEBE will cross your track during
dark hours tonight steering 85°. (C. in C. W.A
1644B/4 to WASP.)
- MANCHESTER. Arrived Scapa. (A.C.O.S. 1649/4 to C. in C.
Portsmouth.)
- RODNEY. Sailed RODNEY in accordance with my 1132B/3.
Code word "Label". E.T.A. Scapa 2145B/5 Hoxa
Gate 2245B/5. (F.O.I.C. Liverpool 1700B/4 to
Admty. C. in C. W.A. C. in C. H.F. A.C.O.S.)
- Return of S/Ms from Position of S/Ms at 0800B/5 and movements for
patrol. following 24 hours.
P.43 68° 25' N 06° 30' E due Lerwick 2200/7.
P.551 67° 38' N 05° 35' E due Lerwick 1600/7.
UREDD 67° N 04° E due Lerwick 1100/7.
MINERVE 66° 20' N 02° 40' E due Lerwick 0600/7.
STURGEON 65° 45' N 01° 10' E due Lerwick 2000/6. All probably
moving on surface.
THUNDERBOLT and UTMOST escorted by JAN VAN GELDER 56° 55' N
07° W due 225° Mull of Kintyre 5 miles at 0100/6. Thence
UTMOST to Holy Loch escorted by LA CAPRICIEUSE and THUNDERBOLT
with JAN VAN GELDER to Southward due Plymouth 1400/7.
P.44 47° 55' N 13° W dived by day, due 43° N 13° W 0400/8. *See p. 102*
(F.O.S. 1737B/4 to Admty.) *See previous page.*
- Comtask C. in C. H.F. 1134/28 para 2. Force detached
Force 99. at 18(702) B/4 in 066° 01' N 005° 04' W. E.T.A.
0459Z/6. Request A/S air escort. (V.A.2.
1845/4 to A.C.I.C.)
- V.A.2. 120. My P.C. and S 066° 01' N 005° 04' W 190°
17½. Route through (a) Myggenaes light at
0800B/5. (b) 060° N 009° W. (c) 058° 44' N

4.5.1942.
Monday.War Diary.HOME COMMANDS.Movements.

V.A.2. 006° 33' W E.T.A. Scapa 0545B/6 Gate 0645.
Contd. Request fighter escort from dawn 5th. (V.A.2. 1801/4 to A.C.O.S.)

POLO Your 1450/4. To be sailed for Milford Haven for
NORTE. onward routing to join 171st Group at Zanzibar. (Admty. 1856B/4 to Capt. I/C Port Edgar. F.O.I.C. Milford Haven.)

KING N.O.I.C. Liverpool 1201/3. KING GEORGE V will be
GEORGE V. sailed to arrive at Bar L.V. at 1815B/9.
KING GEORGE V is unable to anchor. (C. in C. H.F. 1906B/4 to N.O.I.C. Liverpool. KING GEORGE V. C. in C. W.A. Admty. R.A.D. H.F. V.A.2. A.C.O.S.)
Scapa arrivals C. in C. H.F. in KING GEORGE V with LAMERTON, MIDDLETON, WHEATLAND and BLANKNEY. (A.C.O.S. 1944/4 to Admty. C. in C. Rosyth, A.C.I.C.C. in C. W.A.)
Signals re air protection see British Air Activity.

P.212. Subject to Trials intend sailing P.212 for Clyde 1300B/10. Request escort may arrive at Liverpool 9/5. (F.O.I.C. Liverpool 2136B/4 to S.3.)

LONDON A.M. 1904B/4. See Enemy Intelligence. Am fuelling
NIGERIA. LONDON and NIGERIA at Skaalefiord at 0400/5. (C.S.10 2237B/4 to C. in C. H.F. V.A.2.)

Operations.

M.T.Bs. & Night 3/4 M.T.Bs. 220, 44 and 221 with M.G.Bs.
M.G.Bs. 324 and 330 were despatched to attack escorted
Engagement vessel detected off Gravelines and proceeding
with R-Boats westwards at 13 knots. At 0030 between Blanc Nez
escorting and Gris Nez contact was made, but in calm
M/V. conditions coastal craft had evidently been
heard so that star shell was being fired and two
powerful searchlights shown from coast. M.T.Bs.
were unable to penetrate screen of at least 6 R-Boats in
addition to other escort vessels. M.G.Bs. had two brief but
inconclusive actions with R-Boats. One rating wounded in
M.G.B.324. Enemy Vessel entered Boulogne at 0135 and
preliminary air R/C shows it to be about 4000 tons. (V.A.Dover 1004B/4 to Admty.)

Interception FERNIE is to take BLENCATHRA and ALBRIGHTON under
of Enemy his orders and anchor at St. Helens by 2130/4
M/V. and remain at immediate notice. When ordered to
proceed in execution of previous orders destroyers
are to proceed to vicinity Fecamp to intercept
escorted M/V of about 4000 tons which entered Boulogne at
0135/4. Destroyers are not to proceed E of 1° E or W of 1° W.
If nothing has been sighted destroyers are to be within 40 miles
of the English Coast by 0530. (C. in C. Portsmouth 1313/4 to
FERNIE.) *Cancelled - See next page.*

/Cancel...

War Diary.4.5.1942.
Monday.HOME COMMANDS.Operations.

Interception Cancel my 1313/4. CALPE is to take BLENCATHRA, of Enemy FERNIE, BERKELEY and ALBRIGHTON under his orders M/V and sail from St. Helens so as to pass E A 3 buoy Contd. at 2130. Destroyers are to proceed to vicinity of C 2 buoy to intercept an escorted merchant ship of about 4000 tons which entered Boulogne

at 0135/4.

Destroyers are not to proceed east of longitude 001° E. If no report of enemy leaving Boulogne is received destroyers are to return to E A 3 buoy by 0737/5. In any case destroyers are to be within 40 miles of English Coast by 0530/5. Friendly M.T.Bs. will be operating E of 001° E. (C. in C. Portsmouth 1817B/4 to CALPE.)

ARIEL. Code word "Branch" of ARIEL will be operating daily during daylight hours from 0700B/5 approx. position 15 miles E of Kish Light. (N.O.I.C. Holyhead 1235B/4 to F.O.I.C. Liverpool.)

K.C.2. Carry out operation K.C.2 tonight 4/5 with M.T.Bs. 55, 52, 49, 56 and 54. Do not operate E of Longitude 1° 20' W. (C. in C. Portsmouth 1437B/4 to S.O. 11th M.T.B. Flotilla.) 5 M.T.Bs operating S of St. Albans Head night 4/5. (C. in C. Portsmouth 1527B/4 to Admty.)

ULSTER QUEEN. TYNWALD. Request you will report if ULSTER QUEEN and TYNWALD are capable of carrying 1000 men for a short sea voyage at 15-17 knots. (Admty. 1629B/4 to C. in C..W.A.) *Reply 5/5 - p. 128*

Beachy Head Patrol. 5 destroyers patrolling between Beachy Head and C 2 Buoy from 2330/4 returning to E A 5 Buoy at 0730/5. (C. in C. Portsmouth 1907B/4 to Admty.)

Soviet S/M Patrol Zone. My 2158B/3. Amend to read. Line joining following positions 072° 30' N 033° 08' E, 071° 42' N 036° 05' E 070° 56' N 036° 05' E 070° 56' N 034° 22' E 071° 30' N 034° 22' E 072° 07' N (corrupt group) 04' E. (S.B.N.O. North Russia 1040B/4 to Ships escorting P.Q.15.)

British Air Activity.

Patrols Cancel my 2247. (C. in C. Rosyth 0031B/4 to Admty. A.C.O.S.)

Air Patrols Escort for KING GEORGE V. Slips 2 will be flown 0630 till 1100/4 then Slips one until dark, both by 18 group Hudson A/C. My 1727/3 and 1957/3 Beaufighters, Catalina and Hudson on 18 group frequency W/T. Beaufighters 6440 kc/s R/T Catalina and Hudson 2410 kc/s throughout. Single seater fighters will relieve Beaufighters about 2100 and escort you until last light. (C. in C. Rosyth 0043B/4 to C. in C.H.F) /Request...

4.5.1942.

Monday.War Diary.HOME COMMANDS.British Air Activity.

Escort for KING GEORGE V. (Contd.) Request fighter protection KING GEORGE V and 4 destroyers 2100/4 until 2300/4. Estimated P.C. and S at 2100/4 LY 3202 091° 17 knots. E.T.A. Scapa 2300/4. 18 Group are providing A.A. escort by 2 Beaufighters until relieved by 14 Group A/C and A/S Escort by one Hudson. (A.C.O.S. 1014B/4 to 14 Group.)

Bombing restrictions. Only for ships carrying aircraft. Following is a repetition of Capt. (S) 9 S.F.'s 1205/3. Addressed H.Q.C.C. (R) F.O.S. A.C.O.S. N.O.I.C. Lerwick from Capt. (S) 9. My 1115/3 request total bombing restrictions as follows.

- (1) In area enclosed by position (a) 065° 40' 000° 00'
- (b) 068° 20' N 001° 20' E (c) 070° 00' 010° 00' E (d) 065° 00' N 004° 00' E from 1001B/4 until 0400B/7.
- (2) for 50 miles on either side of a line joining 061° 50' N 000° 00' and 065° 20' N 002° 00' E from 2359B/4 until 0800B/8.
- (3) for 30 miles on either side of a line joining 062° 00' N 000° 20' W and 060° 00' N 001° 00' E from 2200B/5 until further directions. T.O.O. 1205B/3. (F.O.S. 1036B/4 to Home Fleet (Except ships refitting or temporarily detached to another Command or Station but including vessels temporarily attached to Home Fleet for an operation or for escorting convoys) Admty. C. in C. W.A. A.C.I.C. A.C.O.S. C. in C. Rosyth. F.O.S.)

New Naval A/C. Martinet I. Catalina Amphibian. Catalina Flying Boats fitted with searchlight. Descriptions. 4. It is requested that all concerned may be informed. (A.M.1300/4.)

Bomber Command Operations. *Details of attacks on Hamburg and of St. Nazaire minelaying. (H.Q.B.C. T.H.I. 1340/4.) *Night 3/4 May.

Trondheim. R/C of Trondheim unsuccessful 4/5. (Admty. 2121B/4 to A.I.G.47. S/MS on patrol N of 51° N. F.O.S. H.Q.C.C.)

Patrol Lotus 3. Will be in operation from 0115/5 to 0803/5. (C. in C. Rosyth 2249B/4 to V.A.2.)

A/C. Disregard B.N. 026 (Refers to 1842/4 from PELICAN (N.T. in W.D.)) A/C safe. (C. in C. W.A. 2322B/4 to SCARBOROUGH.)

A/S air operations in Biscay area. Request arrangements be made for a daily report by signal of A/S air operations in Biscay area. The following information is required.

- (a) Number of sorties in daylight.
- (b) Number of sorties in dark.
- (c) Average duration of sorties.

(d) Number...

4.5.1942.
Monday.War Diary.HOME COMMANDS.British Air Activity.

A/S air operations in Biscay area. (Contd.) - (d) Number and description of U-Boat sightings. (e) Number and description of attacks on U-Boats. It would be convenient if reports could be made as from 1st. May. (Admty. 1553B/4 to C. in C. Plymouth. A.O.C. in C. C.C.)

Enemy Air Activity.

Enemy A/C. 1 A/C bearing 090° height unknown shadowing convoy. My position 52° 38' N 2° 10' E course 022° speed 7 knots. (Guard on Odd F.N. Convoy 1912/4

Mining.

Sheerness. Details of 3 ground mines detonated by sweepers on 3/5. (Capt. M.S. Sheerness 0955B/4, 1000/4, 1001/4 to C. in C. Nore.)

Q.S.7. On completion of op. Q.S.7, 4th M.S.F. to carry out op. Q.S.8. (C. in C. Nore 1220B/4 to M.S.4.)

Mines off Dover. A.M. 1436A/22/3 and 0953B/22/4. Work completed No. 6 laying party returning Portsmouth p.m. 5/5. (V.A. Dover 1222B/4 to Admty.)

Danger areas in Southern North Sea & Straits of Dover. The southern part of the North Sea and Straits of Dover are now a mass of QZX danger areas some of which must be known to be less dangerous than other owing to factors such as original density of mines in them and waste due to time and weather. In case of British or Allied minefields former is known and some estimate of latter is possible. Some enemy minefields also are estimated to be of little or no danger since they have been explored by sweepers but as shortage of sweepers and other factors have precluded clearance sweeps it has not been possible to cancel them.

2. In order the Cs. in C. concerned may be able to afford guidance to commanding officers of destroyers operating in his command it is recommended Admty. should now promulgate degrees of danger estimated to exist for destroyers in all QZX areas in which such estimates can be made. The type of mines in each area i.e. moored or ground also to be promulgated where known. It would thus be possible to balance risks taken in crossing a QZX area against importance of reaching an objective if this cannot otherwise be reached in time.

3. It is realized few areas close to our shores are entirely safe owing to promiscuous dropping of ground mines by enemy aircraft unless water is deep enough to render such mines innocuous against vessels. (C. in C. Nore 1230B/4 to Admty. (R) V.A. Dover. C. in C. Portsmouth.)

Operation "Tincture" (Nymph Bank Search) Request you will repeat op. "Tincture" as soon as convenient, in the manner described in my 1207/10/9/41. (Admty. 1253B/4 to F.O.I.C. Milford Haven.)

/ M/S...

4.5.1942.
Monday.War Diary.HOME COMMANDS.Mining - Contd.M/S Consular Group 6 St. Helens - Tilbury 1600/4.
Trawlers. (C. in C. Portsmouth 1527B/4 to Admty.)

S.N.3.A. Intend carrying out operation S.N.3.A as follows.
 (a) Surface mine field from S.E. to N.W. (d) (2)
 SOUTHERN PRINCE, ADVENTURE, PORT QUEBEC,
 AGAMEMNON, MENESTHEUS, SCOTT, BRIGHTON, CASTLETON, CHARLESTOWN,
 WELLS. (e) A/S air escort is requested during daylight hours
 while outside the Minch. Initial R/V 7/5 100° Butt of Lewis
 8 miles at 2000. (f) from (1) 060° 14' 42" N 007° 54' 24" W
 through (2) 060° 17' 06" 008° 07' 48" to (3) 060° 24' 06" 008°
 35' 00". (g) 1400/7. (j) through 059° 00' N 006° 06' W (k)
 13 knots (l) 0500/8. (o) and (p) AGAMEMNON and BRIGHTON to
 Scapa Flow. Hoxa Gate 2315/8. Remainder Port ZA. 2330/8.
 (r) 0500/7. (t) as in item (j). (v) to Reykjavik arriving
 0800B/10 and thence to survey off S.E. coast Iceland. (w)
 22.3 miles. 14 knots. (y) full outfit. Gap between SN 3 and
 SN 3A will be closed as far as possible. (R.A.M. 1018B/4,
 1254/4.)

Enemy Intelligence.

Enemy Ten M/Vs not exceeding 2,000 tons 53° 30' N 5° 30'
 Convoy. E. (A.O.C. 16 Groups C.C. 0300/4.)
 Enemy shipping plotted by R.D.F. in Dover Strait
 from 0900/3 to 0900/4.

Track E4D. One large vessel escorted by six or more similar
 craft from 3 miles N.W. of Gravelines at 2255 speed 12 knots.
 Entered Boulogne at 0135. M.T.Bs. and M.G.Bs. attacked with
 negative results. (See Operations)

Track E9D. Four or more small vessels operating between
 Boulogne and Blanc Nez speed 15 knots from 0400 to 0522.
 (V.A. Dover 0932B/4 to Admty. H.Q.C.C. H.Q.11 Group H.Q.16
 Group.)

U/Bs. Russians report. U/B in 72° 00' N 33° 35' E
 1/5 reported next day in 71° 38' N 34° 18' E.
 U/B in 72° 25' N 26° 27' E. U/B in 71° 46' N
 34° 30' E, reported later in 73° 31' N 34° 20' E and next day
 71° 26' N 33° 40' E. 2/5 Cylte Fiord one Destroyer. Pers
 Fiord 2 M/Vs escorted by 4 trawlers proceeding E. Kongs Fiord
 Convoy proceeding E. U/Bs. in 71° 59' N 34° 00' E. 71° 05' N
 33° 50' E. 72° 00' N 33° 00' E. 71° 57' N 34° 34' E. 71° 52' N
 34° 01' E. 71° 35' N 33° 45' E. 72° 08' N 33° 02' E. 72° 08' N
 34° 15' E. 73° 52' N 34° 37' E. 71° 29' N 34° 44' E. 72° 48' N
 37° 28' E. 72° 02' N 32° 44' E. 3/5 U/B in 71° 42' N 33° 37' E.
 (Ad. Miles 1624C/4 to Admty.)

Enemy Report graded B.2. states one Cruiser, three
 Units. destroyers outbound from Trondheim Fiord at 1600B/4.
 (Admty. 1904B/4 to A.I.G.47. C. in C. Rosyth.
 A.C.O.S. F.O.S. C. in C. Nore. S/Ms on patrol N.
 of 51° N. S.B.N.O. North Russia. N.A. Stockholm.
 H.Q.C.C. H.Q.B.C. Ad. Miles.)

4.5.1942.
Monday.War Diary.HOME COMMANDS.U-Boats. (See also Enemy Intelligence)

U/Boat attacked. Sound contact 53° 09' N 28° 12' W. Attacked negative result. U.S. Destr. BABBITT 1400Z/4, C. in C. W.A. 2158Z/4.)

Technical.

Weymouth as Training Base. It is desired to start operating Weymouth as a Training Base for Coastal Forces as soon as possible. It is understood that you have received proposals from F.O.I.C. Portland and R.A.C.F. and that if you concur you will implement these proposals reporting action taken to Admty. (Admty. 1857B/4 to C. in C. Portsmouth.)

R.D/F. Deficiencies in KING GEORGE V. (KING GEORGE V 1930 /4, 2200B/4.)

Navigational.

Hydro-graphical Data. On completion S.N.3.A SCOTT will proceed to Reykjavik arriving at 0800B/10. C.O. wishes to obtain any available hydrographical data relevant to survey off S.E. Iceland (c) Coast. (R.A.M. 1208/4 to A.C.I.C.)

Cromarty Buoy. Whistle Buoy at Cromarty in 57° 40' 53" N 3° 56' 21" W has broken adrift and been towed into harbour. Request N.L.H.B. be asked to replace as soon as possible. (N.O.I.C. Invergordon 1445/4 to C. in C. Rosyth.)

Fog Beacon. Request operation of Myggenstires fog W/T beacon from 0100Z to 0600Z tomorrow Tuesday. (V.A.2. 1529/4 to N.O.I.C. Faroes.)

Casualties and Defects.

AMAZON.
BULLDOG.
BEVERLEY.
BEAGLE. Damage and casualties with Convoy Q.P.11. See Shipping.

GOTSWOLD. Harwich 4/5 departure GOTSWOLD in tow of tugs KENIA and DAPPER. (F.O.I.C. Harwich 0614B/4 to Admty. C. in C. Nore, Cdre. Sheerness, 11th. Group, H.Q.F.C.) Arrived Sheerness for Chatham 1540/4 in tow of tugs KENIA and DAPPER. (C. in C. Nore 1738B/4 to F.O. Harwich.)

MOST SECRETMESSAGE 1218C/4 May

IN

From Admiral Miles.

Date 4/5/42.
Recd. 1900RUSSIAN X BY W/T

Addressed Admiralty.

485. Your 1948B/14. Translation and distribution of M (M) Series by Russians will take considerable time if and when it is accepted by them. Meanwhile request confirmation that Americans have ASRS Series ready for instant distribution to their ships in the Pacific. U.S. Naval Attache is equally concerned and is requesting similar confirmation from Washington.

1218C/4

5th S.L.
V.C.N.S.
A.C.N.S. (H)
A.C.N.S. (F)(2)
Nav. Sec.
N.A. 1st S.L.
D.C. (2)
D.D.I.C. (2)
D.S.D. 9.
D. of P. (2)
D.M.S.
D.M.S. Citadel.
D.N.A.D.
I.P.
W.D.
A.E. (Cdr. Leppert)
D.O.D. (H)(2)
D.O.D. (F)(2)
Hd. of M.
D.A./S.W.
D.R.I. (4)
D.S.D. for action.

War Diary.4.5.1942.
Monday.HOME COMMANDS.Casualties and Defects - Contd.

- WHIPPINGHAM. WHIPPINGHAM caused slight damage to a fender in Methil Docks on 28/4 and suffered slight dent in one plate. (N.O.I.C. Methil 1242/4 to Admty. (N.L. Branch) C. in C. Rosyth. A.S. Rosyth.)
- PELICAN. C.A.F.O. 199/41 PELICAN reports that on 2/5 while at Londonderry 2 incisions were discovered in the four inch rangefinder director cables.
 (a) clean file through the braid one inch from the junction box. (b) sawing through the insulat(ion?) but not as far as the core.
 2. (a) Is a bad corning (lead coming) from the T.S. with gun range, clock range, deflection(s), fire buzzer, line of sight, fall of shot (?rattler.) (b) Is the lead to the angle of presentation units (?colon) both these have been repaired.
 3. Except for Messrs. Barr and Stroud's representative Mr. Campbell who came twice on the 28th and 29th April and who was always accompanied by Ordnance Artificer no one else has been known to enter the Director since arrival on the 23rd April except type 285 repairs staff.
 4. No other damage has been dicovered.
 5. PELICAN has now sailed and will be away until approx. 12/6. (N.O.I.C. Londonderry 1725/4 to Admty. (D.N.I.) (R) PELICAN.)
- M.M.S.63. M.M.S.63 delayed by defects. Further signal will be made. (F.O.I.C. Milford Haven 1915B/4 to C. in C. Portsmouth.)
- BURWELL
READING. Past repair trials of BURWELL unsatisfactory due to serious condenser defects. Anticipate READING will require refit. (C.T.G.24.7. 1951Z/4 to F.O.N.F. C.T.F.24.)
- THYRA.
NICOLAOS
PIANGOS .
POLGARTH. Positions of wrecks. (F.O.I.C. Yarmouth 1921B/4.)
- DELHI.
M.G.B.51. A.M. 1931B/27/4 and F.O.I.C. Portland's 1505B/28/4 DELHI delayed three weeks due to defects. Intend sailing M.G.B. 51 to Portland P.M. 5th. (C. in C. Plymouth 1959B/4 to C. in C. Portsmouth)
- KING
GEORGE V. Signals re movements see Movements.

4.5.1942.
Monday.War Diary.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping and Convoys.

- Convoy State of destroyer escort Q.P.11.
Q.P.11. 1. AMAZON wheel house and searchlight platform
AMAZON. hit, telegraph and after steering out of action,
BULLDOG. holes in engine room and boiler room above
BEVERLEY. waterline, B gun and starboard pom-pom out of
BEAGLE. action. 4 dead, 15 wounded, 8 seriously.
2. BULLDOG numerous splinter holes above
waterline, boilers require cleaning and many new
tubes required. Propose wear and waste test. Turbo dynamo
governor defective new governor unit complete required. Type
271 out of action. Numerous minor defects. 3 casualties.
3. BEVERLEY. No damage, no casualties, but density has
developed through both condensers.
4. BEAGLE. Few splinter holes, no casualties.
5. Intend to send AMAZON into Seidisfiord to land seriously
wounded and then to return to Greenock at best speed
independently.
6. BEVERLEY to Seidisfiord to renew boiler water, then to
Reykjavik.
7. BULLDOG and BEAGLE to Reykjavik with Q.P.11. (BULLDOG
0215B/4.)
- W.S.19.A. Embarkation of troops. 0800B/6 until P.M./10.
G. Convoy will sail P.M/10. (F.O.I.C. Liverpool
1027B/4 to 9 F.G.)
N.C.S.O. Clyde's 1537/3. Speed of AKAROA
precludes her inclusion in W.S.19. She should
be sailed for Bermuda in the appropriate O.N.
convoy. (Admty. 1212B/4 to N.C.S.O. Clyde.
N.C.S.O. Newport.)
- O.N.S.90. O.N.S.90 split during emergency turn towards N
in low visibility. 26 ships in company with
BROADWAY, DRUMHELLER, NAPANEE. Remainder
believed with (?Cdre. of convoy) Not met ST.
FRANCIS or ONSJ 90. (BROADWAY 1030Z/4 to Admty.)
Following received from BROADWAY (as her 1030Z/4)
In view of urgency to reassemble Convoy following has been
made to 21.4.12 begins.
Your 1030Z/4. Indicate R/V for 1000Z/5 for G.B.M.S.
Addressing your signal to A.I.G. 302 and repeating to ST.
FRANCIS and COBALT. T.O.O. 1626B/4. (D.T.D. 1425Z/4 to Opnav.
Comtask 24. F.O.N.F. C.O.A.C. Halifax, A.C.I.C. Comtask 24.7.
Comtask 24.6.)
Your 1030Z/4. Indicate R/V for 1000Z/5 for G.B.M.S. addressing
your signal to A.I.G. 302 and repeating to ST. FRANCIS and
COBALT. (D.T.D. 1626B/4 to BROADWAY.
It is expected that you will overtake ONS.90 on your starboard
hand at approx. 2359Z/4. (Admty. 1641B/4 to C.T.U. 21.6.3.)
- S.C.L.81. In view of my 1405Z/4 it is not essential that
you should R/V with S.C.L.81. (C. in C. W.A.
1410Z/4 to C.T.U. 24.6.4.)
Comtask 24.6.2. in BIBB departed about 1630Z/3 to meet S.C.L.
81 and escort to Iceland. After joining, Comtask 24.6.2 will
be S.O. Request he be kept advised of changes in situation.
(Comtask 24.6 1415/4 to C. in C. W.A.)

/O.N.S.92...

4.5.1942.

Monday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping and Convoys - Contd.

- O.N.S.92. O.N.S. 92 delayed 24 hours. (C. in C. W.A. 1558Z/4 to Admty. C. in C. W.A. F.O.I.C. Belfast. N.C.S.O. Belfast. F.O.I.C. Greenock. N.C.S.O. Clyde. F.O.I.C. Liverpool. N.C.S.O. Liverpool, N.O.I.C. Aultbea. N.C.S.O. Aultbea. N.O.I.C. Londonderry. N.O.I.C. Oban, N.C.S.O. Oban, S.O.W.P. C. in C. H.F. H.Q.C.C. H.Q.F.C. N.C.S.O. Milford Haven. Commodore, Londonderry. A.C.I.C. N.O.I.C. Stormway Opnav. C.T.F.24. N.C.S.O. Glasgow. Capt. D. Greenock. Spenavo.)
- North Russian Ports. Discharge and railway facilities. Details. (S.B.N.O. Archangel 1753B/4) See Lion Copy.
- Route Signals. Fresh instructions. (D.T.D. 1849B/4 to S.B.N.O. North Russia. S.B.N.O. Archangel. C. in C. W.A. A.I.G.19. (R) Opnav. A.I.G. 26. A.I.G.13. B.A.D. Washington.)
- Q.P.12. HARRIER. Intend to sail HARRIER for Scapa with Q.P.12. HARRIER due for refit. (M/S 6 1942B/4 to C. in C. H.F.)
- Sailing of Q.P. Convoys. On Murman Coast weather is important factor in helping convoys to sail undetected by aircraft. If choice of 3 days, i.e. 1 day either side of day appointed, could be allowed me it would be possible sometimes to sail convoys in bad visibility instead of clear weather on appointed day. Without any darkness it becomes increasingly difficult to sail convoys unobserved by enemy aircraft. I question whether rigid observance to 14 day cycles is best plan, since date of departure can now be anticipated with certainty by the enemy. (S.B.N.O. North Russia 2028B/4 to C. in C. H.F.)
- Priority of Cam ships. Request Cam ships be given priority in discharging to ensure them sailing with the first Q.P. after arrival. Under present arrangements believe this can be accomplished without difficulty. Understand M.W.T. have instructed their representatives similarly. (Admty. 2250B/4 to S.B.N.O. North Russia. S.B.N.O. Archangel.)

MOST SECRET
MESSAGE 1753B/141 May.

MOST SECRET.

I N.

From S.B.N.O. Archangel.

Date. 5.5.42.

Recd. 1205.

O.T.T. by W/T.

Addressed Admiral Miles. Repeated Admiralty.
Embassy Kuibishev. Ministry of War
Transport. S.B.N.O. North Russia.

~~see~~ At an interview GERASIMOV today following information with regard port and transport facilities was elicited.

Dvina Ports. Discharge of ships will be reduced from ten days to six/seven days.

Kotlas. Fifty thousand tons per mensem can be handled. Five tons lift can be handled at Kotlas and in special cases authorized consents lift up to fifteen tons.

In-coming cargo. Of monthly estimate cargo 370 thousand tons referred in Ministry of War Transport's 1642/17/4/42, seventy thousand tons including supplies to Murmansk front will remain in north. This leaves 250 thousand tons per mensem to be disposed of by rail or approximately eight thousand tons per diem, say seven to eight train loads.

Railway information. From Archangel to Obezerskaya and from Murmansk to Obezerskaya B each train can carry twelve hundred tons cargo. From Obezerskaya B southward, this load can be increased to fourteen hundred tons.

(2) The double track between Oberjerska and Konasha is now being completed.

(3) Loop lines are being constructed at all stations between Vologda and Archangel to accelerate priority trains in both directions.

(4) Enlargement of marshalling yards at Isakagorka has been started - and work on those at Bakharitsa will be commenced shortly.

(5) New railway from Konosha - Kotlas is completed and will be opened shortly to ease bottle neck at Vologda.

(6) Completion date for (2) (3) (4) and (5) above is given as July 1st.

(7) Before that date it is stated 8000 - 10,000 tons per diem can be handled by railways and that after that date this figure can be doubled. Personnel however proposed to put additional labour on to this work or to charter unpaid river craft for Kotlas traffic until some indication is given by H.M. Government of numbers of ships per mensem which will be coming to Archangel and Murmansk during months ahead. I am submitting this information in hope that you will

/be.....

be enabled to obtain from London an early decision on shipping programme which is anxiously awaited here by Russians. I am of the opinion above figures which are given as approximate are exaggerated and I have no evidence from passengers who have recently travelled between Archangel and Moscow that there are any visible signs of railway development referred to. Ives and Martin concur. Admiralty pass to Ministry of War Transport;

1753B/4

Advance copy sent Ops., O.D. & Trade.

1st Lord.
 1st S.L.
 4th S.L.
 A.C.N.S. (H)
 A.C.N.S. (F) (2)
 N.A. to 1st S.L.
 D.C. (2)
 D.O.D. (H) (2)
 D.T.D. (2)
 D.T.D. (M)
 D.T.D. (C)
 D. of S.T.
 Hd. of M.
 D.D.I.C. (2)
 D.N.I. (4)
 D. of P. (2)
 E.P.S.
 Adl. Herman Hodge.
 A.E. (3)
 I.P. (2)
 W.D.

MMC.

War Diary.

4.5.1942.
Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

- ARGUS. My 1809/2. Postponed a further 24 hours.
(F.O.C.N.A., 0053A/4 to Admty. (R) ARGUS).
- Report of Vichy Warships. Report received from R.A.F. Bathurst, from Hudsons V9193 and V9037 in transit from Gibraltar.
(F.O.C.N.A., 0222A/4 to Admty.)
See South Atlantic.
- ALOUETTE. Departure ALOUETTE for Y 3.
(F.O.C.N.A., 0901A/4 to Admty.)
- P.44. (?onward) route on surface at your discretion
through:- (f) 048° 01' 013° 02' at 1530B/9.
(g) 036° 40' 009° 59' at 1100B/10 to R/V with
escort in (h) 050° Cape Spartel 5 miles at 1100B/11.
Bombing restrictions arranged accordingly. Report if unable to
comply within 2 hours.
(F.O.C.N.A., 1210B/4 to P.44 (R) Admty., F.O.S., C. in C. Plymouth
Capt. (S) 5, Capt. (S) 3.) *2- p. 92.*
- Damaged U/B Cartagena. Admty. 1613B/4, A.N.A. Madrid 1818/4.
See Mediterranean.
- Axis Shipping. 4/5. German ship JOAO PESSOA left harbour 2/5 and
SCHARLACHBERGER left harbour 4/5 loaded with iron
ore. SCHARLACHBERGER (as received) arrived 4/5 will
complete loading with iron ore 6/5.
(H.M.C. Bilbao, 1744/04 to Admty., (R) M.E.W. Madrid,
S.O(I) Gibraltar).
- Movements. Arrival GERANIUM, COLTSFOOT.
(F.O.C.N.A., 1832A/4 to Admty., C. in C. W.A.)
My 1642A/4 (N.T. in W.D.) sailed STONECROP,
MYOSOTIS, VELOX escorting LLANSTEPHAN CASTLE A.M.
(F.O.C.N.A., 2312B/4 to C. in C. W.A., (R) Admty.,
R.A. West Africa, C. in C. S.A.)
- Force W. Your 1202/2/4 (1202A/2/5 intended).
Concur. Force W is to remain in being only when
engaged on Operations and you should continue to
administer RENOWN, CHARYBDIS, EAGLE and ARGUS as
at present.
(D.O.D. (F) 1855B/4 to F.O.C.N.A.)

War Diary.4.5.1942.
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic.

Air R/C A.M. 1219B/2 to R.A.W.A.F. only. R/C Dakar Harbour
Dakar. at 1400/3 shows on good quality photographs
 Battleship RICHLIEU still present at usual berth
 but torpedo booms are no longer visible. No A/C
shipborne. Two "Galissonniere" class 6" cruisers still present
position unchanged in Bassin Medin. 1 cruiser has A/C shipborne.
Two "Fantasque" class destroyers still present in Harbour both
now being alongside Mole, 1 destroyer L'AUDACIEUX in usual
position off Naval dockyard. S/M Depot Ship JULES VERNE present
at usual berth. 5 possible 6 S/Ms present in Harbour as compared
with 4 on 9/4.
(R.A. West Africa, 0103Z/4 to Admty., (R) F.O.C.N.A.)

Vichy Two A/C on passage report sighting 1 battleship and
Warships 2 destroyers in 33° 30' N., 8° 25' W. Course at
sighted 0823/3 220° and at 0835/3 044° speed ? 20 knots.
by A/C. Battleship resembles Strasbourg Class and Destroyers
 Fantasque Class.
 (R.A. West Africa, 0115Z/4 to F.O.C.N.A. (R) Admty.)

Following received from R.A.F. Bathurst. (Begins). Hudsons V9193
and V9037 in transit from Gibraltar landed Jeswang 1740 hours
report sighting 1 large warship, possibly battleship or battle
cruiser, and 2 destroyers escorting at 0823 hours.
Position 33.30 N., 8.25 W. course 220° speed 20 knots 9, at 0835
hours course 044°. Both aircraft sighted vessels from 5 miles
distance but report that warship had large foredeck and funnel
resembling STRASBOURG. 2 Destroyers probably Fantasque Class.
Crews did not consider ships were executing zig-zag course.
2200/3. (Ends). Times are G.M.T.
(F.O.C.N.A., 0222A/4 to Admty., (R) R.A.W.A.F., C. in C. Plymouth).
Comment. JEAN BART at Casablanca 30/4. RICHELIEU at Dakar 3/5.
STRASBOURG at Toulon 29/4. DUNKERQUE at Toulon 27/4. Still under
repair. Ship sighted may have been JEAN BART carrying out steam
trials and possibly cruiser GLOIRE from Casablanca, foremast
funnel not having been noticed. American sources, however, have
stated that a minimum of 24 hours notice could be given before
ship sailed.
My 0015Z/4 (?0115Z/4 intended) further information received as
follows:- In 035° 05' N., 006° 57' W. at 0645/3 one M/V course
218° speed 8 knots.
Position 027° 31' N., 013° 40' W. at 1029/3 Vichy convoy
consisting of 7 M/V's and 1 escort vessel course 010° speed 8 knots.
Position 026° 20' N., 014° 21' W. Vichy convoy consisting of 3 M/V's
and sloop or destroyer course 200° speed 8 knots.
(R.A. West Africa, 0415Z/4 to F.O.C.N.A. (R) Admty.)

MANGKALIHAT Following has been read: SSSS 33 miles 240 from
"S" Report. Green Point MANGKALIHAT struck mine.
 (F.O.I.C. Simonstown, 0510 G.M.T./4 to Admty.)

See p. 105

WELSHMAN. Arrival WELSHMAN.
 (F.O.C.N.A., 0730B/4 to Admty., C. in C. Plymouth,
 V.A. Malta).

War Diary.

4.5.1942.

Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic. - contd.

S.S.

QUEEN
ELIZABETH
German
Prisoners
of War.

QUEEN ELIZABETH now at Simonstown. Transhipment of prisoners of war taking place in Bay completion dependent on weather. Further signal will be made. (C. in C. S.A., 1115B/4 to Admty., Opnav, N.C.S.O. Rio de Janeiro, Cominch).

Movements. Arrivals 2/5 U.S. Cruiser MEMPHIS U.S. Destroyer WINSLOW. Departures 3/5 2200 G.M.T. CAMBRIA. (R.O. Pernambuco, 1305Z/4 to Admty.)

Simonstown arrival 4/5 CHESHIRE.

(C. in C. S.A., 1504B/4 to Admty.)

Departure 4/5 HILDASAY, SHAPINSAY, PLADA, SLUNA 1800Z Capetown 8/5 coastal route to Cape Columbine thence 034° S., 017° 10' E., 034° 14' 017° 38' S. of A. 8 knots.

(N.C.S.O. Walvis Bay, 1836Z/4 to Admty.) *See next page.*

Enemy Mining, Capetown. During last 24 hours 2 ships have been mined off Capetown in swept channel 33 miles from land in 150 fathoms. Neither ship had P.Vs.

(2) This channel has been swept daily for last 6 weeks to a depth of 15 fathoms and during this time over 1,000 ships have passed through these waters. 1 mine only has been swept and 1 exploded in P V gear.

(3) It appears that either (A) A new minefield has been laid (which is unlikely) or (B) Current is slackening allowing mines to come closer to surface, or (C) Mines are fitted with delayed release gear, or (D) Moorings are fitted with anti-sweeping device (which in view of para. 2 is unlikely).

(4) A new swept channel is being prepared but owing to shortage of M/S vessels this will take time. Meanwhile ships of high value such as QUEEN ELIZABETH and BULK OIL will not enter Capetown.

(C. in C. S.A., 1302B/4 to Admty., (R) Cdre. Durban, R.A.W.A.F.) Ships mined: Dutch MANGKALIHAT, 34° 08' 30" S., 17° 49' 30" E., 4/5, and British DALFRAM, mined on 2/5, 34.10 S., 17.49 E. Both reached port. (D.S., 973).

Operation "Ironclad." Your 85888 (M.O.2) 30/4. (Hush, T.O.O. 1245/2, N.T. in W.D.) From C.G.S.

"Ironclad." 1. Bomber R/C squadron mentioned consists of 1 flight Beauforts, 1 flight Marylands from Capetown, 1 flight Beauforts from Durban, all temporarily diverted with concurrence C. in C. S.A. from normal role coastal R/C above defended ports for possible assistance "Ironclad" until permanent arrangements made by you.

2. Above aircraft including total 37 officers 93 N.C.Os. and O.R. will if called for be air (?ferried) across with assistance transport squadron. Latter will return Union for normal Union Mideast air transportation duties when this ferrying task completed. Not intention that transport squadron should remain "Ironclad."

3. Only other additional Union personnel which left by "Ironclad" convoy are (details). Have also agreed release 30,000 gallons 100 octane. Food supplies, no special forward arrangements made as "Ironclad" staff anticipated no difficulty above small additions.

4. Estimate bomber R/C squadron can operate usefully with above staff for 1 month if required and agreed beyond that period staff additions will have to be arranged if possible by Sea Transport.

(C.G.S., S.Africa, 1444/4 to W.O.)

/Movements ...

War Diary.

4.5.1942.
Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic. - contd.

- Movements summary. 2000Z/4. Area Q.
MILFORD,*SOUTHERN PRINCE (?SOUTHERN PRIDE intended)
SOUTHERN GEM on patrol in False Bay. 25° 00' S.,
13° 20' E. (137° or 194°) speed 19 knots.
(C. in C. S.A. 1452B/4 to S.A. Station Sqdn.
(R) Admty.) **1/2 Home Water.*
- Shipping Diversions. Following ships due Capetown and Durban are to be sailed to Bombay.
Due Capetown - CITY OF BARODA, TWEEDBANK, LARCHBANK, HOPERANGE, MOANDA, CATRINE.
Due Durban - MANCHESTER PROGRESS, TWICKENHAM, EMPIRE LIVINGSTONE, BLACKHEATH, MOONCREST.
(D.T.D., 1603B/4 to C. in C. S.A., (R) N.C.S.O. Capetown, N.C.S.O. Durban).
- DALFRAM (British) 1. DALFRAM mine casualty 2/5 in 34° 10' S., 17° 49' E.
MANGKALIHAT (Dutch) 2. MANGKALIHAT mine casualty 4/5 in 34° 08' 30" S., 17° 49' 30" E. *See p. 103*
mined. 3. Both vessels badly damaged in No.1 holds but have reached Capetown safely.
(S.O.I.) Capetown, 1715B/4 to Admty., (R) C. in C.S.A. R.A. West Africa).
- M/S Trawlers. Departure 4th HILDASAY, SHAPINSAY, PLADDA, SLUNA 1800Z Capetown, 8th, coastal route to Cape Columbine thence 034° S., 017° 10' E. 034° 14' 017° 38', S. of A. 8 knots.
(N.C.S.O. Walvis Bay, 1836Z/4 to Admty., C. in C. S.A., R.A.W.A.) *See previous page.*
- Italian repatriation, tons. Normal (?usage) 250 tons per day but DUILIO and GIULIO CESARE. considered this can be reduced to 170 tons minimum giving 13 days endurance.
2. (?Propose) following route Port Elizabeth to Las Palmas. 035° 50' S., 023° 30' E., 036° 28' 020° 00', 035° 20' 015° 30', 010° 00' N., 018° 30' W. 020° 00' 018° 30', thence Las Palmas. (?Distance) 5026 miles 12 days 17 hours (?at) 16½ knots.
(C. in C. S.A., 1859B/4 to Admty., (R) F.O.C.N.A., etc.)
- S.L.109. Departure 4/5. LANDGUARD, BIDEFORD, HASTINGS, ROCK-ROSE, VIOLET, LULWORTH, with S.L.109.
(S.O.I. Freetown, 2034/4 to Admty., etc.)
- W.S.18. Sailed 3/5, 11 ships Capetown, 11 Durban. List and fuel and water lifted, etc.
(S.S.T.O. Freetown, 2243Z/4 to P.S.T.O. Capetown, etc.)
See Lion Copy.

2243Z/4th May.

SECRET.

MESSAGE.

IN

From S.S.T.O.Freetown.

Date 6.5.42.

Recd. 0432.

NAVAL CYPHER (X) BY W/T.

Addressed P.S.T.O.Capetown, N.L.O.Durban, Repeated C. in C.
East Indies, P.S.T.O.Egypt, D. of S.T., C. in C.South
Atlantic, R.A.West Africa.

Convoy W S 18 sailed 3rd May. First eleven ships
Capetown remainder Durban.

<u>Ship</u>	<u>Water</u> <u>lifted.</u>	<u>Fuel</u> <u>lifted.</u>	<u>Total</u> <u>fuel on</u> <u>board.</u>	<u>Max. draft</u> <u>sailing</u> <u>S.Africa.</u>
EMPRESS OF CANADA	300	2810	4100	29 feet.
NIEUW ZHIELAND	500	1082	1807	26.5 feet.
MARNIX VAN ST.ALDEGONDE	500	994	1304	29.5 feet.
ORDUNA	600	2757	3517	34 feet.
REINA DEL PACIFICO	1000	251	71	30 feet.
DEMPO	Nil	801	1840	28 feet.
ORBITA	800	2500	3272	30.5 feet.
AGWILEON	1570	1354	1110	24 feet.
RIMUTAKA	Nil	640	2790	28 feet.
PHEMIUS	100	810	1390	28 feet.
WAIPAVA	Nil	1943	2413	29 feet.
CAPETOWN CASTLE	650	998	1878	27 feet.
HIGHLAND CHIEFTAIN	100	1149	1800	24 feet.
HIGHLAND PRINCESS	100	1010	1750	26 feet.
AORANGI	300	999	2370	29 feet.
MALOJA	700	1243	2564	32 feet.
RANGITATA	200?	1863	2438	28 feet.
DUCHESS OF BEDFORD	500	1440	2440	27.5 feet.
EMPRESS OF JAPAN	300	2789	4254	31 feet.
SOUDAN	Nil	600	1260	22 feet.
CLAN LAMONT	100	898	1131	26 feet.
CITY OF CAPETOWN	100	898	1131	26 feet.

AGWILEON is ex.Convoy as 2 and RIMUTAKA ex 0 S 2.

Correction to my 2235Z/4/5. For "From R.A.West Africa" read "From
S.S.T.O.Freetown" passengers embarked at Freetown for South
Africa R.A.F. one Officer two other ranks in HIGHLAND CHIEFTAIN.
Army three Officers Twenty-two other ranks Navy one rating in
HIGHLAND PRINCESS. Five tons Naval Stores in CITY OF CAPETOWN.
Torpedo after body in PHEMIUS. Mails 54 bags in HIGHLAND
CHIEFTAIN 29 in EMPRESS OF CANADA. 31 cases bullion for Suez
in EMPRESS OF JAPAN. REINA DEL PACIFICO requires gas oil
specific gravity not more than point 86 repeat point 86.

2243Z/4.

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

D.T.D.(M)
D.T.D.(C)
D. of S.T.(2)
I.P.(3).
D./S.W.
W.D.

M.(5)
D.P.S.(2).
D. of P.(3)

War Diary.

4.5.1942.
Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic. - contd.

ANGLO-
CANADIAN
sighted
26/4 by
PRETORIA
CASTLE's A/C.
(MUNSTERLAND)

Your 1753/2. Board of Enquiry reports failure to gain touch due to (A) Observer ordered to return to ship to report any suspicious ship rather than use W/T.
(B) Observer had no means in A/C of establishing identity of any ship sighted.
(C) A/C force landed and accordingly delayed search by 2½ hours.
(D) When C.O. decided ship was suspect he steered a course to intercept her on basis she was innocent and would maintain observed course and speed. Board consider shipping information sufficient to keep (corrupt group).
Report of Board will be forwarded by letter after study. (R.A. West Africa, 2245Z/4 to Admty.)

Mediterranean.

M/Vs attacked
by P.35.

S/M P.35 reports that at 0655/18/4 she attacked a ship of 5000 tons northbound 40 miles S.W. of Lampione. Ship is believed to have been hit. At 1643 on 19/4, she torpedoed and sank a*ship of 4,500 tons northbound 50 miles W.S.W. of Lampione.
(D.S. 973 D.O.R. 970.)

*ASSUNTA DI GREGORI
(Torpedo Attack Register)

UNA.

Sailed UNA.
(V.A. Malta 0855B/4 to Admty.)
UNA leaves 035° 51' 015° 15' about 0001B/5 and passes through 034° 50' 020° 00' about 1400B/7, thence as ordered by you.
(Capt. S.10 1055B/4 to Capt. S.1.(R) S/Ms on patrol etc.)

Famagusta
Minesweeping.

Weekly M/S summary. Sweeping carried out daily. Negative result. Tug ALLIANCE mined in position 022°. Famagusta flashing light 9.5 5 cables at 2045C/29. Type of mine unknown. Schooner in tow ? damaged and sank at 0030C/30. Tug was outside swept channel but in searched water.
(N.O.I.C. Famagusta 1113C/4 to Admty.(R) C. in C. Med. etc.)

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War Diary.4.5.1942
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean - contd.SANDOWN
CASTLE
sabotage.

A British ship at Haifa recently caught fire during loading. Subsequently 2 incendiary bombs which had failed to ignite were found on shelter deck. (Description). Attention is called to M S C M 113. Security organisation in merchant ships must be tightened up. (C. in C. Med. 1124C/4 to N.Os I.C. etc.)

Aden
dredging.

My 1203/1. (? C. in C. E.I.) in his 0931/2 not to Admiralty, stated that one tug is urgently required at Kilindini until arrival of DONAN. Is delay to dredging work acceptable observing that tug is unlikely to be able to return till end of monsoon in October?
(C. in C. Med. 1134C/4 to Admty. (R) F.O.R.S. C. in C. E.F.)

→ N.O.I.C. Suez reports as follows. SANDOWN CASTLE which had a fire on 23/4 while loading Haifa has found since 2 (? incendiary) bombs on (? starboard) deck which failed to ignite. Bombs are being sent Alexandria by hand of Security Officer tomorrow. (Description) T.O.O. 1755C/3 (ends)
(C.O.I.S. Alexandria 1517C/4 to Admty. (R) C. in C. Med. F.O.C.N.A.)

Movements.

Arrival 3/5 JANUS, ERIDGE, SNAPDRAGON, SOUTHERN ISLES, COCKER, PARKTOWN, QUEEN OLGA. Departure 3/5 BEAUFORT, COCKER, MALINES, WOLBOROUGH.
(S.O.I. Alexandria 1211C/4 to Admty. C. in C. Med.)

Damaged
U/B
Cartagena.
U.573.

Your 2304/2. Request full details as soon as available.
(Head of M. 1613B/4 to F.O.C.N.A. (R) A.N.A. Madrid.)
My 1345/3 to F.O.C.N.A. Consul Cartagena reports U-boat is of 410 tons. Damage: (a) Dynamo defects of little importance. (b) Periscope not working properly. (c) Flooding pumps seriously damaged.
2. Chief second section Ministry of Marine informs me they have no definite information yet but is of opinion damage must be serious otherwise U-boat would have sailed for Sardinia or Italy.
3. Admiral in charge Cartagena arriving Madrid tomorrow 5/5 to report Minister of Marine on damage and discuss measures to be adopted. (?Will) keep you informed. (Ends).
(A.N.A. Madrid. 1818/4 to Admty. (R) F.O.C.N.A.)

/PORPOISE ...

War Diary.4.5.1942
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean - contd.

PORPOISE,
P.31
intelligence. JACKAL on A/S Patrol at end of searched channel.
S/M^{*}P.611 sailed 1830C/4 to N.E. One trawler
E.T.A. a.m. from westward. COVENTRY and
destroyers leave harbour 0630C/5 for exercises.
(Capt. S.1. 1745C/4 to PORPOISE, P.31.)
*DRUC REIS.

Malta Air Report. I. 265 4/5. C.S.R. Malta. Part 1. Third
alert 1542 hours, Me.109s some carrying bombs,
22 JU.87s, 8 JU.88s. Hal Far, 3 soldiers
wounded, craters UXBs. Luqa, 1 P.R.U. Spitfire
destroyed, craters U.X.Bs. Elsewhere 1 civilian wounded,
predictor destroyed, one JU.87 destroyed, another damaged by
5 Spitfires, 1 prisoner. A.A. fired. Night 3/4. Alert
1923 hours, 4 raiders, no damage, A.A. fired. 4th. 2 alerts
0536, 0813 hours, Me.109s, some carrying bombs 7 JU.88s.
Luqa, 1 army officer 1 soldier wounded, craters. (?Ta Kali),
signals station damaged. Grand Harbour, oil lighter slight
damage. Elsewhere, 1 civilian wounded, Church damaged, several
destroyed. A.A. destroyed 1 Me.109.
(H.Q. R.A.F. Malta 1810/4.)

C.S.R. Malta 4/5. Part 2. Deliveries 3rd. 4 Wellingtons ex
Gibraltar arrived, 2 crashed on landing, crews safe. 2 left
same night to Middle East. 1 Malta Wellington left for Middle
East but returned and crashed on landing. 4th 1 Hudson ex
Middle East 1 Hudson ex Gibraltar arrived and left for Middle
East and Gibraltar respectively. 1 Maryland to Middle East.
3rd 1 Spitfire damaged on landing, pilot safe, no aircraft
missing.
(H.Q. R.A.F. Malta 1840/4.)

CALDERON sunk 2/5. Following received from N.O.I.C. Alexandria.
(Begins) CALDERON bombed about 2030/2, 35 miles
west of Alexandria. Abandoned on fire. Since
foundered. T.O.O. 1614/3 (Ends) Crew landed
Alexandria. All safe and well. Advise owners.
(P.S.T.O. Egypt 1810C/4 to D.S.T.)

Malta. Situation Report for week ending 2/5.
(Govr. Malta, 1820/4 to C. in C. M.E. (R)
W.O.) See Lion Copy. p.109A.

Pool of Polish Seamen. Your 1455/29. Murrant and I have seen C. in C's
1426/2 to 4th S.L. (N.T.in W.D.) Your para.2.
Do not believe problem can be solved by special
pay or leave. 3 crews of other nationalities
besides British have refused to sail and trouble
may well extend to other ports in E. Med. Para.4. Pool of men
on T 124X contract would undoubtedly help but they would have
to be sent out from U.K. Root of difficulty in present con-
tinuous service in highly dangerous areas with no apparent
prospect of returning home.

/(2) Ships ...

War Diary.

4.5.1942
Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

Pool of Polish Seamen - contd. (2) Ships chiefly concerned are 24 British, 10 Greek, 2 Norwegian and 2 Dutch. This does not include feeder Ships employed in E. Med. (3) Problem has become increasingly serious and must be (?energetically) (corrupt group) in a large way if serious consequences are to be avoided. See my 1528/15 and 1010/24. Suggest (numbers) be recruited on T.124X contract and sent out from U.K. immediately. (4) Whole question is bound up with provision of adequate base organisation and depots which should include rest centres where survivors and members of crews badly shaken by trying experiences at sea can recuperate and be made fit for service again. Success of our proposal depends to a great extent on officer selected in charge of base. Cdr J.B. Adam suggested. (P.S.T.O. Egypt 1830C/4 to D.S.T.)

Greek-Manned Ships. In addition to crews of 3 destroyers already sent home, Greek C. in C. will have crews for 2 more Corvettes and Hunt destroyers by mid-July and mid-August respectively. He suggests these take over British manned ships already out here, thus releasing British crews. His proposal is sound except that I cannot accept so high a proportion of Greek manned ships in our depleted fleet as this would entail. Greek destroyers already here are not above 60% operational value at sea compared with British, even allowing for greater difficulties of keeping them there. The best of them emerged badly from the occasion when JAGUAR and SLAVOL were sunk and I view with concern any proposal to increase Greek manned ships above 25% in any category. Request decision for communication to Adml. Sakellariou. (C. in C. Med. 2202C/4 to Admty.) *Reply: Admty 2150/19/5.*

June Malta Convoy. Your 1235/1 (Given a Hush distribution N.T. in W.D.) Yes. P.S.T.O is requested to pass copy of my 0426/2 to you. (D.S.T. 2255B/4 to C. in C. Med.)

MOST SECRET

MOST SECRET

M E S S A G E

1820/4 May

IN

From. Governor and C. in C. Malta.

Date. 5.5.42.

Time. 0250.

CIPHER.

Addressed. C. in C. Middle East. Repeated War Office.

IMPORTANT.

048002. G/954/R cipher 4/5.

Most Secret. Military situation report for week ending second May 42.

Cne. Enemy. Marked decreases in enemy air attacks after 28th April '42. Daily scale enemy effort and main targets follows: Read in six columns. (a) date (b) no. of Ju.88 (c) no. of Ju.87 (d) other bombers (e) total bombers (f) main targets.

26 April. 101 30 nil. 131. Aerodromes, Grand Harbour area and gun positions stores and public utilities.

27. 77. 37. 5 Br. 20. 119. Ditto.

28 April. 145. 55. nil. 200. ditto

29. 13. nil. 5 Cant 100 7M. 18 Aerodromes.

30. 33. 12. 4 Cant. 100 7B. 49. Aerodromes, camps, gun positions.

1 May. nil. nil. 5 Br. 20. 5. Aerodromes.

2 May. 8. nil. nil. 8. Aerodromes.

Does not include 13 single intruder night 30/1 and 27. Single intruder on night 1/2. High proportion of M.E.109. and later Macchi 202 escorting bombers normally two main raids daily. Italian bombers have now made reappearance. Some movement enemy aircraft Sicily to N.Africa on 1 and 2 May details reported by R.A.F. Probable present lull due necessity repair and maintenance after severe damage and strain.

Enemy aircraft casualties. A.A. destroyed Ju.88 9 M.E.109 1. Damaged Ju.88 7 Ju.87 1 M.E.109 2. R.A.F. destroyed Ju.88 1 M.E.109 2. probably destroyed Ju.88 1 Ju.87 1 M.E.109 1. Damaged Ju.88 6 Ju.87 3 Me.109 6. 2 Me.109's destroyed and number damaged by infantry A.A.L.M.Gs. Tonnage of bombs dropped on Malta during month of April calculated to be 6728 tons of which 3156 tons on dockyard area 841 tons Ta Kali 750 tons Hal Far 805 tons Luqa 196 tons Kalafrana 890 tons elsewhere. This compares with 2174 tons in March and 993 in February.

Two. Cwn tps. A.A. restricted in ammunition expenditure but reached record total of 100 aircraft certainly destroyed during April. Army B.D. Section disposed of 42 bombs representing 8 tons including one 4,000 lb. "Satan" bomb. Infantry working parties on aerodromes and assistance to civil as last week until 28 April when reduced to 1,500 total strength. R.A.C.C. stores and workshops severe damage recently consequent loss of equipment. Accommodation problem acute 39 General Hospital, Mellirha, Ghain Tuffieha and Ateyrd camps, C.C.T.U. W.T. and F.T. schools closed temporarily.

..... Three.

Three. Damage military installations. Attacks and hits six heavy A.A. gun positions some casualties one gun destroyed. Three S.L. positions hit some damage equipment. Further damage military camps billets one military telephone exchange destroyed but replaced in three hours. 9 R.A.S.C. stores W.D. bakery damaged 4 R.A.S.C. vehicles destroyed 22 damaged. Further damage to ordnance store some loss of stores.

Four. Other effects. Considerable civil damage including provision stores public utilities power house civil telephone exchange Valletta destroyed. Road exits from Valletta temporarily closed due craters U.X.Bs. Present lull easing civil supply difficulties. Civil morale good. Announcement cut bread ration taken well. Army rations cut to approximately 50% D.S. scale except bread 12 ounces.

Five. Army casualties for period. 1 officer 21 O.RS. Wounded. 11 C.Rs. killed.

Six. Conclusion. Enemy targets now switched from dockyard and aerodromes to stores camps barracks Floriana Road bottleneck civil population object reducing stocks immobilising H.Q. civil morale. Since 29 April lull probably for maintenance G.A.F. preparatory further offensive here or elsewhere.

1820/4

1st Lord.
1st S.L.
3rd S.L.
Vice Contr.
4th S.L.
5th S.L.
V.C.N.S.
A.C.N.S.(F)(2)
N.A.1st S.L.
D.O.D.(F)(2)
D.D.I.C.(2)
D. of P. (2)
D.C.(2)
Hd. of M.
D.N.I. (4)
E.P.S.
I.P.(2)
D.P.D.
W.D.
D.N.A.D.
C.C.L.S.

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D.D.M.O.(O) Sigs.1.
M.C.1. 5. D.D.I.P.
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A.G.1. Col. Rolleston
C.N.S. Admiralty. (Col. Off.)
C.A.S.(Air Min.) Hd. of War Reg.
Colonel Jacob. (Admiralty)
R. Casualties. A.M.C.S.(Air Min)
Foreign Sec.

MFG

War Diary.4.5.1942.
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies.

Italian repatriations. Received 2252 G.M.T. Noon position VULCANIA and SATURNIA 3/5 8° 12' N 52° 47' E course 032° speed 17.02 knots E.T.A. Berbera 0500 G.M.T./5. (Portishead Radio No T.O.O. Recd. 0049/4, S.B.N.O. VULCANIA 0447/4.)

Air Report. Intelligence summary No. 49 C.W. information received up to 1800 hours W 3/5. 1 B.17 of U.S. Army Corps dropped bombs on North side Rangoon Docks night of 2/3. 15 ships 5000 to 7000 or 700 seen alongside and 1 15,000 (?Ship) in river. No opposition. Bay of Bengal, Blenheim R/C 2/5 rivers and creeks Akyab to Minbya. No enemy movement. (Air H.Q. India No T.O.O./4 Recd. 0345/4.)

Akyab Evacuation. 10851/G. cipher. 3/4. Paraphrase of our 1031Z/3 addressed C.B.C. pass O.C. Troops Akyab (R) C. in C. E.I. C. in C. E.F. F.O.C.R.I.N. (Begins) Embark forthwith for Calcutta in any available shipping all Army Naval and Air Force in Akyab. If possible embark Lt. A.A. guns. M.T. and A.A. guns left behind will be rendered unserviceable. (C. in C. India 0215/4 to W.O. G.O.C. Burma) Received from W.O. at 0754/4.

M.M.S. adrift. Cancel my 0251/22/4 re motor mine sweepers. (C. in C. E.I. 0314Z/4 to S and A E.I. Stn.)

Ammunition and stores. (1) A.M. 1259/17 Replenishment of A.S.I.S. will be facilitated if as a start an approx. A.S.I.S. load is held in improvised storage ashore or afloat at following bases which are in order of priority. Mombasa, Bombay, Durban, Aden, Massawa and Mauritius.

(2) Freighting cargo from freight ships, port of destination to be by armament supply carriers supplemented by 3 additional craft referred to in my 1201/30.

(3) As same freighters involved carry load approx. A.S.I.S. standard load on freighting by carriers will be relatively simple matter and will enable freighters to be more rapidly cleared.

(4) Subsequent adjustments between bases can be effected later by carriers.

(5) Any ammunition not disposed of as above to be forwarded to Massawa for redistribution later as necessary. (D. C. in C. E.F. 0433Z/4 to C. in C. E.F. (R) Admty. C. in C. S.A.)

Anchorage. C. in C. E.I. 0543Z/4 to C. in C. E.F. (R) Admty. F.O.C.R.I.N. See Lion Copy.

Kilindini. Comments on reply of V.A. Willis to Admty 1836/18 (High Commissioner for Transport, Sir H. Moore, to S of S for Colonies No T.O.O./4.) See Lion Copy.

/Persian...

MOST SECRET

MOST SECRET

M E S S A G E

0843274 May

110A

IN

From. C. in C. East Indies.

Date. 4.5.42.

Time. 1500.

NAVAL CYPHER (D) BY W/T & T/P.

Addressed. C. in C. Eastern Fleet. Repeated Admiralty.,
F.O.C.R.I.N.

IMMEDIATE. AIDAC.

433. Your 0533 19th April and F.O.C.R.I.N.
1714 29th April.

MUSH
NJ. JWD

(1) Paras (2) to (4) inclusive are summary of F.O.C.R.I.N.'s reports on Beyt and Salaya anchorages, full copies of which are being forwarded to you.

(2) Salaya is to be preferred to Beyt for the following reasons: (a) easier to defend (b) easier to develop (c) better co-operation from state (d) good holding ground (e) ample labour available locally (f) road and rail communications can be arranged without difficulty.

(3) The disadvantages are: (a) limited berthing space. This can be overcome by laying of fixed moorings. F.O.C.R.I.N. has already arranged for 40 moorings to be sent from Calcutta. (b) a detailed survey would be required. It is not anticipated that any major change save charting will be found (c) Approaches much require dredging over a short distance to allow the entry of capital ships at all states of tide.

(4) Other factors (a) climate (?varies) (? in) Beyt and Salaya is the best on the whole sea board of India. (b) tide. Up to 4 knots at Beyt and up to 3 knots at Salaya.

(5) My conclusions are (a) that Salaya is preferable to Beyt since when necessary survey of dredging and erection of navigational aids has been carried out it could be used as fuelling anchorage immediately (b) that a reconnaissance party should proceed to determine what is necessary for developing defence against suggested scale of attack (c) that if it be decided develop defence so as to use Salaya for more than a fuelling anchorage it should be given priority after Seychelles and before Mauritius.

(6) I therefore intend taking following action on the assumption that above views are accepted. (a) request F.O.C.R.I.N. to proceed immediately with survey and (dredge?) anchorage erect essential navigational aids and lay fixed moorings. He is requested to confirm that a proportion of moorings referred to in paragraph 3 (a) are up to specification required for Admiralty 1st Class mooring. For reasons of weather it is essential the craft required be sent at once. (b) request F.O.C.R.I.N. to obtain 3 tugs for handling heavy ships. (c) arrange with

C. in C. /..

RM

C. in C. India and A.O.C. in Chief India for despatch of combined reconnaissance parties to formulate a plan of defences and base development.

(7) I propose following scales of attack as basis of reconnaissance: (a) carrier borne aircraft up to 100 T B R S or dive bombers (b) brief bombardment by cruiser (c) attack by submarines minelayers and ship-borne M.T.B.

(8) Factors for consideration in defence plan are. (a) coast defence. I understand there is now no coast defence available in India. Of 7 6 inch guns now available in Ceylon I intend to all cate 4 to ARMINDIA for Seychelles defence

(b) A.A. defence. Considerable time will be saved if mobile mountings for heavy A.A. guns are used. F.O.C.R.I. is being asked to ascertain from ARMINDIA the number that can be allocated this purpose (c) underwater defence.

The position in regard to netlaying and control minelaying is as follows: H.M.S. GUARDIAN and KIRRIEMOOR employed East Africa defence. BRITANNY on passage from U.K. to lay the Mauritius defence. MANCHESTER CITY now laying control minefield at Mauritius. SPINDRIFT expected on East Indies Station shortly. ATREUS under orders to return to East Indies on completion of present task in Australia.

(9) For security purposes I intend informing authorities concerned that Salaya anchorage is to be referred to as Port F.

0543Z/4

✓ HUSH.

1st Lord.
1st S.L.
3rd S.L.
Vice Contr.
4th S.L.
5th S.L.
V.C.N.S.
A.C.N.S. (2)
A.C.N.S. (T)
A.C.N.S. (1)
Sec.
Civil Lord
Nav. Sec.
N. 1st S.L.
N. to A.C.N.S. (T)
P.A.S. (3)
P.A.S. (P.R.)
D. of P. (2)
Hd. of Air Branch.
E.P.S.
D. of L.D.
D. A/S W.
Admiral Bellairs.
D.C. (2)
D.O.D. (M)
D.T.M.
D.S.D. (2)
L. of N.
I.P. (2)
W.D.

Advance copy sent D.C. D. (F). D.D.I.C.

D.T.S.D.
D.O.D. (F) (2)
Hd. of M.
D.N.I. (4)
D.D.I.C. (2)
D.N.A.D.

War Diary.4.5.1942.
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies - Contd.

Persian Gulf Mining. Remarks on Admty. 0107B/22/4. (C. in C. E.I. 0618Z/4 to Admty.) See Lion Copy.

Employment of S/MS, ⁷ ~~Depot Ships.~~ Admty. 1558/19. Para 1. If by time ADAMANT is relieved by HECLA at Kilindini the defences of Ceylon are adequate it is proposed that ADAMANT be based at Colombo. Failing that, possibilities of using Cochin have been investigated and appear satisfactory. (2) Para 2, 3, 4 and 5. Present intention is to operate submarines from Colombo for 2 month periods using WUCHANG as accommodation ship. Existing repair facilities ashore Colombo are adequate for fulfilment of this policy and therefore it has been unnecessary to remove machinery from LUCIA. (3) C. in C. E.I. 1153/17 Admty. 2248/22, and your 1434/23 refer. (D. C. in C. E.F. 0628Z/4 to C. in C. E.F. (R) Admty. F.O.S.)

F.O. E. Africa. Rear Adm. A.D. Read has this day hoisted his flag at Kilindini as F.O. East Africa and Zanzibar. (F.O. E.A. and Z. 0800Z/4 to Admty.etc.)

M.T.Bs. Your 1341 30/3. Government of India agree to acquisition of 5 flotillas of M.T.Bs. Request further (?3) flotillas be allocated as soon as they become available and that I may be informed in due course of probable date of delivery. 2. Pass to R.I.N.L.O. Bath. (F.O.C.R.I.N. 0947Z/4 to Admty. C. in C. E.I. C. in C. E.F.)

Vichy Units, Sudan. 34095 cipher 4/5. 047829. All units in French Sudan have been warned for state of alert on receipt telegraphic instructions. Bamako has been broadcasting throughout night 2/3 May a most immediate DDD message to all Vichy Naval Units. Contents of latter message unknown. No reason for above items known here. (G.O.C. in C. W. Africa 1120/4 to W.O.) See 2043B/4.

Rice Ceylon. My 1557Z/28. (Shipment of rice to Government Ceylon.) Glad to have early statement as to what shipment I may expect. (C. in C. Ceylon 1217Z/4 to P.S.T.O. India etc.)

W.S.17 escort. 1. Sail in company as necessary to R/V W.S.17 in 003° 12' S 042° 18' at 0500Z/9.
2. Take over escort W.S.17 as far as vicinity position (W) whence CORFU is to be detached to escort W.S.17 A to Aden and ROYAL SOVEREIGN is to escort W.S.17 B to Bombay.
3. On relief REVENGE is to proceed to Kilindini escorted by ARROW and D.S. ISAAC SWEERS so as arrive on 10/5.
4. Orders for detaching BRAZIL, MORMACTIDE and ? MONTEREY will be signalled later.
5. ROYAL SOVEREIGN pass to DAUNTLESS. (C. in C. E.I. 1302Z/4 to ROYAL SOVEREIGN, CORFU, D.S. ISAAC SWEERS, (R) F or S.O. 3rd. B.S. C. in C. E.F. REVENGE, N.O.I.C. Kilindini.)

/Seychelles...

MOST SECRET

111A
E1

MOST SECRET ~~MESSAGE~~ 0618Z/4th May. IN

FROM: C. in C. East Indies. DATE: 5.5.42.
RECD: 2145

NAVAL CYPHER D BY W/T AND T/P

ADDRESSED: Admiralty Repeated F.O.C.R.I.N. 497 C. in C.
Eastern Fleet

~~436.~~ Admiralty message 0107B/22nd. The difficulties of navigation in these waters are great and in the monsoon season particularly the visibility is often insufficient to ensure accurate navigation and for this reason scheme one is impracticable.

(2) Scheme two. Ships often have difficulty in making the Quoin Island and may as result of prevailing northerly sets find themselves in middle of Straits of Hormuon.

(3) In the interests of safe navigation the declared channel must skirt the southern coast of straits and with mines laid on line Ras Khorsu - Aida Cove a fair degree of safety to inward bound traffic might be achieved by confining shipping to within 10 miles of northern extremities and western coast of Musandam Peninsula.

(4) Outward bound ships who take their departure from Jejirat Bu Musa or Jejirat Tunb are owing to their natural reluctance to approach the Arabian coast in thick weather, likely to be endangering shipping in such a waterway.

(5) Greater security for outward bound traffic would be obtained by moving the minefield close to eastward of the above island but this would result in increased danger to inward traffic.

(6) In short it is considered such a shallow minefield as proposed would be more of a menace to our own than to enemy shipping.

(7) H.M.S. EREBUS has been sailed to Kilindini to form part of defence of that port and by the presence of some such unit the enemy will follow the route of our own surface craft.

(8) A possible alternative is to lay deep mine-field, Skimmed to a safe depth for surface craft on lines quoted in para:(3).

Such a field could only be sparsely patrolled by surface craft but if increased air patrol could be provided might have some success against enemy submarines without endangering our own shipping.

0618Z/4

Advance copies Ops. O.D.

1st S.L.
Controller
Vice Contr.

V.C.N.S.

A.C.N.S.(T)

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

A.C.N.S.(W)

N.A. 1st S.L.

D.O.D.(F)(2)

D.C.(2)

D. of L.D.

D. of P.(2)

D.G.D.

D.B.D.

D.A/S.W.

D.S.D.

D. of N.

Hydrog.

D.D. O.D.(M)

D.T.M.

I.P.(2)

W.D.

Dep. Controller

D.N.O.

D.T.M.

D.S.D.

Hd. of S.W.R.

Bath by
courier.

re strengthening of Persian Gulf defences by mining Straits of Mormuz.

MFG

War Diary.4.5.1942.
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies - Contd.

Seychelles Pass to Arminia. (1) I am informed Col. Kelly
M.N.B.D.O. of Seychelles R/C party has recommended M.N.B.D.O.
does not commence installation of defences until
a later stage because of extensive road construction
required.

(2) I do not agree with this view. Early completion of these
defences is of greatest importance and I am certain if
M.N.B.D.O. is sent to Seychelles now they could, if assisted
by local labour, do much towards speeding up construction of
these roads, the preparation of landing places and disembarked
equipment and stores.

(3) M.N.B.D.O. requirement for above tasks are being signalled
I recommend these be loaded in CLAN FORBES without delay and
that she be sent to Colombo to embark M.N.B.D.O. personnel
as soon as possible.

(4) N.O.I.C. Seychelles in R/C party. (C. in C. E.I. 1304Z/4
to F.O.C.R.I.N. (R) C. in C. E.F. Admty. N.O.I.C. Seychelles.)

DAUNTLESS. ^(from ws 17) Detach DAUNTLESS as convenient 8/5 to escort
ship requiring water and fuel into Mombasa.
N.C.S.O. Durban 0847/1 refers. (C. in C. E.I.
1315Z/4 to REVENGE (R) DAUNTLESS, N.O.I.C. E.A.
and Z. C. in C. E.F. R.A.3.)

EMPIRE Your 1506/1. EMPIRE FIELD diverted to Karachi by
FIELD. request of P.S.T.O. India. (C. in C. E.I. 1820Z/4
to Admty.)

Mandalay Situation report 4/5 Burma. Japanese have
occupied Mandalay, our forces in action to north
by enemy and west. Chinese troops in action north of
Akyab Lashio. Evacuation of Akyab in progress. Bay of
evacuation. Bengal and Indian Ocean, nothing to report.
(D. C. in C. E.F. 1831Z/4 to C. in C. E.F. (R)
F.O. 3 B.S.)

Targets Ref. A.L. M/TD/D.E.M.S. 758/41 23/9/41, these
mistaken targets are easily mistaken for conning towers
for U/Bs. of U-Boats. To avoid dislocation (?of) traffic
due to false U-Boat reports request (?para) 4
should not apply to Persian Gulf and that in this
area ships should recover their targets.
(S.N.O. P.G. 1945Z/4 to C. in C. E.I. (R) Admty.)

Vichy All units in French Sudan were warned on night
Units, 2/3 May to be in a state of alert and on same
Sudan. night all Vichy Naval Units had a most immediate
message sent to them but purport is unknown.
(1st. S.L. 2043B/4 to S.O. Force F. C. in C. E.F.
C. in C. S.A. R.A.W.A. F.O.C.N.A. C. in C. Med.)

SECRET

MESSAGE

No T.O.O./4th May

IN

Date 4.5.42.

From High Commissioner for Transport, Recd 1930.
(Sir H. Moore)

CYPRUS

Addressed Secretary of State for the Colonies.

From Kenya-Uganda Railway.

No. 13.
Kilindini.

Vice Admiral Willis has shown me a copy of his reply to Admiralty telegram No.1836/18. I have the following comments:-

(a) Berthing. Agreed.

(b) Capacity of the port. Port designed for 1,000,000 tons over wharves handled 1½ million over wharves in 1941, remainder being coal and oil. Additional storage can be provided but transit space can be expanded only if new wharf or wharves are built. Paragraph 8(d) not admitted except as a result of paragraph 8(c). Is any European port staff available from Singapore?

(c) Diversion of traffic to Tanga would accentuate the shortage of rolling stock as it involves extra haulage of 200 miles and only a quarter of a main line train can be hauled over Voi-Kahe section. To link up with Tanganyika Central Line would entail extra haulage of 400 miles from Voi. Steps are being taken to get additional rolling stock. Gauge of the Mogadiscio Railway is not the same. It is 95 cms.

(d) Paragraph 13 is not agreed. Tugs and lighters are not easier to get than material to build wharves.

(e) Paragraph 17. Ministry of War Transport has asked that port should be used for repairs to merchant ships.

No T.O.O/4

* Repetition of this sentence being obtained.

Received from Colonial Office 2000/5

1st Lord
1st S.L.
2nd S.L.
3rd S.L.
Vice Controller
4th S.L.
5th S.L.
V.C.N.S.
A.C.N.S. (F)
A.C.N.S. (W)
A.C.N.S. (T)
N.A. to A.C.N.S. (F)
Civil Lord
Sec.
Fin. Sec.
P.A.S. (S)
P.A.S. (F)
P.A.S. (N.P)
P.A.S. (P.R)
Nav. Sec.
N.A. 1st S.L.
A.S.C.L.
Ops. (5)
O.D. (5)
O.I.C. (2)
D.N.I. (5)
D. of P. (3)
D.P.S. (2)
D.S.D. (2)
M. (30) and for
W.C.O, D.O. and
Treasury.
D. of L.D. (3)
D.A/S.W.
I.P. (2)
D.B.D. (2)
D.T.M.
D.T.S.D.
E.P.S.
D.T.D. (4)
D.T.D. (M)
D.T.D. (C)

C.O. Circulation:-

War Office Major D. Haviland
Admiralty Capt. G.P. Bowen, R.N.
Air Ministry Wing Commander
B. Allen

Ministry of War
Transport Mr. R.S. MacTier
Crown Agents Mr. R.W. Foxlee

C.C.R.T.

Hydrog
D. of N.
Director of Staff Charts
D. of S.
D.S.V.P. (2)
D. of D.
C.E. in C.
D.C.L.
W.G.F.
D.A.S.
D. of E.
D.M.R. (2)
D.N.A.D.
D. of V.
Air
Ad. Bellairs
W.D.
Dep. Contr: (3)
D. of D. (4)
D. of S.
D.A.S. (4)
D.C.L.
C.E. in C.
Asst. Under Secy.
L.
M.F.
P.
D. of V.

Bath by
T/P

War Diary.4.5.1942.
MondayFOREIGN STATIONS.America & West Indies.U/B
Reports.

Intercept 2227 G.M.T. WGBC 1 de NAA. O. S/m sighted 45.42 N. 52.38 W. at 1830 G.C.T.3. 2035/3. WGBC 1 de N A A. O. S/m sighted 35.50 N. 74.35 W. at 1850 GCT/3. 2023/3. WGBC 1 de NAA. O. S/m. sighted 44.55 N 52.05 W at 1345 Z.1801/3. WGBC 1 de NAA. O. S/m. attack 28.23 N.80021 W at 0615 Z. 1302/3. WGBC 1 de NAA. O. S/m. attack 11.18 N. 61.15 W. at 0900 Z/3. 1053/3. Controlling station Arlington Virginia Radio. (Portishead Radio. No. T.O.O./4. Recd. 0112/4).

"S"
Report.

Following has been read. Addressed W C C De HPTM. SSSS. Being chased by Sub 16.20 N, 8104 W at 2315 GMT. HPTM Signal Letters undecypherable ? American Ship, T.O.R. 0148/4.)

Movements.

St. Johns N.F. 3/5 arrivals ACONIT, COLLINGWOOD, ex ON89, MINAS escorting SS PETROLITE ex Argentina. (F.O.N.F. 0206Z/4 to Admiralty).

ATHELEMPRESS
(Sunk 29/4)

U 2 D B 13 (A) ATHELEMPRESS (B) 29/4 2354 GMT. 013° 21' N 056° 15' W. (C) Locked steel boxes which on explosion of torpedoes jammed inside collapsed charthouse. (D) Thrown overboard in weighted perforated bags (E) 2000 fathoms (F) Ship sank. (G) 1st officer and wireless operative (H) Blank. (N.O.I.C. Trinidad, 0817B/4. to Admiralty). Your 1722Q/3. Master's boat with remaining survivors ATHELEMPRESS arrived St Lucia today. Total landed 28. (R.N.O. St.Lucia 1232Q/4. to F.O.I.C. Trinidad as amended 1559Q/4).

836 Sqdn.

Your 2210Z/1. 836 Sqdn. will leave Palisadoes for New York via Camaguey and Miami at 0800R/13. It is not anticipated personnel stores etc. can be embarked before 18/5. (R.N.A.S. Kingston. 0939R/4. to BARM(R) C.in C. A.W.I., Admiralty) Your 0844/ 2. See my 2210/1 regarding desirability of Sqdn. 836 arriving New York by 18/5. (B.A.R.M., 1804Z/4. to R.N.A.S. Kingston (R) Admiralty etc.)

Shipping
Routes
instructions.

U.S.C.N.O 1901/17/3 containing instructions for ships approaching U.S. coast from off shore in the Atlantic has not been promulgated as an amendment to Macri but is assumed to be in force. U.S.C.N.O.1647/9/4 is included in Macri sec. (?G) 2 para 6 but should also be promulgated to above mentioned shipping. Request that the context of these ship route signals be embodied in Mari. 2. Macri Sec. 1 para 9 and Mari sec. 2 para 14 now

/conflict

War Diary.4.5.1942.
MondayFOREIGN STATIONS.America & West Indies.

Shipping Routes instructions Contd. conflict in many respects and cause difficulties for routing officers in Caribbean. Request Mari be amended (? accordingly). (C.in C. A.W.I., 1103P/4 to Admiralty (R) N.S.H.Q., S.O.(1) Kingston). Reply 1608B/5.

Italian Repatriations Position of TAIGETE and ARCOLA at noon Sat.4/5 11.47 N 49.13 W course 227° speed 10.1 knots. (S.B.N.O., TAIGETE, 1215/4. to Admiralty).

EMPIRE CHIVALRY Presume you will reply to N.C.S.O. Trinidad's 1203Q/3. (D.T.D. 1256B/4 to C.in C A.W.I.)

U/B fixes by D/F. Within 60 miles 45.30N., 52°W. at 1057Z/4. (N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 1436Z/4) Within 60 miles 37.30N., 69°W. at 1513Z/4. (N.S.H.Q., 1818Z/4) Within 60 miles 46° N., 54°W at 1409Z/4. (N.S.H.Q., 2010Z/4).

Caribbean A/S patrols. 2 S/Ms: operating in area 011° 30' N. 061° 15' W Night 3/4 ordered all available A S V A/C R.N.A.S. Piarco and U.S. with support of 2 U.S. patrol vessels to carry out sweep between Trinidad and Grenada. No result. Slight indication S/M moving westwards. Casualties in area 1 ship sunk, 1 damaged as previously reported. Comcaribb now ordered day and night patrol to be carried out by U.S. aircraft in semi-circle from Boca de Navios. (N.O.I.C. Trinidad, 1542Q/4 to C.in C A.W.I. (R) Admiralty).

BURNHAM, escort of tankers. BURNHAM due to sail Charleston 1200Z/4 through 3505 N. 7513 W S of A 23 knots - E.T.A. New York 1400Z/5. (N.S.H.Q. 1625/4 to Admiralty (R) Opnav etc.) My 1625/4, BURNHAM sailed 0400Z/4. (N.S.H.Q. Ottawa 1947Z/4 to Admiralty). 17. My 1835/2 1541/3 Jacksonville's 0256/4 (N.T. of any in W.D.) (1) Appears probable POLYCASTLE has failed to act on C. in C. A.W.I. diversion into Charleston and is proceeding under original instructions to Curacao via Jamaica. If POLYCASTLE arrives at Charleston B.R.O. is to endeavour to join her to U.S. Convoy arriving off Charleston daylight 5/5 for such practicable protection as may be available to destination. (2) ALAR BRITAMER and VANCOLITE will not load at Caripito. B.R.O. New York is to route these ships escorted by BURNHAM to Trinidad for onward instructions to Caripito. (3) BURNHAM E.T.A. New York 1400Z/5 will require fuel. (N.S.H.Q. 1640Z/4 to B.R.O. Jacksonville, B.R.O. New York(R). C.E.S.F., Cominch, Admty. Opnav, F.O.N.F. B.A.D. C.O.A.C. Cinclant C. in C. A.W.I.

/Cancel

War Diary.4.5.1942
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies.

BURNHAM, Cancel my 1147/4 (1625/4 intended) BURNHAM
escort of sails Charleston 1335Z/4 for New York.
Tankers, (N.S.H.Q. 2258Z/4 to Admty. (R) Opnav, etc.)
contd. *Sailed - see previous page*

Bangor Your 1324/3 (Re sailing of Canadian built
Minesweepers. Bangor Minesweepers to U.K.) Concur.
(N.S.H.Q. 1656Z/4 to F.O.N.F. (R) Admty.,
C.O.A.C.)

KENOGAMI I have been detached at 1500Z to search for
search. sinking ship approx. 43.36 N. 59.22 W. my
position at 1500Z/4 43.34 N. (759) 28 W.
Weather report.
(KENOGAMI 1705Z/4 to Opnav (R) C.T.F.24
Admty. etc.)

My 1705Z/4. Unless otherwise ordered intend carrying out
search for ship and aircraft until noon/5. Visibility 2 (?miles)
(KENOGAMI 2300Z/4 to C.O.A.C. Halifax (R) D. Halifax, LINCOLN.)

2 ships Unknown ship reported sunk by S/M 8 miles N.E.
sunk, from Demerara Beacon, another unknown ship sunk
Georgetown. survivors now on way in TURRET CAPE, British,
ship will report later.
(N.C.S.O. Georgetown 1715Q/4 to Admty., B.A.D.
Opnav, Cominch.)
Ships were EASTERN SWORD and PARNAHYBA see
0923P/5.)

Your 1715/4. What air protection, if any, is being given ships
arriving at and sailing from Georgetown? If none is available
sailings of British managed ships should be suspended until
situation clears.
(C. in C. A.W.I. 2232P/4 to N.C.S.O. Georgetown (R) Admty.
F.O. Trinidad.)

ESPERANCE ESPERANCE BAY and ADRASTUS, best speed 13 and
BAY, 14 knots respectively, query route independent
ADRASTUS. direct or Halifax for convoy.
(C.S.A. Colon 1730R/4 to Admty.)
Reply. 1214B/5.

H.X.188. C.T.U.24.1.17 in HARVESTER plus NARCISSUS,
MIGNONETTE, RENONCULE and LOBELIA designated
ocean escorts for convoy H.X.188.
(C.T.24 1811/4 to U.S. C.N.O. (R) Admty. etc.)

POLYANTHUS. POLYANTHUS sailing Charleston 2200Z/4 E.T.A.
Halifax 2300Z/8 S. of A. (11?) 5 knots U.S.
route instructions from Galveston. Com Southern
Naval Coastal Frontier 1543/26 refers.
(N.S.H.Q. 1830Z/4 to Admty.)

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War Diary.4.5.1942
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies - contd.

- M.A.R.I. Amendment No.6.
(D.T.D. 1832B/4.)
- BRANDON. Add to my 1520Z/4 (N.T.in W.D.) BRANDON E.T.A. Halifax 1100Z/5 from Eastward.
(C.O.A.C. Halifax 1925/4 to N.A. Escort Force, C. in C. W.A.)
Your 1042Z/4 (N.T.in W.R.) Have been searching area since 2030Z/4. Visibility 50 yards, dense fog (corrupt group) Weather report from Admiralty list radio signal for next 24 hours required. One day fuel remaining. Will continue search until further directions.
(BRANDON 2311Z/4 to C.O.A.C. Halifax.)
- C.L.30. GEORGIAN arrived escorting C.L.30.
(S.O.(I). Halifax 2004Z/4 to Admty. etc.)
- U/B Sub attack and sighting summary. LOCH DON sunk.
Intelligence. 36° N. 61° 30' W. 2123Z/1/4. 1 torpedo. No sub description. OCANA sunk. 42° 36' N. 65° 25' W. 0600Z/25/3. 1 torpedo. No sub description. VICTORIA arrived in port. 36° 27' N. 68° 29' W. 2257Z/17/4 2 torpedoes. Sub not seen. BRIS sunk. 34° N. 69° W. 0045/21/4. No details. SAMA sunk. 25° 04' N. 79° 45' W. 0615Z/3. Torpedoed, no details. FEDERAL gunned, not torpedoed. H.G. SEIDEL sunk. Corrected posit. 11° 50' N. 62° 50' W. 0220Z/29/4. 2 torpedoes. No sub description. GRENANGER sunk in 22° 58' N. 57° 14' W. 1610Z/11/4. 1 torpedo 25 to 30 rounds. U.88 type. RIO DON JUAN stopped 0920Z/28/4 34° 16' N. 70° 16' W. by U.45 type but allowed to proceed. Sub had white cat with two Zeds on conning tower. STANVAC MANILA chased by sub 16° 20' N. 81° 04' W. 2315Z/3. 2 subs reported 25° 13' N. 80° 10' W. 2251Z/3. BROOME sound contact. 33° 55' N. 77° 14' W. 1423Z/2. Damage very probable. Opnav and B.A.D. informed.
(C. in C. U.S. Fleet 2030/4 to Admty. for O.I.C.)
- Tanker In view of submarine activity St. Augustine to
Route. Canaveral recommend tanker be routed through this area during daylight.
(Opnav 2057A/4 to C. in C. A.W.I., N.S.H.Q. (R) Admty. etc.)
- S/M R.7. U.S. S/M notice. R.7 departed Bermuda 2330Z/3 course 020° speed 100 miles per day. Will patrol within 30 miles (?radius) of point 300 miles from Mount Hill Light bearing 020° true 6/5 to 12/5 inclusive. Submerged during daylight. Surface or submerged at night. Total bombing restrictions 50 miles ahead and astern of estimated position and 15 miles each side track. Also circle of patrol.
(Cominch 2110/4 to C.T.Fs 21, 28, 29, Admty. N.S.H.Q. C.O.A.C. C.E.S.F., C.G.S.F., F.O.N.F. U.S.S. CINCINNATI (R) C.T.G. 25, N.O.B. Bermuda.)

/CHENANGO ...

War Diary.

4.5.1942
Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies - contd.

CHENANGO
(sunk 20/4)

Panamanian, 3106 tons, which left St. Thomas 13/4 for Baltimore, was torpedoed and sunk 20/4 E. of Cape Hatteras 2 survivors were landed at Norfolk, Va.
(D.O.R. 970 971)

Escort of
Tankers,
Caribbean.
offer of B.5 Group

Personal for Adml. King from 1st S.L.
During last few weeks we have been restricting movements of tankers in Caribbean to minimum, but need to increase the flow is now great. I know you cannot yet undertake any further commitment and therefore we have been investigating whether we can scrape together escorts to protect tankers on their run between Trinidad and Aruba.

2. With advent of finer weather I consider we can work our groups harder and that we should reduce mid-ocean groups on trans-Atlantic convoys from 12 to 11 and that the group so released should proceed to Trinidad for escort duties under orders of Comtask 10.
3. If you concur, proposed that B.5 group consisting of 1 destroyer and 3 corvettes now at Argentia should proceed to Trinidad calling at Bermuda to embark tropical kit. Another destroyer now under repair would join this group leaving U.K. about 2/5.
4. Estimated that with this group a convoy could be sailed from Trinidad to Aruba and return every 14 days and possibly some protection afforded to tankers arriving from and sailing to eastward. This would meet our requirements until you are unable (?able) to start the New York - Guantanamo convoy and its subsidiary convoys to and from Aruba.
5. I have concurred in Ottawa's proposal to take 3 corvettes from mid-ocean groups to maintain the supply of oil at Halifax and St. Johns, but this does not unfortunately help us with our problem of maintaining adequate stocks in U.K.
(1st S.L. 2120B/24 to Cominch (R) B.A.D.) *Reply. 1645/5 p. 149.*

NICARAGUA.

ATHELREGENT arrived Port Everglades 3rd with 14 survivors from NICARAGUA; SAMA (?Panama.) (B.R.O. Jacksonville 2141Z/4 to Admty. (R) C. in C. A.W.I. etc.)

ECLIPSE.

Ref. A.M.1320/2/4/40. ECLIPSE, British, 4th, 1703 G.C.T. 026° 30' N. 080° W. all books thrown overboard in 10 fathoms. 48 survivors, 2 in hospital following 2 dead. 17 Officers and men standing by in ship believed salvageable.
(B.R.O. Jacksonville 2357Z/4 to Admty.(R) Ottawa.)

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War Diary.4.5.1942
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Australia and New Zealand.

- U/B. S/M sighted 2355Z/3 in 011° (736') S. 178° W.
S/M crash dived.
(N.Z.N.B. 0802Z/4 Maori 18, to Admty. etc.)
- Movements. Arrival Port Moresby 0902Z/3 COLAC escorting U.S.
Transport CREMER. SWAN left Sydney (N.S.W)
0717Z/3 for R/V with KANIMBLA, thence to
Townsville.
(A.C.N.B. 0826Z/4 to Admty. etc.)
- Situation. Serial Number 103 3/5 from C.W.R. 12 bombers
either T 97 or T 99 and 8 zero fighters attacked
Seven Miles Aerodrome Port Moresby 2258Z/2
destroyed 35 drums of fuel. 10 P.39s intercepted, 1 missing.
2 aircraft damaged on ground. 3 enemy bombers believed destroyed,
1 zero shot down.
(2) One B.17 attacked shipping in Rabaul Harbour at 1740Z/2
another at 1830Z. Probably hit on 2 ships. First attack A/A
fire very inaccurate, 2nd heavy and accurate.
(3) Tulagi reports some enemy vessels departing westward 0745Z/3
1 vessel vicinity Savo Island throughout 3/5.
(4) B.25 on R/C attacked 3/5 by 4 engined Flying Boats over
N.W. corner of Bougainville and slightly damaged. Enemy
aircraft badly damaged.
(5) Enemy reported 27 miles inland from Lae. Enemy Fighters
resembling Me.109 observed over Lae 28/4.
(6) Small unidentified silver aircraft dived on Allied vessel
in 015° 15' S. 110° 45' E. at 2315Z/2.
(7) Ref. serial number 102, para 10, aircraft over Wyndham
identified as friendly.
(A.C.N.B. 1219Z/4 to Admty. etc.)

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.Submarines Reported.

Estimated U/B positions.
(D.D.I.C. 1403B/4, 1407B/4.)

5.5.1942.
Tuesday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

V.A.2 returned to Scapa this evening in DUKE OF YORK with VICTORIOUS, KENYA and destroyers, from covering Convoys P.Q.15 and Q.P.11.

RODNEY arrived at Scapa this evening from refit at Liverpool.

C.S.10 returned to Scapa this afternoon in NIGERIA with LONDON.

CALPE (S.O.) BLENCATHRA, FERNIE, BERKELEY and ALBRIGHTON last night proceeded towards Fecamp to attack and escorted merchant ship which entered Boulogne at 0135/4. The destroyers engaged 4 enemy E or R boats, setting one on fire and probably sinking it, and damaging the remainder which retired behind smoke. No merchant ships were sighted. Our ships suffered no damage affecting seagoing efficiency and had few casualties.

Admiral Miles today sends his estimate of the war value of the Soviet naval forces.

22 out of 25 ships of convoy P.Q.15 arrived at Murmansk today. The convoy was continuously shadowed for the last two days by aircraft and submarines to 36° E.

2/5 Polish S/M P.551^(JASTRZĄB) which was on N.W. Norway patrol was attacked in error and sunk by SEAGULL and ST. ALBANS escorting P.Q.15. Two Officers and 28 men were saved.

British Air Operations.

Coastal Command aircraft carried out successful attacks on shipping off Terschelling today.

War Diary.

5.5.1942.
Tuesday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Enemy Air Activity.

Considerable damage was caused to shipyards at Cowes by air attack last night. Casualties were light.

North Atlantic.

Orders were sent today to the Governor, Gibraltar that should RICHELIEU and JEAN BART attempt to pass into the Mediterranean they are to be engaged with all the forces at his command; transit aircraft may be employed for this purpose. No other Vichy warships are to be engaged.

South Atlantic.

The crew of an American aircraft landing at Accra today reported sighting more than 25 submarines off shore near Abiye and Grand Bassam between 1450 and 1500. The S/Ms were assembled on the water over a distance of 50 to 100 miles; 5 crash dived on sight, 2 fired on the aircraft which descended to 150 feet to investigate. R.A. West Africa remarks (7/5) that although nothing further has been seen by air R/C and no sinkings have yet been reported the report cannot be ignored and he asks for aircraft reinforcements of Catalinas and Sunderlands.

The total number of overdue ships since 1/3/42 which may have been raider casualties in the South Atlantic is now 9.

War Diary.5.5.1942.
Tuesday.SITUATION REPORT.Mediterranean.

Up to 1440 today only one bomber is reported to have dropped bombs on Malta.

East Indies.

Operation
"Ironclad"
Force F.
(RAMILLIES
S.O.)
Landing in
Madagascar.

A British force under Major General Sturges R.M. were landed at Courier Bay near Diego Suarez by Force F (S.O., R.A. Syfret) in the early hours of today. Little opposition was encountered and Diego Suarez was captured by 1615. The hangars reported full of aircraft were bombed and set on fire. Nothing larger than sloops was seen in harbour, BEVEZIERS, the only S/M in harbour was sunk and the sloop BOUGAINVILLE was bombed and beached (officially reported sunk by French) A merchant ship, possibly an A.M.C. was torpedoed and blown up in harbour. Corvette AURICULA was mined and damaged and may be a total loss*. A force from the Eastern Fleet at Kilindini is carrying out air R/C to the Eastwards until 0700Z/6.

* sank on May 6 (p 213)

Mombasa.

A Port Executive Committee is to be established on lines successfully adopted in Middle East and elsewhere.

Air
Operations.

Blenheims made a successful low level and M/G attack on river craft at Monywa, Burma. Bombs fell among loaded barges and scored direct hits.

America and West Indies.

A large number of U-Boats estimated to be operating in the West Indies area, viz. two each in the Georgetown and Trinidad areas, one in the central Caribbean, one between Nicaragua and Cuba, one in the Key West area and one in the Cape Canaveral area.

5.5.1942.
Tuesday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT.

America and West Indies - Contd.

Attacks on ships were reported off Georgetown, East of Jamaica, off Wilmington, Cape Canaveral, in the Gulf of Mexico and in the Windward Passage.

Australia.

3 U.S. heavy bombers at 2126Z today attacked an aircraft carrier and a light cruiser S.W. of Bougainville Island (Solomon Is.) and obtained a very near miss on the cruiser.

War Diary.5.5.1942
Tuesday.HOME COMMANDS.Policy.Flags of
C. in C. H.F.
and V.A.2.Request you will transfer your flag to NELSON
as soon as possible after arrival. Immediately
afterwards my flag will be transferred to
DUKE OF YORK.
(C. in C. H.F. 1010B/5 to V.A.2.)*See next page.*North
Atlantic
Main Units.Disposition of Operational Units in North
Atlantic. Operating in Area North Russia
2 destroyers. Area Iceland (C) WASHINGTON,
BERWICK, NORFOLK, TUSCALOOSA, WICHITA, 4
destroyers (U.S.) Area Scapa KING GEORGE V.
DUKE OF YORK, NELSON, RODNEY, VICTORIOUS, KENT, KENYA, LIVERPOOL,
LONDON, MAURITIUS, NIGERIA, 9 Destroyers. Area Gibraltar RENOWN,
ARGUS, EAGLE, CHARYBDIS. Passage to Gibraltar WASP, 2
destroyers, 2 destroyers (U.S.)
(D. O.D.H. 1016Z/5 to C. in C. U.S. Fleet.)Russian
Northern
Naval Forces.
Quality.Sufficient experience and impressions have now
been gained to enable a fair estimate to be made
of the war value of Soviet naval forces, more
particularly those in North Russian waters, and
I feel should be borne in mind when considering
operation which may need co-operation with them.2. General. Soviet Naval Officers and men come mostly from a
common peasant stock with little sea tradition behind them.
Soviet system largely eradicates initiative and inculcates a
smug self satisfaction that their methods and material are
superior to those in any foreign navies. Officers and crews
are watched over by Commisars who although having less sea
experience often exercise greater authority than the Captain.
Personnel are young, well disciplined, tough and good fighters.
In operations the spectacular is always preferred to the useful.
For example routine patrols in protection of convoys are
disliked whilst artillery support of the Red Army or inshore
submarine patrols are most popular.3. Destroyers. Seamanship and navigation far below our
standards. Weapon efficiency is probably good under fair
weather conditions. Being mostly of Italian design des-
troyers and their fittings are built for fair weather. Any
excuse is good enough to keep them in harbour or send them back
to harbour and seetime is the exception rather than the rule.
Destroyers never refuel on return to harbour and pay little
attention to readiness for sea. A.A. armament very quick into
action.4. Submarines. Rapid expansion of navy cause of many in-
experienced captains, very little discretion allowed to
Captains. Torpedo efficiency greatly improved since adopting
our methods.5. Staff. Few officers have much real sea experience but
Staff Officers ashore are full of self confidence by contrast
with Officers afloat. Operation orders are voluminous,
detailed and very little latitude given. Authority is
centralised to a ridiculous degree. For example C.O.S.
Polyarno a Rear Admiral also carries out duties of K.H.M.
and Maintenance Captain.
(Ad. Miles 1447C/5 to Admty.)

War Diary.

5.5.1942
Tuesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Policy - contd.

C.S.18. Your 2032B/4 approved.
(Return U.K. to TRINIDAD.) (C. in C. H.F. 2307B/5 to C.S.18.)

Movements.

NIGERIA My 2237B/4. Unable to enter Skaale Fiord
LONDON. owing to fog. Am proceeding to Scapa.
(C.S.10 0506B/5.)
Scapa arrivals C.S.10 in NIGERIA with LONDON.
(A.C.O.S. 1738/5.)

DUKE OF YORK. My 1801/4. Owing to low visibility am passing
VICTORIOUS. through 61° 50' N. 4° 01' W. at 0958. Thence
course 180° speed 18 knots. E.T.A. 2031B/5.
(V.A.2. 0557B/5 to A.C.O.S.)
Scapa arrivals V.A.2 in DUKE OF YORK with VICTORIOUS, KENYA,
FAULKNOB, ESKIMO, ESCAPADE, INGLEFIELD, MARTIN, ORIBI, MARNE.
(A.C.O.S. 2116B/5.) *See previous page*

Ten Departure 10 R-Craft escorted by MARETTA and
R-Craft. ANDRADITE for Newhaven.
(V.A. Dover 0935B/5.) *NT. + W.D*
Cancel my 1745B/5. Intend to sail at 0630/6 10
R-craft escorted by M.A.S.B.37, E.T.A. 1030/6. Inshore route,
speed 12 knots. Request any air cover considered necessary
may be arranged.
(N.O.I.C. Newhaven 1905B/5 to C. in C. Portsmouth.)

HAZARD. Intend sailing HAZARD 1000/6. E.T.A. Scapa
2000/6.
(F.O.I.C. Aberdeen 1005/5.)

MINERVE R/V with local escort drifter HARMATTAN 090°
UREDD Bard Head 5 miles. Escort will be in position
*P.551 for MINERVE 0500B/7 until met, for UREDD 0900B/7
P.43. *See next page* until met, for P.551 1400B/7 until met, for
P.43 1900B/7 until dark.
(S.O. S/M Lerwick 1045B/5 to MINERVE etc.)
** See p. 119*

EMPIRE CONRAD. A.M.1130/30. 1. EMPIRE CONRAD speed 10½ knots,
AZALEA. carrying R.A.F. personnel and stores, will be
SPIREA. ready to leave Clyde on 13/5.
29th M/L 2. She is to proceed to Gibraltar in company
Flotilla. with AZALEA, SPIREA and 29th M.L. Flotilla whose
sailing date must be adjusted accordingly.
3. Commodore Western Isles is requested to sail
AZALEA to Clyde as requisite for her to leave there 13th May.
4. C. in C. Western Approaches is requested to sail EMPIRE
CONRAD and AZALEA as requisite to R/V with SPIREA and 29th
Flotilla.
5. In the event of bad weather developing on passage and
consequent reduction of speed of M.Ls necessitating separation
C. in C. W.A. is requested to detail one corvette to accompany
EMPIRE CONRAD and one to remain with M.Ls.

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War Diary.5.5.1942
Tuesday.HOME COMMANDS.Movements contd:

- EMPIRE CONRAD. 6. In the event of separation escorts should inform F.O.C.N.A. (D.O.D. (H) 1256B/5.)
AZALEA.
SPIREA.
29th M/L
Flotilla.
- ASHANTI. Intend to sail ASHANTI at 1400/8 by swept channels to Scapa. Speed 20 knots. Full power trial will be carried out north of 21A buoy for 2 hours. E.T.A. Scapa 0800/9. (F.O. Humber 1520B/5 to R.A.D.)
- ARETHUSA. Intend sailing ARETHUSA passing Clyde Boom 1100B/6 routed as in C. in C. W.A. 1109B/3. E.T.A. Ponta Delgada 9/5. S.O.A. 21 knots. (N.O.I.C. Greenock 1526B/5.)
A.M. 1509B/26. It is important that ARETHUSA should reach the Mediterranean as soon as practicable. 2. Passage is therefore to be made at best speed, boiler cleaning being delayed until ship can be spared by C. in C. Med. 3. C. in C. S.A. is requested to arrange for ship to fuel between Freetown and Capetown. (D.O.D. (F) 1826B/5 to F.O.I.C. Greenock.)
- TRAVELLER. Intend to sail TRAVELLER for Gibraltar 13/5 to carry out working up patrols. P.43 will sail about the same date having carried out two working up patrols in U.K. (F.O.S. 1531B/5.)
P.43. *See p. 124*
- THUNDERBOLT and UTMOST escorted by JAN VAN GELDER E.T.A. 225° Mull of Kintyre 5 miles 0100B/6 from northward. Thence UTMOST escorted by LA CAPRICIEUSE to Holy Loch, THUNDERBOLT escorted by JAN VAN GELDER southward through Irish Sea may be met during night. (C. in C. W.A. 1550B/5 to WOODRUFF, WHITE BEAR.)
- TRINIDAD. My 1710B/28. KENT, LIVERPOOL, and 2 destroyers are to cover passage of TRINIDAD.
KENT. (2) Force is to be sailed by KENT to Seidisfjord to refuel and thence arrive in initial covering position in vicinity of position (a) 074° 30' N. 009° 30' E. by 2000B/10. (3) S.B.N.O. North Russia is requested to sail TRINIDAD, with SOMALI and MATCHLESS, to pass through position (g) 074° 01' N. 028° 59' E. at about 2000B/10 or 2000B/11, if weather conditions are suitable. If sailing delayed covering force will have withdrawn to Seidisfjord for fuel and departure of TRINIDAD must be postponed accordingly.
LIVERPOOL.

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5.5.1942
Tuesday.War Diary.HOME COMMANDS.Movements. contd:

TRINIDAD (4) Cover is to be provided to longitude 010°
KENT. W. when KENT is to proceed to Hvalfjord and
LIVERPOOL - remainder are to return to Scapa. Fuel is
contd. available at Skaalefiord.
(5) TRINIDAD's escort may be replaced by
destroyers of covering force, if necessary for
reasons of endurance.
(6) S.B.N.O. North Russia 0011B/19 my 1710B/28 and A.M. 1912B/29
have been passed to covering force.
(7) Admiral Miles is requested to seek maximum Russian co-
operation.
(C. in C. H.F. 1627B/5.)
Your 1627B/5th. ONSLOW, ICARUS detailed.
(R.A.D. H.F. 2250B/5 to C. in C. H.F.)

LADY OF MANN Intend to sail transports LADY OF MANN, PRAGUE
PRAGUE. escorted by CHIDDINGFOLD at 1200/6 for Lerwick,
E.T.A. 1800/6. Speed of advance 18 knots.
Routed 2 miles East of Fair Isles. Request
air escort.
(N.C.S.O. Kirkwall 1645B/5.)

GARLAND. My 1610/4. Sailed.
(N.O.I.C. Middlesbrough 1816/5.)

TYNEDALE. At 1300/6 R/V 270° Eddystone 5 with PORTZIC
who will pass Exercise programme and firing
orders.
(C. in C. Plymouth 1942/5 to TYNEDALE.)

KENYA. KENYA is to proceed passing Hoxa at 1130B/6 to
Greenock. (3) N.O.I.C. Greenock is requested
to sail KENYA to arrive Scapa 19/5.
(C. in C. H.F. 2004B/5 to KENYA.)

RODNEY. Scapa arrivals. RODNEY and BLEASDALE.
(A.C.O.S. 2214/5.)

ESKIMO. Proceed passing Switha 1800B/6 to Plymouth
to de-ammunition, thence to Falmouth for refit.
2. You should proceed through Minches North
Channel and QZL 15.
(R.A.D. 2245B/5 to ESKIMO.)

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War Diary.5.5.1942
Tuesday.HOME COMMANDS.Operations.

Engagement with E-Boats. My 1817B/4. Following received from CALPE. Engaged 4 enemy E or R boats. One set on fire probably sunk, remainder damaged, retired behind smoke. No merchant ships sighted. No damage affecting seagoing efficiency. Casualties. CALPE BLENCATHRA BERKELEY FERNIE ALBRIGHTON. BLENCATHRA one rating killed. CALPE, one rating wounded. BERKELEY, one officer wounded. Names. (C. in C. Portsmouth 0937B/5.)

Denmark Strait Patrol. Intend to leave Hvalfiord at 2030Z/6 to relieve BERWICK on patrol "White", meeting in 066° 28' N. 024° 35' W. at 0830Z/7. Intend to carry out practices as arranged for 1/5. (NORFOLK 1132B/5.)

Situation 2201 tonight. BERWICK on patrol "White". (A.C.I.C. 1418B/5.)

Torpedo M/Ls. Sail at 1730 today ^{N.O.I.C. Dartmouth} to comply with C. in C. Plymouth's 1355/5. M.L.153 is S.O. of Dartmouth Boats, M.L.181 is S.O. of Combined Force. (N.O.I.C. Dartmouth 1651/5 to M.Ls 153, 157.)

Patrols. Departure at 1650 CATTISTOCK to carry out patrol K. (F.O. Humber 1702B/5.)

Leave convoy at daylight and anchor Yarmouth Roads subsequently carrying out patrol K tomorrow.

(Capt. D.21 1849B/5 to MEYNELL.)

At 0330B/6 leave Southern End of N Patrol and return to Rough till daylight.

(C. in C. Nore 2333B/5 to M.Ls 185, 339, NORLAND.)

MAY, MONDARA (Cable-laying.) Repairs are required to No.2 loop and tail of the Needles system. 2. Request you sail MAY to arrive Yarmouth, 1 of W p.m. 20th loaded with the necessary cable. 3. C.O. MONDARA will visit Portland to discuss details. (C. in C. Portsmouth 1827B/5 to F.O.I.C. Portland.)

11th M.T.B. Flotilla offensive sweep. (K.C.2.) My 1243B/4. S.O. 11th M.T.B. Flotilla reports as follows: No traffic sighted. At 0350 Alderney light was switched on and it was decided to patrol to West of Island Can Buoy. No ships sighted, but Casquets was observed to be lit. Patrol commenced at 0045 and ceased at 0445. (C. in C. Portsmouth 1837B/5.)

→ Q.E.12. Weather permitting propose Q.E.12 be carried out by MEYNELL on patrol K tomorrow. (Capt. D.21 1851B/5 to C. in C. Nore.)

/ULSTER QUEEN ...

War Diary.5.5.1942
Tuesday.HOME COMMANDS.Operations - contd.

ULSTER QUEEN
TYNEWALD. Both ships capable of carrying 1000 men for a short sea voyage with infantry equipment. Your 1629B/4. TYNEWALD states that owing to excessive topweight weather must be favourable. (C. in C. W.A. 1912B/5 to Admty.)

British Air Activity.

Escort for
DUKE OF YORK. Your 1801/4. Fighter escort is being arranged by C. in C. Rosyth, weather permitting. (A.C.O.S. 0009B/5 to V.A.2.)

Escort for
T.F.99 Admiralty's 2336B/4. Expect Catalina A/C from 0600B/5. (A.C.I.C. 0345B/5 to C.T.F.99)

Escort
signals. For trial purposes the following procedure will be carried out by all fighter groups when escort is withdrawn. Fighter escort when withdrawing protection from surface force at dusk will make from one mile A series of short flashes on their landing lights. (C. in C. W.A. 0913B/5.)

Bombing
restrictions. Institute submerged bombing restrictions from 0200/6 until 1200/8 for 30 miles either side of line joining 046° N. 013° W. and 043° N. 013° W. (H.Q.C.C. 0931/5 to R.A.F. Gibraltar.)

Request surface bombing restrictions from 2000/5 to 0800/6, 15 miles either side of a line joining Eddystone and 048° 43' N. 004° 15' W. (C. in C. Plymouth 1342B/5 to H.Q.C.C.)

A/C for
DELHI
Trials. Aircraft lent for DELHI's trials are to return to their squadrons forthwith. A further signal will be made when they are required at Roborough for the continuation of the trials. (D.G.D. 1633B/5 to C. in C. Plymouth.)

Bombing
operations. On day 4/5, 6 A/C attacked Havre. On night 4/5, 4 A/C bombed the docks at Nantes. (H.Q.B.C. 1645/5.)

Biscay
Air
Operations. A/S operations in Biscay Area for 24 hours ending 1800/1 to 1800/5 inclusive. Details. (A.O.C.19 Group 1900/5 to Admty.)

/STURGEON ...

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War Diary.5.5.1942
Tuesday.HOME COMMANDS.British Air Activity - contd.STURGEON
attacked by
own A/C on
28/4.

Request you investigate M.G. attack made by friendly aircraft on STURGEON who was then in company with Force Q. p.m. 28th April. Fortunately no casualties and very slight damage. (10 C.S. 1913B/5 to A.C.I.C.)

Enemy Air Activity.Cowes
bombed.

Extensive damage to following factories in Cowes. J. Samuel White. Personnel unable to resume work. Saunders Roe Ltd. reported burnt out. Railway Station damaged. All utility services affected. Approximately 12 U.X.Bs in Cowes. Marvin's Yard serious damage by fire. A/S workshop destroyed. Minor damage to base office. No damage to docks or pier. Naval casualties 7 in number. 2 serious 5 slight. Serious casualties are Frenchmen. No telephone communications on any line. Further report on J.S. Whites. All ships and slipways intact. Boiler shop seriously damaged considerable damage to building and offices. Casualties light. (C. in C. Portsmouth 1033B/5.)

A/C in sea.

Intercepted at 0910 G.M.T. from Ushant. Radio bearing 221°, S O S, German A/C in sea 50° 13' N. 00° 57' W. 0500/5. (N. Foreland Radio 1110/5.)

Mining.

Yarmouth.

LL sweepers detonated red magnetic mine at 0710 in 53° 04' N. 01° 28' 30" E. (F.O.I.C. Gt. Yarmouth 0801B/5, 0953/5, 1252B/8)

B.S.
Operations.

Your 1022B/28. 2. Request that B.S.78 may be laid one mile to westward of the position proposed by you. Reasons. 3. Your proposals for the remaining lines are concurred in. (A.C.N.S.(H.) 1259B/5 to C. in C. Nore.)

Route of
QUEEN MARY.

Request you will make necessary arrangements for special sweep of route ordered in Admiralty's 1919/30 para 4 (D). (C. in C. W.A. 1259B/5 to F.O.I.C. Greenock.)

Enemy Intelligence.Convoy off
Ameland.

8 M/Vs bearing 000°, distant 2 miles, course 080°. My position 53° 35' N. 5° 20' E. (A/C 0310/5 to 16 Group.)

/Straits ...

War Diary.

5.5.1942
Tuesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Enemy Intelligence - contd.

Straits of Dover. Enemy shipping plotted by R.D.F. in Dover Strait from 0900/4 to 0900/5. Track E.1.D. Five vessels from Boulogne at 2215 course southerly speed 12 knots faded at 2310 twelve miles South of Boulogne. At 2345 in latter position several vessels were plotted on a northerly course entering Boulogne at 0105. Possibly these were some or all of southbound vessels returning. Track E.2 D. several small vessels from 2 miles N.W. of Boulogne at 2235, course north-easterly. Speed 12 to 18 knots faded 7 miles north of Calais at 0015. Track E.4 D.2. vessels Trawler size from 4 miles North of Calais at 2355 course south-easterly speed 11 knots entered Boulogne at 0145. Track E.8.D.3 small vessels from 5 miles S.W. of Boulogne at 0525 speed 15 knots entered Boulogne at 0550. (V.A. Dover 1021B/5.)

Trondheim. Trondheim R/C on 5/5 failed due to weather. (D.D.I.C. 1630B/5.)

2 vessels. Following received from A(?D)ALBIK W/T begins. 1 medium (? light) trawler and cruiser size, fast, above 12 knots, bearing 342° (?8)½ miles, course 078° speed 28. T.O.O.1232B. Ends. Am unable to account for this report unless it refers to BERWICK herself. (A.C.I.C. 1711B/5 to BERWICK.)

Spitzbergen Greenland. Learn that Germans have established meteorological stations at following places. (A) West coast of Spitzbergen. (B) East coast of Greenland. Both about latitude 77°. Graded A.3. (N.A. Stockholm 1939/5.)

Suspicious Ship. Intercept at 2023 G.M.T. De unknown station begins. Q Q (unread) vessel approaching De VPQ 1830/5 ends. At 2025 G.M.T. 2 SC TOO GBMS begins. QQQQ (unread) vessel approaching De VPQ 1830/5 ends. (Wick Radio 2345/5 to Admty.)

U-Boats.

U-Boats reported. Two or three U-Boats may be in your vicinity today. (D.D.I.C. 1000B/5 to WASP.) Submarine reported 063° 45' N. 021° 28' W. at 0845B by Icelandic fishing boat. Graded B.3. (A.C.I.C. 1201B/5.)

/Russians ...

War Diary.

5.5.1942
Tuesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

U-Boats - contd.

U-Boats
reported -
contd

Russians report U-Boats in the following positions :- 3rd May 71° 50' N. 33° 18' E, 71° 40' N. 34° 22' E. 70° 31' N. 34° 32' E, 71° 06' N. 33° 58' E, 71° 17' N. 34° 30' E. 4th May 70° 40' N. 31° 58' E, 71° 50' N. 34° 18' E, 71° 59' N. 34° 40' E, 71° 52' N. 29° 42' E.
(Ad. Miles 1706C/5.)

U-Boat
attacked.

Am over enemy submarine in 45° 12' N. 9° 4' W. Sub. on surface, course 360°. (A/C T.O.R. 1510/5.)
Am over enemy submarine in 44° 56' N. 9° 6' W. When first sighted was on a course 090°, speed 14.5 knots. (A/C 1520/5 to 19 Group.)
S/MS 45° 12' N. 9° 4' W. attacked. Courses 010°, 090° speeds 8 knots, times 1502, 1 (?5) 20. (A/C 1818/5 to 19 Group.)

Navigational.

Ice off
Jan Mayen.

Aircraft on R/C to Jan Mayen reports meeting edge of loose pack ice in 067° 40' N. 023° 10' W. A/C proceeded on N.Ely. course along edge of ice to 069° N. 16° 21' W. and followed edge direct from there to S.W. end of Jan Mayen. S.E. coast of Island free of ice. Northernmost section of N.W. coast ice bound. Narrow channel of open water between ice edge and southern section N.W. coast.
(A.C.I.C. 0246B/5.)

Bullock
Buoy.

Bullock Buoy reported approximately 2 miles eastward of charted position.
(V.A. Dover 1837B/5.)

Technical.

Calibration
Trials in
H.F.

Your 2253B/27. Party will arrive Thurso at 0750B/6.
(EXCELLENT 1009B/5 to C. in C. H.F.)

Casualties and Defects.

AMAZON.

E.T.A. Seidisfiord 1000B/5. BEVERLEY in company. AMAZON has 8 surgical cot cases urgently requiring hospital treatment. 5 days provisions also urgently required.
(AMAZON 0230B/5.)

Intend to sail for Greenock through Minches at 0800B/6.
E.T.A. 2200B/7.
(AMAZON 1755B/5.)
BULLDOG's 0215/4. AMAZON can be taken in hand forthwith for repairs at Elderslie, Govan.
(D.O.D.(H.) 2112B/5.)

/BRIGHTON ...

War Diary.5.5.1942
Tuesday.HOME COMMANDS.Casualties and Defects - contd.

BRIGHTON. Your 1928/30/4. Intend to sail BRIGHTON to arrive Clyde Boom at 0700/10. R.A.M. 0941/5.)
Your 0941/5. Concur.
(F.O.I.C. Glasgow 1516B/5 to R.A.M.)

TOWERFIELD. Cancel my 1217B/4. TOWERFIELD not ready for towing.
(C.C.R.T. 1203B/5 to F.O.I.C. Greenock.)

VOLUNTEER. F.O.I.C. Liverpool's 1026/5. ^{NT in W.D.} Owing to defects VOLUNTEER is not available.
(C. in C. W.A. 1555B/5.)

WOLVERINE. ^{NT in W.D.} My 1941B/2. Do not anticipate sailing WOLVERINE until p.m. 14th approx, owing to defects.
(C. in C. Plymouth 1603B/5.)

BOTAVON Sunk by Torpedo A/C in Convoy P.Q.15.
(British 5848 tons) sunk. See Shipping.

JUTLAND
(British 6153 tons) sunk.

CAPE CORSO
(British 3807 tons) sunk.

P.551 P.Q.15 Minesweepers Group 1 (? reports).
2 officers and 28 ratings from Polish H.M.
Submarine P.No 551 also (?saved)
(S.B.N.O. North Russia 1809B/5.) ^{See p.134}

Following now Murmansk and district awaiting passage to U.K.

- (a) 23 casualties ex EDINBURGH.
- (b) 20 casualties FORESIGHT, FORESTER.
- (c) 38 casualties Merchant Navy.
- (d) 64 Officers EDINBURGH.
- (e) 723 Ratings EDINBURGH.
- (f) 21 Officers and men Merchant Navy.
- (g) One Pole 7 Czechs.
- (h) 6 R.A.F. Officers, one sergeant.
- (j) 3 Officers 18 other ranks army.
- (k) One Officer 20 ratings ex SILJA. Total 946.

I⁴ NIGERIA not visiting Murmansk food situation remains difficult. Occupying bedding and other necessities for any other survivors also problem. I should like, therefore, to dispose of this large number of men as soon as possible without overcrowding H.M. ships.

(S.B.N.O. North Russia 1936B/3 to Admt. (R) C. in C. H.F.)

See 2/5 - p.71.

War Diary.

5.5.1942
Tuesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping and Convoys.

H.X.188

Task Unit 24.1.17 will join H.X. number 188 at Westomp.. (Comtask 24 0117/5 to Opanv.)

C.T.15.

Following ships sailed U.K.1/5 in convoy C.T.15. BANFORA with 2103 personnel for Halifax and U.S. MURRAY with 529 personnel for New York. Details. 2. My 1959/23/4 refers regarding future service of BANFORA. (D.S.T. 0444B/5.)

S.C.L.81.

When S.C.L.81 has left for Iceland report your P.C.S. to any escorts that have not already joined. (C. in C. W.A. 0913Z/5 to U.S. Destroyer LEARY.)

H.G.82.

H.G.82. Cancel my 1823/3. ^{N.T. & W.D.} Proceed forthwith towards 042° 59' N. 18° 59' W. (C. in C. W.A. 0928B/5 to LEITH.) Your 0928B/5. My P.C.S. 050° 47' N. 015° 58' W. 195°, 11½ knots. (LEITH 1052A/5 to C. in C. W.A.)

Independently routed ships.

Pass to N.C.S.Os. A.M. 1849B/4. Signals requesting routes for independently routed ships should indicate whether ship holds a Oneship Recoding Pad. (D.T.D. 1033B/5.)

LLANSTEPHAN CASTLE.
→ LEITH.
STONECROP
MYOSOTIS.
ALISMA.

My 0928/5. You are required to R/V LLANSTEPHAN CASTLE escorted by STONECROP and MYOSOTIS at 0600Z/7 in 040° 10' N. 018° 59' W. routed through position (c) 042° 59' N. 018° 59' W. and thence as in my 1038/5. Speed of advance 12 knots. (C. in C. W.A. 1040B/5 to LEITH.) My 1038/5 and my 1040/5. Detach ALISMA as convenient R/V during daylight 7th with LLANSTEPHAN CASTLE escorted by LEITH. ALISMA is to proceed to Londonderry on completion of escort duties and join B Seven. (C. in C. W.A. 1123B/5 to BLACK SWAN.)

Speed of B.B. convoys.

Commencing 11/5 the nominal speed of B.B. convoys will be 8 knots. 2. N.C.S.Os are to include any ships capable of maintaining this speed in B.B. convoys. 3. It is anticipated that this will entail a small addition to the number of H.M. convoys sailed. Should additional escorts other than those supplied by F.O.I.C. Milford Haven be thereby required N.O.I.C. Holyhead is to request F.O.I.C. Belfast to supply. (C. in C. W.A. 1238B/5.)

War Diary.5.5.1942
Tuesday.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping and Convoys - contd.Hvalfiord
and
Reykjavik.Request information as to maximum number of M/Vs which can conveniently be berthed (a) in Hvalfiord (b) off Reykjavik.
(D.T.D. 1802B/5 to A.C.I.C.)P.Q.15.
BOTAVON
JUTLAND
CAPE CORSO
sunk.
CAPE PALLISER
damaged.
P.551.

P.Q.15 Minesweepers Group 1 (?reports) BOTAVON, JUTLAND, CAPE CORSO sunk by torpedo aircraft. 136 survivors including Commodore arrived at Polyarno. 2 officers and 28 ratings from Polish H.M. Submarine P.No.551 also (?saved). (S.B.N.O. North Russia 1809B/5.) See p.132.

P.Q.15 arrived Murmansk. Regret to report loss of BOTAVON, JUTLAND, CAPE CORSO as a result of attack by six torpedo aircraft at 2327Z/2 in 73° N. 19° 40' E. Attack carried out in good conditions and A/C appeared to be led in well by leader who may not have carried torpedo. Indications that shadowing S/M surfaced and fired torpedoes at the same time. One aircraft destroyed and possibly one other. 136 survivors including Cdre. Convoy bombed at 2230Z/3 in 73° N. 31° 51' E. Minor damage from near miss to CAPE PALLISER only. One Junkers 88 shot down. Attack badly carried out and hampered by low cloud. Convoy continuously shadowed by one or (word omitted ?more) aircraft and one or more Submarines to 36 East. Submarines driven off successfully by screen forcing them to dive and firing depth charges in vicinity.

2. Note by War Registry:- Paragraph 2 has been given a limited Most Secret Distribution.

3. Ice dangerous to navigation met in 73° N. 35° E. to 72° 23' N. 36° 30' E. to 71° 35' N. 36° 30' E.
(S.O.1st M/S F. 2300B/5 to C. in C. H.F.)

Route
instructions.A.M. 1849B/4. The issue of alternative Routes is no longer necessary except for KAPRUTS. Fresh instructions. Details.
(D.T.D. 1942B/5.)Escorts for
P.Q.16 and
Q.P.11.

Provision of escorts for P.Q.16 is proving difficult and in order to make an adequate escort possible request following movements may be considered. BEAGLE to be used again for P.Q.16 to sail as early as practicable for rest port in U.K. CAMPANULA, SAXIFRAGE, OXLIP and SNOWFLAKE to be sailed as early as possible to U.K. to release four other Corvettes from mid ocean groups for P.Q.16. This may entail the onward escort of Q.P.11 being provided by Home Fleet.
(A.C.N.S. (H.) 2120B/5 to C. in C. H.F., C. in C. W.A.)

S.L.B.107

Request you will sail MAN O'WAR to meet S.L.B. 107 slow in position A. 055° 35' N. 007° W. at 0900Z/6.
(N.O.I.C. Liverpool 2302Z/5.)

/BELRAY ...

War Diary.

5.5.1942
Tuesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping and Convoys - contd.

BELRAY
BELPAREIL
BELNOR.

Cancel A.M.1929B/22/7/41 and substitute :-
The M.Vs BELRAY, BELPAREIL and BELNOR are
peculiarly valuable vessels owing to their
ability to lift heavy and awkward cargo.

2. These ships are not to be sailed in the
Mediterranean or in the Atlantic North of 5° S. except in
convoy or with a special escort of at least one A/S vessel.
(D.T.D. 2343B/5.)

HAVSTEN.

Have sailed oiler HAVSTEN escorted by MACBETH
to Seidisfiord to top up OLIGARCH.
(A.C.I.C. 2357B/5 to Admty.)

War Diary.5.5.1942.
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Raiders.

Intelligence.A.M.2005B/28/4. 1. Following additional ships overdue may be Raider casualties.
 TREDINNICK due Capetown 21/4/42 from New York.
 CONNECTICUT due Capetown 26/4/42 from Port Arthur.
 Total number of overdue ships since 1/3 1942 which may have been Raider casualties in South Atlantic is now 9.
 Of these, 2 overdue between Durban and Montevideo are unlikely to have been U-Boat casualties as no evidence of U-Boat activity south of 10° S during period.
 Estimated that Raider E could have operated south of 10° S since early February, Raider H since early April.
 2. QQQQ received from MENELAUS at 0936B/1/5 in 25° 16' S 13° 23' W. Not yet cancelled. (D.D.I.C.*1654B/5 to A.I.G. 13 etc.) * Approved by A.C.N.S.(F)

North Atlantic.

Exercises. My 0053/4 sailed for exercise, ARGUS, CHARYBDIS, PARTRIDGE, VIDEFTE, GEORGETOWN, SALISBURY, ITHURIEL. (F.O.C.N.A. 0532A/5 to Admty.)
 My 0532A/5. Ships returned from exercises. F.O.C.N.A. 1756A/5 to Admty.)

Sunderlands AX.645 5/5. Following West African Sunderlands West Africa now in U.K. are required to reinforce 202 Sqdn. Operation for operation "Bower" leaving U.K. p.m. 7/5. "Bowery". T.9040 and L.5805. A/C should continue to West Africa on completion of Operation. (Air Min. 0945/5 to C.C. (R) Gibraltar, West Africa. Admty.)
 Ops. 501 5/5. Your A.645 5/5. Request if possible Sunderlands should leave U.K. p.m. 6/5 or a.m. 7/5. Operation begins p.m. 7/5. (R.A.F. Gibraltar G.H.Q. 1700/5 G.M.T. to M.J.I. Air Min. Whitehall. (R) H.Q.C.C.)

Gibraltar Your 13811 of 2/5. Following from C.O.S.
 Fortress 1. You will henceforth and until further orders & Vichy engage under all circumstances with all the forces Warships. at your command the RICHELIEU and JEAN BART should they attempt to pass into Med.
 2. You will not engage other Vichy men-of-war.
 3. You may employ any transit A/C in a state to engage. (Air Min. 1024Z/5 to Govr. and C. in C. Gibraltar.)

ERGO. My 1546A/20/4. ERGO at Lagos (Portugal) discharging and for sale to Portuguese or Swiss only. Swiss already interested. (B.N.A. Lisbon 1124B/5 to F.O.C.N.A. (R) Admty.)

Movements. Arrival 1031 LOCH OSKAIG. Depature 1045 SCOTTISH for Y1. (F.O.C.N.A. 1131A/5 to Admty.)

5.5.1942.
Tuesday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic. Contd.

P.42. (a) P.42 requires docking to (?repair) A/S dome.
 CLYDE. (b) CLYDE now in dock, completed about 14/5.
 UNBEATEN. (c) UNBEATEN in dock until about 18/5.
 (II) In view of possibility of movement of
 (?cargo) ships through Straits intend retaining
 P.42 until situation clears and dock is available.
 (III) If essential for P.42 to proceed eastward as soon as
 possible CLYDE could be undocked now and P.42 taken in hand
 but this would leave no S/M available at Gibraltar. (F.O.C.N.A.
 1136B/5 to Admty. C. in C. Med. V.A. Malta.) No objection to
 II. (C. in C. Med. 1233C/7.)

U/B. At 0335Z/5 German U/Boat made message of 95
 groups T.O.O. 0431/5 signal was repeated back by
 MMA at 0347 as 0431/5/202. (F.O.C.N.A. 1146A/5
 to Admty. for D.N.I.)

Situation Report. Situation 2005A/5. Area Y. S.L.108 028° 38'
 022° 20' 353° 7 S.O. EGRET.
 2. 3735 (No trace of No. from Warship Index.)
 3 trawlers 3 tugs 1 ferry 35° 55' 27° 47' 162° 7.
 3. GLENGYLE 42° 10' 27° 23' 036° 16.
 (F.O.C.N.A. 1302A/5 to S and As. N.A. Station.)

PHILANTE. C. in C. W.A. (?17)51B/3. My position 031° 12'
 N 023° (?29') W. E.T.A. Ponta Delgada 1700Z/6.
 Require 40 tons diesel oil 50 tons fresh drinking
 water. (PHILANTE. 1337Z/5 to ? F.O.C.N.A. ?(R)
 Admty. C. in C. W.A.)

Following is a repetition of my 1732/5 addressed B.C. Ponta
 Delgada etc. C. in C. W.A. 1751/3. Request arrangements be
 made to supply 40 tons diesel oil and 50 tons fresh water to
 PHILANTE whose E.T.A. Ponta Delgada is 1700Z/6. (F.O.C.N.A.
 1734A/5 to PHILANTE. C. in C. W.A. Admty.) (W.R. Note Re
 requested escort for VOLTURNO and TIMBUCTOO)

Malta Smoke. F.O.C.N.A. 1408B/5. See Mediterranean.

Bombing restrictions. Request total bombing restrictions in areas:

Area.	From.	Until.
G 26	0100/8	0400/9
G 17	2200/8	0030/10
G 16	1830/9	1000/10
G 13	0400/10	1400/10
G 14	0800/10	0200/11

All times zone minus 2. (F.O.C.N.A. 1436B/5 to
 Admty. (R) F.O.S.)

VELOX. Following is repetition of my 1646/5 addressed
 B.C. Ponta Delgada (R) B.N.A. Lisbon, Admty.
 VELOX. R.A.W.A.F. F.O.C.N.A.
 Request arrangements be made for supply about 200 tons fuel and
 160 pounds bread to VELOX whose E.T.A. Ponta Delgada is 0100A/8.
 (F.O.C.N.A. 1650A/5 to VELOX. R.A. West Africa. Admty.)

War Diary.5.5.1942.
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic. - Contd.S/Ms
Gibraltar.

2 (French ?) (W.R. Note: Only 2 figures received Group subject to correction.) Submarines escorted by surface craft will pass through Straits eastwards about midday 9/5. (A.N.A. Madrid 1901/5 to F.O.C.N.A. (R) Admty.)

South Atlantic.Shipping
at
Freetown.

The number of seagoing merchant vessels in harbour has been reduced to 22. This number will rapidly increase, I intend therefore to continue sailing South bound ships over 12 knots except loaded tankers independently. (R.A. West Africa 0937/5 to Admty. (R) C. in C. S.A.)

MANGKALIHAT.
Mined.

MANGKALIHAT damaged by mine and brought into Capetown. Cargo being discharged. (P.S.T.O. Simonstown 1223B/5 to D. of S.T. (R) P.S.T.O. India. C. in C. E.I.)

Air R/C
Dakar.

My 0103Z/4. Following further remarks from R.A.F. On closer examination of photographs it appears very probable that torpedo booms round RICHELIEU are still in position but shimmer in water makes definite statement impossible. 7 S/Ms are now seen to be present and not 5 possibly 6 as previously stated. Merchant shipping (details) (D) Dakar Omakam aerodrome possibly 42 A/C visible including 15 possibly 16 Glen Martins and 23 small single engined A/C. (R.A. West Africa 1310Z/4 to Admty. (R) F.O.C.N.A.)

Following received from Bathurst (Begins) "Sortie at approx. 0845/5 showing (?in) Dakar harbour only Moles 1, 2, 3 southern portion of arsenal De La Marine and tip of Northern entrance to Mole are covered on one rather hazy small scale plot. Battleship RICHELIEU 2 "Gallisoniere" Class cruisers, 2 "Fantasque" Class destroyers and destroyer L'AUDACIEUX are still present in same positions as on 3/5 no statement possible as to whether torpedo booms are still in position round RICHELIEU. S/M base not covered (preceding groups doubtful) and no statement on S/Ms possible. Merchant ships (details) Ouakam aerodrome 41 A/C visible including 1 Potez 540 15 medium T/E A/C 1 Potez 25 2 (preceding group is doubtful) 23s all S/E A/C and 1 Caudron Goeland" Ends. (R.A. West Africa 2207Z/5 to Admty. F.O.C.N.A.)

W.S.18.

Inclusion of American transport AGWILEON has reduced S of A of W.S.18 by 3 knots thus adding 2½ days on voyage to Capetown and 3 days to Durban.

War Diary.5.5.1942.
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic.

W.S.18. 2. Difficult water situation in troop ships will
Contd. be aggravated by this delay and Cdre. considers
 situation serious.

3. Propose (A) that in about 12° (7S) convoy should proceed at
14 knots AGWILEON proceeding independently to Capetown at best
speed about 11 knots escorted by TETCOTT.
(B) VAN GALEN to remain with W.S.18 instead of parting company
in St. Helena area.
(C) (?MORRIS DANCE) ALBATROSS and VAN GALEN escort Capetown
portion and GAMBIA escort Durban portion when convoy splits.

4. P.C. and S of W.S.18 at 1200Z/5 001° 02' N 013° 11' W 153°
11 knots. (GAMBIA 1315Z/5 to C. in C. S.A. (R) Admty. R.A. West
Africa.)

Overdue shipping. TINTERN due Durban 29/4 from Aden not arrived.
 U.S. MISSOURIAN departed Kilindini 12/4 for
 Lourenco Marques via Kilwa and Mikindani not
 arrived. (S.O.I. Capetown 1450Z/5 to Admty.
 C. in C. S.A. N.C.S.O. Durban, Lourenco Marques.)

EMPIRE My 1456Z/5. Not received in W.D. EMPIRE FULMAR
FULMAR. expected sailing 0600 6/5 for Trinidad. Honolulu
 23/6. Route. (N.C.S.O. Durban 1456Z/5 to Admty.
 Ottawa, Bermuda, Jamaica.)

ABDIEL. Your 1633/28/4. Request you will report what
 outstanding work will be necessary on boiler of
 ABDIEL to make ship fully operational, when
 repairs to shafting are completed. (D.O.D. (F)
 1528B/5 to Cdre. I.C. Durban. C. in C. E.F.
 C. in C. E.I. C. in C. S.A. ABDIEL.)

Movements 2000Z/5 Area Q. MILFORD, SOUTHERN GEM, SOUTHERN
Summary. PRIDE on patrol in False Bay.
 DIDO from Takoradi 19 knots. E.T.A. Simonstown
 1400Z/6.
 CILICIA off Capetown to Tristan Da Cunha.
 (C. in C. S.A. 1734B/5 to S.A. Station Sqdn. (R)
 Admty.)

RUNITSA QQQQ SS. RUNITSA 12° 50' S 41° 56' E suspicious
"Q" vessel approaching, de V.P.Q. (Ascension W/T
Report. 1830/5 to Freetown W/T.)

U/B Hudson reports sighting S/M in 25° 38' N 14° 58'
sighted W at 1105/5 on course 135°. When 2 miles from
by A/C. A/C S/M crash dived. (R.A. West Africa 2304Z/5
 to Admty. F.O.C.N.A.)

U/Bs. Crew of American A/C on landing at Accra 5/5
sighted made following report (Begins) sighted more than
by A/C. 25 S/Ms some very large 15 miles off shore near
 Abijan and Grand Bassam. Time 1430 to 1500
 assembled on water over distance 50 miles. 5
 crash dived on sight 2 fired on A/C (Ends) (R.A. West Africa
 2304Z/5 to Admty. C. in C. S.A. F.O.C.N.A.)

War Diary.5.5.1942.
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean.

- P.35 defect. Starboard engine broken down, returning to Malta, E.T.A. 2030/6.
(P.35 0050B/5 to Capt.(S) 10.(R) V.A.Malta, C.in C. Med. Capt. (S) 1).
P.35 0050/5. If P.35 can complete defects in time to keep R/V she should be sent. If not she should be sailed for Alexandria when ready. (C.in C. Med. 1635C/5., to S.O.(S) Malta (R) Admty etc.).
- Movements. Departure 4/5 M/L 1048 Turkish submarine* P.611.
Arrival 5/5 PORPOISE, P.31.
(S.O.I. Alexandria, 1051C/15 to C.in C.Med.etc.).
*ORUC REIS.
- Cositrep No. 347. 4/5 (2) Air. Bad weather hampered night and prevented day operations.
(C.in C. M.E., 1055/5).
- TRITON. Proceed direct to 035° 51' 015° 15' and through 036° 00' 014° 53' to arrive Malta p.m. 9/5.
Attention drawn to Q BB's 223 and 229. Approach to harbour to be made submerged adjusting speed to surface in position 064° Saint Elmo Light 1 mile at 2045B (?proceeding on surface) if red flag is not flying at Palace Tower signal station. Weather permitting boat will meet you between entrance and position given..
(V.A. Malta. 1152B/5 to Gr. S/M TRITON).
- S/M Cdr. for Turkey. B.N.A. Ankara 1628 30/4 Circulated with T.O.O. 1635/30 (Repetition of 1628/30). If these proposals are accepted request that officer may be sent from U.K. as none suitable are available in the Mediterranean.
(C.in C.Med., 1231C/5, to Admty.(R) N.A. Ankara).
- DERNA (Italian). Arrival 5th.
(Barcelona 1305/5 to M.W.T.).
- GIOVANNI DELLE BANDE NERE sunk by URGE 1/4. It now appears from latest information and evidence of C.O. that cruiser sunk by URGE on 1/4 was GIOVANNI DELLE BANDE NERE.
(C.in C Med., 1315C/5, to Admty) / V.A.Malta's 2317/1/4 refers.
- SUDANI Egyptian SUDANI wrecked near Ishaila rocks Jan. 1941 since reported broken in 2 and unsalvable. Is there any objection to wreck being used as target by Naval Authorities?
(P.S.T.O., Port Said, 1326C/5. to D.S.T.)

/Smoke

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Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean.

Smoke
Defence,
Malta. Admty 1644B/20/4. Only about 7 tons of smoke
containers can be embarked.
(2) Ship has 2 unloading points each side and one
under stern.
(3) Unloading would be expedited by plenty of
unskilled labour and 10 shipwrights for break out
cargoes.
(F.O.C.N.A., 1408B/5. to V.A. Malta (R) Admty.)

LEKOS. My 1825B/ 27/3. LEKOS expected to arrive
Istanbul next ?72 hours B.4.
(S.O.I., Istanbul. 1528C/5. to S.O.I. Med.(R)D.N.I.)

UNA Capt (S) 10 1055/4. Proceed through 032° 23' 028°
46' to arrive Alex. searched channel 0530 C/13.
(Capt. S.I., 1811C/5., to UNA (R) S/Ms. on Patrol etc)

Malta Air I.267 5/5 C.S.R. 4th. My I.265. Elsewhere
Report. severe damage R.A.O.C. M/T Depot 2 alerts 1401 (?1421) 1543 hours, approx. 30 ME. 109's, some
carrying bombs, 8 Macchi 202's 6 JU.88's, 5 Cant
1007B. Hal Far, 1 Swordfish damaged, craters
dispersals. Grand Harbour, 1 oil lighter sunk.
1 ME. 109 probably destroyed by 8 Spitfires. 1 Spitfire shot
down pilot killed. Another Spitfire damaged in combat A/A
damaged 1 JU.88 Night 4/5. 2055 to 2202 hours 4 raiders, bombs
land sea, no damage, A/A fired. 5th 5 alerts 0540 1005 1316
1335 1440, 15 ME. 109's on patrol 1 unidentified bomber dropped
bombs sea. Spitfires escorted incoming P.R.U. Spitfire.
Light A/A fired.
Part 2. Deliveries 4th, 3 Blenheims 1 Beaufort 2 P.R.U. Spitfires
2 Wellingtons ex Gibraltar arrived, 1 Spitfire damaged on
landing, 1 Wellington crash landed write off, crew safe. 2
Wellingtons 3 Blenheims 1 Beaufort left same night Middle East.
(H.Q.R.A.F.; M.E., 1826GMT/5)

U/B My 1818/4R.O.Cartagena (Spain) reports.
Cartagena. (1) U Boat entered dry dock morning 4/5 for
U.573. (corrupt group). Capt 29 years old. Crew very
young.
(2) Damage believed due to explosion of bombs or depth charges
dropped by aircraft between Palma(Majorca) and Alicante.
(3) U Boat was outside Cartagena at 0800/2 but Spanish
Authorities did not give permission to enter until 1315 same day.
(4) She came in at low speed under own power and not towed in as
previously stated.
(5) 3 of crew taken in Military Hospital with burns caused by
dynamo.
(6) Crew not allowed ashore.
(7) Only picked workmen from Dockyard allowed on board.
(8) (9) 6 to 7 required for repairs.
(A.N.A. Madrid. 2357/5, to Admty.(R) F.O.C.N.A.)

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5.5.1942.
Tuesday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies.General.Air
Report.

A.337 4/5 Intelligence Summary No.50 on information received up to 1800 hours 4/5. Burma. Akyab 3/5 town bombed by 27 aircraft at 0830 hrs, 6 single engined aircraft machine gunned shipping on foreshore 1245 hours (?no) details of either attack yet received. Night of 3- 4/5. 2 G.17's of U.S.A.A.C. dropped bombs on docks at Rangoon large explosion and fire caused. 4/5, 6 Blenheims attacked barges on the Irrawaddy river. 3 direct hits obtained and remainder of bombs in target area. Bay of Bengal 3/5 Hudson R/C Araoan Coast negative. (A.H.Q. India 0030/5 G.M.T.).

Italian
Repatriations.

Received 2330 G.M.T. De ICOF. Nr. 1 26 1016 G.M.T. VULCANIA. Pass to Admiralty noon position VULCANIA SATURNIA 4/5 12.42.N. 50.30 E. course 253° speed 16.5 knots - E.T.A. Berbera 0500 G.M.T. /5 S.B.N.O. VULCANIA. (Portishead Radio, 0130/5 to Admiralty). VULCANIA and SATURNIA may have to wait Berbera for arrival fuelling tanker expected 23/5. You should notify P.S.T.O. Egypt and Naval C. in C. E.I as soon as embarkation repatriates is completed on these two ships. (W.O. 1315/5 to East Africa Command for Political, (R) C. in C. M.E. for Minstate).

Shipping
Control
Reports.

For N.C.S.O and routeing officers (1) In order to assist in control and diversion of ships bound Portuguese E.Africa South Africa or round the Cape routeing authorities are in future to make 2 route signals.

(2) First signal will contain ships not bound for the places mentioned. 2nd route signal is to be marked with same serial number as first with suffix C.

(3) 2nd signal is to contain only ships bound for the places mentioned and is to be addressed to all usual addressees plus S.O.(I) Capetown.

(4) Cape signal is also to contain 3 double letters reference position to indicate the outer end of Durban, ~~Simonstown~~ and Capetown searched channels but it will be sufficient name port against the letter.

(5) Both routes signals should always contain code held by ship.

(6) If a routeing authority has no ship for South Africa a nil signal is not required.

(C in C.E.I. 0421Z/5 to E.I.Stn.(R) - Admty. S.O.(I) Capetown. C. in C. S.A., F.O.C.R.S.F.).

HOBANG.

Reported by Jardine Skinner, Calcutta, following casualty believed not previously reported HOBANG. BEMB, damaged at Singapore and abandoned aground at Palembang 13"2. No casualties reported. (S.N.S.O. Bombay 0614Z/5 to Admty (R) C. in C.E.I)

/Movements...

5.5.1942.
Tuesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies - Contd.

- Movements. Arrival 0746Z CERES with TALMA. Departure 1146. ATMOSPHERE and BILLOW in company for Bahrein.
(S.O.I. Bombay 1246Z/5 to Admty. F.O.C.R.I.N. etc).
- Mines for Aircraft. A.M.1817 30. Preparation of A mine can now be carried out at Calcutta at Trincomalee and in M I S PROME.
(? ii) PROME's movements as M I S for moored mines are likely to conflict with preparation of mines for an aircraft minelaying offensive and provision of a second M I S would be invaluable.
(Dep. C. in C. E.F., 1302Z/5, to C. in C. E.F., (R) Admty.).
- M.P.R.I. Following received from OPNAV.
Amendment number I to M.P.R.I. (Quoted) 1645/2 (Ends)
(D.T.D.1523B/5 to C. in C. E.I., C. in C.E.F.)
- Air Report. A.901 5/5
Intelligence summary No.51 on information received up to 1800 hours 5/5.
Bay of Bengal air support provided for convoy evacuating Akyab 4/5 Hudson R/C Katubdia to Oyster Island 4/5 no enemy sighting.
(A.H.Q. India. 1710/5 G.M.T.)
- ANNITSA. Following received from Aden, Addressed All
"Q" Report. ships taking part in group N. Following received
QQQQ S.S.ANNITSA 1250 S. 41.56 E. Suspicious vessel approaching.
(Nore W/T 1830/5).
- Mombasa. Port Executive Committee for Mombasa should be established as soon as possible on lines successfully adopted in Middle East, West Africa and elsewhere. Details.
(S. of S. for Colonies, 2045/5 to Govr. Kenya).

War Diary.5.5.1942.
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies. conts:Occupation of Madagascar.

Operation "Ironclad". The attack on Diego Suarez began at 0214 this morning, covered by Eastern Fleet. (D.O.R., 970).

The naval force off the island is commanded by Rear-Adm. E.N. Syfret, C.B. The military force, which consists of regular troops and a small contingent of special service troops, is commanded by Major-Gen. R.G. Sturges, C.B., R.M. (Admty. Press communique, 5/5).

Windsor Castle Battery captured, landing proceeding. (S.O. Force F., 0555C/5 to Admty (R) C. in C. E.F.)

My 0555. Little opposition was encountered. Number 8 Battery apparently non-existent. Hangars reported full of aircraft, bombed and on fire. Advance continuing. Nothing larger than sloops seen in harbour.

(S.O. Force F., 0659C/5 to Admty (R) C. in C. E.F.)

French Defence Instructions. Information from (?Consular Office) Mauritius. (1) At 0840C/5 G.O.C. Madagascar informed O.C. troops Majunga, Tamatave, Tribunal, Fort Dauphin, Fianarantsoa, of attack by British forces on Diego Suarez and instructed them to be in readiness for all eventualities.

(2) Tamatave subsequently instructed to requisition lorries for D/M (S.I.C.) and informed that G.O.C. had put defence schemes into operation.

(Dep. C. in C. E.F., 0928Z/5 to C. in C. E.F., S.O. Force F., (R) Admty).

Communications. Broadcast S.L. has been unreadable since 0324Z/5. Nothing heard on special (?Jacob) broadcast since 1808Z/4. Request messages for Force F may be routed via group V.

(S.O. Force F., 0937Z/5 to C. in C. S.A., Cdre. Durban, (R) Admty. C. in C. E.F.)

British Advance. Advance proceeding according to plan. At 1100 leading troops North and South of Welsh Bay 002343 and 993255. Casualties believed very slight and little opposition. 7 A/C lost, fate of crews unknown. Governor General in reply to my communication signified intention not to yield.

(S.O. Force F., 0941Z/5 to Admty (R) C. in C. E.F.)

Diego Suarez Radio. At 0632Z/5, following message was transmitted to Diego Suarez by Toulon:-

"To commandant Marine, Diego Suarez, extreme urgency, NR 4483, Bien recu votre 1282. La Marine entiere a les yeux fixees sur les defenseurs de Diego. 0555/5/5. Amiraute Francaise".

Diego Suarez Radio had ceased to transmit at 0429/5.

(R.A. West Africa, 1027/5 to C. in C. S.A. (R) Admty).

Comment. Diego Suarez was not heard in U.K. between 0453 and 1508Z, at 1650Z D.S. W/T station broke down while passing a cypher message to Toulon.

5. 5. 1942.
Tuesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies. cont'd:

Occupation of Madagascar. (cont'd):

Diego Suarez Radio. My 1027Z/5. Diego Suarez was still in communication with Toulon at 2017Z. (R.A. West Africa, 2105Z/5 to C. in C. S.A. (R) Admty).

Eastern Fleet. After completing air search to eastwards about 0700Z/6 from position 090° Cape Amber (110?) miles, intend to return Kilindini for fuel and water, providing you have no requirements for my force. (2) Acknowledge. (C. in C. E.F., 1227Z/5 to S.O. Force F., (R) Admty., Dep. C. in C. E.F.)

Oilers. On completion of refuelling of Force F stock furnace oil in DERWENTDALE and EASEDALE will be exhausted. Request another oiler may be sent to provide for further operations. (S.O. Force F., 1247Z/5 to C. in C. S.A. (R) Admty. etc).

S/M and Sloop Sunk, AURICULA mined. Aerodrome bombed again and 3 newly arrived Morane fighters, which had previously machine gunned beaches, were destroyed. (2) One S/M in harbour sunk no signs of other S/Ms yet. Sloop bombed and beached in Diego Suarez harbour.*
(3) AURICULA mined, still afloat, extent of damage not yet ascertained.
(4) Diego Suarez north captured by number 5 Commando.
(5) 29th Brigade reached 066255, 4 tanks destroyed by 75s. Attack on Antsirane now proceeding. (S.O. Force F., 1315Z/5 to Admty (R) C. in C. E.F.)
* Vessels sunk were S/M BEVEZIERES and aux. cruiser BOUGAINVILLE. (Vichy announcement, The Times, 7/5).

S.A.A.F. (?) For Melville First Aid Portion S.A.A.F. Force arrived Lindi. (N.O.I.C. Durban, 1601Z/5 to S.O. Force F).

French Intercepts. From censor message number J.0808 O.C. Troops Fianarantsoa instructed by O.C. Troops Madagascar to "apply measure number 5 of Memento at 0800 tomorrow for odd 2 reservist company". In later message number J.0809 first part of which is corrupt G.O.C. in Chief Madagascar instructs O.C. Troops Tamatave to apply plan for security as from 16 hours Madagascar time. (Capt. O.S. Colombo, 1742Z/5 to C. in C. E.F., S.O. Force F., (R) Admty).

War Diary.

5.5.1942.
Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies.

U/B
Reports.

Intercepted 2205 G.M.T. de NSS. WGBC 1 V NAA O S/M attack 25.30 N 83.45 W at 2350 G.C.T./4. 0018/5.

Intercepted 2215 G.M.T. de NSS. WGBC 1 V NAA O S/M sighted 35.28 N 74.48 W. at 0300Z. 0532/5.

Intercepted 2210 G.M.T. de NSS. WGBC 1 V NAA O S/M attack 16.40 N 65.12 W at 2035Z. 0608/5.

Intercepted 2226 G.M.T. de NSS. WGBC 1 V NAA O S/M sighted 27.23 N 80.06 W at 0554. Also 29.15 80.56 W at 0557. S/M attacks 27.04 N 80.02 W at 0300. 25.13 N 84.47 W at 0610. 25.39 84.47 W at 0645. All times Z. 1109/5.

Intercepted 2226 G.M.T. de NSS. WGBC 1 V NAA O S/M sighted 29.04 80.48 W at 1645 G.C.T./5. 1714/5.

Intercepted 2218 G.M.T. de NSS. WGBC 1 V NAA O S/M sighted 36.54 N 74.58 W at 1940Z/5. * (Burnham Radio T.O.O. as given after each intercept, to C. in C. W.A.) * 2025/5.

JOSEPH M. CUDAHY.
MOKIHANA.
1 other ship.

Following from Jamaica. From Caracas, JOSEPH M. CUDAHY torpedoed 65 miles N.W. Tortugas 2350 G.M.T. reported from Key West 1900. From SS. MOKIHANA 1825 Caracas time, abandon ship 16° N 65° W, sinking, taken to lifeboats, 2106/4 B.A.D. pass to Cominch and Opnav. (Navycom, Bermuda. 0052P/5 to Admty.)

Intercepted 0133 G.M.T. SSSS JOSEPH M CUDAHY tanker torpedoed 65 miles N.W. of Tortugas at 2350 G.M.T./4. Controlling Station Hialeah Florida Radio - Portishead Radio. (Curacao Radio 0345/5 to Admty.)

Following ships are reported torpedoed: SS. MOKIHANA 16.40 N 65.12 W at 2016Z, also unidentified merchant ship 07.00 N 58.00 W at 2100Z D/F indicates enemy unit within 200 miles of 12.00 N 57.30 W at 0249Z. (C. in C. U.S. Fleet 0705/5 to C. in C. Atlantic Fleet. (U.S.) C.E.S.F. Admty. N.S.H.Q. C.O.A.C. F.O.N.F. C. in C. A.W.I.)

BRANDON.

Unable to continue search due to lack of fuel. My P.C and S 0100Z/5. 043° 20' N 059° 10' W 290° 13. E.T.A. Halifax 1600Z/5. Weather report. (BRANDON 0150Z/5 to C.O.A.C. Halifax (R) KENOGAMI. C.T.24. Opnav. Admty. F.O.N.F. C. in C. W.A. N.S.H.Q. C.T.24.7.) *See p. 151 (Movements.)*

U/B
fixes
by D/F.

Within 100 miles 45° N 55° W at 2146Z/4. (N.S.H.Q. Ottawa 0327Z/5.)

TRINIDAD.

Ref. C.A.F.O. 357/42. Details of repairs required (TRINIDAD 0437/5 to B.A.R.M.)

/Movement...

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War Diary.5.5.1942.
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies - Contd.

Movement Summary.	1800 G.M.T./5.	Ship.	Position.	Course.	Speed.
		Convoy A.T.15	47°N 47½°W	056°	13
		C.T.F.38			
		AVENGER			
		Convoy A.T.15)	51°N 35½°W	251°	13
		C.T.U.21.6.3)			
		GLASGOW	38½°N 69°W	295°	16½
		GLENGYLE.	42°N 27½°W	036°	16
		(D.O.D.(F) 0820Z/5 to Opnav. (R) Comnaveau)			
EASTERN SWORD. PARNAHYBA.	N.C.S.O. Georgetown 1715/4.	1st ship mentioned was EASTERN SWORD (U.S.) 2nd PARNAHYBA previously reported torpedoed 1/5. (C. in C. A.W.I. 0923P/5 to Admty. B.A.D. S.O.I. Kingston, C. in C. U.S. Fleet, Opnav, N.S.H.Q.)			
SASKATOON.	E.T.A. Halifax 2100Z/5.	Boiler hours number one 597 hours number two 597 hours. (SASKATOON 1030Z/5 to C.T.F.24. (R) Opnav etc.) <i>See p.151 - (These entries.)</i>			
SAN RAFAEL.	Grand Cayman reports arrival Cayman Brac 4/5 (?)	8 survivors Dominican SAN RAFAEL torpedoed noon 3/5 between Cayman Brac and Jamaica. 3 boats with Master and 30 men adrift. Further report awaited. (S.O.I. Kingston 1201R/5 to Admty. etc.) Ref. 1201R/5. Ship sunk 45 miles S by W Little Cayman. No news of missing boats. (S.O.I. Kingston 2056R/5 to Admty. etc.)			
Italian repatriations.	Position of TAIGETE and ARCOLA at noon 5/5 11.37	N 63.43 W course 271° speed 11.6 knots. S.B.N.O. TAIGETE. (Barbados Radio 1210/5 to Admty.) E.T.A. of TAIGETE and ARCOLA at Curacao 2030 G.M.T./6. S.B.N.O. TAIGETE. (Barbados 1830/5 to Admty.)			
ESPERANCE BAY. ADRASTUS.	Your 1730R/4 to Admty only.	ESPERANCE BAY and ADRASTUS should be sailed independently using either Windward or Mona Passage depending on U/B situation. (D.T.D. 1214B/5 to C.S.A. Colon)			
French Shipping.	IMERETHIE II passed Gibraltar Westbound 7/4.	Mail to Martinique addressed to this ship has been intercepted at Trinidad. Mail addressed to French ship CANCALAIS at Martinique also intercepted at Trinidad. (S.O.I. Kingston 1221R/5 to Admty. etc.)			
BRITISH WORKMAN.	Straggler from O.N.89 with engine trouble	torpedoed in 44.08 N 51.33 W and sank. C.Bs. thrown overboard in weighted box and observed to sink by Master. My 1343/5 with names of casualties follows. (N.C.S.O. St. John's N.F. 1342Z/5 to Admty. (R) N.S.H.Q.)			

/S.C.83...

War Diary.5.5.1942.
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies - Contd.

S.C.83. S.C.83. Halifax reports about 34 ships routed to Iceland (C). Only 5 or 6 for unloading Reykjavik others for Russians Ports. Request number of Russia bound ships can be accommodated so that arrangements can be made for remainder to have destination changed to U.K. (Opnav 1400/5 to C.T.G. No. 24.6. (R) Admty. C.O.A.C.)

BURNHAM 5/5 BURNHAM, VANCOLITE, ALAR, Norwegian, BRITAMER escort of Norwegian, 21 Caripito via Trinidad 16/5. (Route) tankers. (B.R.O. New York 1525Z/5 to Admty.)
New York arrived 1600Z/5 BURNHAM. (N.S.H.Q. 2115Z/5 to Admty. (R) Opnav etc.)

My 1640/4 BURNHAM sailed New York 2232Z/5 escorting VANCOLITE, ALAR, and BRITAMER. (N.S.H.Q. 2258Z/5 to Admty. (R) C. in C. A.W.I. Opnav. B.A.D. C.O.A.C. C.C.N.F. C. in C. Atlantic Fleet. C.E.S.F. C. in C. U.S. Fleet.)

Shipping S.N.O. Kingston P/T S.O.(I) Kingston also sent Gulf of to C.E.S.F.C.P.S.F. C.G.S.F. C.C.S.F. (R) C. in Mexico. C. Atlantic Fleet, Admty. etc.
Amendment 10 to Macri 2nd edition in sec.2 para 2 delete sub para. 1. M/Vs in Gulf of Mexico shall run completely darkened also zigzag during daylight and moonlight. (Opnav 1547/5 to Admty. etc)

CALDWELL. Intend sailing CALDWELL escorting SS. CITIES SERVICE FUEL and SS. BRAAMSEA to Bermuda to refuel thence to Halifax arriving 2000Z/17. E.T.A. Bermuda 1200Z/13. S of A 9 knots. Fuel required 280 tons, fresh water 30 tons. N.O.B. pass to Comcaribb. (N.O.I.C. Trinidad 1552Q/5 to C. in C. A.W.I. (R) N.S.H.Q. etc.)

Shipping Your 1103P/4. U.S.C.N.O. 1901/17/3 and 1647/9/4 Routes. were promulgated in A.M. 1725A/19/3 and 1738B/10/4 respectively to British authorities concerned. These instructions will be included in M.A.R.I. (2) M.A.C.R.I. second edition has not yet been received. On perusal after receipt M.A.R.I. will be amended if necessary. (D.T.D. 1608B/5 to C. in C. A.W.I. (R) N.S.H.Q. etc.)

U/B Intercepted 1407 G.M.T. de NAA WGBC 1 de NAA 0 Report. S/M attack 0700 N, 58.00 W at 2100Z 050612. Controlling station Arlington Va. Radio. (Portishead Radio No T.O.O./5 Recd. 1630/5.)

Coastal Your 2105Z/29/4 para. 4. It is certain that a Tanker 3 day cycle will only take a proportion of the Convoys. coastal shipping. It is noted that this coastal convoy is to be a 10-knot convoy. Our definition of a 10-knot convoy is that it is limited to

/ships...

War Diary.5.5.1942.
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies.Coastal
Tanker
Convoys.
Contd.

ships which expect to be able to maintain a speed of 10 knots on forthcoming voyage under moderate weather conditions (that is, moderate sea; wind force 4 on Beaufort scale) having regard to her present condition (that is, trim, draught, state of bottom, state of machinery, quality of bunkers.)

Please ascertain from Navy Dept. exactly what is their interpretation of a 10-knot convoy as, under our definition, all British tramps and a large proportion of liners would be excluded. (D.T.D. 1631B/5 to B.A.D.)

Escort of
Tankers,
Caribbean.

Personal for 1st. S.L. from Adm. King. Proposal in your 2120B/4 satisfactory as temporary expedient. We hope to be able to provide better coverage in Caribbean Sea when general situation as to escort in that area can be bettered. (C. in C. U.S. Fleet 1645/5 to Admty. (R) C. in C. Atlantic Fleet. C.T.F.24. C.T.G.26.3.)

American
Aircraft
for
Naval
Squadrons.

Desired to form and work up in U.S. a number of Naval Air Squadrons which will be armed with American types of aircraft.

2. Also desired that pilots for such squadrons should so far as is practicable be trained in U.S. This would involve: (Details)

3. Request you seek approval in principle to above since our expansion programme is dependent upon agreement being obtained. (Head of Air Branch Approved by 5th S.L. 1716B/5 to B.A.D.)

Caribbean
Shipping
Reports.

During the present critical situation all arrivals of merchant ships are to be reported immediately by Vesca to Fairmiss.

2. Such signals should be prefixed Important.

3. Departures may be included in these messages if this can be done without delay. (D.T.D. 1729B/5 to N.C.S.Os. Aruba, Curacao, Trinidad.)

P. 552.

(1) Fairmiles Q.0526 and Q.0527 will escort you St. Johns (N.F) from estimated position 47.05. 52.45 at 0800Z/7.

(2) Escorts keeping constant watch 425 kc/s only Loxo code held.

(3) Bombing restrictions R.

(4) Convoy 3 ships one escort sails St. Johns (N.F) 1930Z/6 coastwise passing through 46.34 53.07 speed 7 knots. (F.O.N.F. 1750Z/5 to P.552.)

Your 1521Z/27/4. Bombing restrictions and escort arranged. (F.O.N.F. 2110Z/5 to B.A.D. (R) N.S.H.Q. P.552)

OAKVILLE,
attack on
U/B.

C.A.F.O. 834/41. (a) OAKVILLE (b) 12 (?) 57P/28/4 (c) 043° 46' N 058° 41' W (d) 12 (e) 1315P/28/4. (OAKVILLE 1800Z/5 to Admty. (R) Opnav. etc.)

/DROTTNINGHOLM...

War Diary.5.5.1942.
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies - Contd.

DROTTNINGHOLM. Swedish SS. 1100 G.R.T. is sailing New York for Lisbon 7/5 (route) speed 16½ knots. Vessel is repatriating Axis diplomats and officials from U.S. and South America. Although no Safe Conduct has yet been granted to the vessel she should be treated as if a Safe Conduct has been granted and is not to be molested without specific instructions. (particulars) (D.O.D.(F) 1803B/5 to C. in C. A.W.I. (R) N.S.H.Q. C.O.A.C. F.O.C.N.A.)

NIAGARA. E.T.A. Halifax 1000Z/6. CITY OF DIEPPE at 1600Z/5
CITY OF DIEPPE. 46.45 N 58.44 W 308° 13 knots. Weather report.
(NIAGARA 1900Z/5 to C.O.A.C. (R) N.S.H.Q.)

FLORENCE Schooner, sunk by U-Boat gunfire 1645Z/4 approx.
M. DOUGLAS. 65 miles N St. Florent, Georgetown. (C. in C. A.W.I. 1903P/5 to Admty. (R) B.A.D. C. in C. U.S. Fleet. N.S.H.Q. Opnav.)

Defective Shipping, destinations. Your 2111/2 para (c) request quotation or order directing that ships with east coast destinations and degaussing defects be sent elsewhere than Belfast. (N.S.H.Q. 1920Z/5 to Admty. (R) C.O.A.C. N.C.S.O. Sydney (C.B.) Reply D.T.D. 1307B/7.)

R.1. U.S. S/M Notice. At speed of 90 miles daily R.1 departing 2030P/5 from Bermuda for point 100 miles east of Mount Hill Light. Then on course 42 to patrol vicinity of point bearing (true) 52 450 miles from Bermuda. Submerging day and surfacing or submerging darkness. Total attack restrictions 50 miles ahead and astern of estimated position and 15 miles each side of track. Opnav informed. (C. in C. U.S. Fleet 1945/5 to C.T.Fs. 21,22,28,29. Admty. F.O.N.F. etc.)

U/B Intelligence. Sub. attack and sighting summary. EASTERN SWORD sunk 07° N 58° W about 0645Z/4. No details. ECLIPSE attacked, not sunk. 26° 30' N 80° 01' W 1703Z/4. 1 torpedo. JOSEPH M. CUDAHY attacked 25° 30' N 83° 45' W 2350Z/4. No details. MOKIHANA attacked 16° 40' N 65° 12' W 2016Z/4. No details. DELISLE probably sunk, 27° 04' N 80° 02' W 0300Z/5. 1 torpedo. G.W. MCKNIGHT arrived Port. Correct longitude 61° 19' W 0827Z/3. 1 torpedo hit, 3 missed. 2 subs sighted on surface by patrol boats. 27° 23' N 80° 06' W 0554Z/5. 29° 15' N 80° 56' W 0557Z/5. Plane sighted one on surface 35° 28' N 74° 48' W 0300Z/5. Plane attacked moving oil slick 29° 37' N 81° 02' W 1900Z/4 suspected sub. heavily attacked 29° 28' N 80° 50' W night of 2/5 and morning of 3/5. Surface evidence shows possible damage. MOBILOIL sunk, 26° 30' N 66° W 0915Z/29/4. 3 torpedoes, also shelled. No sub. description. SANDAR sunk, 11° 42' N 61° 10' W. 2045Z/2, 3 torpedoes. No sub. description. (C. in C. U.S. Fleet 1947/5 to Admty for O.I.C.) Opnav serial 5. Entire crew MOBILOIL landed San Juan. JOSEPH M. CUDAHY, American, torpedoed today 65 miles N.W. Dry Tortugas. MOKIHANA, American, torpedoed today 16° 40' N 65° 12' W. EASTERN SWORD torpedoed and sunk 4/5 8 miles off Georgetown

/Beacon...

War Diary.5.5.1942.
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies. Contd.

U/B Beacon en route Demarara. 17 survivors 12
Intelligence. missing. DELISLE, American, torpedoed 4/5
Contd. 27° 06' N 80° 03' W. 34 survivors. ATHEL
EMPRESS sunk by 2 torpedoes and 30 shells
2354Z/29/4 at 13° 21' N 56° 15' W 1 survivor
landed Trinidad. 28 landed at St. Lucia. Secret documents
sunk with ship. ECLIPSE British Tanker, ? torpedoed 1303Z,
26° 30' N 80° 01' W 44 British survivors. Confidentialists thrown
overboard in weighted bag in 6 fathoms water. BRITISH WORKMAN
now sunk. Norwegian SANDAR, 7624 GT. struck by 3 torpedoes
2/5 at 1645Q in 11° 42' N 61° 10' W. 35 survivors. Losses Norge.2.
Confidentialists lost with ship. (Opnav 2120/5 to Spenavo, London (R)
N.S.H.Q.)

M.A.R.I. Amendment No. 7 to M.A.R.I. Sec. II insert new
para 14B. (a) Ships approaching east coast
of U.S.A. from seaward south of 28° N and bound
for ports between Cape Canaveral and New York are to join the
coastal route (vide M.A.C.R.I) at a point between Cape Canaveral
and Cape Hatteras at such time as to enable the passage along
the coast between Cape Hatteras and New York to be made in
daylight. If necessary ships should anchor during darkness in
Chesapeake or Delaware Bays.
(b) Such ships arriving off Cape Lookout after 1200Q should
proceed to the patrolled anchorage established to the westward
thereof and anchor, proceeding to Chesapeake Bay at daylight
the following morning and making as much as possible of this
passage in daylight.
(c) Maximum air and surface escort will be provided.
(D.T.D. 2000B/5 to Cs. in C.F.O.C.N.A. etc.)

Ice C.T.F. 24 2005/5 to Admty.
Bulletin
5/5.

Movements. Arrivals * BRANDON from O.N.88. MAHONE from C.L.31.
* * SASKATOON, WITCH from O.N.89. (S.O.I. Halifax
2009Z/5 to Admty. etc.)
* See p. 146 * * See p. 147.

Escort for (1) My 2205/17/4. For 3 U.S. Cargo vessels read
U.S. Ships ships mentioned in Cominch's 01 2200.
W. Africa. (2) None of these vessels will require water.
(3) MORMACSUN is in addition to the 2 vessels
already mentioned in Cominch 16 1934 and 21 2021
for Monrovia. She is a very valuable ship.
(4) U.S. Authorities request following information.
(a) Latest date convoy should arrive Freetown.
(b) If convoy could be met by A/S escort in about 26° west or
further west if endurance of U.S. destroyers requires them to
leave earlier.
(c) What protection could be given to SS. MORMACSUN on passage
Freetown to Monrovia and during unloading operations?
(d) If sufficient protection not available at Monrovia would
it be possible to transfer cargo at Freetown to local coasting
vessels for passage to Monrovia? (B.A.D. 2011Z/5 to R.A.W.A.F.
(R) Admty.)

/HOEGH...

War Diary.5.5.1942.
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies - Contd.HOEGH
SILVERSTAR.

M.A.R.I. Sec. IV para 12. No report yet received from HOEGH SILVERSTAR due New York 6/5 from Capetown. Very few such reports are being received from H/F ships from S. Atlantic. (N.S.H.Q. 2021Z/5 to Admty.) Reply: D.T.D. 1440B/27.

BRIS
(torpedoed
21/4)

A.M. 1320/2/4/40 BRIS Norwegian torpedoed and sunk 21/4 0045 G.M.T. 034° N 069° W all books thrown overboard by Captain. Crew consisted of 25, all Norwegian, 20 survivors 4 known dead, information from Diocock. (B.R.O. Jacksonville 2257Z/5 to Admty. (R) Ottawa.)

FOUNDRIA.

U.S. 5010 tons torpedoed in Windward passage 20° N 73° 30' W at 2345/5. Had sailed from New Orleans on 1/5 for San Juan, Puerto Rico (D.S. 974.)

Shipping
Casualties.

Following particulars concerning vessels previously reported as casualties now received from Opnav, passed to you for information. ATLAS (U.S.) sunk 9/4. ESPARTAY (U.S.) sunk 9/4. EVELYN (U.S.) undamaged reported another ship. BYRON D. BENSON (U.S.) sunk 5/4. BERWINDGLEN (U.S.) undamaged. OMULUS (Nor.) undamaged. EDWARD L. SHEA (U.S.) undamaged. PEDERNALES sunk 16/2. SKANE (Sw.) sunk 6/3. ZOELLA LYKES (U.S.) undamaged reported another ship. (N.S.H.Q. Ottawa 2329Z/5 to Admty.)

War Diary.5.5.1942
TuesdayFOREIGN STATIONS.Australia & New Zealand.

ATREUS Your 1211B/4 ATREUS sailed from Melbourne 2020Z/1st and arrived Newcastle 0702Z/4th. (A.C.N.B., 0718Z/5 to Admty).

Controlled Mining Stns. 2 Controlled mining stations on board ATREUS are being laid in approaches to Moreton Bay, Brisbane, which is being prepared as an operating base for S.W. Pacific squadron.
2. Stations at Hobart and Sydney (N.S.W.) not considered necessary at present.
3. If you concur arrangements will be made for the storage of 3 additional stations at Sydney (N.S.W.) for later use according to requirements. Your 1242 A/16/3 refers. (A.C.N.B. 0924Z/5 to Admty. (R) Cominch, B.A.D., etc.)

Command of Combined Forces. In view of request recently received from C.in C. U.S. Fleet and after discussion with Adm. Leary, A.C.N.B. have agreed and have directed F.O. Australian Sqdn. that irrespective of relative ranks of officers concerned the Commander of U.S. Task Force containing Pacific Fleet carriers Anzac shall be in command of combined forces when tactically co-operating with Australian vessels. C. in C. U.S. Fleet represents that he considers it necessary that officers experienced in carrier operations should be in control and in view of this, Naval Board agreed to a departure from general principle of S.O. present exercising command. (A.C.N.B., 1115Z/5 to Admty).

Situation. Serial number 104 from C.W.R. 4/5. 9 Type 99 heavy bombers escorted by 10 Zero fighters attacked seven mile Aerodrome Port Moresby at 2310Z/3. Approx. 70 bombs dropped 1 mile N.W. of Aerodrome. 7 P 39's intercepted 1 Zero fighter damaged, 1 P 39 missing. (2) 10 P 39's attacked enemy aircraft on Lae aerodrome at 2015Z/3. Owing to bad weather only 3 aircraft reached target. 4 P 39's missing. (3) 4 B 17's dropped bombs on run way and grounded aircraft at Lae. (4) 6 B 26's attacked aircraft on Vunakanau Aerodrome Rabaul at 2350Z/3. Direct hits on dispersed aircraft and fires observed. Considerable damage believed inflicted on ground. (5) 20 to 25 transports and 1 probable heavy Cruiser sighted in Rabaul Harbour. 1 small S/M headed for Rabaul. (6) 2 B 17's attacked shipping in Rabaul Harbour 4/5. (7) Possible new enemy aerodrome in New Britain at Sule (5 miles S.E. of Lolobau Island) and Tovat (28 miles E. of Lolobau Island). (8) 1 large enemy aircraft carrier and 2 heavy Cruisers sighted in 006° 50' S 154° 30' E at 0035Z/4, course E. (9) 2 S/M.s. and 1 S/M tender sighted in 007° 30' S 153° 10' E at 0115Z/4 course E. (A.C.N.B., 1144Z/5, to Admty. etc.)

Tulagi possibly occupied by enemy. Following telegram received from Resident Commissioner, British Solomon Islands Protectorate (Begins). 3/5 No. 132. Large fire seen at 0900Z/2 in Tulagi area from this station on Malaita 45 miles distant. Information received

/from

War Diary.5.5.1942.
TuesdayFOREIGN STATIONS.Australia & New Zealand.

Tulagi
possibly
occupied by
enemy.
Contd.

from unofficial sources at 1530Z/2 that the Air Force Station had been fired and A.I.F. and R.A.F. Left. R.A.A.F. failed to answer all W/T calls after 2120Z/1 when they reported no traffic. They were heard working other Stations until 0550Z/2 Kennedy reported at 2145Z/2, two enemy ships in Thousand Ships Bay, Ysabel, and Japanese landing on small island. No information received from Naval Liaison Officer or forces and I am unable therefore to confirm that Tulagi has been occupied by enemy. In the circumstances have moved the W/T station further inland. (Ends).
(High Commr. Sir H. Luke, 1700/5 to S.of S. for Colonies)

A/S Gear and
Defences.

Reply to B.A.D. 2225/29. (N Z N B 1804M/5 to B.A.D., (R) Admty, C.in C. Pacific Fleet) See Libon copy Reply. B.A.D., 2235Z/6.

U - BOAT CAMPAIGN.Submarines Reported

Estimated W/B. positions.
(D.D.I.C. 1412B/5 1413B/5).

MESSAGE 1804M/5 May IN

MOST SECRET

From N.Z.N.

Date 6/5/42.
Recd. 0722

NAVAL CYPHER M BY W/T & T/P.

Addressed B.A.D. Repeated Admiralty, C. in C. Pacific Fleet.

680. Your 2225/29th 1 ~~(one)~~ (c) and 1 ~~(one)~~ (f).
Request details of huts.
1. (e) no position possible for this net between outer loops and A/S A/B boom. Outside of loops would be too exposed. Consider this item should be deleted for Wellington but proposed placing of nets in Queen Charlotte Sound in one mile gap South West of Philip Island. Presume radios will be supplied. Suggest 12 inch searchlight be supplied for hut positions.
1. (g) consider 2nd Port War Signal Station for Tory Channel will be necessary. Propose U.S. man Asdic signal stations in Fiji i.e. Suva and Nandi Fairway Signal and Port War Signal Station (8 ratings are already being sent) and New Zealand man those in Queen Charlotte Sound area. Request 2 12 inch searchlights and 4 two-way voice radios for battery be supplied from U.S. (One of these radios is for Wellington and one for base requirements at Picton). Searchlight must be self contained unit as no power is available.
2. (a) Revised position for boom Kau Point 066 degs. 400 yards thence 093 degs. 2800 yards thence 147 degs. towards field 700 yards.
2. (i) one 12 inch searchlight required from U.S. for this field.
3. Do not agree that A/T nets are not ~~repetition not~~ essential. Protection of floating dock and ships at North Island berths from aircraft torpedoes is of vital importance. Request trained loop men may be sent as soon as possible to assist planning details.

1804M/5

1st Lord.
1st S.L.
2nd S.L.
3rd S.L.
Vice Contr.
4th S.L.
V.C.N.S.
A.C.N.S. (F) (2)
A.C.N.S. (T)
A.C.N.S. (W)
N.A. to A.C.N.S. (T)
Naval Sec.
Civil Lord.
D.O.D. (F) (2)
D. of L.D.
D.B.D.
D.T.D. (2)
D.D.O.D. (M)
D.N.I. (4)
Hd. of M.
D. of P. (2)

D.A./S.W.
D.T.S.D.
D.S.D.
D. of S.
C.E. in C.
A.E. (3)
D.P.S.
D.G.D.
D.N.O. (L)
D.D.O.D. (C)
D.A.S. (L)
D.S.V.P.
D.M.S.
D.M.W.D.
D.C. (2)
I.P. (2)
W.D.
D. of D.
D.T.M.

Dep. Contr.
D. of D.
D. of S.
D.S.D.
C.E. in C.
D.T.M.
D.A./S.W.
D.N.O.
D.A.S.
D.E.E.
Hd. of S.W.R.)

Bath

6.5.1942.
Wednesday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

Provision of escorts for Convoy P.Q.16 is proving difficult.

C. in C. Home Fleet considers it essential that Coastal Command long range aircraft should be transferred forthwith to North Russia for A/S patrols. The majority of losses caused by U-boats to North Russia convoys have been east of 28° E., and the Russians are evidently unable to provide A/S air escort in their region.

The efforts to damage TIRPITZ by bombing have so far had no result. It is thought that SCHARNHORST may be ready for service by August and GNEISENAU by September. WASHINGTON will be withdrawn from the Home Fleet in August at latest. In view of the above and the recent damage to KING GEORGE V it will be necessary to retain DUKE OF YORK and RENOWN in Home Waters. NELSON and RODNEY have just commenced to work up at Scapa and are destined for the Eastern Fleet.

WASHINGTON, WICHITA, TUSCALOOSA and 4 U.S. destroyers arrived in Iceland this morning.

The Flag of V.A.2 was transferred to NELSON at 1530 today and C. in C. H.F. hoisted his flag in DUKE OF YORK.

Mediterranean.

Air raids on Malta for the last 3 days have been light and very little has been aimed at the dockyard. The Gozo ferries were attacked today, one being destroyed and the other damaged.

6.5.1942.
Wednesday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT.

East Indies.

Operation
"Ironclad".

An attack on Antsirana this morning by 29th Brigade failed and the 17th Brigade and a party of Royal Marines are to attack it this evening.

Diego Suarez will not be open until tomorrow. RESOLUTION, EMERALD, ENTERPRISE, CALEDON, DRAGON and 3 destroyers are proceeding to Kilindini today; the remainder of Force A will remain near 12° S., 50° 30' E., until tomorrow, and will then proceed to Kilindini.

AURICULA mined yesterday sank today. GENISTA attacked a confirmed S/M contact in the approach to the transport anchorage at 2340.

Comments.

Certain forthcoming changes in Flag Officer and other appointments on the Station are announced by the Admiralty today. The appointment of C. in C. E.I. will eventually lapse and the duties of C. in C. E.I. will devolve on C. in C. Eastern Fleet and F.O. Ceylon.

Wellingtons bombed Akyab last night.

China.

The Japanese landed on Corregidor today and the fortress surrendered.

America & West Indies.

Submarines are estimated to be still working in the Trinidad and Georgetown areas, west or S.W. and also probably east of Jamaica, and two or three in Florida Strait.

/Five...

War Diary.

6.5.1942.
Wednesday.

SITUATION REPORT.

America & West Indies - Contd.

Five ships, including a patrol motor boat were attacked off the east coast of Florida and attacks were made on ships in the Gulf of Mexico, near the Cayman Is. and in the Windward Passage.

At 1542P C. in C. A.W.I. ordered sailings between Trinidad and Caribbean ports to be resumed. At 2304 the U.S. naval authorities ordered all U.S. merchant ships in the Gulf of Mexico and Florida Straits without escort to proceed to the nearest port for orders: this area has been declared a danger zone. (Admiralty requested C. in C. A.W.I. to issue instructions in conformity at 1004B/7). Ships in the Gulf are to be completely darkened and zig-zag. Ports in the New Orleans routeing area were closed this evening.

Consul, Jacksonville, referring to the heavy losses of ships off Florida Coast, says that the American patrol system is totally inadequate and must be reinforced if the present volume of shipping is maintained. If this is impossible he recommends the previous British system of widely diverging routes and the abolition of the present concentration of shipping along a narrow coastal lane. S/Ms surfaced from any point in this lane can at present take their pick of some 50 vessels a day without effective counter action.

SENATEUR DUHAMEL, one of the 24 A/S trawlers recently lent to U.S.N. was sunk in collision with U.S. destroyer SEMMES off Wilmington without loss of life.

Australia & New Zealand.

Australian and New Zealand Govt.s were informed direct by U.S.A. today that directive to C. in C. Pacific Ocean areas will become operative as from 0000 G.M.T.8/5.

S.S. CHLOE was sunk by an enemy S/M this evening (G.M.T.) about 20 miles west of Bulari Passage (Numea); S.S. JOHN ADAMS was attacked and probably sunk yesterday in the same area.

War Diary.

6.5. 42.
Wednesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Policy.

DUKE OF YORK.
RENOWN.
NELSON.
RODNEY.

A. KING GEORGE V has been in collision with a destroyer and in addition has been damaged by latter's depth charges though we hope not badly.
B. WASHINGTON is working with Home Fleet but will be withdrawn in August at latest.
C. Determined efforts have been made to damage TIRPITZ, by bombing but so far without result.
D. SCHARNHORST may be ready for service by August but GNEISENAU probably not before September.
E. In view of above it will be necessary to retain DUKE OF YORK and RENOWN in Home Waters.
F. NELSON and RODNEY have just commenced to work up at Scapa and should reach you by 12th July at latest. They could possibly arrive on your Station earlier if they only did part of their working up at Scapa and completed it in Indian Ocean under your direction. Your views are requested on this.
G. You are no doubt in touch with the progress of repairs to VALIANT.
(1st S.L. 0228B/6 to C. in C. E.F.).

Iceland. Following from Chiefs of Staff No.(W). 170.
Operational command of all land forces in Iceland (C) is now vested in General Bonesteel, U.S. Army who is responsible direct to Washington.
2-5. Re.communicating with him.
(Air Ministry 1120Z/6 to Britman, Washington).

Flag of V.A.2. Flag of V.A.2 is to be transferred to NELSON at 1530 today.
(V.A.2. 1331B/6).

Defence of U.K.

Poole Harbour. C. in C.Portsmouth 2017/1. Air Ministry have approved use of Poole Harbour as flying boat base for C.C. additional to its present use by B.O.A.C. N.O.I.C.Poole was present at conference on 19/2 when removal of steel stakes marking channels and their replacement by marker buoys was agreed. Request C. in C. Portsmouth may be instructed to allow this work to proceed. Propose to instruct C. in C. C.C. to arrange with C. in C. Portsmouth for local consultations as necessary when framing his proposals for use of Piers and shore facilities. Do you concur.
(Air Ministry 1545/6 to Adty.)

Folkestone A/A Defences. Further to my 1845B/2. There have been several raids recently by low flying enemy aircraft on Folkestone area. It is considered that suitable A/A protection should be provided without delay and Commander 6th A.A.Division concurs. AL M/PD 010115/42 of 25th April refers.
(V.A.Dover. 2021B/6 to Adty.)

6.5.42.
Wednesday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Movements.

WASHINGTON.
WICHITA.
TUSCALOOSA.

WASHINGTON, WICHITA, TUSCALOOSA, WAINWRIGHT,
WILSON, MADISON, FLUNKETT arrived.
(A.C.I.C. 0745B/6).

Torpedo
M/L's.

Your 1355B/5. "Range I" arrived.
(N.O.I.C. Dartmouth 1034/6 to C. in C. Plymouth).

KENT
LIVERPOOL
ONSLow
ICARUS.

E.T.A. Seidis Fjord boom 2100/7 with LIVERPOOL
and 2 destroyers. Request fuel all ships.
Intend leaving Scapa 1530/6, S. of A. 20 knots,
passing through.

(a) 062° 24' N. 005° 10' W.

(b) 066° 00' N. 012° 15' W.

(KENT.1045B/6).

Scapa departures for Seidis Fjord, KENT,
LIVERPOOL, ONSLOW, and ICARUS.
(A.C.O.S. 1529B/6).

ASHANTI.

My 1520B/5. Delayed 24 hours.
(F.O. Humber 1329B/6 to R.A.D.).

BERWICK.

On return from patrol complete with fuel and
proceed to Scapa.
(C. in C.H.F. 1432B/6 to BERWICK). *See p 164*

⁵⁵¹
P. ~~43~~ *at*:

Positions of S/Ms at 0800B/7 and movements for
following 24 hours.

A. P.43 62° N. 00° 30' E. probably on surface,
due Lerwick 2200/7.

*Sum R 2/5**
See p. 119

B. P.551 61° 2' N. 00° 01' W. probably on
surface, due Lerwick 1600/7.

C. UREDD due Lerwick 1100/7 from North Eastward.

D. THUNDERBOLT escorted by JAN VAN GELDER
vicinity Lands End due Plymouth 1400/7.

E. H.43 leaves Portsmouth for Sheerness with C.E.
78, special escort ML 119 to Ramsgate, then
BLENCATHRA. E.T.A. Sheerness 1045/8.

F. P.44, 44° 26' N. 12° 59' W dived by day, due
43° 01' N. 12° 59' W. at 0400/8. Thence probably
on the surface to Gibraltar.

(F.O.S. 1628B/6 to Adty.)

My 1628/6. Delete para.(B).

(F.O.S. 1716B/6).

ARETHUSA.

Estimate you may meet H.G.82. during dark hours.
tonight.

(C. in C. W.A. 1701B/6 to ARETHUSA).

War Diary.6.5.42.
Wednesday.HOME COMMANDS.Movements - Contd.

RYE. C. in C. Rosyth is requested to sail RYE and
 HYTHE. HYTHE to Londonderry on 7/5.
 BEAUMARIS. 2. C in C. W.A. is requested to sail these
 ships in company to Alexandria via Capetown
 to join 14th M.S.F. in Mediterranean Station.
 Both ships Turbine Engines. BEAUMARIS will join 15th M.S.F.
 on Home Station.
 (A.C.N.S. (H) 1927B/6)

STURGEON. Capt.(S) 9 1115/3. STURGEON arrived.
 (S.O. S/M Lerwick 2017B/6).

LEDBURY. Proceed Lerwick with GRAY RANGER to replenish
 GRAY. Diesel oil stock.
 RANGER. (C. in C. H.F. 2248B/6 to LEDBURY).

Operations.

Q.E.12. Your 1851/5. Approved.
 (C. in C.Nore. 0643B/6 to Capt.D.21).

Ten. My 1905B/5. Sailed 0657/6.
 R-Craft. (N.O.I.C.Newhaven, 0705B/6 to C. in C.Portsmouth)

Convoy CALPE is to take FERNIE and ALBRIGHTON under his
 Interception. orders and sail at 2015 to patrol between Beachy
 Head and C 2 buoy. Object is to intercept a
 southbound convoy from Boulogne. Destroyers
 are not to proceed eastward of limit of Portsmouth Command.
 Coastal (?craft) will be operating in Dover Command. If no
 report of enemy leaving Boulogne is received return to E A 3
 buoy by 0730/7. In any case destroyers are to be within 40
 miles of English coast by 0530/7. Set watch on Dover Port
 Wave at 2015.
 (C. in C. Portsmouth 1627B/6 to CALPE).

Patrols. 3 M.G.B's patrolling 10 miles S of Portland.
 3 Destroyers on eastward patrol.
 (C. in C. Portsmouth 1647B/6).

British Air Activity.

A/C for Majority of losses by U-Boats to escorts
 North Russia. and merchant ships of Russian convoys have been
 East of 028° E. It is probable that neither
 U-Boats nor aircraft attack has yet fully
 developed. Russians evidently have neither training nor
 inclination to provide A/S air escort in this area. U-Boats
 can therefore operate freely on the surface until they sight
 convoys. Consider it essential Coastal Command long range
 aircraft should be transferred forthwith to North Russia for A/S
 patrols. At the present these appear more necessary in this

/area....

War Diary.

6.5.42.
Wednesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

British Air Activity.

A/C for North Russia. Contd. area than in Western Approaches where U-Boat activity is not intense.
(C.in C. Home Fleet 1058B/6 to Adty).

Use of 1 F.F.

Have been pestered all the forenoon by R D F unidentified contacts on A/C and one squadron sighted. Request confirmation that all friendly A/C are using 1 F F
(STORK 1255B/6 to C. in C. W.A.).
Your 1255B/6. Yes.
(C. in C. W.A. 1506B/ to STORK).

Enemy Air Activity.

Convoy Reported

Position of convoy was probably reported by enemy aircraft at 0900B/6.
(C. in C. W.A. 1201B/6 to STORK).

Brixham Bombed.

M.L.160 damaged.
M.M.S 173 damaged.

At 1148/6 two Messerschmidts 109 approached Brixham from S.E.flying low. One A/C bombed and cannon-shelled M M S 173 (Dutch manned) off Berry Head. Bullets in upper works and one rating and one civilian slightly injured. The other near missed M L 160 with one H.E in outer harbour Brixham. Ship beached in a sinking condition but it is hoped to be to dock her in Captain M L'S Dock at Brixham.

One civilian killed and one severely injured. Berry Head A.A.battery fired 17 rounds and claim 3 hits in one aircraft which made off to E by N losing height and disappeared in haze at 4 miles.

There was no red warning till after the raid.
(N.O.I.C. Dartmouth 1501/6.)

Air attacks on Russian Convoys.

More information is required on the type of attack being used by enemy aircraft against P Q and Q P convoys. Request you will signal to me from time to time brief summaries of what information you can collect from convoys

and their close escorts. In particular early particulars requested of final air attacks on P.Q. 15.

(C. in C.Home Fleet 1831B/6 to A.C.I.C, S.B.N.O. North Russia)

Mining.

Drifting Mine.

Following intercepted from Tingstaede Radio. (O.I.C.Translation.) Mine Warning; A drifting mine and an explosive buoy observed at 0520 bearing 170° from Landsort.
(Scapa W/T 0642/6).

War Diary.6.5.1942.
Wednesday.HOME COMMANDS.Mining. Contd.

QK.4A. Weather permitting carry out following operation and tonight Wednesday.
operating (1) M.L.'s 106 and 100 carry out operation Q K 4A.
off (2) One unit M.G.B's Q.E.14A. As near dusk as
Ostend. practicable dependent on visibility prevailing.
To close 18 miles in direction 150° from centre of Q.E.14A. When M.L.'s are approaching position of lay.
(3) One unit M.T.B's to proceed with M.G.B's, breaking off at Q.E. 14A. To operate between Ostend and Flushing visiting the roads if conditions are suitable.
(4). M.G.B.67 required for special operation. All units to be 30 miles off coast by first light, full challenge procedure to be used while units are returning.
(C. in C.Nore 1130B/6 to BEEHIVE).

B.S. S.O. 4th Minesweeping Flot. reports total area Operations. swept to date as follows. Details.
Mines cut today 53, of which 2 and possibly 3 were German X Star at best a year old.
Most Easterly line in 052° 32' 54" N 002° 46' 18" E.
High percentage search of area being carried out tomorrow.
(C. in C.Nore 2322B/6).

Enemy Intelligence.

Straits of Enemy shipping plotted by R.D.F. in Dover Dover. Strait from 0900/5 to 0900/6.
Track E 20 D. Nine vessels, one larger than the others, from Boulogne at 2210, course southerly, speed 12 knots, to 6 miles W.S.W. Le Treport. Then returned to Boulogne entering at 0610/6. Probably one medium Merchant vessel type, 4 M Class minesweepers and 4 trawlers, as confirmed by Jim Crow R/C at daylight.
(V.A.Dover 0934B/6).

PRINZ EUGEN. (a) PRINZ EUGEN now has her wooden patch Air Forces on stern complete and jury rudder rigged. She is at expected to sail shortly for Kiel where new stern sections have been built and are now ready for riveting to hull. Graded A2.
Stavanger. (b) Luftwaffe at Stavanger has recently been St.Nazaire. strengthened by bomber squadron from Sicily.

It is intended to move them to Northern aerodromes of Norway for operations against our North Russia supply convoys as soon as these aerodromes improve after spring thaw. Establishment of Meteorological station reported in my 1949/5 is apparently complement to enemy's increased bombing effort on this supply route.
Graded A2.

(c) At Constanza there is evidence of transport activity and Siebel Ferries assembled in preparations for attack on Caucasian Coast, which is to be synchronized with bombing attacks on Russian Fleet. It is believed this will complement Donnetz offensive under supreme command of Rommel (recently transferred)

/and....

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Wednesday.War Diary.HOME COMMANDS.Enemy Intelligence.

PRINZ EUGEN. and ready to be started from May 15th onward.
Air Forces Graded A4.
at (d) From Saint Nazaire Swedish engineer who
Stavanger. inspected pumping station at German invitation
St.Nazaire. reports destruction is most thorough and that
Contd. repairs can only be undertaken with great
difficulty over period of many months. Graded
B.3.
(N.A.Stockholm 1111/6.)

N.I.D.Comment. (a) 1 cruiser and 4 destroyers are reported to
have left Trondheim 4th May. B.2.
(b) 1949/5 reported enemy Meteorological stations believed
established in Spitsbergen and Greenland.

Norway. My 1920/27 para. (D). Transport now identified
Transports WOLTA, GOTHA, ISAR, MOLIKE, FELS, and LEVANTE.
at One vessel carried Russian prisoners. Graded B2.
Oslo. (NA.Stockholm 1201/6)

Convoy. Russians report Convoy escorted by Destroyers near
Vilvarado on 4/5.
(Ad.Miles 1321Z/6).

Enemy (A) Air sighting off Gothenburg P.M. 4/5.
Convoys. six large merchant vessels, four of which had
tanks on deck, protected by four escort craft
northbound. Graded C3
(B) Off North Cape, two enemy vessels which were sunk by allied
S/MS end of April carried mainly hutments and clothing for
German Army and were both routed to Kirkenes. Graded A4.
(NA.Stockholm 1221/6).

Trondheim. No. R/C of Trondheim today.
(D.D.I.C. 2114B/6).

U-Boats.

U-Boats Russians report U-Boats in following positions
reported. on 4/5:-

72.06 N.	32.55 E.
72.50 N.	29.10 E.
71.35 N.	35.31.E.
72.22 N.	34.15.E.
70.48 N.	34.00.E.
71.56 N.	35.20.E.
71.27 N.	34.45.E.
73.16 N.	35.11 E.
73.20 N.	35.11 E.
70.16 N.	33.19.E.

(Ad.Miles. 1321C/6 to Adty.)

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Wednesday.HOME COMMANDS.Navigational.

Helwick
Fog
Signal. Helwick Float fog explosion signal not working.
(N.O.I.C.Swansea 1126B/6).

Norwegian
Coast. The following areas have been declared in the
Norwegian Press to be "Closed Areas".
(A) Circle within 17 miles radius round
64° 11.8' N, 9° 45' E.
(B) Circle with 27 miles radius round position
63° 21.8' N, 07° 50.5' E.
(C) Areas enclosed by lines joining following positions. Details.
(Hydrog 1349B/6).

Casualties and Defects.

Convoy
FN699.
MOORLEX. French ship MOORLEX sunk in approx. 055° 25'.5 N.
001° 22'.5' W after being in collision with
S.S.FINLANDE. 2 men from MOORLEX missing.
FINLANDE has rejoined convoy.
(VANITY 0308B/6).

AMAZON. My 1755B/5. Intend delaying sailing 24 hours
owing to adverse weather.
(AMAZON 0747B/6 to A.C.I.C.).

Wreck
dispersal. Request permission to disperse upper portion of
dangerous wreck promulgated by Q-Z-H 501.
(C.in C.Nore 1011B/6 to Adty).
Your 1019B/1. Approved.
(Adty. 2131B/6 to C. in C.Nore).

BERWICK. Your 1826/2. Request BERWICK may be taken in
hand at Devonport. She will be available on
12/5. Intend to defer decision as to date of
refit of KENT for time being.
(C. in C.H.F. 1438B/6 to Adty.). *See p. 159.*

GRABWELL
(Lighter)
foundered. Tug GOOLE reports her tow piling lighter
GRABWELL foundered at 0700/6 in 50° 40' N.
00° 27'E Tug GOOLE is lying off Newhaven.
(N.O.I.C.Newhaven 1515B/6).
Your 1515B/6 GOOLE is to proceed into Newhaven
and make good defects reported by telephone if
possible.
(C. in C. Portsmouth 1816B/6 to N.O.I.C.Newhaven).

Shipping and Convoys.

P.Q.15. Kola Inlet arrivals.
Ships in A.C.I.C.1725/April 26th except NIGERIA,
NORTHERN SPRAY, BOTAVON, JUTLAND, and CAPE CORSO.
Local escort arrived. S.O.1st M.S.2300/5 refers.
(S.B.N.O. North Russia 0345B/6).

/Your.....

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Wednesday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping and Convoys.

- P.Q.15. Your 2045/1.
Contd. P.Q.15. Two Soviet destroyers provided additional escort. Two patrol vessels provided local escort. Weather prevented fighter cover. Coastal aerodromes not bombed, probably owing to weather. 3 submarines in areas 2, 10B, and 11B, and 4th. S/M in area (?referred to) in my 1040/4.
(S.B.N.O.North Russia, 0919B/6 to Adty).
My 1936/3. Add 166 survivors ex P.Q.15 referred to in M.S.One's 2100. Total now 1112.
(S.B.N.O.North Russia 0951B/6 to Adty).
Your 1809/5. Request you will signal forthwith a brief report on the passage of P.Q.15. Your reference to Polish S/M is not understood.
(A.C.N.S.(H.) 1026B/6 to S.B.N.O. North Russia).
- W.N. 73. Cancel my 1530/5 and 1545/5 ships weatherbound.
(N.C.S.O.Kirkwall 0936/6 to N.C.S.O.Loch Ewe)
- P.Q.16. Admiralty's 2120/5. If BEAGLE is required for
Q.P.11. P.Q.16 request she may be sailed to Greenock at
RU 22. best speed as soon as possible.
2. Request CAMPANULA and SNOWFLAKE may be detached and sailed to arrive U.K. by 11/5.
3. SAXIFRAGE and OXLIP are required to arrive U.K. by 15/5.
4. SABRE and 3 trawlers are now at Reykjavik detailed to return with R.U. 22. Propose that ships ex Q.P.11 destined for U.K. should be sailed in R.U.22 slight delay in sailing of convoy being accepted, and that additional escort for combined convoy be provided by SAXIFRAGE and OXLIP and any additional escort you have available or consider necessary.
(C. in C. W.A. 1119B/6 to C. in C.H.F.).
If circumstances permit detach CAMPANULA and SNOWFLAKE to proceed ahead to Hvalfjord.
(C. in C.Home Fleet 1447B/6 to BULLDOG.)
C.in C.W.A. 1119/6. A.C.I.C. is requested to comply with paras (1) and (2).
2. Concur in C. in C.W.A's proposal. Additional escort is not available from Home Fleet.
(C. in C.H.F. 1501B/6 to Adty).
- AMARAPOORA. Your 0945B/6. Concur.
(C.in C.H.F. 1130B/6 to A.C.O.S).
- Hvalfiord. Your 1400Z/2. Total accommodation for Russia
and bound ships 26 at Hvalfjordur and (?30) in
Reykjavik. Reykjavik Roads, latter anchorage subject to risk
Shipping S/M attack. Serving large numbers of ships with
accommodation. water presents major problem. 17 ships for
Russia now at Hvalfjordur with 6 more arriving

/from.....

War Diary.

6.5.1942.
Wednesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping and Convoys.

Hvalfiord. from S.C.81. C. in C.Halifax has recommended not
and more than (?25) ships per Convoy.
Reykjavik. (C.T.G. 24.6 1131Z/6 to Opnav).
Shipping Your 1802B/5.(A) 26. (B) 30 in addition to normal
accommodation. traffic. By retaining FRESHET as a water barge
Contd. it should be possible to keep this number of
ships watered provided none of them has large
requirements. Risk of S/M attack on ships at Reykjavik must be
accepted.
(A.C.I.C. 1800B/6 to Adty.).

S.C.80. SC 80. Average speed 6.6 knots. Thick fog
for first four days followed by good weather.
No stragglers all ships accounted for.
(D.T.D.1159Z/6 to Opnav).

QP.12. Request your estimate of efficiency of FORESIGHT
and FORESTER with view to providing escort.
QP 12.
(C.in C.H.F. 1219B/6 to CS.18).

Sailings Your 2028/4. Entirely concur that in future
of QP the ordered date of sailing will be 24 hours
Convoys. after date of P.Q. but you have discretion to
sail Q.P. up to 24 hours on either side of
ordered date to chose favourable weather
conditions.
(2). The 14 days cycle has not been maintained recently, the
intervals between last three convoys has averaged 20 days.
(C.in C.H.F. 1221B/6 to S.B.N.O. North Russia).

W.S.19. W.S.19. AKAROA is now sailing with W.S.19.
Request you will sail AKAROA and HIGHLAND MONARCH
in company escorted by TYNWALD to R/V main convoy
off Oversay in accordance with Admiralty 2256/30 para.(3).
(C.in C. W.A. 1255/6 to N.O.I.C.Cardiff).
Cancel A.M. 1212/4. Declared speed of AKAROA 14 $\frac{1}{2}$ knots. Ship is
to be sailed in accordance with my 2256/30.
(D.O.D.(H.)1327B/6).

W.N.79. My 1431/5 did not sail owing to weather.
(N.C.S.O.Lyness 1431/6).

HX.187. H.X.187. Ships that estimate they can arrive
Bar Light Vessel not later 1900Z/8 may be detached
at Commodore's discretion on crossing 11° W. Ships
detached are to report their E.T.A. on crossing 8° W. Tankers
are not to be detached.
(C. in C.W.A. 1542/6 to HURRICANE).

/Request.....

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Wednesday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping and Convoys.Contd.

B.5. Request you will arrange for B five group to be
Escort. sailed for Trinidad calling at Bermuda if desired
Group. to embark tropical kit.
2. On arrival at Trinidad B 5 group will come under
the orders of Comtask 10 for escort of Tankers
between Trinidad and Aruba and vice versa.
3. For your information this arrangement to which COMINCH has
agreed as temporary measure, will it is hoped enable this escort
group to run a fortnightly shuttle service convoy between
Trinidad and Aruba and possibly provide escort for tankers
arriving from and sailing to the eastward of Trinidad.
N.S.H.Q. pass to Opnav.
(A.C.N.S.T. 1551B/6 to C. in C. W.A., C. in C.A. & W.I.)

AMSTELSTROOM In order to save three days wait for each ship
FINLANDE. propose sailing fish carriers AMSTELSTROOM
(Du) and FINLANDE from Methil to Iceland (C)
independently. Request your remarks.
(D.T.D. 1814B/6 to C. in C. Rosyth, A.C.O.S).
Your 1814/6 concur. These ships will be sailed
to pass May Island 2315 tonight.
(C.in C.Rosyth 1851B/6 to Adty.)
Your 1814B/6. Concur provided passage of
Pentland Firth is made in daylight.
(A.C.O.S.2014/6 to Adty.).

LLANSTEPHAN. Your 1040B/5. P.C.S. 045° 10', 018° 12' 194°,
CASTLE. 11 knots. Expect to meet at 1430A/7.
(LEITH 1858A/6 to C. in C. W.A.).
LLANSTEPHAN CASTLE is due Clyde about 10/5 with
approximately 1200 personnel on board for disembarkation at Tail
of Bank.
(D.S.T. 2303B/6).

D.S.27. The next D.S. Convoy (D.S.27) has been postponed
MACANDREW to the end of May.
SANTA 2. R.A.M. is requested to provide two destroyers to
ELENA. escort U.S. troopships MACANDREW and SANTA ELENA,
carrying British troops leaving Reykjavik about
16th May for Clyde.
3. A.C.I.C. is requested to inform R.A.M. date destroyers are
required at Reykjavik.
(D.O.D.H. 1931B/6).

A.T.15. Convoy A.T.15.
After disembarkation at Belfast the following
movements are projected for troopships who are all
required for W.S.19X.
(a) CATHAY is to proceed to Newport Monmouthshire carrying 1933
U.S.Air Corps.
(b).U.S.transports MEXICO and SANTA ROSA proceed to Liverpool with

/approx.

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HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping and Convoys.

- A.T.15. approx. 100 personnel.
Contd. (c) U.S. Transport CHRISTOBAL proceeds to Clyde.
2. C. in C. W.A. is requested to arrange escort
for movement of CATHAY.
3. 5737 American troops from AQUITANIA are to be ferried to Northern Ireland by small fast transports. Outward crossing to be made by night. Ships returning to Clyde by day. Destination will be Londonderry and/or Belfast as arranged by Army authorities with P.S.T.O. West of Scotland.
(D.O.D.H. 1932B/6).

War Diary.6.5.1942.
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.General.Use of
Paravanes.

Attention is drawn to A.M.S.I.13 All ships fitted with paravanes should be instructed to stream them when approaching the coast outside the North Atlantic of 5° N and inside the 200 fathom line. (D.T.D. 1559B/6 to C. in C. W.A. C. in C. S.A. C. in C. E.I. A.C.N.B. N.Z.N.B. C. in C. A.W.I. N.S.H.Q. Ottawa (R) Opanav.)
(Cancelled by 1937 A/15, page 469)

North Atlantic.

U/B.

Bearings of Italian U-Boat 62U at 2248Z/5.
(D.D.I.C. 0125B/6 to F.O.C.N.A.)

French
shipping.

Passings 5/5. Eastward, KITA full, LOUP DE MER, MONT CASSEL. (V.A.C.N.A. 0935A/6 to Admty. for M.E.W.)
Gibraltar 1940/5. Armed Trawler LA SETOISE, SS. KITA laden, trawlers LOUP DE MER, MONT CASSEL eastbound. (S.O.I. Gibraltar 1749A/6 to Admty. C. in C. Med.)

Time.

As from 0100 G.M.T. 7/5 Aux. Patrols will be keeping zone 2 time to conform to local Spanish time. S.P. 02201 para 155 (E) zone suffix B will be appended to T.O.O. of signal.
(F.O.C.N.A. 1249A/6 to S & As. N.A. 84 K. (R) C. in C. W.A. Admty. C. in C. S.A. R.A. W. Africa. N.O.I.C. Malta. C. in C. Med. Fleet. C. in C. A.W.I.)

Cartagena
A/S
defences.

My 1740/27/4 not to F.O.C.N.A. R.O. Cartagena reports that anti-sub net in Boom is 8 metres in depth and stretches from Santa Ama Buoy to Western (Navidad) breakwater. At night passage 60 metres wide is left open for ships entering. Naval tug is in attendance to take pilot if necessary warning arrival given.
(Asst. B.N.A. Madrid 1259/6 to Admty. (R) F.O.C.N.A.)

Italian
repatriations.

R.A. West Africa's 1901/2 and Opanav 1950/4. Onward route for TAIGETE from St. Vincent through position (R) 021° 01' N 024° (?40') W (S) 27° 40' 15° 12' thence Las Palmas. (F.O.C.N.A. 1342B/6 to R.A.W. Africa. C. in C. A.W.I. Opanav. C. in C. S.A. (R) Admty.)

U/B.

At 1255A, U-Boat sighted in 036° 36' N 007° 12' W course 020°. Dived. (F.O.C.N.A. 1621A/6 to S. & As N.A. (R) Admty.)

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War Diary.6.5.1942.
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic - Contd.

Movements. PHILANTE arrived Ponta Delgada 1700 G.M.T. 6/5. (N.C.S.O. Ponta Delgada 1705/6 to S.O.I. Gibraltar.)
Departure 1630 VIDETTE, GEORGETOWN, SALISBURY, ITHURIEL for A/S sweep Westward. (F.O.C.N.A. 1844A/6 to Admty.)

A/C The remaining 12 Spitfires at Gibraltar and the dispositions. Albacores which were to have been sent in operation "Picket", are to be ferried to Malta from EAGLE as soon as practicable after operation "Bowery".

2. CHARYBDIS, ARGUS, ITHURIEL, PARTRIDGE and ANTELOPE will be at your disposal as well as your own destroyers.
3. Request your intentions.
4. A further instalment of Spitfires will arrive Gibraltar in EMPIRE CONRAD about 19/5 for onward ferrying for which the same force will remain available. (A.C.N.S.(F) 1817B/6 to F.O.C.N.A. (R) C. in C. Med. V.A. Malta. R.A. West Africa.)

Dispositions Force W. RENOWN, U.S.S. WASP, U.S.S. LANG, U.S.S. STERETT, ECHO, INTREPID, GEORGETOWN and SALISBURY are to return to U.K. on completion of operation "Bowery"

2. GEORGETOWN and SALISBURY will rejoin C. in C. W.A.
3. RENOWN will rejoin H.F. proceeding to Scapa unless otherwise ordered by C. in C. H.F. Signal Officer on staff of S.O. Force W is to remain at Gibraltar.
4. The title of S.O. Force W will lapse on arrival of RENOWN in U.K. (A.C.N.S.(F) 1822B/6 to S.O. Force W. F.O.C.N.A.(R) C. in C. Med. C. in C. W.A. C. in C. H.F. Comtask. V.A. Malta. F.O.I.C. Greenock.)

Axis Shipping. Following is repetition of my 1744/4 (Begins) German vessel JOAO PESSOA left Harbour 2/5 and SCHARLACHBERGER left harbour 4/5 loaded with iron ore. DREPANUM arrived 4/5 will complete loading 6/5. (H.M. Consul Bilbao 1824/6 to Admty. for D.N.I.)

MALAYA. MALAYA is to return to Gibraltar as soon as practicable after the operation ordered in my 1817/6 (not to C. in C. S.A.) N.T.A. W.D.
2. F.O.C.N.A. is requested to make the necessary arrangements with R.A. West Africa. (A.C.N.S.(F) 1842B/6 to F.O.C.N.A. R.A. West Africa. (R) C. in C. S.A. C. in C. Med. V.A. Malta.)

SCOTTISH. Request approval to enter Lisbon for medical examination and possible landing of Seaman suspected appendicitis E.T.A. 2300A/6. (SCOTTISH 1955A/6 to F.O.C.N.A. IMPERIALIST.)

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War Diary.6.5.1942.
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic.

U/B. Submarine reported off Duellamasa Bay St. Vincent 5/5. (R.A. West Africa 0031Z/6 to Escort of O.S.26, and of S.L. 109. (R) Admty. F.O.C.N.A.)

EMPIRE Sailing EMPIRE FULMAR 0531 for Trinidad S of A 15½ knots, E.T.A. 1300Z/23 routed as in N.C.S.O. FULMAR. Durban 1456/5. ENGADINE arrived. (N.O.I.C. ENGADINE. Durban 0555Z/6 to Admty. etc.)

TINTERN My 1450Z/5 overdue shipping cancel TINTERN ABBEY. ABBEY. (S.O.I. Capetown 0830Z/6 to Admty.)

S/M off Your 1553/27. Approved. It is assumed that Ivory Vichy convoys normally show navigation lights. Coast. (A.C.N.S.(F) 0953B/6 to R.A. West Africa (R) C. in C. S.A.)
Can reply now be given to my 1553/27/4. (R.A. West Africa 1151Z/6 to Admty.)

Air R/C My 1303/5 no statement possible as to whether Dakar. anti torpedo booms are still in position round RICHELIEU. Submarine base not covered and no statement on S/Ms possible. Of 9 merchant ships laid up in Bassin Petroaier (?Petrolier) 4 previously seen Southern end of Northern entrance must have left including 1 departed between 9/4 and 3/5 and 3 between 6 3/5. Ouakam aeordrome 41 A/C visible including 1 Potez 540, 15 medium T/W 1 Potez 25 23 S/E aircraft and 1 Caudron Gocland. (R.A. West Africa 0955B/6 to Admty. (R) C. in C. S.A. F.O.C.N.A.)

S.S. ORION. ORION sailed 29/4, E.T.A. Freetown 7/5. Requirements - (S.S.T.O. Capetown 1245Z/6 to Admty. for D of S.T. N.O.I.C. Freetown.)

Overdue shipping. ENSEIGNE MAURICE PRECHAC (Free French) sailed Rio de Janeiro 21/4 due 3/5 not arrived. (S.O.I. Freetown 1251Z/6 to Admty. (R) S.O.I. Capetown, S.O.I. Montevideo.)

Cable Ship. Departure 6/5. EMILE BAUDOT. Unable to read Rugby routines. (S.O.I. Freetown 1430Z/6 to Admty. C. in C. S.A.)

SCAPA Have you any news of Panamanian SCAPA FLOW sailed FLOW. Freetown 19/3 for Robertsport. (D.T.D. 1548B/6 to S.O.I. Freetown.)

Movement Summary. 2000Z/6. Area Q. MILFORD, SOUTHERN GEM, SOUTHERN PRIDE, on patrol in False Bay. MANXMAN

/from...

War Diary.6.5.1942.
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic. contd.

Movement Summary Contd. from Takoradi 11 knots E.T.A. Simonstown p.m. 7/5. CILICIA 034° 35' S 010° 25' E to Tristan Da Cunha 15 knots. CANTON 031° 30' S 010° 30' E 15 knots to patrol in K 36 A and C. (C. in C. S.A. 1600B/6 to S.A. Station (R) Admty.)

French Intercept? Following is translation of intercept made on 7150 kcs FDS DE FJO. To Air defence for Bache. No aircraft for bombing at our disposal at present. We shall cover the drive as far as possible. (C. in C. S.A. 1652B/6 to Admty. for D.N.I. (R) C.O.I.S. Colombo R.A. West Africa (?))

S/M attack on vessel. S/M at 28° 40' N 88° 22' W firing at vessel. Radio New Orleans commandant eight naval district. (Freetown W/T 1722/6.)

Air R/C Dakar. Air R/C of Dakar 6/5 shows no change. (R.A. West Africa 1741/6 to Admty. (R) C. in C. S.A. F.O.C.N.A.)

ARCHER. Your 1031/16/4. Can approx. date now be given. (A.C.N.S.(F) 1846B/6 to R.A. West Africa (R) V.A.C.N.A.)

Kotonu A/C Report. Following from N.O.I.C. Lagos. Pilot of Sunderland W Bay 23 reports 2 ships of 1000 and 2000 tons respectively off Kotonu p.m. 4/5 also that runway for A/C and establishments of 5 buildings under construction on west side of town. (S.O.I. Freetown 1847Z/6 to Admty. for D.N.I. (R) C. in C. S.A.)

Brazil docking facilities. A.M. 1906/10/4. Can reply now be given as we do not wish to delay unduly approach to Brazilian Gov. who have agreed in principle to docking facilities for H.M. ships. (Head of M 2204B/6 to C. in C. S.A.)

Shipping route instructions. A.M. 1942B/5 (issue of alternative routes no longer necessary except for Kapruts) has been repeated for information to C. in C. S.A. and R.A. W.Africa, at request of D.T.D. under T.O.O. 2216B/6. (H.W.R. 6/5.)

U/Bs. sighted by A/C. My 2304/5. Further interrogation of crew by Colonel Kemp U.S. Presence of 2 large 5 medium and 18 small S/Ms stationary dispersed over 100 miles in Abijeau Area. 2 S/Ms opened fire from guns mounted on Conning Tower. A/C descended to 150 feet to investigate spot where S/M had crash dived and found large patch of oil. (R.A. West Africa 2307Z/6 to Admty. (R) C. in C. S.A. F.O.C.N.A.)

War Diary.6.5.1942.
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean.

Air Report. A.678 6/5 Bi-weekly Opsum No. 18.
Night 1/2/5 22 Wellingtons bombed submarine base Portolago, Badeleros Island large fires observed in area submarine jetties naval workshops fuel tanks and mine depot. 1 Wellington bombed Maritza aerodrome Rhodes, bombs bursting near hangar. 2 Wellingtons covering special operation bombed Renmdi aerodrome near Athens causing explosion and large fire in dispersal area. 9 Wellingtons bombed Benghazi Harbour 4 or 5 ships attacked but results unobserved. A Sunderland attacked Kubmariyn (? submarine) 40 miles North Mersa Luka with A/S bombs 4 depth charges oil patch seen on surface after attack. Pt.2. My A.678 6/5. 9 enemy A/C attacked westbound Tobruk convoy in (corrupt group) of Arabs burning out 1 ship damaging 2 destroyers, 2 Beaufighters sent up unable to sight enemy. Night 2/3/5. 10 Wellingtons bombed shipping Benghazi Harbour 2 possible hits on ships outside harbour other bombs straddled ships west of Cathedral Mole and burst on central mole. 7 Hurricanes interception patrols Tobruk area. 8 Martlets 29 Hurricanes 25 Tomahawks 11 Fulmars protection of shipping along Egyptian coast. Night 3/4/5. 10 Wellingtons bombed Benghazi harbour damage being unobserved owing to bad visibility further 7 Wellingtons could not reach Benghazi in bad weather 1 Liberator which left to bomb Tripoli did not return about 20. My.A.678 6/5 Part 3. Enemy A/C. attacked Alexandria some bombs falling on East Side Harbour and in town, damage slight. 4 Beaufighters shot down 1 ME. 111, damaged 2 other enemy A/C. A/A fire probably destroyed 1. 8 Tomahawks 18 Hurricanes 2 Beaufighters protection of shipping along Egyptian Coast. Night 4/5/5, 7 Wellingtons bombed Benghazi Harbour bombs bursting near converted wreck used as landing stages damage unobserved owing to heavy ground haze, H L search-light dazzle. 5/5. 8 Hurricanes 2 Tomahawks protection of shipping along Egyptian Coast. (H.Q.M.E.? 1241/6, 1520/6, 1214/6.

Axis
Shipping.

1. My 1528C/5. Italian MERANO also expected shortly. (B.4.)
2. My 1824C/17. Reported SALZBURG and ARKADIA discharged Bourgas and now employed transporting ?Italian Roumanian ?troops between Constanza Odessa. (B.3.)
(S.O.I. Istanbul 1244C/6 to S.O.I.Med.(R) D.N.I.).

URGE.

Surface and ask Alexandria W/T for D/F bearings.
(Capt.(S) 10 1509C/6 to URGE (R) C.in C.
Med. Capt.(S)1).

UNA
P.34
P.35.

Approach to Alexandria is to be made on surface during daylight and you are not to dive in searched channel unless forced to do so by enemy action.
(Capt.(S) 10, 1511C/6. to UNA, P.34,P.35 (R)
C.in C. Med, Capt. (S) 1).

/THRASHER

War Diary.6.5.1942.
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean. Contd.

THRASHER. THRASHER leaves Alexandria at 1845C/6 and proceeds from end of swept channel through 032° 03', 027° 23' 036° 22' 021° 07' 038° 44' 019° 52' to established patrol in area.
R.037° 58' 018° 44' 320° 260 miles 180 miles.
(Capt. (S) 1. 1555C/6 to C. in C. Med (R) Subs.on Patrol, N.O.I.C. Alexandria, V.A.Malta, Capt.(S) 10. No.201. Operation Group)

See next page

THORN At 1605C/6 P.C. and S. of 2 merchant ships 2 enemy vessels. destroyers 037° 43' 015° 48' 151° 9 knots. Move to 034° 34' 017° 59'.
(Capt.(S) 1 1651C/6 to THORN (R) C. in C.Med. N.O.I.C.Alexandria).

Malta I.259 6.5.42 CSR. Malta 6/5.
Air Reports. 5/5 2 Alerts 1550, 1712 hours approx 30 ME. 109s. 13 JU.88s Hal Far 1 Hurricane and 1 starter Trolley destroyed, aerodrome unserviceable

UXBs. Grand Harbour no damage, elsewhere civilian casualties and damage. A.A damaged 1 JU.88. Night 5/6 2 alerts 2239, 0235 hours, 3 Raiders bombs land sea. No damage. AA fired. 6/5. 6 alerts 0416, 0533, 0655, 0745, 0954, 1050 hours, approx. 30 ME. 109 some carrying bombs, 5 Cant 1007s, 8 JU. 88s Hal Far 2 Naval Officers 4 Ratings wounded.

UXBs. Elsewhere few military and civilian casualties. Gozo 1 civilian wounded, fishing boats and huts destroyed. 2 JU. 88s, 1 ME. 109 damaged by 7 Spitfires 4 Hurricanes. 1 Hurricane missing, 1 Spitfire shot down, pilot safe. 1 Spitfire, 1 Hurricane damaged in combat, crash landed pilots wounded. AA fired (H.Q. R.A.F. Malta 1800/6.)

Raids for the last 3 days have been light and very little has been aimed at the dockyards. About 12 JU 88 and 5 Cants daily of which a few have been destroyed.

(ii) Oil lighter with 300 tons ex BRECONSHIRE which had been weather bound at Marsa Scirocco received a direct hit and sank on 4/5.

(iii) Gozo ferries ROYAL LADY and FRANCO attacked today in Mgarr, former total loss and latter damaged.

(V.A.Malta, 2216B/6 to C. in C.Med.(R) Admty).

Enemy Convoy. Following from S.O.E. source. Convoy of 4 cargo ships with war material and soldiers leaving 6 p.m. ?today for Suda from Piraeus. C.1 (S.O.I Istanbul, 1820C/6. to S.O.I. Med.,S.I. (R) D. N.I.).

Petrol. Carriers. P.S.T.O.India's 0513/4. In order that cased petrol carriers should take in M.E. earliest possible request that absolute minimum fitting be undertaken in India and vessels proceed via Abadan to load with utmost despatch completion of fitting can be carried out in Egypt including supply of Ejectors.

War Diary.6.5.1942.
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean. contd.:

Petrol Carriers . Contd. 2. Need for small vessels suitable for conversion as cased petrol carriers is extremely urgent in view of heavy commitments to Western Desert Turkey and Cyprus advance air bases Aden Persian Gulf and Berbera.

3. Since my signal 1950/22/2 losses of this class of ship have been CERION, DIALA, OXEX, Ship unidentifiable, KIRKLAND, CALDERON, and extensive repairs have been necessary to HAVRE, VARVARA, MEMAS, KISTNA, only replacement has been KOLA now at Mombasa and found unsuitable without further modifications. EMPIRE PATROL now being fitted, but number of small store ships suitable for Western Desert is also seriously below requirements speed of all such vessels should not be less than (?7) knots.

4. See also my 1304/12/4 request estimated course and speed of these vessels may be (?returned from) M.E. Agreed G.H.Q. M.E. (P.S.T.O. Egypt 1916C/6 to D. of S.T. (R). C.in C. M.E. Forces, P.S.T.O. India.

Suspected U/B's, routes.

Suspect that U-Boats are working on route between approx. $035^{\circ} 01'$. $019^{\circ} 59'$. and Alexandria. Route instructions follow. (Capt.(S) 1, 2251C/6. to S/M's on Patrol). My 2251/6 S/M's proceed as follows.

THRASHER through $031^{\circ} 54'$ $027^{\circ} 48'$ $033^{\circ} 40'$ $027^{\circ} 08'$ and $034^{\circ} 28'$ $023^{\circ} 05'$ thence as previously ordered. *see p. 174.*

TAKU and P 611 in accordance with previous orders.

PROTEUS and UNA through $034^{\circ} 39'$ ($?023^{\circ}$) $38'$ $034^{\circ} 30'$ $026^{\circ} 28'$ and $032^{\circ} 57'$ $028^{\circ} 44'$ arrive Alexandria (?together) former as previously ordered latter 0530C/14.

Attention is called to my 0015/3.

(Capt.(S) 1, 2347C/6 to S/ms on Patrol (R) C.in C. Med.Capt.(S) 10. 201 Group). *ORUC REIS.

F.A.A. No.826 Sqdn. performance.

Monthly returns of air work for period 5/11/41 to 6/1/42 shew that 826 Squadron maintained monthly average of 51 hours flying per A/C with full Squadron.

This is outstanding and in view of desert flying and maintenance conditions and troublesome Taurus II engines T.L. consider Squadron personnel are deserving of commendation.

(Hd. of Air Branch 2345B/6 to C. in C. Med.)

6.5.1942.
Wednesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

General.

Capital ships. Admty. 0228B/6 to C.in C. E.F. see Home Commands.

Base Facilities. My 1015/18/4. In view of uncertainty of situation considered inadvisable to (?develop) bases on East Coast at present but on other hand am most anxious to be able to operate immediately there if opportunity offers.
2. Shipping arrangements are therefore being developed at Madras Vizagapatam and Calcutta.
3. As regards remainder of base requirements Gov. of India have agreed to fitting out of a suitable ship as mobile M.T.B. base ship for use on E.coast of India. Requirements are (details).
4. Request your assistance in allocation of suitable vessel. Conversion can be undertaken in India if necessary. Ship will be requisitioned as an H.M.I.S. and be of Gov. of India liability. (F.O.C.R.I.N. 0433Z/6, to Admty. amended 0423Z/9).

Eastern Fleet. My 1227Z/5. As reported port not open until D 3 now intended. 2. RESOLUTION, EMERALD, ENTERPRISE, CALEDON, DRAGON, and 3 destroyers proceeding Kilindini today. 3. Remainder of Force A remain vicinity 012° S 050° 30' E until 7th then proceeding Kilindini.
(C.in C. E.F., 0800Z/6, to Admty. (R) D. C.in C. E.F., S.O. Force F) E.T.A. Bar in RESOLUTION with EMERALD, ENTERPRISE, GRIFFIN, HOTSPUR, (? FORTUNE) at 0915Z/8 E.T.A. Bar of CALEDON and (? DRAGON) 0615Z/8. Acknowledge.
(B.S.3., 1321Z/6., to N.O. I/C East Africa & Zanzibar).

CHILKA (sunk 11/3). Ref. A.M. 46A. 7 Survivors B. Merchant ship CHILKA including Master landed Cuddalore 5/5. Ship sunk by gunfire from Japanese S/M. 11/3 0740 G.M.T. off West Sumatra 000° 23' S. 095° 41'. Masters' Books and Books in Wireless room dumped overboard in perforated weighted box at beginning of action, depth of water 2500 fathoms. Information from Master.
(R.O. Cuddalore, 1043Z/6, to Admty.)

Troop Movements. Revised programme 12/5 to 23/5, cancelling his 1203/16/4.
(P.S.T.O. India, 1045Z/6 to C.in C.E.I.(R)D.S.T. F.O.C.R.I.N. Arminia). See Lion Copy.

U.S. Dispositions. My 1505/29. Following changes in dispositions of U.S. Forces:-
Aircraft Carriers HORNET } Left Pearl Harbour
ENTERPRISE } 30/4

8" Cruisers INDIANAPOLIS } en route Brisbane
NORTHAMPTON }
VINCENNES } Left Pearl Harbour 30/4.
SALT LAKE }
CITY }

/6" Cruisers

MOST SECRET

176A

1045z/6th May

MOST SECRET

~~MESSAGE~~

IN

Date 6.5.42

Recd. 2125

From P.S.T.O.India

Interservice Gen. "X" by W/T and T/P

Addressed C. in C. East Indies, repeated D.S.T.
F.C.C.R.I.N. ARMINDIA

IMPORTANT

Cancel my 1203/16 April.

Following is a revised and up to date programme
of proposed troop movements

(a) B P 42. Two personnel ships EKMA
ERINPURA: both ships from Karachi. Sailing 12th
May.

(b) B P 43. Two personnel ships RAJULA
NEVASA from Karachi sailing about 18th May.

(c) B P 44. Two personnel ships CAP ST
JACQUES, DILWARA from Bombay. Sailing about 20th
May. From Karachi two personnel ships TALMA,
ETHIOPIA sailing about 23rd May.

(d) M 18. Three personnel ships CITY OF
CANTERBURY, CITY OF LONDON, CITY OF PARIS. Sailing
about 18th May.

(e) B A 23. Two personnel ships from Bombay.
ISLAMI, EGRA sailing 22nd May. From Karachi one
personnel ship VARSCVA sailing 21st May.

(f) Bombay Karachi one personnel ship TALMA.
Sailing about 12th May.

(g) Bombay Australia. DOMINION MONARCH
sailing 12th May.

1045z/6

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

War Diary,

6.5.1942.
Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

U.S. Dispositions. Contd. 6" Cruisers NASHVILLE Left Pearl Harbour 30/4. ST. LOUIS) En route San BOISE) Francisco RICHMOND Left Bobcat 3/5 escorting Convoy B.T. 202 At Samoa. HONOLULU

(D.O.D.(F) 1237B/6 to C.in C.E.F. N.Z.N.B. A.C.N.B. N.S.H.Q.)

M.T.B. 73. Your 2031Z/2 ^{N.T.N.W.D.} (re trial report of U.K. manufactured M.T.B. 73). The longest crane at Colombo is only capable of lifting 35 tons at not more than 20 feet from side of ship. Request information whether it is feasible to remove Engines, Torpedo

Tubes and any movable small fittings at Colombo before unloading in order to bring total weight of Cradle Boat and Slinging Gear to below 35 tons.

(C.in C. E.I., 1301Z/6 to B.A.D. (R) Admty.)

MANCHESTER CITY. Your 2256/1. Request MANCHESTER CITY be sailed Colombo on completion Mauritius mine field. 2 of 3 guard loops outside Colombo harbour are out of action and the repairs are beyond local resources. (C.in C. E.I., 1310Z/6, to Admty (R) C.in C.E.F.).

LUCIA D. of S.R., Bombay 0625/3. Request immediate decision whether you wish LUCIA to proceed to Alexandria now before S.W. monsoon breaks. (D.C.in C. E.F., 1359Z/6, to C.in C. Med. (R) Admty. etc.)

Movements Summary. No. 36. (C.in C.E.I., 1630Z/6). See Lion Copy.

Air Report. A 903 6/5. Intelligence Summary No. 52 on Information received up to 1800 hours 6/5. Burma. Blenheims made successful low level and machine gun attack 5/5 on river craft at Monywa. Bombs fell among loaded barges and scored direct hits. Medium A.A. fire Wellingtons bombed Akyab night 5/6. Fires observed on reaching target. One unidentified aircraft encountered, No. A.A. or search-lights. One Blenheim attacked coastal town 25 miles S.E. of Akyab. Three B17s of U.S. Army Air Corps attacked Mingaladon aerodrome night of 5/6. Photographic R/C revealed following:- Bay of Bengal. 2 Hudson Sea R/Cs. 5/5 (? or 6/5) Dum Dum 150 to 170° to depth 450 miles - negative. Ceylon - Catalina Patrol (?150 or 250) miles S.E. of Diego Garcia 4/5; from Diego Garcia to Koggala 5/5 and E Coast dawn patrol 6/5 a negative. (A.H.Q. India, 1635/6 G.M.T.).

Flag Appts. As a result of new conditions which have arisen in Indian Ocean area, certain changes in F.O. and other appointments have been decided on, On relief of Rear-Adm. Read by Cdre. Stuart, former is to proceed to Ceylon. Appointment of

/C.in C.

MOST SECRET

ET.
177A

MOST SECRET

MESSAGE

IN

From:- C.in C. East Indies. 1630Z/6th May

Date. 7.5.42.
Recd. 2349

Naval Cypher C by W/T & T/P

Addressed:- Ships and Authorities East Indies
Station, Negative Comdr. Burma Coast,
repeated Admiralty, C.in C. South
Atlantic, A.C.N.B. Melbourne,
F.O.R.S.

IMPORTANT AIDAC

Movements Summary number 36 dated 6th May reference
summary number 35 amend number three H.M.S. ALAUNIA
due 13th, amend number five Greek destroyer IERAX due
Aden 14th via Koriya Moriya 11th (approximate), amend
number six H.M.S. TULIP due Colombo 7th.
→ H.M.I.S. JUMNA towing ROCK BREAKER. 7 1/2 kts. See 5. below
D.S. NAUTILUS due Trincomalee 7th (approx.)
Amend number 13 H.M.S. ROSALIND due 11th
Amend number 15 H.M.S. CARLISLE due Mombasa 7th.

<u>Serial No.</u>	<u>Ship</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
1	H.M.S. WORCESTERSHIRE	Gulf of Berhala 5/5	Mombasa 12/5	ditto R.F.A. RELIANT thence
2	ATMOSPHERE and BILLOW	Bombay 5th May	Bahrein 11th May	Khcranshar 12th May
3	H.M.A.S. LISMORE	Bombay 7th May	Persian Gulf	escorting B.A. & B.P.41 to 020° north 068° east & returning Bombay. <i>See 15.2.11</i>
4	BARLANE	Cochin 5th May	Bombay	-
→ 5	H.M.S. SCOUT	Colombo 2nd May	Trincomalee, 7th May	providing A/S escort for H.M.I.S. JUMNA
6	Dutch sub. O.19	North Malacca Strait patrolling 5th May	Colombo 9th May	(approximate)
7	H.M.I.S. SUTLEJ	Diego Garcia 6th May	Colombo -	via Addu Atoll.
8	H.M.S. RANCHI	Seychelles 3rd May	Kilindini 6th May	thence escorting W.S.17 B to Bombay

9/...

177^B

- 2 -

<u>Serial No.</u>	<u>Ship</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
9	H.M.S. ROYAL SOVEREIGN	Mombasa 8th May	Bombay -	Escorting W.S.17 B
10	H.M.S. CORFU	Mombasa 8th May	Aden -	Escorting W.S.17 A
11	H.M.S. ARROW D.S. ISAAC SWEERS	Mombasa 8th May	Mombasa 10th May	Escorting U.S. Dest. ABBOTT to r/v 003° 12' south 042° 19' east 9th May and returning with H.M.S. REVENGE H.M.S. DAUNTLESS and H.M.S. ADAMANT.
12	H.M.S. EXMOOR H.M.S. CROOME	Durban 30th April	Mombasa 5th May	
13	H.M.S. CERES	Bombay 9th May	Persian Gulf	to relieve H.M.S. DANAÉ.

1630Z/6

Advance copy sent 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.(T)
A.C.N.S.(H)
A.C.N.S.(F)(2)
N.A. 1st S.L.
D.O.D.(H)(2)
D.O.D.(F)(2)
D.C.(2)
D.A./S.W.
Hd. of M.
D.D.I.C.(2)
I.P.(2)
W.D.
D.T.D.(2)
D.T.D.(M)
D.T.D.(C)
D. of P.(2)
E.P.S.
D. of S.
D.N.I.(4)

MT

6.5.1942.
Wednesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

Flag Appts. C. in C. East Indies is then to lapse, and Vice-Adm. Arbuthnot is to strike his flag and return to U.K. Rear Adm. Read will be appointed F.O. Ceylon, the duties of C. in C. E.I. devolving upon C. in C. E.F. and F.O. Ceylon as arranged by the former. Capt. F.S. Bell is appointed N.O.I.C. Trincomalee. Subject to approval of Viceroy of India, Vice-Adm. Fitzherbert is appointed F.O. India, and Rear-Adm. Palliser Deputy F.O. India. It is assumed that the appointment of Naval Adviser to Gen. Wavell referred to in C. in C. E.F.'s 0754/14 is no longer required*. Rear-Adm. Danckwerts will act as deputy to C. in C. E.F. on shore as directed by him. Further instructions will be given concerning Cdre. Glover. (Naval Secretary, 2020B/6 to C. in C. E.F.)
* Confirmed. (C. in C, E.F., 0625Z/9).

Drafting Organisation. In order to ensure that there is a continual flow of trained and higher ratings from the fleet for manning new construction T.Ls. consider it essential that a local drafting organisation for Eastern Fleet and E. Indies be established. The inclusion of ships of South Atlantic Command might also be considered depending on the locality selected. Functions. Your views are requested as to where this should be set up and whether co-ordination with Mediterranean Organisation is desirable and feasible. Consideration might be given to setting up the organisation at a South or East African port. (Head of N. App. 2 S.L., 2259B/6 to C. in C. E.F.)

Kilindini. Defences. Your 1355Z/29/4. Confirmed A/S is required in addition to A/B following upon decision to use Kilindini as main Fleet base. (D.B.D., 2343B/6 to C. in C. E.I.)

War Diary.6.5.1942.
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies. contd:Occupation of Madagascar.

- Situation 2200/5. (1) 29th Bde held 2 miles south of Antsirana.
 (2) Assault on Antsirana will be launched 0530.
 (3) 17th Bde should be concentrated ready to attack Oranjia Peninsula by 1100.
- (4) No attack by troops on aerodrome has yet been possible.
 (5) Attacks will be supported by air and naval bombardment.
 (6) Hope to be able to start moving ships to harbour 7/5.
 (7) Large fires have been started over Northern side by local inhabitants.
 (8) Casualties about 25 per battalion and 50% tanks. AURICULA mined back broken may be total loss. 3 aircraft missing. 2 forced landed in sea, crews safe. 5 crashed deck landing.
 (9) Merchant ship possibly A.M.C. torpedoed and blew up in harbour.
 (10) Small numbers of enemy fighters machine gunned beaches yesterday afternoon and evening.
 (11) Machine gun posts on Windsor Castle held out until 1600.
 (12) Resistance by Senegalese has stiffened and casualties have been inflicted on them and prisoners taken. (S.O. Force F 0045Z/6 to Admty. (R) C. in C. E.F.)

Vichy Intercept. From Censor Mauritius. Local commanders informed by G.O.C. in Chief Madagascar of Col. Andrieux report at 2020 hours, namely, 5 large 12 medium (26) small ships Courier Bay with troops and vehicles advancing towards Anamakia which have been machine gunned and bombed by Potez and Morane aircraft, 3 lost very strong A/A. It is hoped that Andrieux will open communication tomorrow. (Dep. C. in C. E.F. 0228Z/6 to C. in C. E.F. S.O. Force F, (R) Admty.)

Eastern Fleet. Your 1227/5 acknowledged. Thank you, I have no requirements. (S.O. Force F 0301Z/6 to C. in C. E.F. (R) Admty. D.C. in C. E.F.)

Tankers. S.O. Force F's 1247/5. No tankers available unless one is taken from commercial source. Can you provide? (C. in C. S.A. 1045B/6 to C. in C. E.I. (R) C. in C. E.F. S.O. Force F.)

CHILKA. Captain, Master, and 6 survivors from (GDNJ) CHILKA picked up by PIPSMOKA and landed at Cuddalore on 5/5. Arrived Madras yesterday. Vessel was attacked by S/M and sunk by gunfire in 000° 23' S 095° 41' E at 0640 G.M.T. 11/3. Vessel's gun, after firing 3 rounds, was put out of action. Range about 2000 yards. Attempts to run away ineffective owing to S/M's speed, estimated over 19 knots on surface. S/M armament 1 gun forward and another aft of conning tower of a least 4.7. Casualties: All confidential books and codes thrown overboard and seen to sink by Master. (N.C.S.O. Madras 1101Z/6 to Admty.)

/Tankers...

War Diary.6.5.1942.
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies. conts:Occupation of Madagascar - Contd.Tankers.
BROOMDALE.Your 1247/5. 1. There is now a floating stock of furnace oil at Seychelles of approx. 35000 tons.
2. R.F.A. BROOMDALE will be sent from Seychelles to join you.3. Request immediate information of destination desired.
(C. in C. E.I. 1403Z/6 to S.O. Force F (R) C. in C. S.A. C. in C. E.F. Admty.)
Your 1403Z/6. BROOMDALE should be sailed to arrive in daylight in 012° 00' S 049° 40' E where she will be met. Request E.T.A.
(S.O. Force F 2347Z/6 to C. in C. E.I. (R) C. in C. S.A. C. in C. E.F. Admty.)

Situation.

(1) Attack on Antsirana this morning failed. Enemy position strongly held with large number of 75s. and machine guns. Casualties to 29th

brigade 25%.

- (2) Intended night infantry assault by 17th brigade at 2000.
- (3) Direct assault by 50 Marines carried in destroyer through the Oronjia Pass to alongside Antsirana quay is intended as diversion to assist main assault.
- (4) Aircraft bombing and machine gunning enemy position continually all day.
- (5) 13th brigade being disembarked in Courier Bay area without (?transport). (S.O. Force F 1245Z/6 to Admty. (R) C. in C. E.F.)

Vichy Air
Support.

From Censor Mauritius. At 1545/6 (?local) time Capt. Wakhe (Air Staff) was informed by Col. Andrieux that fighter support would be (?given) when and as possible. At that time all bombers out of action. (D. C in C E.F. 1916Z/6 to S.O. Force F. C. in C. E.F. (R) Admty.)

6.5.1942.
Wednesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies.

U/B fixes Within 100 miles 44.30 N., 54.30 W., at 2027Z/5.
by D/F. (N.S.H.Q., Ottawa, 0002Z/6).
Within 100 miles 44.30 N., 39° W., at 0157Z/6.
(N.S.H.Q., 1120Z/6).

FORT YORK. E.T.A. St. Johns N.F. at 1100Z/6 with L.N.11.
(FORT YORK, 0030Z/6 to C.C.N.F., (R) N.O.I.C.
St. Johns N.F.)

Italian Following received (begins) E.T.A. of TAIGETE
Repatriations.. and ARCOLA at Curacao 2030 G.M.T./6, S.B.N.O.
TAIGETE 1830/5. (Ends).
(Navycom, Bermuda, 0033P/6 to Admty).

Position of TAIGETE and ARCOLA at noon 6/5 11.51 N., 67.51 W.
course 277° speed 10.5 knots.
(S.B.N.O. TAIGETE via Barbados Radio, 1210/6 to Admty).
Extract from a Fairmiss Telegram:-
Arrivals 6th TAIGETE, ARCOLA both Italian.
(Willemstad, 1835Q/6 to D.S.T.)

P.552 Expect me 1000Z/7. Have 3 survivors from
TABORFJELL. TABORFJELL.
(P.552 0045Z/6 to N.O.I.C. St. Johns N.F. (R)
C. in C. A.W.I., C.O.A.C., B.A.D., N.S.H.Q.)

Distress Following heard at 2340Z/5 (begins) YD 4 V4OAZ
Message. 4JT 9 00 25° 5' N., 42° 9' W., course J 42,
freighter on fire. Life boats in vicinity,
continuing search, torpedoed, life boats all
empty, happened approx. 1 hour ago.
(N.S.H.Q., 0243Z/6 to Admty. Opanv).

N.S.H.Q.'s 0243Z/6. Position as read by Bermuda W/T was 25°
15' N., 84° 29' W.
(C. in C. A.W.I., 1733P/6 to Admty Opanv)

AFOUNDRIA Following read at 2145 G.M.T. (begins) SS. AFOUND-
torpedoed. RIA torpedoed off West End Haiti, 20° 00' N.,
73° 30' W., 25 miles N.W. Cape St. Nicholas
(ends) 2203P/5.
(Navycom, Bermuda, 0536/6 to Admty).

AFOUNDRIA (U.S.) torpedoed 5/5 in 20.00 N., 73.30 W.
(N.S.H.Q., Ottawa, 2147Z/6 to Admty).

1800 G.M.T. 6/5.

Movement	Ship	Position	Course	Speed
Summary.	Convoy A.T.15)	50° N. 41° W.	060°	13
	C.T.F. 38	}		
	AVENGER			
	Convoy C.T.15)	48½° N. 43° W.	241°	13
	C.T.U.21.6.3)			
	GLASGOW	Arriving	296°	16½
		New York.		

(D.O.D. (F), 0927Z/6 to Opanv (R) Comnaveau).

6.5.1942.
Wednesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies. - Contd.

- O.N.88 Halifax portion of O.N.88 left at 2100Z/5 in fog. E.T.A. of Merchant ships at Sambro Light Vessel between 1000Z/6 and 1400Z/6. E.T.A. ROXBOROUGH 1300Z. (ROXBOROUGH, 0930Z/6 to C.O.A.C. Halifax).
- CALDWELL Departure CALDWELL in accordance with my 1552/5. (intended sailing CALDWELL escorting SS. CITIES SERVICE FUEL and SS. BRAAMSEA) (N.O.I.C. Trinidad 0932Q/6 to C. in C. A.W.I. (R) N.S.H.Q. etc).
- ESPERANCE, ADRASTUS. Admty 1214/5. Route via Mona Passage and arrange for air coverage if possible. (C. in C. A.W.I., 0952P/6 to C.S.A. Colon).
- O.N.87 Your 2013/30. Ships are arriving at original destinations. Request you will ascertain why diversion not obeyed. (D.T.D., 1046B/6 to C. in C. A.W.I.)
- IMERETHIE II My 1221R/5 Gibraltar reports IMERETHIE II passed Westbound 3/5. (S.O.(I) Kingston, 1103R/6 to Admty etc).
- Soviet Shipping. Pass to N.C.S.Os. Soviet merchant ships trading with Russian Pacific ports are not to be supplied with Admty confidential books. If already held, they should be withdrawn. (D.T.D., 1139B/6 to S.O.(I) Kingston (Ja). S.O.(I) Wellington, D.N.I. Melbourne, N.S.H.Q. (R) B.A.D.)
- U.S. Dispositions. My 1153/29. Following changes in disposition of U.S. Forces in Atlantic. Battleships. NEW YORK left Halifax. 6" Cruisers. BROOKLYN left Halifax 3/5. JUNEAU at New York. MARBLEHEAD arrived New York. OMAHA at Bahia. CINCINNATI due San Juan 5/5. (D.O.D. (F) 1151B/6 to C. in C. H.F., C. in C. A.W.I., N.S.H.Q.)
- HAVELOCK, PIMPERNEL, LAVENDER, GODETIA. When ready for sea at 2000Z/6, HAVELOCK, with PIMPERNEL, LAVENDER and GODETIA in company proceed to Bermuda via direct route at 13 knots. All ships of your group will embark tropical kit at Bermuda and proceed to Trinidad. Upon arrival at Bermuda report by despatch to C. T.G. No. 26.3 for duty. Guard normal British communication channels. (C.T.F., 24, 1205/6 to HAVELOCK)
W.D. Note - Escort Group B.5., see C. in C. W.A., 2049Z/6.
Sailed - Sun p. 183^A
- PROMETHEUS. Have you any news of Panamanian PROMETHEUS due Aruba 27/4 from San Juan? (D.T.D., 1242B/6 to N.C.S.O. Aruba (R) S.O.(I) Jamaica).
/Your...

War Diary.6.5.1942.
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America & West Indies.PROMETHEUS
Contd.Your 1242B/5 (1242/6 intended) No.
(N.C.S.O. Aruba, 1510/6, to Admty).

U/B Reports.

Following has been intercepted by Arlington Radio. Intercepted 1025 G.M.T. WGBC4 De NAA. My 052245, correct position of S/M attack to 20.00 N., 73.30 W., at 2140Z 060505 '590. WGBC1 V NAA S/M sighted 33.41 N., 76.41 W., at 2350Z/05. WGBC4 V NAA S/M attack 18.15 N., 75.00 W., at 2150Z/05, 052245 (ends). Controlling Station Arlington Radio.
(Portishead Radio, No T.O.O. Recd. 1248/6).

BURNHAM
warning of
U/Bs.

Opnav states 2 Submarines in 038° 30' N., 064° 30' W., 038° N., 067° 30' W., From N alter course for new position E, 035° 00' N., (?063°) 00' W., rejoining route at P, omitting O.
(N.S.H.Q., 1345Z/6 to BURNHAM, (R) Admty etc).

Shipping
Gulf of
Mexico.

All ships in Gulf of Mexico are now to be completely darkened and zigzag in accordance with C.A.M.S.I., 11/42.
(Navycom, Bermuda, 1353G.M.T./6 to Admty).

O.N.91

O.N.91 Western local escort Task Unit No. 24.18.4 VANQUISHER (S.O.) ST. CLAIR, ARROWHEAD, WEYBURN, (F.O.N.F., 1416Z/6 to Task Unit No. 24.1.2. (R) C.T.F. NO. 24., C.O.A.C., N.S.H.Q., VANQUISHER, U.S.C.N.O. Admty).

CELANDINE

My 1350/7/4 CELANDINE expected to leave Baltimore Thursday 21/5 and be ready to sail for Halifax p.m. Saturday 23/5.
(B.A.R.M., 1416Z/6 to Admty).

Dispositions

At 2000 G.M.T./6.
(C.O.A.C. Halifax, 1530Z/6 to Admty) See Lion Copy

Curacao,
Shipping
Resumed.

My 1102/3. Resume all sailings. Routes are to be well dispersed. Channel between Trinidad and Grenada may be used.
(C. in C. A.W.I., 1542P/6 to N.C.S.Os. C.S.As. and R.Os. in Jamaica Intelligence Area at Atlantic Ports only. Admty. S.O.(I) Jamaica).

My 1112/3. All sailings are resumed. Channel between Trinidad and Grenada is being used.
(C. in C. A.W.I., 1552P/6 to Cominch, B.A.D. Opnav, N.S.H.Q., Com. 10. (R) Admty. S.O.(I) Jamaica).

RAVNEFJELL

Have you any news of Norwegian RAVNEFJELL due Fort Liberte 27/4 from Tampa?
(D.T.D., 1547B/6 to B. Consular Officer, Port-au-Prince, Haiti, (R) S.O.(I) Jamaica).
Reply: No. (Port-au-Prince 1032/8).

/Ice...

1530Z/6th May. 183A *Aw!*

MOST SECRET MESSAGE IN
From C.O.A.C. Halifax. Date 7.5.42.

Naval Cypher 3.M. by Cable.

Addressed Admiralty.

At 2000 G.M.T. May 6th H.X. 188 T.U. No. 24.1.17
 47 degs 20' N. 49 degs 40' W. 70 degs 9 altering in
 48 degs 01' W. to 64 degs. O.N. 38 T.U. No. 24.18.5
 42 degs 35' N. 66 degs 05' W. 263 degs 75. H.M.S.
 WARWICK 48 degs 40' N. 48 degs 25' W. to Argentina 15
 T.U. No. 24.18.5 due St. Johns N.F. p.m. 6th from eastward.
 C.L. 32. AMHERST sailed St. Johns 1730Z/6th 11 in 046 degs
 34' N. to 232 degs and in 057 degs 40' W. to 247 degs
 increasing to 12. C.L. 33 MINAS sailed St. Johns 1930Z/6th
 7 alter in 046 degs (?31') N. to 258 degs and in 055 degs
 11' West to 256 degs. Submarine P. 552 unescorted 046 degs
 10' N. 053 degs 45' West 056 degs 2 submerged surface
 at dark increasing to 9 altering in 046 degs 30' N. to
 018 degs. H.M.S. HAVELOCK. H.M.S. PIMPANEL. H.M.S.
 LAVENDER. H.M.S. GODETIA sailed Argentina 2000Z/6th
 to Bermuda direct 13. SALAMONIE. U.S. S. PAINTER 045 degs
 50' N. 057 degs 10' W. 246 degs 17 altering in 065 degs
 35' W. to 273 degs U.S. S. BARNEGAT vicinity 044 degs
 55' N. (?) 061 degs 25' W. on route for Argentina.
 H.M.S. VISCOUNT due Halifax p.m. 6th from Argentina.
 L.C. 12 COVICHAN 044 degs 40' N. 061 degs 20' W. 083 degs
 12 altering to in 057 degs 00' W. to 060 degs
 L.C. 13 NANATHO sailed 1900Z coastwise to 046 degs
 02' N. 059 degs 22' W. 7.5 2 Gate vessels MATACOLIA
 due Pictou p.m. 6th from Gut of Canso. Tugs 2 towing
 UNGAVA sailed 1500Z/6th coastwise to Sydney C.B. 46.
 CHATEAU THIERRY U.S. Destroyer ERICSSON 043 degs 45' N.
 063 degs 40' West 246 degs 13.5 altering in 065 degs
 35' W. to (?348 degs) X.B. 17 NIPIGON 043 degs 55' N.
 064 degs (?05') West 237 degs 9 alter in 065 degs 25' W.
 to 270 degs in 066 degs 28' W. to 334 degs and in 043
 degs 45' N. to 246 degs BX 13 A VEGREVILLE expected
 time of arrival Halifax 0300Z/7 from Westward 9.5.
 BX. 14 DRUMMONDVILLE 042 degs 55' N. 070 degs 00' W.
 016 degs 7.5 alter in 043 degs 22' N. to 068 degs in
 043 degs 59' N. to 077 degs and in 066 degs 50' West
 to 164 degs. FREDERICTON THE PAS 042 degs 40' N. 068 degs
 10' W. Repeated 042 degs 40' N. 068 degs 10' W. to
 Halifax 14 2 destroyers sail Halifax 0100Z/7th to
 position 042 degs 25' N. 065 degs 30' W. thence 042
 degs 30' N. 058 degs 30' W. 20.

See p. 182

1530Z/6.

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

- | | | |
|------------------|--------------|--------------|
| V.C.N.S. | D.T.D. (2) | D.C. (2) |
| A.C.N.S. (T) | D.T.D. (M) | Hd. of M. |
| A.C.N.S. (H) | DDT.D. (C) | W.D. |
| A.C.N.S. (F) (2) | D.A/S.W. | D.D.O.D. (M) |
| N.A. 1st S.L. | D.D.I.C. (2) | D. of P. (2) |
| D.O.D. (H) (2) | I.P. (2) | A.E. (3) |
| D.O.D. (F) (2) | | |
- e.d.

War Diary.6.5.1942.
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America & West Indies. - Contd.Ice Report
6/5.

(N.S.H.Q., 1547Z/6 to Admty etc).

Caribbean
Shipping,
Routes.

British Controlled shipping proceeding overseas from Gulf of Mexico and Caribbean ports should be routed by either Florida Strait or by any passage through the Caribbean Sea Barrier depending upon U-boat situation at the time, and should similarly be diverted at sea when considered desirable. M.A.C.R.I. second edition para. 9, sub-para 5. refers.

2. Admty will continue to control ships ex-convoy bound for Gulf of Mexico or Caribbean except when control has been specifically deputed to another authority, in which case necessary information to enable diversions to be made will be provided. (D.T.D., 1721B/6 to C. in C. A.W.I., N.S.H.Q.)

S/Ms for
A/S
Training.

Your 1328/20/4. U.S. Authorities discussed this with Adm. Ghormley who is fully cognisant of this need but wishes no commitment made before he sees Cinpac and takes over N.Z. Area. (B.A.D., 1721Z/6 to Admty).

EMPIRE
BUFFALO,
torpedoed.

EMPIRE BUFFALO torpedoed and sinking slowly in 19° 14' N., 82° 34' W., at 2042 G.M.T./6 Britman Washington pass to Opnav and Cominch. (Navycom, Bermuda, 1837P/6 to Admiracire Admty. London).

Following just received from Naval Air Station Jacksonville. (Repeats Navycom Bermuda 1837P/6). (B.R.O. Jacksonville, 2321Z/6 to Admty (R) Ottawa).

SAMA
NICARAGUA
(torpedoed
3/5).

Ref. Admty. 1320/2/4/40 SAMA NICARAGUA hit by 1 torpedo and sunk. Sub not sighted 3/5 0515 G.M.T., 025° 04' N., 079° 45' W., no books held, no casualties information from D.I.O. Miami. (B.R.O. Jacksonville, 1838Z/6 to Admty (R) Ottawa).

Ice
bulletin 6/5.

C.T. 24., 1851/6 to Admty.

N.A.10
N.A.11.

Your 0021B/2 N.A.10 and N.A.11., movement Control requests total accommodation for 6000 all services in each movement. (N.S.H.Q., 1858Z/6 to D.S.T.)

SASKATOON,
attack on
U/B.

In accordance with C.A.F.O. 834/41. (a) SASKATOON, (b) 1515Z/24/5/1942. (c) 043° 22' N. 060° 34' W. (d) 3. (e) 1700Z/24/5. (SASKATOON, 1945Z/6 to Admty, Opnav, C. in C. U.S. Fleet, C.T. 24. C.O.A.C.)

* 4/5

War Diary.6.5.1942.
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America & West Indies. - Contd.SENATEUR
DUHAMEL
sunk.

Regret to report H.M. Trawler SENATEUR DUHAMEL sunk in collision with U.S. Destroyer SEMMES off Wilmington. All crew saved.
(B.A.R.M., 1950Z/6 to Admty (R) N.S.H.Q., C. in C. A.W.I., SAKER II).

New Orleans
Area, ports
closed.

Ports in this routeing area closed. S/M reported 57 miles off S.W. passing entrance to Mississippi.
(C.S.A., New Orleans, 2005Z/6 to N.S.H.Q. (R) C. in C. A.W.I.)

U/B
Intelligence.

Sub attack and sighting summary.
ESSO BATON ROUGE and OKLAHOMA salvaged. SAN RAFAEL torpedoed and sunk 3/5 approx. 19.05 N., 79 W.
MUNGER T. BALL torpedoed approx. 0645Z/4 25.24 N. 83.46 W. AFOUNDRIA torpedoed 20° N., 73.30 W., at 2140Z/5.
HALSEY, 2 torpedoes 27.20 N., 80.03 W., at 0900Z/6, reports sighting 2 submarines at time of attack.
JAVA ARROW torpedoed 26.57 N., 80.01 W., at 0347Z/6.
AMAZONE, Dutch M.V., torpedoed 27.23 N., 80.06 W., at 1040Z/6.
S/M shelled patrol motor boat 27.44 N., 80. 10 W., at 0800Z/6.
Plane attacked oil slick 30.40 N., 80. 10 W., 1515Z/5.
Planes attacked moving oil slicks area 24° 50' to 25° N., and 83° 30' to 84° W. Report as received 5/5 from ferry pilot states 25 (?2+5) subs. sighted 04.30 N., between 04° and 06° W. of which 5 dived and 2 fired on plane.
Sub sighted on surface 33.41 N., 76.41 W., about 2350Z/5, 1 sighted probably on surface 36.54 N., 74.58 W., 1940Z/5.
B.A.D. and Opnav informed.
(C. in C. U.S. Fleet,, 2019Z/6 to Admty for O.I.C. (R) C.C.S.F.)

Escort
Group B.5

Maintenance Commander Argentia pass to ships on arrival A.M. 1551/6 (re sailing B.5. group to Trinidad). (1) C.T.F. 24 is requested to sail escort group B.5. comprising at present HAVELOCK S.O. WARWICK, PIMPERNEL, LAVENDER, GODETIA to Trinidad, calling Bermuda. *Sailed 9 - Sun 6.183^A*
(2) C. in C. A.W.I., is requested to supply ships concerned with necessary charts and tropical clothing. (3) CHESTERFIELD BUTTERCUP, POPPY, CAMELLIA and COLUMBINE provisionally allocated B.5. will be sailed to join when available.
(4) On arrival at Trinidad B.5. will act under the orders of Com. Task 10.
(C. in C. W.A., 2049Z/6 to C.T.F. 24, C. in C. A.W.I.)

S.C.83
Escort.

In view of my 2049/6 request you will signal your intended re-allocation of escort for S.C. 83 and subsequent convoys.
(C. in C. W.A., 2055Z/6 to C.T.F. 24 (R) Admty etc).

War Diary.6.5.1942.
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America & West Indies - Contd.ECLIPSE
(torpedoed
4/5).A.M. 1320/2/4/40 ECLIPSE, British torpedoed 4/5
1703 G.M.T. 026° 30' N., 080° 00' W., all books
safe ashore, vessel towed into Port Everglades,
information from D.I.O. Miami.
(B.R.O. Jacksonville, 2149Z/6 to Admty (R)
Ottawa).Shipping
Co-ordination
Committee.At a meeting at Naval Dept. today Sir Arthur
Salter and representative of W.S.A. urged
frequent and regular consultation with representa-
tives of Navy Dept. in order to co-ordinate
shipping policy questions affected by degree of
protection available in various sections of area of U.S.
strategic responsibility.(2) Agreed that a committee under Chairmanship of Adm. Kelly
will sit for this purpose. First meeting is arranged for to-
morrow, a representative of Adm. Andrews, C.E.S.F. being
invited to attend. First business will be consultation in
respect of proportion of U.S. and British controlled ships and
U.S. Naval and Army transportation service ships to be included
in coastal convoys commencing 14/15/5.
(B.A.D. and M.S.M., 2223Z/6 to Admty. and M.W.T.)A/S Gear
and Defences,
Pacific.Reply to NZ.N.B., 1804/5.
(B.A.D., 2235Z/6) See Lion Copy.Tankers
escorted by
BURNHAM.My 1525/5 all four ships sailed 2200Z/5.
My 1650/5, LAGO delayed steering gear and crew
troubles.
(C.S.A. New York, 2235Z/6 to Admty).Gulf of
Mexico,
danger zone.From Radio Key West. All U.S. Merchant Ships in
Gulf of Mexico and Florida Straits without escort
directed to proceed nearest port for orders.
This area declared danger zone. S.N.O. Jamaica
please pass to S.O.(I) Kingston.
(Opnav, 2304/6 to C. in C. A.W.I., S.O.(I)
Kingston (Jam). N.S.H.Q. (R) Admty. C.E.S.F.)German
Plans for
Invasion.Views of Col. Ratay ex Mil. Attache in
Bucharest and Berlin. J.S.M. 213.
(J.S.M., 2319Z/6 to Chiefs of Staff)
See Lion Copy .

/U/B...

186A

AWI

MOST SECRET

2235Z/16th May.

MOST SECRET

MESSAGE

IN

From B.A.D. Washington.

Date 7.5.42.
Recd. 0752

Naval Cypher M. by Cable.

ADDRESSED N.Z.N.B., Admiralty, Rept. C. in C. Pacific Fleet.

760.

(a) Your 1804/5th and my 2225 29th April. Paragraph One (C) Hut for loop control and quarters for seven men. Para One (e) This light net with life of about 6 weeks is being supplied as measure of temporary protection pending arrival A/A A/B boom from U.K. delivery which was indicated in para 6. A.M. 1242/16th but has not been confirmed.

Gate vessel not being sent as local harbour launches could handle this net.

Para One (f) Huts for loop control signal station boat radio and quarters for 55 men.

Para One (g) and para 2 (1) U.S. are providing personnel for signal station NANDI and QUEEN CHARLOTTE as U.S. Ships are mainly concerned there. Request you man those at Suva and Tory Channel. Total of 3 12 inch searchlights self contained and 4 2 way radio will be supplied from U.S.

Para 3. A/T net will be supplied by U.S. when shipping becomes available. Loop hole officer will arrive about 20th June.

(b) My 2225/29th April para 3 U.S. are now sending 7 loop men to each instead of one each.

(c) Request reply N.Z.N.B. 1710/24th April addressed Admiralty.

^{2235Z/6.}
xRe details of equipment allocated to New Zealand required.

1st Lord	D.D.O.D. (M)	D.M.W.D.	
1st S.L.	D.N.I. (4)	D.C. (2)	
2nd S.L.	Hd. of M.	I.P. (2)	
3rd S.L.	D. of P. (2)	W.D.	
4th S.L.	D. A/S.W.	D. of D.	
Vice Controller	D.T.S.D.	D.T.M.	
V.C.N.S.	D. of S.	D. Contr.)
A.C.N.S. (F) (2)	C.E. in C.	D. of D.)
A.C.N.S. (T)	A.E. (3)	D. of S.)
A.C.N.S. (W)	D.P.S.	D.S.D.)B
N.A.A.C.N.S. (T)	D.G.D.	C.E. in C.)A
Nav. Sec.	D.N.O. (L)	D.T.M.)T
Civil Lord	D.D.O.D. (C)	D.A/S.W.)H
D.O.D. (F) (2)	D.A.S. (L)	D.N.O.)
D. of L.D.	D.S.V.P.	D.A.S.)
e.d. D.B.D. (for action)	D.T.D. (2)	D.E.E.)
D.M.S.		Hd. of S.W.R.)

From. J.S.M. [unclear] Date. 1.5.42.
Time. 0625.

Addressed. Chiefs of Staff London.

J.S.M. 213. IZ.200 & 205.

IMMEDIATE.

At yesterday's meeting of the Combined Chiefs of Staff the Americans outlined the views of Colonel Ratay who was military attache in Bucharest from April 1939 to December 1941 and in Berlin for four years previously and accurately predicted to within a few days the German attack on Russia. He was up till December 7th very Germanophile and a close friend of many German officers.

2. Ratay rates Russians very low and considers their achievements greatly exaggerated. He tells of failure of Russians to bomb effectively Rounanian oil fields when only 150 miles from them and instances their failure to make progress even against Rounanians at outbreak of war.

3. Ratay estimates that strength of German forces in Spring 1942 is greater than ever before and that they have available a total of 40,000 aircraft of all types. He is convinced that Germany will attack England this Spring rather than Russia or Middle East and will use only from 100 to 125 divisions to hold the Russian front. He considers that Germany have trained vast numbers of airborne troops and will be able to land between 200 and 250 thousand airborne troops in England in a maximum of three to five days. These troops in his view will start from East of the Rhine to ensure surprise. After airborne attack destruction of R.D.F. stations, etc., seaborne landing will follow. General Arnold lent weight to Ratay's views by stating that while it had been estimated that the German aircraft industry could maintain the original front line strength this strength had in fact dwindled and it was therefore reasonable to presume that a strong Air Force not in use was being built up.

4. We find it hard to be convinced by estimates of an individual however good his contacts which so widely diverge from the deductions of our highly organised intelligence service, but as our J.I.C. find that Ratay's views as to German potential strength and intentions are given great weight by U.S. War Department Intelligence we should be grateful for your comments on Ratay's opinions as outlined above.

2319Z/6

- | | | |
|------------------|--------------|---------------------------|
| 1st Lord. | P.A.S. (3) | |
| 1st S.L. | D.C. (F) (2) | (Rec'd in War Reg 1024/7) |
| 5th S.L. | D.N.I. (1) | (Circulation). |
| V.C.N.S. | D. of (2) | N.I.D. 10. |
| A.C.N.S. (V) | H.P.S. | Col. Jacob. |
| A.C.N.S. (P) (2) | H. of (30) | S. of S. F.O. |
| N.A. 1st S.L. | I. (2) | War Reg. Admiralty. |
| | D.N.A.D. | C.G Tels. W.O. |
| | H. of AirFr. | C.A.S. |

War Diary.

6.5.1942.
Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies. - Contd.

U/B menace,
Florida
Coast.

Heavy losses of merchant shipping off Florida coast, including 4 British vessels torpedoed in last week, demonstrate American Patrol system totally inadequate and must be reinforced if present volume of shipping is maintained.

If reinforcement impossible would strongly recommend previous British system of widely diverging routes over a large area be re-established, at any rate for British vessels and present concentration of shipping along narrow coastal lane be abolished. Submarines, surfaced from any point in this lane, can at present take their pick of some 50 vessels per day without effective counter action.

(Consul, Jacksonville, 2338Z/6 to Admty (R) Ottawa)
Reply. D.T.D., 1905B/7.

War Diary.6.5.1942.
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Australia & New Zealand.Vila Port
War Signal
Station.

Port War Signal Station established at Vila situated on hill behind the town position $017^{\circ} 44' 06''$ S $168^{\circ} 19' 16''$ E. Current M series Key memo in force. Responsible Officer C.O.U.S. Marines. Standard time 11 hours fast on G.M.T. (N.Z.N.B. 0426Z/6 to Admty. etc.)

Situation

Serial Number 105 from C.W.R. 5/5. Following enemy shipping sighted by air R/C.

- (A) 1 heavy Cruiser or Battleship and 1 Aircraft Carrier $008^{\circ} 30'$ S. $154^{\circ} 24'$ E. at 2315Z/4 moving slowly North or hove to.
- (B) 1 probably heavy Cruiser and tender 008° S. $154^{\circ} 23'$ E. at 2335Z/4 course 100° .
- (C) Seaplane Carrier $009^{\circ} 49'$ S. $156^{\circ} 26'$ E. at 0130Z/5 course $315^{\circ} 8$ knots.
- (D) 2 Merchant Ships approx. 2000 tons each $010^{\circ} 40'$ S. $154^{\circ} 05'$ E. at 0340Z/5 course 260° speed 8 knots.
- (E) 1 S/M $008^{\circ} 47'$ S $153^{\circ} 34'$ E. at 2245Z/4.
- (2) Coast watcher reports 1 Cruiser 7 miles 1 Merchant ship 10 miles S. W. of Ysabel Island at 0300Z/5 course S.E.
- (3) From air R/C. 5/5 1 medium and 3 small transports at Lorengau and one 8000 tons transport 20 miles N.E. of Kavieng proceeding Thursday Island.
- (4) 5 ground A/C were hit at Lae aerodrome on 4/5 see Serial Number 104 para. 3.
- (5) Rorona aerodrome 30 miles N.N.W. Port Moresby machine gunned by enemy A/C 4/5.
- (A.C.N.B. 1536Z/6 to Admty. etc.)

U.-BOAT CAMPAIGN.Submarines Reported.

Estimated U/B position.
D.D.I.C. 1424B/6, 1437B/6.

7.5.1942.
Thursday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

In his passage report of Convoy Q.P.11 A.C.I.C. states that the real deficiency on the British side lies in the lack of air reconnaissance and in denying the same to the enemy. Surface and submarine attacks can be dealt with, but improvement in air facilities is imperative.

Of the 13 M/Vs which left Murmansk on 28/4 in Convoy Q.P.11, 12 arrived today at Reykjavik, and A.C.I.C. reports that the Russian TSIOLKOVSKY, 2847 tons, was torpedoed and sunk on 1/5 in about 73° 23' N 25° 30' E during an attack on the convoy by 3 enemy destroyers. He reports today also that the convoy was shadowed by A/C and S/Ms from its first day out to 10° E, and that it was unsuccessfully attacked by 4 Torpedo A/C as well as by the 3 destroyers. The U-Boats appeared to be concentrated to the eastward of 24° E and no S/M attack developed; and A.C.I.C. considers an improved air defence of these convoys to be imperatively required.

Admiral Miles reports today that the food situation at Murmansk may soon become difficult, and strongly concurs in the desirability of embarking the British survivors there in a fast ship which will not be subject to continuous attack on her passage home.

British Air Operations.

No R/C of Trondheim was carried out today, but first priority has been given to photographic R/Cs of Trondheim, Kiel and Wilhelmshaven tomorrow.

Bomber Command attacked Nantes last night and 6 Boston aircraft with 13 squadrons of fighters attacked targets at Zeebrugge and Ostend docks today.

Twelve Hudsons of Coastal Command were despatched today to attack a convoy of 12 ships off Terschelling, seven ships in the convoy were hit.

War Diary.

7.5.1942.
Thursday.

SITUATION REPORT.

British Air Operations - Contd.

Our aircraft on 28/4 attacked STURGEON who was then in company with Force Q: on investigation it transpired that owing to what he considered the very secret nature of the movement of Force Q the air officer controlling at A.H.Q. did not think it advisable to pass the information about STURGEON to aircraft operating from Akureyri as escort of Convoy P.Q.15.

Enemy Air Activity.

An A/C over Scapa at 1320 today could probably have seen into the Fleet anchorage.

Mining.

Operation
S.N.3.A.

R.A.M. with the 1st. M/L Squadron and 4 destroyers left Port ZA at 1402B for a minelaying operation.

The Smack EXPRESS II is reported today to have been mined and sunk in the Thames Estuary at 1030/4.

North Atlantic.

As from 0100 G.M.T. today Gibraltar will keep Zone 2 time to conform to local Spanish time.

There are indications that JEAN BART at Casablanca may be preparing for sea.

War Diary.

7.5.1942.

Thursday.

SITUATION REPORT.

North Atlantic - Contd.

International Red Cross ships with parcels for prisoners of war will in future be routed from Lisbon to Genoa. An occasional ship may still be routed to Marseilles.

F.O.C.N.A. strongly urges that a P.R.U. aircraft be stationed permanently at Gibraltar. The present position, Coastal Command having instructed A.O.C. not to use Hudsons for this duty during the present political situation, is most unsatisfactory.

Mediterranean.

M.L. sunk.

M.L.130 failed to return from patrol off Grand Harbour this morning and is presumed lost with all hands. An engagement was observed at 0155/7 to be taking place about 5 miles 070° from St. Elmo and at 0230 R.D.F. plotted a vessel receding to northward.

Air raids on Malta were light today (20 bombers) The dockyard was not attacked.

Governor
Malta. /l.c.

Gen. Lord Gort has been appointed Govr. and C. in C Malta, Vice Lieut. Gen. Dobbie resigned. Malta is henceforth included in the sphere of the Minister of State. As C. in C. Lord Gort will be supreme commander in the island, and in the event of invasion will command all sea, land and air forces located in or operating from Malta.

THORN attacked unsuccessfully an enemy convoy of 3 M/Vs, 3 destroyers and 5 aircraft in 34° 30' N 17° 56' E at 1825C.

Wellingtons laid 8 mines in Benghazi harbour last night under cover of bombing by 16 Wellingtons.

War Diary.

7.5.1942.

Thursday.SITUATION REPORT.East Indies.Operation
"Ironclad"

The assault on Antsirana and its immediate defences last night was successful and various naval and military commanders surrendered although there was no general capitulation.

ANTHONY landed a party of Royal Marines as intended at Antsirana quay as a diversion for the main attack on Oronjia Peninsula.

At 1129C S.O. Force F reported that Oronjia Peninsula had surrendered, that a protocol was being drawn up, and that he hoped to enter harbour about 1500.

At 1931Z, he reported that he had entered Diego Suarez, and that transports and M.T. ships would do so tomorrow.

The force entering consisted of RAMILLIES, HERMIONE and 2 destroyers. 55 mines had previously been swept up in Courier Bay.

LE

S/M. HEROS was attacked and sunk by A/C shortly after daylight.

Until the aerodrome is serviceable, S.O. Force F intends to keep 1 carrier with cruiser escort at sea to maintain fighter and A/S patrol.

There were indications this afternoon of a Japanese naval unit, probably a U-Boat, in the Western Indian Ocean. This is the first indication of a Japanese U-Boat operating in that area.

America and West Indies.

The Gulf of Mexico and Florida Straits are declared danger zones, and unescorted ships in or approaching these areas have been ordered to proceed to the nearest port for orders. No ships are to be routed through or into these areas. Windward, Mona, Sombrero and Lesser Antilles Passages are to be used for vessels entering or leaving the Caribbean Sea.

C. in C. U.S. Fleet considers the U.S. should take over the control, protection, sailing and routing of shipping at Trinidad. B.A.D. Washington reports that the U.S. Navy are poor co-operators and this is repeatedly reflected not only with us but in their relations with the U.S. Army and other Departments. They recommend that Adm. King's proposal be agreed to.

/Ships...

War Diary.

7.5.1942.
Thursday.

SITUATION REPORT.

America and West Indies - Contd.

Ships were attacked by U-Boats today off the coast of Dutch Guiana, 130 miles west of Key West, off the Mississippi delta and Cape Canaveral.

Australia.

An aircraft reported an enemy submarine in the Coral Sea today, and U.S. oiler NEOSHO was bombed and reported sinking in the area this morning.

A large number of enemy warships and transports were sighted in the Louisiade Archipelago today and were attacked three times by U.S. heavy bombers who destroyed off Misima Island an enemy aircraft carrier and a cruiser and severely damaged by bomb and torpedo a second carrier which was last seen burning fiercely. Twenty three enemy aircraft were destroyed today in addition to those seen on the carrier which sank.

SECRET.

MESSAGE.

OUT.

To A Message Home and Abroad
634A.

1702B/7th May.

193A

Date. 7.5.42.

Naval Code (J) Secret & P/L BY SECRET T/P

From Admiralty.

Experience in the Mediterranean to date suggests tactics against torpedo bomber attacks by night, as in paras. 2 and 3 below.

2. Dark periods.

A. Speed should be minimum possible, as visual location is almost invariably on wake. Para. 56 of C.B. 04032 refers.

B. If flares are used turn towards flares and keep end on to lowest flare.

C. Smoke can be used affectively in either of following manners:-

(i) Long line of smoke laid by screening vessels, with ship being protected just in or on edge of flare side of smoke.

(ii) Smoke laid by screening vessels stationed about 5 cables on either bow of ship being protected, the latter zig-zagging between the two lines of smoke.

3. Moon periods. Wake is immaterial, but some protection against visual detection can be obtained by steaming directly towards or away from the moon.

4. The protection given by evasive action as in para. 3 above increases with the size of ship. When such evasive action cannot be taken a Fleet liable to air torpedo attack may be protected by destroyers stationed down moon outside the Fleet close range barrage and self destruction range of pom-pom to give warning of aircraft approach and to engage approaching aircraft. Whether to weaken the A/S screen for this purpose must depend on the relative magnitude of the threats from submarines and from torpedo bombers.

1702B/7.

D.T.S.D.

Approved by A.C.N.S. (W).

- 1st Lord.
- 1st S.L.
- 3rd S.L.
- Vice Controller.
- 4th S.L.
- 5th S.L.
- V.C.N.S.
- A.C.N.S. (H)
- A.C.N.S. (T)
- A.C.N.S. (W)
- A.C.N.S. (F)
- N.A. 1st S.L.
- D. of P. (3)
- Ops (3)
- O.D. (5)
- O.I.C. (3)
- D.G.D. (2)
- D.N.A.D.
- D.N.I. (5)
- M. (2)

- D.A/S.W.
- D.T.S.D. (T.S.D. 445/42)
- Air Branch.
- D. of L.D. (2)
- D.M.S.
- D.M.S. Citadel.
- D.T.M.
- D.D.T.M.
- D.M.W.D.
- D.A.S.
- D.T.D. (4)
- D.T.D. (M)
- I.P. (3)
- W.D.
- File X.
- Deputy Contr (3)
- D.T.M.
- D.A.S. (4)
- S.W.R.

Bath

War Diary.7.5.1942.
Thursday.HOME COMMANDS.Defence of U.K.Firth
of Forth
A/A
Defences.

I have been informed by G.O.C. 3rd. A/A division that orders have been received A/A command for the immediate withdrawal of 8 3.7 inch guns from Forth gun defended area. ANSON and FURIOUS are now at Rosyth and VICTORIOUS and other important ships are expected shortly.

I am strongly opposed to this withdrawal and in view of policy implied in A.M. 2332/18/7/41 request T.L's direction. (C. in C. Rosyth 1217B/7 to Admty.)

C. in C. Rosyth reports 3rd. A.A. Division have received instructions to withdraw eight 3.7 from Forth area.

2. Position regarding guns for redeployment fully appreciated but in view of special increased significance Rosyth now and in immediate future, request these guns are not removed unless such action is unavoidable. (A.C.N.S. (H.) 1839B/7 to Air Min.)

Folkestone
A/A
Defences.

Following from V.A. Dover. Begins. Further to my 1845B/2. There have been several raids recently by low flying enemy aircraft on Folkestone area. Consider that suitable A.A. protection should be provided without delay and

Commander 6th A.A. Division concurs. AL M/L.D.010115/42 of 25th April refers. 2021B/6. Ends.

2. Naval significance Folkestone is only as shown in Annex to (C.O.S. (A.A)) 1, (O). From this point of view therefore provision of more than light deterrent defence against attack by low flying aircraft is not justifiable at present.

3. Assume however, that this place will receive consideration in immediate plan for defence of South Coast Ports being prepared by C. in C. A.A. Command, as agreed Meeting 2nd C.O.S. (A.A) (O). (D.L.D. 1815B/7 to Air Ministry)

Movements.

MINERVE.

Capt. S.9. 1115/3. MINERVE arrived. (S.O. S/M Lerwick 0531B/7 and 0645B/7)

KENYA.

KENYA arrived Clyde. (N.O.I.C. Greenock 0856B/7)

LEDBURY.

Fighter protection requested. Your estimated position at 0800/7, 61° N 4° W. (A.C.O.S. 1012/7 to LEDBURY.)

E.T.A. Lerwick 0130B/8, GRAY RANGER in company. (LEDBURY 1458B/7.)

UREDD.

UREDD arrived. (S.O. S/M Lerwick 1055B/7.)

MAURITIUS.

Proceed to arrive Clyde Boom at 2300B/9. (C. in C. H.F. 1119B/7 to MAURITIUS.)

7.5.1942.
Thursday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Movements - Contd.

4th M.T.B. Flotilla. R.A.C.F's 1628/6. On arrival of M.T.Bs. 201, 203 and 229 about May 11th request you will sail 4th M.T.B. Flotilla to Felixstowe. (D.D.O.D. (C) 1149B/7 to V.A. Dover.)

THUNDERBOLT. Arrived 0950 THUNDERBOLT escorted by JAN VAN GELDER. (C. in C. Plymouth 1158B/7.)

H.32. At 1800B/9 intend sailing H.32 escorted by BREDA
H.44. from Rothesay through Sounds of Islay and Mull to arrive Tobermory at 1400B/10. Cmdre. WESTERN ISLES is requested to sail H.44 escorted by BREDA to arrive Rothesay not later than p.m. 11th. (Capt. S.7. 1519B/7.)

P.43. P.43 arrived. (S.O. S/M Lerwick 1909B/7.)

LIVERPOOL. Arrival Seidisfiord LIVERPOOL, ONSLOW, ICARUS
KENT. in company. (KENT 2200B/7 to C. in C. H.F.)

BERWICK. Your 1432B/6. Intend to sail from Hvalfiord 0700B/8. (BERWICK 2328B/7 to C. in C. H.F.) E.T.A. 1930B/9. (BERWICK 2332B/7 to A.C.O.S.)

Operations.

Patrols. Movements until 1200/8. MACKAY Yarmouth to patrol D. GARTH Harwich to patrol C. CATTISTOCK Sheerness to Patrol K. CAMPBELL Sheerness to Patrol M. (C. in C. Nore 1200B/7.)

3 M.T.Bs. operating South of St. Albans Head returning Needles daybreak.

2 M.Ls. on patrol 10 miles South of Portland Bill.

Three Chasseurs patrolling between St. Helens and Beachy Head. (C. in C. Portsmouth 1557B/7.)

For night 7/8. M.Ls. 224 and 207 from Ramsgate patrolling between Dumpton and North East Spit Buoys, E.T.D. 2230, E.T.R/V 0540/8.

M.G.Bs. 9 and 7 patrolling near No. 2 Buoy from 2345 to 0100/8 to cover N.L.21.

M.T.Bs. 220, 218, 221, 219 and M.G.Bs. 41, S.2, 46 patrolling in vicinity of Bullock Buoy from 2215. (V.A. Dover 1844B/7.)

7th Raiding Craft Flotilla. Ref. 7th Raiding Craft Flotilla. These craft should be fitted with TORMENTOR towing span and should be ready to proceed to Newhaven by 15/5. (C.C.O. 1040B/7 to TORMENTOR.)

Operation K.C.3. (A) K.C.3. (B) 7/8 May. (C) Yarmouth (I.O.W.) (D) 000° Cape de la Hague 5 miles (E) Small convoy (F) 050° 15' N (G) "Advent" (H) 3 U V F (I) Nil. (C. in C. Portsmouth 1137B/7 to S.O. 11th M.T.B.F.)

/Carry...

War Diary.7.5.1942.
Thursday.HOME COMMANDS.Operations.

Operation K.C.3. Contd. Carry out operation K.C.3 tonight, M.T.B. 55, 56, and 54. Do not operate east of longitude 1° 20' W. (C. in C. Portsmouth 1603B/7 to 11 M.T.B.F.)

OPHIR. ^{M.T.B.} My 1817/1. Intend to use OPHIR to relay new sea unit before sailing her for Portland. If new cable for tails is available propose these should be laid and old ones recovered at the same time. (C. in C. Plymouth 1435B/7.)

ROYAL SCOTSMAN. On completion request ROYAL SCOTSMAN be sailed for Greenock. (C.C.O. 1906B/7 to F.O.I.C. Belfast)

Denmark Strait Patrol. Request you will sail U.S. cruiser to relieve NORFOLK on patrol "White" on 13/5. 2. KENT will relieve U.S. cruiser on about 16/5. (C. in C. H.F. 1929B/7 to C.T.F. 99.)

British Air Activity.

Bombing Operations. On night 6/7, 14 A/C attacked the docks at Nantes. (H.Q.B.C. 1411/7.)

Trials from AVENGER. Admty's 2205/4 and R.A.N.A.S. 1445/5. Martlet A.L. 246 at Machrihanish and A.L.236 at R.N.A.S. Donibristle selected for trial. Aircraft to be at readiness at Machrihanish by 11/5 to be flown off when ordered by AVENGER. (C.D.B. 1443/7 to Admty.)

STURGEON attacked by own A/C on 28/4. Your 1913B/5. As result of investigation held into this occurrence it transpires that owing to what he considered the very secret nature of the movement of Force Q the air officer controlling at A.C.H.Q. did not think, it advisable to pass the information about STURGEON to A/C operating from Akureyri escort of convoy P.Q.15. He supposed this A/C would not meet STURGEON owing to convoy being 7 hours late. He did not realise that Force Q would steer 250° to meet convoy and thus come within orbit of Akureyri planes. Precautions have now been taken to ensure that all air forces engaged in an operation are given total information whether they are likely to meet other forces or not. (A.C.I.C. 2129B/7 to C.S.10.)

R/C priorities. P.R.U. R/Cs of Trondheim, Kiel, Wilhelmshaven are given first priority tomorrow. (A.C.N.S. H. 2342B/7 to C. in C. H.F.)

War Diary.7.5.1942.
Thursday.HOME COMMANDS.Enemy Air Activity.

Dover bombed. At 2050 yesterday evening aircraft dropped two bombs in Dover Harbour. No damage or casualties. (V.A. Dover 0933/7.)

A/C over Scapa. At 1320 E/A was in vicinity of Flow and could probably have seen into Fleet anchorage through gaps in cloud. (A.C.O.S. 1448/7.)

Mining.

Operation S.N.3.A. Sailed R.A.(M) in SOUTHERN PRINCE, ADVENTURE, PORT QUEBEC, AGAMEMNON, MENESTHEUS, BRIGHTON, CASTLETON, CHARLESTOWN, WELLS. (N.O.I.C. Port ZA. 1402B/7.)

Explosion off Islay. Following from POELAU ROEBIAH. My 1507 D R. No ship seen on spot of 1430 underwater explosion which (word omitted) on 1 mile distance. (Port Patrick Radio 1615/7 to N.O.I.C. Greenock.) Following received by Admiral Lyness, from Wick Radio. Intercept at 1506 G.M.T. De SDLS Begins. DR heavy explosion position 55.42 N 7.40 W 1430 G.M.T. (Scapa W/T 1709/7.)

EXPRESS II. Information has been received that Smack EXPRESS II was mined and sunk in position 3/4 miles S.E. of West Pansand Buoy on Kentish Flats at 1030/4. (C. in C. Nore 1647B/7 and 1935B/7.)

B.S.7. My 2322/6. M.S.IV reports as follows:- Search completed today. One further mine swept. B.S.7 now considered cleared. (C. in C. Nore 2134B/7.)

Enemy Intelligence.

Straits of Dover. Enemy shipping plotted by R.D.F. in Dover Strait from 0900/6 to 0900/7. Track E 16 D. Five small vessels from Boulogne at 0005 eastbound at 8 knots were joined by track E 22 D five small vessels from Calais. Faded at 0520 three miles North of Dunkirk. Probably M/S Trawlers. Track E 18 D. Eight small vessels from six miles North of Calais at 0135 Westbound at 12 to 14 knots entered Boulogne at 0520. Probably R Boats. Track E 23 D. Four vessels trawler size from ten miles North East of Calais at 0340 proceeded at seven knots to Gris Nez whence they returned to Calais at 0715. (V.A. Dover 0934B/7.)

Finland. Finland May 4th. (a) No signs yet of expected German military sea transport at Helsingfors or Aabo though recently a few vessels with corn and small military drafts have arrived.

/ (b)...

War Diary.7.5.1942.
Thursday.HOME COMMANDS.Enemy Intelligence.

Finland. (b) Disappointment is felt in official circles
Contd. at destruction of grain at Rostock by British
air raid and at Stettin by incendiarism last
week.
(c) German Naval Attache Helsingfors expressed most gloomy
outlook on future prospects of Finnish resistance. Graded A.2.
(N.A. Stockholm 1001/7.) N.I.D. Comment. Finland is known
to be short of food. Last para. already reported and believed.

Trondheim. No R/C Trondheim to-day. (D.D.I.C. 2145B/7.)

U-Boats.

U-Boats Sound contact 62° 22' N 25° 32' W. 9 charges
attacked. dropped. ^{contact} BIBB continuing search. (C.T.U. 24.6.2.
1445Z/7.)
Following has been read. Am over enemy S/M in
position Rockall. Periscope only sighted. (15 Group H.Q.
1615/7.)
Following has been read. Have attacked enemy. No results
observed. (15 Group H.Q. 1620/7.)
A/C report attacking S/M at 1615B/7 in vicinity Rockall.
(C. in C. W.A. 1708B/7 to HESPERUS.)

Navigational.

Yarmouth. Submerged object dangerous to navigation
reported in position 2 cables N 10 E 'A' Buoy.
(F.O.I.C. Gt. Yarmouth 1606B/7.)

Maplin. Maplin Buoy is 088° 3.8 cables from its charted
position. (Capt. M/S Sheerness 1844/7.)

Technical.

Landing It is proposed to carry out experiments P.2 and 3
bulk in landing bulk petrol from 750 ton tanker
petrol. EMPIRE BAIRN at Appledore on 15th and 16th May
EMPIRE using water not petrol for exercises. EMPIRE
BAIRN. BAIRN E.T.A. Appledore p.m./12. (C.C.O. 1640B/7
to C. in C. Plymouth.)

Casualties and Defects.

TRINIDAD Following is correction to last sentence of my
(Torpedoed 0256/5 which is part one of my 0437/5 begins
29/3.) "The other 2 boilers primed for six hours."
(TRINIDAD 0431B/7 to Admty. B.A.R.M.)

War Diary.7.5.1942.
Thursday.HOME COMMANDS.Casualties and Defects.

TRINIDAD
(Torpedoed
29/3.)
Contd. My 1627/5 paras 3 and 7. Request you will augment local escort for as far as practicable. (A.C.H.F. 1238B/7 to S.B.N.O. North Russia.) Your 1627B/5. C. in C. Northern Fleet is being instructed provide maximum support possible. (Ad. Miles 1538C/7 to C. in C. H.F.)

Admty. 1912/29 and your 1627/5 para 4. Please confirm destination TRINIDAD is Scapa. TRINIDAD's 1758/2 refers. (S.B.N.O. North Russia 1616B/6 to C. in C. H.F.) Your 1616B/6 and my 1627B/5 para 4. The word "remainder" refers to covering force. Destination of TRINIDAD is Hvalfiord in accordance with Admty's 1912B/29. (C. in C. H.F. 2249B/7 to S.B.N.O. North Russia.)

SUKHOMA. N.O.I.C. Greenock 1148/6. Report E.T.A. at R/V forthwith. (A.C.O.S. 0824/7 to WISTARIA.) Tug SEAMAN towing SS. SUKHOMA from Iceland to Tyne escorted by LORD LLOYD E.T.A. at 35 Buoy a.m. 8th. Relief escorts of one 12 pdr. Trawlers ~~are~~ to take over as follows. Details. (C. in C. Rosyth 1047B/7.)

KING
GEORGE V
(Damaged
1/5.) KING GEORGE V screened by BLANKNEY and MIDDLETON is to proceed to pass Hoxa at 1230B/8 to arrive Bar L.V. 1815B/9. 2. C. in C. Rosyth is requested to arrange A/S air escort until South of Cape Wrath. S of A 17½ knots. (C. in C. H.F. 1054B/7.)

BERWICK. A.M. 1826B/2 para 1 and your 1438B/6. Arrangements can be made for BERWICK to be taken in hand for refit at Devonport on 12/5. (D.O.D. (H.) 1343B/7 to C. in C. H.F.)

RICHMOND. Intend sailing RICHMOND in tow RESTIVE to Liverpool escorted by OPHELIA 1800B/7. Route and reference positions. Estimated speed 6 knots. (A.C.I.C. 1421B/7 to Admty.) My 1421/7. Sailed 1730B. (A.C.I.C. 1827B/7.)

PELICAN. Your 1725/4. Board of enquiry is to be held when ship is available. (F.O.I.C. Belfast 1507/7 to Cdre. Londonderry.)

UNDINE
(At Cowes) Your 1619B/5. N.A.B. UNDINE unable to sail owing to air raid damage. (C. in C. Portsmouth 1611/7 to Admty.)

BALMORAL. Eagle ship BALMORAL taken in hand at Harwich for urgent condenser defects. Ready for sea 2000/11. (F.O.I.C. Harwich 1653B/7.)

War Diary.7.5.1942.
Thursday.HOME COMMANDS.Casualties and Defects - Contd.

Convoy Q.P.11. Merchant ship TSIOLKOVSKY U.S.S.R. torpedoed and sunk on May 1st. in approx. 73° 23' N 25° 30' E. British C.Bs in Russian sank with ship (A.C.I.C. 1713B/7 to Admty.)
 TSIOLKOVSKY (Russian, 2847 tons) sunk. S.M.B Tanker following Q.P.11 arrived 1. BRIARWOOD, 2.TREHATA, 3.DAN-Y-BRYN, 4. ATHELTEMPLAR, 5.(disabled) CHEWALD, 6.STONER, 7.MORMACMAR, 8.DUNBOYNE, 9.ELDEN, 10.GALLANT FOX, 11.BALLOT, 12.EL ESTERO. 1,2, and 3 have ice damage to hulls, 2 and 3 also broken propellers, but able proceed with others first opportunity. (M.W.T. Iceland 2057B/7.) *See also next page*

Shipping and Convoys.

U.R.23. Intend to sail ACHATES at 1000B/8 to overtake U.R.23 in accordance with C. in C. W.A. 1223B/5. (N.O.I.C. Greenock 0932B/7.)

D.S.27. A.M. 1931/6. CHARLESTOWN and WELLS detailed. (R.A.M. 1002/7.)

Murmansk Survivors and Situation. North Russia 1936B/3 April, last sentence. Strongly concur in desirability of sending fast ship which will not be subject to continuous attacks in convoy for passage of survivors. 2. C. in C. Northern Fleet is giving all assistance but food situation may soon become difficult. (Ad. Miles 1041C/7 to Admty. (R) C. in C. H.F.)

Ice still prevents dangerous areas between Cape Gorodetski and Cape Orlov Terski being swept, and conditions in vicinity of Gorlo are bad and will remain so until wind changes to south westerly there. If bombing and congestion of Murmansk becomes more serious, and you consider that ships should be cleared from Kola Inlet, Russians agree that 9 ships could in an emergency be guided into White Sea even under existing condition with Ice Breakers KRASSIN, MONTCALM and STALIN providing risk of passing through dangerous area at high water is accepted. (S.B.N.O. Archangel 1735/7 to S.B.N.O. North Russia.)

Convoy. Congratulations on the success of your convoy all the ships of which have now arrived safely. (C. in C. W.A. 1042B/7 to Master of SS. NORTHUMBERLAND.)

W.S.19. W.S.19. Your 1054/2. Request CASTLETON and ST. MARYS be sailed to arrive Greenock in time attend Convoy Conference. Destroyers should then proceed Merville for fuel and join convoy at Oversay rendezvous. Only one destroyer is now required to proceed Azores. (C. in C. W.A. 1150B/7 to R.A.M.)

War Diary.7.5.1942.
Thursday.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping and Convoys.W.S.19.
Contd.

My 1054. Intend to sail CASTLETON to arrive Merville at 2000/10 for fuel prior to meeting W.S.19. (R.A.M. 1256/7.)
Intend sailing HIGHLAND MONARCH, AKAROA escorted by TYNWALD from Barry Roads 0500B/10 to R/V 270°. Oversay 6 miles 1100B/11. (N.O.I.C. Cardiff 1718B/7.)

AMSTELSTROOM
FINLANDE.

Admty's 1814B/6 and C. in C. Rosyth's 1827B/6. Intend sailing FINLANDE and AMSTELSTROOM 2130 today. (N.C.S.O. Methil 1211/7.)

Q.P.11.

Reykjavik arrival Q.P.11, 12 ships and Escort. (A.C.I.C. 1244B/7.)

TSIOLKOVSKY sunk on 1/5. See Casualties.
Your 1831B/6. Q.P.11. Passage report. 1. Convoy shadowed by aircraft and submarines from first day out until 010° East.
2. Attacked by four torpedo carrying land planes was unsuccessful largely due to disturbing fire from escort. Planes approached flying low and attacked two on each bow. Attack was badly synchronized and not pressed home.
3. Attack by three enemy destroyers was driven off by escort. Enemy approached in line of bearing formation during snow showers. Detected by R.D.F. at 13,000 yards, turning and firing torpedoes at about 9,000 which passed British destroyer and one ship in convoy was hit and sunk. Subsequently Germans returned four times for short gunnery engagements but would not close range below 8,000 in spite of marked disparity in armament of British destroyers.
4. No S/M attack developed. U-Boats appear to be concentrated East of 024° E.
5. Summing up. Enemy is ready to use air surface or S/M attack as circumstances (?indicate or arise). Real deficiency on British side lies in lack of air R/C and in denying same to the enemy. Surface and S/M attacks can be dealt with but improvement in air facilities imperative. (A.C.I.C. 1801B/7 to C. in C. H.F.)
Arrived BRIARWOOD, TREHATA, DAN-Y-BRYN, ATHELTEMPLAR, WEST CHESWALD, STONER, MORMACMAR, DUNBOYNE, ELDENA, GALLANT FOX, BALLOT, EL ESTERO. (Ministry of War Transport, Iceland 2057B/7)
See Casualties.

Air
protection
of
Russian
Convoys.

Admiral Miles' 1819/30/3 para (a). Russians request communication between fighters and fighter directing ship be on 4875 kc/s. (S.B.N.O. North Russia 1942B/7.)

MACANDREW.
SANTA ELENA.

Admty. 1931B/6. Request destroyers may arrive Reykjavik 12/5. (A.C.I.C. 2115B/7 to R.A.M.)

War Diary.

7.5.1942.
Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping and Convoys - Contd.

- P.Q.16. Request you will confirm to C. in C. H.F. that the following escorts will be available for P.Q.16. ACHATES, GARLAND, BEAGLE, ALYNBANK or other A/A ship. 4 Corvettes. (A.C.N.S.(H.) 2115B/7 to C. in C. W.A.)
- A.T.15. Admty. 1932B/6. Request you detail one A/A ship to escort CATHAY and sail as requisite. (C. in C. W.A. 2307B/7 to F.O.I.C. Belfast.)

War Diary.7.5.1942.
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.General.Tactics
against
Torpedo
Bombers.

Experience in Med. to date suggests following tactics against Torpedo Bomber attacks by night. (Details) (A.C.N.S.(W) 1702B/7 to A Message H and A) See Lion Copy. (page 193 A)

North Atlantic.

WASP.

Expect Hudson A/S escort from dawn to dusk tomorrow Thursday. Call signs. (F.O.C.N.A. 0022A/7 to WASP, WESTCOTT, WISHART, WRESTLER, ANTELOPE.)

Enemy
A/C.

One enemy A/C bearing 045° height 3,000 feet steering 000°. My position 318° 24 miles from Espichel. (IMPERIALIST 0820/7 to Gibraltar W/T.)

ARETHUSA.

Route from Ponta Delgada through position (D) 036° 00' N 025° 30' W. (E) 019° 59' N 020° 59' W. (2) R.A.W.A.F. is requested to issue onward route from (E) to Freetown. (F.O.C.N.A. 1026B/7 to ARETHUSA. R.A. West Africa (R) Admty. C. in C.S.A)

SCOTTISH.

SCOTTISH entered Lisbon A.M. today and landed Seaman suffering from appendicitis. He will be interned. SCOTTISH sailed 0700 G.M.T. (B.N.A. Lisbon 1031B/7 to Admty. (R) F.O.C.N.A.)

P.44.

Cancel my 1210/4. Pass through J. 039° 59' 013° 02' at 0230B/9. K. 225° Cape St. Vincent 15 at 1130B/10 to R/V in H. 350° Cape Spartel 5 miles at 0900B/11. Proceed on surface at discretion report if unable to comply within 2 hours. (F.O.C.N.A. 1206B/7 to P.44 (R) Admty. F.O.S. C. in C. Plymouth, Capt. (S) 5, Capt. (S) 3.)

Bombing
restrictions.

Cancel my 1436/5. (N.T. in W.R.) Request total bombing restrictions in area:

Areas.	From.	Until.
G.26.	0100/8	0530/9
G.17.	2330/8	1330/9
G.16.	0730/9	0700/10
G.15.	0100/10	1300/10
G.14.	0700/10	2200/10

All times Z one minus 2. (F.O.C.N.A. 1208B/7 to Admty. H.Q.C.C. (R) F.O.S.)

Red Cross
Ships.

International Red Cross ships carrying parcels for prisoners of war will in future be routed from Lisbon to Genoa. 2. An occasional ship may still be routed to Marseilles. (D.O.D. (F) 1300B/7 to F.O.C.N.A.)

War Diary.7.5.1942.
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic - Contd.

P.R.U. Request strong pressure may be brought on Air
A/C Min. to station suitable P.R.U. A/C at Gibraltar
Gibraltar. permanently, present situation most unsatis-
factory.

2. A.O.C. informs me today he has been ordered
by Coastal Command not to use Hudsons for this duty during
present political situation consequently I am deprived of this
source of information just at the moment when it would be of
extreme value.

3. I understand a squadron ? of A/C may be sent next week and
although next week never comes I trust the aircraft will and
that it will be stationed here permanently. (F.O.C.N.A. 1322B/7
to Admty.) Reply: Admty. 1037/9.

Damaged Your 1818/4. Was submarine towed into
U/B. Cartagena as reported in F.O.C.N.A. 2304/2?.
Cartagena. If so, what were the circumstances and was
U.573 towing by Naval or Commercial vessel?
(Head of M 1436B/7 to A.N.A. Madrid (R) F.O.C.N.A.)

My 2357/5.M of F.A. has replied to our note and states:-

(a) A damaged German U-Boat entered Cartagena Dockyard under
own steam 2/5.

(b) From preliminary examination it is calculated it will
require 2 to 3 months.

(c) Embassy will be informed of maximum period allowed.

2. Spanish D.N.I. informs me M of M has not discussed matter
with him and he could therefore not give me any definite
information specially as Minister has kept report by Admiral
Cartagena.

3. He believes hull holed port side.

4. I requested interview with Minister but D.N.I. suggests
I should wait until after Council of Ministers being held today
at which matters would be discussed. I agreed with proviso
that if I did not consider information given to me was
sufficient I would insist on seeing Minister.

5. R.O. Cartagena Spain reports it is rumoured ship did not go
to dry dock but was inspected by divers and torpedoes were
removed 4/5. (A.N.A. Madrid 1947/7 to Admty. (R) F.O.C.N.A.)

PHILANTE. PHILANTE left Ponta Delgada 1630 G.M.T. 7/5
escorting ships VOLTURNO and TOMBOUCTOU.
(N.C.S.O. Ponta Delgada 1640/7 to S.O.I.
Gibraltar (R) Admty.)

JEAN BART. Following report received from reliable source
6/5 (Begins) Tugs standing by to move JEAN BART
within next 48 hours to Grand Jetty between
GLOIRE and PRIMAUGUET. Previous to 5/5 JEAN BART took on
board 300 cubic metres fuel oil. On 6/5 additional boilers
lighted. A/C sound detector on forward turret removed. This
may indicate ship is preparing for sea, but there is no reliable
confirmation regarding actual departure. (Ends.) (F.O.C.N.A.
1644B/7 to Admty. (R) C. in C. Med. C. in C. S.A. C. in C.
Plymouth, V.A. Malta, R.A. West Africa.)

/Movements...

War Diary.7.5.1942.
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic - Contd.

Movements. Arrival 1430 SALISBURY, GEORGETOWN, VIDETTE, ITHURIEL from A/S sweep. (F.O.C.N.A. 1652B/7 to Admty.)
Arrival 1800 ECHO, INTREPID, U.S.S. LANG, STERETT. (F.O.C.N.A. 1824B/7 to Admty.)

Force W. A.M. 1822/6 route for S.O. Force W from Gibraltar on completion of operation "Bowery" through position (a) 270° Cape Spartel 40 miles.
(b) 36° 20' N 09° 40' W. (c) 42° 01' 17° 30'.
(d) 43° 01' 17° 30'. 2 Force W expect to pass through position A at 0900B/10 S of A 17 knots.
3. C. in C. W.A. is requested to issue onward passage instructions from position D. Endurance of SALISBURY and GEORGETOWN at this speed are 1900 and 1500 miles respectively. (F.O.C.N.A. 1742B/7 to C. in C. W.A. (R) Admty. C. in C. H.F. S.O. Force W. Com.Task 99.)

French shipping. Gibraltar 0910 survey vessel SENTINELLE westbound. (S.O.I. Gibraltar 1801B/7 to Admty.)

German A/C. German A/C seen off Sagres 0835/7 course N.W. Similar A/C reported off Cape Roca 0922 course N and off Peniche 0930 continuing northerly course. (B.N.A. Lisbon 1801B/7 to Admty. (R) S.O(I) Gibraltar.)

Italian U/B. Bearings at 1542Z of Italian U-Boat 27F. (D.D.I.C. 1812B/7 to F.O.C.N.A.)

South Atlantic.

SCAPA FLOW. Your 1548/6 not N.S.H.Q. Ottawa. SCAPA FLOW is expected to sail with escort 7/5 from Marshall for Takoradi. (S.O.I. Freetown 0937Z/7 to Admty. (R) N.S.H.Q. Ottawa.)

Overdue shipping. PATELLA due Capetown 30/4 from ^{Trinidad} TRINIDAD and PETTER due Capetown 4/5 from Aruba not arrived. (S.O(I) Capetown 0945Z/7 to Admty. etc.)

ARCHER. Your 1846B/6 10th May. My 1653Z/3/5 not to V.A.C.N.A. refers. (No trace in Admty) (R.A. West Africa 1041Z/7 to Admty (R)V.A.C.N.A.)

War Diary.

7.5.1942.

Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic - Contd.Movements
Summary.

2000/7. All positions north and west unless otherwise stated. LANDGUARD and 3 escorts with S.L. 109, 012° 20' 022° 30' 293° 7.5 knots. IBIS and 3 escorts with O.S.26 010° 20' 020°

20° 112° 10 knots.

ROCKROSE, VIOLET with O.S.S.26 009° 30' 021° 00' 155° 10 knots.

RUMBA, TURCOMAN on patrol Sector T.

→ PRETORIA CASTLE off (?Freetown) 230° 14 knots.

DUNNOTTAR CASTLE and 2 escorts 006° 50' 014° 05' to Freetown 9.5. knots.

TAMARISK, COMMANDANT DROGOU F.S. with L.? (S or T) 4 005° 50' 013° 55' to Freetown 7.5 knots.

2 M.L. escorting 003° 00' 015° 30' 255° 10 knots.

EMILE BAUDOT, ST. WISTAN 004° 25' 013° 45' 153° 8 knots.

KELT escorting 005° 50' 010° 50' to Freetown 7.5.knots.

SARABANDE escorting 003° 00' 009° 40' to Takoradi 6 knots.

→ ALCANTARA patrol I 34 A and B east of 026°.

GAMBIA, FROBISHER and 2 escorts with W.S.18 008° 15' S 008° 30' 153° 11 knots. (R.A. W.Africa 1045Z/7 to Ships in Area P (R) Admty. C. in C. S.A.)

Add to my 1045/7 and my 1217/7 (N.T. in W.R) U.S. A/C Carrier RANGER, 2 cruisers, and 5 destroyers, 004° 55' N 015° 05' W 100° 14 knots. (R.A. W.Africa 1601Z/7 to Ships in Area P (R) C. in C. S.A. Admty.)

PRETORIA
CASTLE.

→ ALCANTARA.

PRETORIA CASTLE is to proceed at 1830Z/7 to R/V with ALCANTARA in (a) 003° 00' N 020° 00' W at 0600Z/9. Then ALCANTARA will (i) steer 200° for 6 hours and 340° for 6 hours, continuing this cycle until 1200Z/11.

(ii) steer 160° for 6 hours and 020° for 6 hours, continuing this cycle until 1800Z/13.

(iii) steer similar cycle to that ordered in (i) initial course 200° until 0001Z/16.

(iv) steer similar cycle to that ordered in (ii) until in approx. position (c) 002° 20' S 020° 00' W at 0600Z/18.

(v) steer 340° for 6 hours and continue reverse cycle to position (a) (003°) 00' N 020° 00' W at 0600Z/27 when

ALCANTARA is to return to Freetown passing through (z) 007° 04' N 018° 03' W.

(vi) PRETORIA CASTLE is to carry out similar patrol with position (b) 003° 00' N 021° 00' W as initial position adjusting course and speed from position (a) so as to take up corresponding station with ALCANTARA on patrol line and is to continue until ordered to Freetown.

(vii) S.O.A. 14 knots.

(viii) C.Os. have full authority to deviate from this patrol should circumstances render it desirable. (R.A. W.Africa 1150Z/7 to PRETORIA CASTLE, ALCANTARA (R) C. in C. S.A. C. in C. U.S. Fleet, Admty. Task Force No.23.)

W.S.19 W
W.S.19 Y

A.M. 2329/2. QUEEN MARY will be known as W.S.19 W and QUEEN ELIZABETH as W.S.19 Y. (D.O.D.(F) 1156B/7 to R.A.W.A. C. in C. S.A. F.O.C. Red Sea. C. in C. Med. F.O.C.N.A. C. in C. E.F. C. in C. E.I.)

/Movements...

War Diary.7.5.1942.
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic - Contd.Movements
Summary.2000Z/5 Area Q. HILDASAY, SHAPINSAY, FLADDA,
SLUNA from Walvis Bay 8 knots E.T.A. Capetown
8/5.

CILICIA 035° 25' S 003° 12' E 15 knots to

Tristan da Cunha.

CANTON 030° 20' S 003° 50' E 15 knots to patrol in area K 36
A and C.COLOMBO on passage Simonstown to Capetown. (C. in C. S.A.
1209B/7 to S.A. Station Squadron (R) Admty.)

MISSOURIAN.

My 1450Z/5 overdue shipping cancel MISSOURIAN.
(S.O.I. Capetown 1215Z/7 to Admty. etc.)Air R/C
Dakar.Amplification of yesterday's photo R/C of Dakar
shows 2 "Galissonniere" class cruisers both now
with aircraft shipborne. 2 "Fantasque" class
destroyers, destroyer L'AUDACIEUX, Submarine Depot
ship JULES VERNE, and 7 S/Ms are all present as at 3/5 and 5/5
save for slight change in S/M disposition. RICHELIEU not
covered by camera but pilot states she is still present.
(R.A. W.Africa 1325Z/7 to Admty. (R) C. in C. S.A. F.O.C.N.A.)27th M/L
Flotilla.Ref. A.M. 1309B/2/5. Flotilla will be based at
Freetown. F.O.C.N.A. is requested to report
route and sailing date when arrangements will,
if necessary, be made for escort R/V. Request
earliest despatch of engine spares and stores
as serious shortage at Freetown. (R.A. W.Africa
1353Z/7 to Admty. F.O.C.N.A.)

ABDIEL.

Your 2203/4 (Presumably A.M. 1528/5 intended,
requesting report on work necessary on boiler of
ABDIEL to make ship fully operational) Details.
Estimated time to complete repairs is two months after receipt
of tubes but this will absorb practically all boilermakers
available from local firms with consequent delay to other urgent
work. Consider boilers can steam further 750 hours without
undue risk but as ship reports distortion is progressively
increasing especially at slow speeds renewal should not be
deferred beyond that period. (Cdre. Durban 1447B/7 to Admty.
(R) C. in C. E.I. etc.)ENSEIGNE
MAURICE
PREHACMy 1251Z/6. Arrived Freetown 7/5. (S.O.I.
Freetown 1510Z/7 to Admty. (R) S.O.I.) Capetown
S.O.I. Montevideo.)U/Bs
Air Report.Panair has reported large concentration of S/Ms
off Grand Bassam on 5/5. Not able to assess
reliability of report. (R.A. W.Africa 1523/7
to C.T.F.36 (R) Admty. B.A.D.)

War Diary.7.5.1942.
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic - Contd.U/B menace
Situation
A/S forces.

My 2307Z/6. As concentrated attack by S/Ms on traffic to Near and M.E. at a point where A/S Forces are very limited would appear to be good Axis strategy I cannot ignore this report, though nothing further has been seen by R/C and no

sinkings have yet been reported.

2. Various ungraded reports in last 6 months suggested use of Ivory Coast by S/Ms and some possibility of use of Lagoons on this coast may exist.

3. Ships reported by air R/C on 6/5 off Half Assini and Abi Jean may be supply ships.

4. Could message 2009Z/24/4 from S.O.(I) Montevideo addressed Admty indicate presence of Japanese S/Ms.

5. If heavy S/M attack develops escort forces will be quite inadequate and I will have to delay shipping to avoid serious losses.

6. In this event suggest as much shipping as possible be diverted from West Africa.

7. Can Air Min. now reinforce A/S R/C forces by Catalinas and further Sunderlands.

8. Early arrival of 27th M/L Flotilla desirable.

9. In event of minelaying very serious situation would arise with present very meagre forces.

10.. Every endeavour being made to obtain further information. (R.A. West Africa 1615Z/7 to Admty. (R) B.A.D. C. in C. S.A. F.O.C.N.A.)

Vichy
ships.

A/C R/C report p.m. on 6/5 report following Vichy Merchant ships. One of 6-8000 tons off Half Assini, 1 large and 3 small anchored 5 miles East of Abi Jean. (S.O.(I) Freetown 1752Z/7 to Admty. D.N.I.)

RANGER
Aircraft.

Requested that early information may be given if intended to fly off A/C from RANGER. (R.A. W.Africa 1906Z/7 to B.A.D. (R) Admty.)

War Diary.7.5.1942.
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean.

THORN,
Enemy
Convoy. If nothing sighted by dusk 7/5 proceed with
despatch towards 032° 07' 020° 04' and endeavour
to intercept a.m. 8/5. A S V aircraft will
search after dark 7/5.
(Capt.(S) 1, 0151C/7 to THORN (R) C.in C.Med.
N.C. Group).

At 0715C/7 P.C. and S. of 3 merchant ships, 3 destroyers 036°
03' 017° ? 20' 160° 9 knots.

(Capt.(S) 1, 0751C/7 to THORN).

P.C. and S. of 4 Merchant ships 3 Destroyers sighted by A/C
at 1031C/7 036° 02' 017° 34' 160° 10 knots.

(Capt.(S) 1, 1213C/7 to THORN).

My 0151/7 (1) 1st sighting report from A S V A/C will be
retransmitted by Malta on 150 kc/s. A/C will transmit all
sign Q Z 7 L for 5 minutes at 3 minute intervals on 320 kc/s,
while circling convoy commencing about 0230.

(2) D/F watch is to be set on 320 kc/s on receipt of 1st A/C
sighting report. Homeing by D/F bearing of A/C endeavouring
to attack by night.

(3) Air striking force expects to attack about 0315C.

(Capt.(S) 1, 1631C/7 to THORN. (R) C.in C.Med., No.201 Naval
Co-op. Group, V.A. Malta).

P.C. and S. of enemy at 1615C 35° 8' 17° 42' 170° 8 knots.

(Capt.(S) 1, 1725C/7 to THORN).

3 merchant ships 3 destroyers 5 A/C 034° 34' 30" 017° 56' 170°
9 knots at 1825C/7 4 torpedoes fired no hits.

(THORN, 2117C/7 to Capt.(S) 1, (R) C.in C.Med., V.A.Malta,
Met.Office, Malta and Alexandria).

OLYMPUS OLYMPUS leaves Malta 0430B/8 to arrive 038° 20' N.
009° E. at 0200B/11 thence as ordered by you.
(V.A.Malta, 1102B/7 to F.O.C.N.A. (R) C.in C.Med.,
Capt.(S) 1, Capt.(S) 8, Capt.(S) 10, S/Ms on
patrol.

P.42 F.O.C.N.A.'s 1136/5. No objection to F.O.C.N.A.'s
retaining P.42 until dock is available.
(C.in C.Med., 1233C/7 to Admty. (R) F.O.C.N.A.,
V.A.M.)

TRITON S/M are not to be attacked during night of 8-9/5.
Enemy E boats may be met at night in vicinity of
Malta.
(S.O. S/M's Malta, 1255B/7 to TRITON)
as amended 2346B/7.

Motor Launch Regret M.L.130 failed to return from patrol off
No.130 Grand Harbour this morning after daylight,
presumed considered lost with all hands.
lost. 2. M.L. was patrolling line 065° from St.Elmo
light to depth of 7 miles during dark hours.
3. At 0155/7 spirited engagement observed taking
place about 5 miles 070° from St.Elmo, tracer bullets as from
2 opposed craft being seen.
4. X.D.O. reports seeing hits on both craft.

War Diary.

7.5.1942.
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

Motor Launch No. 130 presumed lost. (contd.)

5. Engagement ended at 0210 but efforts thereafter to signal M.L.130 were unsuccessful.

6. At 0230 RD/F plot of a vessel receding to northward was obtained.

7. Explosion followed by intense fire occurred at 0301/7.

8. R.A.F. high speed launch reached area at 0440/7 and found burnt wreckage and salvaged carley float since identified but sighted no survivors.

9. Air search this morning unsuccessful.
(V.A.Malta, 1444B/7 to C.in C.Med. (R) Admty, F.O.C.N.A.)

Report from Adm.Kelly on training for Turkish Navy & Russian situation. (B.N.A.Ankara 1605C/7 to Admty.) See Lion Copy.

Air Report.

C.S.R. 7/5 I.273 7/5.

My I.269 additional 1 Ju.88 damaged by fighters, elsewhere 1 civilian wounded, Church and houses damaged. 6/5 - alert 1406 hrs. Me. 109s some with bombs 6 Macchi 202s 5 Ju.88 Luqa no damage Gozo

1 civilian killed 3 wounded. Ferry Boat sunk another damaged. A/A damaged 1 Ju. 88.

Night 6/7 - 4 alerts 2142, 2304, 0045, 0227 hrs. 9 raiders 2 civilians killed, 17 wounded. Beaufighters up no interceptions A/A fired.

7/5 - 5 alerts 0430, 0732, 1105, 1207, 1258 hrs. Me.109s some with bombs 2 Ju.88s.

Kalafrana. 1 petrol lighter damaged, elsewhere 4 soldiers wounded and A/A fired.
(H.Q. R.A.F.Med. 1705/7 to Air Min., etc.)

TAKU,
P.34,
Intelligence.

HASTY and 2 trawlers on patrol in sanctuary. Convoy escorted by destroyer Corvette and trawler E.T.A. early a.m. (?Saturday):
1 Tunis S/M leaves harbour 0700.
(Capt.(S) 1, 1821C/7 to TAKU, P.34)

Lord Gort,
Appointment as Governor and C.in C. Malta.

Following from C.O.S. No. M.E 263.
Following telegram despatched to General Lord Gort and repeated to Min. of State Cairo. (Begins)
Following from P.M. for General Lord Gort.
(Air Min.2115Z/7 to C's. in C., M.E.)
See Lion Copy.

MOST SECRET

MOST SECRET

MESSAGE

IN

1605C/7th May.

FROM: B. N. A. Ankara.

Date: 8.5.42.
Recd: 1350.Naval Shore Code I.T.T. by Cable. RECIRCULATION.

ADDRESSED: Admiralty.

Following is a repetition of my 1558C 7th. Begins. C. in C. Mediterranean repeated Admiralty From British Naval Attache Ankara.

Following from Admiral Kelly.

1. Visited Marshal Cakmak who showed Government would not approve destroyer and submarine instructors with Fleet but would welcome instruction in schools of but little use to us, propose therefore to retain Lt. Cdr. Anderson and a few ratings beyond appointed date to do what is possible with 2 new destroyers. Use may be made of Commander Halahan to give submarine instruction in some form, theoretical if not practical.
2. Asked why he was abdicating much of his power to foreign affairs, he acknowledged it by saying that Ministry of Foreign Affairs was being pressed from every side therefore better they should deal with all cases. Ankara bomb incident considerably tightened control over foreigners of all nationalities, Turks also much upset by Russian refusal to allow Persian troops to enter area west of Lake Rezaieh to deal with Kurdish revolt. Russians believed by them to be organizing bands and Turks fear extension of Russian territory in this area thus increasing their common frontier.
3. Marshal expects German principal efforts to capture Sevastopol, clear Crimea and (?destroy) Russian Fleet by air attacks. The barges assembled in Bulgaria and Roumania would be coasted along-side to Crimea and used for turning flanks of Caucasians thus saving valuable time. Germans would probably ask passage of troops through Turkish territory between Trabzon and Russian frontier which being contrary to neutrality would be refused by Turkey
4. Marshal now fears a Russian victory. Russian home front much more solid than German. All Russians of fighting age have been brought up entirely on Bolshevik ideals while Nazis only for 10 years affecting only the younger generation.
5. Turkey not only government but every man in the

street/

2.

street realizes German victory means enslavement of all other peoples but will Russian victory be better?

6. Bulgarians making troop movements on Turkish frontier said to be only reliefs(?) Bulgarian concentration Varna district in case of Russians advancing when probability of revolution in Bulgaria to throw out pro German King and party.

7. Turks determined to have H M L's offered, he will hasten official reply. Some constantly for escort duty in Black Sea between Eregli and Bosphorus, for coal transport which would collapse if sea transport not available. He has established batteries along the coast in this stretch so that coal ships can hug the coast under constant cover of these guns of over as well as under 4 inch.

8. Handed to Marshal aide memoire asking for erection of 3000 ton tanks at Smyrna. With chronic fears of air attack he favours water borne storage. I therefore asked for release of tank lighters in addition.

9. He has definite information Japan already suffering from lack of tonnage and aircraft. T.O.O. 1558C/7
Ends.

1605C/7

Advance Copy O.I.C.

1st Lord.	
1st S.L.	D.N.I. (4)
2nd S.L.	D. of P. (2)
3rd S.L.	D. of L.D.
4th S.L.	D.T.S.D.
5th S.L.	D.A/S.W.
V.C.N.S.	D.T.D. (2)
A.C.N.S. (F) (2)	E.P.S.
A.C.N.S. (T)	Hd. of M. (8)
A.C.N.S. (W)	N.A. 2nd S.L.
A.C.N.S. (H)	Hd. of C.W.
Sec.	D.P.S.
Nav. Sec.	M.F. (L)
N.A. 1st S.L.	Admiral Herman Hodge.
P.A.S. (S)	D. of S.
D.O.D. (H) (2)	W.D.
D.O.D. (F) (2)	I.P. (2)
D.D.I.C. (2)	W.R. File (1558/7).

MOST SECRET

210R^c

M E S S A G E 2115Z/7 May IN

From Air Ministry.

Date 8/5/42.

CYPHER

Malta: Lord Gort appointed.

Addressed Commanders in Chief, Middle East.

IMMEDIATE

OZ.167. 7/5/42.

Following from Chiefs of Staff No. M.E.263.

(amended 10202/8)

Following telegram has been despatched to General Lord Gort and has been repeated to Minister of State, Cairo. Begins:-

Following from Prime Minister for General Lord Gort.

1. You are appointed Governor and Commander in Chief, Malta.
2. Malta is henceforth included in the sphere of the Minister of State. A full definition of the Minister's functions will be communicated to you by telegram.
3. In your capacity as Governor you will deal direct with the Secretary of State for the Colonies in all matters relating to civil administration.
4. In your capacity as Commander in Chief you will be supreme Commander in the Island. Where in your judgment the safety of the Island is endangered, you will exercise this authority in any manner which appears to you to be necessary. In general, however, you will
 - (a) be guided by the policy laid down by the Middle East Defence Committee.
 - (b) refer to the Middle East Defence Committee any specific questions of importance, if time permits.
5. In the event of an invasion you will command all sea, land and air forces located in or operating from Malta.
6. Subject to the above, Service Commanders in Malta will remain under the command of their respective Commanders in Chief in the Middle East. They will, however, keep you fully informed of all important signals exchanged with their respective Commanders in Chief.

Ends.

2115Z/7

Recd. in War Reg. at 0623/8

1st Lord.
1st S.L.
V.C.N.S.
A.C.N.S. (W)
A.C.N.S. (F)(2)
N.A. 1st S.L.
P.A.S(S)
D.O.D. (F)(2)
D. of P. (2)
E.P.S.
Hd. of M. (39)

Air Min. Circulation:-
Col. Jacob.
Foreign Sec.
War Reg., Admiralty.
C.6, Tels: War Office.
C.A.S.
I.P. (2) D.C. (2)
W.D. D.D.I.C. (2)
D.N.I. (4)

War Diary.7.5.1942.
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies.General.

Italian Repatriations Cipher (M.O.11) 6/5. DUILIO and GIULIO CESARE expect arrive Berbera Approx. 15/5.
2. Telegram 86392 M.O.11 of 5/5. New arrangements fuelling under discussion. VULCANIA and SATURNIA may be free to leave before 23rd.
(W.O. 0110/7 to G.O.C.in C. E.A. for Political)
P.C.and S. at 1200 A.T.S. 46 Matm. 33° 32' S. 31° 14' E. 69° 12 knots.
(GIULIO CESARE, 0519/7 to Admty., C.in C. S.A.)

M.M.S. Your 0104 15/4 Confirmed M M'S 154 arrived India
(2) M M S 152 left partially planked in Rangoon.
(F.O.C.R.I.N., 0347Z/7 to Admty.)

Fortress Cdr., Trincomalee. 048356. 11055/G cipher 5/5.
S.D.6.
1. Understand that Rear Adm.Palliser may shortly be moved from his present appointment as Fortress Commander, Trincomalee vide C.in C. E.F. 1443-Z of 23/4.
2. Ref. para.5 of message quoted above. We can provide Major General to fill appointment Fortress Commander Trincomalee.
(C.in C. India, 0600/7 to W.O.)

ATHENE (i) Comply with following programme.
Arrive, place, leave - Colombo P.M./7 P.M./13
Seychelles 14/5 17/5 Kilindini.
(ii) Advance party C.in C. E.F. operational staff and gear are to be disembarked at Kilindini.
(iii) Cmdr. N.A.S. Eastern Theatre is requested to propose future programme.
(C.in C. E.I., 0616Z/7, to ATHENE (R) C.in C. E.F., Admty.)
Para. 1 later amended, see 0320Z/8.

Movements. Mombasa arrived 7/5 0733 GMT BIRMINGHAM.
(F.O. E.Africa, 0742Z/7 to C.in C. E.I.)
Arrival 0745 departure 1351Z SUTLEJ.
(N.O.I.C. Addu Atoll 0752Z/7 1355Z/7 to Admty.etc.)
Mombasa arrived 7/5 0915 G.M.T. CARLISLE.
(N.O.I.C. Kilindini, 0918Z/7 to C.in C.E.I.)

B.A.22 B.A.22 consisting of EL MADINA and VARELA
B.P.41. sailed 1030Z 7/5 in company with B.P.41 escorted by LISMORE and DIPAVATI to Mombasa 020° N. 068° E. thence independently. Details.
(N.C.S.O.Bombay 1038Z/7, 1040Z/7 to Admty.)

Departures 0905Z LISMORE with B A 22 and B P 41, 1135Z IERAX for Khorya Morya thence Aden, S.of A. 12 knots keeping continuous watch on 500 kc/s, holds. M N C Table H/F.
(S.O.I.Bombay 1415Z/7 to Admty. etc.)

/ C.in C.E.F. ...

War Diary.

7.5.1942.
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS

East Indies. (contd.)

C.in C.E.F.,
Kilindini.

My P.C. and S. $011^{\circ} 50' S.$ $051^{\circ} E.$ 320° 13 knots.
(2) E.T.A. Kilindini 0900Z/10.
(3) N.O.I.C. E.Africa & Zanzibar acknowledge.
Signal berths.
(C.in C.E.F., 1301Z/7 to Admty. (R) S.O. Force F, etc.)

War Diary.7.5.1942.
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies. conts.Occupation of Madagascar.

Oiler My 1259/6 to N.O.I.C. Seychelles only. Sail BROOMDALE to arrive in daylight in 012° 00' S. 049° 40' E., where she will be met. Report E.T.A. Repeat back position. (C. in C. E.I., 0227Z/7 to N.O.I.C. Seychelles (R)S.O. Force F. etc.)
Your 0227/7 012° S., 049° 40' E. E.T.A. dawn/10th. (N.O.I.C. Seychelles, 0627Z/7 to C. in C. E.I.)

Situation. (1) Assault (?on) Antsirana and immediate defences successful. Naval and military commanders have surrendered. Royal Marines landed by ANTHONY as intended without casualties or damage to (?ship).
(2) There has been no general capitulation, attack Oronjia Peninsula defences by all arms will therefore be made this morning.
(3) Aerodrome will be occupied today.
(4) M/S are ready to sweep entrance channel and harbour as soon as batteries at entrance are captured.
(5) AURICULA sank yesterday. One Swordfish missing and one forced landing White Beach.
(6) a.m. yesterday enemy bombers were over Antsirana. Our fighters destroyed 2 certain, 1 probable.
(7) GENISTA attacked confirmed submarine contacted in approach to transport anchorage at 2340/6. Hunt continues. (S.O. Force F., 0245Z/7 to Admty (R) C. in C. E.F.)
Oronjia Peninsula surrendered. Protocol being drawn up now. I hope to enter harbour about 1500 today. (S.O. Force F., 1129C/7 to Admty (R) C. in C. E.F.)
My 1129/7. Have entered Diego Suarez Harbour. Transports and M.T. ships enter tomorrow. (S.O. Force F., 1931Z/7 to C. in C. E.F. (R) Admty).
Night Infantry assault by 17th and 29th Brigade 100% successful, extremely slight casualties due to surprise and weight of attack.
2. Morning attack, casualties reported in my 1245/6 considerably reduced by release of infiltrated units by our night advance. Many of these units returned with prisoners numbering several times their own strength.
3. Collapse of Antsirana resistance considered due to effect of 2 brigades night assault combined with surprise assault in harbour area by 50 Royal Marines, who effected disturbance out of all proportion to their actual number.
4. Surrender of town and naval and military authorities occurred in theory at 0200, though in practice there were still a large number of isolated units who had not surrendered. Surrender of these units and the Oronjia Peninsula has now been arranged.
5. On receipt of news of surrender of Oronjia Peninsula, channel was swept and RAMILLIES, HERMIONE and 2 destroyers entered harbour. Arrangements have been made for entry of the convoys tomorrow.
6. Work of A/C carrier was admirable. Applying quick co-operation in meeting all calls for air support provided great moral as well as practical results.
7. Mines swept over night brought the total number swept in Courier Bay area to 55.
8. Shortly after daylight A/C attacked and sank S/M HEROS in approaches to Courier Bay. 6 officers 43 ratings survivors recovered, 22 missing.

War Diary.

7.5.1942.
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies. conts.

Occupation of Madagascar. conts.

Situation
Contd.

9. Until aerodrome is serviceable for operating A/C I intend to keep 1 carrier with cruiser escort at sea to maintain fighter and A/S patrol.

10. I have requested G.O.C. to arrange for French Military and Naval Commander to come on board RAMILLIES tomorrow morning. A conference has been arranged to take place subsequently ashore to deal with the point referred to in Admty. 1730/29/4.

11. Total casualties to our forces will probably not exceed 500 the large majority of which are from the 29th Brigade.

12. Number of prisoners not accurately known but at least 2000.

13. A brief summarised version of the whole operation will be sent tomorrow.

(S.O. Force F., 2320C/7 to Admty (R) C. in C. E.F.)

War Diary.7.5.1942.
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America & West Indies.

C. in C. J.S.M. No. 215 Ref. J.S.M. 162.
Pacific Directive. 1. We are informed that directive to C. in C. Pacific Ocean areas will become operative as from 0000 hours, G.M.T. 8/5. U.S. authorities request that U.K. Govt. will inform all concerned in accordance with para. 8 of Directive.
2. Australian and New Zealand Govts. have been informed direct by U.S.
(J.S.M. T.O.O. 0009Z/7 to Chiefs of Staff).

Movements. St. Johns N.F. 6/5. Arrivals VANQUISHER, ST. CLAIR, ARROWHEAD, WEYBURN ex S.C.82, FORT YORK ex Halifax escorting L.C.11, LINCOLN ex H.X.188.
Departures STAR XVI to investigate drifting mines. MINAS to Halifax escorting C.L. 33, AMHERST to Halifax escorting C.L.32., Fairmiles Q.056, Q.057 to escort S/M P.552 to St. Johns. *See p.217.*
(F.O.N.F., 0042Z/7 to Admty).
Arrival NIAGARA from St. Johns N.F., ROXBOROUGH, SUMMERSIDE, from Western local escort O.N.88, VISCOUNT from Argentia.
Departure COWICHAN escorting L.C.12, NANAIMO escorting L.C.13 NIPIGON escorting X.B.17.
(S.O.(I) Halifax, 1202Z/7 to Admty etc).
VISCOUNT sailed for Argentia.
(S.O.(I) Halifax, 2359Z/7 to Admty etc).

U/B Attacks. Intercepted 2230 G.M.T. De WSL. WGBC1 NAA urgent. S/M attack 27.15 N., 80.00 W., at 1125 G.M.T./6 1210/6. WGBC1 V NAA O. S/M attack 26.57 N., 80° 01' W. at 0347Z. Second sub attack 27° 20' N., 80° 03' W., at 0900Z 1044/6. WGBC1 V NAA urgent, S/M sighted 27.44 N., 80.10 W., at 0800Z, 1114/6. WGBC4 V NAA O. Sub attack 19° 14' N., 82° 34' W. at 2130 G.M.T. X 2115/6. Controlling Station Arlington Virginia Radio. (Portishead Radio, 0045/7 to Admty).

U.S. Landing Craft. Following new designation of American Landing Craft is being introduced by Navy Dept. today. (2) Please inform Admiralty and Joint Planners.
(B.A.D., 0125Z/7 to Admty).

U/B fixes by D/F. Within 50 miles 40° N., 60° W., at 2306Z/6. (N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 0244Z/7).
Within 100 miles 34° N., 67° W., at 2312Z/6. (N.S.H.Q., 0410Z/7).
Within 60 miles 21° N., 72° W., at 0047Z/7. (N.S.H.Q., 0430Z/7).
Within 75 miles 42° N., 65° W., at 0142Z and 0208Z. (N.S.H.Q., 0551Z/7).
Within 100 miles 26.30 N., 79° W., at 0534. (N.S.H.Q., 1125Z/7).
Within 100 miles 18° N., 54° W., at 0700. (N.S.H.Q., 1304Z/7).
Within 100 miles 07.30 N., 53.30 W., at 0956Z. (N.S.H.Q., 1639Z/7).

/FREDERICTON...

War Diary.7.5.1942.
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America & West Indies. - Contd.

FREDERICTON E.T.A. Halifax 1230Z/7 urgent defects steering gear, 1 boiler 260, 2 boiler 261 hours, in company with THE PAS 1 boiler 626, 2 626 hours. (FREDERICTON, 0352Z/7 to C.O.A.C.)

U/B report. Intercepted 0341 G.M.T. WGBC5 De WNU, S/M sighted 28.22 N., 87.33 W., 55/07. Controlling Station Kenner Radio. (Portishead Radio, T.H.I., 0541 B.S.T./7).

Gulf of Mexico, danger zone. Gulf of Mexico and Florida Strait are declared danger zones and unescorted ships in or approaching these areas have been ordered to proceed to nearest Port for orders. Pending further instructions no ships are to be routed through or into these areas. Windward, Mona, Sombrero and Lesser Antilles passage are to be used for vessels entering or leaving Caribbean Sea. (C. in C. A.W.I., 0902P/7 to A.I.G., 131 (R) Admty etc). Your 2304/6. British ships have been given similar instructions. B.R.Os. have been instructed to route all ships entering or leaving Caribbean Sea by Windward, Mona Sombrero and Lesser Antilles passages. (C. in C. A.W.I., 0912P/7 to Opnav (R) Admty etc). If not already done, request you will issue instructions in conformity with Opnav's 2304/6. (A.C.N.S. (T) 1004B/7 to C. in C. A.W.I.)

Dispositions A.M.1016/5. Area Scapa. Delete KENT, KENYA, LIVERPOOL and 2 Destroyers. Area Iceland. Add KENT, LIVERPOOL and 2 destroyers. Area Clyde. Add KENYA. (D.O.D. (H) 0919Z/7 to C. in C. U.S. Fleet, (R) Opnav, Cinclant).

T.G.23.3 Following is a repetition of C.T.F. 23 despatch
T.G.23.2 2354/6 (N.T. in W.R.) Admty. C.T.G. 23.3. (R)
C.T.G. 23.2, C. in C. Atlantic Fleet, Opnav.
After touching base F, patrol in area C.
looking for raider on Good Hope route. Action C. in C. South Africa and R.A.W.A. N.O.I.C. Freetown, pass to these last 2 addressees, Task Group 23.2 will deliver Army mail to Ascension and cover Cape Verde line. (Opnav, 1045Z/7 to Admty).

QUEEN Your 2043/1. It is not intended to propose any
ELIZABETH. alteration to plan.
(A.C.N.S. (F), 1118B/7 to B.A.D.)

U/B reports. Intercepted 1025 G.M.T. WGBC 5 De NAA. O Sub. attack 28.35 N., 88.22 W., at 1900 G.C.T./6
0630/7. WGBC 1 De NAA. O. Sub. sighted 36.57 N.
75.27 W., at 2132 G.C.T. 2241/6. WGBC 1 De NAA. O. Sub. sighted 37.42 N., 75.16 W., at 1405Z/6, 1655/6. WGBC 1 De NAA. O. Sub. sighted 36.05 N., 75.05 W., at 0817Z. 1250/6 ends.
Controlling Station Arlington Virginia Radio.
(Portishead Radio, T.H.I., 1225/7).

War Diary.

7.5.1942.
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies - Contd.

- P.552 S/M P.552 has arrived at St. Johns N.F. en route to U.K. Request any particular instructions regarding routing and destination. Ship will be ready to proceed 10/5.
(F.O.N.F., 1246Z/7 to F.O.S. (R) Admty etc).
- LADY DRAKE U.S.S. OWL has picked up in 34° 28' N., 64° 25' W. 263 survivors from SS. LADY DRAKE presumed sunk 4 or 5/5. All passengers and crew appear to be accounted for. OWL due Bermuda 8/5. C.O.A.C. 16(?)7/6 not to all addressees refers.
(C. in C. A.W.I., 1302P/7 to Admty N.S.H.Q., C.O.A.C., F.O.N.F., B.A.D., S.O.(I) Jamaica, Cominch, Opnav).
LADY DRAKE, British 7985 tons, independent Demerara to St. John N.B. (D.S.976).
- Working Up Base. Under consideration to establish additional working-up base abroad for a proportion of vessels building in U.S. to be manned by British crews. Existing facilities at Tobermory and Port Edgar will be used to full capacity for vessels proceeding to Home Waters. 2. Requirements.
3. Do you consider that such a base could be established in the West Indies or Bahamas or at Bermuda? Request your suggestions.
(A.C.N.S. (F) 1304B/7 to C. in C. A.W.I., (R) B.A.D., etc).
Reply: C. CAW! 2251/20.
- Defective Shipping destinations. Your 1920Z/5. My 2008/26/2/41 not to N.S.H.Q. Ottawa reads as follows. "Ships in convoy reporting defective d.g. should be sent to Belfast unless destinations are Clyde or Oban or Loch Ewe in which case no diversion is necessary.
(D.T.D., 1307B/7 to N.S.H.Q.)
- MAGNHILD MAGNHILD (Nor.) Ex. L.C.11 aground on Virgin Rocks near Argentia Newfoundland. Salvage operations in progress but probably total loss.
(N.C.S.O. St. Johns. N.F., 1322Z/7 to Admty).
- O.N.95 Request confirmation Ocean Route position N. O.N.95, your 1034Z/6 and 2330Z/6.
(Opnav, 1419Z/7 to Admty).
- HOEGH, SILVERSTAR, M.A.R.I. report. Your 2021/5. Instructions in M.A.R.I., Sec. IV para. 12 are being suspended in a similar manner to those in Sec. II para. 9 and Sec. IV para. 5 (4). A.M. 2232A/14/1 refers.
(D.T.D., 1440B/7 to N.S.H.Q.)
- PORT ST. JOHN British PORT ST. JOHN due Colon 2/5 from New York not arrived.
(S.O.(I) Jamaica, 1554B/7 to Admty etc).
My 1554R/7 ship arrived Colon today Thursday.
(S.O.(I) Jamaica, 2106R/7 to Admty etc).

War Diary.7.5.1942.
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America & West Indies. - Contd.

O.N.S. 92.

C.T.U. 29.1.3. in U.S. Destroyer GLEAVES with ~~John C.~~ SPENCER, ARVIDA, ALGOMA, SHEDIAC, and BITTERSWEET sailed for O.N.S. 92. (London ~~London~~) (C.T.G. 24.7., 1600B/7 to C.T.F. 24).

U.S. Navy and
Trinidad.

C. in C. U.S. Fleet has forwarded written proposal that in accordance with A.B.C.3 para. 23, situation at Trinidad shall be reviewed. He contends that situation has changed in that:-

- (a) U.S. has entered war and assumed strategic responsibility in Western Atlantic Area.
- (b) U-boats are operating extensively in the area.
- (c) U.S. Naval facilities and activities in Trinidad have been expanded, including laying of minefields.
- (d) Preparations are under way for a convoy system with U.S. escorts using Gulf of Paria as a terminal point.

2. C. in C. U.S. Fleet deems it essential that co-ordination and direction of all naval local defence forces and port activities affecting the control protection, sailing and routing of shipping at Trinidad be exercised in the future by the N.O. Commanding, U.S. Naval Local Defence Forces, acting under Commander of Combined local Defence Forces.

3. C. in C. U.S. Fleet proposes that this command will include co-ordination and direction of the operations of the following:-
(a) Inshore and offshore naval patrols (b) Air coverage of local waters (c) Minesweeping and minefields (d) Other underwater protection (e) Harbour entrance control (f) Examination and inspection of merchant vessels (not to include customs and quarantine inspection) (g) Harbour control, including patrols, anchoring, and berthing. (h) Assembly and sailing of convoys (i) Routing and protection of shipping, and (j) Local naval communications

4. C. in C. U.S. Fleet makes a further proposal which he considers related to the above. He proposes an exception to para. (I) Sect. D of Busra as follows:- "It is desired that the operation of the British N.C.S. Organisation in British possessions in U.S. strategic areas be co-ordinated and directed by S.N.O. of Naval Local Defence Forces at these places, acting under the General direction of Chief of Naval Operations. Increased enemy submarine activities in Western Atlantic area, requiring extensive control of shipping and establishment of Convoys in this area under U.S. control, makes it highly desirable that the personnel of the British N.C.S. Organisation acting as U.S. Agents at Trinidad and Bermuda, important terminal ports in Western Atlantic, be replaced by U.S. personnel as soon as they can be made available. Such British personnel as may be needed for liaison proposes should be retained".

5. Letter ends as follows:-

It will be greatly appreciated if these matters are laid before Admty. for consideration with the view toward establishing a U.S. Naval Officer as S.N.O. in Trinidad at earliest practicable date". (B.A.D., 1641Z/7 to Admty (R) C. in C. A.W.I.)

My 1641/7. (1) Adm. King's proposals in paras. 2 and 3 appear reasonable now that U.S. Naval activity in Trinidad is increased. If agreed to they will probably entail a change in the S.B.N.O. at Trinidad. (2) Proposal in Para. 4 appears less justifiable since the ports concerned are British and N.C.S.Os. are certainly more efficient and experienced than U.S. Officers who would replace them. On the other hand there is no doubt that U.S. must have responsibility for assembly and sailing of convoys at Trinidad

/as at...

7.5.1942.
Thursday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies. - cont'd:

U.S. Navy and Trinidad. Contd. as at other points on the system, and will gain necessary experience.
(3) The U.S. Navy are poor co-operators, and this is repeatedly reflected not only with us but in their relations with U.S. Army and other Departments. Their only cure for difficulties of collaboration is to insist on complete control within their own chain of Command.
(4) My view is that we are committed to entrusting the safety of our shipping and harbours to American control in Western Atlantic area. I consider our policy must be to allow the Americans freedom to discharge their responsibilities in their own way offering every assistance in our power. Such assistance appears to be readily acceptable from Officers acting in Liaison if they are not wielding executive power and responsibility
(5) I therefore recommend agreement with Adm. King's proposals.
(B.A.D., 1649Z/7 to Admty (R) C. in C. A.W.I.) Reply: Admty 17210/25
page 757.

AMAZONE (torpedoed 6/5). Ref. Admty. 1320/2/4/40. AMAZONE, Dutch, torpedoed and sunk within 2 minutes 0740 G.M.T./6 027° 21' 18" N., 080° 04' 30" W. All books went down with ship. 20 survivors 18 crew and 2 passengers landed at Miami, 14 crew missing and presumed dead. Information from U.S. District Intelligence Office, Miami.
(B.R.O. Jacksonville, 1731/7 to Admty (R) Ottawa).

WARWICK. At 0730Z/8 proceed from U.S. Naval Operating Base Argentia direct to Bermuda at estimated speed 20 knots. Upon arrival Bermuda report to HAVELOCK for duty. Guard normal British communications channel.
(C.T.F., 24, 1841/7 to WARWICK, (R) Cominch, Cinclant, C.T.G. No. 26.3, C.T.G. No. 27.2., Admty., C. in C. A.W.I., HAVELOCK).
See next page (B.S.E.G)

Shipping Reports. Now that many ships are being diverted at sea to new destinations it is important for me to know without delay of their subsequent arrival. Request that you arrange for all N.C.S.Os. and R.Os. to report the arrival of these ships to C. in C. with priority important.
(C. in C. A.W.I., 1842P/7 to S.O.(I) Jamaica, (R) Admty).

Overdue Reports. Reports of overdue ships are being received which are subsequently found to have arrived safely necessitating further signals being made.
2. The time lag for receipt of Vescas by Intelligence centres varies in different areas, but in the interests of reduction of signals to Admty request you will satisfy yourself that a ship is really overdue by enquiry from port of arrival before reporting the fact.
(D.T.D., 1847B/7 to S.O.(I) Jamaica, (R) C. in C. A.W.I.).

War Diary.7.5.1942.
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America & West Indies. - Contd.

S.24 Refer to this as Com. S/M Sqn. 3's 2345/5.
Notice All times Z. S.24 departed Coco Solo for
New London at 2200/8 via Windward Passage and Cai-
cos (Route).

Will run submerged during daylight hours N. of Lat. 35°. Request
total bombing restrictions 100 miles ahead and behind estimated
positions and 15 miles each side of track. S/M reports if more
than 70 miles ahead or behind position.
(Cominch, 1855/7 to Info. Admty. C. in C. A.W.I., F.O.N.F., etc).

U/B Sub. attack and sighting summary. Schooner
Intelligence. FLORENCE M. DOUGLAS sunk by U-boat gunfire,
08° N., 58° W., 1645Z/4. JAVA ARROW sunk by 2
torpedoes 27° 35' N., 80° 08' W. 0345Z/6.
PARNAHYBA sunk 1/5 by 2 torpedoes and shellfire. EMPIRE BUFFALO
torpedoed 19° 14' N., 82° 34' W., 2030Z/6. ALCOA PURITAN
torpedoed 28° 35' N., 88° 22' W., at approx. 2000Z/6. AMAZONE
now considered sunk. U.S.S. SAN JUAN reports sub. sighted 36°
57' N., 75° 27' W., 2132Z/6. U.S.S. WINSLOW attacked sound
contact 02° 23' N., 45° 55' W., 2200Z/6. After attack bow
of target surfaced. Contact not regained. Sub. sighted by
M/V 19° 43' N., 73° 34' W., 1256Z/7.
(C. in C. U.S. Fleet, 1859/7 to Admty for O.I.C. (R) C.G.S.F.)

U/B Menace, Your 2338Z/6. Your proposals have been partly
Florida satisfied as regards Caribbean Sea by a note
Coast. (inserted at Admty request) added to para 9 of
M.A.C.R.I. which reads:- (Begins).
Diverting authorities have discretion to modify
the above instructions if situation at any given moment renders
this advisable. (Ends). This discretion has been widely used.
2. Owing to the imminence of Coastal Convoys on the Eastern
seaboard it is not considered that the present moment would be a
suitable one for recommending to Navy Dept. a radical alteration
of policy on this coast.
(D.T.D., 1905B/7 to Consul, Jacksonville, (R) N.S.H.Q.)

Barbados Your 1708/5 (N.T. in W.D.) Please see my 1042/7/4
A/S As St. Lucia is now provided with some protection
protection. strongly recommend that this gear should be sent
to Barbados instead if suitable.
(C. in C. A.W.I., 1912P/7 to Admty (R) B.A.D.,
R.N.O. St. Lucia).

B.5. A.M. 1551/6 ^{N.T. in W.D.} and C. in C. Western Approaches'
Escort 2049/6.
Group. Arrangements should be made for B.5. Group at
present consisting of HAVELOCK, WARWICK, PIMPERNEL,
LAVENDER, GODETIA, to complete with Naval,
victualling, and Canteen stores to full capacity of accommodation
at Bermuda.
C. in C. W.A. is requested to make similar arrangements for
CHESTERFIELD CHURCHILL, BUTTERCUP, POPPY, CAMELLIA and COLUMBINE before these
See p. 185. ships leave U.K.
(D.O.D. (H), 1925B/7 to C. in C. A.W.I., C. in C. W.A.)

/Ice...

War Diary.7.5.1942.
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America & West Indies. - Contd.Ice bulletin
7/5.

C.T.F., 24., 1935Z/7 to Admty.

Italian
Repatriations.Sail ARCOLA and TAIGETE 13/5 ref. Admty 1133B/7.
Onward route for TAIGETE from St. Vincent
through position (R) 021° 01' N., 024° 40' W.,
(S) 027° 40', 015° 12' thence Las Palmas.
(U.S.C.N.O., 2001Z/7 to C.O. American Forces
Curacao).Shipping
Casualties.Opnav serial 71. Additional British survivor
reported from ECLIPSE. EMPIRE BUFFALO, British
torpedoed at 2040 G.M.T./6 in 19.14 N., 81.34 W.
NORLINDO, American, 23 survivors picked up 6/5
in 23.31 N., 83.33 W. ALCOA PURITAN, American torpedoed 6/5
in 28.35 N., 88.22 W. 41 survivors. (Admty. please pass to
Spnava for action).
(Opnav, 2059Z/7 to Spnava (R) N.S.H.Q.)Landing
Craft, crews.Following from C.O.L.O. to C.C.O.
1. In Combined Planning Committee Americans have
stated that they cannot provide operating crews
for landing craft shipped to U.K. for an
operation in Autumn 1942. They enquire whether British crews can
be provided for these B.Ls. and craft if used this year. They
anticipate being able to meet their manning commitments for
Spring 1943.
2. Maximum number of these craft likely to arrive in U.K. by
mid-September is estimated at 1,000 Y type and 150 T.Ls.
(B.A.D., 2121Z/7 to Admty).

Key West.

A convoy assembly anchorage has been established
bound by line joining following points (a)
24.43 N., 81.50 W., (b) 24.50 N., 81.50 W. (c)
24.50 N., 81.37 W. Ships approaching this anchorage must keep
to westward of (?meridian) 82.08 W. A light vessel position
24.45.30 N., 82.07 (?18) W., marks the outer end of only approach
to channel to this anchorage. Ships must pick up pilot or
obtain specific instructions for entering this anchorage from
this light vessel. Characteristics of light ship will be
promulgated as soon as available.
(C.N.S., Ottawa, 2125Z/7 to Admty etc).BROADWAY,
ST. FRANCIS.In view of heavy weather and fuel shortage
BROADWAY and ST. FRANCIS are leaving O.N.S. 90
now for St. Johns N.F. E.T.A. later (?Weather
report)
(BROADWAY, 2200Z/7 to C.T.F., 24 (R) Opnav,
Admty. etc).

/BROOKLYN...

War Diary.

7.5.1942.
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies. - Contd.

BROOKLYN
A.T.15.

Cinclant's 0023/22/4. Please confirm or correct that BROOKLYN is accompanying convoy A.T.15 to Clyde and that Adm. Kirk, Chief of Staff to Comnaveu, is on board. (A.C.N.S. (H), 2329B/7 to Cominch (R) C.T.F. 38 etc).

U.S. and
Fiji.

J.S.M. 216.
(J.S.M. 2351Z/7 to Chiefs of Staff) See New Zealand.

New
Caledonia.

J.S.M. 217. Unrest over Adm. D'Argenlieu's arrest of Govr. Sautot.
(J.S.M., 2355Z/7 to Chiefs of Staff) See Lion Copy

U/B attacks.

Intercepted 2220 G.M.T. Arlington, Virginia. WGBC 1 De NAA. Sub. sighted 19° - ?? N. 73° 45' W., 1256 G.M.T. Your 1331/7 WGBC 5 De NAA. Sub. Attack 24° 45' N., 84° 05' W., at 1910Z 2048/7. Controlling station Arlington Virginia Radio. (Portishead Radio, No T.O.O., Recd. 0051/8).

MOST SECRET

MOST SECRET

M E S A C W 2355Z/7th May

IN

From J.S.M. Washington.

Date 8.5.42.

Recd 0653.

Addressed Chiefs of Staff London.

IMMEDIATE.

J.S.M. 217 Reference our J.S.M. 207*. IZ 221 and 223.

Personal from Field Marshal Sir John Dill.

Marshall has sent over the following two messages from Patch of New Caledonia asking that their contents should be brought to the notice of General de Gaulle. He is clearly disturbed by the situation in the Island and I should appreciate early reply from you as to what can be done with de Gaulle about the whole position.

First message, dated 6th May begins:-

Report following change in local political situation. High Commissioner Admiral D'Argenlieu arrested Governor Sautot and four leading New Caledonian citizens and confined them aboard free French gun boat CHEVREUIL about 7.30 p.m. last night. CHEVREUIL departed unannounced destination early today. Population highly incensed and general strike has been called with public demonstrations protesting D'Argenlieu's action. High Commissioner has requested me to use military forces to assist in maintaining order. I have refused to intervene beyond the point necessary to protect United States property. I believe that the events cited above have injured prestige of and local confidence in Free French movement. Action taken by D'Argenlieu was surreptitious and devious with implication of American support unjustified and unknown to me. I do not repeat not believe that action taken could have been accomplished had American troops not been present in New Caledonia. From a military standpoint this may have injured New Caledonian confidence in Americans and will seriously impair utility of Militia as part of my force. Ends.

Second message, dated 7th May begins:-

Further reference political situation here, incarceration of ex-Governor Sautot and prominent citizens plus the deceptive means employed has so increased temper of population against D'Argenlieu and his mission that open violence is now more imminent. From military standpoint resulting disorders can be highly favourable to enemy.

The strike.....

- 4 -

The strike continues. I believe that demonstrations will continue and grow in intensity until source of trouble is removed by some means. The source of trouble is D'Argenlieu and his mission. I believe D'Argenlieu instigated the arrests previously reported and at most inopportune time. While professing an understanding of my neutral attitude he seeks and expects me to use American troops against the common people of New Caledonia to protect him and his mission. If I use our troops to suppress this incipient rebellion against the present High Commissioner and his mission I will lose the military support of the local Militia and the entire population which is important to us militarily. The recent actions of D'Argenlieu especially in view of the present military situation now cause me to be distrustful of his motives. This is further accentuated by the fact that potential Fifth Columnists appear to be prominent amongst his new advisors. Does the international political situation permit delegating to me authority to place D'Argenlieu and his mission in protective custody as these disorders grow into an immediate and dangerous military threat. Ends.

2355Z/7.

• 2315/4.

Received from Air Ministry 1137/8.

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

Air Ministry Circulation:-
 Col. Jacob.
 War Registry Admiralty.
 C.6. Tels W.O.
 C.A.S.

jf

War Diary.

7.5.1942.

Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Australia & New Zealand.C.in C.
Pacific
Areas.Re directive (J.S.M., 0009Z/7 to Chiefs of Staff)
See America & West Indies.

Movements.

Arrival Brisbane 0230Z/6 KANIMBLA escorting
MAETSUYCKER, U.S. Destroyer JOHN D. FORD.
Geelong 0805Z/6, BUNGAREE. Williamstown 0501Z,
U.S. Destroyer BARKER and BULMER. Departure Sydney N.S.W.
2330Z/5 WHYALLA for Melbourne. Newcastle 0345Z/6 ATREUS and
ROCKHAMPTON for Brisbane. Fremantle 0610Z/6 TOOWOOMBA for
Adelaide.
(A.C.N.B. 0354Z/7 to Admiralty etc.)

H.D.M.L's
from U.S.A.

My 1153/3/2 para.2.
Financial approval now received.
(N.Z.N.B. 1557M/7 to Admiralty)

Solomon
Islands,
report.

Following telegram received from Resident
Commissioner, British Solomon Islands Protectorate.
6/5. No.133. Following report received from
Naval Liaison Officer today. (Begins)
On Sunday in Tulagi harbour were 3 cruisers,
1 destroyer and 12 other vessels. During the night 14 departed,
leaving cruiser and destroyer. Four raids by Allied planes
Monday, A/A fire from ships unsuccessful. At third attack by
12 of our bombers, warships left at speed firing. Visibility
bad today, unable to see if ships in Tulagi but 3 (corrupt group)
fighters operating from there also high speed twin-engine float-
planes conducting R/C all day. 12 Allied bombers approached
Tulagi today but heavy cloud obscured the target. (Ends).
District Officers at their posts, will move to the bush if their
stations threatened. Resident Commissioner. (Ends).
(High Commr., Western Pacific, 1945/7, to S.of S. for Colonies).

U.S.
and
Fiji.

IZ.222. J.S.M. 216 7.5.42. Personal from Dill.
Have had letter from Adm.King of which following
is gist. U.S.Chiefs of Staff will shortly
propose to N.Z.Chiefs of Staff that U.S.forces
should take over land air and harbour defence of
Fiji, thus obviating need for further N.Z.reinforcements 37th
American Div. earmarked for N.Z. would be diverted to Fiji.
Object of this change is to simplify command and Administration
in S.Pacific generally. First contingent of 37th Div. is due to
leave San Francisco 10/5 followed by second contingent about
20/5. In view of short time available, King asks for early
views of British Chiefs of Staff on proposal. Shortly before
receiving this Mr.Nash came to see me on same subject and told
me that he had been informed by Adm.King that President had
approved this change. Mr.Nash, as well as communicating with
his own Gov., has informed N.Z.High Commissioner in London.
Glad if you could send me what conditions if any I should demand
when replying to Adm.King.
(J.S.M., 2351Z/7, to Chiefs of Staff).

/ New Caledonia ...

War Diary.

7.5.1942.
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Australia & New Zealand.

New
Caledonia.

J.S.M. 217 (J.S.M.2355Z/7 to Chiefs of Staff)
See Lion copy.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

S/M's Reported.

Estimated U/B. positions.
(D.D.I.C. 1406B/7 1446B/7)

War Diary.

8.5.1942.
Friday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

A report graded B.2. states that ADMIRAL SCHEER intends to move to Narvik at some date unknown though the Admiralty have no indication of this other than the report on 4/5 that one cruiser and three destroyers were outbound from Trondheim Fiord at 1600B/4. It is also reported that LÜTZOW intends to move to Tromso, this may be an error for HIPPER. Attempted P.R.U. on Trondheim yesterday was unsuccessful.

KING GEORGE V left Scapa today for repairs at Liverpool, escorted by two destroyers.

The sailing of TRINIDAD from Murmansk for repairs in U.K. was postponed at 2317B today and the covering force, KENT, LIVERPOOL, ONSLOW and ICARUS which had just sailed was ordered to return to Seidisfiord.

British Air Operations.

Coastal Command aircraft last night successfully attacked shipping off the Dutch and German Coasts.

6 Bostons of Bomber Command, with fighter escort attacked the port area at Dieppe today.

Enemy Air Operations.

H.M.T. HORATIO was attacked this forenoon off Littlehampton by 6 Me.109 and received some damage. Two R.A.F. fighters chased the enemy, HORATIO destroyed one of the attacking aircraft and damaged a second.

War Diary.

8.5.1942.
Friday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Mining.

Aircraft laid 193 mines last night in the Baltic area.

Operation
S.N.3.A.

R.A.(M) early this morning completed a mine-laying operation north-west of Cape Wrath with SOUTHERN PRINCE, ADVENTURE, PORT QUEBEC, MENESTHEUS, CASTLETON, CHARLESTOWN and WELLS.

North Atlantic.

WELSHMAN left Gibraltar at 0212B for Malta, ^{with} stores.

Mediterranean.

OLYMPUS
sunk.

S/M OLYMPUS, which had brought stores from Gibraltar and was leaving to return, was sunk by mine off Grand Harbour this morning, only 9 of her complement being saved. It appears that the dangerous area is within the scope of sweeping tugs, who should be sufficiently repaired to sweep it in the next 48 hours.

Photographic R/C of Naples today showed a large convoy forming.

Air attacks on Malta continued light today (59 bombers) and again there was no raid on the dockyard. Luqa aerodrome was flooded through damage to a reservoir.

East Indies.

Details are given today of the new southern air route across Africa to be operated by the U.S.

/Ferry...

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War Diary.8.5.1942.
Friday.SITUATION REPORT.East Indies - Contd.

Ferry Command. The route was originally planned to extend to Australia via the Seychelles, Chagos and Cocos, but is now intended for the reinforcement of India via Arabia.

Chittagong was bombed early this afternoon and the aerodrome is unserviceable owing to heavy delay action bombs. U.S.A. Air Corps planes raided Rangoon today.

VALIANT (Med. Fleet) has completed repairs at Durban and is allocated to the Eastern Fleet.

Operation
"Ironclad"

Terms of surrender of Diego Suarez were signed today. INDOMITABLE was attacked by a submarine at 0756 in 12° 11' S 49° 33' E and it is ~~considered that~~ ACTIVE sank the submarine* there were no survivors. V.A.3 in RESOLUTION with ENTERPRISE, EMERALD, DRAGON, CALEDON and 3 destroyers arrived at Mombasa this morning.

* Was the Vichy French MONGE,
sunk.

America and West Indies.

U-Boats are estimated to be working in the Caribbean, Windward Passage, between Nicaragua and Cuba, in the Key West area, Gulf of Mexico, Florida Strait, east of the Bahamas and off Jacksonville.

SS. THORNY was sunk in the Gulf of Mexico and OHIOAN torpedoed in Florida Strait. MONT LOUIS was torpedoed in 8° 23' N 58° 44' W (in the Georgetown area)

At 0031Z WALKER engaged a S/M on the surface in 42° 23' N 59° 19' W by gunfire. S/M dived and 2 attacks were made but contact was lost.

Australia and New Zealand.

Naval
engagement
in Coral
Sea.

The Navy Department, Washington today announce that a naval engagement between Allied and Japanese forces has been in progress since 3/5 in the general area south of the Bismarck

/Archipelago...

War Diary.

8.5.1942.
Friday.

SITUATION REPORT.

America and West Indies - Contd.

Naval
engagement
in Coral
Sea.
Contd.

Archipelago, in the Coral Sea. The enemy are believed to have lost one aircraft carrier, one heavy and one light cruiser, two destroyers 4 gunboats and two transports or cargo vessels sunk, and one aircraft carrier, one heavy and one light cruiser, one seaplane tender and two transports or cargo vessels damaged (This number includes the enemy ships damaged or sunk on 7/5, q.v.) Details of damage and losses to the Allied forces are not known, but are stated by the Navy Department to be relatively light. Large numbers of enemy warships (cruisers and below) and possibly some transports were sighted near Woodlark Island today.

A "South Pacific Amphibious Force " is to be established forthwith in New Zealand under the Commander, South Pacific Force, for the purpose of training U.S. amphibious forces in the South Pacific for offensive operations against Japan.

War Diary.8. 5. 1942.
Friday.HOME COMMANDS.Policy.

Refugees in Drifter BRODRENE 40 feet arrived Reykjavik with following 6 men ranging from 21 to 29 years of age, 2 Naval Ratings and 4 fishermen without Military training, all from ATLA. Names. Intelligence satisfied they are genuine evacuees. Everything concerning Military and other information has been extracted from them. Propose Naval Ratings retained here, as N.N.L.O. is 10 men short. Drifter not required by local sea transport but could be more useful at Hvalfjord and for other Naval services or alternatively sailed with crew to U.K. (A.C.I.C., 1918B/8 to Admty).

Clyde A/A My 1640/3. In view of present renewed air attacks Defences. four not twelve additional Hy. A.A. guns are to be deployed. Cover considered adequate. (Air Ministry, 1445/8 to Admty).

Movements.

BERWICK. Arrived BERWICK. (A.C.I.C., 0235B/8). Sailed BERWICK. (A.C.I.C., 0831B/8).

ECLIPSE. Request ECLIPSE may be sailed for Scapa when ready. (R.A.D., 0955B/8 to C. in C. Plymouth).

H.28. At 0800B/9 intend to sail H.28 escorted by CAPE MARIATO from Rothesay to arrive Lough Foyle buoy at 2100B. S. of A 8½ knots. F.O.I.C. Greenock is requested to arrange fighter protection. (Capt. S.7., 1453B/8) (F.O.S., 2223B/8).

P.212. Intend sailing P.212 escorted by JAN VAN GELDER for Clyde 1300B/10 speed 12 knots. (F.O.I.C. Liverpool, 1506B/8).

THUNDERBOLT. A S/M will be exercising in Dartmouth Submarine Sanctuary from 0900/9 till 2000/9. Thence escorted to Dartmouth. (C. in C. Plymouth, 1756B/8).

O.9. Clyde arrival O.9 escorted by CAPE MARIATO. (F.O.I.C. Greenock, 2046B/8).

AGAMEMNON, Scapa arrivals AGAMEMNON and BRIGHTON. BRIGHTON. (A.C.O.S. 2259/8).

KENT, LIVERPOOL, See Casualties. p.237.
ONSLOW, ICARUS.

War Diary.8.5.1942.
Friday.HOME COMMANDS.Operations.Operation
"Stroke".

Operation "Stroke". M.G.Bs. are not to be sailed for the present. 16 Group have covered large area and report nothing sighted. (C. in C. Nore, 1010B/8 to F.O. Yarmouth).

Operation
Q.Q.2.

1. Weather permitting No. 2 Unit Thames special defences will be towed from Tilbury on 16/5 to buoyed position at Sunk Head in 51° 46' 29" N. 1° 30' 26" E.

2. Tow will leave Tilbury Basin at 0600/16 and proceed by Yantlet and Swept channel to B.8. Thence by Q.Z.F.35 to site.

3. Timetable. Scars Elbow Boom 0930/16, Thames Gate 1530/16, B.8 buoy 0100/17, Sunk Head 0530/17, Sink at 0920/17.

4. Captain M/S is to arrange for sweepers to meet tow at Thames Gate and sweep ahead to site.

6. X.D.O. is to arrange for two M.Ls. to accompany tow from Tilbury to provide communication and for two A/A vessels to provide day escort from J. buoy. F.O.I.C. Harwich is to arrange for full crew to be put on board immediately after sinking. Short title for operation is Q.Q.2.

12. If weather is unsuitable operation will be postponed 24 hours plus 48 minutes. (C. in C. Nore, 1206B/8 and No.T.O.O. Recd. 1742/8).

Denmark Strait
Patrol.

NORFOLK on patrol "White". (A.C.I.C., 1502B/8).

Operation
K.C.3.

My 1603B/7. S.O. 11th MT.B. Flotilla reports as follows:-

When in position 10 miles 000° from Cape La Hague at 0038, the lights at the Cape and Alderney were observed to be lit. Engines were cut in this position for about three quarters of an hour, during which period a high speed boat with two diesels was heard. The minimum distance was estimated at about half a mile to seaward. Course was then set to the Eastward when these engine noises died away. Cape La Hague and Alderney were switched out at 0130. At 0306 Cherbourg Lights came on, the characteristic being G.P. flashing (3) every 5 seconds. Besides this light, were three subsidiary lights whose characteristics were difficult to ascertain. Characteristics of La Hague were F.L. every 5 seconds and of Alderney G.P. flashing (4) every 15. (C. in C. Portsmouth, 1707B/8 to Admty).

CAIRO,
G.C.I.
Trials.

CAIRO will be carrying out ship borne G.C.I. trials with 2 Beaufighters of 82 Group from 9 to 12/5 inclusive. 2. During this period CAIRO will sail daily at 0700B returning to Bangor Bay about 1900B. 3. Exercises will take place in vicinity of 54° N., 5° 20' W. (F.O.I.C. Belfast, 1802B/8).

Combined
operations.

Intend sailing QUEEN EMMA (S.O.), PRINCE CHARLES, PRINCESSE ASTRID, PRINSES J. CHARLOTTE, PRINS ALBERT from Needles 1630/9 for Portland routed

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8.5.1942.
Friday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operations.

Combined operations.
Contd.

Q. Z. S. 293 and 294, speed 17 knots, E.T.A. 1830/9.
(C. in C. Portsmouth, 2153B/8).

British Air Activity.

Denmark Strait.
Proposed Air Patrol.

Your 2030B/11/4. Search by one aircraft at A.S.V. distance from ice edge between about 022° W., and 016° W., at 8 hour intervals would cover most probable routes of ship breaking out. Request estimate of A/C required to maintain this, and percentage of days it could operate in summer and winter respectively.
(C. in C. H.F., 1541B/8 to A.C.I.C.)

A/C Trials from AVENGER.

My 1751B/4. Owing to other trial commitments it will not now be possible to carry out flying trials before 18/5. Trials aircraft will not be embarked on arrival.

2. Harbour equipment trials will be carried out when necessary equipment has been embarked. Ship to report proposed dates. Particulars of these trials are being taken on board AVENGER on arrival.

3. Trials aircraft should be available at Machrihanish from 16/5.
5. 816 Squadron will remain embarked until completion of all trials.

(D.O.D.(H), 1813B/8 to C. in C. W.A.)

Bombing Operations.

On day 7/5, 6 A/C bombed Zeebrugge and 6 A/C attacked the Power Station at Ostend. On night 7/8, 66 A/C laid Mines off St. Nazaire, where 2 A/C also bombed the Docks area.
(H.Q.B.C., 1818/8).

Bombing restrictions.

Request bombing restrictions may be imposed from 9th to 13th May inclusive for all small fishing vessel types on the route between Scilly Isles and Lorient and in Particular the Concarneau Bay area.
(D.O.D.(H), 2326B/8 to Air Ministry).

Enemy Air Activity.

A/C over Scapa on 7 /5.

My 1448/7. A/C was first plotted at 1254 when 100 miles east of South Ronaldshay, but was then identified as friendly bomber. 2 sections of fighters ordered up, one of which sighted Ju.88 at 30,000 feet but failed to engage owing to E/A diving for cover into cloud at 1,000 feet. Friendly fighter states that his A.I.S. was 410 M.P.H. on dive, but that E/A gained on him. Ground defences engaged with 67 rounds visual.
(A.C.O. 3, 1154/8 to Admty).

/Trawlers...

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Friday.

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HOME COMMANDS.

Enemy Air Activity. - Contd.

Trawlers
O.32 and
Z.44. A/C
damaged.

Following received for N.O.I.C. Dartmouth.
"At 1200 today 2 enemy fighter planes approached
Belgium trawlers O32 and Z.44 when 7 to 10 miles
E.S.E. off Berry Head, flying S.E'ly in line
ahead low over the water. As machines passed
across the bow of Z.44 at point blank range

D.E.M.S. gunners fired 15 rounds. 30 ball and tracer into the
2nd machine. Black smoke and flames immediately followed and
machine last seen to disappear on horizon still smoking.
Gunners story confirmed by Masters of Z.44 and O.32 but machine
not actually seen by masters to crash. No hostile action by
aircraft. T.O.O. 2010/6. Ends.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 1306/8 to Admty).

Chatham
bombed.

During an air raid at Chatham on night 7/8,
blast damage was sustained by the undermentioned
buildings. Details.
(S.C.E., Chatham, 1315/8 C. in C. Nore, 1331B/8).

Attacks on
Convoy
Q.P.11.

A.C.I.C.'s 1801B/7 is being passed to you for
information.
(H.W.R., 1601B/8 to H.Q.C.C.)

HORATIO
(M/S and A/S
Trawler)
damaged. One
Enemy A/C
destroyed,
one E/A
damaged.

Following received from HORATIO begins:-
Attacked by 6 Me. 109s. First Lieut. injured by
shrapnel. Hit amidships. C.O.s. and First Lieut's
cabins wrecked. Hole forward A/S gear damaged.
We are not making water. One plane destroyed and
one damaged. Ends.
(C. in C. Portsmouth, 1830B/8).
Report from HORATIO.

Attacked in 50° 44' N., 0° 30' W., at 1030 B.S.T.
/8. One officer injured and HORATIO damaged by
bomb and cannon shell. 6 Me. 109 attacked from North in two
waves, height 100 feet. First wave machine gunned. Second wave
dived, dropped six bombs, one bomb passed through C.O. upper
deck cabin, hit deck, passed through bulwark overside. All
guns opened fire. One 12 pdr. direct hit on M.109 which
crashed into sea 2 miles away port beam. Another Me. 109 seen
losing height rapidly, black smoke pouring from it. It flew out
of sight. No R.A.F. A/C in sight.
(F.O.I.C. Southampton, 1832/8).

Mining.

S.N.3 A.

Operation S.N.3 A completed.
(R.A.M., 0622/8).
Arrived R.A. (M) in SOUTHERN PRINCE, ADVENTURE,
PORT QUEBEC, MENESTHEUS, CASTLETON, CHARLESTOWN,
and WELLS.
(F.O.I.C. Port Z.A.2228B/8).

/Sinking...

War Diary.8.5.1942.
Friday.HOME COMMANDS.Mining. - Contd.

Sinking of Mines. M.Ls. 216 and 253 are required for sinking mines cut in operations Q.S.6 and Q.S.8. M.L. 216 should be sailed to Lowestoft accordingly F.O.I.C. Yarmouth is requested to sail M.Ls. to R/V with M/S Flotillas as requested by M.S.9 or M.S.4 under whose orders they will operate. M.Ls. should have Asdic domes up when so employed. Sweeping is not to take place if weather is unsuitable for M.Ls. (C. in C. Nore, 1148B/8).

Mine recovery operation. FISHER BOY, ESMERALDA. It is hoped that an opportunity will shortly occur to carry out a mine recovery operation, and it is therefore considered advisable to assemble the necessary vessels and gear in some central position. It is proposed, subject to your concurrence that the operation should be conducted from Harwich and that H.M.D. FISHER BOY should accordingly be sailed from Humber to Harwich. Arrangements are also being made to sail the Echo Sounding Yacht ESMERALDA from Rosyth to Harwich, and VERNON is assembling the necessary gear which it is also proposed to despatch there. It is further proposed that Commander Hamond of M/S Division, Admiralty, should conduct the operation. (D.T.M., 1249B/8 to C.in C. Nore).

M/S Trawlers on detached duty. Consular. A.L. M/M.S. 0275/42 dated 5th May, 1942. Request that all vessels enumerated in the enclosure which may be sailed to Tilbury may be supplied with the current month and next month's editions of S.P. 02383 and with envelope I.M.(2) before sailing. (D.M.S., 1637B/8 to Cs. in C.)

Q.K.3 Prepare to carry out operation Q.K. (3) on Light Buoy in estimated 051° 15' 48" N., 002° 48' 48" E., on first occasion weather is suitable. Alternative operation Q.K.(9). (C. in C. Nore, 1806B/8 to BEEHIVE).

Operations Q.U. The letters Q.U. will be used for minelaying operations off Ymuiden. (C. in C. Nore, 1808B/8 to BEEHIVE).

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HOME COMMANDS.

Enemy Intelligence.

Straits of Dover. Enemy shipping plotted by R.D.F. in Dover Strait from 0900/7 to 0900/8.
Track E 15 D. About 5 small vessels from Boulogne at 2215 eastbound at seven knots faded 5 miles N.E. of Calais at 0215. Probably trawlers.
Track E 16 D. Three or more small vessels from 5 miles West of Calais at 2225 westbound at 9 knots entered Boulogne at 0020. Possibly R-boats.
Track U 19 D and E 20 D. Two and one small vessels respectively from Boulogne at 2230 and 0030 Westbound at about 12 knots fading 8 miles south of Boulogne.
(V.A. Dover, 0954B/8).

TAMARA (Swedish, 6390 tons). Icelandic trawlers GEIR, THOROLOFUR, and KARI report Swedish Motor Vessel TAMARA acting in suspicious manner in 61° 13' N., 17° 05' W. on May 4th. Icelandic trawlers bound Fleetwood. TAMARA approached THOROLOFUR from West, passed, within 60 feet and crossed bows twice then stopped. No sign of armament. No signals passed. GEIR and KARI were not closed. Trawlers arrived Fleetwood 7/5.
(F.O.I.C. Liverpool, 1041B/8 to Admty).

SCHEER, LÜTZOW, DITMARSCHEN. Following is repetition of my 1814/5. Your 1908B/4. Destination of SCHEER is Narvik and LÜTZOW is Tromso. Oil supplies are likely to be limited for a period, though 5,000 tons DITMARSCHEN has been ordered to follow SCHEER. Graded A.2.
(N.A. Stockholm 1045/8 to Admty).
Comment:- Your 1908B/4 refers to Admiralty 1904B/4 reporting one cruiser and 3 destroyers outward bound from Trondheim Fiord at 1600B/4 (Graded B.2.) No other information is available to confirm that SCHEER has moved to Narvik. LÜTZOW is believed to be still in Baltic. The tanker DITMARSCHEN was reported at Trondheim recently.
Report received graded B.2. states SCHEER intends moving to Narvik date unknown. No indication of this other than A.M. 1904B/4. Report also states LÜTZOW intends moving to Tromso. This may be an error for HIPPER. No R/C of Trondheim expected today.
(D.D.I.C., 1713B/8 to C. in C. H.F. C.S.1., C.S.10 TRINIDAD, LIVERPOOL, KENT, etc).

Norway Troop movements. (a) My 1920/27, para. (b). Report from M.O. in RANA dated 23/4 states German troops have arrived by rail and continued to Bodo by coastal steamer thence by road north via Fauske. Graded B.3. (b) It is learnt that a number of Invasion Craft have entered Baltic during last 2 weeks.
Type and purpose unknown, but it is believed by Defence Ministry they may have (?been) taken northwards for attack on Leningrad.
Graded A.3.
(N.A. Stockholm, 1721/8).

/Danzig...

War Diary.

8.5.1942.

Friday.HOME COMMANDS.Enemy Intelligence. - Contd.

Danzig. French prisoner escaping from Danzig 30/4. reports following (a) At Schickau works 2 U-boats were on slips and four completed alongside.

(b) DEUTSCHLAND and HAMBURG still at usual berths as U-boat depot ships.

(c) About 30 training U-boats in port including U-24 of 250 tons and U-25 (or 26) of 700 tons. (d) Italian sailors were seen in port. (e) There was considerable Communist element among workmen, some of whom were for wearing party badges and openly expressing their views. Graded C.2.

(N.A. Stockholm, 1803/6).

O.I.C. Comment. Para. (a). On 3rd March photographs show 11 750 ton U-boats on the slips and 3 500 ton U-boats fitting out at Schickau Danzig.

Para. (b). It is confirmed that the liners DEUTSCHLAND and HAMBURG are at Danzig, they are possibly used as accommodation ships for U-boat crews.

Para. (c). On 3rd March, there were 23 active U-boats in Danzig. U.24 is a 250 ton and U.25 a 710 ton boat. The latter was reported to have been sunk but there has never been any confirmation of this. It is probable that about 30 U-boats are based on Danzig for training purposes.

Para. (d). The Italian sailors may have been from an Italian U-boat reported to have been in the Baltic since last autumn.

SCHARNHORST, R/C of Kiel and Wilhelmshaven at 1630/8 shows:-
 NÜRNBERG, Kiel. SCHARNHORST, NÜRNBERG and SCHLESIEN in
 SCHLESIEN, same positions, all with camouflage in position.
 KÖLN. No other major units present.
Wilhelmshaven. KÖLN still in dock. Emden and
Bremenshaven. No major units present.
 (D.D.I.C, 2338B/8).

U-Boats.

U-boats Am investigating oil patch in 48° 10' N.
 attacked. (?longitude)
 (A/C JU.C.8 B. B Sqdn. 0810/8 to 19 Group).
 My 0810. Have attacked enemy with (?depth charge)
 and estimate no hits. More fresh, moving 130.
 (A/C, 0850/8 to 19 Group).
 Following has been read. My 0810. Consider damaged submarine.
 Request instructions.
 (A.O.C., 19 Group, 0955/8).
 Following received. My 0955. P.C.S. of S/M SPSU, 108, 150
 (Sic). One enemy has been severely damaged by surface attack.
 (A.O.C., 19 Group 1110/8).
 Proceed at 20 knots for position 220° St. Mary's 20 miles.
 (C. in C. Plymouth, 1222B/8 to CLEVELAND).
 Proceed to R/V with CLEVELAND in 220° St. Mary's 20 miles at 2030
 /8.
 (C. in C. Plymouth, 1328B/8 to TYNEDALE).
 My 1222/8. Proceed with TYNEDALE from R/V in position signalled
 to attack S/M reported damaged by A/C in 048° 10' N. 009° 32'
 W. at 0830/8. Last reported steering 150° at one knot.
 Sunderland marking position.
 (C. in C. Plymouth, 1332B/8 to CLEVELAND).

/Sailed...

War Diary.8.5.1942.
Friday.HOME COMMANDS.U-Boats.

U-boats attacked. Contd. Sailed 1527 TYNEDALE. (C. in C. Plymouth, 1544B/8). My 1604. Have attacked S/M with depth charges estimated one hit. P.C.S. of S/M are 47° 44' N. 10° 48' W., 325° 10 knots. (A/C, J.C.8 U, 1620/8).
Am over enemy S/M in 47° 47' N., 10° 47' W., on surface, course 145° speed 10 knots. (A/C, 1624/8 to 19 Group).
Attack enemy submarine in 62° 30' N., 19° 10' W. (A/C H.Q. Reykjavik, 1911/8).
Attacking S/M position (019° 10' W., 062° 30' W.). (OPHELIA, 2030B/8 to A.C.I.C.)

U-boat reported. Following has been read. Have obtained A.S.V. contact in 58° 20' N., 12° 58' W., S/M appears to be surfacing. (A.O.C., 16 Group, 1930/8).
Following has been read. My 1930. Correct position (indecipherable). (A.O.C., 15 Group, 1940/8).

Navigational.

Yarmouth. Submerged object. My 1606/7. Surveying Officer reports search area round A. buoy without result. Sweep set to clear 9 fathoms and area covered approx. one mile square. (F.O.I.C. Gt. Yarmouth, 1701B/8).

Technical.

Experiments from EMPIRE BAIRN. Your 1640B/7. Yes certainly. (C. in C. Plymouth, 1038B/8 to C.C.O.)

Casualties & Defects.

PINGOUIN. Arrival PINGOUIN damaged above water line. (V.A. Dover, 0713B/8).
TRINIDAD (torpedoed 29/3). C. in C. H.F. 1627B/5. Route to G through (E) 069° 52' N., 035° 30' E., and (F) 072° 34' N., 035° 30' E.
BULLDOG reported ice in neighbourhood 073° 31' N. 021° 34' E., on 1/5. Route from G to H amend to pass through Z, 073° 21' N., 021° 34' E.
(S.B.N.O. North Russia, 0918B/8 to Admty (R) C. in C. H.F., TRINIDAD, A.C.I.C., KENT, C.S.10., C.S.1. R.A(D) H.F.)
Your 1808B/7. Approved FORESIGHT and FORESTER to escort TRINIDAD in addition to SOMALI and MATCHLESS. (C. in C. H.F., 1231B/8 to S.B.N.O. North Russia).
Your 1758B/2. Your destination in first instance is Hvalfjord. (C. in C. H.F., 1237B/8 to TRINIDAD).

/C. in C...

War Diary.

8.5.1942.
Friday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Casualties & Defects. - Contd.

TRINIDAD C. in C. H.F. 1627B/5. If sailing of TRINIDAD is
(torpedoed delayed not more than 24 hours covering force
29/3). Contd. will remain in vicinity of position A. If delay is
is longer will return to Seidisfjord to refuel.
(KENT, 1522B/8 to S.B.N.O. North Russia).
Covering force sailed for position A.
(KENT, 2305B/8 to C. in C. H.F.)
My 1627B/5. Sailing of TRINIDAD is to be postponed until further
orders. 2. KENT with LIVERPOOL, ONSLOW, and ICARUS is to
return to Seidis Fjord.
(C. in C. H.F., 2317B/8 to S.B.N.O., North Russia, KENT).

ACHATES My 0932B/7. Delayed by defects.
(Convoy U.R. (N.O.I.C. Greenock, 1053B/8).
23).

KING GEORGE V. Scapa departures KING GEORGE V, BLANKNEY, and
MIDDLETON.
(A.C.O.S., 1233/8).
Admiralty pilot and 2 tugs will meet you at Bar. 2 more tugs
will await you off Rock Light. 2 more tugs will await you in
Gladstone.
(N.O.I.C. Liverpool, 1236B/8 to KING GEORGE V).

RICHMOND. A.C.I.C.'s 1421/7. RICHMOND can be taken in
hand for repair at Birkenhead on arrival.
(D.O.D. (H.), 1507B/8 to C. in C. W.A.)

EMPIRE LARCH, Your 1421B/7 and A.M. 0635B/18/4 and 1311B/27/4.
EMPIRE It is urgently requested that you will signal
BASCABEL. your intentions regarding tows for EMPIRE LARCH
and EMPIRE BASCABEL.
(D.S.T., 1633B/8 to A.C.I.C.)

Shipping & Convoys.

QUEEN MARY. Admiralty 1919B/30. Codeword for QUEEN MARY
is "Crown". B.A.D. Washington is requested to
pass to ships and U.S. authorities concerned.
(C. in C. W.A., 0002Z/8 to B.A.D. Washington).

LLANSTEPHAN My 2303/6 para. 2. LLANSTEPHAN CASTLE will now
CASTLE. be required to sail Clyde 15/5. She will sail
P.Q.16. empty.
(D.S.T., 0427B/8).

Request following ships which have been stated to have stores
and provisions for North Russia may be included in P.Q.16.
Shortage is acute owing to unexpected additional numbers of men
awaiting passage to U.K. ARCOS, SUKHONA, EMPIRE (?SELWYN).
(S.B.N.O. North Russia, 0937B/8 to A.C.I.C.)

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HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping & Convoys

P.Q.16
LLANSTEPHAN
CASTLE.
Contd.

LLANSTEPHAN CASTLE is to be used to bring back to U.K. personnel awaiting passage to Murmansk. She will be ready to leave Clyde p.m./15 and will embark available stores in accordance with S.B.N.O. North Russia's 1754/4. C. in C. H.F. is requested to issue the necessary instructions for LLANSTEPHAN CASTLE to join P.Q.16. F.O.I.C. Greenock should sail her accordingly. (A.C.N.S. H., 2337B/8 to F.O.I.C. Greenock).

P.Q.16. ALYNBANK, HONEYSUCKLE, HYDERABAD, ROSELYS, STARWORT are to R/V off Londonderry May 11th as arranged by N.O.I.C. Londonderry and sail in company to Seidis Fjord to arrive 14/5. (C. in C. W.A., 2208B/8).

A.M.2115B/7. (1) Following will be sailing. ACHATES, GARLAND, ALYNBANK, HONEYSUCKLE, ROSELYS, STARWORT, HYDERABAD.
(2) BEAGLE not available owing to defects.
(3) Propose VOLUNTEER as substitute for BEAGLE. This will reduce escort W.S.19 and may mean only 5 destroyers are available A.T.15 X. (C. in C. W.A., 2209B/8 to Admty).

PERTHSHIRE. Route PERTHSHIRE 16. Durban 18/5.
(N.C.S.O. Mersey, 1013B/8).

W.S.19. W.S.19. Intend to sail Clyde portion of convoy passing Clyde Boom 2330B/10 escorted by MAURITIUS, CARNARVON CASTLE, CHURCHILL, BELVOIR, and HURSLEY to R/V with remaining portions in 270° Oversay 6 miles at 1100B/11. (N.O.I.C. Greenock, 1036B/8).
Intend to sail Liverpool section of W.S.19 comprising 6 transports and 2 store ships escorted by VOLUNTEER 1930B/10, speed 13 knots, to R/V with Clyde and Bristol Channel section in 270° Oversay 6 miles at 1100B/11. VOLUNTEER thence refuel at Moville and Overtake convoy. (N.O.I.C. Liverpool, 1239B/8).
Your 1611B/7 para. 3 (c). It is hoped to complete fitting and trials Hedgehog control gear in CHURCHILL a.m. 10th. Propose CHURCHILL proceeds Moville after convoy conference to exercise with Blinker target on 11th, subsequently overtaking convoy in daylight p.m. 11th. (Capt. D. Greenock, 1502/8).
Your 1718B/7. Sailed TYNWALD. E.T.A. Barry Roads 1800B/9. (N.O.I.C., Belfast, 2241B/8).

EMPIRE MORN, Presume EMPIRE MORN can lift only 15 tons as heavy
EMPIRE ELGAR. derrick lost in shallow river.
2. Will EMPIRE ELGAR be fitted with own derricks
or will they be in separate ship.
3. Will spare 50 ton boom be aboard EMPIRE ELGAR or in separate ship.
4. It is your intention EMPIRE MORN remain Murmansk (subject to unforeseen circumstances bombing etc). until EMPIRE ELGAR or spare boom arrives.
(Ives, Archangel 1159/8 to Admty).

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HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping & Convoys. - Contd.

M/Vs at Archangel.

All British Merchant Ships now safely berthed in refuge anchorages.
(S.B.N.O. Archangel, 1433B/8).

North Russian Convoys. Cam-Ship communications with Russian A/C.

Your 2004B/27. If Russian Officers embarked in Cam Ships do not speak English, value of these ships as a means of providing information for Russian fighters will be largely negated owing to difficulties which will arise in the interpretation of the R.D.F. plot. Report best combination of personnel you consider necessary to get full value from Cam Ships R.D.F. capabilities. Russian-speaking British Officers are not available now but it may be possible to provide two Russian born British naturalised officers to work a shuttle service.
(D.T.D., 1510B/8 to S.B.N.O. North Russia).

Convoy S.L. 107.

Hearty congratulations on another successful convoy.
(C. in C. W.A., 1525B/8 to Vice-Admiral A.C. Strutt)

Movements of Russian Ships Serial No.46.

D.T.D., 1726B/8 to Adm. Miles.

Q.P.12

R.A.(D) H.F. is requested to sail 2 destroyers as additional escort for Q.P.12 to arrive Kola Inlet p.m./14.

Route through positions (V) 062° 11' N., 004° 32' W., (W) 70° 02', 00° 29' W. (X) 73° 30', 14° 58' E. (Y) 73° 51', 28° 57' E. and thence as ordered by S.B.N.O. North Russia.
(C. in C. H.F., 1758B/8).
Your 1758B/8 and 1825B/8. INGLEFIELD, ESCAPADE detailed.
(R.A.D. H.F., 2150B/8 to C. in C. H.F.)

A.T.15

Message 0023/22/4 from Cinclant re convoy A.T.15 has been passed to C. in C. Home Fleet at request of D.O.D. (H).
(W.R., 8/5).

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8.5.1942.
Friday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic.

JEAN BART. My 1644B/7. Report received dated 7/5 (Begins) (1). C.2. Fr. Battleship JEAN BART may leave tonight Thursday. (2) Fact. Since last night shore leave cancelled. From tonight officers and men must be on board all naval ships from 2359 to 0700. (Ends). (F.O.C.N.A. 0048B/8 to Admty, (R) C. in C. Med., C. in C., S.A., C. in C. Plymouth, V.A. Malta, R.A. West Africa).

See p. 242

WELSHMAN. Departure WELSHMAN in accordance with A.M. 2352/27th.*
(Stores for Malta) (F.O.C.N.A. 0212B/8 to V.A. Malta, (R) Admty. C. in C. Med).
*(Hush N.T. in W.D.).

Movements. VELOX arrived Ponta Delgada 0630 G.M.T. Left 1300 G.M.T. (N.C.S.O. Ponta Delgada 0915/8, 1305/8, *See next page* to S.O. IGib, (R) Admty). (F.O.C.N.A. 1852B/8 to R.A.W.A.F.). Departure 1140 LOCH OSKAIG to Y.I. (F.O.C.N.A. 1703B/8 to Admty, (R) SCOTTISH, ALOUETTE, IMPERIALIST).
Arrival 1250 WESTCOTT, WISHART, ANTELOPE. 1425, WRESTLER. 1630 GEORGETOWN. Sailed 1745, WESTCOTT, ANTELOPE, 1800 WISHART. (F.O.C.N.A. 1814B/8 to S.O. Force W., (R) Admty, V.A. Malta, C. in C. Med.)
Sailed 2206 WRESTLER. (F.O.C.N.A. 2242B/8 to S.O. Force W. (R) Admty etc.).

Escort for MIRROR. Cable ship MIRROR escorted by COREOPSIS operating in approx. 037° 31' 010° 11'. LORD NUFFIELD sails from Gibraltar p.m. 8 to relieve COREOPSIS. (F.O.C.N.A. 1108B/8, to S/M. P.44).
Departure 1840 LORD NUFFIELD to relieve COREOPSIS as escort to MIRROR. (F.O.C.N.A. 1943B/8 to Admty, COREOPSIS). *See next page.*

OLYMPUS. Onward route and instructions. (F.O.C.N.A. 1140B/8 to OLYMPUS, but see V.A. Malta, 1111B/8 re sinking of OLYMPUS).

Axis Shipping. May 8th. Italian vessel 54 DREPANUM left harbour 7th. German vessel 53 LEESEE left about 8th. (Bilbao, 1207/8 to Admty.)

/PENELOPE.....

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War Diary.8.5.1942.
FridayFOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic.

PENELOPE. My 2322/1 omitting oil fuel in tank A 2
(?completion) date now noon 11/5. Ship
ready to leave Gibraltar p.m./11. F.O.C.N.A.
concur. Repairs to this tank troublesome and would take some
days to remedy. Reduced oil fuel can be accepted. Ship's
Officers concur.
(A.S.Gibraltar. 1246B/8, to Admty (R) F.O.C.N.A., PENELOPE).

Situation 1. S/M P.44, 40.53 13.02 through 39.59
2001B/8. 13.02 137° 8.
2. O.G. No.83, 39.25 15.27 131° 6½, S.O.
of escort BLACK SWAN.
3. COREOPSIS escorting cable ship MIRROR vicinity 37.21 10.11
4. IMPERIALIST off Cape St.Mary coastwise to Gibraltar 10.
5. SCOTTISH patrolling off Cape Roca.
6. ALOUETTE patrolling Huelva Bight.
7. LOCH OSKAIG off Cadiz coastwise to patrol off Lisbon 10.
8. O.S.27. 44.59 19.22 183° 6½ PELICAN.
9. LORD NUFFIELD sails 1800/8 to R/V with cable ship MIRROR
8.
(F.O.C.N.A. 1300B/8 to N.A.Stn. Area X.)
1. S.L. 108, 36.58 23.27 through 39.10 23.45 thence 021° 7.
S.O. of escort EGRET.
2. BUSHWOOD 3 trawlers, 3 tugs, 1 ferry, 28.00 24.48 162° 7.
3. ARETHUSA approx. 42.00, 23.40, 21 to Ponta Delgada. *See p. 243*
4. VELOX estimated 35.58, 25.20 165° 15.
(F.O.C.N.A. 1320B/8 to N.A.Stn.).

BOLZANO. Following is from 2 independent neutral
sources and graded B2. Genoa 1/5.
Repairs to Italian Cruiser BOLZANO completed.
Ship repainted apparently raising steam and appeared to be
ready for sea.
(S.O.I.Gib. 1534B/8 to Admty, etc.)

COLTSFOOT. Departure 1600 COLTSFOOT for R.D/F and A/S sweep
North of Alboran Island.
(F.O.C.N.A. 1618B/8 to Admty).

LE TRAIT. Arrival 6th Setubal LE TRAIT (French).
(N.C.S.O.Lisbon 1827/8 to M.W.T.).

27th M.L. Ref Admty 1309B/2 and your 1353Z/7 Flotilla
Flotilla. will be ready to sail on 12/5 but probably
no escort available until completion of
operation ordered in Admty 1817B/6.
(F.O.C.N.A. 1846B/8 to R.A. W.Africa).

/Casablanca.....

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8.5.1942.
Friday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic.

Casablanca. Air R/C of Casablanca 0940/8. French Battleship*JEAN BART in usual berth. French cruiser PRIMAUGUET alongside arm at right angles Grand Jetty nearer entrance harbour. French Cruiser GLOIRE in usual berth. 4 destroyers and 2 or 3 submarines also seen.
(F.O.C.N.A. 1900B/8 to Admty (R) C. in C. Med, C. in C. S.A. C. in C. Plymouth, N.O.I.C. Malta, R.A.W.A.F.).

Op: "Bowery".
(A/c for Malta)

See Med. p. 248

* See p. 240

South Atlantic.

Dakar. Air R/C of Dakar 1700Z/7 shows no change regarding ships referred to in my 1325Z/7 except that only 4 submarines are now present. A third A/T boom now runs from south entrance mole to cover stern of RICHELIEU. Boom at harbour entrance seen to be open. 17 aircraft at Hann seaplane base.
(R.A.W. Africa 0745Z/8 to Admty (R) C. in C.S.A. F.O.C.N.A.)
Air R/C Dakar a.m./8 shows no change. A/A fire encountered but inaccurate for height and direction. No fighter interception. R/C on 7/5 shows 3 merchant vessels laid up as against 8 previously.
(S.O.I. Freetown 1234Z/8 to D.N.I. (R) C. in C. S.A., S.O.I. Gib). See p. 245.

EASTMOOR. 36 survivors landed at Capetown ex British Ship EASTMOOR torpedoed by U-boat 31/3 in 037° 33'N 068° 18' W. Master and 15 others unaccounted for.
(S.O.I. Capetown. 0957B/8 to Admty C. in C. S.A. N.S.H.Q.).

VIKINGS Following from B.N.L.O. West Africa (begins) loss. S.N.O., F.N.F.L. has received a telegram of sympathy from Governor-General, French Equatorial Africa, on loss of FS VIKINGS. He informs me this is the only information he has received of this. 3 FS VIKINGS was under S.N.O.'s orders at (? Pointe Noire) for many months and he was trading on her return shortly. 4. Submit that I may receive confirmation of loss with some details in order to inform him. 1925/2(ends). Request information.
(C. in C.S.A. 1059B/8 to Admty).
Reply: Admty. 1242/11.

/ARCHER.....

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War Diary.8.5.1942.
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic.

ARCHER. Your 1846B/6 not to ARCHER 12/5.
Sailing (R.A.W.Af. 1105Z/8 to Admty, (R) F.O.C.N.A.
Date. ARCHER).

MANXMAN. Simonstown departure 0600Z/8 MANXMAN for
Durban, Route, E.T.A. 1130Z/9.
(C. in C. S.A. 1135B/8 to Admty N.O.I.C.
Durban, ABDIEL C. in C. E.F. C. in C. E.
I.). *See next page*

ARETHUSA. F.O.C.N.A.'s 1026B/7. Onward route from
(e) to (f) 010° 58' N. 019° 56' W, thence
to Freetown. Report E.T.A. from Ponta
Delgada.
(R.A.W.Africa 1214Z/8 to ARETHUSA (R)
F.O.C.N.A., C. in C. S.A. Admty.). *See p. 241.*

Convoys. S.L.106 and S.L.107 successful.
(D.T.D. 1229B/8 to N.C.S.O.Freetown).

Movements. → Departure 7/5 PRETORIA CASTLE on patrol.
(S. O.I. Freetown 1243Z/8 to Admty).
Arrival 7/5 BARBROOK. Arrival 8/5 F.S.
COMMANDANT DROGOU, TAMARISK with L.S.4.
(S.O.I Freetown 1309Z/8 to Admty, N.O.I.C. Takoradi,
N.O.I.C.Lagos).
Sailed WHITEHAVEN for Mombasa S.O.A 10½ knots E.T.A.
15/5 routed as in my 1400 19/5/1941.
(N.O.I.C.Durban 1359Z/8 to Admty, C. in C. S.A., C. in C.E.I.,
C. in C.E.F., C. in C.Med. N.O.I.C.Kilindini.)

Movement Summary, 2000/8. All positions North and West unless otherwise
stated. LANDGUARD and 3 escorts with S.L.
109 013° 40' 025° 30' to 014° 10' 026° 35'
thence 354° 7.5 knots. 7 IBIS and 3 escorts
with O.S.26, 009° 05' 016° 20' 111° 10 knots.
→ PRETORIA CASTLE 007° 00' 018° 15' to H.34 (d) 13 knots,
ROCKROSE, VIOLET, with O.S.S.26 006° 05' 019° 20' 155° 10
knots, AUBRETIA 2 M.L.'s escorting 007° 55' 014° 10' 170°
10 knots. RUMBA, TURCOMAN on patrol sector T. 2 M.L.'s
004° (?05') 019° 20' to 25th 10 knots. COWSLIP 004°
10' 016° 55' 220° 12.5 knots. EMILE BAUDOT, ST WISTAN 001°
30' 012° 20' 8 knots. MORRIS DANCE about 005° 10' 010°
(?08') to Freetown 8 knots. U.S. Aircraft Carrier RANGER,
1 cruiser, 5 destroyers 003° 05' 008° 50' 075° 14 knots.
SARABANDE escorting 001° 25' 007° 45' 060° 6 knots.
ALCANTARA on patrol H.34 (D) GAMBIA, FROBISHER 2 escorting
012° 20' S. 006° 45' to 015° 00' S. 005° 10' thence 133°
11 knots. *See p. 245*
(R.A.W.Africa 1330Z/8 to Ships Area P., (R) Admty C. in C.S.A.)
Movements Summary 2000Z/8 area Q.
CILICIA 036° 17' S. 004° 55' W. 15 knots to Tristan Da Cunha
CANTON about 029° S. 003° W. to patrol in area K.36 A and C.

/COLOMBO

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8.5.1942.
Friday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic. cont'd.

Movement Summary 2000/8 Contd. COLOMBO from Simonstown to Capetown. *MILFORD off Capetown to Freetown 12 knots. MANXMAN from Simonstown by route R. 1 29 knots. E.T.A. Durban 1130Z/9. *See previous page.* (C. in C. S.A. 1600B/8 to S.A.Stn., (R) Admty).
** See next page*

Panair Report of U/B's. My 1615Z/7/5. Further information from interrogation of pilots shows that large submarines had large raised bows and that the outline of the small submarines resembled the Italian Midget class. (R.A.W.A.F., 1415Z/8 to Admty (R) C. in C.S.A. F.O.C.N.A.).

MAURETANIA. Your 2313/9/4. Increases in accommodation of MAURETANIA will be carried out as opportunity offers on following lines.
2. Defects. One boiler is out of action and requires retubing. One generator immobilised since May 1941. Estimated time required 3 weeks and endeavour will be made to progress during next drydocking period which is due next month. Alterations to accommodation will be made concurrently as far as possible. (P.S.T.O. Simonstown, 1447B/8 to D. of S.T.).

Falklands. Ref. A.M. 1547B/28. On arrival of new garrison N.O.I.C. Port Stanley is to be instructed to co-operate in all land defence matters and in the event of active operations to place himself under orders of O.C. troops who is the Base Commander. (A.C.N.S.(F) 1535B/8 to C. in C. S.A.).

JACOB VAN HEEMSKERCK. Sailed JACOB VAN HEEMSKERCK for Simonstown S. of A. 20 knots. E.T.A. 1200Z/10 Route. (N.O.I.C. Durban 1603Z/8 to Admty, C. in C.S.A. C. in C. E.I, C. in C. E.F., N.L.O. East London, N.L.O. Port Elizabeth).

LUMINETTA. Have you any news of LUMINETTA due Freetown 1/5 from Beaumont, Texas. (D.T.D. 1802B/8 to S.O.I. Freetown).

Water carrying tanker for Capetown. Understood that a tanker preferably for water carrying was available at Trincomalee and used there for watering "Monsters". Whilst these ships are employed on present run there is an urgent need for such a vessel at Capetown. Appreciate if tanker from Trincomalee could be released for this purpose. (C. in C.S.A. 2011B/8 to C. in C. E.I.).

/M. A. R. I.

War Diary.

8.5.1942.
Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic. cont'd.

M.A.R.I. Does amendment number 7 to M.A.R.I. apply to ships proceeding direct to New York from S.America and W.Africa Ports?
(S.O.I Freetown 2047Z/8 to Admty).

FROBISHER Your 1136/6 to GAMBIA. Parting company with WS18
GAMBIA. in 10° 55' S. 07° 40' W at 1300Z/8 and proceeding Walvis Bay with AGWILEAN who has insufficient endurance to reach Capetown. S. of A. 10³/₄ knots. E.T.A. 1000Z/14. FROBISHER requires 600 tons oil fuel and 100 tons fresh water at Walvis Bay. After fuelling intend proceeding independently to Capetown in accordance with instructions from GAMBIA.
(FROBISHER 2101Z/8 to C. in C.S.A.).

Port Bouet. A/C report Vichy merchant ships operating at Port Bouet on 7/5 TOURS and FORT DE SOUVILLE.
(S.O.I.Freetown 2107Z/8 to Admty.)

MILFORD. Simonstown departure 1415/8 MILFORD for Freetown S.of A. 12 knots. E.T.A. p.m./18. Shifts to W/T organisation for area P at 0800Z/3.
(C. in C.S.A. 2152B/8 to Admty, R.A.West Africa).

Africa Air Details of new southern air route across Africa to
Route. be operated by U.S. Ferry Command. Proposed route is Natal (Brazil), Ascension, Pointe Noire, Leopoldville, Bukama, Elizabethville, Dodoma, Mombasa, Mogadiscio and Aden, with possible staging post in Socotra if facilities available.
U.S.Ferry Command hope to commence operations on this route about 1/6. Project for establishing bases in Seychelles and Chagos Archipelago have been abandoned for the time being.
(Head of M 2218B/8 to C. in C.S.A., C.in C.E.F. C. in C.Med.)

Dakar Air R/C of Dakar shows RICHELIEU still present
R/C. at usual berth with torpedo booms in position. No change in cruisers or destroyers present. S/M Depot JULES VERNE still present but 5 possibly 6 S/M's present now, compared with 4 on 7/5. Patrol and escort vessels show no change. Negligible change M/V positions. Harbour covered but M/V arrived since 5/5 previously reported as cargo liner now seems probably oiler or collier. Dakar Hann seaplane base ; 16 A/C visible.
(R.A.West Africa 2255Z/8 to Admty.). *See p. 242.*

War Diary.8.5.1942.
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean.

THORN. Leave patrol p.m./8 and return to Alexandria through $033^{\circ} 02' 020^{\circ} 01' 034^{\circ} 23' 022^{\circ} 52'$ $033^{\circ} 50' 26'' 56'$ passing through second position about 0400C/10 and arriving Alexandria 0530C/13. Your 2117/7. Bad luck. Better luck tonight. (Capt.S.I. 0003C/8 to THORN, as amended 1109C/8).

Removal of M/V guns. 12 Pdr. guns fitted here and elsewhere in ships are being removed in Australia and ship has to make return journey unarmed as far as H.A. is concerned. Ships return here and are often taken up by S.T.S. and immediately demand armament when no stock exists. This practice is bad for M.N. morale and makes conditions here very difficult. Two bad cases are GLENARTNEY and COPTIC, both valuable ships, which have traversed dangerous waters with no H.A. but the crews don't like it. (D.E.M.S. Captain., Port Said, 1034C/8, to Admty.) Reply: Admty 1513/10.

OLYMPUS mined sunk. Regret to report OLYMPUS sunk by mine off entrance of Grand Harbour this morning. (2) Considerable number of survivors now coming ashore. (3) No details yet but from approx. times of sailing and striking mine it seems probable that dangerous area is within scope of sweeping tugs who should be sufficiently repaired to sweep it in next 48 hours. (V.A.Malta, 1111B/8 to Admty (R) C. in C.Med.etc). Your 1111/8 (? My 1111/8 re sinking of OLYMPUS intended) Intentions:- (1) Greek S/M to berth Marsaxlokk to embark passengers but torpedoes for passage cannot be put on board. (ii) P.35 to remain at Malta until such sweeping as is possible is completed which it is hoped will be before WELSHMAN is due. (V.A.Malta 1247B/8 to C. in C.Med (R) Admty).

LUCIA. Your 1359/6. There are no prospects of permanently repairing LUCIA here and she will not be of any real value in her present condition. Request therefore you will retain her. (C. in C.Med. 1146C/8, 1446Z/8 to D.C. in C. E.F.(R) Admty.etc).

TRITON. My 1152B/5. Amend route as follows; proceed through positions $035^{\circ} 21' 015^{\circ} 20' 035^{\circ} 21' 014^{\circ} 00' 035^{\circ} 43' 014^{\circ} 27'$ keeping outside 100 fathom line and surface in position 143° . Delimara light 4.5 miles at 2045/9. Proceed into Marsaxlokk harbour, boat will meet you in entrance. Your will sail 0430/10 if ready. If unable to comply remain to S.W. and enter 24 hours later. If black flag is flying from Ta Silc remain submerged until dark or flag is hauled. (V.A.Malta. 1237B/8 to Greek S/M TRITON).

/COETLOGAN.....

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War Diary.8.5.1942.
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean. conts:COETLOGAN,
French.Arrival 8th.
(Barcelona 1246/8 to M.W.T.).

Tobruk.

Q.B.C.421 Tobruk. Conical buoy in position
130° Tobruk Point lighthouse 2.6 cables on
chart M 101 has disappeared and will not be
replaced. T.O.O.1451/8.
(R.A.Alexandria 1453C/8 to S/M.s on patrol).

THRASHER.

Proceed through 034° 28' 023° 05' to establish
patrol in 036° 06' 017° 20' by dawn 12th.
(Capt.S.I., 1731C/8 to THRASHER (R) C. in C.Med.
V.A.Malta Capt.(S) 10,N.O.I.C.Alexandria S/M's
on Patrol).
Note:- Cancelled by 1931C/9, q.v.Malta Air
Report.I.276 8/5 C.S.R.Malta 7th 2 alerts 1407 1612
hours ME.109s Macchi 202s 5 Cant 1007s. Luqa
no damage, 1 ME 109 probably destroyed by 6
Spitfires 8 Hurricanes. A/A fired.Night 7/8. 2 alerts 2202 0100 hours. 13 raiders in Hurricane
Garage 3 airmen killed 10 wounded 2 missing instrument repair
shop armoury and records destroyed. Elsewhere 1 civilian
killed 1 civilian wounded 1 Bofor damaged Beaufighters up, 1
interception, no results seen. A/A fired.8th 6 alerts 0423, 0456, 0637, 0855, 1030, 1126 hours.
ME.109s Macchi 202's 14 JU.88's 33 JU. 87's Luqa. reservoir
hit, flooding aerodrome crater aerodrome Hal Far no damage.
Ta Kali, 1 Air Force Officer wounded. Elsewhere 2 soldiers
4 civilians killed 5 soldiers 14 civilians wounded, several
houses destroyed, 1 predictor damaged. 2 ME. 109's destroyed.
2 JU.88's 1 ME.109 1 Macchi 202 probably destroyed. 1 JU.88
2 ME.109's damaged by 6 Spitfires, 12 Hurricanes. 1 Hurricane
damaged on combat pilot safe. A/A destroyed 2 JU.87's 1 ME
109 damaged 1 JU.87 1 German prisoner.Deliveries 7th. 2 Blenheims 1 Beaufighter 6 Hurricanes 1
Lodestar ex Middle East, 1 Sunderland ex Gibraltar arrived.
2 Blenheims Lodestar left to M.E.Sunderland to Gibraltar same
night.8th. 1 Beaufort ex Gibraltar arrived no aircraft missing.
(H.Q.R.A.F.Malta 1803/8.)Messina
Naples
R/C.Photograph of Messina at 1150. CAVOUR Battleship,
2 8 inch, 1 6 inch cruiser, and 1 cruiser
not yet identified, 5 destroyers, 1 T.B., 1
submarine.2.Naples at 1240. 1 6 inch cruiser in dry dock,
11 destroyers and T.Bs. 4 submarines.3.If possible Messina will be examined a.m. and p.m.tomorrow.
(N.O.I.C.Malta. 1810B/8 to S.O.Force "W" WELSHMAN (R) Admt, y,
F.O.C.N.A., C. in C.Med.).

/SICILIA.....

8.5.1942.
Friday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean. Contd.

SICILIA.

My 1724/23/4. Now reported SICILIA did not sail but is expected to leave Piraeus 9/5. (C. in C.Med., 1929C/8 to Med.Fleet & S/M's 201 N.C.Group.)

SOUTHWOLD.

It is intended to hold a board of enquiry into the loss of SOUTHWOLD. (C. in C.Med. 2106C/8 to Admty.).

8.5.42-
10.5.42.

Bowery

Spitfire a/o for
Malta.

(Korn off 9th)

(Force W) RENOWN,
U.S.S.WASP, EAGLE,
CHARYBDIS, 7 British
destroyers, 2 U.S.
destroyers.

(Korn left Gib. night 7/5)

War Diary.8.5.1942.
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies.General.

VULCANIA. P.C. and S. at 1000 A T A 6/5. 25° 10' S.
38° 01' E. 031° 13 knots.
(Coltano Radio 0119/8 to Admty., C.in C. S.A.)

ATHENE. My 0616/7 para. 1. Amend to read leave Colombo
p.m./8.
(C.in C. E.I. 0320Z/8 to ATHENE (R) C.in C.E.F.,
Admty. etc.)

Flying Boats for R/C. From A.O.C. Ref. your T.O.O.1005/Z/30 addressed
Admty. Your proposal to maintain 2 Catalina at
Diego Suarez continuously would (corrupt grp) at
least 4 aircraft from resources of Ceylon which
can ill be spared at present. (I?) understand
a squadron of flying boats is due to leave U.K. for Mombasa
approx. 1/6. Can you rely until then on shore based aircraft
for regular patrols? I will of course endeavour to meet any
special requirements in the event of emergency but would prefer
to operate from Seychelles where facilities already exist.
(222 Group 0455/8 to C.in C.E.F. (R) Admty. etc.)

Movements. Mombasa arrived 7/5 1215 G.M.T. EXMOOR, CROOME.
.Left 0925 G.M.T./8.
(F.O.E.A. 0545Z/8 0925Z/8 to C.in C. E.I.)
Mombasa left 0735 G.M.T. CORFU, ROYAL SOVEREIGN.
(F.O.E.A. 0821Z/8 to C.in C. E.I.)
Mombasa left 8/5 0355 G.M.T. CARLISLE, arrived 1120 G.M.T.
ADAMANT.
(F.O.E.A. 1129Z/8 to C.in C.E.I.)
EREBUS, TEAL arrived.
(N.O.I.C. Seychelles 1213Z/8 to Admty. etc.)
Mombasa arrived 8/5 0845 G.M.T. RESOLUTION (Flag V A 3)
ENTERPRISE, EMERALD, DRAGON, CALEDON, GRIFFIN, FORTUNE, HOTSPUR.
(F.O.E.Africa 1910Z/8 to C.in C. E.I.)

G/R Air Sqdns. Your 1214/29. Concur. Directive to Govern
operations of long range G/R Squadrons in Indian
Ocean).
(C.in C.E.F. 0644Z/8 to D.C.in C.E.F. (R) Admty.
etc.)

VALIANT. VALIANT is allocated to Eastern Fleet.
Administration and operation are to be taken over
by C.in C. E.F. forthwith.
(D.O.D.(F) 1254B/8 to C.in C.E.F., C.in C.Med.)

SAMBHUR. Regret to report H.M.S.SAMBHUR (on loan to Govt.
of Ceylon and manned by C.N.V.F.) stranded on
Kalppu Gala off Colombo (010° N.E. breakwater
light 1.8 miles) at 1310Z/5/5. Feared total loss.*
(C.in C. E.I.1650Z/8 to Admty.) Local defence craft
* Enquiry being held.

/ Air Report ...

War Diary.

8.5.1942.
Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies. (contd.)

Air Report. A.907 8/5. Intelligence summary No.54 on information received up to 1800 hours 8/5. Burma. Chittagong bombed 1305 hours I.S.T. by 20 aircraft from 20,000 ft. and ground strafed by 8 fighters. Aerodrome U/S due to heavy delay action bombs on runway. 1 Blenheim destroyed on ground. 6 aircraft U.S.A. Air Corps raided Rangoon. Weather conditions poor. 1 aircraft bombed Mingaladon aerodrome causing 3 fires. Remaining 5 aircraft bombed dock area causing 3 fires. (A.H.Q. India 1700/8 to Air.Min.)

Enemy Unit. At 1440 ?G.M.T. H/F D/F bearing Japanese Unit 050° 3rd class sensed. Frequency 7740 kc/s. Indirect wave. Strength 6. My position 011° 57' S. 048° 47' E. (DUNCAN 1756C/8 to C.in C. E.I., S.O.Force F.)

REVENGE. Following from REVENGE. Cancel my IIII/6. E.T.A. 0845Z/9, C.in C. E.I. 1916/7 refers. T.O.O.0601Z/8. (DAUNTLESS 1800Z/8 to N.O.I.C. Kilindini (R) B.S.3.) Note. No trace in W/R of any of the references.

War Diary.

8.5.1942.
Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

Occupation of Madagascar.

Diego
~~Madagascar.~~
Suarez.

Chiefs of Staff congratulate you, Sturges and "Ironclad" Force on well executed operation. (1st S.L. 1202B/8 to S.O. Force F). Request report in due course of state of defences and facilities in Diego Suarez. (1st S.L. 1937B/8 to S.O. Force F. (R) C.in C.E.F., C.in C. S.A.)

"Ironclad". B.B.C. have announced that no reply was received to message to Gov. Diego Suarez, giving conditions of surrender as set out in Adm.1958 B/1/5. This is incorrect. A message of which following is a translation was received from O.C. Defences, Diego Suarez, at 0719 by W/T on D.1. "The defence of Diego Suarez was entrusted by Marshal to my military honour, therefore Diego Suarez will be defended to last, following traditions of Army, Navy and Air Forces of France". A message in similar terms was received from Gov.Gen. Madagascar at 1020 on D.1. (S.O. Force F. 2145C/8 to Admty.)

Situation at Diego Suarez. All ships entered (?) Diego Suarez Harbour with exception of ILLUSTRIOUS, DEVONSHIRE and screen who enter 9/5. S/M which attacked INDOMITABLE in 012° 11' S. 049° 33' E. at 0756 is considered to have been sunk by ACTIVE.* Evidence of destruction included door, wood rail, glove, sun helmet and sundry woodwork, also oil rising continuously. No survivors. At 0900 Military Governor of Diego Suarez and N.O.s.i/c came as requested to RAMILLIES. Subsequently at Residency I informed these officers and civil administrators of conditions of occupation of British forces, and terms of surrender were signed. Conditions and terms of surrender are the subject of a separate signal. Arrangements for evacuating French forces from Oronjia Peninsula and for marching in of British troops at 0800/9 were also made. In addition War vessels reported sunk, preliminary survey shows 2 Italian M/Vs scuttled themselves in Port Nievre and German WARISENFELS (? WARTENFELS) scuttled and burnt out in dry dock. (S.O. Force F. 2226C/8 to Admty.)

(x) MONGE
Vichy.

Surrender Terms. My 2226 C/8 para.4. Conditions of occupation were as set out in A.M.1958 B/1 para.4 with following alterations:-
Para.4, clause (iv) (a) Delete and substitute:
British Forces have occupied Diego Suarez to ensure that the port does not fall into the hands of our enemies. It is our intention to ensure that Diego Suarez remains French and under administration of French authorities, subject only to limitations required for our effective military control of the port. These conditions will apply for the duration of the present war, after which British occupation and control will be terminated.
(c) For "Do not wish to co-operate" read "Feel unable to co-operate". Add at end "This concession does not apply to their wives and families". Add final new clause: "I therefore request that you, and the officers (? under) you, will co-operate

/ with ...

War Diary.

8.5.1942.
Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

Occupation of Madagascar. (contd.)

Surrender with (? us) to make our occupation of Diego
Terms. Suarez (? as easy as) possible for all concerned.
(contd.) This will be achieved by obedience to any orders
or instructions which may be issued by the
British authorities".

2. Terms of surrender and cessation of hostilities were as follows:-

(1). Clearances. Land, sea and air between the British forces and the forces under the command of the French Officer commanding the defence area of the Naval Base of Diego Suarez will cease as from the time of signature of this document.

(2). The French Force will be accorded the honours of war. Officers will be treated as prisoners on parole in so far as the (corrupt group) situation shall allow.

(3). All arms will be deposited at a place to be notified later, with the exception of officers, who will be permitted to retain either one revolver or pistol.

(4). The area of the French minefield in the Diego Suarez and neighbouring waters will be described exactly to the British Naval authorities and all maps.

(5). The conditions of repatriating to Metropolitan France as described by C. in C. of the British forces will apply, viz:- (If any civil and military employees should wish to co-operate they will, provided they can claim the right to (? residence) in Metropolitan France, be repatriated as and when shipping becomes available). No objection will be raised (? restricting) the evacuation of families of the men therein referred to under arrangements to be made by themselves with the approval of the British (? C.O.).

(6). The British Military Authorities will consider particular cases, not exceeding 100, of European members of the French Forces, who, after engaging them in writing not to take up arms against British Naval, Military and Air Forces or Allies in Madagascar or surrounding waters, wished to reside in the unoccupied part of the Island.

(7). The repatriating of (? group omitted) ESE native troops up to 400 will be carried out in accordance with instructions to be sought from H.B.M. Gov.

(8). Malgash native troops will be demobilized under arrangement to be made by the British Military Authorities and returned to their homes.

(9). The French Authorities hereby undertake to do all such things necessary to carry into full effect the provisions of this agreement (3)*

Admty. pass to C.in C. E.F.*

(S.O. Force F. 2355C/8 to Admty.) (* Passing action being taken by W.R.)

War Diary.

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Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America & West Indies.

WALKER S/m on the surface, my P.C. and S. at
U/B. commencement of current Watch were 042° 23' 059°
58' 090° 21 knots.
(WALKER 0031Z/8 to Halifax W/T).
My 0031Z/8 to C.O.A.C. Halifax, S/m engaged by gunfire dived in
042° 23' 059° 19'. 2 attacks carried out, contact temporarily
lost, COLUMBIA in company. Request air co-operation.
(WALKER, 0125Z/8 to OPNAV (R) C.T.24, Admty. etc.)
My 0125Z/8 contact lost, am continuing hunt with COLUMBIA.
Weather report.
(WALKER 0502Z/8 to OPNAV (R) C.T.F.24, Admty. etc.)

U/B Within 60 miles 38° N, 70° W. at 2234Z/7
Fixes by (N.S.H.Q. 0055Z/8) Within 100 miles 28° N,
D/F. 85° W. at 2337Z/7 (N.S.H.Q. 0342Z/8)
Within 100 miles 27° 30' N, 84° W. at 0110Z/8
(N.S.H.Q. 0447Z/8) Within 60 miles 32° 30' N,
79° W. at 0145Z/8 (N.S.H.Q. 0630Z/8)
Within 100 miles 08° 30' N, 56° W. at 0435Z/8
(N.S.H.Q. 1235Z/8) Within 100 miles 43° 30' N,
? 24° 63° W. at 0531Z/8 (N.S.H.Q. 1318Z/8)
Within 100 miles 26° N, 86° 30' W. at 1853Z/8
(N.S.H.Q. 2152Z/8)

Movement 1800 G.M.T. 8/5. D.S.JAN VAN BRAKEL,
Summary ALCANTARA, CT.15. C.T.U. 21.6.3. P.C. and S.
(Admty. 0901Z/8 to OPNAV)

FRANK Georgetown reports FRANK SEAMANS torpedoed
SEAMANS 0250 Q 7/5 in 006° 21' N, 055° 38' W. All crew
(Norwegian landed Paramaribo.
4271 tons) (C.in C. A.& W.I. 1003P/8 to Admty.)

RAVNEFJELL Your 1547 B/6. No information whatever.
(Norwegian (Port Au Prince 1032/8 to D.N.I.)
1339 tons)

P.552. Your 1246/7 C.in C. W.A. suggests following
route to keep clear of normal convoy track.
All positions N and W. (A) 53 01 39 58 (if
ice conditions allow) (B) 56 02 30 03 (C) 57 50 16 57
(D) 57 50 12 02. To R/V at (E) 57 01 08 30 for onward escort
to Rothesay. P.552 to proceed on surface unless otherwise
ordered, and to report P.C. and S. 48 hours in advance of
entering home station and arrival at position E. F.O.S. will
arrange total bombing restrictions on home station. Request
ships and A/C may be warned that P.552 is unable to fire a
yellow smoke candle for recognition purposes.
(F.O.S. 1153B/8 to C.in C. N.F.)

/ U/B Reports ...

War Diary.8.5.1942.
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America & West Indies. (contd.)U/B
Reports.

Intercepted 1022 G.M.T. Arlington Radio.
 WGBC1 O S/m sighted 42.23 N. 58.58 W. at 0031Z
 X 0125/8. O S/m sighted 1943 N. 7334 W. at
 1256 G.M.T. 07/5, 1331/7. Controlling Station
 Arlington Virginia Radio.
 (Portishead Radio)

U.S.
Coastal
Routes.

Difficult to issue U.S. Coastal Routes in
 accordance with M.A.C.R.I. by telegram to ports
 in West Indies where there is no N.C.S.O. and
 where these instructions are not held,
 particularly St. Thomas. Request special
 attention may be paid by N.C.S.Os to principle of through
 routing of ships proceeding to these ports.
 (C.in C. A. & W.I. 1252P/8 to C.in C.S.A.)

Name
Boards.

My 1835/16/3. Following message has been
 passed by OPNAV to all U.S. sea frontier
 Commanders (begins):- For all Port directors
 and routing officers. The continuous use of name boards in
 Port shall be stopped. Instructions.
 (B.A.D. Washington 1331Z/8 to Admty.)

Repeating
of Vescas
to OPNAV.

A.M.1752/20. Navy Dept. state that only a few
 messages have so far been received direct and
 some of these in codes not held by Navy Dept.
 which have therefore had to be recoded by B.A.D.
 Other messages have been addressed to B.A.D. or
 sent to Ottawa only. Request attention to
 authorities concerned may again be drawn to A.M.1752/20 and use
 of Naval shore code stressed, as Navy Dept. particularly wish
 to test their organisation before B.U.S.R.A. comes into force.
 (B.A.D. 1335Z/8 to C.in C. E.I., C.in C. Med., (R) Admty,
 N.S.H.Q. Ottawa)

Light
Vessel
24.

Halifax East L.V. 24 reported on Station.
 (C.N.S. Ottawa 1407Z/8)

O.N.91.

O.N.91 N U and N P continue course through (b)
 to (p) omitting (o).
 (U.S. C.N.O. 1422/8 to C.T.U. 24.1.2., C.T.U.
 24.18.4.).

Escort
Group
B.5.

Your 2049/6. Verify addressee received as
 Comtask 10. Navy Dep. assert this should be
 Commandant 10th Naval District. See also last
 line of message.
See next page
 (B.A.D. Washington 1441Z/8 to C.in C. W.A.)
 956. Your 1441/8. Com Task 10 was repeated
 addressee and referred to in my 2049/6 in accordance with
 Admty's 1551/6 to OPNAV. Suggest OPNAV be asked to confirm
 designation.
 (C.in C.W.A. 2350B/8. to B.A.D. Washington). Reply: B.A.D. 1507Z/9.

/RANGER ...

War Diary.8.5.1942.
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America & West Indies. (contd.)

RANGER. Your 1906/7. C.in C. U.S. F. affirms that RANGER will be flying off A/C on 10th or 11th. (B.A.D. Washington 1447Z/8 to R.A. West Africa.)

LADY DRAKE. My 1302/7 LADY DRAKE was sunk by torpedo in (Sunk 5/5). 35° 43' N 64° 43' W at 0100Z on 5/5. Now reported 12 missing. All Naval personnel including F.A.A. from Trinidad safe. (C.in C. A. & W.I. 1612P/8 to Admty, N.S.H.Q. C.O.A.C. F.O.N.F. B.A.D. COMINCH, OPNAV, F.O.I.C. Trinidad, S.O.I. Jamaica). See also his 1212P/9 re inferior fuel and excessive smoke.

Fuel for Portugese Fishing Vessels. C.O.A.C. Halifax's 1444Z/3. In view of considerations in para.3 of my 1800B/29th April, it is hoped that you will be able to take necessary action at earliest possible date. (Admty. 1657B/8 to N.S.H.Q. Ottawa)

DRUMHELLER P.C. & S. at 1500 G.M.T. 8/5. (DRUMHELLER 1740Z/8 to FORT YORK, MORDEN).

S.C.83. Task Unit 24.1.4 will join S.C.83 in 047° 42' N. 050° 22' W. at 1600Z/11. (C.T.24 1815Z/8 to OPNAV).

PAN CRESCENT. My 2021 21/4 PAN CRESCENT delayed. Arrive Monrovia about 7th. (C.in C. U.S. Fleet 1844/8 to R.A. West Africa).

JAMES E. NEWSOM. Schooner JAMES E. NEWSOM was sunk by gunfire by (671 tons) U/B at 1230/1/5 in 35° 50' N. 59° 40' W. All crew safe and arrived Bermuda 7/5. (C.in C. A. & W.I. 1853P/8 to Admty.)

B.5 Escort Group. *See previous page* Vessels listed in Admty. 1925B/7 will report to you for escort of convoy duty initially between Aruba and Trinidad and practicable coverage immediately eastward of latter. Round trip approx. every 14 days. Considering number protected berths Aruba and Curacao and total tanker traffic from there to eastward including that to South America, make recommendation as to number British and other tankers to be accommodated each convoy. Full use to be made British routing officers in ports mentioned. (Cominch 1950/8 to Com. Caribseafon.)

Ice Bulletin 7/5. C.T.24 2037/8 to Admty.

War Diary.

8.5.1942.
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America & West Indies. (contd.)

U/B Intelligence. Sub. attack and sighting summary. EMPIRE DRUM sunk 37° N. 69° 15' W. 2100Z/24/4, 2 torpedoes. U.45 type. EUGENE V THAYER sunk. 02° 12' S. 39° 35' W. 0030Z/10/4. About 45 rounds. No adequate sub. description. Submerged sub. contacted and attacked 28° 18' N. 80° W. 1215Z/8. Plane attacked probable sub. on surface 29° 25' N. 86° 43' W. 1830Z/7. U.S.S. DALLAS heavily attacked sound contact 27° 02' N. 79° 55' W. about 0100Z/8. Possible damage. ONTARIO presumed sunk 28° 12' N. 87° 32' W. 0150Z/7 by shell fire. FRANK SEAMANS torpedoed and sunk 06° 20' N. 55° 38' W. 0650Z/7.
(C.in C. U.S. Fleet 2042/8 to Admty.)

JAVA ARROW HALSEY. JAVA ARROW (U.S.) torpedoed 2657 N. 8001 W. at 0347 G.M.T. 6th. HALSEY (U.S.) torpedoed 2720 N. 8003 W. at 0900 G.M.T. 6th.
(N.S.H.Q. Ottawa 2127Z/8 to Admty.)

S.Pacific Amphibious Force. Training of U.S. amphibious forces in S.Pacific. See New Zealand 2131Z/8.

Markings on U.S. A/C. J.S.M. 219 U.S. Chiefs of Staff have decided to make following modifications in markings on U.S. Military A/C. Details. Changes become operative on all combat A/C of U.S. Army and Navy with effect from 15/5.
(J.S.M. T.O.O. 2133Z/8 to Chiefs of Staff, London).

Shipping Co-ordination Committee. Following from Salter for M.W.T. Ref. B.A.D. 2223Z/6 to Admty. At the meeting referred to in para. 2 of Mge. under ref. representative of Comesf confirmed that Convoy from Hampton Roads to Key West and from Key West to Hampton Roads designated K S 1 and K N 1 will run on May 14th and 15th respectively.
(2). Cycle thereafter will be three days both directions speed 10 repetition 10 knots and maximum capacity 48 (48) ships per convoy.
(3). Ships under 10 (10) knots and ships over 15 (15) knots will be routed independently.
(4). Ships from O N Convoy bound for Ports South of Hatteras will be sailed from Boston independently in daylight stages using inland waterways where possible to Chesapeake Bay where they will await Convoy.
(5). Ships in three and four will be given such air and patrol protection as can be made available.
(6). Ships from Gulf Ports will be sailed to synchronize with departure of O N ? K N Convoy. This synchronization will be responsibility of U.S. and British routing Officers individually until Busra becomes effective.
(7). The figure of 48 (48) ships per convoy was based on the average traffic during January/February 1942 while predetermined number of places will not be allocated to any particular nationality or class of ships a very rough estimate of the

/ expected...

War Diary.8.5.1942.
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America & West Indies. (contd.)

Shipping expected traffic per month is:-
 Co-ordination (A) 37 (37) British Dry Cargo Ships refer MASTA
 Committee. 2309 (2309).
 (contd.) (B) 8 (8) British Dry Cargo Ships loading in
 U.S. Ports south of Charleston assuming (A) and
 (B) all able make necessary speed.
 (C) 50 (50) U.S. Dry Cargo Ships.
 (D) 125 (125) Tankers Trading to U.S. East Coast
 this figure being particularly susceptible to
 change.
 (E) 30 (30) Tankers in Canadian Trade.
 (F) 30 (30) British Tankers normally loading in
 Gulf Ports.
 (G) Perhaps 30 (30) miscellaneous Free Swedes,
 Brazilians etc.

(8). This total of 310 (310) produces a theoretical average spare capacity of 170 (170) ships per month after disposing of backlog. Spare capacity arises largely out of the reduction in the U.S. Coastal Tanker. Traffic since January.

(9). The spare capacity gives rise to several alternative ideas either to extend the Convoy further south or north or to reduce its speed and so include more ships or to increase the British/Gulf loadings of tankers at the expense of Caribbean Ports whose local convoy is not expected to handle more than 30 or the 50 ships per month necessary to complete U.K.Oil programme with only 30 Gulf loadings. We intend to raise these alternatives in Kelly Committee (See Below).

(10) Even with the above spare capacity it is still possible that bunching may occur to the extent of overloading a particular convoy.

(11) Adm.Kelly's Committee is designed to try to foresee and avoid such bunching and we hope in general that it will maintain Liaison between the various interests concerned. W.S.A. have suggested that in the case of tankers the bunching caused by the arrival of a large O N Convoy can probably be offset by compensating adjustments in the U.S. Coastal Tanker Sailings.

(12) If however bunching does occur Kelly Committee will settle the priorities which at present tend to give tankers particularly dirty Tankers priority over all other shipping.

(14) The 13 Tankers due May 8 have arrived New York and under instruction your Mast.13789 are held there. Please confirm urgently that your instructions to Sparks in this respect should not be interpreted as preventing ships moving as in para.4 to join Convoy at Hampton Roads.

(15) Above agreed with B.A.D. and W.S.A.
 (B.A.D. 2359Z/8 to Admty.)

War Diary.

8.5.1942.

Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Australia & New Zealand.

C.W.R. Reports indicate Dutch still held Kisar Island
 105 (Wetar Strait - Timor) Toeal (Kaidoelah Island
 May 6th. Banda Sea) Dobo (Aru Island) Merauke (D N G)
 Operations on 30/4.
 and enemy (2). Reported 5/5 Japanese working oilfields
 intelligence. Boela (Ceram).
 (3). Following enemy shipping on passage Solomon
 Is. New Guinea Area 6/5 by Air R/C. 2330Z/5
 07° 30' S. 155° 30' E. one A/C carrier 2 cruisers. 0125Z/6
 07° 15' S. 155° 40' E. one S/M tender. Between 0046Z and 0215Z
 6th off Woodlark Island one destroyer 3 M/Vs. 0400 to 0430Z
 6 destroyers 5 M/Vs off Misima Island. 0210Z 09° 27' S 154°
 13' E. 5 cruisers 6 destroyers 2 S/M 4 M/Vs.
 (4). 2048Z/6 one A/C carrier 10 transports 16 warships sighted
 10° 34' S. 152° 36' E. course 285° and at 2100Z/6 3 large
 transports 4 destroyers 10° 41' S. 152° 30' E. course 285°.
 (5). A/C carrier and cruiser S.W. of Bougainville Island
 attacked by 3 B 17's 2126Z 5th heavy A/A fire 7 small fighters
 seen but no interception. Very near miss on light cruiser.
 (6). R/C aircraft report 7 ships at Rabaul on 6/5 one on fire
 one leaving harbour and shot down a Zero fighter near Watom
 Island.
 (7). 15 bombers 7 fighters reported over Jacquinot Bay (New
 Britain) 6/5 course S. by W.
 (8). Unidentified aircraft sightings report 6/5 over Aola
 (Guadal-Canal Island) Malekula (New Hebrides) Darwin and over
 Barrier Reef 150 miles East Townsville.
 (9). S.S. CHLOE (?) attacked by enemy S/M 20 miles West of
 Bulari Passage (Noumea) 2200Z/6.
 (A.C.N.B.1039Z/8)

Serial Ref. serial 105 CHLOE sunk by enemy S/M 2045Z/6
 106. (?922°) 59' S. 166° 29' E.
 May 7th. (2). S/M attacked probably sank JOHN ADAM (? ADAMS)
 5/5 023° 30' S. 164° 35' E.
 (3). 0340Z 7th A/C reported enemy S/M 015° 24' S.
 153° 25' E.
 (4). U.S. Oiler NEOSHO heavily bombed and reported sinking 016°
 38' S. 158° 28' E. at 0500Z/7.
 (5). Enemy shipping sighted 7/5 Louisiade Archipelago addition
 to that reported serial no.105 para.4 as follows. At 0050Z/7
 Convoy of 19 ships in 2 lines escorted by 11 warships 009° 55' S.
 152° 10' E. course 310°. 13 other ships in vicinity Misima
 Islands including one heavy 2 light cruisers one destroyer
 2 transports possibly one other cruiser and 2 destroyers. At
 anchor in harbour N.E. tip of (?Torlesse) Islands 2 seaplane
 tenders 10,000 and 6,000 tons.
 (6). 3 attacks 7/5 on enemy ships vicinity Misima Islands,
 (a) 3 B 17's probably near misses and hits or near misses on 2
 ships, (b) 6 B 17 one near miss, (c) 6 B 17 one direct hit
 one near miss on 2 ships.
 (7). B 25 on R/C attacked 2240Z/6 by single engined monoplane
 possibly T 97 Nakajima float plane fighter and single engine
 biplane with float probably T 95 014° 45' S. 151° E. No damage.

/ (8) ...

War Diary.

8.5.1942.
Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Australia & New Zealand. (contd.)

Serial 106.
May 7th.
(contd.)

(8). 8 Zero fighters attacked Port Moresby 0220Z/7. 10 P 39 intercepted one Zero possibly shot down.
(9). Enemy air R/C 7/5 Cape Nelson Buna area (New Guinea).
(10) Aircraft on R/C 7/5 reported 3 seaplanes in bay between Kui and Sipoma (New Guinea). (A.C.N.B. 1743Z/8.)

South Pacific Amphibious Force.

J.S.M. No.218.

1. For purpose of training U.S. amphibious forces in South Pacific area for offensive operations against Japan, "South Pacific Amphibious Force" is to be established forthwith in New Zealand under Commander, South Pacific Force.
2. As a nucleus of this force, elements of 1st Marine Div. (approx. strength 13,000-14,000) with 8 combat unit loading transports and 3 converted cargo vessels and one Marine Corps Observation squadron will be despatched to Wellington from U.S. ports during next weeks.
3. Intended that South Pacific Amphibious Force shall be increased to include by end of 1942 2 Marine Divisions, "several Marine battalions", 1 Marine air wing and necessary corps troops, with additional special shipping.
(J.S.M. Washington 2131Z/8).

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

S/MS Reported.

Possibly one Cape St. Vincent - Gibraltar.(D.D.I.C. 1436B/8 and 1455B).

9.5.1942.

Saturday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

A report graded B.2. states that HIPPER was outward bound in Trondheim Ledden at 1030 B today, and a tanker and 2 destroyers at 0950B.

The new cruiser SIRIUS was commissioned at Portsmouth today.

British Air Operations.

147 aircraft of Bomber Command attacked targets at Warnemunde last night: 19 aircraft were lost.

Enemy Air Operations.

Norwegian SS DOURO was bombed and sunk today in the N.W. Approaches. The attacking aircraft was destroyed by the ship's fire.

North Atlantic.

Two French submarines passed the Straits of Gibraltar eastbound at noon today.

A ship, at first reported as JEAN BART was reported at 1500B today to be 150 miles S.S.W. from Gibraltar steering 030°. Later the aircraft making the report returned and reported that the ship sighted was a cruiser escorted by 4 destroyers: the force returned to Casablanca after carrying out firing practice. Smoke haze over the harbour prevented the identification of ships until 2015B when JEAN BART was seen in her usual position. On hearing the report of

/JEAN...

War Diary.

9.5.1942.
Saturday.

SITUATION REPORT.

North Atlantic - Contd.

JEAN BART, R.A. West Africa sailed MALAYA from Freetown for Cape Verde Is. escorted by two destroyers, in case RICHELIEU should also move north, however, by Admiralty direction MALAYA proceeded to Gibraltar.

It is reliably reported that the French cruiser PRIMAUGUET left Casablanca this morning with 3 S/Ms in a south-westerly direction.

Mediterranean.

27 Wellingtons bombed ships in Benghazi last night.

Operation
"Bowery"

WASP and EAGLE successfully flew off 60 Spitfires to Malta today. Some Hurricanes also arrived. The aircraft arrived during a raid and were in action within 35 minutes of landing. An almost continuous air battle went on over Malta all day and by the evening 30 enemy aircraft had been destroyed or damaged for the loss of only 3 Spitfires.

102 UXBs totalling 21 tons were dealt with at Malta during the week.

URGE
overdue.

S/M URGE which left Malta 27/4 for passage to Alexandria is overdue since 6/5 and must be considered lost.

East Indies.

Chittagong was bombed by a large number of enemy aircraft this morning and was attacked again later by enemy fighters.

War Diary.

9.5.1942.
Saturday.

SITUATION REPORT.

East Indies - Contd.

Part of the military garrison at Cocos Island consisting of detachments of Ceylon Light Infantry and Artillery attempted to effect an armed mutiny today. The attempt failed, with casualties. H.M.I.S. SUTLEJ is being sent to take reliefs to Cocos.

America and West Indies.

A coastal convoy of 12 ships sailed from Jacksonville today for Key West .

S.C. convoys which have been held up by ice during the winter, will start from Sydney, commencing with S.C.85.

U.352
sunk.

U.S. C.G. ^{Patrol Boat} ~~Sub~~ ICARUS sank ~~a submarine~~ believed to be U.352 at 2040Z today in 34° 2' N 76° 35' W (off Wilmington) and took 33 members of the crew prisoners.

U-Boat attacks on shipping were reported today near the Cayman Is. off Cape Florida and Halifax.

Australia.

At 0400Z today a seaplane tender with 8 small craft and 15 seaplanes were sighted and attacked by aircraft off Deboyne Is (Louisiane Archipelago) The seaplane tender was damaged and one seaplane was sunk and 3 damaged.

War Diary.

9.5.1942.
Saturday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Policy.

North Atlantic Dispositions. Disposition of operation units in North Atlantic.
Area North Russia. Two destroyers.
Area Iceland (C) WASHINGTON, TUSCALOOSA, WICHITA, NORFOLK, KENT, LIVERPOOL, Four destroyers (U.S.) Two destroyers.
Area Scapa. DUKE OF YORK, NELSON, RODNEY, VICTORIOUS, BERWICK, LONDON, NIGERIA, Four destroyers.
Area Clyde. MAURITIUS, KENYA.
Area Gibraltar. WASP, EAGLE, ARGUS, RENOWN, CHARYBDIS, Two destroyers, Two destroyers (U.S.)
(D.O.D. H., 0946Z/9 to C. in C. U.S. Fleet).

27th M.L. Flotilla. The 27th M.L. Flotilla now at Gibraltar is re-allocated to West Africa and will be sailed shortly.
(R.A.C.F., 1615B/9 to D. of Stores).

CARADOC. Your 1047B/9. Ship is considered worked up and ready for service.
(CARADOC, 1655B/9 to F.O.I.C. Greenock).

CARADOC should be sailed as convenient to Scapa to complete working up.

2. She will be required to leave U.K. on 30/5.

(D.O.D. (H.), 2006B/9 to F.O.I.C. Greenock). *See p. 284.*

Iceland. Procedure. 1. Following message has been sent to Chaney by Communications. War Department. Begins.
"You are authorized and directed to communicate directly to the Commanding General of United States Forces in Iceland any information which may be furnished you by British Military authorities and which may affect operations in Iceland. You are authorized to call upon him for periodic reports or for any specific information that may be desired by the British Chiefs of Staff. A similar message will go out at once to General Bonesteel." Ends.
2. This procedure will enable your views on strategic situation and any intelligence information to be conveyed direct to Bonesteel, but you will note that Chaney is not authorized to issue orders direct to him as War Department would not agree to this, but only possible subject on which it might be desirable to send instructions of immediate operational importance to Bonesteel seems to be strategic use of Air Forces.
(Britman, Washington, 2237Z/9 to Chiefs of Staff, London).

Defence of United Kingdom.

Folkestone A/A defences. Your 1815B/7. Assumption in para. 3 correct.
(Air Ministry, 1135/9 to Admty).

War Diary.9.5.1942.
Saturday.HOME COMMANDS.Movements.

LIVERPOOL, KENT, ONSLOW, ICARUS. Arrived Seidisfiord LIVERPOOL, ONSLOW, ICARUS in company. (KENT, 0500B/9).

H.28 My 1453B/8. Sailed H.28 and CAPE MARIATO one hour late. (Capt. S.7., 0910B/9).

AGAMEMNON, BRIGHTON. Scapa departures 0732 AGAMEMNON and BRIGHTON. E.T.A. Port ZA 1915/9. (A.C.O.S., 1001/9). Arrived AGAMEMNON, BRIGHTON. (N.O.I.C. Port ZA, 1928/9).

RYE, HYTHE, FLYING KESTREL EARL KITCHENER. ^{N.T. in W.D.} Your 1803/8. RYE and HYTHE are to be sailed as soon as possible in accordance with my 1927/6 not to all addressees. FLYING KESTREL to proceed to Milford Haven and will sail with first available group of trawlers about 25/5. EARL KITCHENER and group to proceed in accordance with my 2012/5 and sailed when refit is completed. ^{N.T. in W.D.} (D.M.S., 1226B/9 to C. in C. W.A.)

Cancel my 1803/8. HYTHE and RYE are to sail as soon as possible to Gibraltar thence Alexandria via Capetown in accordance with A/M 1927/6. Route to Gibraltar (A) 055° 30' N., 008° 05' W. (B) 53° 01' N., 16° 03' W. (C) 42° 59' N., 16° 03' W. (C. in C. W.A., 1744B/9 to N.O.I.C. Londonderry).

CHURCHILL. Having fuelled at Ponta Delgada after completing escort duty with W.S.19 you are to proceed Trinidad to join escort group B.5. S.O. HAVELOCK. (C. in C. W.A., 1233Z/9 to CHURCHILL) My 2049/6. Intend substituting CHURCHILL for CHESTERFIELD. CHURCHILL will fuel at Ponta Delgada about 18/5 and then proceed direct to Trinidad. N.O.I.C. Trinidad pass to HAVELOCK. (C. in C. W.A., 1238Z/9). ^{See p. 288}

THUNDERBOLT. ^{N.T. in W.D.} My 0015/9 and C. in C. Plymouth 0008/9 and 0040/9. THUNDERBOLT and M.Ls. returned to harbour on ^{N.T. in W.D.} account of weather. (N.O.I.C. Dartmouth, 1350/9). A submarine will be exercising in Dartmouth Submarine Sanctuary from 1000/10 till 0505/11 and from 0700/11 till 1630/11, then returns with escort to Dartmouth. (C. in C. Plymouth, 1718B/9).

H.44 At 1600/11 intend sailing H.44 escorted AZALEA, E.T.A. Rothesay 1300/12. (WESTERN ISLES, 1355B/9).

War Diary.

9.5.1942.
Saturday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Movements. - Contd.

H.32 My 1519/7. Sailed BREDA and H.32. *(Rattelay?)*
(Capt. S.7., 1802B/9).

ASHANTI. My 1806/9. ASHANTI now estimated off Hartlepool
at 2200/9 proceeding at ten knots to 21 A buoy,
thence at 15 knots.
(C. in C. Rosyth, 1930B/9).
My 1930/9. ASHANTI now estimated off St. Abbs
Head 2357. 20 knots.
(C. in C. Rosyth, 2036B/9).

LEDBURY, Scapa arrivals oiler GRAY RANGER and LEDBURY.
GRAY RANGER. (A.C.O.S., 2003B/9).

BERWICK. Scapa arrival BERWICK.
(A.C.O.S., 2030B/9 to A.C.I.C.)
Proceed from Scapa p.m./10th to arrive Plymouth
gate at 1115B/12. Route by Minches, North Channel and Q.Z. Mes-
sage L.15.
(C. in C. H.F., 2155B/9 to BERWICK).

EMPIRE Your 2049/8. Your proposal to retain EMPIRE
BASCOBEL, BASCOBEL for Port Work at Iceland is not
EMPIRE LARCH. approved. Both EMPIRE LARCH and EMPIRE BASCOBEL
are Ocean going Tugs and are required to tow
vessels to U.K. Repair Ports.

2. Request you will arrange to sail Waterboat FRESHET in tow
of EMPIRE BASCOBEL to Clyde as soon as possible.

3. On completion of their respective tows both tugs will be
returned to Iceland, EMPIRE LARCH probably towing Laker LANARK
from Blyth vide D. of S.T., 1652B/5.

4. On return EMPIRE LARCH will be required to assist M.V.
TAHCHEE to Tyne and EMPIRE BASCOBEL to assist Laker DELAWARE
to U.K. destination to be notified later.

5. For your guidance provisional arrangements have been made
for towage of PERSIER, EMPIRE CHIEF and Forepart ERODONA to
U.K. by tugs EMPIRE LARCH and EMPIRE BASCOBEL when the foregoing
tows are completed.
(D.S.T., 2125B/9 to A.C.I.C.)

Operations.

Denmark U.S. Cr. WICHITA will relieve NORFOLK on patrol
Strait Patrol. "White" at 0600Z/13 in 65° 30' N., 24.40 W.
(C.T.F.99., 0029B/9 and 1014B/9 to C. in C.
H.F.)

/N.W...

War Diary.9.5.1942.
Saturday.HOME COMMANDS.Operations - Contd.N.W. Norway
S/M Patrol.(a) Following submarines detailed to cover P.Q.16
and Q.P.12

Submarine	To arrive Lerwick.	To sail patrol.	Initial Zone.
TRIDENT	13th May	14th May	K.26.
P.46	13th May	14th May	K.25.
P.37	13th May	14th May	K.24.
SEAWOLF	13th May	15th May	K.23.
MINERVE	Blank	15th May	K.22.
P.614	13th May	15th May	K.21.
O.10	14th May	15th May	K.20.

(b) Submarines are to adjust speeds to arrive in
their zone at 0800B/18.

(F.O.S. 1054B/9) (Amended by F.O.S.1101B/10).

Combined
operation.Intend sailing QUEEN EMMA (S.O.), PRINCE CHARLES
PRINCES~~A~~ ASTRID, PRINSES~~J~~ J. CHARLOTTE, and
PRINSE~~A~~ ALBERT from Portland at 0800/10 for Cowes.
Routed Q.Z.S.294 293 and 284. E.T.A. Needles 1000
speed 17 knots. C. in C. Portsmouth is requested
to arrange appropriate air protection.
(F.O.I.C. Portland, 2212B/9).British Air Activity.Bombing
restrictions.Request total bombing restrictions in Dartmouth
S/M Area from 0900/9 until further orders.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 0008/9 to H.Q.C.C.)Institute surface bombing restrictions in respect
of all small fishing vessels 15' either side of line joining
Scillies and Ushant, thence 15' off French coast to Lorient,
and in particular Concarneau Bay area forthwith until 2359/23.
(H.Q.C.C., 1255/9).Cam Ship
communication
with Russian
Fighter A/C.Your 1510/8. This disadvantage was taken into
consideration when (?modifying) C.A.F.O. 1474/41
and fighter (?direction) code-words for Anglo-
Soviet use, as it was known Russians had no
suitable English-speaking Officers available.(2) Interpretation of R.D.F. (?plot) would seem
to be affair of English fighter (?direction) Officer only.
Russian is there to transmit certain code words when required to
Russian fighter pilots in their own language and using own
procedure. (3) Table of code words has been specially redesigned
to work under these conditions which are admittedly not ideal.
Table shows English code words with corresponding Russian
equivalents and purport of order in Russian.
(4) Consider Russia born British Officer would be quite unsuitable
for this duty.
(Ad. Miles, 1245C/9 to Admty)..Trials in
CARDIFF.CARDIFF will be required to co-operate with the
Air Ministry to test the actuating mechanism of
B. bombs. 2. It is anticipated that the trials
lasting about 3 days will take place in the
second week in July in the Clyde area.
(D.O.D. (H.), 1306B/9 to CARDIFF).

/Trials...

War Diary.9.5.1942.
Saturday.HOME COMMANDS.British Air Activity. - Contd.Trials in
AVENGER.

My 1812B/5 and Admiralty 2003B/6. Deck landing training is delayed. The 768 squadron A/C and personnel are to remain at Arbroath until ordered to move to Machrihanish by further signal. (R.A.N.A.S., 1343B/9 to Arbroath).

Bombing
Operations.

On day 8/5, six A/C bombed Dieppe; and on night 8/9, 151 A/C attacked Warnemünde. (H.Q.B.C., 1620/9).

Denmark
Straits.
Proposed Air
Patrol.

Your 1541B/8. As ice edge varies considerably each month and in summer recedes far to northward of Scorsby Sound your signal is not entirely understood. To do as you suggest with ice edge in approx. its present position 6 Catalinas would be required to be based at Akureyri.

These would still suffice up till time ice edge had receded to about 073° N., which is presumably outside area of observation required. From last year's Met. reports this patrol could be flown 65% days in summer and 50% in winter. (A.C.I.C., 1816B/9 to C. in C. H.F.)

Enemy Air Activity.HORATIO
(Bombed
8/5).

My 1832/8 paras. 5 and 7. C.O. of Hoy states attack was made by 4 Me.109s. which were chased by two R.A.F. Fighters. (F.O.I.C. Southampton, 0950/9).

Mining.

Yarmouth

Port closed owing to minelaying.
(F.O.I.C. Gt. Yarmouth, 1448B/9).3 cables N.E. by E. of Harbour entrance.
(F.O.I.C. Gt. Yarmouth, 1530B/9, 1647B/11, 0944B/12).
Port now open.
(F.O.I.C. Gt. Yarmouth, 1748B/9).Enemy Intelligence.Straits of
Dover.

Enemy Shipping plotted by R.D.F. in the Dover Strait from 0900/8 to 0900/9.

Track E 3 D. 1 large and 6 escorting vessels 7 miles S.W. of Boulogne at 0707 course North Easterly at 12 - 13 knots entered Boulogne at 0755. Sighted by Jim Crow Aircraft at 0645.
(V.A. Dover, 0912B/9).

/HIPPER...

War Diary.9.5.1942.
Saturday.HOME COMMANDS.Enemy Intelligence. - Contd.

HIPPER, Report graded B.2. states unknown number of
2 destroyers, cruisers outward bound in Trondheim Ledden at
and Tanker 0800 today. A.M.1713B/8 may refer.
off (D.D.I.C., 0956B/9 to C. in C. H.F., C.S.1.,
Trondheim. C.S.10, C.T.F.99, V.A.2., etc).
(1) My 0956/9. Now reported to be one vessel
only which later.
(2) HIPPER reported graded B.2. outward bound in Trondheim
Ledden at 1030B/9, also 1 tanker and 2 destroyers outward bound
at 0930B/9.
(D.D.I.C., 1556/9 to C. in C. H.F., etc).

Varanger Russians report 5/5 convoy in Varanger Fiord.
Fiord. U-boats in 70.18 N., 33.06 E., 70.15 N., 35.00 E.
U-boats and 70.23 N., 34.20 E., 70.50 N., 32.46 E., 70.53 N.
Convoys on 31.24 E., Vardo one U-boat. At 2115C/5 and
on 5/5, 6/5, 0300C/6 two U-boats bore 330° from Tsip Navolok.
7/5, 8/5. ?My 6/6 three U-boats in Varanger Fiord. In
70.11 N., 32.52 E., one boat. Four convoys
believed to be at sea. Two proceeding towards
and two away from Kirkeness.
(Ad. Miles, 1457/9 to Admty).
Russians report 7/5 convoy and two U-boats in Varanger Fiord.
Off Kibergnes one U-boat. Convoy in vicinity Kongs Fiord.
On 8/5 in 70.40 N., 13.40 E., one destroyer, Varanger Fiord
one U-boat.
(Ad. Miles, 1636C/9).

U-Boats.

U-boats TYNEDALE's 1524/8 and my 1646B/8. F.J.1 Z.
attacked. Latest estimated position 048° 10' N., 009° 15' W.
at 1938/8, course 86°, speed 1 knot, whilst
submerged during daylight hours. A/C report track
of oil bubbles turning to starboard 7° per hour.
A second U-boat has been attacked by Sunderland in 047° 44' N.,
010° 48' W. at 1620/8, course 325° 10 knots, which as far as
is known has not yet re-surfaced as Sunderland has been over
second U-boat all the time. After sinking number 1 U-boat unless
other orders are (?word missed) you are to proceed to sink
number 2 U-boat.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 0004B/9 to CLEVELAND, TYNEDALE).
If nothing sighted cancel search at dark tonight and return to
harbour through 180° Bishop Rock 15 miles. E.T.A. and speed are
to be signalled in time to arrange fighter protection.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 1534B/9 to CLEVELAND (R) TYNEDALE).

Survivors Ten survivors in 60° 38' N., 13° 22' W.
reported. (16 Group H.Q., 1510/9).
Proceed assist 10 survivors reported by A/C in
060° 38' N., 013° 22' W., at 1520B/9.
(C. in C. W.A., 1523B/9 to BULLDOG, BEVERLEY).
Following read. 10 survivors on rafts (?oil) (?patch) position
60° 25' N., 12° 11' W.
(A.O.C., 15 Group, 1540/9).
Following read. Am carrying out observation of survivors 60° N.
13° W., require immediate assistance WQX4.
(A.O.C., 15 Group, 1710/9).

Survivors 2 p: cont...
/My...

War Diary.

9.5.1942.
Saturday.

HOME COMMANDS.

U-Boats. - Contd.

Survivors
Reported
Contd. My 1523/9. Amended position 60° 25' N., 12° 11' W.
Expect Sunderland A/C to co-operate. Survivors
reported on raft in oil patch.
(C. in C. W.A., 1812B/9 to BULLDOG, BEVERLEY).
My P.C.S. 060° 57' N., 014° 15' W., 117° 18 knots
BEVERLEY in company.
(BULLDOG, 2001B/9).

Navigational.

Nore. Wreck buoy in 51° 31' 12" N., 1° 03' 12" E.
extinguished.
(C. in C. Nore, 1313B/9).

Firth of
Forth. Commodore W.N.80 reports No. 30 buoy showing fixed
light visible ½ mile at 0315/9.
(N.C.S.O. Methil, 1709/5).

Ice
situation. R/C 3/4 shows limits of ice through following
positions. 73° 50' N., 20° 10' E. 74° 30' N.,
17° 00' E., 76° 50' N., 11° 00' E., 75° 25' N.,
7° 20' E. 74° 00' N., 7° 00' E. Thence unknown
to 70° 00' N., 6° 00' W., 70° 25' N., 11° 10' W.
No indication of any large areas of open water beyond these limits
2. Brash covering less than 1/10 of sea 35 miles S.W. Bear
Island. Between ice limit and Bear Island drift ice covering
between 2/10 and 80/10 of sea. Maximum size of floes 35 feet.
3. Only specially constructed ships could penetrate ice
between Bear Island and Spitzbergen.
4. Heavy unbroken polar ice between Jan Mayen and 300 miles to
North eastward, with floes up to 50 miles in size and only
occasional narrow leads, suggests little hope of early recession
in this area.
5. Large volume of ice between Spitzbergen and Bear Island
suggests ice limits near the latter will remain for some time.
6. Development of the Spitzbergen Bay, although as yet unusually
small, suggests conditions off West Spitzbergen will improve
steadily.
(D.N.M.S., 2222B/9 to C. in C. H.F., A.C.I.C., S.B.N.O. North
Russia).

Casualties & Defects.

RIMOUSKI. ^{N.T. in W.D.} My 0940/9. RIMOUSKI returned with A/S defects.
(Commodore, Londonderry, 1130B/9).

BERWICK. ^{N.T. in W.D.} Your 0013B/9 BERWICK should pass Gates at 1115/12.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 1135B/9 to C. in C. H.F.)

CHARLESTOWN. ^{N.T. in W.D.} Cancel my 0941/5. Owing to condenseritis in
CHARLESTOWN, BRIGHTON will now be required to
proceed to Reykjavik in accordance with Admty's.
1931/6. ^{N.T. in W.D.}
(R.A.M., 1202/9 to F.O.I.C. Glasgow).

See p. 271.

/Unknown...

War Diary.9.5.1942.
Saturday.HOME COMMANDS.Casualties & Defects. - Contd.

Unknown Ship. Automatic S.O.S. signals heard at 1256 G.M.T. Bearing from Port Patrick Radio 145°. Type of signal A.2 strength 2. (Port Patrick, 1456/9).

Automatic S.O.S. Signals heard at 1333 G.M.T. Bearing from Port Patrick Radio 141° unreliable sector. Apparently same station. Not re-broadcast. Should this be done. (Port Patrick Radio, 1533/9).
Your 1533. No.
(F.O.I.C. Greenock, 1549B/9 to Port Patrick).

Automatic S.O.S. heard again at 1404 G.M.T. Same characteristics. (Port Patrick, 1604/9).

Automatic S.O.S. heard again at 1524 G.M.T. Not re-broadcast. Should this be done. (Port Patrick 1726).
Your 1726. No.
(F.O.I.C. Greenock, 1733B/9 to Port Patrick).

FOWEY. ^{h.t. w.3.} My 1811B/8. FOWEY sailing delayed by defects. (F.O.I.C. Liverpool, 1641B/9).

KATWIJK II. Intend sailing tug DIVERSION with Dutch Trawler KATWIJK II in tow for Lowestoft 1830 tomorrow. (F.O.I.C. Gt. Yarmouth, 1733B/9).

KING GEORGE V. Arrived KING GEORGE V. (F.O.I.C. Liverpool, 1924B/9 to A.C.O.S.)

Shipping & Convoys.

Convoy P.Q.15. Report by signal percentage of fuel remaining on arrival Kola Inlet and amount of fuel embarked at sea during passage. Also any remarks on consumption with view of future employment of

Hunts on this route.

(C. in C. H.F., 0011B/9 to BADSWORTH).
Your 0011B/9. Fuel stock remaining on arrival 37.5% (108 tons). Fuel embarked at sea 107 tons. Consumption was heavy on 1st day of passage when steaming high speed with NIGERIA. Consider that if Hunt class destroyers joining convoy north of Seidisfiord zigzagging at 12 knots with steam in 1 boiler (maximum speed available 20 knots), and only connected 2nd boiler when surface attack was imminent, fuel situation would be satisfactory. (BADSWORTH, 1641B/9 to C. in C. H.F.)

P.Q.16 Your 2337/8. Request accommodation available (in LLANSTEPHAN CASTLE) (a) Officers (b) ratings. (S.B.N.O. North Russia, 0952B/9 to Admty).

C. in C. W.A. 2208B/8. Request ship may be sailed to R/V off Lough Foyle buoy at 2200B/11. (Commodore, Londonderry, 1246B/9).
Your 2208/8. Delay of 48 hours in arrival of these ships at Seidis Fiord is acceptable. (C. in C. H.F., 1324B/9 to C. in C. W.A.)

War Diary.9.5.1942.
Saturday.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping & Convoys.

P.Q.16 Contd. P.Q.16. Request you will sail GARLAND and VOLUNTEER in company to arrive Seidisfiord May 14th acting subsequently under the orders of C. in C.

H.F. (C. in C. W.A., 1440B/9 to F.O.I.C. Greenock, Commodore Londonderry).

My 2337/8. Army medical party will be sent in LLANSTEPHAN CASTLE so that all casualties and hospital cases may be sent back in the ship.

(D.O.D. (H.), 1737B/9 to S.B.N.O. North Russia).

My 2208/8, 1440/9, and C. in C. H.F. 1324/9.

Ships concerned are to be sailed to arrive Seidisfiord May 16th. (C. in C. W.A., 2144B/9).

On completion of escort duty with U.R.23 request you will sail ACHATES to arrive Seidisfiord 16/5. ACHATES is to act under orders of C. in C. H.F.

(C. in C. W.A., 2145B/9 to A.C.I.C.)

W.S.19 C. in C. W.A. 1150/7. CASTLETON has defective A/S which cannot be made good in time to reach Greenock for Convoy Conference. She will be sailed

in accordance with my 1256/7. CASTLETON is to proceed to Azores. ST. MARYS return to Port ZA on completion of duties with W.S.19, fuelling if necessary at Lough Foyle.

(R.A.M., 1014/9).

W.S.19. Your 1502/8 approved.

(C. in C. W.A., 1054B/9 to Capt. D. Greenock).

W.S.19 Cancel my 1150B/7.

(C. in C. W.A., 1055B/9 to R.A.M.)

D.S.27 My 1002/7. For CHARLESTOWN read BRIGHTON. (R.A.M., 1204/9).

A.C.I.C. 2115/7. Intend to sail BRIGHTON and WELLS at 1000B tomorrow. E.T.A. 0600Z/12. BRIGHTON to proceed to Clyde with convoy for examination of machinery. WELLS to return to Port ZA when released.

(R.A.M., 1206/9 to A.C.I.C.) *See p. 269.*

Sailing of U.R. Convoys. At present U.R. Convoys sail from Loch Ewe on the same day as O.N. Convoys.

It is proposed that in future U.R. Convoys be sailed on Thursdays. Request your remarks. (D.T.D., 1941B/9 to C. in C. W.A.)

Convoys

P.Q.15 and

Q.P.11.

Narrative of passages.

(1st S.L. 2348Z/9 to Cominch).

See Lion Copy.

MOST SECRET

2348z/9th May

MOST SECRET**MESSAGE**

Date 9.5.42

OUT

To COMINCH

Naval Cypher X U.S.A.From Admiralty
IMPORTANT

Personal for Admiral King from First Sea Lord.

The following narrative of the passage of convoys P Q 15 and Q P 11 may be of interest to you.

Convoy P Q 15 sailed from Iceland on 26th April, escorted by:-

- 1 cruiser
- 6 destroyers
- 3 minesweepers
- 4 trawlers
- 1 A/A ship.

The convoy was located by enemy long-range reconnaissance aircraft on the 28th, and shadowed intermittently thereafter.

Convoy Q P 11 sailed from Murmansk on 28th April, escorted by:-

- 1 cruiser (EDINBURGH)
- 6 destroyers
- 4 corvettes
- 1 trawler.

Two Russian destroyers accompanied the convoy for the first part of its voyage.

The convoy was shadowed by aircraft and submarines from its first day out.

The first attack on this convoy was carried out by 4 torpedo-carrying land planes. The attack was broken up by the fire of the escort, was not pressed home, and was unsuccessful.

At 1620 on the 30th EDINBURGH was attacked by a U-boat in approximate position 73 degs N. 32½ degs E, and hit by two torpedoes. She proceeded with steering gear completely disabled at a slow speed, in an endeavour to return to Murmansk, escorted by two destroyers.

On 1st May Q P 11 was attacked by three enemy destroyers in approximate position 73½ degs N. 24 degs E. with visibility reduced by snow showers. One ship in the convoy was sunk by torpedo, but the enemy despite the disparity in armament (our destroyers were North

Atlantic/...

Atlantic escorts, not Fleet destroyers), did not press home the attack. They made five half-hearted attacks during the day but were kept at long range by the fire of our escorts.

Meanwhile an attack by six JU.88s on P Q 15 developed on 1st May. No damage was done to the convoy and one enemy aircraft was shot down.

A further attack occurred on 2nd May, this time by 6 torpedo aircraft in approximate position 73 degs N. 20 degs E. This attack was well carried out, and it appears possible that U-boats attacked simultaneously. Three ships in the convoy were torpedoed and sunk. One enemy aircraft was destroyed and possibly one other.

Meanwhile H.M.S. EDINBURGH had been attacked by three destroyers in thick weather early on 2nd May, in approximate position 72 degs N. 35 degs E. EDINBURGH was again hit by torpedo and had to be abandoned and eventually sunk by our own forces. Enemy destroyers were engaged, one was sunk, and another damaged.

Convoy P Q 15 was again attacked by bomber aircraft on 3rd May. No damage was done to the convoy, and one enemy aircraft was shot down.

U-boats continued to shadow the convoy, but energetic action by the escorts in driving off shadowers and keeping them down enabled the convoy to shake off the pursuit after passing 36 degs E.; the convoy turned South on reaching 38 degs E and succeeded in making the remainder of the passage to Murmansk unmolested.

After driving off the enemy destroyer attacks on 1st May, convoy Q P 11 completed its passage to Iceland without further incident.

In the result, 22 out of 25 ships of the convoy P Q 15 reached their destination, and only one ship, in ballast, was lost from Q P 11.

We believe that some of the German cruisers and pocket battleships are being based on Narvik and Tromso which will not make the problem any easier.

2348z/9

Secretary to First Sea Lord

Distribution over/....

MOST SECRET

-3-

1st Lord
 1st S.L.
 4th S.L.
 5th S.L.
 V.C.N.S.
 A.C.N.S.(W)
 A.C.N.S.(H)
 A.C.N.S.(T)
 N.A. 1st S.L.
 D.C.D.(H)(2)
 D.N.I.(4)
 D. of P.(2)
 Hd. of M.
 I.P.(2)
 W.D.
 Duty Capt.(2)
 D.M.S.
 E.P.S.
 D.D.I.C.(2)
 D./S.W.
 D.P.D.
 D.N.A.D.
 D. of L.D.
 D.T.D.(2)
 D.T.S.D.
 D.G.D.
 A.E. (3) The above has been passed to COMINCH.

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9.5.1942.
Saturday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic.

MIRROR. MIRROR. now working in vicinity 037° 17' N. 010° 20' W. (COREOPSIS 0144A/9 to F.O.C.N.A. (R) LORD NUFFIELD).

French Ship. Ship reported French about 1500 tons seen off Cape Cape (? Calpe intended) course N. high speed 20 1/2 (C.3). (B.N.A.Lisbon 0225/9 to Admty (R) S.O.I. Gibraltar) See 1850B/10.

JEAN BART. American report tonight French Battleship JEAN BART has raised 2 bow, 1 port anchors and taken 800 tons fuel oil on board. American grade fact. (C.Gl.Tangier 0440/9 to S.O.I. Gibraltar (R) Admty (for D.N.I.).

My 1644/7.
Following report received. French JEAN BART has weighed bow anchor and taken on board 800 tons fuel during early part of night 8/9 May. Report graded as fact. (F.O.C.N.A. 0947B/9 to Admty. (R) C. in C. Med. C. in C.S.A. C. in C.Plymouth, V.A.Malta, R.A.West Africa). JEAN BART reported at 1500B/9 150 miles S.S.W. from Gibraltar steering 030°.
F.O.C.N.A. is to keep addressees informed of situation. (D.O.D.(F) 1810B/9 to C. in C.Med, (R) F.O.C.N.A. C. in C., S.A. R.A.W.Africa, Opnav).
A.M. 1810/9 S.O. Force W. and V.A.Malta A/C has returned and reported ship sighted was cruiser escorted by 4 destroyers.
2. Force returned to Casablanca after firing practice.
3. Fulmar R/C reports smoke haze over harbour prevented indentifying of ships inside.
(F.O.C.N.A. 1924B/9 to C. in C.Med., C. in C. S.A., R.A.West Africa, U.S. C.N.O. Admty, S.O. Force W. V.A.Malta.)
Following has been read from A/C using call sign V9RD. Position of enemy battleship is HARJ 9 U. (Position undecipherable by W.D.)
(Gibraltar W/T 2025/9 to Whitehall W/T).
Your 1924/9. You have no doubt made allowance for the fact that the firing practice by a cruiser may be a diversion to cover the movement of JEAN BART.
(1st S.L. 2349B/9 to F.O.C.N.A.).

ARETHUSA.. Arrived Ponta Delgada 0845.G.M.T./9. (N.C.S.O. P.Delgada, 0930/9 to S.O.I.Gib).
Note to War Registry for D.N.I. Admty 2021/11 to S.O.(I) Gibraltar refers.

/ARETHUSA.....

War Diary.

9.5.1942.
Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

ARETHUSA
Contd.

ARETHUSA left Ponta Delgada 1930 G.M.T.9/5
(N.C.S.O.Ponta Delgada. 1934/9 to S.O.I.
Gibraltar). *See p.276*

P.R.U. A/C
Gibraltar
R/C of
Casablanca.

Your 1322/7. Maryland P.R.U. A/C leaving for
Gibraltar today.
Your 1900/8. Request Fulmar visual R/C today.
A.C.N.S.(F) 1037B/9.
Your 1037. Attempted R/C last night by Fulmars
not successful being engaged and driven off by
4 French fighters. Several hits on A/C but no injury to personnel.
(2) Am maintaining cross over patrol by Hudson off shore. No
cloud over Casablanca now.
(F.O.C.N.A. 1248B/9 to Admty.).

JEAN BART,
Force W.

Your 1037 and my 1248 endeavouring to carry out
Fulmar R/C this evening.
(2) If JEAN BART attempts passage into Med. she will
probably be escorted by cruisers, destroyers and
fighter A/C in which case action with escorts will be inevitable.
(3) Should she attempt passage tonight intend to direct
S.O. Force W. to detach U.S. Aircraft carrier WASP and American
destroyers before engaging.
(F.O.C.N.A. 1534B/9 to Admty, (R) S.O. Force W., R.A.W.Af).

PRIMAUGUET

PRIMAUGUET left Casablanca this morning with
3 S/M's direction S.W. America Grade Fact.
(Green Leave Tangier 1135/9 to S.O.(I) Gibraltar,
(R) Admty (For D.N.I.).

Movements.

Arrival 0900 IMPERIALIST.
(F.O.C.N.A. 1141B/9 to Admty.).
Arrival 1610 COLTSFOOT.
(F.O.C.N.A. 1842B/9 to Admty.).

French
S/M's.

2 French S/M's escorted by surface vessel(s)
passing Straits of Gibraltar eastbound noon 9/5.
(F.O.C.N.A. 1155B/9 to S's and A's N.A.).
Following has been read from A/C using call sign
7XMH P.C. and S. of enemy 2 French S/M's 1 escort vessel GSUO
20 45 (position undecipherable) 180 10.
(Gibraltar W/T 1944/9 to Whitehall W/T).

Fuel for
Portuguese
Trawlers.

Your 1158/7 British Embassy has obtained concession
of Gas Oil for British Wolfram Mines in exchange
support for fuel for these two Portuguese Trawlers.
See Arfar tel. from Lisbon 881.
In view of keen interest of Min. of Marine in the
matter and our interest in fuel facilities in Azores consider fuel
should now be supplied.
(B.N.A.Lisbon 1912B/9 to Admty.).

/Italian....

War Diary.9.5.1942.
Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic.

- Italian U/B. At 1100B Italian S/M made sighting report of single unit in Western Med. (F.O.C.N.A. 1242B/9 to WELSHMAN (R) Admty, S.O. Force W. V.A. Malta).
- VELOX. My 1648/4 VELOX left Ponta Delgada 1300 G.M.T./8/5 (F.O.C.N.A. 1302B/9 to R.A. West Africa, C. in C. S.A. N.O.I.C. Bathurst). *See p. 240*
- French Units. 1 Battle Ship 4 destroyers. Position 135° 60 miles from Datum course 030°. (A/C B. Sqn. 1510/9 to Gibraltar W/T). A/C reports 1 battleship 4 destroyers in 034° 20' N. 007° 05' W course 030° at 1510B. (F.O.C.N.A. 1542B/9 to Admty, S.O. Force 'W' (R) C. in C. Med. R.A. West Africa). 1 cruiser DUGUAY-TROUIN 4 destroyers 158° Datum 72 Course 210° Speed (?12) knots. (A/C Call Sign VOR.1645/9 to Gibraltar W/T). French armed trawler* LA HALABELCAL escorting French Sub. VENGEUR and one unidentified passing Gibraltar Eastbound 1405. S.O.I. Gibraltar 1659B/9 to Admty, S.O. Force "W" C. in C. Med.)
** Not identified*
- VALE FORMOSO II Ministry of Marine enquiring if any truth in Portuguese Press Report that VALE FORMOSO II entered Gibraltar damaged by torpedo. If true may announcement be made that no British or Allied ships were in vicinity of position where attack occurred. (B.N.A. Lisbon 1815B/9 to F.O.C.N.A. (R) Admty.).
- Axis Shipping. Gibraltar 1452 French Destroyer L'ALCYON French Ships PORTHOS, GROIX with passengers CARIMARE, Laden Tanker RHEA, laden trawlers KEROMAN, KERPAPE, Eastbound. (S.O.I. Gibraltar 1821B/9 to Admty, C. in C. Med.).
- Rescue Tug, Azores or Funchal. Your 1802/16/10/41. Portuguese have repeatedly been requested to grant facilities for a rescue tug at Azores or Funchal but have produced on each occasion reasons for not doing so. They fear German retaliation. Various proposals have been put forward to surmount objections but B.N.A. Lisbon now reports that Portuguese Gov. cannot give facilities for rescue tugs in Azores. Proposal will therefore be left in abeyance indefinitely. (A.C.N.S. (F) 2031B/9 to F.O.C.N.A. (R) C. in C. W.A., C. in C.S.A.)

/Foree W.....

⁵
9. ~~A~~. 1942.
Saturday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

Force W.
ITHURIEL

Your 1620 to F.O.C.N.A. only ITHURIEL after refuelling may remain with you until 2000/11 when she must return to Gibraltar.
(F.O.C.N.A. 2218B/9 to S.O. Force W. (R) Admty, C. in C. W.A., ITHURIEL).

Giant
Liners
Movements.

Movements of following Transports proceeding independently should not be reported by Vesca signal. QUEEN MARY, QUEEN ELIZABETH, AQUITANIA, MAURETANIA, ILE DE FRANCE, NIEW AMSTERDAM.

- (2). Arrivals and relevant Route Signals should be reported to Admty and naval authorities concerned in highest medium available.
- (3). Such signals should be prefixed "Most Secret."
- (4). Addressees to pass to N.C.S.O's and R.O's in their stations.
- (5). B.A.D. is requested to inform Navy Dept.
(D.O.D.(F) 2250B/9 to A.I.G.19 (R) B.A.D.).

War Diary.

9.5.1942.

Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic.

Italian Received 0055 G.M.T./9. Addressed Coltana Radio
Repatriations. VULCANA, GIULIO CESARE. P.C. and S. at 1200
ATS 8/5 15° 24' S. 42° 35' E. 003 14 knots.
(Mombasa Radio 0528/9 to Admty. etc.)

P C S at 1200 8/5 15° 24' S. 42° 35' E. 003 14 knots. GIULIO
CESARE.

GIULIO CESARE No.T.O.O. Recd.0950/9 to Admty., C.in C. S.A.,
Coltano Radio, VULCANIA.

ARETHUSA E.T.A. Freetown 0900Z/14 S.of A. 20 knots.
(ARETHUSA 0935Z/9 to R.A.West Africa. (R) F.O.C.N.A.
C.in C. S.A., Admty.) *See p. 273.*

Escort Your 2011Z/5. para 4 (a) 9/6 (b) 2 corvettes can
for U.S. do so in 026° W. unless unforeseen circumstances
Ships. arise. S.O.A. from R/V should be limited to
12½ knots. Not possible to provide escort
further West due to shortage. (c) 2 corvettes
could escort to Monrovia and then 1 trawler provide anti S/M
screen. (d) Not possible to transfer cargo.
(R.A.West Africa 1015Z/9 to B.A.D. (R) Admty.)

Supply Your 1405/5 to N.O.I.C.Durban only was passed to
of A/C. me at 0200/9. No erected A/C are available at
Durban except 1 Swordfish. A.M.2154/28/4
instructed A/C ex CITY OF VENICE to be transferred
to Wynberg. These A/C arrived 8/5 at Capetown. A.M.2120/23/4
instructed all other A/C but Martlets to be erected Wynberg until
facilities exist in Mombasa area.
2. Following A/C have been off-loaded at Durban and CERES is
being sailed for Capetown with full load of cased A/C 4 cased
Sea Hurricanes 4 cased Fulmars ex EMPIRE VOICE, 12 cased Albacores
12 cased Walrus ex MAHOUT (?6) cased Walrus 5 cased Sea Hurricanes
ex CLAN MACINDOE 9 cased Albacores ex CLAN MACIVER 6 cased
Fulmars, 9 cased Walrus, 12 cased Albacores ex SURINAM.
3. Following A/C are available in A R at Wynberg (?11) Swordfish
11 Walrus, 2 Albacore 5 Sea Hurricane 4 cannot be loaded erected
but only with main plane removed.
4. No report has been received in reply to my 1323/18/4 but
providing securing arrangements were satisfactory intend to load
ENGADINE at Capetown with full load of fully erected A/C.
5. Request early instructions as to type required and destination.
(C.in C. S.A. 1020B/9 to Comms Eastern Theatre (R) C.in C. E.F.,
Cdre.I.C. Durban, Admty.)

ARCHER, Intend to sail ARCHER with S.L.110 leaving
S.L.110. Freetown 13/5.
(R.A.West Africa 1056Z/9 to Admty.)

Commanding Officer,
DUNNOTTAR CASTLE has reported to me that he
CASTLE. considers that his ship quite unsuited for
conversion to an Auxiliary aircraft carrier owing
to irremediable weakness in the design of main

/ engines ...

War Diary.9.5.1942.
Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic. (contd.)

DUNNOTTAR CASTLE. (contd.) engines. Repairs are necessary to these at least every 3 months and these can be done rapidly and efficiently only at Belfast or Southampton. Ships best speed is 15 knots. This has hardly ever been used. He considers ship might maintain 14 knots for 10 days immediately after docking and overhaul. After 3 months new defects reduce speed by about 1 knot every week. Ships best speed is now 11 knots for the second time in 7 months. (R.A. West Africa 1104Z/9 to Admty. (R) C.in C. S.A., DUNNOTTAR CASTLE).

Movement Summary. 2000/9. All positions N and W unless otherwise stated.

LANDGUARD and 3 escorts with S L 109, 015° 55' 026° 50' 354° 7½.

ARCHER, WIVERN, off Society Is.
MORRIS DANCE about 007° 10' 013° 10' to Freetown, 8.
TURCOMAN, RUMBA patrolling sector T.
2 M.Ls 005° 10' 016° 30' 043° 10.
COWSLIP, 004° 10' 016° 50' 036° 12½.
ROCKROSE, VIOLET with O S S (?26), 002° 25' 017° 35' 155° 10.
AUBRETIA, 2 M.Ls. 004° 05' 013° 55' 120° 10.
ST. WISTAN 001° 40' 012° 05' 345° 8.
SARABANDE 004° 22' 004° 25'.
BARRYMORE, 1 M.L. 004° 25' 002° 10' 090° 7.
U.S. Aircraft Carrier RANGER, 1 Cruiser, 5 Destroyers 003° 50' 003° 10' to Accra, 14.
ARRAN, 005° 05' 000° 10' to Takoradi, 8½.
POLAR V, 005° 10' 000° 40' E. to Takoradi, 7.
EMILE BAUDOT, 001° 15' S. 010° 02' 133° 8.
ALCANTARA, PRETORIA CASTLE patrolling H 34 D.
(R.A. W. Africa 1127Z/9 to Ships in Area P, T.F.36)
My 1127/9 add MALAYA escorted by WILD SWAN, BOREAS 008° 32' N. 013° 37' W. 288° 16 knots. *See next page.*
(R.A. W. Africa 1930Z/9 to Ships in Area P. T.F.36).

FROBISHER. Your 2101/6. An oiler is being diverted to Walvis Bay for you. You are not to proceed independently to Capetown but are to escort AGWILEON to that port.
(C.in C. S.A. 1335B/9 to FROBISHER (R) GAMBIA).

Towage of Floating Dock from New York to Freetown. R.A. West Africa 1745/28/4 not to C.in C. A.W.I. B.A.D. 1717/3 and 2245/4.
1. Dock is not to proceed unescorted.
2. C.in C. U.S. Fleet is providing escort to a position east of the leeward Islands (about 59°W).
3. R.A. West Africa is requested to provide an A/S escort of 2 corvettes to accompany the dock thence to Freetown.

War Diary.9.5.1942.
Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic. (contd.)Towage
of Floating
Dock from
New York to
Freetown.
(contd.)4. B.A.D. is requested to arrange R/V as early as possible so that R.A. West Africa may make arrangements for fuelling corvettes.
5. A.M.C. escort is also to be provided from 59° W. by R.A. West Africa unless Comtask 23 can assist.6. R.A. West Africa's 1745/28/4 para.1 (b) (Not to B.A.D.) and A.M.1825/7/4, B.A.D. is requested to send any M.M.S. ready for the passage with the dock. They can be towed if necessary to conserve fuel, but are unsuitable as A/S escort.
(Admty. 1319B/9 to R.A. West Africa, B.A.D., C.in C. S.A., C.in C. A.W.I.)

MANXMAN.

MANXMAN arrived.
(N.O.I.C. Durban 1339Z/9 to Admty. etc.)

VINDICTIVE.

Intend to sail VINDICTIVE 1430Z/10 for Simonstown via Pointe Noire. E.T.A. Pointe Noire day 18/5 sailing p.m. 18/5. Route from Pointe Noire
(C) 013° 00' S. 009° 40' E.
(D) 018° 12' S. 009° 20' E.
(E) 025° 35' S. 012° 12' E.E.T.A. Simonstown day 25/5. BULLMOUTH will be required to fuel VINDICTIVE outside the Breakwater.
(R.A. West Africa 1431Z/9 to C.in C. S.A., B.N.L.O. West Africa.
(R) VINDICTIVE, Admty.)

Dispositions.

Weekly state, S.A. Station 9/5. (C.in C. S.A. 1532 B/9).
See Lion Copy.Op.
Ration.My 0135/20 and 0117/25/3. As all ships have now returned Dakar cancel operation Ration.
(D.O.D. (F) 1608B/9 to C.in C.S.A. (R) C.in C.E.F. R.A. West Africa).

MALAYA.

F.O.C.N.A. 1534N/9. Intend to sail MALAYA escorted by BOREAS, WILD SWAN at 1800 today to Cape Verde Is. in case required should RICHELIEU also move North. MALAYA has orders to return to Freetown if no further orders received by noon on 11/5. (?RAPIDOL) could be sent to refuel destroyers if necessary.
(R.A. West Africa 1611Z/9 to Admty. (R) F.O.C.N.A., C.in C. S.A.)
My 1611/9 MALAYA, WILD SWAN, BOREAS sailed 1900/May 9. Routed through(a) 10° 20' N. 18° 52' W.
(r) 10° 20' N. 18° 52' W. towards
(b) 16° 10' N. 21° 48' W.
(r) 16° 10' N. 21° 48' W.

S.of A. 16 knots.

(R.A. West Africa 1845Z/9 to Admty. (R) C.in C. S.A., F.O.C.N.A.)
A.T.1842/6 and your 1611/9. MALAYA should continue direct to Gibraltar if escort can be arranged.
(Admty. 2351B/9 to R.A. West Africa (R) F.O.C.N.A., C.in C. S.A.)

MOST SECRET

MESSAGE 1532B/9 May IN

From C. in C. South Atlantic.

Date 10/5/42.
Recd. 2755NAVAL CYPHER A2 BY W/TAddressed C. in C. East Indies, R.A. West Africa, C. in C.
Eastern Fleet, C. in C. America & West Indies,
F.O.C.N.A.

Weekly state of South Atlantic Station 9th May.

Area Q.Tristan da Cunha. H.M.S. CILICIA.K 36 A and C. H.M.S. CANTONSimonstown to Freetown H.M.S. MILFORDFreetown to Cape H.M.S. FROBISHER, H.M.S. GAMBIA,
H.M.S. TETCOTT, H.M.S. ALBATROSS,
H.M.S. HECLA, VAN GALEN.Freetown to Walvis Bay EMILE BAUDOT.Durban to Simonstown Netherlands Cr. HEEMSKERCK.Simonstown H.M.S. EXPRESS, ~~H.M.S. SHROPSHIRE~~
H.M.S. CHESHIRE, H.M.S. SOUTHERN
PRIDE, H.M.S. SOUTHERN GEM.Cape Town H.M.S. COLOMBO, PLADDA, SLUNA,
HILDASAY, SHIRINSAY.Durban H.M.S. ABDIEL, H.M.S. VALIANT,
*H.M.S. WHITEHAVEN, H.M.S. MANXMAN,
H.M.S. ENGADINE,

* Left 8/5 for Mozambique - See p. 243.

Port Elizabeth H.M.N.Z.S. PHILOMEL, H.M.S.
ASTURIAS, KHETI, PACHECHO.

1532B/9

Advance copy Ops., O.D., Trade.

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

MOST SECRET

War Diary.9.5.1942.
Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic. (contd.)

- Movements. Departure St. Helena 1630/9 GAMBIA and VAN GALEN.
(General St. Helena 1720Z/9 to Admty.)
Departure 8/5 MALAYA, BOREAS, WILD SWAN. *See p. 278.*
(S.O.I. Freetown 2037Z/9 to Admty., F.O.C.N.A.,
C.in C. S.A.)
- M.A.R.I. Your 2047/8 No. Such ships should be routed
diversely either side of Bermuda to destination,
and they should arrange to arrive about 50 ' from
Sandy Hook at daylight.
(D.T.D. 1806B/9 to S.O.I. Freetown).
- S.L.110. S.L. 110 Sailing destinations.
D.T.D. 1837B/9 to N.C.S.O. Freetown. (R) R.A. West
Africa.)
- ARCHER. Report earliest estimated date ARCHER could
arrive at Capetown.
(1st S.L. 1930B/9 to R.A. West Africa. (R) C.in C.
S.A.)
Your 1930B/9. 21/5 dependent upon successful trial of machinery.
(R.A. West Africa 1841Z/9 to Admty. (R) C.in C. S.A.)
It is under consideration that ARCHER should be used in
connection with June Malta convoy from Alexandria.
2. Report
(a) Whether 10 martlets are available for embarkation in ARCHER
and, if so, where they are.
(b) How long it is estimated it would take to refuel ARCHER and
embark these A/C assuming they are at Capetown.
(1st S.L. 1931B/9 to C.in C. S.A. (R) R.A.W.Africa., C.in C. E.F.,
R.A.A. E.F.)
- E.African Ports, facilities. Re suggestion by Vice Adm. Willis for diversion
of export traffic from Kenya and Uganda to Tanga
and Dar-es-Salaam and construction of railway
connection between these two ports for purpose of
relieving congestion at Mombasa. Request for
information.
(S.of S. for Colonies 2045/9 to High Commr. for
Transport, Kenya and Uganda).
- O.S.26. Arrival 9/5 IBIS, ABERDEEN, HARTLAND, AMARANTHUS
with O.S.26.
(S.O.I. Freetown 2056Z/9 to Admty.)
- Air R/C Dakar. Air R/C of Dakar a.m. 9/5 shows no further change.
(R.A. West Africa 2359Z/9 to Admty. (R) C.in C. S.A.
F.O.C.N.A.)

War Diary.

9.5.1942.

Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean.

Force W Weather. Weather suitable. (V.A. Malta 0135B/9 to S.O. Force W. (R) F.O.C.N.A. C. in C. Med.) See 1240/9.

ORUC REIS. (Ex P. 601) Turkish S/M ORUC REIS arrived daylight 9/5. (C.S.A. Alexandretta 1001C/9 to Admty. (R) N.A. Ankara.)

Air Report. A.682 9/5 Bi-Weekly Opsum No.19. Night 5/6 Bomber operation A. cancelled owing to bad weather.
6/5 Sandstorms restricted operations. Single JU.88 reconnoitred Alexandria at about 30,000 feet. 4 Hurricanes up unable to sight enemy.
Night 6/7 4 Wellingtons successfully laid 8 mines Benghazi harbour under cover of bombing objectives in vicinity by 16 Wellingtons, bombs straddled 2 converted wrecks used as landing-stages and burst on Moles.
7/5 35 Hurricanes provided cover for shipping in vicinity Tobruk. 6 Martlets 20 Hurricanes 6 Fulmars cover for shipping along Egyptian coast.
Night 7/8 A projected Wellington attack on shipping Benghazi harbour cancelled owing to bad weather.
8/5 12 Tomahawks 2 Martlets 9 Hurricanes provided cover for shipping along Egyptian coast.
Following operations against enemy southbound convoy, 1 m/V 6000 tons 2 of 2000 tons, 2 destroyers, first sighted by special Maryland search 170 miles E.N.E. Malta 1031 hrs. 7/5 course S.S.E. Convoy shadowed during remainder of day by further two Marylands. 1 A.S.V. 7 bomber Wellingtons which left to attack convoy night 7/8 were unable to locate it. 2 Beauforts despatched to make dawn attack 8/5 of which 1 only located and attacked with torpedo, 80 miles N.W. Benghazi. Results unobserved. 35 Wellingtons ordered to attack ships in Benghazi night 8/9. Preliminary report indicates direct hit on 1 m/V 5000 tons off coast 8 miles north harbour. No shipping seen in harbour. Fires started on Moles. Attacked delivered in bad visibility without moonlight. (H.Q. R.A.F. M.E. 1017/9.)

Messina Naples R/C. Ref my 1810B/8 Messina. Doubtful cruiser now identified as 6 inch "Condottieri" Class. One laden merchant ship 7,000 tons and 8 small merchant ships. Naples. One large liner, 14 merchant ships between 5000 and 9000 tons and 3 hospital ships. (V.A. Malta 1055B/9 to Admty.)

Visual Messina 1200. Probably 2 cruisers in harbour. Probably 1 cruiser, 1 battleship manoeuvring outside harbour. (V.A. Malta 1315B/9 to F.O.C.N.A.)

My 1315/9. Afternoon P.R.U. vis. Messina 1530B and searching (? to) determine whether enemy proceeding north or south about. (V.A. Malta 1412A/9 to F.O.C.N.A. (R) C. in C. Med. Admty. WELSHMAN.)

My 1315/9. Photograph show 4 cruisers and 1 battleship still in Messina Harbour with nets in place. (V.A. Malta 1603B/9 to WELSHMAN (R) F.O.C.N.A. C. in C. Med. Admty.)

My 1603/9 Visual Messina at 1630. Ships still in harbour. (V.A. Malta 1800B/9 to WELSHMAN (R) F.O.C.N.A. Admty. C. in C. Med.)

/Spitfires...

War Diary.

9.5.1942.
Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean - Contd.

Spitfires All groups have arrived. Delivered Spitfires
Malta have been refuelled and in action within 35
Operation minutes of landing so that final count not yet
"Bowery" possible but casualties believed to be very few.
(V.A. Malta 1240B/9 to S.O. Force W. (R) C. in C.
Med. F.O.C.N.A. Admty.)

Almost continuous air battle has been in progress since 0930 and
delivery A/C since rapid initial refuelling have been in air
many times. No opportunity yet to confirm number arrived but
believed to be 58 out of the 62 which left at short notice.
One reported landed in Africa, one crashed on taking off, one
lost itself and landed in the sea near Malta, one unaccounted
for. In addition to above, we have lost 3 Spitfires and enemy
has had 30 A/C destroyed or damaged. Most grateful to you all.
F.O.C.N.A pass to U.S. A/C Carrier WASP. (V.A. Malta 2031B/9
to S.O. Force W (R) F.O.C.N.A. C. in C. Med. Admty.)

WELSHMAN Rome broadcasts that one enemy vessel had been
enemy sighted at 1200C/9 in Western Mediterranean.
sighting (C.O.S. Alexandria 1328C/9 to WELSHMAN. V.A.
report. Malta, F.O.C.N.A. S.O. Force W (R) C. in C. Med.
Admty.)

Black Enemy offensive. (N.L.O. Black Sea 1334C/9)
Sea. See his 1214C/12.

Malta Pt. 1 I.277 C.S.R. 9/5. My I.27 (?276) 2 JU.88s
Air previously probables now confirmed destroyed.
Report. 8th. 2 alerts 1518 1650 hours, ME.109s. Macchi
202s, 5 Cant 1007s. 3 soldiers, 3 civilians
killed 13 civilians wounded. 2 civilians
(corrupt group) destroyed 6 damaged. Slight damage ordnance
stores. A/A fired.
Night 8/9 2 alerts 2018 0118 hours, 7 raiders, bombs land sea.
No damage. Beaufighter up no interceptions. A/A fired.
9th 3 alerts 0522 0724 1114 hours, ME.109s, 12 JU.88s, 4 Cant
1007s. Hal Far, 4 soldiers wounded. UXBs runway unserviceable
landing. Elsewhere 3 soldiers 2 civilians killed, 2 soldiers
3 civilians wounded. 3 ME.109s destroyed, 2 ME.109s probably
destroyed, 1 ME.109, 2 JU.88s damaged by 40 Spitfires.
1 Spitfire shot down, pilot killed, another missing. 2
Spitfires damaged in combat. 1 pilot wounded other safe.
A/A damaged 2 JU.88s. (H.Q. R.A.F. Malta 1715/9.)

THRASHER. Cancel my 1731/8. Endeavour to establish patrol
in 034° 24' 018° 02' by 1600C/11. If you can
not comply proceed area Q and report position.
(Capt. S.I. 1931C/9 to THRASHER. (R) C. in C. Med.
etc.) (Position amended by Capt. S.I. 2221C/10.q.v)

Petrol It appears from your 2156/28 that my 1650/26 was
Carrier not understood. This refers to urgent necessity
for W.D. of small bulk tanker for carrying petrol to

/Western...

War Diary.9.5.1942.
Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean.

Petrol Carrier for W.D. Contd. Western Desert. If this cannot be done operation will be adversely affected. (2) HERMES, MYRIEL and PETRELLA are oil carriers and cannot be spared for petrol (3) MYRIEL capacity since repair only 2500 tons and is not a substitute for EOCENE capacity 2000 tons petrol and 2500 water. (4) Considered vital that our requirements are met without further delay with small tanker having best speed possible, see para 3 my 1201/12/4. (P.S.T.O. Egypt 2001C/9 to D.S.T.)

GLENARN repairs.

Your 1652/29. Regret no serviceable dynamos are available. (C. in C. Med. 2001C/9 to C. in C. E.I.)

URGE overdue.

URGE, Lt. Comdr. Tomkinson, overdue since 6/5 and must be considered lost. URGE sailed from Malta 27/4 for passage to Alexandria. Have no information to show possible cause of loss. S.10 is requested to report casualties. 2. Loss of this outstanding submarine and Commanding Officer is much to be regretted. (C. in C. Med. 2131C/9.)

War Diary.9.5.1942.
Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies.

- B.M.17. Departure SHOREHAM, BATHURST with B.M.17.
(S.O.I. Bombay 0047/9, 0236Z/9 to Admty. etc.)
- M.T.Bs. My 1015/18/4 (M.T.Bs. can be off loaded at Madras
Calcutta or Bombay but to be consigned to Bombay
only at present) Para 1. In view of A.M. 1559/5
delete Madras. (F.O.C.R.I.N. 0537Z/9 to B.A.D.
(R) C. in C. E.I. Admty.)
- BARMILL. Departure 0615Z BARMILL routed through (A) 000°
20' S 074° 15' (B) 006° 00' N 075° 50'. W/T
watch etc. to cover passage. (N.O.I.C. Addu Atoll
0618Z/9 to Admty. etc.)
- Naval
Adviser
India H.Q. A.M. 2020/6. Confirmed Naval Adviser not
required. (C. in C. E.F. 0625Z/9 to Admty. (R)
C. in C. E.I. F.O.C.R.I.N. C. in C. Ceylon.)
- Flag
Appts. Your 1022/7 and A.M.2020/6. Request you will
assume duty referred to in your 0458/26
(? 0458/26 from C. in C. E.F. intended + Flag
Officer India to take over control of Indian
coastal trade etc.) at date to be arranged
between yourself and C. in C. E.I.
(C. in C. E.F. 0626Z/9 to F.O.C.R.I.N.)
- Movements. Mombasa arrived 9/5 0845 G.M.T. DAUNTLESS, 0945
G.M.T. REVENGE. (F.O.E.A. 0956Z/9 to C. in C. E.I.)
From escort of Convoy W.S.17. (D.O.R. 996)
- Jibuti. 22928 cipher 9/5. Reliable reports state Jibuti
appears in state considerable alarm and early
attack by us expected. New defences under
construction Loyada Railway line recently restored near Ali
Sabiet again removed. Arms recently withdrawn from partisans
now reissued and further recruits being raised. Frequent air
R/Cs by Vichy aircraft along border and on 7/5 over Aden. No
Vichy naval craft seen Jibuti 7/5. Unconfirmed reports Italians
leaving by dhow may indicate departure Italian Armistice
Commission. (G.O.C. in C. E. Africa 1030/9 to W.O.)
- NELSON
& RODNEY. Ref. Admty. 0228/6. (i) Provided R.D.F.
calibration, initial day and night low angle
full calibre and A/A fire are carried out at
Scapa Flow, I should prefer remainder of work-up
practice to be completed on this station.
Ship should complete maximum acceptable stowage
of practice ammunition before leaving U.K.
(C. in C. E.F. 1052Z/9 to Admty.)

War Diary.9.5.1942.
Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies - Contd.

M.B.4. Sailing telegram. 2. 0430Z/9/5/42. 4.6 $\frac{1}{2}$ knots.
5. 7° 45' N 77° 30' E thence 10 miles from coast.
6. MARGUERITE, SON/AVATI. (N.C.S.O. Colombo
1201Z/9 to Admty.)

Italian repatriations. Received 0842 G.M.T./9 from GIULIO CESARE P.C. and
S at 1200 A.T.S./8 15.24 S 42.35 E 003° 14 knots.
(Mombasa Radio 1228/9 to Admty. etc. Adm.
Colombo.)
Received 1040 G.M.T./9 VULCANIA P.C. and S at
1200 A.T.S./9 09.46 S 43.17 E 023° 14.3 knots.
(Mombasa Radio 1630/9 to Adm. Colombo, Admty.)

Eastern Fleet cruisers. Desirable that C. D and E Class cruisers in
Eastern Fleet should be modernised as soon as
they can be made available.
2. This can only be satisfactorily carried out
in U.K. or U.S.A. return to U.K. also assists
relief of personnel. Request you will propose programme for
refits of these ships.
3. Following cruisers in addition to those mentioned in my
1235/21/2 are allocated to Eastern Fleet: MAURITIUS (leaving
U.K. on 10/5 with W.S.19.) CARADOC (leaving U.K. 30/5 with
W.S.19X) DELHI (time of arrival uncertain)
4. HAWKINS will not now arrive until August. (D.O.D.(F)
1243B/9 to C. in C. E.F. C. in C. E.I.)

MANCHESTER CITY. JAY. Your 1310/6 and my 2256/1, MANCHESTER CITY and
JAY should remain at Grand Port, Mauritius, until
situation in Madagascar is clear. (D.T.M.
1256B/9 to C. in C. E.I. C. in C. E.F.)

Flying Boats for R/C. 222 Group's 0455/8. (i) Request your views.
(ii) It appears to me that under present
conditions we can rely on long distance R/C
and that if required before arrival of Catalina
Sqn. at Mombasa Seychelles can be used as
operational base. (C. in C. E.F. 1331Z/9 to
S.O. Force F. Admty. 222 Group. C. in C. Ceylon.)

Madagascar. Policy. From Chiefs of Staff (D.O.D. F. 1441B/9
to S.O. Force F. (R) C. in C. E.F.) See Lion Copy.

Air Report. A.911 9/8 Intelligence Summary. No.55 on
information received up to 1800 hrs 9/5.
Burma. 9/5 Chittagong bombed 1020 hrs. (?H.I.T)
by large numbers of heavy bombers flying at
great height, followed by fighter raid at 1040
hrs, no further details yet available. (A.H.Q.
India 1510/9 G.M.T.)

/Aircraft...

MOST SECRET

MOST SECRET

~~MESSAGE~~~~14113/3~~

OUT

Date: 9.5.42

TO: S.O. Force (F), 72,
repeated: C. in C. Eastern Fleet, 770.

Naval Cypher F.

From Admiralty

IMMEDIATE AIDAC

Following from Chiefs of Staff for Syfret and Sturges.

1. Governing consideration in decision communicated in our 1530B/3 was importance of 13th and 17th Brigade Groups of 5th Division resuming their voyage to India at the earliest. They should start as soon as possible.
2. Meanwhile General Smuts has expressed view that we should establish effective military control of the whole Island. As we see it, this will mean at least the occupation of Majuna and Tanatave, and possible Antananarive. This is desirable, provided it can be done without involving excessive commitments, but decision must of course await your report of whole situation.
3. In the meantime, you should know of following proposals for reinforcements:-
 - (a) General Smuts has offered, and we have accepted, one South African Brigade Group for garrison of Madagascar. We are investigating how soon this could reach you. It may be possible to arrange shipping for its personnel (repeat personnel) only, sailing from Durban about 25th May. If Brigade is not concentrated by that date, next opportunity for despatch will not occur until mid June at earliest. In first case, M.T. would have to follow later, but cannot yet estimate delay involved.
 - (b) One East African Brigade is due to arrive at Madagascar early in June, and, subject to confirmation by the G.C.C. in C. East Africa, a second east African Brigade could probably arrive about 10th July.
4. As regards air forces, carriers clearly must not be tied up for too long. When they have left, you will have to rely on Lysander flight in follow-up, convoy and bomber reconnaissance squadron, consisting of Beauports and Marylands, which have been promised from South Africa. Provision of fighters under discussion between Middle East and South Africa, but unlikely to be available in Madagascar for some time.
5. Your proposals for the future should be based on the following assumptions:-
 - (a) That it is intended to extend control beyond Diego Suarez.
 - (b) That the 13th and 17th Brigade Groups start as early as possible.
 - (c) That above reinforcement programme materialises.

6. Kindly include answers to following questions in your full report:-

- (a) Possibility of using Diego Suarez as a permanent naval base:-
- (i) If we hold Diego Suarez area alone:
- (ii) If we hold Diego Suarez, Tamatave and Majunga alone.
- (b) What forces, naval and army, including landing craft, would you require to retain in order to support further operations against Tamatave and Majunga, if it were decided to undertake these operations.
- (c) Dimensions and condition of aerodromes with particular reference to possibility of operating modern aircraft.

1441B/9

D.O.D. (F)

1st Lord
 1st S.L.
 V.C.N.S.
 A.C.N.S. (W)
 C.N.S. (F)(2)
 N.A. 1st S.L.
 P.A.S. (5)
 D.O.D. (F)(2)
 D. of P. (2)
 E.P.S.
 Hd. of M.
 I.P. (2)
 N.I.D. 10
 W.
 D.N.I. (4)
 D.C. (2)
 /MC D.D.I.C. (2)

MOST SECRET

C
284B.

MOST SECRET

MESSAGE

1255/9th May

IN

From Air Ministry Whitehall.

Date 9.5.42.

Recd. 1740.

CYPHER

Addressed A.H.Q. India.

A X 18 9/5/42.

Your AOC 122 5/5. Fully realise need for long range bombers your command. We have considered every means of providing them and as stated in C3 29 16/4+ to C. in C. have taken serious step of diverting our first 2 Liberator Squadrons to you from Middle East where they are urgently required. Provision of spares and equipment for third Squadron is to enable an additional Squadron from Middle East to operate in India if situation there demands and that in Middle East permits.

2. The next two Squadrons will not be available for Middle East until late summer and fifth not until end of the year. Destination of fifth Squadron must be decided nearer that time in light of prevailing strategic situation.

3. Demands for Liberators are heavy including replacement in Coastal Command of Catalinas sent Indian Ocean and small number for special operations in the Middle East. Training of crews is difficult and essential modifications take time. For these reasons probable you will be unable to form your first Squadron until July and not in June as stated in paragraph 3(D) of our AX 246 18/4 although you should receive a few aircraft in June.

1255/9.

+ 2335/16 .

Received from Air Ministry at 1249/9.

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

1st Lord

1st S.L.

5th S.L.

V.C.N.S.

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

A.C.N.S.(W)

N.A.1st S.L.

P.A.S.(S)

D.O.D.(F)(2)

D.N.I.(4)

D. of P.(2)

Duty Capt.(2)

D.D.I.C.(2)

E.P.S.

Hd. of M.

I.P.(2)

W.D.

D.N.A.D.

Hd. of Air Branch

D. of L.D.

Air Ministry Circulation:-

S. of S.

C.A.S.

V.C.A.S.

A.M.S.O.(2)

D.C.A.S.

A.C.A.S.(P)(orig.)

A.C.A.S.(I)

A.C.A.S.(G)

D. of O.

D. of Plans

D.W.O.

D.G.O.

D.O.Ops.

D.O.N.C.

D.D.Plans (O)(2)

Plans 3.

D.D.O.ll.

O.S.

W.O.5.

Plans E.P.S.

A.I.3.A.1.

S.6.

Admiralty

War Office

India Office.

War Diary.

9.5.1942.
Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies. - Contd.

Aircraft
Facilities.

My 0013/4/4. Proposed revised policy for shore torpedo facilities for Naval Aircraft:-
(a) Provision of equipment for China Bay to Stand (b) Arrangements for Addu Atoll now to apply to suitable Air Station Mombasa area. East Africa Command's 2140/22/4 refers.
(c) M.T.M.U. No. 2 which will be shipped in W.S.19 to be diverted to Mombasa for subsequent movement as and when desired.
2. Air Ministry arranging shipment one M.T.M.U. to Ceylon in W.S.19. As 2 Beaufort Sqds. will be sent to Ceylon good use will be made of para. 1 (a) above. M.T.M.U.s. in short supply.
3. Request remarks.
(5th S.L., 1726B/9 to C. in C. E.I., (R) C. in C. E.F.etc).

Madagascar
Prisoners.

Following from War Office for Cdr. Force 121. Vichy prisoners should be held until we can negotiate corresponding release of British personnel held by Vichy forces elsewhere.
(D.O.D. (F), 2218B/9 to S.O. Force F).

Colombo A/A

When do you expect that Colombo will have received its full quota of 60 Heavy and 48 Light A/A guns?
(1st S.L., 2327B/9 to C. in C. Ceylon).

285A.21

MOST SECRET

2150Z/9th May

MOST SECRET

M E S S A G E

IN

From The War Office

Date 10.5.42.

Recd. 0020.

Addressed Commander-in-Chief, India.

OZ. 185 9/5/42.

Following from Chiefs of Staff for Commander-in-Chief, India No. C.O.S. (INDIA) 55.

1. We have recently been considering possibilities of operations for recapture of Burma. Our first thoughts are as follows:-
2. Re-opening of communications with China probably involves capture of Rangoon and subsequent advance northwards.
3. A simultaneous advance across the India/Burma frontier is desirable but likely to be on limited scale owing to supply and aerodrome difficulty.
4. Owing to large number of aerodromes near Rangoon a combined operation for its capture would not be possible until we have established aircraft particularly fighters in the Gwa-Bassein area.
5. Best method of achieving this is advance from aerodrome to aerodrome down coast from Chittagong.
6. Recapture of Andamans is desirable preliminary.
7. Complete operations will not be practicable until (a) We have control of Bay of Bengal, (b) we have established pronounced air superiority over Southern Burma and have substantial land forces available for advance up country, (c) some specialised landing craft have been provided in addition to whatever local craft can be made available.
8. Unless meanwhile new factors have reduced Japan's power to move her fleet into Bay of Bengal and have caused some deterioration in strength and mobility of her land and air forces in the area complete operation will not be possible in autumn with resources then available to us.
9. On other hand, although sufficient deterioration to make whole operation practicable may be unlikely a far smaller reduction in Japanese power may permit us to undertake first steps in what is in any case gradual process.
10. We feel we should meanwhile be ready if Japanese position should suddenly deteriorate to implement first steps of plan with whatever resources are then available.
11. Please let us have your views.

Recd. from War Office 0330/10

2150Z/9

Distribution over/.....

(Circulation)

Col. Jacob
 Foreign Secretary
 Admiralty
 War Office
 C.A.S.

1st Lord
 1st S.L.
 5th S.L.
 V.C.N.S.
 A.C.N.S. (F) (2).
 A.C.N.S. (W).
 N.A. 1st S.L.
 P.A.S. (S).
 D.O.D. (F) (2).
 D.N.I. (4)
 D. of P. (2).
 Duty Captain (2).
 D.D.I.C. (2).
 E.P.S.
 Head of M.
 I.P. (2).
 W.D.
 D.N.A.D.
 Head of Air
 Admiral Bellairs
 D. of L.D.

abd

War Diary.

9.5.1942.
Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies.

WALKER E.T.A. 1330Z/9 in company COLUMBIA. WALKER
COLUMBIA. requires 19 depth charges complete also new
underwater component Chernifeef log. COLUMBIA
RD/F defective.
(WALKER 0131Z/9, to C.O.A.C.Halifax)

TRINIDAD. Your 1678/8. Following is repetition of para.
(B) of my 0437B/5 (begins) - 2 boilers were
rapidly immersed in mixture of oil fuel and water
when at full power and oil has entered superheaters of one of
these boilers. The other 2 boilers primed for 6 hours. (Ends).
(TRINIDAD. 0217B/9 to B.A.R.M).

U/B Within 30 miles 35.30 N, 73° W. at 0132Z/9.
Fixes by (N.S.H.Q. 0352Z/9).
D/F. Within 60 miles 42° N. 38.30.W at 2324Z/8.
(N.S.H.Q. 0521Z/9).
Within 60 miles 29.30 N, 75° W. at 0215Z and
0221Z/9 (N.S.H.Q. 0545Z/9).
Within 60 miles 30° N 73° W at 0320Z/9. (N.S.H.Q. 0615Z/9)
Within 100 miles 40.30 N, 41° W at 0120Z/9. (N.S.H.Q. 0717Z/9).
Within 60 miles 14° N, 66.30.W at 0535Z/9. (N.S.H.Q. 0906Z/9).
Within 60 miles 08.30 N, 59.30 W. at 0331Z/9. (N.S.H.Q. 1055Z/9).
Within 100 miles 33° N, 73° W. at 0513Z/9 (N.S.H.Q. 1411Z/9).
Within 100 miles 26.30 N. 86° W. at 1302Z/9. (N.S.H.Q. 1518Z/9).
Within 30 miles 34.30 N. 71.30 W. at 1625Z/9 (N.S.H.Q. 1915Z/9).

GREYLOCK Received 0137 G.M.T. SSSS GREYLOCK 8 miles
"S" Report. off Halifax Light Ships.
(C.O.A.C. 0534/9 to Admty.).
U.S.GREYLOCK missed by torpedoes in approx.
44° 14' N, 63° 27' W. at 0130Z/9. Ship arrived undamaged. Air
and surface search revealed no trace of S/M.
(C.O.A.C. 1336Z/9 to N.S.H.Q., C. in C. U.S.Fleet, Admty. Opanv).

Movement 1800 G.M.T. 9/5.
Summary. Ship. Position Course Speed.
D.S. JAN VAN Arriving 190° 12½.
BRAKEL. Curacao.
WARWICK. 37°N. 61½°W. 208° 20.
ALCANTARA }
PRETORIA } 03° N. 22° W. Patrol. Blank.
CASTLE. }
(D.O.D.(F) 0819Z/9 to Opanv (R) Comnav.)

EMPIRE (British) torpedoed and sunk in 35.45. N.
DRYDEN. 66.28W. at 0055 G.M.T. 20/4. Ship sank in
7 minutes. Master and complete crew of
50 abandoned ship. 25 landed Bermuda 8/5 from
CITY OF BIRMINGHAM (U.S.). Master and 25 survivors last
seen in motor boat on night 23/4. 2 Large submarines seen on
surface after ship sank. C.B.'s sank with ship. B.A.D. pass to
Cominch and Opanv.
(C. in C.A.W.I. 1027P/9 to Admty. (R) B.A.D. etc).

War Diary.9.5.1942.
Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America & West Indies.

B.5. Your 1925/7. Can any forecast be made regarding period these vessels will be based at Escort Trinidad in order that action may be taken to Group. arrange further supplies of victualling naval Trinidad. and technical stores. If necessary to augment Stores. stock of stores to be held at Trinidad, suggest these should be sent direct from U.K. and

Canada. (2) Supply of stores to Jamaica will also arise in the event of any of these ships being later based at Jamaica for escort duty with other convoys. In this case also stores should be sent direct from U.K. and Canada.
(C. in C. A.W.I., 1102A/9 to Admty.);

U.S.Navy B.A.D's 1641/7. Request your remarks.
and (A.C.N.S.(T) 1137B/9 to C. in C. A.W.I.).
Trinidad. Your 1137/9. Trinidad. Glad this matter

has now been brought into the open instead of being arrived at by a deliberate policy of squeezing us out, as has been done hitherto. I now consider that the only practical solution is to agree to proposed revision of para. 23 of ABC 3, although the preponderance of British Naval Forces over American seems to be growing rather than diminishing.

2. I fully concur in para. 3 of B.A.D. 1641/7.

3. In view of lack of seniority of Capt. Ginder present Commandant U.S. Naval Operating Base Trinidad, I suggest that we should press for appointment of a more senior officer in his stead in order that a Capt. R.N. of reasonable seniority may be appointed as S.B.N.O. This will form an excellent excuse for removal of Capt. Ginder who has consistently failed to co-operate.

4. Ref. para. 3 of B.A.D. 1641/7 my views are as follows:-

Sub-para. (A) - (E) inclusive I agree.

Sub-para. (F). I consider that, examination and inspection of British M/V's must be carried out by British officers in a British Port. This is particularly essential as regards D.E.M.S. matters. Question of who should exercise contraband control also arises and legally I presume this must be done by British.

Sub-para. (G). Agree as regards harbour patrols but I consider executive control of anchoring and berthing outside U.S. Fleet anchorage should be exercised by British officers.

Sub-para. (H) and (I) Agree that protection must come under Americans. I am however most concerned at prospect of their taking over assembly and sailing of convoys and routing of shipping before they are fully competent to do so. They have insufficient experience at present and I foresee possibility of disaster if they take over too quickly. I suggest that at any rate in British Ports our N.C.S. organisation should remain in being with the ultimate responsibility resting with the Americans.

Sub-para. (J) I agree but with proviso that our own cypher organisation and administrative communications including those of Piarco are not interfered with.

5. I suggest that solution of the problem lies in a compromise and that there should be a British Port Director working under and responsible to U.S. Commandant with a mixed British

/and.....

War Diary.

9.5.1942.
Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies.

U.S.Navy
&
Trinidad.

and American Staff. This would be a step towards the ideal which several U.S. Naval officers have discussed with me, i.e. interchangeability of the officers of the two services. It should also satisfy desire of Americans as regards ultimate responsibility. I suggest that the duties of S.B.N.O. and

Port Director be combined.

6. Bermuda. My remarks on sub-para. (H) and (I) apply equally to Bermuda. Suggest therefore that N.C.S.O. should carry out his present duties with a mixed staff, being responsible to Commandant U.S. Naval Operating Base. With regard to other functions which we are agreeing to surrender at Trinidad, I wish to emphasise that it would be most undesirable to agree to similar surrender at Bermuda which is a British Dockyard Port.

(C. in C.A.W.I., 2231P/9 to Admty.).

DUPE ISLAND.
(torpedoed
6/5).

Kingston (Jam.) arrival A.M. 9/5 British FORT QU'APPELLE with full complement 22 of U.S. ship DUPE ISLAND torpedoed 0800R/6 in 018° 25' N 081° 30' W. U.S. authorities in charge of survivors. (S.O.I. Kingston 1149R/9, to Admty. C. in C.A.W.I etc).

LADY DRAKE
(Sunk 5/5).

My 1612/8. Weather conditions on day previous to attack had been wind S.E.2, sea smooth, very good visibility. Survivors state that during whole day ship had been making thick black smoke which must have been visible for a great distance. Master complains that oil fuel supplied at Trinidad was inferior and engineers found it impossible to control smoke. Request details of fuel supplied.

(C. in C. A.W.I. 1212P/9 to F.O.I.C. Trinidad (R) Admty. N.S.H.Q)

Aruba-
Trinidad
Convoy
Escort.

Having fuelled at Ponta Delgada after completing escort duty with W.S.19 you are to proceed Trinidad to join escort group B.5, S.O. HAVELOCK. Report S. of A. and E.T.A. Trinidad after leaving Ponta Delgada. (C. in C. W.A. 1233Z/9 to CHURCHILL (R) F.O.I.C. Greenock, MAURITIUS, Admty. C. in C. S.A. etc).

DURBAN.

Your 1152/7/3 ^{H.T. in W.D.} para. IV and your 2319/2. ^{H.T. in W.D.} It is suggested DURBAN should call at Bermuda instead of freighting the stores to New York. (B.A.R.M. 1300Z/9 to Admty.) Agreed (Admty. 2230B/11).

/Canada.....

War Diary.9.5.1942.
Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America & West Indies - Contd.

Canada - Advice received from Canadian National Steamships
Jamaica that their LADY RODNEY withdrawn from service
Shipping, Canada - Jamaica. This vessel was only regular
Personnel. passenger opportunity for Canada, and for in
transit service to U.K. Opportunities for
direct passage very infrequent on cargo vessels.
In effect Jamaica now isolated as regards passenger opportunities
to Canada and U.K. by any sea route.
Numbers awaiting passenger opportunity to U.K.
(N.O.I.C. Jamaica, 1306/9 to D.S.T.)

Movements. Arrivals MINAS escorting C.L.33, WANDERER, SUDBURY
from Western Local Escort O.N.88. Departures
ROXBOROUGH to Bermuda.
(S.O.(I) Halifax, 1352Z/9 to Admty etc).

Com. 10 Your 1551/6 para 2. Navy Dept. states that
"Comtask 10" should read "Com.10" which is short
title for Commandant Tenth Naval District.
(B.A.D., 1507Z/9 to Admty.)
W.R. Note:- Following messages refer:- C. in C. W.A's 2350B/8
B.A.D. Washington's 1441Z/8, C. in C. W.A's 2049Z/6 (Most Secret).

Tankers routed via Freetown. Your 1355/23/4. Para. (2), and your 1004/7/5
ATHELREGENT held in Port Everglades. Propose
to join her coastal convoy to Halifax. Do
you concur?
(N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 1621Z/9 to Admty.)
Concur (D.T.D., 1258B/11).

Vichy Shipping Meter. Algiers 7/5 B.2.
Departures and Arrivals (list) 30/4 - 4/5.
My Meter 1823/4 ST. JACQUELINE ex Dutch not
British LE TRAIT sailed 3/5. Dakar 8/5 B.2.
Reported SEMIEN (Italian) sold to Swiss Registry
transfer now taking place.
(B.A.D., 1629Z/9 to Admty).

HAVELOCK. C.T.F.24's 0612/05. ^{N.T. W.D.} Intend to sail ship from
Bermuda to Trinidad as soon as ready routed
direct via Anegada Passage unless otherwise
desired by you.
(C. in C. A.W.I., 1652P/9 to Opnav (R) Admty.,
B.A.D. etc).

S.C. Convoys Intend sailing S.C. Convoys from Sydney starting
from Sydney. with S.C.85. All other authorities informed.
(N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 1715Z/9 to Admty).

U/B Sub attack and sighting Summary. ABGARA sunk.
Intelligence. 20.45 N., 72.55 W., 2012Z/6. 2 torpedoed.
TUSCALOOSA CITY torpedoed presumed sunk South
Grand Cayman p.m. 4/5. TORNBY sunk 26.40 N.,
86.40 W. 1240Z/8. 1 torpedo.

MOST SECRET

289A

MESSAGE 1411Z/9 May IN

From Air Ministry.

Date 9/5/42.

CYPHER

Addressed Britman Washington.

OZ 182 9/5. IMMEDIATE

Following from Chiefs of Staff No. (W) 172.

Your J.S.M. 213.

We do not propose to comment in detail on various statements made by Colonel Ratay. You are fully informed through J.I.C. of our forecast of Germany's action in coming months. For our detailed estimates of German forces available for operations in any theatre see J.I.C. report on Axis strength and policy in 1942 (J.I.C.(42)113) which was sent to your J.I.C. These estimates are made on best repeat best evidence available and have been made on a "worst case" basis.

2. As regards Colonel Ratay's opinion of Russian achievements, we can only say that neither we nor apparently the Germans agree with him.

1411Z/9

Recd. in War Reg. at 1928/9.

Air Ministry circulation.

1st Lord.

1st S.L.

V.C.N.S.

A.C.N.S. (W)

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

N.A. 1st S.L.

P.A.S(S)

D.O.D. (F)(2)

D. of P.(2)

E.P.S.

Hd. of M.

I.P.(2)

W.D.

D. .I.(4)

D.C.(2)

D.D.I.C.(2)

Admiral Bellairs.

Col. Jacob.

Foreign Sec.

Hd. of Watch, War Reg., Admiralty.

Hd. of Watch, C6 Tels, War Office.

C.A.S.

War Diary.9.5.1942.
Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America & West Indies - Contd.U/B
Intelligence.
Contd.OHIOAN torpedoed 26.31 N., 79.59 W., 1614Z/8.
U.S. SAN DIEGO sighted Sub 24.11 N., 74.04 W.
2330Z/8. Periscope sighted sound contact made
and sub sighted on surface all in vicinity
Block Island from 0935Z to 2325Z/8.

(C. in C. U.S. Fleet, 2021/9 to Admty for O.I.C.)

Opnav Serial 9. TUSCALOOSA CITY American torpedoed and sunk 4/5
18.32 N., 81.45 W., entire crew saved. OHIOAN American torpedoed
and sunk 8/5. 26.31 N., 79.59 W., 22 survivors ~~confidentials~~
destroyed. TORNY Norwegian torpedoed and sunk 8/5 26.40 N.,
86.40 W., 24 survivors ~~confidentials~~ destroyed. ABGARA, Lat.,
torpedoed and sunk 6/5, 20.45 N., 72.55 W. entire crew safe
~~confidentials~~ destroyed. Admiralty deliver to Spenavo London
for action.

(Opnav, 2044/9 to Spenavo (R) N.S.HQ.)

U.S.
Troopships.My 2200/1. Change sailing date Charleston convoy
to 27/5 to arrive Freetown not later than 9/6.
Convoy speed 14. Delete CHATEAU BANRRY (?
CHATEAU THIERRY) from 31/5, New York U.K.movements, and add same ship to 27/5., Charleston Freetown move-
ments to join W.S. convoy. No water required Freetown for any
vessel. Convoy will be routed via Bermuda accordance your 1847/4
in order to permit destroyer fuelling. Escort 2 British
corvettes will be furnished from 26° W., to Freetown.
Advise eastern limit of escort you can provide. Admiralty please
pass to R.A.W.A.

(C. in C. U.S. Fleet, 2035/9 to Cinclant, C.E.S.F., C.C.S.F. etc).

LUBRAFOL
torpedoed.Ref. Admty. 1320/2/4/40. LUBRAFOL Panamanian
torpedoed and caught fire 9th, 0815 G.M.T.,
026° 26' N., 080° W., Books presumably burned,
31 survivors, 13 missing.
(B.R.O. Jacksonville, 2117Z/9 to Admty (R)
Ottawa).

9.5.1942.

Saturday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.Australia & New Zealand.

Movements. → Arrival Melbourne 0551Z/8 WHYALLA Sydney. (N.S.W.)
 0540Z/8 U.S. Destroyer BULMER and (?U.S. Destroyer
 BARKER). Departure GERALDTON. Sydney (NSW)
 0452Z/8 for Melbourne. Arrival Brisbane 1000Z/8
 ATREUS and ROCKHAMPTON.
 (A.C.N.B. 0348Z/9 to Admty. etc.)
 Departure Sydney 0324Z/9 MANCOORA and? MILDURA for R/V thence
 Numea. Departure Sydney N.S.W. 0332Z/9 BARKER and BULMER for
 (? R/V), thence Adelaide.
 (A.C.N.B. 2314Z/9 to Admty. etc.)
 Arrival Sydney 2150Z/8 LAUNCESTON. Departure Melbourne 0035Z/9
 → WHYALLA for Adelaide. Departure Melbourne 0425Z/9 BUNGAREE for
 R/V thence Numea.
 (A.C.N.B. 2341Z/9 to C.in C.E.I., N.O. Wellington, C.in C.E.F.,
 C.O.I.S. Colombo, C.in C. Pacific Fleet.)

B.T.202. Arrival Nukualofa U.S.S. RICHMOND and 3 destroyers
 with convoy B.T.202.
 (N.Z.N.B. 0540Z/9 to Admty. etc.)

Controlled Your 0924/5. No objection but request ATREUS and
 Mining ELSEY be sailed to Auckland, New Zealand, after
 Stns. Moreton Bay field is complete.
 2. My 1242/16/3. 4 Control Stations, Instructional
 Stores, 272 L.Mk. II mines, Cable and underwater
 stores have left or are leaving England shortly for future
 commitments.
 3. ATREUS and ELSEY will not be available for relaying or care
 and maintenance of Brisbane field. Request possibilities
 building or converting existing buildings for a controlled
 mining base locally may be considered.
 A.C.N.B. pass to Comsowestpac.
 (D.of L.D. 1404B/9 to A.C.N.B.)

Situation. Serial Number 107 from C.W.R. 8/5. Ref. Serial
 Number 106 para.4, NEOSHO total loss.
 (Battle of
 Coral Sea)
 (2). Following enemy forces sighted 8/5 -
 0620Z/8 2 Cruisers 14 other warships or Transports
 007° 35' S. 151° 30' E. course 210°
 0130Z/8 1 Freighter or Seaplane tender, 1 tanker
 009° 35' S. 153° 30' E. course 180°.
 0140Z/8 1 Destroyer 009° S. 153° 30' E. course 355°.
 0205Z/8 1 Light Cruiser 4 Destroyers, 008° 35' S. 154° 25' E.
 course 335°.
 0305Z/8 2 Submarine Tenders or Minelayers 007° 50' S. 153° 05' E.
 course 47°.
 (3). 2 aircraft attacked first group, one near miss on cruiser.
 (4). Off Misima Island 7/5, Allied Aircraft destroyed enemy
 aircraft carrier (probably *RYUKAKU) and one Cruiser (possibly
 AOBA Class). Another Carrier (probably SHOKAKU) severely
 damaged by bomb and torpedo. Last seen burning fiercely.
 (5). 23 enemy aircraft were destroyed on 7/5 in addition to those
 seen on carrier which sank.
 (6). 8 Zero fighters intercepted near Port Moresby 0454Z/8 by
 13 P-39s. 2 Zeros destroyed, one possibly destroyed.

* ?ZUIKAKU - See Coral Sea Battle Summary.
 / (7) ...

War Diary.

9.5.1942.
Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Australia & New Zealand (contd.)

Situation.
(contd.)

- (7). Tanker observed approaching Lae by R/C aircraft which was later chased by Zero. Our aircraft crashed 8 miles W. of Port Moresby.
- (8). Single engined enemy float plane shot down $012^{\circ} 32' S. 152^{\circ} 15' E.$ by R/C aircraft 8/5.
- (9). Unidentified aircraft reported over Galbraith (Queensland, 50 miles N.N.E. of Karumba) on 8/5, course S.E.
(A.C.N.B. 2046Z/9 to Admty. etc.)

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Submarines reported.

Estimated U/B positions. (D.D.I.C. 1419B/9
1423B/9.)

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

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

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

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

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

ADM 199 2240

War Diary.

10.5.1942.
Sunday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

The P.R.U. aircraft to Trondheim today failed to return. The four major naval units have not been seen or photographed by P.R.U. since 1/5 on account of unfavourable weather and the loss of the aircraft today.

Mining.

Two ground mines were detonated in the Thames Estuary today.

M.G.Bs. 41 and 46 led by M.G.B.13 laid mines commencing at 2315, across the channel 5 miles west of Dunkirk, in anticipation of the approach of 4 enemy T.Bs. which were detected leaving Boulogne. The enemy T.Bs passed through the line of mines and several explosions of mines were heard, some of which may have been spontaneous. Brief engagements took place between the M.G.Bs and the enemy. No damage to our ships is reported and the extent of the damage to the enemy is not known.

*Should be on 11/5 - P. 321 -
See 11/5 p. 325 ; 7 12/5. P. 364*

Aircraft of Bomber Command laid 35 mines last night in the western Baltic.

North Atlantic.

A British Overseas aircraft reports sighting a submarine steering 128° 40 miles west of Cape St. Vincent. The submarine, which appeared to be damaged gave the correct response to challenge.

War Diary.10.5.1942.
Sunday.SITUATION REPORT.South Atlantic.

SS. ORION made a distress signal at 0647 today in 29° S 33° E.

Mediterranean.

WELSHMAN carrying a special cargo arrived at Malta early this morning and left again tonight to return to Gibraltar. Two German aircraft examined her whilst on passage in French disguise. WELSHMAN cut two mines in the approaches to Malta, just as WELSHMAN was arriving BERYL acting as escort to mine sweepers and TRUSTY STAR drove off with damage 3 E-Boats who may have been minelayers or waiting for WELSHMAN.

It is reported that enemy aircraft losses over Malta today were 45 bombers and 21 fighters destroyed or damaged. 7 Hurricanes and 57 Spitfires engaged the enemy.

The enemy met three new factors, viz: smoke cover, the heaviest barrage in Malta ever concentrated in one place, and a wealth of fighters. It is probable that WELSHMAN was unseen, though 6 near misses caused slight casualties and minor damage not affecting her operational efficiency. For the first time since the enemy offensive commenced there are at Malta sufficient fighters to meet each raid with equal or superior numbers. Twelve enemy aircraft were engaged in minelaying off Malta last night.

Attack on
VALE FORMOSO
II.

S/M P.42 whilst on patrol in the Gulf of Genoa on 28/4 hit with gunfire SS. VALE FORMOSO II, an approved carrier of Swiss cargo. The latter was in free for all area, and 50 miles from her authorized route, and was not recognised by P.42 until the range closed to 500 yards. The crew of VALE FORMOSO II believed themselves to have been attacked by an Italian S/M.

Hospital
Ship
RAMB IV.
Sunk.

Hospital ship RAMB IV was bombed by a single aircraft flying at a great height and had to be sunk this forenoon, whilst returning to Alexandria fully loaded with patients from Tobruk. Visibility was excellent and the ship was clearly marked as a hospital ship. It is thought that casualties amount to about 150, mostly patients.

War Diary.

10.5.1942.
Sunday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Mediterranean - Contd.

N.L.O. Black Sea reports that further reports have been received of enemy preparations for landing operations at Mariupol.

Operation
M.G.2.

JERVIS (Capt. D.14) JACKAL, KIPLING and LIVELY with escort of 4 Beaufighters left Alexandria today to intercept an enemy convoy of 3 merchant ships escorted by 3 destroyers.

Alexandria was bombed last night. No Naval damage was caused.

East Indies.

C. in C. Eastern Fleet in WARSPITE arrived at Mombasa at 1055 G.M.T. today with FORMIDABLE, NEWCASTLE and 4 destroyers.

SS. NANKIN is reported to have been attacked by an enemy raider about 1000 miles S.W. of the Cocos Islands today.

America and West Indies.

U-Boats are estimated to be working off the north coast of Brazil, in the Paramaribo - Trinidad area, in the Caribbean (3), in the Cayman Is area, approaches to Mississippi and in Florida Strait.

A U.S. aircraft attacked a U-Boat at 2220 today in 48° 46' N 62° 42' W and reports one direct hit and 2 near misses. Wreckage came to the surface 20 to 30 minutes after the attack and the pilot believes the U-Boat to have been destroyed.

Ships were attacked by U-Boats today off the east coast of Florida, the delta of the Mississippi, in 31° 43' N 71° 56' W and off Cape Sable.

10.5.1942.
Sunday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT.

Australia.

U.S. aircraft attacked the seaplane base at Deboyne Island (Louisiade Archipelago) today and obtained 2 hits or near misses on an 8000 ton tanker.

Considerable shipping is reported in Faisi Harbour (7° 5' S 155° 53' E.)

War Diary.10.5.1942.
Sunday.HOME COMMANDS.Policy.S.N.O.
Hvalfiord.Request you will undertake duties of S.O. British, as well as U.S., Ships Hvalfiord and maintain one 8" cruiser on patrol "White".
(C. in C. H.F., 1003B/10 to C.T.F.99).

WISTARIA.

Your 1851/9. ^{/N.T. & H.D.} Recommend WISTARIA pays off.
(A.C.I.C., 1655B/10 to Admty).Defence of United Kingdom.Clyde Smoke
Screen.Admty 2226B/9. Agree to provision of smoke screen as arranged. Request arrangements for operating screen be made by mutual agreement between F.O.I.C. Greenock and A.O.C. 13 Group.
(Air Ministry, 1240/10).Yarmouth and
Lowestoft A/A
guns.

Request consideration may be given to return of A/A guns to Yarmouth and Lowestoft which it is understood were reconnoitred by enemy A/C last night.

(C. in C. Nore, 1244B/10 to Admty).

C. in C. Nore 1244B/10 R/C was at 0700B/10.

(F.O.I.C. Yarmouth, 1500B/10 to Admty).

Your 1244/10. Guns are redeployed covering another important and vulnerable area which previously had no A/A gun defences.

2. Yarmouth and Lowestoft defences are still in excess of approved scales. Present conditions necessitate some reduction of defences in all old defended areas, and reduction at Y and L must be accepted.

(D. of L.D., 1840B/10 to C. in C. Nore).

Rosyth A/A
Defences.

A/A Defence Commander proposes to adopt scheme for barrage fire which proved successful at Tobruk as defence against dive-bombing attacks by day (Details) This procedure appears desirable

but, in view of restrictions regarding proximity of bursts to ships laid down in C.A.F.O. 2361/40 Appendix II, covering authority to approve is requested.

(C. in C. Rosyth, 1531B/10 to Admty).

Movements.STURGEON
P.43Clyde arrivals STURGEON, P.43 escorted by WHITEBEAR.
(F.O.I.C. Greenock, 0914/10).FLYING KESTREL
etc.

Admty. 1226B/9. Anticipate first group for sailing approx. 25/5 will comprise POLA NORTE, ESTRELLA D'ALVA, ESTRELLA DO NORTE escorting FLYING KESTREL. Request final destination of ESTRELLA D'ALVA and ESTRELLA DO NORTE and route for group.

(F.O.I.C. Milford Haven, 1017B/10 to C. in C. W.A)

/Force...

War Diary.10.5.1942.
Sunday.HOME COMMANDS.Movements. - Contd.Force "W"
(WASE, EAGLE)F.O.C.N.A. 1742B/7. Onward route from position
D. 043° 01' N., 017° 30' W., to E. 051° 59' N.,
017° 01' W. F. 055° 25' N., 008° 58' W., thence
via Minches to Scapa.
(C. in C. W.A., 1027B/10 to S.O. Force "W")

BERWICK.

Your 2155B/9. Intend to sail passing Hoxa Boom
2200B today. S. of A. 20 knots.
(BERWICK, 1128B/10 to C. in C. H.F.)

→ CARADOC

Intend sailing CARADOC at 1700B/10 for Scapa.
E.T.A. 1300B/11 in accordance with Admty 2006B/9.
(F.O.I.C. Greenock, 1246B/10 to A.C.O.S.)

P.212

My 1506B/8 sailed JAN VAN GELDER escorting P.212
E.T.A. Clyde 0630B/11.
(F.O.I.C. Liverpool, 1331B/10).P.212 escorted by JAN VAN GELDER Northbound Clyde may be met
during dark hours tonight.
(C. in C. W.A., 1740B/10 to CHURCHILL).TRIDENT
P.46(1) Intend to sail TRIDENT and P.46 escorted by
WHITE BEAR at 1800B/12 via Minches and West of
Orkneys for Lerwick. E.T.A. 1800B/14.
(Capt. S.3., 1543B/10). *See p. 342*SEAWOLF
P.614.
O.10.(1) Intend sailing SEAWOLF, P.614, and O.10
escorted by JAN VAN GELDER at 1800B/13 via
Minches and West of Orkneys for Lerwick. E.T.A.
1800B/15.
(Capt. S.3., 1547B/10) Amended by Capt. S.3.,
1702B/12).

ECLIPSE.

Intend to sail ECLIPSE leaving Plymouth 1730/11
for Scapa.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 1628B/10).BULLDOG,
BEVERLEY.*N.T. in W.D.*
Your 1101/10. Unless you require fuel proceed
to Greenock. BEVERLEY should proceed to
Londonderry.
(C. in C. W.A., 1714B/10 to BULLDOG).

→ CARADOC

Sailed CARADOC.
(F.O.I.C. Greenock, 1716B/10).
*See p. 300 - (U-Boats)*HYTHE,
RYE.Sailed HYTHE and RYE. E.T.A. Gibraltar 1200Z/16.
(F.O.I.C. Londonderry, 1730B/10).

/LEITH...

War Diary.10.5.1942.
Sunday.HOME COMMANDS.Movements. - Contd.LEITH,
ALISMA.Return to Londonderry after escorting
LLANSTEPHAN CASTLE to Clyde.2. ALISMA is to part company and proceed to
Londonderry after crossing 007° W.
(C. in C. W.A., 2358B/10 to LEITH).Operations.N.W. Norway
S/M Patrol.My 1054/9. (1) Throughout para. A for 13th May,
14th May, 15th May, read 14th May, 15th May,
16th May respectively.(2) Last column of para. A. amend to read zones
K.34, K.32, K.30, K.28, K.26, K.24. K.22.(3) Para. B. for 0800B /18th May, read 0800B/20th May.
(F.O.S., 1101B/10).Denmark
Strait
Patrol.

NORFOLK is to return to Hvalfiord.

2. C.T.F.99 is requested to sail a U.S. cruiser
for Patrol "White" as soon as practicable.3. After fuelling, NORFOLK will be required to
R/V with Cruiser Force North of Seidisfiord as
ordered by C.S.10.

(C. in C. H.F., 1647B/10).

Return of
TRINIDAD.

My 1627B/5 para. one.

C.S.10 in NIGERIA with KENT, NORFOLK, LIVERPOOL
INGLEFIELD, ONSLOW, ICARUS, and ESCAPADE are
to cover passage of TRINIDAD.(2) C.S.10 is requested (a) Proceed in NIGERIA with INGLEFIELD
and ESCAPADE to arrive Seidisfiord p.m./12.(b) Sail covering force to arrive in initial covering position in
vicinity. A. 074° 30' N., 009° 30' E., by 2000B/14.(c) Order R/V for NORFOLK from Hvalfiord. (d) Detach INGLEFIELD
and ESCAPADE to Kola Inlet for Q.P. 12 when endurance necessitates.(3) My 1627B/5 para. 3. Amend first sentence to read "C.S.18
is requested to sail in TRINIDAD with SOMALI, FORESIGHT,
MATCHLESS and FORESTER p.m./13th or 14th, if weather conditions
are suitable, route at his discretion to position
H. 073° 30' N., 008° 02' E., and thence as in A.M.1912B/29 to
Hvalfiord".(4) My present intention is to provide additional cover in
DUKE OF YORK with WASHINGTON, VICTORIOUS, and LONDON. R/V
with U.S. Force will be east of Iceland a.m./14th.(4) My 1627B/5 para. 4. Cover is to be provided to 006° W., when
all forces are to proceed Hvalfjord (except as in para. 2 (d) above
(C. in C. H.F., 2052B/10 to C.T.F.99., S.B.N.O. North Russia,
Ad. Miles).British Air Activity.Bombing
restriction.
(Scillies
to Lorient)My 2326B/8. Request that this ban may now be
lifted and re-imposed from 16th to 20th May
inclusive.
(D.O.D. H., 1806B/10 to Air Ministry).

War Diary.10.5.1942.
Sunday.HOME COMMANDS.Enemy Air Activity.LEICESTER
CITY.Help "Glass" 61° 10' N., 5° 0' W.
(LEICESTER CITY, 1015/10).Mining.Off 57 E.
Buoy.One object suspected parachute dropped by
Dornier 130° 57 E Buoy, distance 5 to 7 miles.
(WINCHESTER, 1701B/10 to C. in C. Nore).Thames
Estuary.One ground mine detonated by Sweepers at 1000/10.
Details.
(Capt. M/S Sheerness, 1845/10).
One ground mine detonated by Sweepers at 1144/10.
Details.
(Capt. M/S Sheerness, 1856/10).Enemy Intelligence.Straits of
Dover.Enemy shipping plotted by R.D.F. in Dover Strait
from 0900/9 to 0900/10. Track E 10 D. Three
vessels trawlers size from 5 miles North East
of Calais at 0325 westbound at 12 knots,
entered Boulogne at 0540.
(V.A. Dover, 1001B/10).

Trondheim.

No R/C Trondheim today.
(D.D.I.C., 1734B/10).

LEIPZIG.

R/C of Swinemunde at 1315/10 shows LEIPZIG and
5 destroyers present.
(D.D.I.C., 2119B/10).U-boats.

Survivors.

Survivors may have been picked up by Iceland
Trawler. Have you found empty raft or life
boat and are you in touch with Sunderland A/C
(C. in C. W.A., 1006B/10 to BULLDOG, (R)
BEVERLEY).Your 1006B/10. Have thoroughly searched area 40 miles square
round 060° 25', 012° 11'. Sunderland aircraft T/228 was in
company from 2244/9. till 0100/10 and searched round destroyer.
Sunderland aircraft S/228 joined 0720/10 cruising around for
hours and disappeared. ACHATES, 4 other ships, and one A/C
have been sighted in the vicinity. Am proceeding Merville.
My P.C.S. 060° 01', 012° 04', 150° 18.
(BULLDOG, 1101B/10 to C. in C. W.A.)

War Diary.10.5.1942.
Sunday.HOME COMMANDS.Casualties & Defects.

- FLINDERS. Cancel my 1501B/8/5. Weather permitting intend sailing FLINDERS in tow of tug PILTO and escorted by A/S Yacht STAR OF INDIA for Poole at 1130 tomorrow. E.T.A. Poole Bar Buoy 1630/11. (F.O.I.C. Portland, 1215B/10).
- PIORUN Intend sailing PIORUN for Liverpool p.m. today in accordance with Admty. 2113B/24/4. (F.O.I.C. Greenock, 1445B/10). Sailed PIORUN in accordance with my 1445B/10. E.T.A. 0930B/11. (F.O.I.C. Greenock, 2035B/10).
- B.P.C.3 B.P.C.3 with engine trouble escorted by LACERTA diverted Yarmouth. E.T.A. 0600/11 approx. (WINCHESTER, 2146B/10).

Shipping & Convoys.

- P.Q.16 Cancel my 1246B/9. Request ships may be sailed to R/V off Lough Foyle Buoy at 1800B/13. (Commodore, Londonderry, 1019B/10). Proceed to pass Switha 0800B/12 to Hvalfiord routed through 058° 45' N., 007° 02' W., thence through Reykjanes Passage. You will be required to provide additional escort P.Q.16 to Murmansk as ordered by A.C.I.C. (R.A.D., 1613B/10 to HAZARD). P.Q.16. A.C.O.S. is requested to detail a Ranger class oiler and R.A.D.H.F., one Hunt class destroyer to form Force Q. (2) A.C.O.S. is requested to sail Force Q to arrive Seidisfiord on 18/5. (C. in C. H.F., 2321B/10).
- D.S.27. Sailed BRIGHTON and WELLS. (N.O.I.C. Port ZA 1033B/10).
- U.R.25 Your 1941B/9. As O.N. conferences have often to be held p.m. Thursdays, Saturday would suit local organisations better than Thursday provided linking up with E.N. convoys is not dislocated. (N.C.S.O. Loch Ewe, 1102B/10 to Admty). Your 1941B/9. Concur to commence with U.R.25. (C. in C. W.A., 1241B/10 to Admty).
- Q.P.12 S.O. 3rd D.F. in INGLEFIELD with ESCAPADE proceed to pass Switha 1200B tomorrow to Murmansk routed in accordance with C. in C. H.F. 1758B/8. (2) You will be required to provide additional escort for Q.P.12 as ordered by S.B.N.O. North Russia. (R.A.D. H.F., 1428B/10).

See p-299- (TRINIDAD)

/FRESHET...

War Diary.

10.5.1942.
Sunday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping & Convoys. - Contd.

FRESHET.

Your 2125B/9 ^{N.T.W.D.} FRESHET was being retained as a water Barge to assist with P.Q. Convoys. If FRESHET is sent U.K. it will not be possible to give all ships maximum amount of water as asked in D. of S.T. 2309B/6/4. My 1800B/6/5 also refers. FRESHET will be sailed in tow of EMPIRE BASCOBEL this week.
(A.C.I.C., 1949B/10 to Admty).

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War Diary.10.5.1942.
Sunday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic.

PRIMAUGUET. Reliable report that PRIMAUGUET left Casablanca morning of 9/5 with 3 S/M's direction S.W. (F.O.C.N.A., 0102B/10 amended 0911B/10 to C. in C.S.A., R.A. West Africa Admty, S.O. Force W. Opnav C. in C.Med.)

Casablanca A. 213 10/5
Intelligence. PRU 1830/9 Obliques show Casablanca, JEAN BART at usual position surrounded by double torpedo boom. LAGALISSONNIERE CR, presumably GLOIRE, alongside jetty Delure AA same berth. CR. moored stern on to jetty Delure immediately inside harbour entrance as photographed on 8/5. Distance precludes definite statement but it may be DUGUAY TROUIN Cla Q. A boom irregularly arranged lies between it and harbour mouth. 3 Cassard or Guepard Cts. including one at Phosphate Quay. 2 Drs. probably SIMOUN or ALCYON 2 probable Drs. 2 Elan Ev's 4 small Naval Units and AMIRAL MOUCHEZ. At least 5 S/M's including 1 in floating dock in Delpit Basin. Majority of Naval Units moored to jetty Delure. As on 8/5 large M.V. occupies berth vacated by DUGUAY TROUIN Cr. (P.R.U. Gibraltar. 0430/10 to Air Min, Admty, etc.) A.12 10/5 PRU/GIB/W2/10/5. 807 Sqdrn. Sortie dated 10/5 Time 1103. Distant Obliques show Casablanca, JEAN BART at usual position. Cruiser moored stern on to Jetty Delure immediately inside entrance now identified as DUGUAY TROUIN Class. Berth of LA GALISSONNIERE CR on 9/5 very indistinctly seen but CR. almost certainly present. New heavy boom now protects harbour entrance. Full statement on small units not possible but no change in those seen. (P.R.U. Gibraltar, 1300/10 to Air Min. Admty, etc.,) Photo. R/C of Casablanca at 2015B/9 shows JEAN BART in usual position. (F.O.C.N.A. 0942B/10 to Admty, C. in C. S.A., R.A.W.A.F., C. in C. Med. Opnav, V.A. Malta, S.O. Force W., Air R/C of Casablanca at 1103B/10. JEAN BART usual berth cruiser French DUGUAY-TROUIN just inside entrance. 1 GLOIRE class almost certainly present. New heavy boom Harbour entrance. Full statement of small units not possible no change seen. Heavy A/A fire encountered. (F.O.C.N.A. 1540B/10 to Admty, C. in C. S.A., C. in C.Med. R.A. West Africa, V.A. Malta, Opnav).

Movements. Arrival 2315/9. INTREPID. 0030/10 U.S. Destroyers *STERETT, LANG. ECHO. 0240 SALISBURY, 0445 ITHURIEL. Departure 0530 LANG, INTREPID, ECHO. 0645 SALISBURY. 0800 ITHURIEL in accordance with my 1742/7. (F.O.C.N.A. 0802B/10 to Admty, etc.)

* See next page

STONECROP. My P.C. and S. 037° 53' N 009° 18' W. 173° through 210° Saint Vincent 15 thence Gibraltar 12 knots. E.T. A. Gate 0805B/11. MYOSOTIS in company. (STONECROP. 1105B/10 to F.O.C.N.A. (R) Admty, C. in C. W.A., Capt.(D) 13, BLACK SWAN, P.44 MYOSOTIS.

/You.....

War Diary.10.5.1942.
Sunday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic. contd:

- P.44 Intelligence. You may meet (?own) Force of 1 A/C carrier, 1 battle cruiser 1 cruiser and destroyers 10/5. (F.O.C.N.A. 1136B/10 to P.44).
- PENELOPE. Intend to sail PENELOPE at 2300B/10 routed through A.034° 59' N. 040° 01' W. S. of A. 17½ knots. C. in C. A.W.I is requested to issue onward routeing instructions from position (A) to Navy Yard New York, with alternative route to Bermuda in case endurance is insufficient to reach New York (3) E.T.A. New York 18/5. (?F.O.C.N.A. 1158B/10 to Admty, C. in C. A.W.I. (R) B.A.D. PENELOPE.) My 1158B/10th sailed PENELOPE. (F.O.C.N.A. 2344B/10 to Admty, C. in C. A.W.I. Opanv (R) B.A.D.)
- Op "Bowery" A/C. Your 2031/9th. (Report of A/C arrived and lost from operation "Bowery"). One crash on take off, another forced landed on WASP. (F.O.C.N.A. 1212B/10 to V.A.Malta.)
- P.44. STERETT. P.44 in 225°. Cape St. Vincent 15 miles at 1130B/10, thence normally on surface direct to 350°. Cape Spartel 5 at 0900B/11. (2) Give her a wide berth. (F.O.C.N.A. 1214B/10 to STERETT (R) Capt.(S) 8)
p. 306
- A/C Report of S/M. S/M seen on the surface by British Overseas Aircraft "Champion". Course 128 40 miles West Cape St.Vincent 0651 G.M.T.10/5 S/M gave correct response to challenge. Appeared damaged. (B.N.A. Lisbon, 1216B/10 to S.O.I.Gibraltar (R) Admty.)
- VALE FORMOSO II. B.N.A. Lisbon 1815/9. P.42 attacked VALE FORMOSO II with gunfire in 043° 45' N. 007° 53' E day April (?26th) scoring 1 hit with 3 inch and several with machine guns. (2). Ship not identified as approved carrier of Swiss cargo until range closed to 500 yards. Large Italian flag hoisted by VALE FORMOSO when S/M opened fire. Ship was in free for all area and 50 miles from authorized route. No casualties. (3). Crew reported in Gibraltar that attack had been made by Italian S/M because ship was less than 12 miles from coast. P.42 spoke to ship in Italian only. Only evidence of S/M being British is marked on fuse cap now in my possession. (4). Request you will reply to B.N.A.Lisbon. (F.O.C.N.A. 1254B/10 to Admty.)

/Dispositions.....

War Diary.10.5.1942.
Sunday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic. Conts:

Dispositions A.M.1822/6. GEORGETOWN unable to sail owing to
Force W. defects.
(2) SALISBURY will not be able to maintain speed
in any bad weather.
→ (3) ITHURIEL acting as additional escort until 2000/11 which is
latest time for which she can be spared.
(F.O.C.N.A. 1504B/10 to Admty, C. in C.H.F.(R) C. in C.W.A.
S.O. Force W.)

H.G.82. H.G.82, CRESSADO sunk in collision Irish Sea
CRESSADO otherwise successful.
Sunk. (D.T.D.1512B/10 to N.C.S.O.(R) F.O.C.N.A.).

MALAYA A.M. 2351B/9 not to MALAYA. Can F.O.C.N.A.
Escort. send destroyers to R/V with MALAYA at 0800Z/13
025° 02' N 017° 42' W. in which case BOREAS
and WILD SWAN could remain until this position,
being oiled by MALAYA.

(R.A. West Africa 0955Z/10 to F.O.C.N.A.(R) MALAYA,).
A.M. 2351B/9 and 1817B/6 May not to MALAYA. No escort likely
to be available from Gibraltar before end of May at earliest.
2. If BOREAS and WILD SWAN can continue to Gibraltar route
MALAYA through positions:-
C. 20° 01' N. 20° 01' W., D. 28° 01' 13° 30', E. 32° 59' 10° 01'
F. 35° 35' 06° 59'.
(F.O.C.N.A. 1551/10 to R.A. West Africa, (R) Admty, C. in C.S.A.,
MALAYA).

MALAYA is to proceed to Gibraltar escorted by BOREAS, WILD SWAN
passing from position:-
B. 016° 10' N. 021° 48' W. through position. C., 020° 01' N 020°
01' W. D. 028° 01' N. 013° 30' W, E. 032° 59' N. 010° 01' W.
F. 035° 35' N. 006° 59' W, S. of A. 16 knots.
BOREAS, WILD SWAN, are to fuel from MALAYA as necessary on passage.
F.O.C.N.A. is requested to expedite return of BOREAS, WILD SWAN,
which are urgently required.

(R.A. West Africa. 1843/10 to MALAYA, (R) Admty, C. in C. S.A.
F.O.C.N.A. BOREAS, WILD SWAN) *Cancelled. See next page*
Your 1551/10 Repeat Spitfire operation may be postponed three
days if this will help.
(A.C.N.S.(F) 1911B/10 to F.O.C.N.A.(R) R.A. West Africa, C. in C.
S.A.).

→ Detach ITHURIEL to R/V with PARTRIDGE in 028° 50' N., 013°
02' W. at 1400B/12, thence to 025° 02' N. 017° 42' W. meet
MALAYA at 1000B/13 and escort to Gibraltar.
(F.O.C.N.A. 2240B/10 to S.O. Force "W" (R) Admty, C. in C.H.F.
R.A. West Africa MALAYA, ITHURIEL.)
PARTRIDGE and ITHURIEL have been ordered to R/V in.
X. 25° 02' N. 17° 42' W. at 1000B/13 and escort you to Gibraltar,
routed through. D. 28° 01' North 13° 30' West. E. 32° 59' 10° 01'
F. 35° 35' 06° 59' S. of A. 16 knots.
(F.O.C.N.A. 2348B/10 to MALAYA (R) PARTRIDGE, Admty, ITHURIEL,
R.A.W. Africa, WILD SWAN, BOREAS).

/R/V.....

War Diary.10.5.1942.
Sunday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic. cont'd.

- MALAYA Escort. R/V with ITHURIEL and PARTRIDGE in 025° 44' N. 017° 42' W. at 1000B/13 in accordance with F.O.C.N.A. 2240B/10 and proceed to Gibraltar by route given F.O.C.N.A. 1551/10. Detach WILD SWAN, BOREAS on R/V to proceed to Bathurst fuelling from MALAYA if necessary. Cancel my 1843Z/10. *see Medicines (safe)* (R.A. West Africa, 2355Z/10 to MALAYA, (R) Admty, F.O.C.N.A. BOREAS, C. in C. S.A. WILD SWAN, ITHURIEL.
- French Shipping. Gibraltar 1350. Armed Trawler LA SERVANNAISE, OUED TIFLET, ANDRE MOYRAND both laden, latter deck cargo Cork, PARAME, light Deck Cargo Cork, LIEUTENANT DE LA TOUR, light deck cargo baskets, barrels, horses, Eastbound. (V.A.C.N.A. 1847B/10 to Admty, C. in C. Med.).
- Reported French Ship. Your 1932/9. Ship identified as Irish LANAHRONE. (B.N.A. Lisbon. 1850B/10 to Admty.)
- STERETT. Force W. Force W. at 2100/10 in 036° 32' N. 009° 51' W. steering 313° speed 13 knots. (F.O.C.N.A. 2140B/10 to STERETT (R) S.O. Force W. Admty, C. in C. W.A.). *see p. 304.*

South Atlantic.

- S.S. ORION. Following has been read:- ORION position 29° S. 33° E, immediate assistance ship full water, send help quick. (Simonstown, W/T 0647/10 to Whitehall W/T).
- MALAYA Escort. See R.A. West Africa's 0955/Z/10, 1843Z/10 and 2355Z/10 in North Atlantic.
- ARCHER. My 1841Z/9. ARCHER will not be ready to sail until 13/5 subject to successful trials of machinery. E.T.A. Cape would be delayed to 24/5. (R.A. West Africa, 1025Z/10 to Admty (R) C. in C. S.A.)
Your 1931/9*(A) No Martlet A/C are at Capetown or Durban. (C. in C. S.A. 1721B/10 to Admty (R) C. in C. E.F., S.O. (A) E.F. R.A. West Africa) *As amended 1830Z/10.*
*Future use of H.M.S. ARCHER.

see p. 311
/A.M..... (ARCHER cont)

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10.5.1942.

Sunday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic.

ARCHER. A.M.1931B/9. Following is a repetition of my
Contd. 1355Z/10 (Received undecypherable). (Begins):-
It is not considered that ARCHER can yet be
used for service proposed for following
reasons:- (Details)
(R.A. West Africa. 2301Z/10 to Admty. (R) C. in C.S.A.).
Your 1025/10. What speed did you allow ARCHER?
(A.C.N.S.(F) 2356B/10 to R.A. West Africa). *See p. 34*

MANXMAN. On leaving Durban proceed by the searched
channel then through the following positions.
A. 029° 15' S., 034° 20' E. B. 016° 00' S.
042° 40' E., C. 011° 45' S. 047° 48' E.
D. 10 miles North of Cape Amber arriving there at 1600C/13.
Then as directed by S.O. Force "F".
(N.O.I.C. Durban, 1049B/10 to MANXMAN (R) S.O. Force F., C. in C.
E.I., C. in C. S.A., N.O.I.C. Durban, Admty, C. in C. E.F.).
Amended 1549/10.
Sailed MANXMAN in accordance with my 1049B/10. S. of A. 25 knots.
Cmdre. I.C. Durban. 1815Z/10 to Admty, C. in C.S.A., C. in C.
E.I., C. in C. E.F. S.O. Force F).

Air R/C In view of shortage of A/C intend to carry out
Dakar. R/C of Dakar on alternate days only in future.
(R.A. West Africa 1121Z/10 to Admty (R) F.O.C.N.A.
C. in C.S.A.).

COLOMBO Cape Town departure 10/5 COLOMBO escorting
EMPRESS EMPRESS OF RUSSIA, for Freetown E.T.A. Pointe
OF RUSSIA. Noire 0500Z/16.
(S.O.I. Capetown 1124Z/10 to Admty, C. in C.S.A.
R.A. West Africa).
Intend to sail COLOMBO at 1100Z/10 from Capetown escorting
EMPRESS OF RUSSIA.
(2) COLOMBO E.T.A. Pointe Noire for fuelling 0500Z/16.
(C. in C.S.A., 1245B/10 to Admty, R.A. West Africa, B.N.L.O. West
Africa).

PETTER. Overdue shipping. My 0945Z/7 cancel PETTER
ship arrived Capetown.
(S.O.I. Capetown 1230Z/10 to Admty etc.).

Movements. Intend to sail following ships in company at
1600/10/5 for destinations shown.
BRITTANY and BARFOUNT - Mauritius, BARFOSS -
Takoradi, *DUNDEE - Lagos for docking. BARRYMORE will join
(? company) outside Takoradi at 1600/14.
Destination of BARRYMORE Mauritius.
Ships routed via Takoradi, Lagos, Pointe Noire and Walvis
Bay to Capetown. E.T.A. off Takoradi 1600/14 E.T.A. at
subsequent ports to be signalled from ports en route.
(R.A. West Africa. 1257/10 to N.O.I.C. Takoradi B.N.L.O. Pointe
Noire C. in C. S.A., N.O.I.C. Lagos N.C.S.O. Walvis Bay. (R)
C. in C.E.I. BRITTANY.)

** Not identified.*

/Departure.....

War Diary.10.5.1942.
Sunday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic.Movements.
Contd.Departure 10/5 SYRINGA, BRITTANY, BARFOSS,
BARFOUNT.

(S.O.I.Freetown 1935Z/10 to Admty.).

Departure 10/5 VINDICTIVE.

(S.O.I.Freetown. 1955Z/10 to Admty. C. in C.
S.A. B.N.L.O. West Africa).Need for
Aircraft
Cape Palmas
Area.

Marcus 980 7/5. 1. G.R.aircraft operating from
Sierra Leone and Gold Coast are unable adequately
to cover Cape Palmas area owing to distance
from British bases. 11 ships have been sunk by
U/Boats within 300 miles of Cape Palmas during
last 3 months. Own and American shipping affected.

As Americans have already asked Admty to afford
all possible protection to their ships in this area, cannot
understand their reluctance to take up this matter which will
result in tightening up. A/S patrol to our mutual advantage.
2. We attach great importance to this request. Pass BARDEL.
Under Webber W.815.
(Air Ministry. 1712/10 to R.A.F.Delegation, Washington (R) A.H.Q.
W.Africa).

OXFORDSHIRE.

A.M.1813B/16.

As no relief is available for H.S.OXFORDSHIRE
and refit cannot with safety be postponed beyond

end of June, propose:-

(A) OXFORDSHIRE to leave with about 40 patients on board. These
to be accommodated in hospital at refitting port.

(B) Military authorities at Freetown have agreed to accommodate
25 patients.

(C) About 25 patients can be received at naval sick quarters now
completing at Freetown. Provided no unusual commitments arise
these arrangements are considered adequate.

(R.A. West Africa 2105Z/10 to C. in C. S.A.(R) Admty.).

DIOMEDE.

Amend E.T.A. noon G.M.T. Tuesday May. 12
(? DIOMEDE 2141Z/10 to S.O.I.Montevideo).

War Diary.10.5.1942
Sunday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean.THORN
defects.

Estimated noon position today 10th 034° 21' 022° 27'. Top piston both port and starboard scavenge blower cut out. S of A 90 miles per day, E.T.A. 0529C/15 (weather report) (THORN 0157C/10 to Capt. S.I.)

Movements.

Arrival 10/5* WELSHMAN. (V.A. Malta 0525B/10 to Admty. F.O.C.N.A. C. in C. Med.)
Arrived Greek S/M TRITON, sailed P.35, *WELSHMAN. (V.A. Malta 2234B/10 to Admty.) *See p. 311

ORUC
REIS.

Turned over to Turkish flag at 1015C/9. British crew left from Tripoli (Syria) at 8.30 C/10. (N.A. Ankara 0929C/10, 1241C/10 to C. in C. Med.)

Famagusta
Minesweeping.

Weekly minelaying and sweeping report. Routine Sweep S A/(LL) carried out daily. Result negative. Port open daily from 1000 until 1400 and also to conform arrival and departure important vessels at other times as necessary. (N.O.I.C. Famagusta 1032C/10 to Admty. (R) C. in C. Med. etc.)

→ P. 35.

Following is a repetition of my 2321B/9. (Begins) Capt (S) 1 (R) C. in C. Med. S/M P.35 sails 0400B/10 for Alexandria routed through 035° 51' N 015° 15' E and 034° 50' N 020° 00' E or as ordered by Capt (S) 1. (2) Lieut. Alexander and Sub. Lieut. Ebelare passengers. (Ends.) (V.A. Malta 1048B/10 to S/MS on Patrol. THRASHER, (R) Capt (S) 1, C. in C. Med.) Sailed - see movements below.

Appointments.

- (1) Vice Adm. R.H.C. Hallifax, C.B. is to assume command as Flag Officer, Red Sea and Canal Area, to date 18/5/1942, with short title F.O.R.S.C.A.
- (2) Rear Adm. R.J.R. Scott is appointed Rear Admiral, Training Establishments, Mediterranean, to date 18/5/1942 with short title R.A.T.E.
- (3) Capt. C.A.A. Larcom D.S.O. R.N. is appointed Commodore I.C. Aden, with rank of Commodore 2nd Class from date of assuming appointment. Short title, Commodore Aden.
- (4) Capt. E.S. Graham R.N. is appointed N.O.I.C. Suez on relief by Cdre. C.A.A. Larcom D.S.O.
- (5) Flag of V.A. Hallifax will continue to be flown at Suez. Flag of R.A. Scott is to be transferred from Ismailia to CANOPUS at 0800 on 18/5. (C. in C. Med. 1119C/10 to S and A Med. Stn. (R) Admty. etc.)

Cositrep
No.352.

2. Air. Summary for week ending 9/5. Bad weather hampered operations on 4 days and 4 nights. 4 night bombing attacks in Benghazi Port. 2 ships hit. 2 unsuccessful attacks on Southbound enemy convoy 3 merchant ships by night and day respectively, heavy night attack

/on same...

War Diary.10.5.1942.
Sunday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean. conts:

Malta Air Report. Contd. 10th. 4 alerts 0254 0550 0820 1000 hrs. ME.109s, 10 JU.88s, 20 JU.87s. Grand Harbour, gun mounting store (Smitoory?) boiler shop further damage. Elsewhere 1 civilian wounded. 1 JU.88, 8 JU.87 destroyed, 6 JU.87, 4 JU.88, 2 ME.109 probably destroyed, 5 JU.87, 3 JU.88, 5 ME.109 damaged by 7 Hurricanes 57 Spitfires, engaged enemy aircraft through barrage, 2 were destroyed, 1 pilot missing, other wounded. A.A. destroyed 2 JU.88, 1 JU.87, 1 ME.109. (H.Q. R.A.F. Malta 1945/10)

UNA. Your 2347C/6. My position 034° 05' 026° 45' E.T.A. 0530C/13. Weather report. (UNA 2105C/10 to Capt. S.I. (R) S/Ms on Patrol. etc.)

Enemy Units, THRASHER. At 2130C/10 P.C. and S of 2 merchant ships, 2 destroyers 037° 43' 017° 56' 175° 10 knots. My 1931/9 amend position to read 034° 05' 018° 13' (Capt. S.I. 2221C/10 to THRASHER.)

RAMB IV bombed and sunk. Hospital ship ^{31°}RAMB IV bombed and set on fire at 0900/10 in (? 39° 17' N 29° 33' E.) while returning to Alexandria fully loaded with patients from Tobruk. Attack was by single A/C flying at great height and not previously seen. Visibility excellent, markings clearly painted. One bomb hit in after ward and intense fire spread immediately. Afterwards could not be approached and casualties feared to be about 150 mostly patients. Remainder of crew and patients have been landed ? Alexandria. Efforts to get fire under control have failed and ship is being sunk. (C. in C. Med. 2232/10 to Admty. (R) R.A. Alexandria. G.H.Q. M.E.)

WELSHMAN. WELSHMAN was closely examined by JU.88 at 1000B/9 and later by another at greater distance whilst in French disguise. Guns were kept fore and aft. Thereafter no aircraft sighted and no attack developed although WELSHMAN passed South of Sardinia in daylight.

2. Only other excitement was on arrival off Grand Harbour where she found BERYL and TRUSTY STAR on patrol in hot and successful action with three E-Boats who fired torpedoes at BERYL but were repeatedly hit and driven off almost certain without sighting WELSHMAN.
3. WELSHMAN entered harbour having cut two mines at 0525 and secured in No.5 dock at 0615.
4. Cargo unloaded started at 0630 and finished at 1330 of which time one hour was wasted under alert.
5. For details of raid and smoke screen see my 2337/10. (p.344) (V.A. Malta 2351B/10 to C. in C. Med. (R) Admty. etc.)

ARCHER Martlets. Under consideration that ARCHER should be used in connection with June Malta convoy from Alexandria. Request you will report whether 10 Martlets are available for embarkation and if so where they are. (A.C.N.S.(F) 2355B/10 to C. in C. Med.)

See pp 306, 307
314

10.5.1942.
Sunday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

Movements. Colombo arrivals 9/5 0200Z Dutch S/M O.19. 0400Z Dutch S/M O.23, 0500Z SUTLEJ. Departure 0340Z MARGUERITE, 0300Z SONAVATI.
 (S.O.(I) Colombo, 0231Z/10 to Admty etc).
 (N.O.I.C. Seychelles, 0501Z/10 to Admty etc).
 EREBUS left. (N.O.I.C. E. Africa, 0633Z/10 to C. in C. E.I.)
 Mombasa left 10/5. 0630 G.M.T. RANCHI.
 Colombo arrivals 10/5, 0430Z, NAPIER, departure (03?) 50Z FALMOUTH.
 (S.O.(I) Colombo, 1206Z/10 to Admty etc).
 Arrival 1145Z ROSALIND, departure 1200Z hospital ship DORSETSHIRE due Karachi (?13th).
 (S.O.(I) Bombay, 1211Z/10 to Admty etc).

INDOMITABLE. Request you will release INDOMITABLE forthwith unless her retention is essential. She requires 3 weeks harbour time to make good outstanding machinery defects.
 (C. in C. E.F., 0231Z/10 to S.O. Force F. (R) F.O.A/C.C. Admty).

C. in C. E.F. military adviser. From my experience of requirements of Indian Ocean Base particularly during development period I would recommend you arrange for an officer with Military experience to be appointed to your staff. (a) To advise on military aspect of defence (b) To act as Liaison Officer between you and Military authorities concerned in regard to installation of defence and on administrative matters. (c) To visit and report on base as required. (d) To act as your representative on future military R/C parties.
 (2) If you concur, strongly recommend Lieut. Col. Lukis, R.M. be appointed. Preparation of Bases and has had frequent dealings with Army authorities in India. This appointment would have the added advantage that he is himself a member of Mobile Naval Base Defence Organisation.
 (3) Advise he be given acting rank of Brigadier.
 (C. in C. E.I., 0334Z/10 to C. in C. E.F., (R) Admty etc).

Japanese aircraft. My 0651/13/4, item 6, for downwards read upwards. Add new item (8) parachutes are carried. Admty 2243/11/4. Technical examination continues.
 (C.S. Colombo, 0427Z/10 to N.O.I.C. Kilindini for C. in C. E.F. etc).

Port F. A.M.1414/16/4. Para.5. F.O.C.R.I.N. 0714/29/4
 C. in C. E.I. 0543/4/5. Work now in hand at Port F includes (details).

Before sanctioning expenditure Govt. of India will need to be informed that H.M.G. approved in principle proposal to develop Port F as operational base. Please move Chiefs of Staff to communicate approval very urgently.
 (F.O.C.R.I.N., 0631Z/10 to Admty (R) C. in C. E.I., C. in C. E.F.)

/Cocos...

War Diary.10.5.42.
Sunday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies. - Contin.

Cocos Island Mutiny. On 9/5 part of military garrison at Cocos Island attempted to effect armed mutiny with intention to murder officers and seize command of battery. Attempt failed but there were some casualties.

G.O.C. Ceylon urgently requests arrangements to (?send) relief to Cocos. Intend to detail SUTLEJ for this duty. She is the only ship at my disposal with necessary endurance and accommodation. (C. in C. E.I., 0711Z/10 to C. in C. E.F. (R) Admty. etc.)

Fleet Oilers. Following tankers are Fleet attendant oilers:-
PEARLEAF, APPLELEAF, CEDARDALE, BROOMDALE, OLCADES, OLWEN, OLYNTHUS, FORTOL, RAPIDOL, GOLD RANGER, ATHELMERE, BRITISH COLONEL, BRITISH COMMODORE, ECHODALE, EASEDALE, EAGLESDALE, ATHELMONARCH, NORDANGER, BRITISH AMBASSADOR, BRITISH GENIUS, BRITISH LOYALTY, BRITISH MERCHANT, MARIT, BADARPUR, ALCIDES, CLYDEFIELD, DORYSSA, NYHOLM, CLEODORA, VARDAAS, SEPIA, SUDERHOLM. 2. Arrival or departure of any of the above is to be reported to C. in C. E.F. S.O. (I) Colombo, S.O.(I) Bombay, S.O. (I) Kilindini, S.O.(I) Aden, and Admty prefixed important.

3. Arrival signal is to include name, date and word arrived.

4. Departure signal name, date, word left and destination.

5. These signals are to be additional to the usual Vesca and route signal.

6. Adjacent stations are requested to conform. (C. in C. E.I., 0752Z/10 to E.I. Stn. (R) Admty).

LUCIA C. in C. S.A.'s 1446/8 (Improvements may be taken in hand, N.T. in W.D.) Propose repair quoted in D.S.R. Bombay 0625 third para. and improvements to my 1011Z/27 may be carried out and ship sailed for Colombo when she can be usefully employed as S/M repair ship. (D.C. in C. E.F., 0947Z/10 to C. in C. E.F.)

Eastern Fleet. Mombasa arrived 10/5 1055 G.M.T. WARSPITE (Flag of C. in C. E.F.) FORMIDABLE, NEWCASTLE, FOXHOUND, NESTOR, NORMAN, DECOY. (F.O.E.A. 1123Z/10 to C. in C. E.I., (R) Admty. etc.)

W.S.17 A. N.C.S.O. Durban's 0847Z/1 para. 12 amend E.T.A. to read Aden 1200Z/14 Bombay, 0100Z/16, Basra 0500Z/17 Karachi 0100Z/16. (?F.O.E.A., 1201Z/10 to Admty. etc.)

Operation "Ironclad". Your 1202/8 and your 1851/9. Please convey to P.M. and Chief of Staff grateful thanks of Gen. Sturges and myself and of all under our command for their kind messages which have been promulgated to all concerned. (S.O. Force F., 1243C/10 to Admty.) My 0859/10 to Admty. only (N.T. in W.D.) Your 2201B/9 (N.T. in W.D.) number (78) received. Following additional numbers now missing. 68, 69, 71 to 74 inclusive 77. Request brief statement of situation as I am not aware of Their Lordships intentions. (S.O. Force F. 1616C/10 to Admty. (R) C. in C. E.F.)

War Diary.10.5.1942.
Sunday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies - Contd.

Operation "Ironclad".
Contd. W.R. Notes. 68 M.S.1937/8 (D.O.D. (F))
69 1034/9 (D.S.D) 71 M.S.1435/9 (D.O.D. (F)).
72 M.S.1441/9 (D.O.D. (F)) 73 1601/9 (D.S.O.)
74 1605 /9 (D.S.O) 77 2002/9 (D.O.D. (F))
Nr. 72 (1441/9) which was in SPO2171) has been
repeated as 1233/10, in view of 0859/11 (not circulated).
Nrs. 68, 69, 71, 73, 74, 77 are being re-broadcast vide 1810/10
to Colombo W/T and to Force F (not circulated).

Air
Report.

A.913. Intelligence summary No. 56 on information
received up to 1800 hrs. 10/5. Burma, 10/5.
Comilla 90 miles N.N.W. of Chittagong bombed by
enemy aircraft at 1220 8/5. No details yet
available. Bay of Bengal - 9/5 one enemy A/C
made a R/C of Calcutta district between 0745
and 0848 hrs.
(A.H.Q., India, 1605/10).

DANAE,
CERES.

Request you appear off Jask on morning of 12th
while I appear simultaneously (corrupt group)
Gulf which is all part of the game. Suggest
you anchor position 180° Ras Salib light 5.5
cables at Khor Kuwai where I will meet you 12th. SEA BELLE and
Neth. Sloop SOEMBA will be patrolling Hormuz Straits.
(DANAE, 1759Z/10 to CERES (R) .S.N.O.P.G.

U/B in
W. Indian
Ocean.

Japanese Naval Unit, probably U-boat, call sign
RA.A. bore 185° from Aden at 1618Z/7, frequency
7740 Kcs. This is the first indication of a
Japanese U-boat operating in Western Indian
Ocean.
(C. in C. E.F., 2217Z/10 to Admty).

ARCHER.

Under consideration that ARCHER should be used
in connection with June Malta Convoy from
Alexandria. 2. Report (a) whether 10 Martlets
are available for embarkation in ARCHER and if so
where they are.
(b) how long it is estimated it would take to
embark them assuming they are at Kilindini
(A.C.N.S. (F) 2352B/10 to Cdre. N.A.S. E.I. (R)
C. in C. E.F. etc). *See pp 306, 307, 9 311*

War Diary.10.5.1942.
Sunday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America & West Indies.

O.N.90. May 9 Arrivals. BROADWAY, ST. FRANCIS ex O N.90
C.L.34. Departures LINCOLN, KENOGAMI, SNOWBERRY,
CHEDABUCTO to O N 90. ALBERNI escorting C.L.34
to Halifax.
(F.O.N.F. 0118Z/10 to Admty.)

U/B Intercepted 2215 G.M.T. WGBC 1 DE NSS. 2027/9 Sub
Attacks. sighted 3525 N 7520 W at 1915 GCT/9. O. S/M
attack 26.24 N. 80.01 W. at 0800 Z X 0933/9.
O. S/M sighted 41.15 N. 71.15 W. at 1925 E.W.T.
0400/9. O. sub. attack 44.15 N. 63.25 W. at 0130 G.M.T. 0150/9.
Controlling station Annaoplis Maryland Radio.
(Portishead Radio No.T.O.O. Recd. 0125/10)

U/B Within 60 miles 34° N. 75.30 W. at 2212Z/9.
Fixes (N.S.H.Q., 0213Z/10). Within 75 miles 26.30 N.
by D/F. 88° W. at 0156Z/10. (N.S.H.Q. 0450Z/10).
Within 100 miles 18° N. 81.30 W. at 0505Z/10.
(N.S.H.Q. 0716Z/10). Within 60 miles 18.30 N.
80.30 W. at 0631Z/10. (N.S.H.Q. 0826Z/10)
Within 100 miles 34° N. 68.30 W. at 0839Z/10.
(N.S.H.Q. 1345Z/10).

U.S. Your 86223 (Q).(M).2a) 1700/4/5. Americans
Troop propose sail MARIPOSA, SANTA PAULA, CHATEAU THIERRY
Convoy. in convoy for Indian Ocean end May due Cape end
June. MARIPOSA and SANTA PAULA embarking 10th
Air Corps strength 5500 for India and details
for Massawa and Cairo go through to Karachi, but
CHATEAU THIERRY to turn round at Cape if possible.
(Brit. Army Staff, Washington 0508/10 to W.O.)

U/B Intercept 0416 G.M.T. DE NAA. WGBC1 O. Sub.
Attack. attack 27.39 N. 79.71 W. 0329 G.C.T.10/5.
0331/10. Controlling Station Arlington Virginia
Radio.
(Portishead Radio No.T.O.O., Recd. 0634/10)

U/B Intercepted 0709 GMT. WCBC 5 DE WNF. S/M
Report. sighted 26.52 N. 86.37 W. Commandant 8th Naval
District. WNF not in lists, call sign possibly
WBF then Controlling Station Hingham Mass. Radio.
(Portishead Radio, T.H.I. 0909 B.S.T./10)

Escort Group C T F 24's 1205/6. HAVELOCK with PIMPERNEL,
B.5. LAVENDER and GODETIA in company arrived Bermuda
a.m./10 and report to you for (?orders). I have
instructed ships to sail for Trinidad p.m./10 via
Anegada passage at 12 knots in anticipation of
your approval. Guarding normal British
communication channels.
C.in C.A.W.I. 1052/10 to Com.10. C.in C.U.S.Fleet,
C.in C. Lant, Admty., HAVELOCK.)

/ Take ...

War Diary.10.5.1942.
Sunday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America & West Indies. (contd.)

Escort Group B.5. (contd.) Take PIMPERNEL, LAVENDER and GODETIA under your orders and leave Bermuda p.m./10. Proceed by most direct route to Trinidad via Anegada passage adjusting speed so as to arrive Trinidad as soon after daylight on 15/5 as possible.
(C.in C. A.W.I. 1212P/10 to H.M.S.HAVELOCK.
(R) PIMPERNEL, LAVENDER, GODETIA, Admty., B.A.D., OPNAV, N.O.i/c Trinidad, S.O.(I) Kingston, Com. 10).

Bermuda arrivals and departures. HAVELOCK, PIMPERNEL, LAVENDER and GODETIA in accordance with my 1212/10. Bermuda arrivals WARWICK.
(C.in C. A.W.I. 2107P/10 to Admty. (R) B.A.D. etc.)

U/B Reports. Received 2220 GMT. De NSS Annapolis. WGBC 1 V NAA Arlington, S/M sighted 38.48 N. 74.56 W. at 1830Z/10. 2140/10. WGBC 1 V NAA S/M sighted 34.26 N. 76.13 W. at 2019Z/10. 2027/10. WGBC 1 V NAA. Sub.attack 27.39 N. 79.51 W. 0329 GCT/10. 0331/10. WGBC 4 V NAA S/M sighted 10.38 N. 79.30 W. at 1050Z. 1458/10. Controlling station Annapolis Radio.
(Portishead Radio, T.H.I. 1220/10)

PORT ST. JOHN. Your 1554/7. PORT ST. JOHN arrived Colon 7th. Sailed Balboa 8th. See COMMNS (as decoded) 1441/7.
(N.S.H.Q.Ottawa 1436Z/10 to S.O.I. Kingston).

EMPIRE BUFFALO, U/B. Chief Officer of EMPIRE BUFFALO (BR) report S/M minimum 500 tons, light grey, no markings, conning tower shaped like top of mushroom, one gun forward about 4 inch, one A/A gun aft, crew judged Italian owing to dark complexions and from features.
S/M viewed from very close.
(S.O.I.Jamaica 1504R/10 to Admty. etc.)

DUPE ISLAND (torpedoed 6/5.) My 1149R/9. All Books overboard weighted deep Water. Captain describes S/M very large, about 2000 tons, gray oval C/T, 1 gun aft about 5", 1 forward possibly A/A. Full details awaited from U.S. Naval Intelligence.
(S.O.I. Jamaica 1516R/10 to Admty. etc.)

Movements. Departures POLYANTHUS to St.John's N.F., WALKER, COLUMBIA, CALGARY, MIDLAND Western Local Escort H X 189.
(S.O.I. Halifax 1517Z/10 to Admty. etc.)

LADY DRAKE (sunk 5/5). Your 1612/8. Report number of survivors of 51 Barbadian technicians (including leader) on board and names of missing, if any, also disposal of survivors.
(D.S.T.1711B/10 to C.in C.A.W.I., N.S.H.Q.)
Reply: C.in C. A.W.I. 1204/11.

/ Cape

War Diary.10.5.1942.
Sunday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America & West Indies. (contd.)

Cape Palmas Area. Need for A/S aircraft. (Air Min., 1712/10)
See South Atlantic.

Grand Cayman. Navy Dept. have received following urgent request from Com. Panama Sea Frontier for permission to lay down facilities in Grand Cayman Island for refuelling flying boat patrol aircraft starting operations on temporary basis 11/5. Can Governor be approached with view to grant facilities without delay? Suggest approval be signalled direct to C.P.S.F.
(B.A.D. 1721Z/10 to N.O.I.C. Kingston, C.in C. A.W.I. (R) Admty.)
B.A.D.1721/10. Concur. Request you will approach Governor accordingly.
(C.in C. A.W.I. 1822P/10 to N.O.I.C. Jamaica.)

MONT LOUIS. MONT LOUIS Canadian torpedoed 1205 G.M.T./8
008° 23' N. 058° 44' W. 8 survivors picked up by Schooner landed Georgetown 1845 G.M.T./10, 13 missing.
(N.C.S.O. Georgetown 1722/10 to C.in C. A.W.I.)

Use of "X" in Signals. In U.S. Signalling the letter X is employed in lieu of punctuation marks. In order to avoid possible source of error in the future, Navy Department would prefer letters other than X to be used for designating last letter of special convoys, e.g. W.S. 15Z.
(B.A.D.1727Z/10 to Admty.)

U/B Report. PBY en route Jamaica Trinidad, Signals mutilated, reports S/M sighted and forced to dive in approx. 17.00 N. 75.00 W. at approx. noon today G.M.T. F.O.i/c Trinidad requested confirm position.
(S.O.I.Jamaica 1748R/10 to Admty. etc.)

Training at R.N.A.S. Piarco. Your 2047/5 and F.O.I.C.Trinidad 1021/6. Difficulty is due to entirely different appreciation regarding likelihood of attack on Trinidad. We have selected the island as a suitable place for training F.A.A. observers on account of its probable immunity from any sustained attack, whereas Americans look upon it as a bastion for defence of Caribbean and South America. Suggest matter should be taken up on a high plane.
(C.in C. A.W.I. 1752P/10 to Admty. (R) F.O.I.C. Trinidad).

U.S.Troop Convoy. Your 2035/9. Can provide escort Battleship 4 destroyers Charleston on 27/5. Can carry above escort to about 37° without refuelling destroyers at sea. Providing weather permits refuelling destroyers at sea and there is time to arrive on schedule all or part of escort can continue to 26° W.
(C.in C.Atlantic Fleet U.S. 1818Z/10 to C.in C. U.S.Fleet. (R) Admty., B.A.D., R.A.West Africa, C.E.S.F., C.C.S.F., ALUSNOB, Freetown, N.O.B.Bermuda, C.T.F.23.)

War Diary.

10.5.1942.
Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies - Contd.

TABORFJELL (Nor). sailed New York 29/4 due Montreal 6/5 reported not arrived. (N.S.H.Q., Ottawa, 1821Z/10 to Admty, Opanav, C.O.A.C., F.O.N.F.)

U/B Sub. attack and sighting summary. U.S.C.G.C. Intelligence. ICARUS sank U-boat 34° 2' N., 76° 35' W., at 2040Z/9. 33 members of U-boat crew landed at U/B sunk (U.352) by ICARUS, (U.S.) Charleston. No further details. LUBRAFOL torpedoed 26° 24' N. 80° 01' W., at 0815Z/9. ~~See 9/5 - p. 262.~~ Torpedo missed GREYLOCK 44° 15' N., 63° 25' W. at 0130Z/9. AURORA torpedoed 28° 35' N., 90° W. at 0730Z/10. Sub. on surface 08° 40' N., 58° 50' W., at 1137Z/9 Sub sighted 35° 28' N., 75° 21' W., approx. 2145Z/9. (C. in C. U.S. Fleet, 1946Z/10 to Admty).

MILWAUKEE, From Recife to Ascension U.S. Cruiser MILWAUKEE MOFFETT. U.S. Destroyer MOFFETT, E.T.A. 14/5. Departing same day for patrol northward of Equator between 26° W., and 30° W., Admty pass to R.A. West Africa. (C. in C. U.S. Fleet, 2050/10 to Admty etc).

BURNHAM, BURNHAM escorting tanker convoy consisting of tanker ALAR, BRITAMER, and VANCOLITE left New York 5/5 escort. for Trinidad for onward instructions to Caripito to load. E.T.A. Trinidad 16/5. Request you will issue necessary instructions and sail these ships on completion of loading for Halifax in convoy escorted by BURNHAM calling at Bermuda if necessary for BURNHAM to fuel. (C. in C. A.W.I., 2232P/10 to N.O.I.C. Trinidad (R) C.E.S.F., C.C.S.F., etc).

EMPIRE STORY EMPIRE STORY from St. John N.B. 3/5 for Bombay sunk. via Capetown went aground 3/5 efforts to tow failed, ship sank 4/5 in approx. 44.35 N., 66.19.30 W. (N.S.H.Q., Ottawa, 2248Z/10 to Admty).

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10.5.1942.
Sunday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.Australia & New Zealand.TONGARIRO,
U/B claimed
sunk.

British TONGARIRO, independent Wellington to Table Bay and Liverpool, was engaged by a S/M 120 miles N.W. of Cape Leeuwin, W. Australia, at 0502/3/3. TONGARIRO returned fire and with her fourth shot hit S/M under conning tower. Enemy disappeared and about an hour later a heavy explosion was heard. S/M believed sunk. (D.O.R., 996).

Situation.

Serial No. 108 from C.W.R. 9/5.

Following Enemy Shipping sighted 9/5. Allied Aircraft report indicates enemy force comprising of 1 Battleship, 2 Aircraft Carriers, 5 Cruisers, 4 Destroyers, position 017° 30' S., 152° 30' E., at 2100Z/8, Course 110°. Faisi Buin Area (Solomon Islands) 3 cruisers 4 destroyers, 3 Merchant Ships, 1 Tanker, 0707Z/9. Salomoa, 1 Merchant Ship. Lae, 1 Merchant Ship, 1 small Cargo Vessel 4 small Barges 0055Z/9, 007° 37' S., 153° 30' E., at 2359Z/8. 2 Destroyers and Merchant Ship 2359Z/8. Deboyne Island 0400Z/9, 1 Seaplane tender, possibly a Tanker, 6 Sloops, or Gunboats, 2 Torpedo Boats, 15 Seaplanes. Tender attacked by Aircraft, damaged but not sunk. 1 Seaplane sunk, 3 damaged. 1 Cruiser at 2300Z/8, 011° 58' S., 153° 15' E. 1 Submarine at 0125Z/9., 016° 30' S. 153° 20' E.

- (2) 11 Zero Fighters attacked Pt. Moresby Aerodrome 2142Z/8. 4 P.39s. intercepted. 1 Zero probably crashed, 2 probably damaged. 1 P.39 destroyed, 1 damaged, 2 P.40s., 2 B.25s. 2 A.24s. damaged, 40 to 50 Drums of Oil burned. Few casualties.
- (3) Enemy Air R/C 9/5 Area West of Samarai.
- (4) Unconfirmed report dated 8/5 states 200 Japanese landed at Tulagi, others at Gavutu and Makambo Island.
- (5) Ref. Serial No. 106, para. 2 JOHN ADAM blew up 6/5. 2 boat loads of survivors located 9/5. (A.C.N.B., 1431Z/10 to Admty etc).

Australian
and New
Zealand
Boards.

Consequent on inclusion of Australia and New Zealand in S.W. Pacific and S. Pacific areas respectively, it would appear that a number of duties and responsibilities previously borne by the Dominion Boards have now been taken over by Americans and it is not clear what responsibilities remain in the hands of the Boards.

2. Requested that you will inform Admty of extent to which the Boards still function as such and the line of demarcation between their authority and that of the American Force Commanders. (Head of M. Approved by A.C.N.S. (F), 2107B/10 to A.C.N.B., N.Z.N.B., (R) B.A.D.) Reply from Australia. (A.C.N.B., 0541Z/16)

Movements.

STUART left Melbourne 0111Z/10 for R/V with convoy, thence Adelaide. Arrival Williamstown, 0545Z/10 GERALDTON from Sydney (N.S.W.) U.S.

Destroyer* WALKER arrived Townsville 1540Z/9 departed for Brisbane 1900Z/9. Arrival Noumea 0055/10 U.S. Destroyers WORDEN, HELM, MONAGHAN, escorting U.S. Tanker TIPPECANOE. (A.C.N.B., 2356Z/10 to Admty etc).

*E note - WALKER left Halifax N.S. 10/5 - see p. 316.

War Diary.

10.5.1942.
Sunday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Submarines Reported.

Estimated U/B positions.
(D.D.I.C., 1413B/10, 1415B/10).

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War Diary.11.5.1942.
Monday.SITUATION REPORT.Home Commands.

There was no result from P.R.U. reconnaissance of Trondheim today.

M.G.B. mining op: off Denmark - See 10/5 - p. 293
9/12/5 - p. 364

North Atlantic.

The Spanish and Portuguese Governments are to be informed that particulars of ships over 1000 tons moving north of Vigo are to be notified to us 72 hours before time of sailing. Further ships are expected from Japan with cargoes of raw materials and there are indications that others will shortly sail outward bound with cargoes for Japan. This trade is of the highest importance to the enemy. The warning to the Spanish and Portuguese Govts. will be considered operative after 26 May.

Mediterranean.

H.M. Tug C.308 was mined and sunk off the Grand Harbour, Malta early this morning when returning from a minesweeping operation. A spherical 5 horn contact mine was recovered.

Operation
M.G.2.
LIVELY
KIPLING
JACKAL
sunk.

Capt. D.14's force was sighted by aircraft and turned back at 1445 as ordered. At 1640 an enemy bombing attack developed and LIVELY was sunk in 33° 24' N 25° 38' E. Further attack followed and at 2007 KIPLING was sunk and JACKAL damaged in 32° 38' N 26° 20' E. JACKAL was taken in tow by JERVIS but had to be sunk at 0452/12 in 32° 33' N 26° 25' E. Between 500 and 600 officers and men were saved from the 3 destroyers. Several enemy aircraft were damaged or destroyed.

East Indies.

Operations against Majunga and Tamatave are to be undertaken with all speed.

A summary of the state of the main units of the Eastern Fleet is given by C. in C. E.F. today.

War Diary.

11.5.1942.
Monday.

SITUATION REPORT.

America and West Indies.

SS. CAPE OF GOOD HOPE was torpedoed today in 22° 45' N 58° 25' W and a ship was attacked by a U-Boat in 34° 11' N 76° 27' W.

S.B.N.O. Curacao considers that the proposed convoys from Curacao to Trinidad should not disperse until well east of the Windward Islands. Admiral Oldendorf concurs in his views.

The present assignment of U.S. submarines is given in B.A.D. Washington 2341Z/11.

Australia.

Three U.S. heavy bombers attacked shipping at Kessa (Buka I, off Bougainville) at 0001Z today, obtaining near misses on 3 transports.

Nineteen heavy bombers raided Port Moresby at 0205Z today, damaging some aircraft.

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11.5.1942.
Monday.War Diary.HOME COMMANDS.Policy.

North Atlantic dispositions. Disposition of Operational Units in North Atlantic Operating in Area North Russia; Four Destroyers. Area Iceland; WASHINGTON, TUSCALOOSA, WICHITA, NORFOLK, KENT, LIVERPOOL, Four Destroyers (U.S.) Two Destroyers.

Area Scapa; DUKE OF YORK, NELSON, RODNEY, VICTORIOUS, LONDON, NIGERIA, Five Destroyers.

Area Clyde; KENYA.

Passage to South Atlantic; MAURITIUS.

Area Gibraltar; ARGUS, EAGLE, CHARYBDIS.

Passage to U.K. RENOWN, WASP, Two Destroyers (U.S.) Two Destroyers. (D.O.D.(H) 1215Z/11 to C. in C. U.S.Fleet).

KYLECLARE. My 1833/27/4. Interception of KYLECLARE. Dublin refers to "machinegun bursts," by two aircraft when ship was in Irish territorial waters. As formal protest is expected request full details of interception. (A.C.N.S.(H) 1327B/11 to C. in C. Plymouth).

Defence of U.K.

Rosyth Your 1531B/10 approved.
A/A (D.of L.D. 1701B/11 to C. in C. Rosyth).
Defences.

Movements.

2nd M.L. My 1923B/10 and N.O.I.C.Ramsgate 2124/10. M.L's
Flotilla. 119, 171, 128, and 213 will be relieved and are to be sailed to Portsmouth.
(C. in C. Portsmouth 1126B/11 to V.A.Dover).
M.T.A.W.D. My 2050B/10. Postponed 24 hours.
(N.O.I.C.Ramsgate. 1240B/11).

AZALEA. A.M. 1256B/5.
EMPIRE (1) AZALEA, EMPIRE CONRAD, are to sail Clyde 13/5.
CONRAD to Milford Haven, thence SPIREA and 29th M.L.
SPIREA. Flotilla when weather forecast is suitable.
29th (2) Route by Q.Z.F. 18 thence:
M.L.F. (A) 50° 02' N, 14° 58' W. (B). 48° 03' N. 15° 59' W.
(C) 43° 01' N. 15° 59' W. thence unless otherwise directed by F.O.C.N.A. to
(D). 36° 30' N. 11° 03' W. thence Gibraltar. (
(3) In the event of separation AZALEA is to remain with EMPIRE CONRAD.
(C. in C.W.A. 1420B/11).

P.211. 1. Intend sailing P.211, TRAVELLER, and P.43 escorted
TRAVELLER. by LA CAPRICIEUSE at 2200B/14 for position (A)
P.43. 360° Bishop Rock 7 miles. E.T.A. 2300B/16.
2. Thence LA CAPRICIEUSE returns to Holy Loch.
3. Thence TRAVELLER diving by day through:
(B) 49° 42', 06° 59' (C) 48° 59', 13° 01' to (D) 42° 59', 13° 01'.
E.T.A. 0200B/22.

/Thence.....

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Monday.HOME COMMANDS.Movements.

P.211. 4. Thence P.43 diving by day through;
 TRAVELLER (E) 49° 20', 13° 02' to (F) 42° 59', 13° 02'
 P.43. E.T.A. 0530B/23.
 5. Thence P. 211 diving by day through;
 (G) 49° 59', 14° 01' to (H) 42° 59', 14° 01'
 E.T.A. 2300B/23.
 6. From positions (D), (F) and (H) submarine proceed Gib. as
 ordered by F.O.C.N.A.
 7. N.O.I.C. Greenock is requested arrange fighter co-operation
 as follows
 (Capt.S.3. 1421B/11).

H.44 Sailed my 1355/9.
 AZALEA. (WESTERN ISLES. 1600/11)

BROOKLYN The following arrangements have been made in
 SWANSON concert with Commaveu:-
 NICHOLSON. 1. BROOKLYN to proceed as convenient to Clyde.
 2. SWANSON and NICHOLSON to remain at Clyde to
 escort C.T.16.
 3. Remaining destroyers of C.T.F. 38 to proceed to Londonderry
 as convenient to await orders.
 4. Request you will sail ships accordingly.
 (A.C.N.S.(H) 1855B/11). See p. 334

CROCUS. Request information as to when CROCUS should be
 sailed from Tobermory. Full working up at
 Tobermory will not be completed before 25/5.
 (WESTERN ISLES 2325B/11 to Admty.).

Operations.

Return of On completion of fuelling proceed to Seidisfiord
 TRINIDAD. arriving by 1800B/12.
 (C.S.10 0109B/11 to NORFOLK).
 Scapa departure R.A. 10th C.S. in NIGERIA escorted
 by INGLEFIELD and ESCAPADE.
 (A.C.O.S. 1002/11 to R.N.O. Seidisfiord).
 Your 1220B/11. Suggest if fog persists you could proceed direct
 to Saidis Fjord and oil there.
 (N.O.I.C. Iceland 1421B/11 to NORFOLK).
 My 2052B/10 para. (4). Force will proceed, screened by 9 destroyers
 passing Hoxa at 0630B/13, route through position (X) 062° 10' N.
 004° 30' W. to arrive in position (Z) 66° 01' N, 09° 59' W. at
 1230B/14. Thence on course 50°.
 2. Cdr. U.S. Task Force 99 in U.S. Battleship WASHINGTON, with
 destroyer screen, is requested meet me in position (Z).
 3. C. in C. Rosyth is requested arrange A/S air and long range
 fighter escort.
 (C. in C. 2312B/11).

/NORFOLK.....

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War Diary.11.5.1942.
Monday.HOME COMMANDS.Operations.Return of
~~TRINIDAD~~.
Contd.NORFOLK arrived Hvalfiord 1830B.
(A.C.I.C.2351B/11 to C. in C.H.F., C.S.10).Search
for Enemy
Vessels.

At 2230/10 when R.D.F. detected one or two large vessels with about six escorts probably M Class Sweepers leaving Boulogne Eastwards, M.G.B.'s 41, 46, and 32 were despatched to lay R mines in vicinity of No.1 Calais Buoy and M.T.B.'s 220, 221, and 219 with M.G.B.'s 9 and 7 in support, to attack near Dunkirk A.W.buoy. Already poor conditions of fresh easterly winds deteriorated with heavy rain, so that visibility was very low. M.G.B.32 developed engine defects and when she dropped out M.G.B. 46 lost touch, so that only M.G.B 41 laid mines. No result was observed but some mines were heard to explode within a minute of laying. Some Star Shell from shore was fired in direction of M.G.B.41 shortly after minelaying was completed.

M.T.B's were unable to make contact in low visibility. All boats returned by 0300/11 except M.G.B.7 who was an hour later having been damaged in collision with M.G.B.9. (V.A.Dover 0934B/11 to Admty.). *See p. 364.*

Special M.G.B
Operation.

Weather permitting special operation will be carried out by M.G.B. Flotilla 6th, in vicinity of R.B.14.
(C. in C. Nore 1146B/11 to BEEHIVE).

KC.4.

KC.4. Carry out operation tonight. Details. (C. in C. Portsmouth 1157B/11 to M.T.B.11th Flotilla).
Cancel my 1157/11.
(C. in C. Portsmouth 1748B/11 to M.T.B.F.).

Attacks on
Convoy
PQ.15.

Details.(S.B.N.O.North Russia 1449B/11)
See Shipping.

Patrols.

4 M.T.B's and 4 Destroyers patrolling Eastward.
2 M.L. on patrol 10 miles South of Portland.
(C. in C. Portsmouth 1537B/11 and 1917B/11).
M.L.'s 138 and 143 on O.D.6 and 7 combined.

M.L.'s 222 and 207 from Ramsgate patrolling between Dumpton and North East Spit Buoys E.T.D. 2230 E.T.R. 0530/12.
M.G.B's 322, 328, 330 patrolling near No.2. buoy from 2330 to cover N.L.6.C.

→ M.G.B's 41, 46, and 13 at V Buoy from 2230, in readiness to operate with R mines against shipping using Dunkirk West roads. Trawlers KINGSCOURT and ONETOS sweeping from Dover to Dumpton E.T.D. 0130/12 E.T.R. 0800/12.
(V.A.Dover, 1916B/11).

/JZ.....

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11.5.1942.
Monday.War Diary.HOME COMMANDS.Operations.Op:
JZ.

CALPE is to take other ships addressed under his orders and sail so as to pass E.A.3 buoy at 2130. Force is to proceed to vicinity of C.2 buoy and act in accordance with instructions for operation J.Z. Force is not to proceed east of 001° E. If no report of enemy leaving Boulogne is received, force is to return to E.A.3 buoy by 0730/12. In any case force is to be within 40 miles of English coast by 0530/12.
(C. in C. Portsmouth 1847B/11 to CALPE, BLENCATHRA, BERKELEY, ALBRIGHTON, 11th M.T.B.Flottilla).

N.W.
Norway
S/M
Patrol.

My 1101/10, paras.(1) and (3). Add further 24 hours to amended times.
(F.O.S.2204B/11).

Exercises.THUNDERBOLT.
3 Destroyers.
3 Trawlers
1 M.L.

A S/M will be exercising in Dartmouth S/M area from 0800/12 till 1530/12, thence to area D. off Plymouth, and in area D from 2200/12 till 0515/13, thence to Plymouth.
(C. in C. Plymouth 1740B/11).
Request fighter protection.

1. S/M, 3 destroyers, 3 trawlers, 1 M.L. from 0800 to last light 12th and first light 13th till arrival.
At 0800/12 S/M and 3 Destroyers leave Dartmouth for S/M area. At 1200/12 Destroyers leave for Plymouth exercising on passage WHEEL 1. S/M and one M.L. remain in S/M area till 1600/12, thence area D to R/V V X 9055 with 3 Trawlers from Plymouth at 2000/12, exercising till 2200/12. One Trawler R/V with S/M in position V X 9055 at 0515/ 13 and escort to Plymouth. CLEVELAND pass to THUNDERBOLT.
(C. in C. Plymouth 2226B/11 to Group 10).

British Air Activity.Bombing
restriction
(Scillies to
Lorient).

Cancel my ops 89/9/5 (1255/9) forthwith.
(H.Q.C.C. 0720/11).

Cam Ship
A/C in
north
Russia.

Admiral Miles 1112/1. Owing to lack of suitable cranes lighters and roads Cam aircraft cannot be disembarked in Kola Inlet to be serviced. Since P Q 16 will probably be last convoy this winter to use Kola inlet consider organization for Cam ship's aircraft should be set up in Archangel and EMPIRE LAWRENCE P Q.16 might be diverted to the White Sea if ice conditions permit. Aircraft can be landed Vaenga aerodrome if and when necessary and fly thence to Archangel either direct or via Afrikanda.

/EMPIRE.....

11.5.1942.
Monday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

British Air Activity.

Cam Ship
A/C in
North Russia
Contd.

2. EMPIRE MORN will sail with Q.P. 12 but Hurricane has not been serviced. Soviet (?Flying) Officer Konoplin with interpreter will embark in EMPIRE MORN.

3. Crated aircraft ex EMPIRE MORN has been taken to Vaenga aerodrome.
(S.B.N.O. North Russia 1616B/11).

Patrols.

Patrol "Slips 1" area 059° 10' N 9° W.,
060° 10' N. 009° W, 059° 10' N. 006° W., 060° 10' N.
006° W. is being flown by Hudson aircraft until

0030/11.

(C. in C. Rosyth. 1732B/11 to C.S. 10).

Cancel my 1732/11. Patrol "Slips 1" is being flown in area
060° N 006° W., 061° N., 006° W 061° N. 008° 40' W 060° N.
008° 40' W by Hudson aircraft until 0001/12.

(C. in C. Rosyth 1924B/11 to C.S. 10).

Your 1800/11. A/S Air Patrol will be provided when weather
conditions (Sic)

(A.C.I.C. 1930B/11 to ACHATES).

A/C in
Iceland.

All Whitley aircraft 12 in number will be out of
action until further notice owing to necessity
for immediate inspection of engines to locate
pistons.

(A.C.I.C. 2056B/11)

Enemy Air Activity.

Convoy
P.Q.15.

Torpedo A/C and Bomber attacks. Details.
(S.B.N.O. North Russia 1449B/11) See Shipping.

Convoy
F.N.4.704.
bombed.

Aircraft bombing convoy ^{"Agent"} ~~AGENT~~ position 54° 9' N
0° 0' E.
(Lyness W/T 1542/11.).

DOURO
(Norwegian
928 tons)
sunk.
A/C
destroyed.

Norwegian S.S. DOURO bombed and sunk on 9/5 in 60°
41' N. 12° 58' W. Attacking A/C destroyed by ship's
fire.
(A.C.I.C. 2257B/11).

Mining.

Operation.
"Smilax"

Operation "Smilax" postponed.
(F.O.I.C. Harwich 0815B/11 to C. in C. Nore M/S.9).

/Off.....

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11.5.1942.
Monday.War Diary.HOME COMMANDS.Mining.

Off Calais. M.G.B. 41 laid R-Mines near No.1. Calais Buoy during night 10/11.
(V.A.Dover 0934/B/11) See Operations.

Seidisfiord. When are repairs to loops and minefields at Seidisfiord likely to be completed.
(C. in C. H.F. 1227B/11 to A.C.I.C.).

Thames Estuary. 1 Ground mine detonated by Sweepers at 1208/11.
Details.
(Capt.M/S Sheerness 1807/11).
1 ground mine detonated by Sweepers at 1326/11 .
Details.
(Capt.M/S Sheerness 1808/11.)

Humber. One mine self detonated at 0455 in 120° Sherringham Buoy 6 cables.
(F.O.Humber 1840B/11).

Aberdeen Area. Searching Sweep. On 13/5 4 trawlers from Aberdeen Peterhead M/S forces are to carry out an Oroposa searching sweep, with S.A. gear operating, from No.27 Buoy thence along a route the centre line of which passes through following positions (a) 056° 59' 30"N. 001° 18' 30" W. (b) 057° 02' N. 001° 15' W, thence position 090° Buchan Ness 5 miles.
Sweep to be completed by 1900/13.
(C. in C. Rosyth 2223B/11).

Enemy Intelligence.

Straits of Dover. Enemy shipping plotted by R.D.F. in Dover Strait from 0900/10 to 0900/11. Track E. 15 D one or two large vessels and six or more smaller ones from Boulogne at 2205 eastbound at 12 knots faded three miles off Calais at 2350. Track E 21 D. Three vessels one larger than the other from off Calais at 2355 westbound at 9 knots entered Boulogne at 0250. Possibly part of E 15 D returning to Boulogne. Track E.25 D. Four small vessels from four miles North of Gris Nez at 0155 eastbound at 9 knots faded off Calais at 0255.
(V.A.Dover 0913B/11).

Stettin. Stettin(?vicinity).
(a) 2 5000 tons vessels loading aeroplane engines and tanks. Destination believed Finland.
(b) 7 transport lying in port.
(c) Many vessels have recently arrived from Lubeck and Rostock *
(N.A.Stockholm. 1247/10). * Graded B.3.

/Frisian.....

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11.5.1942.
Monday.War Diary.HOME COMMANDS.Enemy Intelligence.

- Frisian Islands. 8 M/V's 2 destroyers bearing 180° 2 miles, steering 045° in 54° 5'N 6° 20' E. (16 Group 1337/11).
- Trondheim. No results from R/C of Trondheim, to-day (D.D.I.C. 1644B/11).
- North Norway on 8/5 and 9/5. Russians report 8th May. Vardo one destroyer. Convoy left Kirkenes. Convoy off Kongsfiord proceeding Kirkenes Varanger Fiord one destroyer. 9th May. Hammerfest one destroyer. Varanger Fiord. One destroyer and one U/Boat. Vardo one destroyer and one U/Boat. Vardo one destroyer and one U/Boat. Convoy off Kongsfiord and convoy left Kirkenes. Off Ingoy Island one destroyer. Kirkenes one U/Boat. (Ad.Miles 1646C/11).
- Copenhagen. Photographs taken at 1330/9, at Copenhagen show that statement on tankers 400 to 515 feet is untrue. In fact only one tanker 400/500' now present. One tanker 400' departed since 12/4. (R.A.F. Medmenham.1735/11).
- Gdynia. Reliable Polish Petty Officers arriving Stockholm today reports one heavy cruiser off Gdynia 8/5. GNEISENAU and probably GRAF ZEPPELIN believed present in port. Graded B3. (N.A.Stockholm 1821/11).
N.I.D.Comment:- The heavy cruiser was probably LÜTZOW carrying out working up practices after damage repair. The information re GNEISENAU & GRAF ZEPPELIN is believed to be correct.
- Bear Island. Russians request any information we have on our or enemy intentions regarding Bear Island and whether there is anybody on the Island now. (Ad.Miles 1933C/11).

U-Boats.

- Convoys reported. Enemy S/M has made a first sighting report at 1051/11 G.M.T. of a Convoy or important unit probably O.N.92, O.N.93, or H.X. 188. (D.D.I.C. 1346B/11 to Convoy Escorts).
- My 1346B/11. Further bearings suggest U/Boat still in contact and other U/Boats probably in vicinity. (D.D.I.C. 1642B/11 to Escorts O.N.92, O.N.93, HX.188).
D/F Bearings at 1051Z/11, 1211Z/11, 1328Z/11 and 1409Z/11 indicate that Convoy O.N. 92 is being shadowed and reported by one or more U/Boats. (D.D.I.C. 1822B/11 to T.U.24.1.3.).

/A.M.....

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11.5.1942.
Monday.War Diary.HOME COMMANDS.U-Boats.Convoys
reported
Contd.A.M. 1642/11 and 1822/11. Further bearings
at 1614Z/11 indicate U-Boat in contact
probably with convoy O.N. 92 or possibly
H.X. 188.Bearings do not suggest O.N.93 is being
shadowed.

(D.D.I.C. 2011B/11 to T.U.24.1.3.).

U-Boats
reported.S/M transmission within 50 miles position
053° 50' N. 021° 30' W. at 1009Z/11, and 053°
45' N 023° 15' W. at 1052Z/11.

(U.S.C.N.O. 1511Z/11 to Admty.).

Indication of U-Boat in vicinity of convoy U.R.23. Request
A/S air patrol. P.C.S.062° 40' N. 019° 58' W. (? 138°, 296°
or 353°) 7½ knots.

(ACHATES 1800B/11 to A.C.I.C.).

Survivors.

Your 1523/9 and 1821/9 and 1006/10 to BULLDOG.
Survivors picked up by Icelandic Trawler
GYLLIR and have arrived Reykjavik.

(A.C.I.C. 2023B/11).

Further bearings at 2023Z/11 indicate U-Boat still in contact
with Convoy ON 92. There is still a possibility that Convoy
HX 188 is being shadowed.

(D.D.I.C. 2105Z/11 to T.U. 24.1.3. and Convoy HX.188).

Casualties & Defects.

CHURCHILL.

Sailed CHURCHILL. E.T.A. 0800B/11.
(F.O.I.C. Greenock 0133B/11 to Commdre.
Londonderry.).

Arrived CHURCHILL.

(Commdre.Londonderry 0800B/11).

Have run starboard main engine plommer block bearing.
Bearing requires remetalting. Can steam this engine at slow
speed. Request instructions.

(CHURCHILL 0920Z/11 to Commdre. Londonderry).

M.G.B.S.2.

M.G.B.S.2 developed engine defects.

M.G.B. 7.

M.G.B.7 was damaged in collision with M.G.B.9.
(V.A.Dover 0934B/11) See operations.LADY BRASSEY sailed at 0329 today to assist. M.G.B.7 damaged
in collision, and returned at 0420.

(V.A. Dover, 1927B/11).

B.P.C.3.

My 2146/10. B.P.C. 3 now anchored 1 mile west
by north 57 G.Buoy requires tugs. FOULA is to
close forthwith to assist.

(WINCHESTER 0249B/11 to N.O.I.C. Yarmouth).

Departure DIVERSION to assist B.P.C.3 with engine trouble.

(F.O.I.C. Gt.Yarmouth. 0520B/11).

/JOHN....

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War Diary.11.5.1942.
Monday.HOME COMMANDS.Casualties & Defects.(cont):

- JOHN MOWLEM. At 0946 today Tug JOHN MOWLEM on charter to the 914 Squadron Balloon Barrage, while proceeding to store balloon barrage Drifter STUDENT PRINCE moored in 150° Southern Gate vessel 4 cables, slowly heeled over and sank. No flame, no explosion observed or heard. Boats of the Examination Service and STUDENT PRINCE searching for survivors. At present Skipper only believed rescued. (F.O. Humber 1120/11).
- TOMBOUCTOU. S.L. 108. TOMBOUCTOU has defective D/G and is also unable to anchor owing to damaged bows. Request assistance of tugs on arrival Clyde. (D.T.D.1144B/11 to F.O.I.C.Greenock).
- TOMBOUCTOU due Clyde 13th unable to anchor on account of damaged bow. Request arrangements may be made for tugs to meet her upon arrival. (C.C.R.T. 1616B/11 to F.O.I.C.Greenock).
- FLINDERS. My 1215B/10.Sailed 1213B/11. (F.O.I.C.Portland 1225B/11 to N.O.I.C.Poole). Your 1215B/10. Arrived and sailed. (N.O.I.C. Weymouth 1715/11 to F.O.I.C.Portland).
- NORDEST II (British Tanker 582 Tons). Intercepted at 1042 G.M.T DE NORDEST II. Position 55.29 N. 5.4 W, engines disabled, require tugs. (Port Patrick 1602/11). Proceed with all despatch to assist NORDEST. (N.O.I.C.Campbeltown 1650B/11 to ADHERENT). Sailed ADHERENT. (N.O.I.C.Campbeltown 1715B/11).
- N.O.I.C.Campbeltown's 1650. Return to Campbeltown. Ship has arrived Lamlash. (F.O.I.C.Greenock 1917B/11 to ADHERENT). Arrival ADHERENT. (N.O.I.C.Campbeltown 2114B/11).
- EMPIRE CREEK. N.C.S.Drifter LASHER caused slight damage to M/V EMPIRE CREEK at 1830/10 in Methil Roads. No damage to H.M.Ship. (N.O.I.C.Methil 1658/11).
- MONTBRETIA. ^{N.T. n. w. 3.} Cancel my 1543B/9. MONTBRETIA delayed by defects. (F.O.I.C. Belfast 2025B/11).

Shipping & Convoys.

- W.S.19. My 1036B/8. Sailed. CHURCHILL joining in accordance with Capt.(D) Greenock 1502B/8. (N.O.I.C. Greenock, 0024B/11). W.S. 19 sailed 0012/11. (D.S.T.O. Greenock 0030/11).

/Sailed.....

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War Diary.11.5.1942.
Monday.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping & Convoys. cont'd.

W.S.19. cont'd: Sailed KEPPEL, CASTLETON, LEAMINGTON, ST MARYS, for W.S. 19. CHURCHILL did not sail owing to engine defects. *See previous page*
(Cdre. Londonderry 1150B/11).

As CHURCHILL is defective VOLUNTEER is to rejoin convoy after fuelling. ST MARYS. CASTLETON are to comply with para. 7 (B) Admiralty's 2256B/30.

(C. in C. W.A., 1227B/11).

→ Sailed VOLUNTEER.
(N.O.I.C. Londonderry 1550B/11).

F.S. 798. My 2015/9. Sailing postponed on account of weather.
(F.O.I.C. Gt. Yarmouth 0207B/11).

MAGNET 4
W.S.19.W.

MAGNET 4. is due Clyde p.m./16 with approx. 9500 personnel mostly for Northern Ireland and is due to sail again in W.S. 19. W. on 22/5.

2. Approximately half of personnel will transfer to

AQUITANIA a.m. 17/5. Balance will embark in LEINSTER, ROYAL DAFFODIL, PRINCESS MAUD, BEN-MY-CHREE, BIARRITZ., and CANTERBURY p.m. 17/5 for passage to Belfast.

7. Embarkation of W.S.19 W. will take place 21/5 and 22/5. Total to embark about 9500.

(D.S.T. 0209B/11).

Your 0209/11. In view of apparent late arrival and consequent delay in disembarkation consider it doubtful whether sailing date can be kept. Necessity for early arrival was stressed at meeting 29/4.

(P.S.T.O. West Scotland 1237B/11 to D. of S.T.).

W.P.M. 155.

N.O.I.C. Greenock 1536/B/6. Intend sailing 0945B/12 in convoy W.P.M. 155 6 T.L.C.'s .

Routed only to Portsmouth. E.T.A. Needles a.m. 14th
(N.O.I.C. Milford Haven 0949B/11).

F.N. 3.703

LEWES proceed to meet F.N. ⁷⁰3. now off Farne Island and relieve WHADDON. WHADDON proceed to Rosyth on relief. VIVIEN continue to act as S.O.

(C. in C. Rosyth 1011B/11).

P.Q.16.

P.Q.16. ALYNBANK, LLANSTEPHAN CASTLE, destroyers and corvette(s), should arrive Seidisfiord on 18/5.
2. F.O.I.C. Greenock is requested to sail LLANSTEPHAN

→ CASTLE accordingly, escorted by GARLAND and VOLUNTEER.

(C. in C. H.F. 1038B/11).

Your 2321B/10. LEDBURY- detailed.

(R.A.D.H.F. 1421B/11 to C. in C.H.F.).

/Your.....

War Diary.11.5.1942.
Monday.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping & Convoys. cont'd:

P.Q.16. Your 0937B/8 ARCOS will be included in P.Q.16
contd. SUKHONA damaged by ice and returned to U.K. Have
no information about EMPIRE MARRAKESH.
(A.C.I.C. 1457B/11 to S.B.N.O. North Russia).

Your 2321/10. BLACK RANGER detailed.
(A.C.O.S. 2216/11 to C. in C.H.F.).
My 1613B/10. Sailing postponed 24 hours.
(R.A.D. H.F. 2233B/11 to HAZARD).

W.P. 153 W.P. 153 and W.P.154 have joined and are proceeding
W.P. 154. as W.P. 154 escorted by CORNELIAN, JASPER, and
ELLESMERE.
(C. in C.Plymouth 1102B/11).

Attacks on Your 1031/6. Minesweeper group No.1 reports
Convoy P.Q.15. amplification of his 2300/5.
Details. (A) Torpedo aircraft attacked in formation very low
on starboard bow of convoy passing between and near
SOMALI and MATCHLESS. Undetected by R.D.F.

ULSTER QUEEN on 279. Visibility three to four miles. Half light
and haze made sighting difficult. Six aircraft, of which only
four may have fired torpedoes. Some torpedoes dropped ahead
the screen, others when passing through screen. One crashed
in flames ahead of the convoy. Other successes classified in my
2300/5 as possible now considered most probable.

(B) Convoy shadowed by submarine on the starboard bow before
attack in (A) and attack by H.M.S. LEDA on reported sighting of
submarine after air attack, may have damaged submarine.

(C) Bombing attack at 2230Z/3. Only 2 JU 88 seen one of which
was hit by 4 inch and (?Oerlikon) and seen diving vertically
from thousand feet but snow flurry prevented actual crash being
observed. Other A/C heard above cloud of 2000 feet at same time.
Estimate four to six in all.

(D) Only S/M attack to develop was attack in (B) Synchronised
torpedo A/C attack.

(E) No form of surface attack.

(F) A/A ship, large escort and well armed convoy are adequate
to complete with scale of present bombing attacks. Strong
impression that bombers are windy.

(G). Long daylight hours render S/M attacks difficult, except
experienced and resolute S/M prepared attacks through screen.

(H) Torpedo A/C attack on large convoy in twilight conditions
of visibility bound to achieve success, but casualties on A/C
should be certain.

(I) Policy adopted by escorts to P.Q.15 is recommended.

1. R/T should never be used unless it will assist hunt
of definite S/M.
2. The screen should not delay more than 30 minutes to
hunt.
3. S/M if on surface should be closed and depth charges
fired in vicinity of position of S/M seen to dive.
4. Stiff screen should occasionally be sent visibility
distance to fire depth charges.

(J) It was noted that speed of S/M on surface is greater than
the maximum of half the escorts of P.Q.15.

(S.B.N.O. North Russia. 1449B/11 to C. in C.H.F.).

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War Diary.11.5.1942.
Monday.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping & Convoys. conts.

U.R. 25. Pass to N.C.S.O. Commencing with U.R.25 sailing. 21st/5, U.R. Convoys will sail weekly on Thursday from Loch Ewe. (D.T.D. 1617B/11).

AQUITANIA. Request instructions for AQUITANIA which arrived. Belfast with N.A.8 instead of proceeding Clyde as notified in your 2248B/24. No arrangements made here for discharge. (F.O.I.C. Belfast 1635/11). Your 1635/11. AQUITANIA should be sent to Clyde. (D.O.D(H) 1902B/11 to F.O.I.C. Belfast). *See next page p. 362*

O.G.85. Cam ship EMPIRE SHACKLETON has been allocated for inclusion in convoy O.G.85. (D.T.D. 1702B/11).

Cam Ship communication with Russian Fighter A/C. My 1245C/9. para.4. It is not intended to convey that these officers would be unsuitable as interpreters if borne in addition to Soviet Transmitting Officers. They would undoubtedly be of considerable assistance). (Ad.Miles 1702C/11 to Admty.).

C.T.16. Convoy C.T.16 carrying service personnel will consist of S.S.BATORY and is to leave Clyde for Halifax N.S. on 18/5.

2. Speed 18 knots.

3. Through escort will be provided by U.S. Destroyers NICHOLSON and SWANSON.

(D.O.D(H) 1831B/11).

1715 Clyde arrivals BATORY, LETITIA, ORCADES, JAVA, AVENGER, escorted by U.S. Destroyers SWANSON, NICHOLSON.

(N.O.I.C. Greenock 2024B/11). *See p. 324*

Movements
of
Russian
Ships.

Serial No.47.
(D.T.D. 1835B/11 to Ad. Miles).

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War Diary.11.5.1942
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.General.

W.S.19 P. A.M. 1227A/28/3 not to B.A.D. W.S.19 X leaving
 W.S.19 Q. U.K. on 30/5 is to be renamed W.S. 19 P.
 2. *AQUITANIA leaving U.K. with this convoy but
 proceeding independently from vicinity of the
 Azores will be referred to as W.S. 19Q after parting company
 3. The suffix "X" is not in future to be used, as in U.S.
 signalling the letter X indicates a full stop.
 (D.O.D. (F) 1646B/11 to C. in C. Med., C. in C. H.F., C. in C.
 S.A., C. in C. E.I., C. in C. E.F., C. in C. W.A., F.O.C.N.A.
 R.A. West Africa, B.A.D.). * See previous page.

North Atlantic.

O.G.83 Arrivals 0015 BLACK SWAN, CAMPION, MALLOW,
 JONQUIL, SALVONIA escorting O.G.83.
 (F.O.C.N.A., 0022B/11 to Admty) As amended
 1243B/11.

O.G.83 Gibraltar section arrived eight ships.
 (F.O.C.N.A. 1047B/11 to Admty (R) C. in C. W.A.)
 Arrival 1500 P.44.

(F.O.C.N.A., 1528B/11 to Admty).

→ Departure 1420 COLTSFOOT, GERANIUM to R/V tanker SANDAR and
 escort to Gibraltar.

(F.O.C.N.A., 1832B/11 to Admty).

French Shipping. Following extract from Fairmiss Telegram:-
 Arrival 9/5 LE TRAIT.
 (Lisbon, 1057/11 to M.E.W.)

Op. "LB" A.M. 1911 /10 not to V.A. Malta and my 2002/7.
 (Spitfire 2. Intend operation shall be called "LB".
 Op ~~for Malta~~ 3. D.I. which is day on which force sails from
 Gibraltar will be 17/5.
 (F.O.C.N.A., 1220B/11 to V.A. Malta (R)
 Admty. C. in C. Med. EAGLE.)

Situation Report. Situation report at 2000B/11.
 1. 2 Fleet units 5 destroyers 39° 59', 14° 32'
 through 42° 01', 17° 30' thence 002° 13.
 2. PENELOPE 35° 44', 13° 01' 268° 18.
 3. LORD NUFFIELD escorting MIRROR vicinity 37° 17', 10° 20'.
 → 4. GERANIUM, COLTSFOOT 35° 45', 06° 46' 244° 12.
 5. LOCH OSKAIG patrolling off Lisbon.
 6. ITHURIEL 32° 32', 11° 52' 195° 13½ to R/V with PARTRIDGE
 138 28° 56', 10° 02' 211° 16.
 8. SCOTTISH patrolling off Cape Roca.
 (F.O.C.N.A., 1304B/11 to N.A. Station).

/Blockade...

War Diary.11.5.1942.
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic. - Contd.

Blockade. If Ambassador concurs, Spanish and Portuguese Authorities to be informed that details of sailing of ships over 1,000 tons must be notified 72 hours before time of sailing, otherwise we cannot accept responsibility for their safety.
(Hd. of M. approved 1st S.L., 1314B/11 to N.A. Madrid, N.A. Lisbon (R) C. in C. Plymouth, A.O.C. in C. Coastal Command, F.O.C.N.A., Air Min). See Lion Copy.

Portuguese Fishing, Fuel. Recommending that fuel should be supplied to Portuguese trawlers at Halifax. Reasons. Ambassador concurs.
(N.A. Lisbon, 1603B/11 to Admty). *Reply: 2028/27.*

LANDGUARD, attack on U/B. U-boat in sight bearing 320° 12 miles my P.C. and S. 1500Z 019° 47' N., 026° 47' W., 335 7½
(LANDGUARD, 1635Z/11 to Admty).
My 1635Z/11 not to C. in C. W.A. MALAYA F.O.C.N.A. R.A.W.A.F., S/M dived am looking with LULWORTH in company. U-boat appears to be Italian.
(LANDGUARD, 1711Z/11 to Admty (R) C. in C. W.A., MALAYA F.O.C.N.A., R.A.W.A.F.).

My 1711Z/11. 4 Pattern dropped on promising contact without visible result. Am rejoining convoy. LULWORTH remaining in the vicinity, rejoining convoy 0200Z/12.
(LANDGUARD, 2027Z/11 to Admty. (R) C. in C. W.A., F.O.C.N.A., MALAYA, R.A.W.A.F.)

P.44 attack on U/B. P.44 attacked homeward bound U-boat in 045° 08' N., 012° 58' W., on 7/5 on broad track. Run range 9,000 yards. One explosion heard after 9½ minutes. No proof of hit obtained.
(F.O.C.N.A., 1736B/11 to Admty. F.O.S. (R) C. in C. Plymouth, C. in C. W.A. Capt. S.3).

Axis Shipping. 11/5. AFRICANA arrived from Bordeaux 10/5 for overhaul. German vessel 51 arrived 10/5 to load iron ore expected to complete 16/5. German vessel 53 expected to complete loading 14/5.
(Bilbao, 1759/11 to Admty (R) M.E.W. etc).

Air R/C Casablanca. A 528 P.R.U. Gib 11/5 Casablanca. No definite statement of shipping possible. JEAN BART apparently still present and faint indications suggest presence of Cruisers in former positions. A vessel which may be naval lies outside Harbour entrance.
(P.R.U. Gibraltar, 2320/11 to Air Min. Admty. H.Q.C.C.)

MOST SECRET

MOST SECRET

MESSAGE

1314B/11 May
OUTTo N.A. Madrid)
N.A. Lisbon)

Date 11.5.42

Repeated C.in C. Plymouth 175.
A.O.C.in C. Coastal Command.
F.O.C. North Atlantic 66.
Air Ministry.

PERSONAL

NAVAL CYPHER (A.G.C.) and NAVAL SHORE CODE O.T.T.

From Admiralty.

IMPORTANT

Existing instructions permit any vessel identified as enemy, to be attacked at sight anywhere in the Bay of Biscay East of 12 degrees West and North of latitude 43 degrees North provided she is not less than 5 miles from the Spanish coast. H.M. Ambassador, Madrid, has now assented to this action being taken anywhere outside territorial waters.

2. The recent escapes to France of the enemy ships S.S. MELSA ESSBERGER and FUSIJAMA after being sighted off the North Spanish coast by Coastal Command aircraft, have shown that it is essential to facilitate the task of pilots in distinguishing enemy ships from legitimate shipping.

3. Both the above ships arrived from Japan with vital cargoes of raw materials. Further ships are expected and there are indications that others will shortly sail outward bound with cargoes for Japan. This trade is of the highest importance to the enemy.

4. Neutral vessels over 1,000 tons engaged in bona fide trade North of Vigo are few in number and it would clearly be of great assistance to pilots if we had complete knowledge of their movements. The Germans are known to insist upon being given the routes of all Spanish ocean-going ships under threat of the ships being sunk. Their ships also make their positions at regular intervals for the information of enemy naval units. The Spaniards, therefore have little ground for objecting to providing us with similar information in areas where we take offensive action.

5. If H.M. Ambassador, Madrid, concurs, the Spaniards are to be informed that the name, date of sailing, ports of call, and ultimate destination of all Spanish ships over 1,000 tons moving North of Vigo must be notified to us 72 hours before the time of sailing; otherwise we cannot accept any responsibility for their safety. If necessary, it may be explained that the use of neutral colours by enemy supply vessels in this area compels us to insist upon being given the same information as Spanish ships in other areas give to the enemy.

6. If H.M. Ambassador, Lisbon, concurs, the Portuguese should be similarly informed, although very few Portuguese vessels over 1,000 tons are believed to proceed North of Ferrol. These usually carry enemy cargoes.

(2)

7. N.C.S.O. Lisbon should be instructed to give advance notice of all sailings of Eire vessels from Lisbon.

8. British vessels are not, repetition not, permitted to proceed North of Oporto without the prior approval of the Admiralty.

1314B/11

for Head of M. (86)
Approved by 1st Lord.

- 1st Lord
- 1st S.L.
- V.C.N.S.
- A.C.N.S. (E) (2)
- A.C.N.S. (I)
- A.C.N.S. (H)
- N.A. 1st S.L.
- Naval Secretary
- P.A.S. (S)
- D.O.D. (H) (2)
- D.O.D. (F) (2)
- D.C. (2)

Head of M. (10) M.051022/41. copy for C.N. Stirling M.E.W.
H.P.B. Wood, M.E.W.
C.E. Steel, F.O.

- D.E.W.D.
- D.N.I. (5)
- D.D.I.C. (2)
- D.T.D. (2)
- D.T.D. (M)
- D. of P. ()
- I.P. (2)
- W.D.
- C.C.L.S.

War Diary.

11.5.1942.
Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic.

ARCHER Your 2356B/10 S. of A 12½ knots.
(R.A. West Africa, 0832Z/11 to Admty).
Following is a repetition of my 1653Z/3/5 (begins)
"Admty. (R) C. in C. S.A., My 0210Z/5/4. Owing to defective
casting of H/P air compressor fly-wheel ARCHER will not be ready
to leave Freetown before 10/5 (Ends).
(R.A. West Africa, 1232Z/11 to Admty).
R.A.W.A.F's. 2301/10. Subject to satisfactory conclusion of
trials and proven speed of 12½ knots ARCHER is to be sailed
Capetown as soon as ready. C. in C. S.A. is requested to
detail necessary Officers and men to complete ARCHER in respect
of paras. B and D on arrival at Capetown.
(A.C.N.S. (F), 1845B/11 to C. in C. S.A., RA. West Africa).

Overdue shipping. ANNA ODLAND due Beira 5/5 from Bunbury
not arrived.
(S.O.(I) Capetown, 0845Z/11 to Admty. C. in C.
S.A., A.C.N.B., C. in C. E.I. (R) N.C.S.O. Beira).
See C. in C. E.I., 1044/17.
SEAPOOL due Buenos Aires 5/5 from Trinidad has not arrived.
(S.O.(I) Montevideo 1854Z/11 to Admiralty, (R) C. in C. S.A.
S.O.(I) Freetown S.O.(I) Kingston C.T.F.23).

Supply of A/C Your 1020B/5 (1020B/9 intended). Concur.
Request following priority, Albacore 5, sea
Hurricane 4, Walrus 2, remainder Swordfish to
capacity. Crated aircraft can now be accepted
at Mombasa for erection in addition to Martlets
expected.
(Com N.A.S., 0913Z/11 to C. in C. S.A. (R)
C. in C. E.F. R.A.A., Admty. N.O.I.C. Durban.)

Troopship accommodation My 1822/13/2 and 1628/16/2. Have received very
few reports of increases to capacities of troop
ships carried out in South Africa. Request
report of all such increases to date. Important
that every opportunity be taken during turn round of ships
to effect increases on the lines indicated in signals quoted.
(D. of S.T., 1016B/11 to P.S.T.O. South Africa, S.S.T.O. Durban).

Movement Summary. 2000/11. All convoy routes North and West
unless otherwise ordered.
VELOX 018° 55', 019° 55' (?165°) 15.
MISS MODESTY 3 trawlers 3 (?tugs) 1 ferry 020°
10' 021° 40', 162° 7.
GLEN USK, 2 destroyers, 016° 45' 021° 30' 024° 16.
TAMARISK off Freetown to Bathurst 10 knots.
ST WISTAN 007° 50', 013° 50' to Freetown 8.
ROCKROSE 005° 30', 014° (?45') to Freetown 12.5
BRITTANY (?2) B.D.V. 006° 05', 012° 15' 130° 8.
RUMBA, TURCOMAN on patrol sector T.
VINDICTIVE, 2 corvettes 004° (?10') 014° 05' 146° 11.
VIOLET 000° 30', 011° 30' (?075° or 158°) 11.5.
AUBRETIA 2 M.Ls. 001° 01' 007° 05' to 000° 58' 006° 05' to
Takoradi 10.

War Diary.

11.5.1942.
Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic.

Movement Summary. Contd. U.S. Aircraft Carrier RANGER, 1 Cruiser, 5 destroyers 002° 01' 005° 05' 270° 14.5 FANDANGO 2 M.Ls.off Lagos to Takoradi 7. EMILE BAUDOT 005° 40' S., 005° 15', 132° 8. ALCANTARA, PRETORIA CASTLE patrol H.34 (D). (R.A. West Africa, 1030Z/11 to Ships in Area P. U.S.T.F. 36).

COLOMBO, bullion for U.K. Your 1513/21/11/41. COLOMBO embarked £3,000,000 bullion for U.K. in 446 gold bars at Simonstown 3/5. (C. in C. S.A., 1056B/11 to Admty (R) R.A. West Africa).

A/C developments near Lagos. Reliable R/C from Lagos completely refutes construction in progress as stated in my 1847Z/6 /5. (S.O.(I) Freetown, 1113Z/11 to Admty D.N.I. (R) C. in C. S.A.)

Air R/C Dakar. R/C Dakar at 0855/10 shows all major Naval units same positions as before. Quakam not covered owing to cloud. 4 S/Ms usual base. No surface activity around Peninsular or Haun Bass. Torpedo booms RICHLIEU not observed owing to haze. No A/A or interception attempted. One run only made. (S.O.(I) Freetown, 1135Z/11 to Admty).

ETHIOPIAN Your 1709B/7 ^{11.1.42 H.D.} estimated date departure 1/6 Divers examination revealed excessive marine growth. Estimated maximum speed 6½ knots. Is ship to be sailed independently? (N.O.I.C. Takoradi, 1155Z/11 to Admty (R) R.A.W.A. C. in C. S.A. C. in C. E.I., ETHIOPIAN).

O.S.26 EMPIRE RIDLEY O.S.26. Cdre. reports EMPIRE RIDLEY bounty caught fire in between decks. Considerable damage to cargo. Fire eventually extinguished and considered due to overloaded chemicals in an ambulance lorry. (N.C.S.O. Freetown, 1204Z/11 to Admty (R) M.W.T. N.C.S.O. Capetown).

VIKINGS loss. Your 1059B/8. VIKINGS torpedoed by U-boat and sunk off Beirut 0120/17. Casualties, 40 missing but no details of names. Loss was announced by F.F. Naval H.Q. on 30/4. (D.O.D. (F), 1242B/11 to C. in C. S.A.)

11.5.1942.

Monday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic. - Contd.

- W.S.18 Following are transshipment proposals.
Troopships to be turned round at Durban are
as in para. 3 of my 0251/28/4.
(D. of S.T., 1257B/11 to P.S.T.O. Simonstown
(R) C. in C. S.A. etc).
- U/B Panair Clipper reports sighting S/M at 1015Z/11
in 5° 42' N., 1° 15' E.
(R.A. West Africa, 1300Z/11 to Admty (R)
C. in C. S.A., and A.F. Message to G.B.M.S.
area 6A).
- DUMFRIES DUMFRIES 13/4 in 02° 30' S., 13° 54' either
struck submerged object or felt effect of 2
violent underwater explosions. No apparent dam-
age to ship.
(S.O.(I) Capetown, 1626B/11 to Admty. C. in C.
S.A., R.A. West Africa (R) Cdre. Durban).
- STANVAC STANVAC CAPETOWN. Intercepted strong U-boat
CAPETOWN W/T transmission at 2030B/25/4 in 05° 45' S.,
(Pan). 32° 08' W., At X (as received) 2000B/26 suddenly
 sighted ahead very close brilliant lights of
 vessel crossing bows port to starboard. 1 light
in bow, 1 Main Mast Head, 4 equally spaced between, and 1 on
poop. No navigation lights seen.
(S.O.(I) Capetown, 1656B/11 to C. in C. S.A., R.A. West Africa
Admty., B.A.D.)
- CABO DE My 2009/8 last para. (German and Italian Ambassa-
HORNOS. dors to leave on Spanish CABO DE HORNOS) Rio
 de Janeiro reports permission has not yet been
 granted.
(S.O.(I) Montevideo, 1834Z/11 to D.N.I. (R)
C. in C. S.A., RA. West Africa B.A.D.)

Mediterranean.

- THRASHER, My 2221/10. (1) After surfacing today 11th
enemy proceed with despatch towards 032° 06', 020°
Convoy. 03' whether you have made daylight attack or not.
 A.S.V. aircraft will commence search at dusk.

War Diary.

11.5.1942.
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean. - contd:

THRASHER, enemy Convoy. Contd. (2) First sighting report from this aircraft will be retransmitted by Malta on 150 kc/s. Aircraft will transmit call sign Q.Z.7 B for 5 minutes at 3 minute intervals on 320 kc/s while circling convoy. Flares will be dropped every 15 minutes after enemy has been found.

(3) D/F watch is to be set up on 320 kc/s on receipt of first aircraft sighting report. Homing by D/F bearing of aircraft endeavour to attack by night.

(4) Capt. (D) 14 with 3 other destroyers expects to attack about dawn/12 and has been ordered not to attack submarines west of $020^{\circ} 30'$. They may be encountered during night. (Capt. S.L., 0003/11 to THRASHER, (R) C. in C. Med., V.A. Malta, No. 201 N.C. Group).

At 0955C/11 P.C. and S. of 3 merchant ships, 3 destroyers, $036^{\circ} 16'$, $017^{\circ} 32'$ $150^{\circ} 8$ knots. (Capt. S.L., 1131C/11 to THRASHER).

At 1654/11 P.C. and S. enemy $035^{\circ} 44'$ $017^{\circ} 17'$ $300^{\circ} 6$ knots. Capt. (D) 14 and destroyers are returning to Alexandria. Anticipate convoy will turn S.E. after dark. A.S.V. aircraft will search vicinity $035^{\circ} 35'$ $017^{\circ} 05'$ between midnight and 0230C. If found target will be illuminated with flares. Endeavour to intercept. (Capt. S.L., 1931C/11 to THRASHER (R) P.35, S.L. C. in C. Med., 201 Co-op. Group, 8th Escort Group).

→ Estimated P.35 position at 2100C/11 $035^{\circ} 29'$, $017^{\circ} 01'$. Anticipate THRASHER moving Northward from $034^{\circ} 05'$ $018^{\circ} 12'$ to intercept Convoy. (Capt. S.L., 1955C/11 to THRASHER, P.35) Orders to P.35 see 1118C/11.

UNA, THORN. UNA 2105/10 acknowledged. ?THORN (?JERVIS intended) and 3 other destroyers P.C. and S. at noon/11 $033^{\circ} 35'$ $026^{\circ} 17'$ $272^{\circ} 15$ knots, returning to Alexandria a.m./13. Do not get S. or W. of your ordered route. (Capt. S.L., 0031C/11 to THORN, UNA).

see p. 343

Troopship Accommodation My 1822/13/2. No reports received of increases to capacities of troop ships carried out in Egypt. Request report of all such increases to date. Important that every opportunity be taken during turn round of ships to effect increases on lines indicated in my 1822/13/2 and previous signals. (D.S.T., 1015B/11 to P.S.T.O. Egypt).

Movements. Arrival 10/5 PEONY, Departure 10/5 APHIS, JERVIS JACKAL, KIPLING, LIVELY, M.L.1017. (S.O.(I) Alexandria, 1106C/11 to Admty, C. in C. Med).

RAMB IV My 2232/10. Propose to release to press but suppressing identity of ship. (C. in C. Med., 1116C/11 to Admty). Your 1116/11 not approved as matter is still under consideration. (D.P.D., Approved by 1st S.L., 2012B/11 to C. in C. Med).

War Diary.

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Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean. - Contd.

P.35 Proceed direct 034° 22', 026° 35' thence to arrive Alexandria searched channel 0530C/19 reporting when safe to do so if you cannot comply within 3 hours. U-boats are operating on Cyrenaican coast and may be encountered proceeding to and from Aegean. Submarines are not to be attacked unless definitely identified as hostile. Ref. memorandum approaches to Alexandria, set is generally to westwards.
(Capt. S.10., 1118C/11 to P.35).

TRITON Greek S/M TRITON leaving 035° 21' N., 014° 00' E. about 2200B/12 to reach 034° 37' N., 020° 00' E. about 0300B/15 thence as ordered by you. R.A. Alexandria pass to No. 201 N.C. Group.
(V.A. Malta, 1211B/11 to Capt. S.1. (R) C. in C. Med etc).

WELSHMAN Your 2351B/10. Well done. Good work.
(C. in C. Med., 1306C/11 to V.A. Malta (R) WELSHMAN, TRUSTY, STAR, BERYL).

Malta Command Following for S. of S. for Colonies and S. of S. for War (R) Governor, Malta, from Middle East Defence Committee. Ref. Air Ministry 2115/7.

1. Quite apart from operations connected with the defence of the island, from the naval and air point of view and particularly the latter at the present time, Malta is a vital base from which naval and air forces operate offensively in execution of strategical plans in Mediterranean as a whole. For this reason, we consider it essential naval and air forces should remain under their respective Cs. in C. except when safety of island is endangered. In latter circumstances, Governor has widest powers, vide second sentence Para. 4 above quoted signal.

2. It would be possible to place land forces in Malta unreservedly under Governor, but we suggest that if above arguments regarding naval and air forces are accepted, it would be better they should remain under C. in C. M.E.F. for sake of uniformity. C. in C. M.E.F. agrees, though he himself does not press this point as he is unable to influence the Army's part in the defence one way or another, unless it is necessary and feasible heavily to reinforce the garrison.
(Mideast, 1500/11 to Air Min. (R) Govr. Malta).

TURBULENT. TURBULENT leave Alexandria at 1730C/11 and proceeding from end of searched channel through 032° 58' 027° 38' 033° 18' 025° 28' 032° 58' 022° 33', 032° 59' 020° 30' to establish patrol in area C, Gulf of Sirte south of 033° N., between 014° and 020° 30' east.
(Capt. S.1., 1511C/11 to C. in C Med., (R) V.A. Malta etc).

Axis
Shipping.

ELIZABETH HENRIK
Extract from a Fairmiss telegram:-
Arrival 9th E.H. FISSER Sagunto, Iron Ore,
SULLBERG Alicante. Departure 9th SULLBERG
Marseilles Oranges.
(Valencia, 1559/11 to M.W.T.)

War Diary.

11. 5. 1942.
Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean. - Contd.

- Malta. Situation Report for W/E 9/5.
(Govr. Malta, 1740/11 to C. in C. ME.).
See Lion Copy.
- Canal Minesweeping. C. in C. Med., (?) ref. 1850C (?) 25th (?para)
7. Minesweeping summary for week ending 10th.
One red magnetic mine detonated outside Port
Said searched channel.
(S.B.N.O. Suez Canal, Area (Ismailia) 1821C/11 to
Admty).
- Malta Air Report. I.283 11/5.
My I.277, 9/5. Part 2, all part 1 my I282 10/5.
For 57 Spitfires arrived Malta read 60. Addition
One Me. 109 probably destroyed, 1 Ju.87 damaged
by fighters. 3 alerts 1159, 1610, 1802. Me. 109s. 20 Ju. 87s
8. Ju.88s. Grand Harbour no damage. 1 Ju.88 1 Ju.87, 2 Me.
109s, 1 Cant 1007-1. Macchi 202 destroyed; 1 Ju. 87 4 Me. 109s
1 Cant 1007 probably destroyed; three Ju.87s. 1 Ju.88 5 Me.
109s 1 Cant 1007 damaged by 53 Spitfires 7 Hurricanes. 1
Spitfire shot down, pilot safe. A/A destroyed 4 Ju.87s. Night
10/11, 2 raiders 2209, 2259. Damage. Beaufighter up, no
interceptions.
11/5. 6 alerts 1406, 0525, 0656, 0823, 1225, 1435. Most of
Me. 109s and only 4 Ju.88s. 1 bomber only crossed coast and
dropped bombs Hal Far, this bomber probably destroyed by fighters
Aerodrome unserviceable. 2 Me. 109s, 1 Macchi 202 destroyed;
1 Me. 109 probably destroyed, 3 Me. 109s damaged by 34 Spitfires
A/A fired.
(H.Q., R.A.F., Malta, 1900/11)
- Madagascar Films. My 1820B/11 to S.O. Force F. Request films
and photographs from Madagascar be dealt with in
Cairo similarly to Eastern Mediterranean material,
and forwarded to U.K. by quickest possible route.
In addition to normal censorship restrictions
pictures should not disclose (1) composition of force F (2)
more than one aircraft carrier (3) damage or casualties to Vichy
Navy.
(D.P.D., 1918B/11 to C. in C. Med).
- U.S. and Massawa. U.S.M.N.A.M. have recently received a signal
from U.S.A. War Dept. which states, "Effort to
get British to operate Naval Base at Massawa
being commented on". Request early information
whether any change in policy of America operating this Base is
contemplated as this will affect whole development of
establishment.
(C. in C. Med., 1931C/11 to Admty. (R) F.O.C. Red Sea Force,
Massawa (Coding or Cypher Office)).

/ARCHER...

SECRET

MESSAGE

1740/11 May.

From: Gov. and C. in C. Malta.

DATE: 12.5.42.
RECD: 0050.

IN

CYPHER.

Addressed: C. in C. Middle East. Repeated The War Office.
IMPORTANT.

049236 G/1084 Cypher 11/5. Most Secret.

One. Military situation report for week ending 9/5. Enemy. Reduced scale air attack continues increasing at end of week. Daily scale enemy effort follows. Read as in G/954/R dated 4/5. /
3/5 14 21 5 Cant. 1007 aerodromes. Gun posns. 4/5. 13 nil 5 Cant. aerodromes. Harbour 5/5. 11 nil nil aerodrome Harbour. 6/5 13 nil 5 Cant. aerodromes. 7/5. nil nil 5 Cant. aerodromes. 8/5. 13 35 nil aerodromes. Harbour area. 9/5. 22 15 10 Cant. aerodromes. Large escorts of Me. 109s. and some Macchi. 202's in addition total of 54 bombers by night widespread. 12 aircraft and 2 'E' boats minelaying night 9/10. Minor 'E' boat activity throughout week. Photo. recces. show reduction about 70 Ju. 88's in Sicily. Italian tactics continue high level close formation bombing. Enemy aircraft casualties. A.A. destroyed Ju. 87 2. Me. 109 2. Damaged Ju. 88 5. Ju. 87 1. Me. 109 2. R.A.F. destroyed Ju. 87 1. Cant. 3. Me. 109 7. Probably destroyed Ju. 88 1. Ju. 87 4. Cant. 2. Macchi 1. Me. 109 1. Damaged Ju. 88 6. Ju. 87 4. Me. 109 6.

2. One tps. combined effort made this week end to gain local air superiority. Reinforcement fifty seven Spitfires arrived 9/5 also some Hurricanes A.A. amm. expenditure restriction temporarily lifted. Besides new building parties 1500 men earlier in week parties total 700 men 90 vehicles provided for assistance to R.A.F. aerodromes for refuelling, amm. belt loading, crater filling, M.T. driving etc. from 9/5 in special effort enable R.A.F. to keep aerodromes serviceable and prepare fighters quickly. Preliminary reports 10/5 show very heavy loss inflicted on enemy and ninety per cent our fighters still serviceable. Preliminary figures 22 destroyed 19 probable 20 damaged. Army B.D. Sec. disposed of 102 UXB totalling 21 tons. Cut in troops rations accepted cheerfully.

3. Damage military installations. Three H.A.A. gun posns. attacked some casualties one gun destroyed. Further damage billets stores. Pay office damage forced move fourth time. Further damage ordnance depots.

4. Other effects. Civil situation considerably eased by respite. Civil morale still good.

5.

5. Army casualties 16 O.R.'s killed 24 O.R.'s wounded.

6. Conclusion. Enemy now moving proportion of air force away from Sicily with consequent lessening of attack. Reinforcement Spitfires is enabling us hit enemy very hard which may deter from further efforts.

1740/11.

Received from War Office

War Office, Circulation:

- 1st Lord.
- 1st S.L.
- 4th S.L.
- 5th S.L.
- V.C.N.S.
- A.C.N.S. (P).
- Nav. Sec.
- N.A. Est S.L.
- O.D. (5)
- C.C.F.S.
- O.I.C. (3)
- Cps. (5)
- D. of P. (3)
- M. (2)
- I.P. (3)
- D.P.D.
- W.D.
- D.N.I. (5)
- D.N.A.D.

- Internal: S. of S., C.I.G.S., V.C.G.S., G.S., D.M.O. & P., D.M.O., M.O. 1-5, D.M.I., D.L.M.I. (I), D.S.B., S.D., C.D., D.D.A., D.D. of R., A.A., D.D.S.D. (I), A.O.I., D.C.M.G., Q. (Ops), D.D.Sigs., Sigs. 1, D.D.I.P., I.P.1, D.G.A.E., Q. (O.S.) 3, E. in C., E. (Ops.), D.F.W., D.D.F.W. (1), F.W. 5, D.M.T., M.T.1, D.G.A.M.S., D.D.G.A.M.S. (Ops).

- External: Col. Rolleston (Colonial Office), C.N.S. Admiralty, C.A.S. Air Ministry, Col. Jacob, R. Casualties, Hd. of War Reg. Admiral, A.M.C.S. Air Ministry, Foreign Secretary.

EC.

11.5.1942.
Monday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean - Contd.

ARCHER Your 2353B/10 (2355/10 intended?) Total 12
Martlets. Martlet III in Egypt of which 8 to 10 might then
be serviceable. Some training would be required.
Only 4 arrester hooks remain from those sent
Trincomalee. 6 hooks complete would have to be sent by Air.
(C. in C. Med., 1945C/11 to Admty).

Destroyer AIREDALE, DULVERTON, BERGYLT (?BEAUFORT) Capt.
Positions, D.14th Destroyer Flotilla who was position
JACKAL 032° 42', 026° 16' at 2023 G. JACKAL damaged
damaged. and in tow.
(Capt. S.l., 2115C/11 to TURBULENT).
UNA decypher my 2115/11 and add 3 other destroyers
(Capt. S.l., 2259C/11 to TURBULENT, UNA).
See p. 340.

Ships Lost Ref. A.F.O. 3700/40. Board enquiries are not
by A/C, attack being held into the loss due to enemy bombing
Malta,. in harbour of LEGION, LANCE, KINGSTON, BRECONSHIRE
ABINGDON, JADE, SUNSET, ANDROMEDA, and S/MS PANDORA
P.36, and P.39 as it is not considered that any
useful purpose would be achieved. The facts are clear and I
am satisfied where any action was possible to endeavour to save
ships it was taken.
(V.A. Malta, 2219B/11 to Admty etc).

C.308 Regret to report loss of H.M. Tug C.308 at about
mined. 0300/11 through striking a mine 1½ miles off
Grand Harbour when returning from minesweeping
operation. C.O. and 8 ratings missing. 7 ratings
saved.
(V.A. Malta, 2230B/11 to C. in C. Med., (R) Admty)

Malta Air My 2216/6th. Raids on 7th and 8th continued
Raids. light with 20 and 59 bombers only and no raid on
the dockyard. One aircraft was probably destroyed
on 7th and with the aid of a reinforcement of
Hurricanes 13 were destroyed or damaged on 8th.

2. M.L. 130 was lost whilst on patrol off Grand Harbour on
morning of 7th after having been in action with enemy E-boats, and
OLYMPUS, on passage to Gibraltar struck a mine and sank about 5
miles off Grand Harbour on morning 8th. From M.L. 130 there
were survivors and from OLYMPUS raft only 9.

3. On 9th "Bowery" spitfires reached Malta. Although arrival
of first delivery co-incided with a raid, the fact that a
previous raid had not been concentrated on aerodrome seemed to
show that enemy was not expecting them. He quickly appreciated
the situation, however, and for the rest of the day kept up
continuous raids. Delivered aircraft were fighting within 35
minutes of arrival and not only saved the aerodrome but destroyed
or damaged 30 for the loss of only 3 Spitfires.

4. At 0500/10 BERYL, acting as escort to sweepers and TRUSTY
STAR drove off with damage 3 E-boats who may have been minelayers
or waiting to torpedo WELSHMAN.

5. Today 3 raids have been concentrated on WELSHMAN but Axis
has been met by 3 factors to which they are unaccustomed, smoke,
the heaviest barrage ever concentrated in Malta over one place

/and a...

See 7/5 pp 209 210

War Diary.11.5.1942.
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean. conts:

Malta Air Raids. Contd. and a wealth of fighters. Conditions have been ideal for smoke cover and for each raid a screen generally reported on as giving 100% cover of French Creek has been developed.

Reasonably certain that neither WELSHMAN nor her immediate vicinity can have been visible to attacking aircraft; nevertheless the head of French Creek was heavily pounded and WELSHMAN near missed by 6 bombs which caused slight casualties and minor damage.

6. Whilst in no way belittling value of smoke to put off accurate bombing it is considered para. 2. of my 0120/26/4 has been confirmed. *[Admty reply to this, 1755B/15, page 474]*

7. For first time since Axis offensive started we have had sufficient fighters to meet each raid with equal if not superior numbers. Forty 87s. thirteen 88s. five Cants and many German and Italian fighters were used. They lost destroyed or damaged 45 bombers and 21 fighters.

8. We lost 3 Spitfires but two pilots are safe and damage done has been negligible.

9. It has been an encouraging day.

(V.A. Malta, 2337B/11 to C. in C. Med., (R) Admty F.O.C.N.A.)

War Diary.

11.5.1942.
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies.S/M.
K.11.

Request Netherlands S/M K.11 which I understand has been allocated to combined A/S School may be sent as soon as possible to Bombay and placed under my operational control.. Sea training facilities are urgently required and I intend to carry on during monsoon at Karachi or in Gulf of Cutch. (F.O.C.R.I.N. 0533Z/11 to C. in C. E.I. (R) Admty. etc.)

CLYDEFIELD.

Your 1611/28. CLYDEFIELD did not receive your diversion signal. (N.C.S.O. Kilindini 0612Z/11 to Admty.)

Eastern
Fleet.

Summary of State of Eastern Fleet ships as follows.
1. VALIANT completed refit mid-July and works up in Mid-August.

RESOLUTION (?88) % extra horizontal armour to fit plus (?REVENGE) refit after (?VALIANT), prudent maximum 15 knots due to condition of boiler tubes. Horizontal armour to fit.

ROYAL SOVEREIGN refits after REVENGE, boiler room fans and part of bottom in bad condition. Horizontal armour to fit.

2. INDOMITABLE requires 3 weeks harbour for engine room defects, mostly steam joints.

(?FORMIDABLE) requires 5 days harbour maintenance. Limited 24 knots. In view of refit of (?starboard) engines gearing near completion, if successful speed then 28.

ILLUSTRIOUS requires repairs to fire damage and replacement of 4.5 inch mounting which should be stopped at Durban in June.

3. BIRMINGHAM, DAUNTLESS complete working up late May.

CAPETOWN completes refit mid-June and working up mid-July.

4. Destroyers. 2 in dock date uncertain 2 due to dock.

5. All remainder of ships require 5 days in harbour for maintenance. (C. in C. E.F. 0705Z/11 to Admty.)

Japanese
S/M guns.

Ref. C.O.I.S. Colombo's 0501Z/14. Detailed examination indicated shell was standard Japanese 5.5 shell. (C. in C. E.F. 0930Z/11 to Admty. etc.)

PANTHER
defect.

PANTHER reports 28 blades of 1st row of port (?turbines) impulse stage broken. 4 blades recovered show the fractures at bottom 1st root serration. Request instructions as to port PANTHER should be sent to for repair. (S.O. Force F 1003C/11 to Admty. (R) C. in C. S.A. etc.)

K.14.
K.15.

Dutch S/Ms K.14 and K.15 shortly becoming due for major refit lasting approx. 9 months which includes docking for 6 or 7 weeks.
2. B.S.O. has requested that these S/Ms be refitted simultaneously at Simonstown commencing about 1/8.
3. Can this be arranged? (D.C. in C. E.F. 1007Z/11 to Admty (R) C. in C. E.F. etc.)

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War Diary.11.5.1942.
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies - Contd.

Troopship Capacity. My 2118/25/1 and 1822/13/2. Only report of increases to capacities of troopships carried out in India is contained in your 0631/6/2. Request report of all increases to date. What action has been taken on my 1819/7/3 containing specific proposals for LANCASHIRE? Important that every opportunity be taken during turn round of ships to effect increases on lines indicated. (D.S.T. 1014B/11 to P.S.T.O. India.)

Italian Repatriation. P.C. and S at 1200 A.T.S. 11/5 00° 21' S 47° 34' E 031° 13 knots. (GIULIO CESARE T.O.R. 1022 G.M.T./11 to Admty. etc.)

Operation "Ironclad" Cancel my 1442/27. All ships who took part in operation "Ironclad" now have normal sets of S.Ps. (S.O. Force F 1104C/11 to C. in C. S.A. Admty. DAUNTLESS C. in C. E.F.)

Commands. Your 1847/24/4 (N.T. in W.D.) and 2020/6/5*. Commodore Stuart is relieving R.A. Read tomorrow 12/5. In view of your 1847/24/4 and as I consider it necessary I have directed him to hoist his flag as R.A. with title F.O. East Africa and Zanzibar. (C. in C. E.F. 1106Z/11 to Admty. (R) S.O. 3rd. B.S. C. in C. E.I. Dep. C. in C. E.F. C. in C. S.A.) * Situation in Indian Ocean.

V.A.3. RESOLUTION. REVENGE. Your 1403/10 (Received undecypherable in War Reg.) RESOLUTION sailing P.M./12. Flag V.A.3 and F.O. 2nd. in command Eastern Fleet will be transferred temporarily to REVENGE. (F.O. 3 B.S. 1118Z/11 to C. in C. E.F.)

Ceylon Defences. Your 86462 M.O.12, A T.O.O. 1910/5 to Armindia Para 3 (b). Colombo has an A/T A/B Boom, not and A/S A/B Boom. (C. in C. E.I. 1221Z/11 to Troopers.) W.R. Note: 86463 (MOIZA) T.O.O. 2000/5 refers. Revised scales of defence for Bases Ceylon.

Water Tanker for Capetown. C. in C. S.A. 2011/8. (1) SINGU can be released for this service provided she is replaced as water carrier for Ceylon area by ARMILLA. (2) Propose therefore to clean ARMILLA for water and use her for replenishing stocks at Addu and Trincomalee. (3) If above proposal is approved request instructions as to whether SINGU due Addu 13/5 should (A) proceed thence direct Cape or (B) return Ceylon and await new crew expected about 23/5. In latter case estimated that SINGU would not reach Cape before mid June. (C. in C. E.I. 1247Z/11 to Admty. (R) C. in C. S.A. C. in C. E.F.)

War Diary.11.5.1942.
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies - Contd.

Movements. Colombo arrival 11/5 0300Z SCOUT 1100Z AGRA.
Departure 0700Z NAPIER. (S.O.I. Colombo
1409Z/11 to Admty. etc.)

MANXMAN What is MANXMAN's next stop after Diego Suarez?
Madagascar Film and photographs urgently required in
films. London will be sent in ATLANTIS sailing early
tomorrow unless MANXMAN is calling at Kilindini.
(S.O. Force F 1413C/11 to C. in C. S.A. (R)
Admty.)

Your 1413/11. Request these films and photographs be sent in
MANXMAN to Kilindini for onward air passage to British Embassy
Cairo. Separate signal being sent to C. in C. Med. regarding
disposal. (D.P.D. (Approved by A.C.N.S.(F) 1820B/11 to S.O.
Force F.)

Your 1413/11. MANXMAN is to proceed to Kilindini after
complying with proposal contained in C. in C. South Atlantic's
1130/7 (N.T. in W.R.) (C. in C. E.F. 2017Z/11 to S.O. Force F.
(R) C. in C. S.A. Admty.)

Madagascar. Following from Chiefs of Staff. We await reply
to our 1441B/9 which has crossed your 2317C/10.
(Hush. N.T. in W.D.) Meanwhile go ahead full
speed with operations against Majunga and Tamatave as proposed
in para 6 and keep all naval forces necessary for that purpose.
2. We realise that this will necessitate retention of 13th
and 17th Brigades until these operations are over when a
further view can be taken, but we again emphasise importance
of these formations resuming their voyage to India at earliest
possible moment.
3. Your para 2 noted and will be borne in mind.
(D.O.D. (F) 1521B/11 to S.O. Force F (R) C. in C. E.F.)
A.M. 1521/11. Request you will give any necessary assistance to
S.O. Force F. (1st. S.L. 1832B/11 to C. in C. E.F.)

EASEDALE. Ready to sail in about 24 hours time.
(2) Refrigerator out of action for three months.
High pressure glands and rods require refit in
addition to other defects. Maximum $9\frac{1}{2}$ knots.
(3) For what port should she be sailed?
(S.O. Force F 2223C/11 to C. in C. S.A. (R)
Admty. C. in C. E.I.)

War Diary.11.5.1942.
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America & West Indies.

Movements. St. Johns N.F. 10/5. Arrivals COBALT, ex O.N.90 Fairmiles Q.056 and Q.057 ex exercises Harbour, Grace. STAR XVI ex mine investigation.

Departures VANQUISHER, ST. CLAIR, ARROWHEAD, WEYBURN, to O.N.91. ST. FRANCIS to Argentia for repairs. COWICHAN escort W.S.C.J.83 to Junction. NASTURTIUM to local exercises. (F.O.N.F., 0030Z/11 to Admty).

Departure 11th 1130 G.M.T. CLARKIA with tug EDMOND J. MORAN and LADY NELSON in company. (R.N.O. St. Lucia, 0731Q/11 to Admty).

Task Force 36. This is C.T.F.36b. 1921Z/10 addressed C. in C. U.S. Atlantic Fleet. "T.F.36 departs 05° 00', 00° 03' for base (d) 1630Z/10 via position (a) 02° 00', 02° 00' position (b) 02° 00', 25° 00'. S. of A 14.5 knots. (C. in C. U.S. Fleet, 0200Z/11 to R.A. West Africa, (R) Admty. Opnav, C. in C. Atlantic Fleet S.O.P.A. Argentia, N.S.H.Q., C. in C. A.W.I., A.C.I.C.)

U/B Fixes by D/F. Within 100 miles 29.30 N., 76.30 W., at 2237Z, 2302Z and 2314Z/10. (N.S.H.Q., 0205Z/11). Within 30 miles 30.30 N., 75.30 W., at 2215Z and 2216Z/10. (N.S.H.Q., 0216Z/11). Within 30 miles 35.15 N., 75.15 W., at 0032Z and 0041Z. (N.S.H.Q., 0350Z/11). Within 30 miles 19° N., 75° W., at 0202Z. (N.S.H.Q., 0445Z/11). Within 100 miles 22.30 N., 89° W., at 0300Z. (N.S.H.Q., 0617Z/11). Within 100 miles 20° N., 74.30 W., at 0253Z. (N.S.H.Q., 0714Z/11). Within 60 miles 19.30 N., 68.00 W., at 0453Z and 0632Z. (N.S.H.Q., 0905Z/11).

U/B Received 0426 G.M.T. WGBC 1 de NAA. S/M sighted 28.10 N., 80.90 W., at 1855Z/10, X.110032. Controlling station Arlington Radio. (Portishead Radio, 0642/11 to Admty).

S/M R.6 S/M Notice. This is C.T.F.25 0324/11 action U.S.S. R.6 C.E.S.F., Cominch, Comthree, C.T.F. 29, 28, 24, 21, 22. My 1742/4 and N.O.B. Bermuda 072134. R.6 proceeding from position 300 miles 146° from Montauk Point. Passed through that position about 0100Z/10. Proceeding direct route to Bermuda. E.T.A. between 1200 and 1500Z/14. Submerged during daylight and at discretion during darkness. Request total bombing restrictions 15 miles each side, 50 miles ahead and astern, of estimated positions. (C. in C. U.S. Fleet, 0848/11 to Cinclant, C.T.G.27.2).

/Suspicious...

War Diary.

11.5.1942.
Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies. - Contd.

Suspicious Ship, COLLISTER. Report from Master of British ship COLLISTER At 0500R/8 in 020° 11' N., 083° 36' W. sighted freighter 4 points before beam port side. British ship's course S. 067° E., 11 knots, suspect parallel, 9 knots. While British ship overtaking suspect zigzagged and drew nearer, then when 2 miles on port quarter, turned hard starboard crossing British ship's stern. Shortly after turned on to original course and made large puff white smoke. Previously making dark smoke as from oil burner. (Description). Various guns aft, wearing Red Ensign. Comment. (A) Reported on account of wearing Red Ensign and suspicious course (B) Can trace no British ship that position and time. (S.O.(I) Jamaica, 0921R/11 to Admty etc).

Movement Summary.	1800 G.M.T. 11/5.			
	Ship	Position	Course	Speed
	Convoy S.L.109)	21½° N. 27½° W.	354	7½
	LANDGUARD.	} 02° N., 26° W.	} Patrol	} Blank
	ALCANTARA)			
	PRETORIA)			
	CASTLE.)			
	Transport)	27° S. 32° W.	290	25.
	QUEEN)			
	ELIZABETH.)			
	(D.O.D. (F), 1007Z/11 to Opnav (R) Comnav).			

S/M Report. Your 1748/10. P.B.Y. in 017° 20' N., 075° 18' W. at 1200/10 G.M.T. sighted S/M course 180° speed about 15 knots. S/M forced to dive. (N.O.I.C., Trinidad, 1112Q/11 to S.O.(I) Kingston)

My 1112Q/11. S/M fired red flare before (?diving). Would appear to be U.S. S/M GROWLER. (N.O.I.C. Trinidad, 1542Q/11 to S.O.(I) Kingston).

WARWICK. Leave Bermuda p.m./11 and proceed by direct route via Anegada passage to Trinidad adjusting speed to arrive 0800Q/15. B.A.D. Washington pass to Opnav and Com.10. (C. in C. A.W.I., 1203P/11 to WARWICK (R) HAVELOCK, B.A.D. etc).

C.T.F. 24 1205/6. WARWICK arrived Bermuda p.m./10 and reported to you for duty. Am sailing her at 16 knots similarly to my 1202/10 to arrive Trinidad a.m./15. She can then do approx. 150 hours steaming before next boiler cleaning. (C. in C. A.W.I., 1213P/11 to Com 10 (R) C. in C. U.S. Fleet, Cinclant etc). *Sailed - See p. 352.*

LADY DRAKE (sunk 5/5). Your 1711/10. 46 survivors including leader William H. Wright all in Bermuda waiting disposal. Following are missing (list of 5). (C. in C. A.W.I., 1204P/11 to D.S.T. (R) N.S.H.Q.)

/LADY...

War Diary.11.5.1942.
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America & West Indies. - Contd.

LADY RODNEY, ROXBOROUGH. Leave Bermuda p.m. 11/5 and act as escort to SS. LADY RODNEY to Halifax. Route as follows
 A. 036° 50' N., 063° 40' W. B. 043° 40' N., 061° 25' W., Reference positions V. 037° 35' N., 060° 00' W. W. 043° 05' N., 064° 45' W.
 Estimated S. of A. 12 knots.
 (C. in C. A.W.I., 1212P /11 to *ROXBOROUGH (R) Admty. B.A.D. N.S.H.Q., C.O.A.C., F.O.N.F., C. in C. U.S. Fleet Opanv, S.O.(I) Kingston).
 * *Sailed - see p. 352*

Tankers routed via Freetown. Your 1621Z/9, concur ATHELREGENT to join coastal convoy.
 (D.T.D., 1258B/11 to N.S.H.Q. Ottawa).

New Zealand Trawlers. This is Paseafron 2305/10 NN.SS. deliver to C. in C. U.S. Fleet and Opanv. Alusna Wellington pass to N.Z.N.B. (These addressees for information).
 Refer C. in C. U.S. Fleet 2022/21/4. Departed 10/5 1800Z (Colon) H.M.N.Z. Ships TUI, INCHKEITH, SANDA, KILLEGRAY, SCARBA. Group Commodore in TUI all for San Pedro speed 8.5. Require water coal and oil. E.T.A. destination 31/5. F.P.M. deliver to Com. Weseafron and C. in C. Pacific.
 (C. in C. U.S. Fleet, 1310/11 to B.A.D. Admty. and N.S.H.Q. for Information).

U.S. Convoys, Curacao. Ref. proposal convoy from Curacao to eastward, consider important dispersal should not be till well east of Windward Islands and not merely convoy between Curacao and Trinidad as apparently U.S. Authorities propose. Adm. Oldendorf concurs in my view. It is expected to sail for Aruba and Curacao about 10 ships every 3 days. 2 Escort vessels to each convoy requiring 6 Escort vessels at least. Independent sailings under existing conditions appear preferable.
 (S.B.N.O. Curacao, 1633QR/11 to C. in C. A.W.I.)

INTREPIDO Maracaibo reports Panamanian INTREPIDO aground 20 miles west of Outer Bar Gulf of Maracaibo.
 (S.O.(I) Jamaica, 1637B/11 to Admty etc).

P.552 (i) S/M P.552 sails from St. John's N.F. 1100Z/12 speed 9 knots. (ii) Route positions.
 A. and B. in F.O.S's 1153B/8 amend to read A. 054° 20' N., 040° 00' W., B. 057° 25' N., 030° 00' W., to avoid crossing track of S.C.83 in vicinity of convoy. Position C.D.E. as in F.O.S's 1153B/8. (ii) Bombing restriction to 35° W., in force 20 miles ahead and astern and 5 miles each beam of position at all times.
 (F.O.N.F., 1732Z/11 to F.O.S. (R) Admty etc).

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11.5.1942.
Monday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.America & West Indies. - Contd.

Portuguese Trawlers, fuel. My 1657/8. Following from B.N.A. Lisbon (begins) Your 1158/7 M.E.W. Section British Embassy has obtained concession of Gas Oil, for British Wolfram Mines in exchange support for fuel for these two Portuguese Trawlers. See Arfar telegram from Lisbon 881.

In view of keen interest of Ministry of Marine in the matter and our interest in fuel facilities in Azores consider fuel should now be supplied (Ends).

Embassy shares Admty fear that failure to supply quickly may cause serious prejudice to our fuelling position at Azores. Request immediate confirmation supply has been made. (Hd. of M., 1739B/11 to N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, N.A. Lisbon).

NEWSCARRIER (U.S.) Sailed New York 29th April due Montreal 1/5 is overdue. (N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 1821/11 to Opanav, Admty F.O.N.F., C.O.A.C.)

CHURCHILL Your 1238/9 and 2049/6. Request ships may be supplied with necessary charts before leaving U.K. in view of present transport difficulties on this station. Request also that ships may be brought up to date with relevant Q and W messages. Few ships arriving here recently have held QJB or WJB series. Can it be confirmed that CHURCHILL has these? (C. in C. A.W.I., 1902P/11 to C. in C. W.A. (R) Admty).

Ice Bulletin 11/5. (C.T. 24 1919/11 to Admty).

U/B Intelligence. Sub. attack and sighting summary. *GREEN ISLAND torpedoed and sunk 18° 25' N., 81° 30' W., at 1300Z/6. AGRA torpedoed and sunk 34° 40' N., 69° 35' W., at 2120Z/20/4 U-45 type with elephant head pointed on conning tower. Sub. attacked with possible damage 07° 15' N., 54° 10' W., 0030Z/10. Sub. sighted 10° 38' N., 79° 30' W., at 1050Z/10. Sub. sighted 28° 10' N., 80° W., at 1855Z/10. Periscope sighted 38° 48' N., 74° 56' W., at 1830Z/10. Sub. sighted 29° 35' N., 87° 28' W., at approx. 0324Z/11. Plane attacked sub. 48° 46' N., 62° 42' W. at 2241Z/10. Result unknown. Plane sighted and attacked sub. 34° 26' N., 76° 13' W., 2019Z/10. Results negative. Opanav and B.A.D. informed. (C. in C. U.S. Fleet, 2021Z/11 to Admty).

* See next page

U/B Nassau R.O. Nassau reports S/M sighted 1700R today Monday 1½ miles east of Harbour Island, proceeding North. (S.O.(I) Jamaica, 2038R/11 to Admty etc).

War Diary.11.5.1942.
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America & West Indies - Contd.

U.S. Strategic J.S.M. 224.
Planning. (J.S.M. 2105Z/11 to Chiefs of Staff)
See Lion Copy.

Shipping Opanav serial 10 and 11 LUBRAFOL Pan. tkr.
Casualties torpedoed 0908 15 Z in 26° 26' N., 80° 00' W.,
U/B. 31 survivors, 13 missing. Papers in Master's
room when vessel caught fire. Vessel being
guarded ONTARIO (?bound) (refer serial 8)
presumed sunk. *GREEN ISLAND, American, torpedoed and sunk 6/5
18° 25' N., 81° 30' W., 22 survivors. AURORA, American tanker
torpedoed at 0730Z/10 in 28° 35' N., 90° 00' W. Confidentials
in possession Master. 1 killed. (Admiralty pass to Spenavo).
(Opanav, 2106/11 to Spenavo (R) N.S.H.Q.)

* See previous page.

CAPE OF (?From an) Intercept. SS. CAPE OF GOOD HOPE
GOOD HOPE. torpedoed in 022° 45' N., 058° 25' W., at 1843
G.M.T. My position is 021° 30' N., 050° 30' W.
Intend remaining with my convoy.
(BURNHAM, 2115Z/11 to N.O.I.C. Bermuda).
SS. CAPE OF GOOD HOPE torpedoed in 22.45 N., 58.25 W.,
at 1843 G.M.T. B.A.D. pass to Cominch, C.C.S.F.
(Navycom. Bermuda, 2253P/11 to Admty).

ROXBOROUGH, Bermuda arrival ROXBOROUGH, departures *WARWICK in
WARWICK. accordance with my 1230/11, ROXBOROUGH in
accordance with my 1212/?11, neither to all
addressees.
(C. in C. A.W.I., 2133P/11 to Admty (R) B.A.D.
N.S.H.Q., etc). * See p. 350 * See p. 349

Coastal O.R.S.6. add new article 44 (begins).
Convoys. Coastal Convoy will be organized for different
sections of the North America coasts and West
Indies as promulgated by British, Canadian and
U.S. Authorities. When ships are proceeding on voyages part or
parts of which will be in Coastal Convoys, they should be given
route to cover all those sections of their voyage where they
may be expected to proceed independently. Master should however
be warned that if any instructions or modification to the
original route are given to them at any intermediate port,
such instructions will override those originally given
Route Signals for such ships should indicate portions of route
traversed in convoy thus "By K.S. convoy to Key West, thence
etc". If for any reason a ship is not given convoy where
expected, the routing officer as Assembly port is to provide
ship with route covering the normal convoy section, making
separate route signals for this portion.
(N.S.H.Q., Ottawa, 2133Z/11 to All N.C.S.Os. and C.S.As. Ottawa
Intelligence Area (R) Admty. C. in C. A.W.I., S.O.(I) Jamaica,
B.A.D. A/C N.A. Washington).

DURBAN Your 1300/9. DURBAN is to call at Bermuda to
embark these stores.
(A.C.N.S. (F) 2230B/11 to B.A.R.M. (R) C. in C.
A.W.I.)

/PENELOPE...

MOST SECRET MESSAGE **MOST SECRET** IN

2105Z/11th May

From:- J.S.M. Washington.

Date. 12.5.42.
Recd. 0700C Y P H E R

Addressed:- Chiefs of Staff, London.

IMPORTANT

J.S.M. 224. IZ.261 12.5.42.

Reference J.S.M. 144 and 155.

Progress towards formulation of agreed U.S. British strategic policy has proved disappointing. Fundamental difficulty is that U.S. Navy still disagrees with U.S. Army as to strength of forces, particularly air forces, required in the Pacific, and is pressing for increases. Until Americans agree amongst themselves, it is obviously difficult to formulate U.S. British strategy. Moreover, Americans are unwilling to pursue strategic argument to any logical conclusion which involves stating that one theatre of war is more important than another.

2. Combined Chiefs of Staff directive to combined planners called for recommendations as to deployment of United Nations forces as well as general strategic appreciation. The difficulty referred to in foregoing paragraph is holding up completion of appendix showing recommendations for deployment of forces and has also resulted in U.S. Army Air Forces now stating that figures given by them in TDUN are incorrect.

3. Further discussion by combined planners on common strategic policy and deployment of forces is thus postponed until the different views of U.S. Navy and Army are resolved and until the revised figures are available. Study of U.S. munitions requirements for 1943, referred to C.M.J.4, para. 2, is also delayed for above reasons.

4. Above complications, in addition to disappointments in U.S. expansion programme, are undoubtedly contributing to failure of U.S. Staffs to provide a reliable estimate of rate of availability of U.S. Air Forces for service in overseas theatres. In our view tentative estimates at present available are definitely optimistic.

2105Z/11 Recd. in War Reg.
at 1315/12

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

+ 1905/1/4
+ 2021/25/3

Circulation:

Col. Jacob.

~~Foreign Office~~

Hd. of Watch, War Reg.

Admiralty.

C.6. Tels. War Office

C.A.S.

MOST SECRET

11.5.1942.
Monday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies.- Contd.

- PENELOPE F.O.C.N.A. 1158/10. Request you will communicate onward route instructions to me for transmission to PENELOPE.
(C. in C. A.W.I., 2302P/11 to Opanav, (R) Admty etc).
- Pointe Noire Free French proposals for improvement to provide entry point and assembly base for American planes.
(J.S.M., 2335Z/11 to War Cabinet Offices, London)
See Lion Copy.
- Floating Dock. Your 1319/9, para 4. (N.T. in W.D.) Date of R/V still very doubtful. (reasons).
2. Every effort is being made to hasten completion of B.A.T.7. 3. Present estimate is that dock is unlikely to leave New York before 10/6.
4. British escort from Freetown could be fuelled at St. Thomas.
(B.A.D., 2339Z/11 to Admty (R) R.A.W.A.F., C. in C. S.A., C. in C. A.W.I.)
- U.S. Submarines. Adm. King has asked, through Adm. Edwards, if consideration can be given to U.S. retaining the four "S" Class S/Ms promised for transfer to R.N. but not yet turned over.
2. These boats are wanted for U.S. S/M. School, which will otherwise have to have new S/Ms. Training of S/M crews is being expanded in preparation for manning the extra S/M construction programme recently adopted.
3. Adm. King is most reluctant to withdraw modern S/Ms from active service. There are 14 old S/M including 3 "B" Class now at Panama which are suitable only for local defence. It is proposed to transfer 4 of these to Alaska for defence of Aleutian Island area, and Adm. King does not wish to withdraw more from the Panama area.
4. Adm. King recognises that he had promised to transfer the "S" class S/Ms and would stand by his promise if you are unable to release him from it after being made aware of his new needs. Adm. King desires the question be decided entirely on the basis of what is best for United Nations' War Effort.
5. Present assignment of S/Ms, Atlantic. 14 Panama (4 being detached to Alaska). 7 Bermuda - St. Thomas. 9 A/S training 9 S/M training. 2 experimental work, part time S/M training. Total 41. All above are B, R, S, O, classes except two "Mackerels" used in S/M training. Remainder are in Pacific on active duty, with the exception of 2 for training.
6. Before reaching a final decision you may wish us to represent to Cominch the disposition of all British S/Ms including those employed for S/M and for A/S training. Also any further relevant remarks.
(B.A.D., 2341Z/11 to Admty for 1 S.L.)

/Coastal...

MOST SECRET

353A

M E S S A G E 2335Z/11 May IN

Date 12/5/42.
Recd. 0700

From J.S.M. & British Supply
Council, Washington.

CYPHER

Addressed War Cabinet Offices London.

IMPORTANT

IZ 268. CMJ 12. 12/5/42.

Free French have informed us of fairly large project of improvement to Pointe Noire to provide an entry point and assembly base for American bomber and combat planes.

2. Free French state -

(a) that their part will consist of dredging and improving port operating facilities, roads to airport and its defense, also dwellings for several thousand coloured labour and

(b) U.S. Govt. part will consist of bulk receiving petroleum installations and pipe lines and detection post, also dwellings for American personnel.

3. Free French estimate cost of their part at roughly one million four hundred thousand dollars to be divided as to four hundred thousand for purchases on market, asking our assistance in securing priorities and export licenses for one million through lease lend by retransfer from British, including dredging and construction material and probably cranes, etc.

4. Supply Council and Free French representatives have had preliminary discussions with American priority officers as to possibility of a blanket project priority for the 400,000 dollars to avoid detailed labour and delay. It was at once evident that American priority officers required instructions from higher U.S. Air Corps and other military authority. Lt. Colonel Harold B. Willis, American Air Corps and Colonel H.F. Cunningham, American Military Intelligence (both recently returned from French Equatorial Africa and other African areas where, among other matters, they investigated the project under review) therefore joined the discussions. While Colonel Willis from his knowledge is aware of the extreme urgency of the project under review) he felt it essential that the several interests of American Army, Navy and Engineer Departments should be co-ordinated which he would at once attempt to achieve.

5. For your information, although we sense Free French and U.S. authorities are flirting with the idea of direct procurement in respect of future requirements for African areas, we believe both would welcome an expression of your support for projects under review and would then more willingly agree to continue present methods of procurement through us.

MOST SECRET

13
353

SECRET

6. We understand War Office proposes to send Mission to Pointe Noire to investigate requirements for cranes and other transportation stores.

7. Willis arrives London c/o American Embassy on 12th May by air on other official business and will be available to confer with you should you so wish but please do not for that reason hold up urgent reply.

2335Z/11

Recd. in War Reg. 1314/12.

- | | |
|-------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1st Lord. | W.C.O. circulation:- |
| 1st S.L. | Minister of War Production. |
| Contr. | Sir. W. Layton. |
| 4th S.L. | War Reg. Admiralty. |
| 5th S.L. | A.L.M.I War Office. |
| Sec. | P.U.S. (O.G.) |
| V.C.N.S. | Minister of Supply. |
| A.C.N.S. (F) (2) | Sir W. Rootes. |
| A.C.N.S. (W) | Mr. Weeks. |
| P.A.S. (S) | Mr. Turner. |
| P.A.S. (PR) | Minister of Aircraft Production |
| N.A. 1st S.L. | Mr. A. Dunbar. |
| D.O.D. (F) (2) | Col. Jacob. |
| D.C. (2) | Mr. Brand. |
| D.N.I. (4) | Mr. Donaldson. |
| D. of P. (2) | Mr. Fleming. |
| D.D.I.C. (2) | |
| E. S. | |
| Hd. of M. (2) | |
| M.A.S. (3) | |
| D.N.A.D. | |
| Air Branch. | |
| D. of L.D. | |
| W.D. | |
| I.P. (2) | |
| Admiral Bellairs. | |

SECRET

War Diary.

11.5.1942.
Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies. - Contd.

Coastal
Convoy.

Admty 1631/5. Arrangements to begin coastal
~~coastal~~ convoy between Key West and Hampton
Roads on 14-15/5.
(B.A.D., 2345Z/11 to Admty) See Lion Copy.

KITTY'S BROOK Following is a recoded version of my 1525Z/11
addressed Admty (R) N.S.H.Q., F.O.N.F.
C. in C. U.S. Fleet Opnav, C.T.F.28. (Begins)
SS. KITTY'S BROOK torpedoed at 0020Z/10 in 42° 59' N., 64° 56' W.
2 lifeboats including master landed Lockport N.S. Awaiting
further report Opnav please pass C. in C. U.S. Fleet.
(C.O.A.C., 2358Z/11 to Admty).

MOST SECRET

354A

M E S S A G E

IN

MOST SECRET

2345Z/11th May

From B.A.D. Washington.

Date 12/5/42
Recd. 0533

Naval Cypher XD by Cable

Addressed Admiralty. Repeated N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, C. in
C. America & West Indies.

IMPORTANT

863. Your 1631/5. Arrangements are going forward to commence coastal convoy between Key West and Hampton Roads commencing 14th/15th (14/15) May. Speed is to be 10 (10) knots as defined for British convoys. As a large number of U.S. tankers have been taken off this run, partly as the result of delivery of oil to East Coast by rail the number of ships capable of 10 (10) knots is expected to be considerably less than 48 (48) on a three day cycle.

2. Suggestions have been made to reduce the limiting speed or to run some convoys at slower speeds. After consideration of various alternatives U.S. authorities have decided to retain a 10 (10) knot limit for first few convoys while experience is gained and the number of escorts available is comparatively small. Number of ships in first northbound convoys is likely to be still more reduced unless OPNAV's 2304/6 (2304/6) is soon modified.

3. Ships sailing southward from New York will proceed to Delaware Capes as follows -

All vessels to pass Ambrose Light Vessel about 0600 (0600) slow ships anticipating departure time by not more than one half hour.

Faster vessels may delay departure up to 0630 (0630).

Masters are advised to keep in a compact group so that maximum cover can be provided. Ships will be held in port if they fail to reach Ambrose Light Vessel on time or if weather does not permit air cover. Passage from Delaware to Chesapeake will be made by canal if possible, otherwise by daylight. It is understood air cover will be provided by Blimps and other aircraft and a group may be accompanied by a few small patrol vessels.

4. Ships that are too slow for inclusion in convoy are to sail by coastal lanes anchoring at night in harbours or protected anchorage when possible.

The/

2.

The increased risk to slow ships sailing singly by concentration of escort vessels for protection of fast convoys is recognised but U.S. authorities intend to adhere to ten knot limit as reported in paragraph two above.

5. U.S. officers at assembly ports are being given instructions to give high priority for inclusion in convoys to British tankers and cargo vessels. This may not be important while there is spare capacity in the convoys but may be useful for working off congestion following temporary standstill orders or if, as is expected, the speed limit is later reduced.

2345Z/11.

Advance copies Duty Captain
D.O.D.(H)
D.T.D.

1st Lord
1st S.L.
V.C.N.S.
A.C.N.S.(T)
A.C.N.S.(H)
A.C.N.S.(F)(2)
N.A. 1st S.L.
D.O.D.(H)(2)
D.O.D.(F)(2)
D.C.(2)
D.D.I.C.
D.T.D.(2)
D.T.D.(M)
D.T.D.(C)
D.A./S.W.
D. of P.(2)
Head of M.
D.N.I.(4)
I.P.(2)
W.D. —

War Diary.11.5.1942
Monday.FOREIGN STATI NS.Australia & New Zealand.

- Situation Serial No.109 from C.W.R. 10/5.
Enemy shipping sighted 10/5 as follows. 2350Z/9
S/M 014° 52' S 152° 20' E course 110°. 2355Z/9
large S/M 020° 20' S, 155° 08' E course 145°.
0110Z/10 large S/M 019° 43' S 157° E course 180°. 2350Z/9
freighter 8000 tons 007° 15' S 153° 10' E course 300°. 0005Z/10
2 empty tankers 8000 tons 006° 40' S 154° 40' E course 315°
2215Z/9 destroyer fuelling from tanker off Buin (Bougainville
Strait) and cruiser off Faisi. Considerable shipping reported
Faisi Harbour. (7° 5' S., 155° 53' E.)
2. 8 fighters attacked Port Moresby 2130Z/9. 12 P.39's
intercepted one damaged. 2 enemy fighters probably shot down.
 3. 4 B 25's attacked seaplane base at Deboyne Island (Louisiade
Archipelago) at 0145Z/10. 2 bombs fell among seaplanes, one on
buildings. One B 25 damaged. One B 26 attacking same target
is missing.
 4. Catalina on patrol attacked by enemy 4-engined A/C 015° 32' S
161° 25' E 2341Z/9. No details available.
 5. Floating mine reported 6/5 024° 36' S, 162° 05' E.
 6. 3 enemy float planes one 4 engined Kawanisi flying boat
sighted by air R/C off Gavutu Island (Soloman Is.) 9/5.
3 Kawanisi flying boats departed Makambo Island to South 10/5.
 7. Indication C.O. Tainan Air Squadron at Lae 8/5.
 8. Ref. my Serial No.108 para. 1 it has now been ascertained
that report of enemy force in 017° 30' S 152° 30' E at 2100Z/8 was
not based on an actual sight.
(A.C.N.B. 1954Z/11 to Admty. etc.)

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.Submarines Reported.Estimated U/B positions.
(D.D.I.C. 1414B/11, 1430B/11).

War Diary.

12.5.1942. -
Tuesday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

E-Boats were active off the Suffolk coast last night. M.G.B.67 was engaged by 6 and M.G.B.64 was fired at by unseen boats.(Cf. Mining)

A reliable D/F fix at 0800 G.M.T. showed probable enemy cruisers in 67° 30' N 11° 0' E. TIRPITZ HIPPER and PRINZ EUGEN were seen at Trondheim today. SCHEER was not seen there and is said to be in the Narvik area, and it is also reported from Stockholm that LUTZOW is expected to proceed to Tromso on 15/5 or 16/5 under cover of darkness.

U.S. Battleship WASHINGTON and 4 destroyers sailed from Iceland at 2230B today to R/V with DUKE OF YORK (Flag of C. in C. H.F.) VICTORIOUS and LONDON and 9 destroyers who are to provide additional cover for NIGERIA (C.S.10) KENT, NORFOLK and LIVERPOOL and 4 destroyers covering the return of damaged TRINIDAD with 4 destroyers to the U.K. and the passage of P.Q.16 and Q.P.12. At 2219B C. in C. H.F. cancelled these arrangements and WASHINGTON returned to Hvalfiord C. in C. H.F. does not intend to proceed as additional cover unless there is further intelligence indicating movement of enemy surface units.

U-Boat
attack_s
on O.N._λ92.

Convoy O.N.^s92 was attacked by two or more U-Boats last night, about 720 miles west of Ireland and 5 ships were sunk. C. in C. A.W._λ did not learn of this attack until 0159/13.

British Air Operations.

A He.111 which had landed on skis in Advent Bay Spitzbergen was gunned by a Catalina early this morning. The crew of the enemy aircraft, who were close by were also shot up.

C. in C. H.F. sends a message today outlining the outstanding air co-operation requirements affecting the Home Fleet, and he asks what prospects there are of Coastal Command receiving sufficient share of the allocation of aircraft to enable them to meet any or all of these commitments.

12.5.1942.
Tuesday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT.

British Air Operation - Contd.

S.B.N.O. North Russia reports that the Russians are unable to bomb the coastal aerodromes in North Norway and heavier losses to P.Q. and Q.P. convoys from air attack must be expected unless more fighters and bombers are sent to North Russia.

Enemy Air Operations.

SS. EMPIRE STARLIGHT was damaged by air attack at Murmansk today.

Mining.

Several magnetic mines were detonated in the War Channel S.E. of Southwold today, and moored mines further east.

A special sweeping operation was carried out by the 9th M.S. Flotilla.

South Atlantic.

A raider report was intercepted at Freetown about noon G.M.T. today. No details were received.

(Receipt) 20.6.386
U.S. Cruiser OMAHA and U.S. destroyer McDOUGAL left Pernambuco yesterday to patrol in an area from the Equator to 10° S and W of 26° W. U.S. Cruiser MILWAUKEE and U.S. destroyer MOFFETT will leave Ascension about 14/5 to patrol north of the Equator between 26° W and 30° W.

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12.5.1942.
Tuesday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT.

Mediterranean.

At 1336 2 bomb hits were claimed in 31.16 N 28.46 E on a U-Boat which C. in C. Med. considers certainly damaged.

A mine swept off Alexandria today and one swept yesterday are believed to have been laid by enemy aircraft on 8/5.

A successful fighter aircraft operation was carried out today against Ju.52 traffic from Crete to Derna, all the 20 Ju.52s and two escorting Me.110s being destroyed or damaged.

Restrictions on the use of A/A ammunition were re-imposed at Malta today. WELSHMAN brought 82,000 rounds of Bofors on 10/5.

East Indies.

20 aircraft of the South African Air Force arrived at Madagascar today and 10 are expected tomorrow.

Commodore Stuart hoisted his flag as R.A. today with title F.O. East Africa and Zanzibar.

China.

Nine Hudsons at about 2200Z today attacked 4 large and 3 medium size merchant ships and small craft of about 1000 tons at Amboina, sinking one and damaging 2 or 3 others.

America and West Indies.

SS. NICOYA and SS. LETO were torpedoed early this morning (G.M.T) in the mouth of the St. Lawrence River. All shipping in the Gulf and River of St. Lawrence was stopped and it is intended to commence the escort of shipping

/from...

War Diary.

12.5.1942.
Tuesday.

SITUATION REPORT.

America and West Indies - Contd.

from Sydney to Father Point immediately. All ships for the Gulf of St. Lawrence were ordered by the Admiralty on 14/5 to be routed to Sydney for convoy.

A ship was torpedoed in the approaches to Halifax late tonight.

U-Boats are estimated today to be north of Guiana or East of Trinidad, north of Colon, south of Cuba, in Providence Channel, Florida Strait, South of the Mississippi and off Jacksonville.

Norwegian tanker LISE was sunk by 2 S/Ms about 100 miles N.E. of Curacao early this morning, and further to the eastward SS. NORLANTIC was shelled and sunk at 1350Z.

The large U.S. Tanker VIRGINIA was torpedoed and set on fire and reported sinking at 2006Z today off the Mississippi Delta.

All British and U.S. Shipping from the Gulf of Mexico bound for the U.K. or for U.S. or Canadian east coasts except fast ships which are normally sailed independently are now to be routed via Halifax for convoy (instead of being routed via Freetown) being sailed to Key West for inclusion in coastal convoy or, if not of convoy speed to be routed independently. Tankers from the Caribbean and West Indian Ports bound for U.K. are to be routed via Freetown unless otherwise ordered.

SS. BATNA was torpedoed and sunk today in approx. 52° 9' N 33° 56' W, SS. CRISTALES in 52° 55' N 29° 50' W at 0210Z today and SS. EMPIRE DELL in 50° 0' N 30° 30' W at 2353Z today

Australia.

Eight large transports with 3 destroyers and small craft were seen at anchor in Kessa harbour (Buka I.) at 0005Z today. One large transport was off Kessa. In Rabaul harbour there were 7

/large...

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12.5.1942.
Tuesday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT.

Australia - Contd.

large transports and 15 other craft at 0005Z, and one light cruiser and 14 merchant ships were in the area at 2250Z. There were indications that some units of the 4th Fleet, including the C. in C. were still at sea at noon today.

War Diary.12.5.1942.
Tuesday.HOME COMMANDS.Policy.

KYLECLARE. Your 1327B/11. Admty's 1823/27/4 stated that if KYLECLARE was sighted she was to be sent into Milford or Holyhead. At 1120/28/4 aircraft J/254 sighted this ship in 52° 15' N 06° 15' W. course 360° 10 knots and instructed her by V/S to proceed to Milford. KYLECLARE had not obeyed instructions after 5 minutes, so J/254 fired a burst from his forward guns across her bow and repeated his signal. KYLECLARE altered course to 140°. J/254 was then relieved by W/354, at 1142/28 W/254 considered KYLECLARE was attempting to edge inshore, and ordered her by V/S to proceed to Milford Haven. At 1218 he was not satisfied that she was complying with his orders and fired a burst across her bows. KYLECLARE then altered course to 102° and was then escorted in. (C. in C. Plymouth 1612B/12 to Admty.)

Southampton. There is an urgent requirement for the Proposed C.K.D. Site. establishment of four C.K.D. plants in the U.K. for erecting vehicles which are shipped in parts from America.

2. Convenient sites have been arranged in the Clyde, Mersey and Severn areas for three of these. The Southampton area is considered suitable by M of W.T. and W.O. for the fourth.

3. If Southampton is used, an average of six fair-sized merchant vessels will have to pass through the Channel to and from Southampton each month.

4. Your views are requested as early as convenient. (A.C.N.S. (H) 1914B/12 to C. in C. Portsmouth, C. in C. Plymouth)

Biscay Blockade-running. My 1314/11. It is considered that a meeting at Plymouth between representatives of C. in C. Plymouth, N.I.D. and M.E.W. and if you consider desirable, of A.O.C. 19 Group to discuss Blockade-Running in the Bay of Biscay would prove of great value.

2. A clearer picture of the requirements and intentions regarding this traffic could then be put at your disposal together with measures it is hoped to effect shortly to improve the plot. This will facilitate the briefing of Coastal Command Aircraft.

3. It would assist the co-operation between Departments if the representatives of N.I.D. and M.E.W. could be given an opportunity to see how such operations are controlled at Plymouth.

4. It is requested that you will arrange to hold this meeting if possible on 19/5 or soon after.

5. A.O.C. in C. C.C. is requested to say whether he wishes to be represented at this meeting. (A.C.N.S. H. 1922B/12 to C. in C. Plymouth. A.O.C. in C. C.C.)

Iceland administration. Your 0146/23 (?1146/23). Cominch has communicated to us a copy of his instructions to U.S. Admiral in Iceland. Cominch has directed him to assume control only of those naval activities which are necessary for support and control of U.S. Naval forces and shipping Iceland. Since Admiralty desire to retain responsibility for operations and maintenance naval base in Hvalfiord - Reykjavik areas and for

/"Seaward...

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12.5.1942.
Tuesday.War Diary.HOME COMMANDS.Policy.Iceland
adminis-
tration.

"Seaward defence of Hvalfiord" Cominch expects British to retain responsibility for operations and maintenance of all naval local defence forces in Iceland.

see March WD p 547

2. Cominch has directed senior U.S. naval officer present afloat in Iceland to continue supporting U.S. army and British forces in defence of Iceland by mutual co-operation consistent with accomplishment of primary tasks assigned by C. in C. Atlantic Fleet.

3. Cominch assumes that plans for local defence of Iceland will be jointly prepared by commanding general and British F.O. in C. C. in C. Atlantic Fleet is directed to maintain close liaison with both commanders, to ensure co-ordination and support by U.S. Naval force in Iceland.

4. C. in C. Atlantic Fleet has been informed by Cominch that proposal to include Iceland in Western Atlantic area has not been agreed, and directs that pending agreement on commands relations between U.S. naval forces and British forces in Iceland shall be continued to be by mutual co-operation. (B.A.D. 2045Z/12 to Admty.)

Movements.BRIGHTON
WELLS.BRIGHTON ^{and} WELLS proceed to Reykjavik for orders. Boat will be sent off at 0915Z for C.O. You may meet cruiser leaving Hvalfiord. (A.C.I.C. 0130Z/12 to BRIGHTON.) Arrived your 1033/10 at 0745B. (A.C.I.C. 0840B/12 to N.O.I.C. Port ZA.) *See p. 301 & 370.*

AQUITANIA.

→ Sailed U.S.S. BROOKLYN with SS. AQUITANIA. E.T.A. Little Cumbrae 0800B/12. (F.O.I.C. Belfast 0521B/12.) Sailed 0500B/12 AQUITANIA in accordance with my 2120B/11. (N.C.S.O. Belfast 0644B/12)

TRIDENT
P.46.
~~P.614.~~
O.10.
SEAWOLF.Add 24 hours to times given in para 1 of my 1543/10 and in para 1 of my 1547/10. (Capt. S.3. 0924B/12.) Cancel my 1543/10 and my 0924/12. In para 1 of my 1547/10, for SEAWOLF read P.46. (Capt. S.3. 1702B/12.) *See p. 363*

WASP.

Request WASP with U.S. destroyers LANC and STERETT be directed on completion of "Bowery" proceed Scapa, fuel, embark planes, then proceed to Clyde. Expect this unit will return about

→ 18/5 with U.S. cruiser BROOKLYN and her destroyers to unit sailing. (Cdre. U.S.N. Forces in Europe 0946Z/12 to Admty.) Comnavu's 0946/12 is being passed to you. Request you will take action accordingly. (D.O.D.(H) 1931B/12 to C. in C. H.F.)

22nd.
M.L.
Flotilla.

Request you will sail 4 M.Ls of the 22nd. Flotilla now at Peterhead to Scapa forthwith. (D.D.O.D. C. 1232B/12 to C. in C. Rosyth.)

/GLEN AVON...

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12.5.1942.
Tuesday.War Diary.HOME COMMANDS.Movements - Contd.

GLEN AVON.
GLEN USK. Request destination of GLEN AVON and GLEN USK ready for sea 16/5. (F.O.I.C. Tyne 1242/12 to Admty.)

CROCUS. CROCUS due to complete working up 25/5, is required to sail from Londonderry 2/6 to join O.S.30. (C. in C. W.A. 1257B/12 to WESTERN ISLES)

TRIDENT.
SEAWOLF. Cancel my 1543/10. 1. Intend sailing TRIDENT and SEAWOLF escorted by WHITE BEAR at 1030B/13 via Minches and West of Orkneys for Lerwick. E.T.A. 0800B/15. 2. N.O.I.C. Greenock is requested to arrange fighter co-operation as follows. (Capt. S.3. 1823B/12.) *See p. 362*

P.37. (1) Intend to sail P.37 escorted by LOCH MONTEITH from Dundee 1130B/14 for Lerwick. E.T.A. 1800B (15?)
(2) P.37 will carry out exercises when passing QZY 318 in accordance with S W M 46.
(3) C. in C. Rosyth is requested to arrange fighter protection for both vessels to Lerwick. S of A 9½ knots. (Capt. S.9. 2151B/12.)

Operations.

Return of
TRINIDAD. Delayed by fog. Intend to leave Hvalfiord 0530Z/12. E.T.A. Seidisfiord 0200Z/13, proceeding southabout. (NORFOLK 0028B/12 to C.S.10. (R) C. in C. H.F.)

NORFOLK's 0028B/12. Sailed 0450Z. (A.C.I.C. 0842B/12 to C.S.10) E.T.A. Seidisfiord 1600B today in NIGERIA with INGLEFIELD, ESCAPADE in company. (10 C.S. 1159B/12 to A.C.I.C.) U.S. Battleship WASHINGTON, U.S. destroyers WAINWRIGHT, MAYRANT, RHIND, ROWAN sailed Northabout at 2000Z today to comply with C. in C. H.F. 2312B/11. (C.T.F. 1247B/12 to A.C.I.C. (R) C. in C. H.F.)

Intend to proceed 2301B today passing through 065° 38' N 013° 24' W thence direct to position A 074° (?30') N 009° 30' E. S of A 16 knots. Join me with all convenient despatch. (10 C.S. 1441B/12 to NORFOLK.)

Intend to proceed in NIGERIA from Seidisfiord at 2301B today to position A, KENT, LIVERPOOL, INGLEFIELD, ONSLOW, ICARUS, ESCAPADE in company, NORFOLK overtaking. This force being known temporarily as 10th Cruiser Squadron. (10 C.S. 1442B/12 to C. in C. H.F. C.S.18.)

Reliable fix at 0800 G.M.T. Probable enemy cruisers in 067° 30' N 011° 00' E. (S.B.N.O. North Russia 1452B/12 to Admty. (R) C. in C. H.F. A.C.I.C. A.C.O.S. 10.C.S.) *

My 0028/12. Arrival two and a half hours early. (NORFOLK 1522/12 to A.C.I.C. C.S.10.)

Cancel my 2312B/11. Admiralty pass to Admiral Miles. (C. in C. H.F. 2219B/12 to H.F. A.C.I.C. A.C.O.S. F.O.S. S.B.N.O. North Russia. C.T.F. 99. Ad. Miles.)

* Comment: D/F fix was probably of a shore station in Tromso area.

/My...

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12.5.1942.
Tuesday.War Diary.HOME COMMANDS.Operations.Return of
TRINIDAD.
Contd.

My 2052B/10 para (4). I do not intend to proceed as additional cover unless there is further intelligence indicating movement of enemy surface units. (C. in C. H.F. 2243B/12 to C.S.10, C.T.F.99. (R) V.A.2. C.S.18. F.O.S.)

M.G.B.
Engagement
with
Torpedo
Boats.

Four enemy torpedo boats located in Boulogne by P.R.U. yesterday were detected by R.D.F. leaving harbour at 2200 and continuing eastward passage at 25 knots. M.G.Bs. 41 and 46 with R mines led by M.G.B.13 fitted echo sounding gear had, in anticipation of the movement, been sent to arrive V Buoy at 2230 and then proceed to lay 27 R mines across the Channel five miles west of Dunkirk. About 2315 M.G.B.41 commenced lay from No.5 W Buoy which was showing red fixed light. M.G.B.46 had laid half her outfit when No.6 Buoy was reached, where she found a small craft lying and shot it up. Enemy torpedo boats were sighted approaching a few minutes later and undoubtedly passed through line of mines. Several explosions of mines were heard some of which may have been spontaneous. All M.G.Bs engaged torpedo boats briefly with gunfire. Enemy shore searchlights and star shell were in action as soon as M.G.B.46 opened fire. Extent of damage to enemy is not known. (V.A. Dover 1028B/12.) *See p. 325*

Shelling
from
Coastal
Batteries.

Enemy coastal batteries probably railway guns at Cape Gris Nez and Calais fired fifteen single rounds between 2000 and 2120, which fell in the sea about 4 to 6 miles off the English Coast. (V.A. Dover 1108B/12)

Action
with
E-Boats.

M.G.B. 67 reports action with E-Boat in approx. 52° 12' 45" N 04° 19' at 0400B/12 when she was cruising silently. A number of hits were obtained on enemy with Oerlikon and .5 guns. Five other E-Boats then appeared and M.G.B.67 fought a general disengaging action on main engines, proceeding westward at a speed of about 37 knots. 6 E-Boats in pursuit made bursts of speed up to 40 knots but apparently could not maintain it, as M.G.B.67 eventually drew clear. No damage or casualties sustained in M.G.B.67. (C. in C, Nore 1120B/12.) Further to my 1120/12, M.G.B.61 reports hearing E-Boats at 0320/12 in 52° 11' N 02° 25' E in low visibility. They were pursued but not seen. E-Boats course was Easterly. M.G.B.64 reports two patrols were met on withdrawal from coast. Neither was seen but considerable light gunfire and a searchlight were directed towards M.G.B.64 apparently aimed by sound. No damage or casualties in M.G.B.64. (C. in C. Nore 1214B/12.)

Denmark
Strait
Patrol.

TUSCALOOSA will relieve WICHITA on patrol "White" at (?06)00Z/19 and will pass through 065° 30' N 024° 40' W at that time. (C.T.F.99 1242B/12 to TUSCALOOSA.)

/Patrols...

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War Diary.12.5.1942.
Tuesday.HOME COMMANDS.Operations.

Patrols. Trawler lines T.R.1 to 5 have been vacated. Through A/S patrols are being instituted west of Orkneys. (A.C.O.S. 1705/12 to C. in C. H.F.)

M.Ls. 139 and 142 on OD 6 and 7 combined. M.Ls. 222 and 224 from Ramsgate patrolling between Dumpton and North East Spit Buoys, E.T.D. 2230, E.T.R. 0530/13.

M.G.Bs. 322, 328, 330 patrolling from No.2 buoy to Dunkirk Channel to cover N.L.21 C, E.T.D. 2230. (V.A. Dover 1939B/12.) Establish patrol 5 miles 020 200 degrees from 52° 13' N 2° 8' E. (C. in C. Nore 2215B/12 to (?) 9th M.L. Division.)

Operation QQ 2. My 1206B/8 QQ 2 is postponed till 24/5. Amend timetable as follows: Leave Tilbury Basin about 1200B/24. Sink at 1605B/25. (C. in C. Nore 1752B/12.)

Exercises.

THUNDERBOLT Exercises with A/C. Adverse weather has made it impossible to carry out programme of trials arranged between M.D.S. Whitleys and Leigh Light Wellingtons of 19 Group and THUNDERBOLT.

In view of important bearing these trials may have on hunting U-Boats in Bay of Biscay request THUNDERBOLT may be retained for further two days, her subsequent programme being amended accordingly. (C. in C. Plymouth 1740B/12 to Admty.)

British Air Activity.

Flying-Boats for Russia.

1. At meeting with Naval and Air Staff today we were informed that Russians were contemplating a request to (UY?) America for supply of flying-boats. Russians emphasized that this was for information only and not to be considered an official request. No quantities mentioned and not specified whether crews required.
2. Please signal whether you are prepared to consider official request when received. A supply of flying-boats would have to be followed by extravagant quantities of spares considered necessary by Russians.
3. We think it would be more economical to loan a Squadron which could be returned to us when Winter conditions prevent operation of flying-boats. (30 Mission 1201/12 to Admty, Air Min.)

Brixham Balloons. Nofar part 4 section 1 Balloons may be flown up to 2000 feet in Brixham harbour. (R.A.N.A.S. 1357B/12.)

Attack on A/C in Spitzbergen on 11/5. At 0600/12 commenced R/C Isfiord. 0640 HE.111 with Skis in Advent Bay on snow. 6 men in proximity. On approach of N/210 men endeavoured to reach A/C. On N/210 opening fire scattered in direction of huts. 1 man believed

/seriously...

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12.5.1942.
Tuesday.War Diary.HOME COMMANDS.British Air Activity.Attack
on A/C in
Spitzbergen
on 11/5.
Contd.seriously hit 1 slightly. 1 man falling down
remainder tried to cover themselves with snow.
N/210 made 8 runs at E/A and fired 1000 rounds
range 100 yards from 500 to 50 ft. Front gun
and both blisters. Crew confident E/A hit on
many occasions. (R.A.F. Station Sullom Voe.
2030/12 to 18 Group.)Home Fleet
requirements.Outstanding air co-operation requirements
affecting Home Fleet are:

- (a) Long range fighters in North Russia.
(Admiralty 2205/1/4.)
- (b) A/S escorts in Barents Sea. (My 1058B/6/5.)
- (c) Long range reconnaissance in Barents Sea. (My 1218B/11/5.)
- (d) Reconnaissance in Denmark Strait. (My 1827B/10/4.)
- (e) Intensified air attack on enemy seaborne communications
along Norwegian coast. (My 1107A/28/2 and subsequent signals)
2. Request I may be informed what prospects there are of
Coastal Command receiving sufficient share of the allocation
of aircraft to enable them to meet any or all of these commit-
ments.
3. Any reinforcement by Bomber Command to assist in 1(e) should
seriously affect maintenance of enemy Naval, Military and Air
Forces in Northern Norway, relieve pressure on Russian convoys,
and increase enemy's anxiety about invasion of Norway.
(C. in C. H.F. 2247B/12 to Adnty.)

Enemy Air Activity.Attack
on
DOURO
9/5.Your 2257/11. Request time of this attack and
description of enemy aircraft destroyed by
SS. DOURO. (D.D.I.C. 1209B/12 to A.C.I.C.)Mining.Minefield
off
Aldborough.Mines exploded in approx. 52° 16' N 1° 59' E.
(HAMBLEDON 0611B/12.)
2 red magnetics detonated at 0920/12 and 0922/12
in 52° 16' N 1° 57' E. (Cdr. M/S Lowestoft
1015B/12.)

My 1015/12. 2 further red magnetics detonated in same position
at 1206/12. (Cdr. M/S Lowestoft 1240B/12, 1315B/13.)
Following received from BRIDPORT begins:- One floating mine
sunk, 3 mines exploded in sweep in 052° 13' N 002° 04' E 1826B/12
Ends. (C. in C. Nore 2211B/12.)
BRIDPORT's 1826. Proceed tomorrow to locate and clear this
minefield. Forward your intentions so that Fighter protection
can be arranged. (C. in C. Nore 2216B/12 to M.S.9.)
Your 2216B/12. Intend sailing 0530/13 and sweeping from 0745
onwards in area 3 miles radius from 052° 13' N 002° 04' E.
(M.S.9 2359B/12 to C. in C. Nore.)

/Search...

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War Diary.12.5.1942.
Tuesday.HOME COMMANDS.Mining - Contd.Search
Sweep
off
Aberdeen.

My 2223/11. After "operated" amend to read. Sweep is to commence at No. 27 Buoy, thence along a route the centre line of which passes through the following positions. A $056^{\circ} 59' 30''$ N $001^{\circ} 18' 30''$ W B $057^{\circ} 02' N$ $001^{\circ} 15' W$. C $057^{\circ} 14' 30''$ N $001^{\circ} 22' W$. Thence position 090° Buchanness 5 miles. (C. in C. Rosyth 1051B/12 to N.O.I.C. Aberdeen.)

QK.3.

Weather permitting carry out Operation QK.3 tonight, details as ordered in my 1806/8/5. Covering Force.

1. One unit M.G.Bs. (S) Q E 14A as near dusk as visibility allows moving to position 18 miles 150° from centre of Q E 14A when M.Ls are approaching "Lay".
2. One unit M.T.Bs to proceed with M.G.Bs and subsequently operate between Ostend and Flushing. Dover area should not be approached unless in action. All units to be thirty miles off coast by daylight and are to use full challenge procedure while returning. (C. in C. Nore 1506B/12 to BEEHIVE.)

BEN IVER
damaged
on 11/5.

Following received from N.C.S.O. Thurso. Aberdeen Trawler BEN IVER A31 reports have struck submerged mine in $059^{\circ} 039' N$ $9^{\circ} 25' W$. at 1030 B.S.T. 11th. Mine exploded just after ship had passed over it. Ship was lifted about 3 feet in air. No visible damage to hull but extensive damage to engine pump and piping. 1145/12. Ends. (A.C.O.S. 1556/12.)

p. 369

Seidisfiord
Loops.

Your 1227B/11. LASSO is arriving Seidisfiord 12/5 to commence work on loops and minefield. Estimated time 14 days. (A.C.I.C. 1906B/12 to C. in C. H.F.)

War
Channel.

Mines located 100° of number 3A Buoy 5 miles. Do not go East of War Channel between 3 and 3B Buoy even to chase E-Boats. (C. in C. Nore 2210B/12 to MEYNELL, VIVACIOUS.)

Enemy Intelligence.Straits
of Dover.

Enemy shipping plotted by R.D.F. in Dover Strait from 0900/11 to 0900/12.
Track E 9 D. Four vessels from Boulogne at 2200 eastbound speed 24 knots, faded at 2310 3 miles N.W. of Gravelines. Probably T.Bs reported by P.R.U. of Boulogne. Engaged by 3 M.G.Bs off Gravelines but extent of damage to enemy not known.
Track E 16 D. Four small craft from 11 miles North of Calais at 0222/12, speed 11 knots on various courses faded four miles North of Cape Gris Nez at 0530.
Track E 7 D. Two small vessels from off Calais at 0350 westbound at 12 knots faded $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles North of Boulogne at 0530. (V.A. Dover 1026B/12.)

/Movements...

12.5.1942.
Tuesday.War Diary.HOME COMMANDS.Enemy Intelligence. - Contd.

Movements of Invasion Craft. Following are reports of recent movements of Invasion Craft. (N.A. Stockholm 1541/12, 1807/12)

Trondheim. P.R.U. Trondheim at 1005 today shows TIRPITZ and HIPPER in usual berths. SCHEER's and PRINZ EUGEN's berths obscured in photograph but latter located visually. (D.D.I.C. 1723B/12.)

ADMIRAL
SCHEER.
LÜTZOW.

My 1814/(?5) (a) SCHEER is believed to be in small fiord vicinity of Narvik.
(b) LÜTZOW expected to proceed to Tromso May 15th or 16th making use of darkness. Graded A.2.
(N.A. Stockholm 1744/12.) O.I.C. Comment.

(a) SCHEER was not seen in the Trondheim area by reconnaissance carried out on 12th May and it is thought probable that she has proceeded to the Narvik area.
(b) LÜTZOW was reported to be working up off Gydna on 8th May (B.2.)

Bear Island. Your 1933/11. We have no intentions nor any information regarding the enemy's. Believed nobody on the island now. (D.N.I. 1816B/12 to Ad. Miles.)

Varanger Fiord. Russians report 10th May. Convoy in Varanger Fiord proceeding Kirkenes. Bek Fiord one destroyer. In 69° 57' N 30° 44' E one U-Boat. On 11th May south side Varanger Fiord one destroyer. (Ad. Miles 1829C/12.)

Navigational.

Explosion Buoy. Following intercepted at 1302 G.M.T. de Stavnsas Radio begins. (Translation by O.I.C.)
Navigational warning: An explosion buoy has been reported 7 miles 170° from Landsort. Slight Northeasterly wind. (Scapa W/T Recd. 1531/12)

Technical.

A.S.R.S. Series. Your 1218/4. A.S.R.S. Series now in course of distribution to U.S. ships in the Pacific. It is confirmed that all British ships hold A.S.R.S. Series. (D.S.D. 1725B/12 to Ad. Miles.)

War Diary.12.5.1942.
Tuesday.HOME COMMANDS.Casualties and Defects.BEN
ARDNA
sunk.

Examination vessel BEN ARDNA was sunk when rammed at 0307/12 by SS. BRUCE M of convoy F.N. 41. No loss of life. (F.O.I.C. Tyne 0815/12) My 0815/12. Position of BEN ARDNA wreck 067° Souter Point Lighthouse 8 cables. (F.O.I.C. Tyne 1050/12.)

Upturned
boat.

Trawler BEN IVER reports that at 1500A/1 she passed a small overturned boat, damaged possibly by shrapnel, painted white and green, and marked "XVI.806.1939" in 60° 3' N 11° 5' W. (A.C.O.S. 1556/12.) *See p. 367*

Shipping and Convoys.

P.Q.16.

My 0937B/8. Your 1457/11. Name of third ship EMPIRE SELWYN. (S.B.N.O. North Russia 0920B/12 to A.C.I.C.)

Your 1038B/11 and 1737B/11. Do you still wish ships to arrive Seidisfiord 18/5. (C. in C. W.A. 1208B/12 to C. in C. H.F.) In order to provide protection against surface attack, particularly in waters to east of Bear Island, two British submarines will accompany P.Q.16 to Kola Inlet, submarines subsequently returning independently to Lerwick.

2. It is suggested that these two submarines should be accompanied by a surface escort from Seidisfiord until arrival at Kola Inlet and that this escort and submarines should normally be stationed close astern of centre column of convoy.

3. F.O.S. is issuing proposed instructions for these submarines. (1st S.L. 1807B/12 to C. in C. H.F. (R) F.O.S. C.S.10. S.B.N.O. North Russia.)

P.Q.16 should consist of the following 35 ships: LLANSTEPHAN CASTLE, RICHARD H.LEE, MICHIGAN, NEMAHA, CITY OF OMAHA, SHCHORS, PIEPER DE HOOGH, CHERNYSHEVSKI, REVOLUTSIONER, STARI BOLSHHEVIK, CITY OF JOLIET, MINOTAUR, ALCOA BANNER, STEEL WORKER, EMPIRE PURCELL, IRONCLAD, ATLANTIC, WEST NILUS, EMPIRE LAWRENCE, SYROS, EMPIRE SELWYN, NORMACSUL, OCEAN VOICE, TROUBADOR, EMPIRE ELGAR, ALAMAR, EMPIRE BAFFIN, EXTERMINATOR, LOWTHER CASTLE, CARLTON, JOHN RANDOLPH, HYBERT, HEFFRON, AMERICAN PRESS, AMERICAN ROBIN.

2. A.C.I.C. is requested to amend his 1457/11 accordingly.

3. In the event of any of the above ships being unable to sail, the following order of preference is to be observed.

MASSMAR. MAUNA KEA. YORKMAR. ARCOS, EL ORIENTE, WEST GOTOMSKA, EULIMA, LUCERNA.

4. S.B.N.O. No. Russia is requested to inform authorities concerned as to destinations.

5. My 2252/30 April, there is no Admiralty objection to EMPIRE LAWRENCE being ordered to Archangel. EMPIRE LAWRENCE, EMPIRE BAFFIN and LOWTHER CASTLE should all be given same destination. (D.T.D. 1904B/12.)

12.5.1942.
Tuesday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping and Convoys - Contd.

FLYING
KESTREL,
EMPIRE
LAWN,
AUCHMACOY.

F.O.I.C. Milford Haven's 1017/10.

1. POLA NORTE, ESTELLA D'ALVA and ESTRELLA DO NORTE will be ready to leave Milford Haven on 25/5.

2. They will provide escort for Tugs FLYING KESTREL, EMPIRE LAWN and SS. AUCHMACOY to Freetown calling at the Azores for fuel.

6. C. in C. W.A. is requested to route convoy south of Ireland. (D.O.D.(H.) 1825B/12.)

MACANDREW.
SANTA
ELENA.

Intend to sail U.S. Troop Ships MACANDREW and SANTA ELENA at 1200B/13 escorted by BRIGHTON and (?WELLS). Route Admty's 1833B/11. (A.C.I.C. 1910B/12.) *See p. 362*

S/M
Escorts
to
Convoys.

Admty. 1807/12. Amendments to S.W.M.6 part 2 and W.A.C.I part 381. (F.O.S. 1914B/12)
See Lion Copy.

S.L.108.

S.L.108. On reaching 048° N Convoy is to split ships of 10 knots proceeding as S.L.108 fast section. 2 escorts to be detailed. Commodore is to remain with slow section of convoy. (C. in C. W.A. 2003B/12 to EGRET.)

U.R.23.

U.R.23 arrived 1600B/12. (N.C.S.O. Iceland 2015B/12.)

MOST SECRET

370A

MOST SECRET

MESSAGE

IN

1914B/12th May.

FROM: F.O.S.

Date: 12.5.42.
Recd:- 1945.

P/L BY T/P

ADDRESSED: C. in C. Home Fleet, Repeated S 3 S 9 S. O. S/MS
Lerwick A.C.I.C. C.S.10 Admiralty S.B.N.O.
North Russia.

IMMEDIATE.

562. Admiralty's 1807/12 not to all addressees.

Reference S W M 6 part 2 and W A C I part 381.
The following amendments and additions are proposed.

A. Paragraphs 1 to 4. Submarines are to be stationed with an A/S fitted escort astern of the centre column of the convoy. This escort must remain with submarines when latter are on the surface.

B. Paragraph 6, in the event of the attack by surface forces submarines will act in accordance with this paragraph and A/S escorts must not repeat not attack submarines unless hostile identity is definitely established.

C. Paragraph 8. Submarines are not repeat not to be completely detached from the convoy unless accompanied by their escort.

D. Paragraph 11. If the submarines dive in the event of air attack the leading submarine is to alter course 15 degs to starboard, second submarine 45 degs to port of mean line of advance, both submarines proceed at 5 knots for 5 minutes on the new course when submerged and are then subsequently to resume the mean line of advance at 3 knots. Submarines should regain periscope depth at C.O.'s discretion 5 minutes after diving. Submarines are to surface at C.O.'s discretion when safe to do so or when ordered to do so by the escort by the Black Ball procedure laid down in S.P. 02226 (2) Article 114 A.

E. Paragraphs 15 and 16. If submarines become completely separated from their escort they are to report their position when well clear of convoys when further instructions will be signalled.

F. Should submarines dive for any reason the escorting vessel is to hoist a pre arranged signal to indicate to other A/S vessels that submarines are not to be attacked abaft the beam of the mean line of advance of the convoy.

G. Communications for submarines from time of leaving Seidisfiord A.F.O. 'S' Article 27 (B), C.B.'s and S.P.'s in accordance with S.P.A.2.C Article 44 (B).

H./

370^B

SECRET

2.

H. If approved request masters of merchant vessels in P.O. 16 may also be informed of expected actions by our submarines.

1914B/12.

Advance Copy Ops. O.D.

1st S.I.
V.C.N.S.
A.C.N.S. (H)
A.C.N.S. (T)
N.A. 1st S.I.
D.O.D. (H) (2)
Hd. of
D.D.I.C. (2)
D. of P. (2)
D.C. (3) & for D.S.O.
I.P. (2)
D.N.I. (4)
E.P.S.
D.T.D. (2)
D.T.D. (M)
D.T.D. (C)
D.S.D.
D.A/S.W.

War Diary.12.5.1942.
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Raiders.

Intelligence.

My 1654/5.

(1) PATELLA overdue since 29/4/42 at Capetown from Trinidad is additional possible raider casualty.

(2) No further information regarding Raider E or Raider H.

(D.D.I.C. 1753B/12 to A.I.G.13, B.A.D., etc.)

North Atlantic.Damaged U/B,
Cartagena.

U.573.

My 1947/7. Ministry of Marine states survey of damage not yet completed. When this is done time limit will be set for repairs. Spanish

D.N.I. informs me privately if these are not

completed within stated period U-boat will be interned.

His personal opinion is that ship can be written off but this must be received with caution.

(?Repeated to) F.O.C.N.A. in my 1130/12.

(Asst. B.N.A. Madrid, 1112/12 to D.N.I. (R) F.O.C.N.A.)

Situation
Report.

Area X. Situation 1958B/12.

1. Two Fleet units 5 destroyers 44° 11' 17° 25' 002° 13.

2. GERANIUM, COLTSFOOT 33° 32' 12° 07' through 32° 00' 15° 50' thence 258° 12.

3. LORD NUFFIELD escorting MIRROR vicinity 37° 17' 10° 20'

4. SCOTTISH patrolling off Lisbon.

5. LOCH OSKAIG patrolling off Cape Roca.

6. PARTRIDGE, ITHURIEL, 27° 29' 14° 10' 232° 17. To R/V Fleet unit (F.O.C.N.A., 1204B/12 to N.A. Station)

as amended 1534B/12..

U/Bs..

LANDGUARD's 2027/11. It is probable that one or more German U-boats are to Northward of your position and will try to make contact.

U-boat attacked at 2027Z/11 was probably German but Italian U-boats may also be in vicinity.

(D.D.I.C. 1205B/12 to Escorts of S.L.109.

(R) MALAYA, R.A. West Africa, F.O.C.N.A., C.in C. W.A.)

Air R/C,
Casablanca.

A.14 12/5. PRU/GIB/W1 - 12/5.

807 Squadron sortie dated 12/5 time 1410 shows Casablanca on oblique photos. JEAN BART remains

at Quai Dalande with double boom in position. LA

GALISSIONNIERE Class cruiser in same position at Jetty Delure as

on 4/4. DUGUAY TROUIN Class cruiser still moored to Jetty Delure immediately within Harbour entrance. Part of Jetty Delure

/ where ...

War Diary.12.5.1942.
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic. (contd.)

Air R/C, where 2 CASSARD or GUEPARD C.T.S. to SIMOUN or
Casablanca. ALCYON DRS and 3, possibly 4, E./V.S. lay on
(contd.) 9/5 not clearly seen but probably little change.
Other units visible include 2 CASSARD or GUEPARD
C.T.S., 1 of which is moored outside entrance.
1 SIMOUN or ALCYON DR, 2 ELAN E./V.S. 6 S/Ms, including 2 approx.
300. New entrance boom partly open at time of photography and
smaller booms nearby remain as on 10/5.
(P.R.U. Gibraltar, 1510/12 to Air Min., Admty., H.Q.C.C. etc.)
Air R/C of Casablanca 1407B/12. JEAN BART in usual berth with
double boom in position. French GLOIRE class cruiser in usual
berth FR DUGUAY-TROUIN class cruiser in same position just
inside entrance. Entrance boom partly open. Full statement
small units not possible but 6 S/Ms seen.
(F.O.C.N.A. 1820B/12 to Admty., C.in C. S.A., C.in C. Med.,
R.A. West Africa, S/Ms E.F., Opnav.)

French Shipping. French Vessel One left for Castro 12/5 to load
Iron Ore.
(H.M. Consul, Bilbao, 1616/12 to Admty. (R) M.E.W.
etc.)

Following extract from Fairmiss telegram.
Departure 12/5 PONTET CANET Casablanca 14/5.
(Lisbon, 1827/12 to M.W.T.)

WELSHMAN E.T.A. Gate 1930B/12.
(WELSHMAN, 1630B/12 to F.O.C.N.A.)
Your 1148/12. WELSHMAN should return to Milford
Haven routed S. of Ireland.
(D.O.D.(F) 1750B/12 to F.O.C.N.A.102. C.in C.W.A.,
C.in C. Med., V.A.Malta, F.O.I.C.Milford Haven,
C.in C. Plymouth, R.A.(M)..

Arrival WELSHMAN.
(F.O.C.N.A., 1942B/12 to V.A.Malta. (R) Admty., C.in C. Med.,
C.in C. H.F.
WELSHMAN reported damaged by near misses not affecting seagoing
efficiency (a) Both cranes buckled and out of line (b) Many
small defects to hull and fittings.
(F.O.C.N.A., 2142B/12 to Admty. (R) R.A.(M)).

P.44. F.O.C.N.A.'s 1736B/11. Suggest when similar
attack on attacks are made and results are uncertain S/M
U/B. might be permitted to break W/T silence to make
brief report. This would often enable Coastal
Command A/C to follow up effectively especially
if U-boats were inward bound.
(C.in C. Plymouth, 1648B/12, 2210B/12 to Admty.
F.O.(S). (R) C.in C. W.A., S.O.Group 19.)

S.L.109 One S/M bearing 270° distance 10 miles course
U/B. degrees unknown. My position 21.41 N., 28.21 W.
(HASTINGS 1655Z/12 to Admty. (R) C.in C. W.A.,
N.O.I.C. Londonderry).

War Diary.

12.5.1942.
Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic. (contd.)

SANDAR,
sunk 2/5.

Your 1832B/11. SANDAR was torpedoed and sunk on 2/5. Instructions have been issued that you are to be advised of similar incidents in future. (D.T.D. 1827B/12 to F.O.C.N.A.)

U/B.

(?S/M on surface) bearing 010° 12 miles course 030° my P.C. and S. 1700Z 021° 47' N. 028° 24' W. 005° 7 knots. (LANDGUARD, 1834Z/12 to Admty., C.in C. W.A., F.O.C.N.A.)

French
Units.

My 1659/9 not to all addresses. Two French S/Ms 1 French trawler P.C.S. 37° 43' N. 00° 15' W. 15° 4 knots at 2000/11. My 1829/11 to Admiralty only. Identified as Spanish Minelayer NEPTUNO. Gibraltar 0736/12. 0920 French Armed Trawler SERGENT GOUARNE, s.s. NANCEEN, light deck cargo farm implements. GABRIEL GUIST'HAU laden westbound. (S.O.I. Gibraltar, 1847B/12 to Admty., C.in C. Med., R.A.W.A.F., S.O. (I) Kingston.)

A/C's to
Gibraltar.

Ops 97. Two Sunderlands of 10 Squadron to be despatched to Gibraltar p.m. 14/5 to reinforce 202 Squadron for further special operations. (H.Q.C.C., 1925/12 to 19 Group. (R) Gibraltar, Air Min., Admty.)

War Diary.12.5.1942.
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic.

- M.A.R.I. Amendment number 7 to M.A.R.I. S.O.(I) Freetown's 2047Z/8 and your 1806B/9. Request confirmation that ships from Freetown to New York proceed direct and not by coastal route in accordance with M.A.R.I. (N.C.S.O.Freetown, 1011Z/12 to Admty. (R) S.O.I. Freetown).
- SHROPSHIRE. Simonstown departures 0645Z/12 SHROPSHIRE for R/V with CANTON in 025° 00' S. 005° 00' W. at 1600Z/15 and patrol K 36 A and C. (C.in C. S.A., 1125B/12 to Admty., R.A.West Africa, CANTON, C.T.23.)
- PETUNIA defects. Examination of boilers reveals scab pitting in PETUNIA necessitating renewal.. In view of non arrival of tubes locally and work involved intend sailing PETUNIA to U.K. on 13/5 with *S L 110 for work to be carried out and early return to Freetown. (R.A.West Africa, 1126Z/12 to Admty. (R) C.in C. W.A., C.in C. S.A., Capt.D.18). * See p. 44
- Madagascar, Meteorology. An offer has been received from Union of Meteorological Service to provide personnel and equipment for a meteorological organization in Madagascar. Request early reply if this should be acceptable. (C.in C. S.A., 1210B/12 to C.in C.E.F. (R) C.in C. E.I., Admty., S.O.Force F.) Reply: Yes. (C.in C.E.F., 0914Z/15) See also S.O.Force F. 2317C/17.
- ABDIEL. Your 1447/7. Request you will sail ABDIEL for Clyde as soon as ready passage. 2. She will probably be taken in hand by Messrs. Wallsend Slipway Co. Boiler tubes are being retained in U.K. (D.O.D.(F) 1229B/12 to Cdre. Durban, (R) C.in C. E.I., C.in C. E.F., C.in C. S.A., F.O.I.C. Tyne, ABDIEL).
- "R" Report. Unknown Ship. Following intercepted at Freetown on 11140 kc/s (Begins) V'S RRRR RRRR RRRR (Ends). (R.A.West Africa 1244Z/12 to Admty.)
- Movements Summary. 2000/12 all positions N. and W. unless otherwise stated.
ARETHUSA 015° 55' 021° 05' 174° 20.
BUSHWOOD 3 Trawlers, 3 tugs, 1 ferry 017° 30' 020° 30' 162° 7.
VELOX 014° 10' 018° 30' to Bathurst 15.
TAMARISK 010° 20' 017° 10' to Bathurst 10.
ARCHER, BRIDGEWATER off Freetown.RUMBA, TURCOMAN, PICT, CANNA(?V) sector T. WIVERN 003° 55' 012° 05' (?160°) 10.
(Corrupt group) (?Corrupt group) 2 boom defence vessels 003° 55' 009° 45' (?114°) 8.

War Diary.12.5.1942.
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic. (contd.)

Movements
Summary.
(contd.)

U.S. Aircraft Carrier RANGER, 1 cruiser, 5
destroyers 002° 01' 011° 10' 270° 14.5.
VINDICTIVE, 2 corvettes (?000°) 40' 011° 40'
to 000° 20' S. 011° 02' thence 101° 11.
VIOLET 001° 30' 007° 20' to Takoradi 11.
AUBRETTIA, 2 motor launches 002° 35' 003° 40' to Takoradi 10.
FANDANGO with L.S. (?5 104 or 117) 004° (?55') 000° 35' E. to
Takoradi 7.
SPANIARD 004° 55' (?11°) 30' E. to Takoradi 6.
ALCANTARA, PRETORIA CASTLE patrol H 34 (D) EMILE BAUDOT 007°
30' S. 002° 30' 132° 8.
U.S. Cruiser MILWAUKEE (U.S. Destroyer ?MOFFETT) about 008° 05' S.
022° 05' 270° 14.
(R.A. West Africa, 1301Z/12 to Ships in Area P., T.F.36.
(R) Admty., etc.)

Dakar
R/C.

R/C of Dakar this forenoon shows only two S/Ms
visible remainder of naval units unchanged.
(S.O.I. Freetown 1811Z/12 to Admty., D.N.I.,
(R) S.O.(I) Gibraltar, C.in C. S.A.)

Congestion
in S.African
Ports.

Your 1007B/1. Additional use of these ports is
being considered and all possible steps will be
taken. Please inform M.W.T.R. Capetown.
(A.C.N.S.(T) 2125B/12 to C.in C.S.A., (R) C.in C.
E.F., C.in C. E.I., C.in C. Med., N.O.I.C. Durban).

War Diary.12.5.1942.
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean.

Middle Review of supplies (W.O., 0500/12 to C.in C. M.E.)
East See Lion Copy.
Fuel.

THRASHER. Proceed area R through 036° 37' 017° 17' and 039°
29' 018° 30'.
(Capt.S.l., 0715C/12 to THRASHER (R) C.in C.Med.,
etc.)

TRITON. 12/5, Greek S/M TRITON sailed.
(V.A.Malta, 0825B/12 to Admty.)

Operation Force was sighted by aircraft and turned back at
M G 2. 1445/11 (?as) ordered. At 1640 enemy bombing
LIVELY attack developed. LIVELY hit in 33° 24' N.
KIPLING (?25°) 38' E. and sank. Beaufighters shot down
JACKAL one H.E.111 and damaged at least 2 J.U.88.
sunk. Further attack followed and at 2007 JACKAL and
KIPLING were hit in 032° 38' N. 026° 20' E.
KIPLING sank JACKAL was taken in tow by JERVIS.
At 0452/12 JACKAL had to be sunk in 32° 33' N. 26° 25' E. First
count of total bag by Beaufighters 1 H.E.111 destroyed, 2 H.E.111
damaged, at least 5 J.U.88 damaged. Further details on return
of D.14 to harbour. Between 500 and 600 from three sunk on board
JERVIS.
(C.in C. Med., 1016C/12 to Admty.)

TORBAY. TORBAY sailing 1730C/12 passing from end of
searched channel through 033° 43' 025° 41' 034°
15' 018° 01' and thence as routed to Gibraltar
by V.A. Malta and F.O.C.N.A. She has been ordered to pass
through second position about noon/17.
(Capt.S.l., 1211C/12 to C.in C. Med.)

Movements. Arrivals 11/5 APHIS, HYACINTH.
Departures 11/5 P.34, TURBULENT, SIKH, HASTY,
AIRDALE, DULVERTON.
Arrived and sailed 11/5 HURWORTH.
Arrivals 12/5 PRIMULA, ERICA, FAREHAM, SNAPDRAGON, MALINES,
COCKER.
(S.O.I. Alexandria, 1214C/12 to A.I.G.74).

Black Sea. Your 1002B/11 (request by W.R.) Following is
Enemy repetition of my 1334C/9.(begins). Admty.,
Offensive. Adm.Miles from N.L.O.Black Sea. Situation
report. (1) From Russian Intelligence it would
appear that enemy is preparing to start an offensive
in East Crimea in very near future. Tanks and reserves moving up;
air activity against Caucasus ports slackened but increased over
front line area.
(2) Further (?reports) received of enemy preparations for landing
operations at Mariupol. Possible that a landing may be attempted
on northern shore of Kerch peninsula in conjunction with land
offensive.

MOST SECRET

ME

376A

MOST SECRET

MESSAGE

IN

0500/12th May

From:- War Office.

Date. 12.5.42.

C Y P H E R

Addressed:- C.in C. Middle East, repeated WARMP
Calcutta, Foreign New Delhi.

No. 87766 cipher Q(Ops.) 53/Egypt/1752. 11/5.

Your TN/S/484/89409 23/4.

1. Complete review as follows. We are now working on basis of total monthly requirement of 182000 tons for area embracing Eastern Mediterranean, Red Sea, East Africa and Colombo. This includes naval and commercial bunker requirements.
2. Detail as follows in tons:-
 - A. Army - Middle East 10,000
 - B. Railways - E.S.R. 50,000, Palestine including some commercial consumers 7,000, Syria 3,000 Sudan 10,000, Mombasa including bunkers 20,000.
 - C. Admiralty - Eastern Mediterranean 16,000, Aden 3,000 plus occasional cargoes for Massawa, Port Said and Colombo.
 - D. Ministry War Transport Bunkers - Port Said and Suez 10,000, Sudan 3,000, Aden 25,000 Colombo 20,000 plus occasional cargoes for Zanzibar and Dar-es-Salaam.
 - E. Miscellaneous - Colombo Municipality 1,300 Mauritius 4,000, totals 182,300.
3. Only following reported as having two months stock or more. Palestine, Syria, Admiralty at Aden, Sudan Railways, Mauritius.
4. Estimated arrivals in tons. Eastern Mediterranean May 73,000 June 90,000, Red Sea May 52,000, June 33,000 Indian Ocean May 46,000 June 16,000.
5. To meet bulk of 182,000 monthly for delivery July onwards shipping arranged for 100,000 monthly from South Africa. This is maximum allowed by bottleneck of present rolling stock mines to coast there. First priority being given to import of rolling stock but improvement will take some months. Shipment South African coal to destinations other than in Fourth stopped.
6. Hitherto Calcutta provided half total requirements. Now only at best 20,000 tons monthly expected ex Calcutta part for west coast India and future position uncertain.

7/...

7. Brazilian coal too poor. Nothing obtainable from Turkey until possibly autumn. Any quantity available Australia will be shipped but will be very small.
8. Balance of requirements must come from U.K. and U.S.
9. Arrangements have been made to load in April/May sailing May/June 75,000 tons in U.K. and about 25,000 tons in U.S.A. Position for later months depends on general military demands on tonnage and no estimate of shipments from U.K. and U.S.A. can be given at the moment. Imperative you reduce military consumption and influence all civil consumers to reduce consumption to absolute minimum subject only to military and political necessity. Understand parallel telegram being sent through War Cabinet Office to Minister of State.
10. Reference your TN2/S/406/74953 of 20/3 can you indicate absolute minimum monthly requirements for destinations named therein.
11. Our 85759 (D.D.Mov(S)) of 1/5 sought views on coal priority because prospective shipment additional coal ex U.K. and U.S.A. only possible at expense other military deadweight cargoes.
12. Agreed Ministry War Transport.

0500/12

Received in War Reg. at 1844/12

4th S.L.

A.C.N.S. (T)

D.O.D. (F) (2)

D.O.D. (H) (2)

D. of P. (2)

D.T.D. (2)

D.T.D. (M)

D. of S.

Hd. of M.

I.P. (2)

W.D.

War Office circulation:

D.D.M.O. (O) M.O.1.5.

D.P. M.O.1 (J.P.)

D.Q.M.G. Q. (Ops) (6 copies)

S.T.6. (3 copies)

D.Mov. D.D. Mov. Q(M)3. 3x.

D.Tn. Tn.1.2.

D.C.3.

Min. of War Transport (Mr. Griffiths)

Admiralty (War Registry)

War Cabinet Offices (Mr. Armstrong)

War Diary.12.5.1942.
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean. (contd.)

Black Sea. (3) Russian forces in east Crimea considerable
Enemy and should be sufficient to hold firm. (Ends.)
Offensive. (N.L.O. Black Sea, 1214C/12 to Admty., Adm.Miles)
(contd.)

Enemy A spherical five horn contact mine was recovered
Mine. at Malta yesterday 11/5. Details. Apparently
recently laid. This mine is the first of its
type recovered at Malta.
(V.A.Malta, 1252/12 to Admty. etc.)

Operation My 2031/9 para.1. Now established that 60
"Bowery". Spitfires arrived Malta. 2. Admty. pass to
S.O. Force W. and U.S.A/C. WASP.
(V.A.Malta, 1548B/12 to Admty.)

Malta My 1701B/14/4. Number 1 dock has been pumped
Dock out. Damage to masonry is not as serious as
Damage. anticipated and dock is now available for use
dependent on the maintenance of electric power
supply.
(A.S.Malta, 1720B/12 to Admty.)

TORBAY At 1655 enemy submarine was sighted in 031° 17'
U/B. 028° 41'.
(Capt.S.l., 1801C/12 to TORBAY).

Malta I.284 CSR Malta 12/5.
Air My I.282 10th. 2 German prisoners. 11th Alert
Report. 1530 hours, many ME.109's some with bombs?,
3 J.U.88's; 1658 hours, 1 DO.24 and large ME 109
escort. Luqa, no damage. Halfar, 1 Hurricane
damaged, 1 ME 109 destroyed, 2 ME 109's probably destroyed, 1 ME
109, 1 JU.88 damaged by 23 Spitfires. 2 Spitfires collided,
pilots baled out, both slightly wounded. A.A.damaged 1 JU.88.
Night 11/12, no alerts. 12th 4 alerts 0400, 0745, 0859, 1055
hours, many ME 109's, 7 JU.88's. Halfar, UXB's, no damage.
2 ME.109's destroyed, 1 JU.88 probably destroyed, 3 JU.88's,
1 ME.109 damaged by 35 Spitfires. 1 Spitfire missing, another
shot down, pilot safe, 2 Spitfires damaged in combat, pilots
wounded. A.A.fired.
(H.Q.R.A.F., Malta, 1807/12).

Petrol See LOCKED MAST 387 of 10/5 to Shipminder.
Carriers. Can these vessels be made available for Middle
East? If so request they be despatched without
delay, my 1916/6 refers.
(P.S.T.O. Egypt, 1812/12 to D.S.T.)

THORN. My 0157/10, 24 hours early. Noon position
tomorrow 13th 032° 26' 028° 21', Weather report.
(THORN, 2117C/12 to Capt. S.l.)

War Diary.12.5.1942.
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies.

Operation

"Ironclad."

Summary.

A. Beach operation.

Final approach went according to plan, excellent weather conditions. Despite explosion of cut mines complete surprise obtained on all beaches. Resistance encountered on Blue Beach from machine gun fire after initial assault.

2. Owing to minefield and necessity to develop Blue as main beach turn round of landing craft very long and slowed down operation. Also weather not very suitable for landing craft.

3. At 1138 on D. 1 AURICULA struck mine and remained anchored by her sweep with another mine attached, ship subsequently abandoned. She sank next day. By midday 35 mines cut and 50% sweepers out of action with parted sweep.

4. Landing operation continued D.1 with 2 interruptions by machine gun attacks, Morane fighters and were suspended from dark to moon rise to avoid damage to land craft.

5. Destroyers and (? corvettes) provided A/S protection for anchorage.

6. D.2 LAFOREY and LIGHTNING carried out bombardment as required by Army on outskirts of Antsirana. Unloading continued at full speed. Refuelling programme continued including RAMILLIES and Escort.

7. D.3 A/S patrol reported contact GENISTA dropped 10 charges pattern on contact 4 miles W.N.W. Nosi Mara possibly same submarine later destroyed by aircraft from ILLUSTRIOUS. Landing of motor vehicles and stores continued, slow convoy sailed 1600 for Diego Suarez harbour followed by fast convoy 0500D/4.

8. Greater speed of landing achieved than found possible in exercise. Landing craft were free from breakdowns.

B. (Military operations.)

(3) At 1000 2 R.W.F. made contact with a French officer who was surprised visiting a pill box in area Avirl Ouest. In accordance with force instructions the officer prisoner was despatched to French Governor letter informing of surrender and stating our terms.

(4). At 1000 White beach was closed due bad exits and all traffic diverted Blue beach. This greatly increased turn round on landing table and reduced rate of landing and amount of transport and carriers available.

(5) At 1100 carrier of 2 R.W.F. were fired on from high ground half mile east of Anamakia. This proves to be enemy position of some extent containing dugouts and emplacement for about 4 machine guns.

(S.O. Force. F. 0423C/12 to Admty.).

My 2139/12. Part 10.

6. At. (?11)15 the attack was launched. (Details) It was learnt from prisoners that owing to surprise we had obtained position was only half manned.

(S.O. Force F. 0525/12 to Admty).

/My.....

378A. ET 15

MOST SECRET

MOST SECRET

M E S S A G E

2139C/20th May.

From : S.O. Force F

Date: 22.5.42.

Recd : 0020.

NAVAL CYPHER I.T.T. BY W/T.

Addressed : Admiralty.

My 2139C/12th Part 6. Number 8 Battery was non-existent. The advance continued inland unopposed and they occupied Diago Suarez North by 1500. Windsor Castle Battery was not mopped up and it was not until 1515 that this Machine Gun Post surrendered to 2nd R.S.F. This surrender was bogus and Area was finally recleared on D.2. Although a great nuisance, the 6 machine guns had no effect on battle as a whole.

Part 7 follows.

2139C/12

Advance Copy D.C., D.O.D.(F)..
D.D.I.C.

- 1st Lord.
- 1st S.L.
- 5th S.L.
- V.C.N.S.
- A.C.N.S.(F)(2).
- A.C.N.S.(W).
- Sec.
- Nav. Sec.
- N.A.1st S.L.
- D.O.D.(F)(2).
- D. of P.(2).
- E.P.S.
- D.N.I.(4).
- D.D.I.C.(2).
- N.P. C.C.O.(2).
- D.C.(2).
- D.S.D.
- Hd. of M.(33)(and for other Govt. Depts).

Recd 22/5/42

- ~~F.O.D.~~
- ~~I.C.(2).~~
- ~~...~~
- D.N.A.D.
- D.T.S.D.(C.O.).
- D.N.E.(C.O.).
- D.A./S.W.
- D.M.S.

379

12.5.1942.
Tuesday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies. cont'd:

Operation My 2139/12 part 11.
 "Ironclad." (7) 1515 advance was resumed (Details).
 Contd. (8). By 1800 1 R.S.F. and 2 South Lan. regs.
 were in touch with main enemy position,
 strongly held with machine gun and 75 m.m. across isthmus north
 of P.T. 48. Some casualties were suffered by infantry and two
 further tanks disabled by 75 m.m. fire. By time shell fell (?)
 became clear that this position would not be overcome without a
 staged brigade attack supported by considerably more artillery
 than was then available (Four 3.7 howitzers) This shortage
 was brought about by complete inability of BACHAQUERO to command
 a beach suitable to land its vehicles until 1800, on D.1 when
 they were landed (? on) red beach. An exit from beach vehicles
 was not discovered until D.2 and thence only (? five) of one
 battalion were able to reach main axis of advance. The
 artillery was usefully employed later on D.2 from a position
 on Andrakaka peninsula.
 (9) Throughout afternoon of D. 1 strong winds and length of turn-
 round delayed landing tables so that 29th Independent Bde
 vehicles (Combined operations scale) were not landed until dark
 on D.1. At dark it was decided to stop landing until moon rise
 at 2200 when start was made on Mah (?out) containing a battery
 of 9th F.D.
 (10) At 1900 Brigade H.Q. was established at Conlieux and at 2300
 Batn. Cdrs. of 29th Independent Brigades reported for orders.
 These were given for dawn attack 6/5.
 D.2. (11) At 0500 (?chief) attack was (?launched) as follows.
 (Details) 12, 13 and 14 - Military Operations.
 (S.O. Force F, 1727C/12 to Admty).
 My 2139/12. Part 27.
 (22) 2000 Antsirana and area south was heavily bombarded from the
 air, until 2015.
 (23). 2030 the night attack commenced.
 (S.O. Force F. 2139C/12).
 My 2139C/12. 28.
 50 Royal Marines from RAMILLIES landed at pier in Antsirana from
 ANTHONY. This landing was extremely successful, there was only
 one casualty and on success signal indicating landing of Royal
 Marines being seen, second R.S.F. and second R.W.F. were ordered
 forward and attack was pressed home. Part 29 follows.
 (S.O. Force F. 2139C/12).
 My 2139C. Part. 29, 25, 2330. The 2 leading Bns. reached their
 objective which was the outskirts of the town. 29 Independent
 Bde. then passed through and occupied Antsirana. During entry,
 considerable amount of firing from both rifles and machine
 guns from all of enemy defensive line as it had been
 impossible to complete mopping up. Casualties from this were
 surprisingly light. Part 30 follows.
 (S.O. Force F. 1807C/12).
 My 2139/12 part 30. D.3. (26) At Ollio Brig. Festing entered
 residency and commenced to take over the town. Remainder
 of night was spent in interviewing naval and military
 commanders and civil officials. (27) During morning D.3
 negotiations were made with enemy troops in Orangea Peninsula
 and Mapouspoint for an armistice to save unnecessary bloodshed.
 Part 31 follows.
 (S.O. Force F., 1812C/12).

12.5.1942.
Tuesday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies. contd:

- Operation "Ironclad." Contd. 30. No doubt that air effort and bombardment over a long period had a marked effect on enemy. This effort followed by an unorthodox night assault which employed whole of available infantry, with a back door diversion from, ANTHONY achieved both surprise and a certain degree of demoralization.
- C. Air operations.
2. A/S patrols were maintained in vicinity of carriers and transports. This involved 51 aircraft and resulted in sinking of submarine HEROS.
 3. Searches to eastward involved 6 aircraft.
 4. Attack on harbour involved 37 aircraft. Result 1 A.M.C. 1 submarine and 1 sloop destroyed.
 6. Total casualties 2 Swordfish, 1 Fulmar, 1, Martlet shot down. 1 Albacore, 3 Swordfish, 1 Fulmar lost due to various causes.
 7. Total aircraft operating; ILLUSTRIOUS 160, INDOMITABLE 149.
 8. In addition aircraft dropped leaflets and communications as ordered in your 1943/1. Reply was received as in my 2145/8.
- D. Naval operations.
- (i) Aircraft carrier support to RAMILLIES operating westward of Cape Amber.
 - (ii) DEVONSHIRE remained at convoy anchorage on day 1 as stand-by bombarding ship, subsequently joining HERMIONE eastward of Diego Suarez in bombarding of batteries on Oranjia Peninsula.
 - (iii) HERMIONE after creating diversion in Ambodi Vahibe area on day 1 remained on patrol east of Diego Suarez throughout operation.
 - (iv) RAMILLIES joined DEVONSHIRE and HERMIONE off Diego Suarez early day 3 and carried out short bombardment of P.I. battery prior to signing of capitulation.
 - (v). RAMILLIES and HERMIONE entered Diego Suarez 1700 day 3 DEVONSHIRE joined carrier. INDOMITABLE and convoy escorts entered on day 4. ILLUSTRIOUS and DEVONSHIRE on day.5. (S.O. Force F. 2139C/12 to Admty.).

Enemy Units. D/F Bearings 10/11/5 indicate possible movement of 3 or 4 Units from Bonins area towards Wake Island, 4 units plotted in Nauru Area. (C.S.Colombo 0442Z/12 to A.C.N.B. N.Z.N.B. etc).

LUCIA. Your 0947/10. What is the position regarding LUCIA? A large number of signals including your 1359/6 have not been received. (C. in C.E.F. 0641Z/12 to D. C. in C. E.F.(R) C.inC Med. Admty.).

Cocos Mutiny SUTLEJ. Following is a repetition of my 0711Z/10 May addressed C. in C.E.F.(R) G.O.C. India, C. in C. Ceylon, G.O.C.Ceylon (begins) On 9/5 part of military garrison of Cocos Is. attempted to effect

/armed....

SECRET

MESSAGE

0545/12 May

IN
Date 12. 5. 48.

From A.H.Q., India

Received 1048

Cypher

Addressed Air Ministry Whitehall.

IMMEDIATE

A. 387 11/5

For Vasse D.D.A.T. from Leather.

Amend 222 Group Signal A. 18 12/4.

Tactical Notes Ceylon area.

Japanese aircraft employed in attacks on Ceylon Navy 'C' Fighters and Navy 99 Dive bomber. Navy 99 dive bomber carry two front synchronised guns to free guns manual mounting firing aft a second type of bomber described as twin engined low wing with retractable undercarriage was also reported this type has not yet been identified presume carrier borne. Navy 'C' fitted with two long range jettison tanks giving range of 1,400 miles. Japanese warships use main armament against shadowing aircraft and low level attacks. Shells with impact fuse being aimed to burst in the sea in the path of our aircraft. Fire reported extremely accurate. Attack on HERMES carried out by Navy 99 dive bombers and one unidentified type as above. Each aircraft carried one bomb not bigger than 500 lbs. 50 plus engaged in attack waves of three or four diving out of the sun in line astern. Angle of dive 60 70 degrees. Aircraft machine gunned with fixed front guns while in the dive. Determined and accurate attack.

0545/12.

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)
Naval Secy.
H.A. 1st S.L.
Capt. Pim
D.N.A.D.
M. (2)
Ops. (3)
O.D. (5)
D.N.I. (3) (& for A.E. & D.N.L.C.)
O.I.C. (3)
D. of P. (3)
D.A./S.W.
I.P. (3)
V.D.
D.P.D.
D.S.D. (2)
Admiral Bellairs
E.P.B.
Admiral Blake
D.G.D. (2)
D.N.O.

Received from Air Ministry by Hand
1500/21.

Copies circulated by Air Ministry to:-

C.A.S.
V.C.N.S.
A.C.N.S. (C)
A.C.N.S. (I)
A.I.3.A. 1.
D.D.A.T. (Action) (3 copies)
A.I.5.D.
A.D.Ph.1.
D.D.I.11.
A.I.2.g.

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War Diary.12.5.1942.
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies. conts:

Cocos armed mutiny with intention to murder officers and seize command of battery. The attempt failed but there were casualties. G.O.C. Ceylon urgently requests arrangements be made to convey relief to Cocos. Intend detailing SUTLEJ for this duty. She is the only ship at my disposal with necessary endurance and accommodation.
(C. in C. E.I., 0820Z/12 to Admty, A.C.N.B.)
My 0711Z/10. SUTLEJ sails from Colombo 12/5 with military personnel and (corrupt group) stores for Cocos where she will arrive on 17/5.
2. Ship has instructions to return to Colombo after as short as possible a stay
(C. in C. E.I. 0821Z/12 to A.C.N.B. (R) SUTLEJ, Admty.).

Aerodromes. A. 11 12/5 from A.O.C. Ref. Air Ministry signal AX. 17 of 9/5. (1252. G.M.T./9 Consider desirable to build forward aerodromes from which fighters could operate to cover Naval units from Trincomalee). Inter-services (corrupt group) Board has been assembled and is planning long term policy of aerodrome and landing ground construction in Ceylon to fulfil all possible commitments including protection of Fleet in Ceylon waters. Landing grounds will be prepared in S.E., possibly Pottuvil and Hambantota, but owing to danger of capture and use by enemy, C. in C. G.O.C. and I do not consider advisable build full scale aerodromes these sites at present. Am anticipating possibility operating heavy bombers and have 3 aerodromes suitable.
(222 Group 0940Z/12 to A.H.Q. India (R) Air Min.).

ATLANTIS. Sailed Hospital Ship ATLANTIS E.T.A. Durban 0600/17.
(S.O. Force F. 0951C/12. to N.O.I.C. Durban).
My 0951. Request ATLANTIS may be ordered to return to Diego Suarez as soon as she has disembarked wounded.
(S.O. Force F. 1222C/12, to N.O.I.C. Durban).

Italian P.C. and S. at 1200 ATS 12/5 04° 25' N. 50° 37' E.
Repatriations. 030° 14 knots.
(GIULIO CESARE 1002Z/12 to Admty. etc).

EASEDALE S.O. Force F 2223/11. Request repairs to EASEDALE may be taken in hand as soon as possible and that on their completion ship may be loaded to her capacity aviation spirit with 100 Octane and sailed for Kilindini.
(C. in C.E.I. 1128Z/12 to C. in C.S.A. (R) Admty. C. in C.E.F.)

/Movements.....

War Diary.12.5.1942.
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies. conts:

Movements. Mombasa arrived 12/5 1005 G.M.T. WORCESTERSHIRE
RELIAN~~CE~~. Left 12/5 1130 G.M.T. RESOLUTION.
(F.O.E.A. 1201Z/12 to C. in C.E.I.).
Mombasa 12/5 departure 1431 G.M.T. FOXHOUND, ARROW.
(F.O. E.A. 1357Z/12 to C. in C. E.I.). *See 13/5 - p. 417.*

Shipping MAHOUT, THALATTA, CITY OF HONG KONG, EMPIRE
Diego KINGSLEY, will be ready to sail shortly.
Suarez Request destinations. Any of these ships
would be available to load cargo as in S.T.O.
Diego Suarez 1245/10 to D. of S.T.

It is of great importance to clear this cargo (A) to clear
wharves (B) to reduce fire risk. (C) to provide foreign
exchange. Request very early decision. 2. BACHAQUERO may
also be ready to sail. Request destination.
(S.O. Force F. 1437C/12 to Admty. (R) C. in C.S.A., C. in C.E.I.).

South Following for Melville J D G A F 5 Beauforts
African and 2 Lodestar leaving Lindi Wednesday 13th,
Aircraft. E.T.A. Antsirana aerodrome 0900 G.M.T.
(O.C. S.A.A.F Lindi, 1642Z/12 to N.O.I.C. Durban)
, 20 Aircraft S.A. Air Force arrived to-day.
10 (another version says (?10) spotting aircraft) arrive tomorrow.
N.O.I.C. Durban pass to O.C.S.A. Air Force Lindi.
(S.O. Force F. 1945G/12 to Admty. etc).

Air Report. A.918 12/5 Intelligence summary number 58 on
information received up to 1800 hours 12/5. Burma,
Attack by 3 Hudsons 4 Akyab 11/5. All bombs on
runways and aerodrome buildings. Second attack later by 2
Wellingtons. 6 500 lb bombs in centre of town, 2 large fires
left burning. 5 twin-engined aircraft on aerodromes seen
taking off. No interception.
(A.H.Q. India. 1644/12).

Boom A.M. 2005/9* (1) V.A.3 was requested to sail
Vessels. BARFORD for Mediterranean. F.O.I.C. East Africa
& Zanzibar is requested to confirm that this has
been done. My 1314/27/4 (N.T. in W.R.) and
V.A.3's 1623/28/4 (1603/28 intended) refers.
(2) Boom Trawlers PRINCE DE LIEGE and GRAAF VAN VLANDEREN are being
refitted at Colombo. They will be sailed for Mediterranean
on 14/5 routed via Addu Atoll and Seychelles to avoid monsoon
weather in Arabian Sea.
(C. in C.E.I., 1701Z/12 to Admty etc.).
* Experiment in B/D at Kilindini.

/SPRINGTIDE.....

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War Diary.12.5.1942.
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies. contd:

SPRINGTIDE. Your 2240/5 ^{NT in W.D.} (Suggestion that SPRINGTIDE be sent Kilindini as deperming Unit. Circulated to S.D.G. only).

(1) Suggest SPRINGTIDE be retained at Bombay until arrangements for degaussing range at Kilindini are more advanced. (2) Threat of magnetic mining in Shatt-el-Arab as well as approaches to Bombay Karachi and Port F appears to render her presence in Bombay area most desirable both as sweeper and for deperming merchant ships and warships (3) F.O.C.R.I.N. is requested to remark on likelihood of sufficient employment to justify her retention at Bombay apart from fleet requirements and to state whether suitable berthing arrangements can be made during S.W. Monsoon

(C. in C. E.I. 1725Z/12 to Admty, (R) C. in C. E.F. etc).
(Reply; Concur (Admty. 1535B/14).

MANXMAN.

(Diego Suarez)

N.O.I.C. Durban's 1049/10 Keep outside 100 fathom line (corrupt group) (corrupt group) 074° Oronjia Light 5¼ and 066° Oronjia K one, Dan Buoys which are (corrupt group) are unreliable.

No mines have been found. (2) (?apparatus) on BROOMDALE in position 170° Eosi Langor 8 cables. (3) On completion of fuelling proceed alongside DEVONSHIRE to disembark mail and approx. 60 8 inch shells. (4) Boats will be sent on arrival for passengers, mail and cargo. (5) Remaining 8-inch shells should be disembarked at Kilindini.

(S.O. Force F. 1941C/12 to MANXMAN. (R) DEVONSHIRE).

~~SEYCHELLES.~~*Seychelles.*

Ref. C. in C. E.I. 1310Z/27/4 Defence Plan for Seychelles has been reconsidered. A.M. 2321A/25/2 para. 5 should be amended to read:- A.A. gun defences - Heavy 16, Light 8.
(D. of L.D. 2127B/12 to C. in C.E.F. (R) C. in C.E.I.)

War Diary.12.5.1942.
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America & West Indies.

U/B Reports. Received 2210 G.M.T. WGBC 1 V NAA S/M sighted 39.21 N., 74.15 W., at 1850Z/11 X 112028. WGBC 5 NAA O S/M sighted 29.35 N., 87.28 W., at 0324Z/11 X 110332. Controlling Station Annapolis Radio. (Portishead Radio, T.H.I., 0010/12).

Air Report, U/B claimed sunk. Z.960. A.735 12/5. May 11 Operations. All times G.M.T. Gander and Torbay all operations cancelled due weather. Argentia, all patrols cancelled due weather except harbour entrance area.

Further to report of submarine attacked by U.S.A. A/C at 48° 46' N., 62° 42' W. 2220 10/5, pilot reports 3 depth charges dropped, 2 close misses, one direct hit. 10 minutes after attack many air bubbles 20 to 30 minutes after attack wreckage came to surface. No bodies observed. Pilot believes submarine destroyed. No other details. (H.Q., E.A.C., 0430/12).

U.352 sunk. German U.352 sunk by U.S. Coastguard cutter ^{patrol boat} ICARUS off Cape Lookout, coast of Carolina, with gunfire and depth charges 2040/9. (D.O.R., 998, ~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~ See C. in C. U.S. Fleet, 1921/13). (p.425) See 9/5 p.262 7/10/5 p.318.

NICOYA torpedoed in St. Laurence. Intercept 0406 G.M.T. SSSS NICOYA torpedoed 49.52 N., 65.02 W., position doubtful. Controlling station Camperdown Nova Scotia Radio. (Burnham on Sea Radio, T.H.I., 0606/12). Sinking announced (without name of ship) by Mr. MacDonald, Canadian Navy Minister, on 12/5. This is the first time that an enemy S/M has made an attack in these waters. (The Times, 13/5/42).

G.B.7 A From C.O.A.C. Correct position SSSS NICOYA 49° 19' N., 64° 51' W. (Halifax, N.S., 1334/12 to Admty). SS. NICOYA torpedoed 0355Z/12 49.19 N., 64.51 W. 66 survivors landed. (C.O.A.C., 2230Z/12 to Admty etc).

U/B Fixes by D/F. Within 100 miles 52.30 N., 30° W., at 2201Z/11. (N.S.H.Q., 0627Z/12). Within 100 miles (a) 042° 30' N., 058° W., at 0033Z/12 (b) 044° N., 042° W., at 0048Z/12. (c) 053° N., 027° W., at 0058Z/12 and 0128Z/12. (d) 053° N., 027° 30' W., at 0136Z/12. (N.S.H.Q., 0915Z/12). Within 100 miles 32.30 N., 77.30 W., at 0837Z/12. (N.S.H.Q., 1530Z/12). Within 100 miles 53.30 N., 30° at 0718Z/12. (N.S.H.Q., 1602Z/12). Within 100 miles, (1) (7053°) N., 025° W., at 0534Z/12 and 0707Z/12. (2) 054° N., 025° W., at 0708Z/12. (3) 053° N., 029° 30' W., at 0735Z/12. (4) 053° N., 030° W., at 0931Z/12. (N.S.H.Q., 1649Z/12).

/Within...

War Diary.

12.5.1942.
Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies. contd:

U/B Fixes by D/F. Contd. Within 100 miles, 053° N., 025° W., 0815Z/12 and 053° N., 030° W., 1149Z/12. (N.S.H.Q., 1924Z/12)
Within 60 miles, 054° N., 026° W., 1318Z/12. (N.S.H.Q., 2100Z/12).

Movement Summary.	1800 G.M.T. 12/5.			
	Ship	Position	Course	Speed.
	Convoy	24° N., 27½° W.	355°	7½
	S.L.109	23½° N. 64° W.	177°	12
	LANDGUARD			
	HAVELOCK			
	PIMPERNEL			
	LAVENDER			
	GODETIA			
	WARWICK	27° N. 64½° W.	177°	15
	ALCANTARA	01° N. 23° W.	Patrol	Blank
	PRETORIA			
	CASTLE			
	Transport	Arriving Rio de Janeiro.	294°	25
	QUEEN			
	ELIZABETH			
	A.T.15 X	40° N. 59½° W.	070°	25.
	(QUEEN MARY)			
	(D.O.D. (F)	0918Z/12 to Opanav, (R) Comnav.		

U/B Reports. Received 1020 G.M.T. WGBC 1 De NAA S/M attack* 22.45 N., 58.25 W., at 1843Z/11 0453/12. WGBC 1 de NAA. S/M sighted 28.01 N., 88.13 W., at 1513Z. 2303/11. WGBC 1 De NAA. S/M sighted 34.29 N., 77.05 W., at 0200Z 0341 /12. WGBC 1 De NAA. S/M attack 34.11 N., 76.27 W., at 0615Z/12. 0755/12. Controlling Station Arlington. (Portishead Radio, T.O.R., 1020/12).
*CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

B.5. Escort Group. Trinidad Stores. Trinidad's 1807/9 (N.T. in W.D.) and my 1102/9. Concur that action suggested in former message or similar solution is necessary. Matter is all the more urgent now that ten destroyers and corvettes will be based on Trinidad for an indefinite period. (C. in C. A.W.I., 1224P/12 to Admty (R) F.O.I.C. Trinidad).

N.A.10 My 1856/6 can names of additional ships for N.A.10 and N.A.11 now be given?
N.A.11. (N.S.H.Q., Ottawa, 1423Z/12 to D.S.T.)

/M/Vs....

War Diary.

12.5.1942.
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America & West Indies - Contd.M/Vs
Scuttling.

Understand Navy Dept. intend issuing to British Ships chartered in U.S. interests scuttling instructions for use in event of imminent capture. Is this concurred in?
(N.S.H.Q., 1447Z/12 to Admty., B.A.D. Washington)
Reply: Admty. 1945B/13.

U.S. Fleet.

Changes of locations my 2124/04.
Atlantic. Battleships. NEW YORK left Iceland (C) for U.S. on 12/5. WASHINGTON at Iceland (C).

Aircraft Carriers. WASP en route U.K. RANGER off Accra.
LONG ISLAND left Norfolk 10/5.

Heavy Cruisers. WICHITA and TUSCALOOSA at Iceland (C). AUGUSTA in West Africa.

Light Cruisers. CINCINNATI, SAVANNAH, JUNEAU in Caribbean Area.
MILWAUKEE en route Ascension. OMAHA left Recife May 11.

PHILADELPHIA off New London. BROOKLYN in U.K. SAN JUAN at Casco. MARBLEHEAD repairing. MEMPHIS at Trinidad.

Pacific. Battleships. NEVADA repairing at Bremerton.

Light Cruisers. ST. LOUIS escorting to Pearl Harbour.

DETROIT at San Francisco. San Diego to Balboa. ATLANTA left Pearl Harbour 10/5. BOISE due San Francisco 16/5. NASHVILLE at Pearl Harbour.

South Pacific. Aircraft Carriers. ENTERPRISE and HORNET in Area. Heavy Cruisers. PENSACOLA, CHICAGO, VINCENNES, SALT LAKE CITY, NORTHAMPTON in area.

Light Cruisers. RICHMOND at Tonga Tabu. HONOLULU at Samoa.
CONCORD and TRENTON en route Balboa.

South West Pacific. Heavy Cruisers. INDIANAPOLIS at Brisbane.

(Cominch, 1520/12 to Admty.)

Danger
Areas.

Govt. hydro 210255 quoted for information and strict observance "Dangerous area has been established between the parallels of 25.10 N., and 24.36 N. and the meridians of 82.10 W., and

81.30 W. U.S."

(C.in C. U.S.Navy, 1544/12 to Admty.)

Govt. Hydro special warning number 175 quoted for information and strict observance "A danger area has been established off Cape Hatteras North Carolina as follows: From a point on the beach of Ocracoke Island in longitude 75.58 W., thence due S. to latitude 34.53 N. thence due E. to longitude 75.31 W. thence N.E. to latitude 35.05 N. longitude 75.22 W. thence due N. to latitude 35.08 N. thence N.W. to latitude 35.17 N. longitude 75.28 W. thence due W. to the beach."

(C.in C. U.S.Navy, No.T.O.O./12 to Admty. for information).

/Shipping...

War Diary.12.5.1942.
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America & West Indies. - Contd.Shipping
Signals.

My 1710/25/12 and your 1129/31/12. Desired to effect extension of Vesca system before Busra comes into force.

2. N.C.S.Os. and R.Os. in Jamaica Intelligence Area (Atlantic Section only) would be advised by S.O.(I) Jamaica of E.T.A. of British managed shipping.

(a) arriving from Ports in contiguous areas and (b) sailing from one port to another within Atlantic Section of Jamaica Intelligence Area. In the case of short voyages special arrangements may be necessary similar to Ottawa Routeing Summary Article 700 para. (c).

3. To reduce volume of signalling movements of shipping engaged on interisland or coastwise trade might be excluded.

4. Considered impracticable to eliminate all private cables regarding merchant shipping, but it is definitely desired to restrict information relating to Movements to naval channels in an increased degree.

5. Request you will make necessary arrangements to include the foregoing in new organisation for dealing with Shipping Intelligence outlined in your 2152/5/5.

(D.T.D., 1555B/12 to C. in C. A.W.I. (R) S.O.(I) Jamaica).

ANKARA
(torpedoed
6/5).

Am informed that 35 survivors representing entire crew of U.S.R. ship ANKARA arrived at Caleta Cuba 7/5. Ship was torpedoed 70 miles from Maisi near coast of Haiti 6/5 3 p.m. local time. Crew left for Guantanamo 8/5 in sailing vessel FORTUNA.

(N.C.S.O. Havana, 1635/12 to Admty).

St. Lawrence
shipping
escorts.

C. in C. U.S. Fleet's 1901Z/23/4 and subsequent signals. In view of recent U-boat attacks in St. Lawrence it is intended to commence escort of shipping from Sydney to Father Point immediately.

2. Provision of escort for St. Lawrence would be facilitated if recommendations in C. in C. U.S. Fleet's 1901Z/23 were put into effect at once.

3. Request this may be done.

(N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 1651Z/12 to C. in C. U.S. Fleet, Admty).

Tankers,
Caribbean.My 1355/23/4, para. 2. These instructions are now to be applied to tankers from Caribbean and West Indies ports only. All shipping from Gulf of Mexico bound for U.K., except fast ships which are normally sailed independently, should be routed via Halifax for convoy. This shipping should be sailed to Key West (a) for inclusion in coastal convoy or (b) if not of convoy speed, to be onward routed independently. Shipping from Gulf of Mexico with U.S.A. and Canadian East Coast destinations should also proceed to Key West. B.A.D. Washington's 2345/11 refers. It is presumed that no such movements can take place until restrictions imposed by Opnav 2304/6 and your 0902/7 have been lifted.
(D.T.D., 1811B/12 to C. in C. A.W.I., N.S.H.Q. Ottawa).

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12.5.1942.

Tuesday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.America & West Indies - Contd.

RANPURA On completion of refit it is requested that one week's work up practice may be arranged for RANPURA.

2. On completion of satisfactory trials and work up practices maximum number of troops should be embarked and ship sailed for U.K. in first convenient N.A. or A.T. convoy.

3. Aircraft will be embarked in U.K. and flying off trials carried out before proceeding to station. 4. (Leave).

5. B.A.R.M., is requested to signal anticipated date of completion and approximate date of departure for U.K. (D.O.D.(F) 1814B/12 to B.A.D., B.A.R.M.) Reply: B.A.D., 1919Z/13.

U/B Intercepted 1634 G.M.T. de NAA (Arlington) Submarine attack 49.19 N., 64.51 W., at 0404Z/12. 1052/12. (Portishead Radio, T.H.I., 1834/12).

PENELOPE Route PENELOPE from position (a) to Point (z) 035° 00' N., 060° 00' W., thence to New York. In case fuel insufficient to reach destination leave point (z) direct to Bermuda and notify U.S.C.N.O. Your 23(702)P/11. (U.S.C.N.O., 1927/12 to C.in C. A.W.I., (R) C.S.15 etc).

U/B Sub. Attack and Sighting Summary.
Intelligence. NORLINDA torpedoed and sunk 24.57 N., 84 W., at 1540Z/4. MONT LOUIS torpedoed 8.23 N., 58.44 W. 1205Z/8. CLAN SKENE torpedoed 31.44 N., 71.56 W. 0630Z/10. CAPE OF GOOD HOPE torpedoed 22.45 N., 58.25 W. 1844Z/10. KITTY'S BROOK torpedoed 42.59 N., 64.56 W. 0020Z/10. Patrol craft attacked by Sub. 34.11 N., 76.27 W. about 0615Z/12. * U.44 Sunk
th. at: 1940
EMPIRE BUFFALO U.45 Type. EMPIRE DRUM, U.44 painted on conning-tower. Plane sighted sub. on surface 17.20 N., 75.18 W., 1200Z/10 probably U.S.S. GROWLER. Sub. attacked by aircraft 25.42 N., 79.52 W., at 1145Z/11 and 25.50 N., 75.35 W., at 1610Z/11. U.S. Sub. sighted U-boat on surface 37.04 N., 62.45 W., about 2100Z/11 course 200. ~~Plane sighted Sub. on~~ Plane sighted Sub. on surface 28.01 N., 88.13 W., at 1513Z/11 possibly U.45 Type. Sub. attacked by patrol boat 34.20 N., 76.40 W., at 1600Z/12. Pan Air sighted sub. on surface 38.30 N. 70.43 W. at 1342Z/12 course 290. Opnav and B.A.D. informed. (C. in C. U.S., Fleet 1936Z/12 to Admty for O.I.C.) Opnav Serial 12. MONT LOUIS Canadian torpedoed and sunk 8/5 in 08.23 N., 58.44 W. 13 missing 8 survivors landed Georgetown 10/5. CLAN SKENE British torpedoed 10/5 31.43 N., 71.56 W., 73 survivors, ship may still be afloat. CAPE OF GOOD HOPE British torpedoed at 1844Z/11/5 22.45 N., 58.25 W., KITTY'S BROOK torpedoed at 0020Z/10/5 in 42.59 N., 64.56 W., two boats landed Lockport N.S. LUBRAFOL now sunk. DELISLE now sunk LAMMOT DU PONT American torpedoed and sunk 23/4 approx. 500 miles S.E. Bermuda, 15 survivors landed Recife. (Opnav, 2040/12 to Action Comnav, London (R) N.S.H.Q. Ottawa).

/SANDAR...

War Diary.

12.5.1942.
Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies. - Contd.

SANDAR (torpedoed 2/5). N.O.I.C. Trinidad's 1522/3. This casualty was unknown to F.O.C.N.A. and in accordance with normal procedure, an escort was sent from Gibraltar to meet the ship. Request similar incidents in future be reported to Naval authorities concerned in area in which destination lies.
(D.T.D., 1958B/12 to C. in C. A.W.I.)

Ships fitted with paravanes. Your 1559/6 not understood. Do these instructions apply to other oceans as well as South Atlantic? (N.S.H.Q., 2101Z/12 to Admty) Reply: Yes etc.
(D.T.D., 1931/15).

WARWICK. Your 2333P/11 not to Com.10 steering for position. My P.C. and S. are 026° 26' (?N). 064° 06' W. 125° 17'. Strong N.E. wind.
(WARWICK, 2102P/12 to C. in C. A.W.I. (R) Com.10, HAVELOCK). *See p 385*

Barbados, A/S gear. Your 1912P/7. Material loaded SS. DRAMATIST suitable for laying one cable only double A/T type E2R vide A.M. 1505A/18/3 not to R.N.O. St. Lucia, all consigned R.N.O. Port Castries. No objection to reconsignment to Barbados.
Request confirmation that stores available for shipment August vide A.M. 1432B/27/4. required Barbados.
(D.B.D., 2148B/12 to C. in C. A.W.I.)

St. Lawrence Shipping. (i) Ref. N.S.H.Q. Ottawa's 1440Z/1/4 and 2223Z 1/4. All shipping in Gulf and River St. Lawrence has been stopped. Plan G.L.2 is to be commenced with all available escorts as soon as possible.
(ii) C.O.A.C. Halifax is to inform necessary authorities dates on which 1st convoys will leave Sydney (C.B.) and Bic Island. (iii) Newly ?(constructed) escort vessels are to be sailed as additional escorts for eastbound convoys.
(N.S.H.Q., Ottawa, 2237Z/12 to C.O.A.C. Halifax, (R) Admty etc). My 2223/1/4 Para. (C) All ships for Gulf of St. Lawrence are now to be routed to Sydney for convoy.
(N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 2259Z/12 to Admty. C. in C. A.W.I., S.O.(I) Gibraltar, S.O.(I) Freetown, S.O.(I) Kingston, S.O.(I) Capetown, Opnav, B.A.D., (R) C.O.A.C., N.O.I.C. Sydney (C.B.))

U.S. Coastal Convoys. C. in C. A.W.I. 1032/12 not to all addressees (N.T. in W.D.) Opnav's 2304/6 is cancelled.
(2) Opnav requests you will instruct B.R.Os. to follow U.S. R.Os. instructions for releasing tankers and cargo vessels.
(3) All U.S. vessels in Gulf that are ready are proceeding to Key West for inclusion in first convoy.
(4) C.C.S.F. has been instructed to release ships to Key West if conditions permit.
(5) Ships unable to make speed of convoy will be routed independently by coastal route from Key West.
(B.A.D., 2241Z/12 to C. in C. A.W.I., (R) NS.H.Q. etc)
(Reply: C. in C. A.W.I., 1242P/13).

Ref...

War Diary.12.5.1942.
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America & West Indies. - Contd.

U.S. Coastal Convoys. Contd. Ref. Admty. message 1551B/6 to C. in C. A.W.I. C.C.S.F. has stated total traffic per month Aruba-Curacao-Trinidad as 30 tankers and consequently recommends convoy of about 7 tankers leaving Aruba Curacao each week under two escorts initially. Navy Dept. ask whether Admty. would prefer this or the 14 day cycle with 4 escorts initially. (B.A.D., 2251Z/12, to Admty (R) C. in C. A.W.I.) (Reply: Admty. 1738B/13).

U/B Following from Trinidad (begins). British Training Aircraft reports S/M on surface at 1030Q/12. Position 006° Chacachare 33 miles. Air striking force dispatched. (Ends). B.A.D. pass to Cominch and Opnav. (C. in C. A.W.I., 2253P/12 to Admty. B.A.D., Cominch, Opnav, N.S.HQ.)

EGBA U/B. G B 7 A, received 0212 G.M.T. SSSS EGBA torpedoes fired 2 miles off Sambro L.V. (Halifax, N.S. T.H.I., 2340/12 to Admty). G B 7 A, further received SSSS De EGBA torpedoed, afire 2 miles of Sambro L.V. de V C S. (Halifax, N.S., T.H.I., 2355/12 to Admty).

11.5.42. BEDFORDSHIRE. A/S Trawler Sunk Presumed lost with all hands off Cape Lookout, U.S.A.

W.D. Note.-- T.S.D. (Misc) 4766/46, circulating N.I.D. 24/X 70/46, and received on 30.12.1946, has the following information from captured records:-

The German submarine U.558 reported sinking a patrol vessel south of Cape Lookout at 0540/12 May, 1942, in approx. position 34.10 N., 76.41 W. U.558 fired two torpedoes at 0526 which were both misses. A third torpedo was fired at 0540, running for 36 seconds (594 yards), and scored a hit amidships. There was a heavy explosion aboard the patrol vessel, the stern rose high out of the water, and the vessel sank very quickly.

U-boat proceeded away to the southward. Weather conditions at the time were:- Wind S.W., force 3-3, sea 1-2, overcast, good visibility.

This loss not known at time

See 16/5 - p. 515 -

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War Diary.12.5.1942.
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Australia & New Zealand.

Dispositions. Main Naval units 11/5 S.W.Pacific
(A.C.N.B. 0026Z/12) See Lion Copy.

Movements. Arrivals Sydney (N.S.W.) 0423Z/11 ROCKHAMPTON.
0532Z/11 M/S ABRAHAM, ~~████~~. CRIJNSSEN escorting
K 9 and K 12; Darwin 0722Z/11. DELORAINIE
escortng MULIAMA, ENSIGN AMBON. Brisbane 0830Z/11. HOBART.
Departure ~~████~~ 0708Z/11 for Fremantle VOYAGER, escorting
U.S. Ship GOLD STAR.
(A.C.N.B. 1246Z/12 to A.I.G. 115; C. in C. Pacific Fleet U.S.).
*Departure F.S. CHEVREUIL for Walpole Island E.T.A. daybreak 16th
(N.Z.N.B. 2230Z/12 to Admty.).
*Auckland. *(Pink list)*

Situation. Serial number 110 from C.W.R. 11/5.
Enemy shipping as follows sighted by air R/C
in Solomons area 11/5. 2128Z/10, 2 destroyers
or light cruisers, and 1 transport or seaplane tender 007° 06'S
115° 55' E. stationary. 2130Z/10, 3 destroyers stationary,
006° 51' S. 155° 54' E 2130Z/10. 3 destroyers, 1 transport in
Tonolei harbour (Bougainville). 0035Z/11. 4 cargo vessels 005°
20' S. 153° 15' E. en route to Kessa (Buka), submarine approaching
convoy with seaplane overhead. 1 large transport off Kessa
(Buka Island). 0001Z/11 cargo vessel of 4000 tons and small
gunboat 005° 47' S. 153° 25' E. course 180° (2) Air R/C
reports large tanker 005° S. 149° 35' E. at 2200Z/10, course
E. (3) Air R/C reports 1 destroyer 5 other vessels in Ambon bay
0700Z/11 (4) Recent air R/C over wide area of Timor reports no
enemy activity. (5) Three B 17's attacked shipping at Kessa
0001Z/11. Near misses on 3 transports. (6) Three B.26's attacked
seaplane base at Deboyne Island 2300Z/10. 2 hits on store house,
2 hits or near misses on 8000 ton tanker, 2 near misses on sea-
plane. (7) 19 heavy bombers raided Port Moresby 0205Z/11.
10. P 39's failed to intercept. 5. P 39's 2. B 25's damaged.
(8) 3 Zero fighters attacked Horn Island aerodrome 0020Z/11.
9 twin-engined bombers and 5 Zero fighters attacked dispersal
area 0045Z/11. No damage.
(A.C.N.B. 1544Z/12 to Admty. etc).

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.Submarines Reported.

Estimated positions of U/Bs.
(D.D.I.C., 1424B/12, 1456B/12.)

MOST SECRET

391A.

M E S S A G E 0026Z/12 May IN

From A.C.N.B.

Date 12/5/42.
Recd. 1229

NAVAL CYPHER 3M BY W/T

Addressed Task Force 16, 17, 42, 51, F.O.C.A.S., N.O.I.C. Sydney, H.M.A. Ships (except auxiliary A/S and M/S vessels) D.N.O. Northern Territory, D.N.O. Western Australia, N.O.I.C. Townsville, N.L.O. Noumea, D.N.O. Victoria, D.N.O. Queensland Australia, OPNAV. C. in C. Pacific Fleet, N.Z.N.B., C. in C. Eastern Fleet, C. in C. East Indies, S.O.(I) Colombo.

Disposition of main Naval units 11th May South West Pacific.

Sydney (N.S.W.)

H.M.A.S. ADELAIDE, H.M.A.S. WESTRALIA, D.S. TROMP (?refitting) H.M.A.S. CANBERRA, French LE TRIOMPHANT, U.S. WILLIAM B. PRESTON, U.S.S. VICTORIA.

Departure 9th May from Sydney U.S. BARKER, U.S. BULMER, and from Melbourne H.M.A.S. STUART for R/V thence Adelaide. Departure 9th May from Sydney H.M.A.S. MANOORA and from Port Phillip H.M.A.S. BUNGAREE for R/V thence Noumea.

Brisbane

H.M.S. ATREUS, U.S.S. GRIFFIN, U.S. Gunboat TULSA.

On passage Brisbane

H.M.A.S.* HOBART, U.S. WATKINS. * para 11/5. See previous page

Departure Brisbane 9th May H.M.A.S. KANIMBLA, U.S. J.D. EDWARDS, U.S. JOHN D. FORD for Tongatabu.

Whit Sunday Island

~~R.A.F.~~ Auxiliary KURUMBA.

Melbourne

H.M.S. ALSEY, H.M.A.S. ARUNTA, H.M.A.S. VENDETTA (repairing).

Fremantle

U.S. TUCKER, U.S.A/C Tender WRIGHT, U.S. S/P Tender CHILDS, (THEM)TUS and ERLING BROVIG.

Departure Fremantle 10th May U.S. PHOENIX, for escort duty. U.S. PARROTT, U.S. PAUL JONES, U.S. Tender BLACK HAWK for Melbourne.

Albany

H.M.A.S.* VOYAGER, U.S. Sub. Tender HOLLAND, U.S.S.* GOLD STAR. * para 11/5. See previous page

Geraldton area

U.S.S. LANAKAI.

Sharks Bay

U.S. A/C Tender HERON.

0026Z/12

Advance copy D.C., D.O.D. (F), D.D.I.C.

1st Lord.

N.A. 1st S.L.

D.A./S.W. N.L.O.

1st S.L.

D.N.A.D.

I.P. (2) Aust. House.

3rd S.L.

Hd. of M. (2)

W.D. D.T.M.

4th S.L.

D.O.D. (F) (2)

D.S.D.

5th S.L.

D.C. (2)

Admiral Bellairs.

V.C.N.S.

D.N.I. (7) & for

E.P.S. D. of L.D.

A.C.N.S. (T)

A.E. & D.N.L.O.

D.T.D. (2)

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

D.D.I.C. (2)

D.T.D. (M)

A.C.N.S. (W)

D. of P. (2)

D.T.D. (C)

War Diary.13.5.1942.
Wednesday.SITUATION REPORT.Home Commands.

M.G.Bs and M.T.Bs from Dover had engagements in the early hours of this morning with enemy E/R Boats escorting a large enemy ship off Ambleteuse. M.T.B.220 is missing and M.T.Bs. 219 and 221 and M.G.Bs. 9 and 13 were damaged. The German communique admits the loss of one boat. *[German torpedo boats ILTIS and SEADLER were lost - C.S.18, April 1942]*
The large enemy ship entered Boulogne and is expected to try to break west with strong escort C. in C. Plymouth was asked to send two "Hunt" Class destroyers to reinforce Portsmouth forthwith and TYNEDALE, CALPE, ALBRIGHTON, BERKELEY, BLENCATHRA, KRAKOWIAK and 4 M.T.Bs of 11th Flotilla were sent to patrol in order to intercept.

Renewed
U-Boat
attack
on O.N.^S92.
A

Convoy O.N.^S92 was attacked by U-Boats again last night; 3 S/Ms were attacked but 2 more ships were sunk.

P.Q.16.

C. in C. H.F. considers that the A/S escort detailed for convoy P.Q.16 is insufficient, but the Admiralty state that no more escorts can be provided and the risks to the convoy, though great must be accepted. P.Q.16 consists of 35 ships.

TRINIDAD.

C.S.18 in TRINIDAD left Kola Inlet late this evening escorted by 4 destroyers.

British Air Operations.

It is thought that enemy activity may develop in northern waters, and special Fleet reconnaissance was ordered to take precedence over trade.

Aircraft of Coastal Command made successful attacks late this evening on shipping off the coast of Norway.

War Diary.

13.5.1942.
Wednesday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Enemy Air Activity.

There was more than usual enemy air activity last night by aircraft based in Norway, coastal patrols and R/C towards the north-east coast of Scotland being carried out. Three F.W. aircraft operated today from Trondheim, apparently covering an area $68^{\circ} - 70^{\circ}$ N $12^{\circ} - 20^{\circ}$ W.

North Atlantic.

Convoy S.L.109 was attacked by U-Boats about midnight 12/13 May and SS. DENPARK was torpedoed. The convoy was shadowed today but lack of speed of escorts made it impossible to drive off the shadowing U-Boats, and by midnight several abortive attacks had been driven off, more than one U-Boat apparently being concerned. LANDGUARD asks that the route may be shortened if practicable and air support provided at the earliest opportunity. At 1525Z her position was $23^{\circ} 30' N 27^{\circ} 33' W$ course 350° speed $7\frac{1}{2}$ knots.

Mediterranean.

It is reported that a Blenheim attacked a submarine 120 miles west of Alexandria with 4 250 lb A/S bombs and ~~received~~ ^{delivered} a direct hit, it is believed the submarine was destroyed.

14 Wellingtons bombed Benghazi last night, starting a fire near Cathedral Mole.

About 4 enemy aircraft laid mines off Delta coast last night, and 2 were exploded off Port Said this morning.

13.5.1942.
Wednesday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT.

America and West Indies.

Three ships were attacked today off the Mississippi Delta, one 90 miles N.E. of Barbados, one 135 miles E.S.E. of Barbados, and two off Halifax. A Swedish ship was sunk in mid-north Atlantic and a Dutch ship about 425 miles E.N.E. of Barbados. A ship was sunk in 16° N 54° 20' W.

War Diary.

13.5.1942.
Wednesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Policy.

Reporting
of U-boats.

31 S M Z. F S C 3 para. 4. S/Ms on passage to or from Gibraltar who sight or attack U-boats should bear in mind the desirability of reporting them especially if inward bound. Contact and attack by aircraft may thereby be facilitated. (F.O.S., 1011B/13 and 1219B/13).

Biscay
Blockade-
running.

Your 1922/12. Concur. Propose holding meeting in A C H Q Plymouth at 1000/19. (C. in C. Plymouth, 1504B/13 to Admty).

British S/M
dispositions.

B.A.D. Washington 2341Z/11, para.6. Disposition of British Submarines as follows; Home Operational 5. Mediterranean Operational 18 Eastern Fleet Operational 2. Submarine training 3 A/S training Home 11. A/S training Mediterranean 1. A/S training Canada 2. Refitting 17. New construction now carrying out trials or working up (all of which are allocated to Mediterranean operational) 7. Total 66. Allied submarines are not included nor are 4 S class (to which B.A.D. Washington's 2341Z/11 refers) which had been earmarked for A/S training in South and West Atlantic. F.O.S. Minute dated 13th May on Admiralty docket D.A/S.W. 1091/42 also refers. (F.O.S., 2334B/13 to Admty).

Defence of United Kingdom.

Camp at
Crockness.

A.S. Orkney's 1611/12. Fully concur. Even if provision of T.L.C. is postponed or cancelled alternative methods of close protection of main Fleet units will require considerable increase of personnel at Lyness. (A.C.O.S., 1040/13 to Admty).

Movements.

QUEEN MARY.

1. CAIRO from Belfast, DOUGLAS from Clyde, SCIMITAR from Londonderry are to R/V as arranged with N.O.I.C. Belfast.
2. Above ships with KEPPEL, LEAMINGTON, VOLUNTEER from W.S.19 are to R/V with QUEEN MARY in position (O) 056° 30' N., 15° W. at 0500Z/16, course 95° speed of advance 25 knots.
3. Subsequent route: P. 056° 22' N., 012° W. Q. 055° 35' N. 007° W. thence Clyde.
4. Speed is to be adjusted or escort detached at discretion of CAIRO. No risk is to be taken of weather damage.
5. CAIRO is to escort QUEEN MARY to Clyde. Orders for VOLUNTEER follow. Remaining destroyers are to proceed Londonderry on reaching North Channel. (C.in C. W.A., 1013B/13).
Your 1013B/13. Intend to sail CAIRO 0900Z/15. DOUGLAS and SCIMITAR R/V with CAIRO in 000° Altacarry Head 7 mile at 1200Z/15. (N.O.I.C. Belfast, 1807B/13 to C. in C. W.A.)

13.5.1942

Wednesday.War Diary.HOME COMMANDS.Movements. - Contd.PRINCE
LEOPOLD.

Your 1648B/12. PRINCE LEOPOLD trials due to complete 15th and ship will sail from London 16th.
(F.O.I.C. London, 1026B/13 to S.S.E.)

SEAWOLF,
TRIDENT.

Sailed SEAWOLF and TRIDENT escorted by WHITE BEAR in accordance with S.3's 1823B/12/5.
(F.O.I.C. Greenock, 1046B/13 to N.O.I.C. Lerwick).
F.O.(S) 1812B/12. TRIDENT is to be sailed at 1200/15 and SEAWOLF at 1400 for Seidisfjörð both by the same route as follows.
(A.C.O.S., 1915/13 to N.O.I.C. Lerwick).

NEWARK.

Request NEWARK may be sailed for Port ZA when ready and that I may be informed of probable date of arrival.
(R.A.M., 1149/13 to C. in C. Nore).

P? ~~████~~

Proceed immediately to R/V P? ~~████~~ in 180° Dodman Point 9 miles at 1300 and escort to Portsmouth.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 1242B/13 to BROCKLESBY).

SCOTT

SCOTT sailed ^{for} South East Iceland 2200B/12.
(A.C.I.C., 1307B/13 to R.A.M.)

WASP.

Comnavu's 0946/12 is being passed to you for information.
(D.D.O.D.(H.), 1324B/13 to C. in C. W.A.)

GARLAND

Detach GARLAND to Clyde forthwith.
(C. in C. W.A., 1542B/13 to HARVESTER).

MACANDREW,
SANTA ELENA,
BRIGHTON,
WELLS.

My 1910B/12. Sailed 1315B speed 15 knots. E.T.
A. Clyde Boom 0130B/16.
(A.C.I.C., 1745B/13.)

P. 46,
P.614,
D. 10.

Sailed P.46, P.614 and D.10 escorted by JAN VAN GELDER in accordance with S.3's 1547B/10 as amended by 1702/12.
(F.O.I.C. Greenock, 1816B/13.) *See p.399.*

GLENGYLE.

Request you will arrange to sail GLENGYLE so that she arrives at Portsmouth on 31/5.
(C.C.O., 1922B/13.)

War Diary.13.5.1942.
Wednesday.HOME COMMANDS.Movements - Contd.NEW YORK,
MADISON,
WILSON,
PLUNKETT.NEW YORK, MADISON, WILSON, PLUNKETT departure
Iceland 12/5 through 64° N. 24° 30' W., 40° N.
50° W., 40° N. 70° W. Arrive New York 20th.
Speed 15.
(C. in C. U.S. Fleet, 2147/12.)Operations.Return of
TRINIDAD.Comtask Force 99's 1247B. Sailed 2230B.
(A.C.I.C., 0011B/13.)
My 2052/10 para. (1). Force will be known as
10th C.S.(C. in C. H.F., 0019B/13 to A.I.G.47, Comtask 99.)
Cancel my 1247B/12. WASHINGTON, 4 destroyers returning to
Hvalfjord.(C.T.F.99, 0110B/13.)
Cancel my 0011B/13. Ships have returned to harbour.
(A.C.I.C., 0146B/13.)Kola Inlet departure C.S.18 in TRINIDAD, SOMALI, MATCHLESS,
FORESTER and FORESIGHT.
(S.B.N.O. North Russia, 2310B/13.)Engagement
with R-Boats.
M.T.B. 220
presumed lost.M.T.B. 219,
M.T.B. 221,
M.G.B. 9,
M.G.B. 13
damaged.Gen: T/O'S ILTIS 9
SEABLER lost.
(C.S. 1815. 3-4p: 4/46)At 0115 today R.D.F. detected one large vessel
with about 12 smaller in company between
Sandettie and outer Ruytingen Banks steering
S.W. at 12 knots.
M.T.Bs 48 (S.O.), 44, and 38 with M.G.Bs 322,
328, and 330 in support endeavoured to intercept
from No.2 buoy, but in continuous rain and light
to moderate easterly weather were unable to
sight the enemy who however fired star shell
during their approach. M.T.Bs 220 (S.O.),
221, and 219 with M.G.Bs 13 (S.O.) and 9 were
waiting near the ridge, and about 0350 made contact with the
enemy five miles west of Ambleteuse. According to report of
M.T.B. 221 an excellent interception on the beam of the enemy
vessel was made by skilful use of R.D.F. information and echo-
sounding whilst maintaining position for some 3 hours on the
ridge. M.T.Bs got within R-Boat screen but owing to heavy
opposition by gunfire and star shell and necessity for evading
action M.T.B. 221 was only able to attack a torpedo boat. A
possible hit is claimed with one torpedo the other tube having
been damaged. M.T.B. 219 was driven off by E/R boats and did
not shake off pursuit by several of them for over an hour.
M.G.Bs 13 and 9 both had numerous engagements with E/R boats
at close range and must have damage on them. M.T.B. 220 was
last seen gallantly pressing home his attack on main engines
and search has failed to locate her. Result of her attack
is not known, but at 0420 the enemy vessel then 6 miles west of
Boulogne and steering S.W. made a large alteration of course and
entered Boulogne at 0455. It seems probable that it had been
the intention to proceed to Havre taking advantage of the
unsuitable conditions for aircraft. It is not clear whether
all escorting vessels particularly those some 4 miles ahead
and presumably minesweepers also entered Boulogne. M.T.Bs
219 and 221 and M.G.Bs 9 and 13 all suffered damage in varying

War Diary.13.5.1942.
Wednesday.HOME COMMANDS.Operations.

Engagement with R-Boats. degree, but only M.G.B. 13 had casualties of one rating seriously and another slightly wounded. M.T.B. 220 Last boats did not reach harbour until 0745. presumed lost. M.G.B. 9 at one time requested assistance 5 miles off Cap E D'Alprech but fortunately was able to get clear of enemy coast and return under her own power. (V.A. Dover, 0952B/13 to Admty.) My 0952/13. M.T.B. 220 must now be considered lost by enemy action. Information has been received that enemy picked up survivors after the action but from what vessel is not clear, and the numbers mentioned seem to indicate that more than one vessel was sunk. R.D.F. shows that enemy vessels from Boulogne have searched the area of the action during this forenoon. It seems very probable that surviving officers and men of M.T.B. 220 may be prisoners of war. (V.A. Dover, 1807B/13.)

Interception of Enemy Ship. Request you will if possible reinforce Portsmouth with two "Hunt" class destroyers forthwith. A valuable enemy unit with strong escort is trying to break West from Boulogne. (A.C.N.S. H., 1033B/13 to C. in C. Plymouth.)

TYNEDALE and KRAKOWIAK are to R/V in 180° Eddystone 3 miles at 1300 and proceed at 22 knots to Portsmouth.

(C. in C. Plymouth, 1218B/13 to TYNEDALE, KRAKOWIAK.)

TYNEDALE is to take ships addressed under his orders and proceed to patrol between Beachy Head and C.2 buoy.

(2) An important enemy ship escorted by torpedo boat and E-Boats is expected to leave Boulogne westward after dark.

(3) 4 M.T.Bs of 11th M.T.B. Flotilla will be patrolling in 050° N. between 001° and 000° 40' W. in readiness to attack. They may manouvre position on receiving an enemy report but will not proceed eastward of line Selsey - Fecamp without orders from S.O. destroyers.

(4) If a running fight approaches the Selsey - Fecamp line, S.O. destroyers is to order M.T.Bs to keep clear.

(5) S.O. destroyers is to inform S.O. M.T.B. of his movements after attack and any intelligence gained.

(6) Destroyers are to be within 40 miles of the English Coast by 0530/14. Estimate 0530 position is to be signalled at 0500 if circumstances permit.

(C. in C. Portsmouth, 1503B/13 to TYNEDALE, CALPE, ALBRIGHTON, BERKELEY, BLENCATHRA, KRAKOWIAK, (R) M.T.B. 11.)

(1) Proceed in accordance with my 1503B/13 May to TYNEDALE passing E.A.3 buoy at 2230.

(2) Return by Q.Z.S. 239 arriving at F buoy at 0630/14.

(C. in C. Portsmouth, 1507B/13 to S.O. 11 M.T.B. Flotilla.)

TYNEDALE and KRAKOWIAK Passed Needles 1845B/13.

(C. in C. Portsmouth, 1914B/13 to C. in C. Plymouth.)

/N.W. Norway ...

War Diary.13.5.1942.
Wednesday.HOME COMMANDS.Operations - Contd.

N.W. Norway S/M Patrol. 1. F.O.S. 1812B/12 para. (c). Group 2 S/Ms are to proceed to their zone after passing through 088° Out Skerries 6 miles, leaving Lerwick as follows: *P.46 at 0600B/16 through 069° 58' N. 008° 10' E. to zone 33. P.37 at 1300B/16 through 069° 40' N. 008° 35' E. to zone 31. MINERVE at 2000B/16 through 069° 25' N. 007° 30' E. to zone 29. *P.614 at 0500B/17 direct to zone 27. *O.10 at 0900B/17 direct to zone 25.

2. Submarines are to proceed on the surface at C.O. discretion. Total bombing restriction will be asked to cover their route. (Capt. S.9, 1451B/13 to S.O. S/M Lerwick.) * 3-396

Patrols. M.Ls 139 and 142 on O.D. 6 and 7 combined. M.Ls 200 and 196 from Ramsgate patrolling between Dumpton and North East Spit Buoys. E.T.D. 2230, E.T.R. 0530/14. M.T.Bs 34, 32, 70 patrolling vicinity of Bullock Buoy from 2215. (V.A. Dover, 1914B/13.)

Combined Operation. PRINCESS BEATRIX is now required to be at Portsmouth by 20/5. F.O.I.C. Belfast is requested to arrange for sailing accordingly. 2. Further instructions will be given concerning embarkation of R.M. Commando when date of completion of PRINCESS BEATRIX is known. R.M. Commando will in any case be embarked before ship sails for Portsmouth. (C.C.O., 1921B/13.)

British Air Activity.

Special Fleet R/C. Enemy activity may develop in Northern Waters. Special Fleet R/C must now take precedence over trade. (A.C.N.S. H., 1053B/13 to A.O.C. in C. C.C.) A.M. 1053/13. Request R/Cs in following priority. (a) PRU Narvik, (b) PRU Trondheim, (c) "Lotus 3", (d) "Trost". (C. in C. H.F., 1616B/13 to H.Q.C.C.)

Fortress A/C. Fortress A/C based in Northern Ireland are now operational and may be encountered on patrol or escort duties. (C. in C. W.A., 1828B/13.)

Enemy Air Activity.

Murmansk Area. EMPIRE STARLIGHT bombed. During air attack yesterday bombs fell near EMPIRE STARLIGHT causing 6-inch crack in shell plating above bilge in number 4 hold, other minor damage. Repairs being carried out with repairs to other bomb damage. (Millar, Murmansk, 1120B/13.)

/Air ...

War Diary.13.5.1942.
Wednesday.HOME COMMANDS.Enemy Air Activity.

- Murmansk Area.
EMPIRE STARLIGHT bombed.
(Contd.)
- Air activity resumed May 9th after period of heavy snow. Since then 11 warnings received Polyarno. Two small bombs dropped in Murmansk May 10th without causing damage. EMPIRE STARLIGHT slightly damaged by near miss May 13th. Losses since May 9th estimated from Russian reports German 22, Russia 12. Approx. 90 machines air-borne daily in Kirkenes area. (S.B.N.O. North Russia, 2309B/13.)
- DOURO. (Not: s/s)
- Your 1209/12. Attack took place at 1330B/9th. Twin engined monoplane believed by DOURO's Gunner to have been Heinkel 111. (A.C.I.C., 1202B/13 to Admty.)
- Force "W".
- A long-range enemy aircraft was operating in your vicinity this morning and may have sighted you. (D.D.I.C., 1400B/13 to S.O. Force W.)
- Air R/C.
- A F.W. aircraft from Trondheim has operated today in an area 68° - 69° N. 19° - 20° W. (D.D.I.C., 1811B/13 to C. in C. H.F., V.A.2, C.S.10.)
- Jan Mayen.
- Jan Mayen Island engaged F.W. Condor flying over meteorological station at 1050/13. Probably hit. No attack made. Disappeared to the south-westwards. (A.C.I.C., 2028B/13.)
- Mining.
- East Coast.
- For the present owing to mines destroyers are not to go East of War Channel between 3 and 3B Buoys even when in contact with E-Boats. (C. in C. Nore, 1232B/13.)
- Mine recovery operation.
- Your 1249/8. Concur. (C. in C. Nore, 1453B/13.)
- Search sweep.
- Your 1051B/12. Operation completed. Result negative. (F.O.I.C. Aberdeen, 1806/13.)

War Diary.13.5.1942.
Wednesday.HOME COMMANDS.Mining - Contd.

S.N. 72, C. in C. H.F. 1118/19/4 and Admiralty 1111/26/4.
S.N. 3B. 1. Present supply situation will not allow minelayers to sail for S.N. 3B with a proper constituted outfit of mines before 5/6. This will not allow of S.N. 72 being laid before 18/6.
2. If S.N. 72 is laid before S.N. 3B, Squadron could be ready to sail for the former on 30/5 and field could be laid on 2/6. In this case S.N. 3B could be laid by about 10/6.
3. It is requested that further consideration may be given to proposals in my 0942/22 April, as modified by para. (2) above.
(R.A.M., 2154/13.)

Enemy Intelligence.

Straits of Dover. Enemy shipping plotted by R.D.F. in Dover Strait from 0900/12 to 0900/13.
Track E.6D. Four small vessels from Boulogne at 2215 eastbound at 9 knots faded 8 miles N.E. of Calais at 0115. Possibly trawlers.
Track E.17D. One large vessel and fifteen smaller escort vessels from 15 miles N.N.E. of Calais at 0115 course south-westerly to 8 miles west of Boulogne when after being attacked by M.T.Bs the large vessel altered course and entered Boulogne with some of the escort vessels at 0455. It is not clear whether the smaller vessels presumably minesweepers some 4 miles ahead of the large vessel also entered Boulogne.
(V.A. Dover, 1024B/13.)

→ ADMIRAL
SCHEER,
LÜTZOW.

Report Graded B.2 states (a) ADMIRAL SCHEER is believed to be in small fiord vicinity of Narvik. (b) LÜTZOW expected to proceed to Tromsø 15th or 16th May making use of darkness.
Comment: LÜTZOW was last reported off Gdynia 8th May (B.2.)
(D.D.I.C., 1056B/13.)

→ Trondheim.
TIRPITZ,
HIPPER.
→ SCHEER.

Visual R/C Trondheim at 1000B/13/5. TIRPITZ and HIPPER in usual positions. Berths of SCHEER and PRINZ EUGEN obscured by cloud.
(D.D.I.C., 1618B/13.)

Murmansk
Area.

One enemy destroyer seen off Cape Whitleyni at 1514B/13 and later reported again in 69° N. 36° 50' E.
(S.B.N.O. North Russia, 2309B/13.)

War Diary.13.5.1942.
Wednesday.HOME COMMANDS.U-Boats.

U-Boat reported. Intercepted at 0323 G.M.T. from J.Q. 23 begins:-
D.R. Sub. ahead of us ends. Approx. bearing from Malin Head 269° true. Malin Head Radio 0335/13 G.M.T. Ends.
(F.O.I.C. Belfast, 0602/13 to Admty.)

Unknown Ship attacked. Intercepted at 0440 G.M.T. heard S S S S de 13. Torpedoed. Nothing further. Malin Head Radio Controlling Station not rebroadcast should this be done.
Port Patrick Radio 0646/13. Reply No.
(Navy Charge, Greenock, 0635B/13 to Admty.)

Intercept at 0631 G.M.T. bearing 214° de GCK begins SSSS de 13. Torpedoed 0625/13. No further particulars.
(Wick Radio, 0833/13)
(C. in C. Plymouth, 0835/13)
(Burnham Radio Recd. 0853/13.)

Survivors. Your 2023B/11. Request name of ship, nature of attack, and number of survivors.
(C. in C. W.A., 1316B/13 to A.C.I.C.)

Convoy O.N.S.92. This is C.T.U. 24.1.3 dispatch 1255/13. O.N.S.92 at 1200Z/13 in 50° 59' N. 34° 05' W. Three submarines on flanks driven down and attacked but in spite of this two ships sunk last night BATNA and TOLKEN. Rescue ship BURY has about 110 survivors and reports only four days provisions. Escorts crowded with survivors.
(C.T.U., 24.1.3, 1816/13.)

BATNA (British, 4399 tons)
TOLKEN (British, 4471 tons) *Swedish ?*
sunk.

U-Boat attacked. Depth charged oil streak 56° 48' N. 15° 20' W.
(A.O.C. 15 Group, 2345/13.)

Navigational.

White Sea approaches. Your 1126/21/4. Channel notified in S.B.N.O. Archangel's 1601/18/4 can only be accepted provided width of between latitude of Cape Orlovterski and latitude of Korabelni Point is one mile in order to avoid entering shallow water - and to narrow the channel where it passes through (? strip of) mineable waters. Subject to this alteration request 32 Q.Z.R. may be cancelled and new Q.Z.R. promulgated - M.S. One concurs.
(S.B.N.O. North Russia, 1047B/13 to Admty.)

/Ice ...

War Diary.13.5.1942.
Wednesday.HOME COMMANDS.Navigational - Contd.

Ice in White Sea. Ice and weather report number 24. North to North Easterly winds have prevailed until yesterday when wind changed to S.S.E. force 3. Clear water in White Sea basin to westward of 38° E. Corlopa in Southern position as few patches of clear water have appeared between Cape Nikoddimskoi and Blenovetz but North of this conditions are very bad. Ice edge 5 miles North of Gonodetsky. River Dvina expected to be clear of ice tomorrow. (S.B.N.O. Archangel, 1123B/13.)

South Varne. South Varne Buoy light extinguished. (V.A. Dover, 1611B/13.)

Baltic Ice. Following from N.A. ice report 13/5. Gulf of Bothnia is rapidly improving. All Swedish ports as far North as Umea are now open to shipping. Northwards ports to latitude 65 are open for ice strengthened vessels. (N.A. Stockholm, 1631/13.)

Technical.

R.D.F. Types 279 and 281. Results obtained in the Home Fleet during the last 3 months with type 281 as a warning aircraft set has been extremely disappointing and on the whole much inferior to those obtained with type 279.

2. During the winter while the enemy aircraft activity against the Fleet was slight the operational experience of the set was possible but maintenance of the sets particularly in ships operating in Denmark Straits presented a serious problem.

3. Improved flying conditions have given the Fleet better opportunities of using the set against A/C and have emphasised the superior qualities of type 279 as a warning set. Type 281 has given very much less warning of medium and high flying aircraft and on no single occasion has it given the Fleet first warning of low attack.

4. Surface ranging has been satisfactory.

5. Harbour practices have shown the consistent superiority of type 279 to cope with W/T interference and land echoes.

6. While admitting that the majority of type 279 sets have been longer in use than the 281 sets and should be more efficiently operated I consider the performance of the latter most unsatisfactory and a serious weakness in the defence of the Home Fleet.

7. Accordingly it is requested that signal school representatives may visit the Fleet at the first opportunity to ensure that the sets already fitted are being operated to their optimum efficiency and to ascertain the cause of the indifferent performance now obtaining.

8. Pending reassurance that type 281 can in fact produce the result claimed for it, it is requested that no steps be taken to instal it in place of type 279 in KING GEORGE V during present refit.

(C. in C. H.F., 0103B/13 to Admty.)

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War Diary.13.5.1942.
Wednesday.HOME COMMANDS.Casualties and Defects.

EMPIRE Arrived SAXIFRAGE with 4 survivors from EMPIRE
HOWARD HOWARD.
(Torpedoed (F.O.I.C. Greenock, 0946B/13.)
16/4 in
Convoy
P.Q.14.)

CHARLESTOWN. Propose sailing CHARLESTOWN to Clyde arriving
a.m./18 to continue progressing of 271. Ship
will be available till p.m./22. Request
information whether John Browns can complete structural work.
It is also desired to progress electrical wiring and fitting
of alternator during this period.
(R.A.M., 1119/13 to C. in C. W.A.)

PRIMROSE, PRIMROSE requires repairs due to fire. Expects
READING, to complete 22/5.
BURWELL. READING, BURWELL require extensive refit.
(C.T.G. 24.7, 1300B/13 to C.T.F. 24.)

Shipping and Convoys.

F.N.706. F.N.706 anchored in vicinity of number 57D buoy.
Fog.
(WINCHESTER, 0406B/13.)
F.N.706. My 1744/12. No ships sailed on account of weather.
(N.C.S.O. Humber, 1017/13.)

MAGNET 4. My 0209/11. Cancel para. 3. U.S. Technicians
should remain on board MAGNET 4.
2. Your 1237/11. Request urgent report of
reasons why you consider time likely to be insufficient.
Arrival p.m. 16/5 is unavoidable and it is essential to
maintain sailing date of 22/5.
(D.S.T., 0508B/13 to P.S.T.O. West of Scotland.)
Your 0508B/13. It was stressed at meeting that movement could
be carried out but ship must arrive early 16th with late arrival
virtually one day is lost.
(P.S.T.O. West of Scotland, 1601B/13 to D.S.T.)

W.S. 19. Message received from W.S.19 message begins -
Speed reduced to 12 knots for right boiler
trouble in 42. Message Ends.
(Lough Erne, 0550/13.)
Owing to defects CHURCHILL did not sail with
W.S.19.
(C. in C. W.A., 0850Z/13.) *See next page*

/P.Q. 16

War Diary.13.5.1942.
Wednesday.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping and Convoys - Contd.

P.Q. 16. Sailed HAZARD to Hvalfjord as additional escort for P.Q. 16. Speed of advance 12 knots. (R.A.D. H.F., 0804B/13.)

My 0804B/13. E.T.A. 1400B/15. (R.A.D. H.F., 1130B/13 to A.C.I.C.)

A/S escort at present detailed for P.Q.16 amounts to 5 destroyers, 1 minesweeper, 4 corvettes and 4 trawlers, a total of 14 A/S craft, one of which is required to attend submarines. (2) As convoy now consists of 35 ships and H.M.S. ALYNBANK I consider escort should be not less than 18 A/S Craft. (C. in C. H.F., 1219B/13 to Admty.)

Your 1208/12. Ship should arrive Seidisfjord Tuesday 19th May. (C. in C. H.F., 1313B/13 to C. in C. W.A.)

Commodore Londonderry's 1304B/12. Escorts are not now required till 19/5. Amend R/V to 1800B/16. (C. in C. W.A., 1554B/13.)

P.Q. 16. Cancel my 2144B/9. (C. in C. W.A., 1602B/13.)

Your 1219B/13. The Russian convoys have the maximum escort that can be provided from our limited resources. The risks run are admittedly great but the arrival of war supplies in Russia is so important that they must be accepted. (1st S.L., 1943B/13 to C. in C. H.F.)

C. in C. H.F. 1038/11. Subject to concurrence of C. in C. H.F. ships should be sailed to arrive Seidisfjord 19/5 routed through - P. 270° Cape Wrath 8 miles. Q. 62° 30' N. 05° 30' W. R. 65° 50' N. 12° 35' W. S. 65° 40' N. 13° 20' W. (D.O.D.(H), 1924B/13.)

O.N. 95. O.N. 95. As no destroyers are available for C.4 CHURCHILL is to sail with convoy. (II) Since CHURCHILL is urgently required to join B.5 in Caribbean Sea request she may be released as early as possible. (C. in C. W.A., 0831Z/13 to C.T.F. 24.)

C.T.U. 24.1.14 in CHURCHILL plus LETHBRIDGE, SHAWINIGAN, PRESCOTT, and U.S.S. SAUCY designated ocean escort O.N. 95. (C.T.G. 24.7, 1300B/13 to C.T.F. 24.)

O.N. 93, Detach one escort from O.N.93 to join C.T.U. O.N.5.92. 24.1.3 with O.N.5.92. Estimated position 51° 20' N. 34° 50' W. at 1200Z/13. (Comtask 24, 0855/13 to C.T.U. 24.1.13.)

C.T.F. 24 0855/13. For information of escort detailed for O.N.S. 92. Estimated course and speed O.N.S. 92 250° 7½ knots passing through - V. 050° 15' N. 039° 25' W. W. 045° 20' N. 049° 35' W. (C. in C. W.A., 1157Z/13 to C.T.U. 14.1.13.)

War Diary.13.5.1942.
Wednesday.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping and Convoys - Contd.

H.X. 188. H.X. 188. Ships bound for Mersey that estimate they can reach Bar Light Vessel not later than 0930Z/15 may be detached at Commodores' discretion on reaching 011° W. Ships detached are to report expected time of arrival at Bar to Admiral Liverpool on 600 metres to Port Patrick on crossing 008° W. Tankers are not to be detached.
(C. in C. W.A., 1003B/13 to HARVESTER.)

Information of attacks on Convoys. The first intimation I had of the attack on O.N. 92 during the night of May 11th 2055/12 from C.T.U. 24.1.3 which reached me at 0159/13. It is of vital importance to me to receive a report of an attack immediately it occurs, particularly if east of "Chop" as it may often be possible to reinforce the escort of the convoy concerned and to divert other convoys which may well be affected. I would be most grateful if you would instruct Task Unit Commanders accordingly.
(C. in C. W.A., 1050Z/13 to C.T.F. 24.)

S/M Escorts to Russian Convoys. F.O.S's 1914/12. Request your views on para. (e).
(C. in C. H.F., 1412B/13 to S.B.N.O. North Russia.)
Your 1412/13. In these circumstances submarine would be routed by S.B.N.O. North Russia alongside one Russian submarine homeward routed from 072° 12' N. 024° E. Presumably F.O.(S) will route submarine as far as this position if she is to westward of this longitude. Orders passed in both cases on broadcast H.D. via Whitehall. Escort ship will meet submarine off Kildin Island.
(S.B.N.O. North Russia, 2233B/13 to C. in C. H.F, Reptd. F.O.S.)

R.U. 24. There are only two M/V for U.R. 24. Request you will inform me estimated number in R.U. 24 with view to reducing strength of escort.
(C. in C. W.A., 1556B/13 to A.C.I.C.)
Your 1557/13. Six.
(A.C.I.C., 1739B/13 to C. in C. W.A.)

East Coast Convoys. Cancel E.C.O.O. art. 61 para. 6 and substitute (text follows)
(Capt. D. Rosyth, 1613B/13 to R.E.F. 525.)

C.E. 79. My 1014B/12. C.E.79 postponed 24 hours.
(C. in C. Nore, 1632B/13.)

/P.W. ...

War Diary.13.5.1942.
Wednesday.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping and Convoys - Contd.

P.W. and W.P. Convoys. A.M. 1914/12. Consider vessels mentioned in para. 3 can be included in P.W. and W.P. convoys without any undue risk provided that destroyer escort is present and trawler escort groups are maintained at normal strength. Any diversion of destroyers of 15th Destroyer Flotilla for extraneous duties from convoy containing these valuable motor vessels will necessitate holding up latter and provision of adequate trawler escort will be much facilitated if orders as to requirements for other services such as towing will state number of craft required and leave selection of individual trawlers to C. in C. concerned.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 1718B/13 to Admty.)

S.C. 81. S.C. 81. Average speed 6.18 knots. Ice encountered soon after leaving Halifax. No stragglers. Good weather. All ships arrived.
(D.T.D., 1737B/13 to Opanav.)

EMPIRE Your 1420B/11. Weather permitting intend to sail SPIREA, and AZALEA escorting 29th M.L. Flotilla and S.S. EMPIRE CONRAD p.m. 15th. CONRAD. (N.O.I.C. Milford Haven, 1805B/13.)
29th M.L. Flotilla.

P.W.D. 155. Proceed immediate R/V P.W.D. 155 in 236°. Eddystone 3.5 miles at 1300 and escort to Falmouth. Return Plymouth on completion.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 1236B/13 to CLEVELAND.)

D.S. 27. D.S. 27 composed of S.S. LEINSTER speed 16 knots carrying 900 personnel for Iceland will be ready to leave Clyde 22/5. She will return as S.D.27.
(D.O.D.(H), 1906B/13.)

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War Diary.13.5.1942.
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.General.

Convoy A.G.M. 9A of 5/1 is to be amended as follows.
Titles. Add:- C.L. - St. Johns N.F. - Halifax, Sydney
C.B. L.C. - Halifax - Sydney C.B. St. Johns N.F.
B.X. - Boston and Bay of Fundy ports - Halifax.
X.B. - Halifax - Bay of Fundy Ports and Boston. C.J. - Calcutta
- Colombo (coastal) J.C. - Colombo - Calcutta (coastal)
K.N. - Key West - Hampton Roads. K.S. - Hampton Roads - Key
West. (D.T.D. 2138B/13, "A" Message 669A.) (Original in
Summaries Folder)

North Atlantic.

S.L.109 S.L.109 attacked. DENPARK torpedoed. Sighted
attacked. U-Boat and forced him to dive. Two attacks
DENPARK carried out, one very promising. (LANDGUARD
torpedoed. 0030Z/13 to Admty. (R) C. in C. W.A. F.O.C.N.A.)
My 0030Z/13 no further contact during the night
and no developments. U-Boat now in sight 010°
12 miles my P.C. and S 022° 50' N 027° 05' W 320°. 7.
(LANDGUARD 0915Z/13 to Admty. (R) C. in C. W.A. F.O.C.N.A.)
U-Boat in sight bearing 310° 12 miles. My P.C. and S 023° 30'
N 027° 33' W 350° 7½. My 0915Z U-Boat dived HASTINGS searched
area without result. LULWORTH and LANDGUARD have only 30
depth charges each left. Ships have not yet (corrupt group)
oil. Escorts lack of speed makes it impossible to drive off
shadowers. Request route may be shortened if practicable and
air support provided at earliest opportunity. (LANDGUARD
1525Z/13 to Admty. (R) C. in C. W.A. F.O.C.N.A.)
D/F bearings at 1018Z indicate U-Boat still shadowing convoy.
(D.D.I.C. 1546B/13 to Escorts S.L.109, R.A.W.A.F. F.O.C.N.A.
C. in C. S.A. C. in C. W.A.)
My 1546/13. Unreliable D/F bearings at 1243Z and 1320Z suggest
U-Boats probably still shadowing. (D.D.I.C. 1955B/13 to Escorts
S.L.109, R.A. West Africa, F.O.C.N.A. C. in C. S.A. C. in C.
W.A.)

French Passings 12/5. Westward GABRIEL-GUIST' HAU
Shipping. full NANCEEN deck cargo. (V.A.C.N.A. 0853B/13
to Admty. for M.E.W.)
Gibraltar 1140 French M/S ENGAGEANTE French
ship MAROC laden with deck cargo of 7 motor lorries, DANOMEY,
ILE DE BREHAT, both laden, former deck cargo of 3 motor launches
and agricultural machinery, latter deck cargo of 12 motor
vehicles, French Aux: Patrol Vessel CAPITAIN ARMAND Westbound.
1700 French Aux: Patrol Vessel VICTORIA, FORT DE VAUX laden with
deck cargo barrel sand fruit baskets. VILLE DU HAVRE full
deck cargo Wine Casks (8). IMEREPHIE II, MITIDJA, both full
Eastbound. (S.O.I. Gibraltar 2227B/13 to Admty. C. in C. Med.
R.A. West Africa, S.O.I. Kingston.)

SANDAR Your 1827B/12. Request that on future occasions
sunk 2/5. similar information may be communicated as early
as practicable.
2. N.A. Station is very short of escort vessels
necessitating careful planning so as to meet commitments as
far as possible.
3. Shortage aggravated by delayed sailing date of AZALEA and

/SPIREA...
A

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War Diary.13.5.1942.
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic.SANDAR
sunk 2/5.
Contd.SPIREA. 4. Unnecessary sailing and maintenance at sea for over three days of GERANIUM and COLTSFOOT both inconvenient and wasteful. (F.O.C.N.A. 1020B/13 to Admty.) *See next page - (S.I.T. Rep.)*

WELSHMAN.

A.M. 1750/12. Intend sailing WELSHMAN at 2200/13 routed through A. 036° 30' N 010° 01' W. B. 040° 01' 014° 45'. C. 043° 01' 014° 45' S of A 19 knots. (2) C. in C. Plymouth is requested to issue onward routing instructions from position C. (F.O.C.N.A. 1030B/13 to Admty. C. in C. Plymouth. (R) C. in C. W.A. N.O.I. C. Milford Haven, R.A.M. WELSHMAN.)

Add to my 2142B/12. Following more specialised equipment in WELSHMAN is damaged beyond repair. (Details) Ship should be docked after her shaking as port shaft runs warm at stern gland when speed is varied. (F.O.C.N.A. 1304B/13 to Admty. (R) R.A.M. WELSHMAN.)

My 1030B/13. Sailed WELSHMAN. (F.O.C.N.A. 2258B/13 to Admty. C. in C. Plymouth (R) C. in C. W.A. N.O.I.C. Milford Haven. R.A.M.) *See next page - (S.I.T. Rep.)*Damaged
U/B
Cartagena.
U.573.

Following received from British Consul Cartagena. (Begins) As German submarine probably cannot be repaired here, local Admiral insistent with his Government on internment of crew (Ends.) (F.O.C.N.A. 1058B/13 to Admty.)

P.R.U.
A/C
Gibraltar.

My 1322/7 and your 1037/9 neither to A.O.C.C.C. No P.R.U. aircraft has yet arrived. 2. I understand A.O.C.C.C. promised A.O.C. Gibraltar Mosquito aircraft early this week. Week is now more than half through and no P.R.U.

aircraft has arrived.

3. Mosquito preferable to Maryland but either preferable to Fulmars which I am compelled to use although quite unsuitable in view of presence of French fighters in force, in clear weather Fulmars can do nothing.

4. Absence of suitable R/C A/C here places undue strain on both flying and surface forces owing to short distance between Casablanca and Gibraltar Strait. (F.O.C.N.A. 1202B/13 to Admty. (R) A.O.C.C.C.)

HYTHE,
RYE.Onward route from positions (C) through (D) 038° 59' N 015° 01' W (E) 036° 30' N 010° 01' W thence Gibraltar. (F.O.C.N.A. 1208B/13 to HYTHE RYE (R) Admty. C. in C. W.A.) C. in C. W.A. 1744/9. HYTHE and RYE are to be retained and may be employed at Gibraltar until further orders. (A.C.N.S.(F) 1229B/13 to F.O.C.N.A. (R) C. in C. Med. R.A. West Africa.) *See next page - (S.I.T. Rep.)*

F.W.A/C.

One A/C F.W. Long. 090° steering 210° 4 miles. Position 298 Espichel 19. (SCOTTISH 1214/13 to Gibraltar W/T.)

/My...

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War Diary.13.5.1942.
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic.F.W.A/C.
Contd.

My 1214 possibly transit A/C but consider probably F.W. (SCOTTISH 1405B/13 to F.O.C.N.A. (R) LOCH OSKAIG)

Situation Report.

(1) Fleet Unit 2 destroyers 26° 40' 15" 23' through 28° 01' 13" 30' thence 031° 16'.
(2) GERANIUM, COLTSFOOT 035° 34' 00" 06' to Gibraltar 12½ Situation 1959B/13. *See previous page*
(3) JONQUIL, ST. NECTAN sail 0200/14 through 350 Spartel 5 thence 242° 10.(4) SCOTTISH patrolling Lisbon. *See previous page*
(5) LOCH OSKAIG patrolling off Cape Roca.
(6) IMPERIALIST sails noon 14/5 to patrol Huelva Bight.
(7) LORD NUFFIELD escorting MIRROR vicinity 37° 17' 10" 20'
(8) HYPHE, RYE 044° 28' 016° 03' 180° 12. *See previous page*
(9) WELSHMAN sails 2200/13 through 36° 30' 10° 01' thence 313° 19. (F.O.C.N.A. 1322B/13 to A.I.G. 63.) *See previous page*

R/C Casablanca.

A 15 13/5 S PRU/GIB/W113/5. 807 Squadron Sortie dated 13/5 time 1155 shows Casablanca on distant Oblique photographs. JEAN BART as usual berth with double torpedo boom in position. DUCAY TROUIN

C/R and ^{LA}GALISSONNIERE C/R unchanged in position C/T remains moored outside harbour. Submarine berth obscured but no appreciable change in other naval units since 12/5. Entrance Boom partly open and still adjacent booms unchanged. Pilot reported Dr. 10 miles N.W. of port proceeding S. (P.R.U. Gibraltar 1330/13 to Air Min. Admty. H.Q.C.C.)

Air R/C Casablanca.

Air R/C Casablanca 1155B/13 major units no change. Submarine berth obscured. Entrance boom partly open. (F.O.C.N.A. 1732B/13 to Admty. etc.)

Parcels Ships, British Red Cross.

A.M. 1300/7. It is now understood from British Red Cross that parcels ships will in general continue to be routed to Marseilles, though an occasional ship will be routed to Genoa. (Admty. 1954B/13 to F.O.C.N.A. (R) C. in C. Med. V.A. Malta. N.A. Lisbon.)

South Atlantic.

Signalling positions of shipping.

Your 2015/27/4. Please pass one typical F.S. and A.S. signal to Admty. for information. (D.O.D.(F) 0034B/13 to C. in C. S.A. (R) R.A. West Africa.) Reply: C. in C. S.A. 1642B/14.

/OMAHA...

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War Diary.13.5.1942.
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic - Contd.OMAHA.
McDOUGAL.

U.S. Cruiser OMAHA, U.S. Destroyer McDOUGAL left Pernambuco 11/5 for patrol in area equator 010° S and W of 026° W. (C. in C. S.A. 1045B/13 to S.A. Sqdn.)

Dakar
R/C.

My 1811Z/12/5 examination of photographs shows 4 S/MS as on 10/5. Since 10/5 1 "Bougainville" Class 1 "Elan" Class and 1 patrol have departed but 1 "Elan" Class and 1 patrol vessel still present. Considerable decrease of merchant shipping. Wagon Lagos state that 15 French fighter A/C expected arrive Kotonou 15/5 probably from Dakar via Ivory Coast. (S.O.I. Freetown 1057Z/13 to Admty. D.N.I. (R) S.O.I. Gibraltar, C. in C. S.A.) In view of shortage of A/C intend to carry out R/C of Dakar on alternate days only in future. (R.A. West Africa 1121Z/13 to Admty. (R) F.O.C.N.A. C. in C. S.A.)

A.M.Cs.

A.M. 2329/2. If intelligence of enemy movements dispositions. does not require other dispositions intend that A.M.Cs. shall be stationed on route as follows one in each area.

(A) Cape Verde Area. (B) Equator. (C) Lat. 10 S 20 S and 30 S.

2. A.M.Cs. available for this purpose will be (A) for W.S.19W from Freetown ALCANTARA, PRETORIA CASTLE, CARNARVON CASTLE. From Cape ASTURIAS, CHESHIRE. (B) For AQUITANIA from Freetown PRETORIA CASTLE, ALCANTARA, CARNARVON CASTLE. From Cape - ASTURIAS and CHESHIRE or CILICIA.

(C) For W.S.19Y from Freetown - CARNARVON CASTLE, ASTURIAS, CHESHIRE. From Cape - CANTON, ALCANTARA.

3. Following movements to take place after passages of AQUITANIA and QUEEN ELIZABETH. (A) AQUITANIA, PRETORIA CASTLE proceed U.K. for refit, ALCANTARA proceed Cape ASTURIAS and CHESHIRE proceed Freetown. (B) QUEEN ELIZABETH, CARNARVON CASTLE proceed Cape.

4. Ships from Freetown to fill 3 northerly positions. (C. in C. S.A. 1237B/13 to R.A. West Africa, (R) Admty.)

PETUNIA
defects.

My 1126Z/12. PETUNIA and ^{*}DUNNOTTAR CASTLE sailed with convoy S.L.110. C. in C. W.A. is requested to give destinations. (R.A. West Africa 1325Z/13 to C. in C. W.A. (R) Admty.)

* See next page.

MA.R.I.

Your 1011Z/12. This is confirmed A.M. 1806/3. refers. (D.T.D. 1339B/13 to N.C.S.O. Freetown (R) S.O.I. Freetown.)

PATELLA.

Your 0945Z/7. Latest fuel stock signal from Simonstown indicates receipt of cargo probably ex PATELLA. G.B.M.S. 2/5 diverted PATELLA to Simonstown. Request you report whether vessel arrived. (D.T.D. 1430B/13 to S.O.I. Capetown) Reply: Not arrived. S.O.I. Capetown 0802Z/15.

War Diary.13.5.1942.
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic - Contd.

- DIOMEDE. Intend to sail on patrol 14/5 and pass through
patrol. the following positions. A. 035° S 051° W
B. $024^{\circ} 30'$ S 039° W. C. $024^{\circ} 30'$ S 038° W
D. 037° S 052° W thence to Montevideo arriving
23/5 and remaining in harbour for 6 days for
boiler cleaning and routine upkeep of machinery.
(DIOMEDE 1526/13 to C.T.F.No.23. S.O.I.
Montevideo. Alusna (Montevideo) (R) C. in C.
Atlantic Fleet (U.S.) Opnav, C. in C. S.A.)
- MOANDA C.A.F.O. 199/41. Master of MOANDA arrived
(Belgian) Capetown reports finding two loose shells in
Suspected Lorry stowed in No.1. hold. Conducting N.C.O.
Sabotage. gives following description appearance 25
pounder shell weight 10 to 15 lbs. approx.
colour black with brass fuze cap and band no
markings. Appeared to contain several loose pieces of metal
when shaken. They were immediately thrown overboard. Hold
was loaded at King's Dock Swansea last week in March 1942.
(S.O.I. Capetown 1550B/13 to Admty. (R) C. in C. S.A.)
- CARLISLE. CARLISLE sails from Durban for Simonstown 0600Z/14
by coastal route R.2. E.T.A. Simonstown 0600Z/16
S of A 17 knots. (N.O.I.C. Durban 1601Z/13 to
Admty. etc)
- W.S.18. D of S.T.'s 1257/11 para 7 not to S.O. Force F
If available it is proposed to sail LLANDAFF
CASTLE with W.S.18 from Durban with about 800
personnel for Madagascar. Balance of
accommodation will be filled with troops for
Mombasa if onward escort for Madagascar can be
provided. (C. in C. S.A. 1627B/13 to C. in C. E.F.
(R) C. in C. E.I. S.O. Force F. D of S.T. Cdre.
Durban.)
- Movements. Departures 13/5 ARCHER, BRIDGEWATER. (S.O.I.
Freetown 2317Z/13 to Admty.)
- Overdue My 1854Z/11 SEAPOOL arrived Buenos Aires 13/5.
shipping. (S.O.I. Montevideo 2034Z/13 to Admty.)
- S.L.O.110. Departure 13/5 DUNNOTTAR CASTLE with S.L.O.110.
(S.O.I. Freetown 2234Z/13 to Admty. F.O.C.N.A.
C. in C. W.A. S.O.W.P.) *See previous page.*

MEDITERRANEAN.LIVEZY,
KIPLING,
JACKAL.

*Re sinking. (Admty. 0115 B/13 to C: C (M) Hush - not
Secret. See p. 415.
(HUSH M. p. 60)*

War Diary.13.5.1942.
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean. conts.Air
Report
Middle
East.

A.688 13/5 Bi-weekly Opsum No.20. 27 Wellingtons bombed shipping Benghazi Harbour night 8/9 starting fires on Juliana Central and outer Moles and explosions between bases of Outer and Central Moles. 1 Wellington scored direct hit on 5000 ton M/V North of Harbour.

May 9. 9 Bostons escorted by 12 long-range Kittyhawks bombed shipping Benghazi harbour from 14,000 feet no hits. 16 Tomahawks 4 Martlets 25 Hurricanes 8 Fulmars protections of shipping off Egyptian Coast.

Night May 9/10. 8 Wellingtons bombed shipping and converted wrecks used as landing stages Benghazi, haze prevented observation damage, 1 Wellington unable to reach harbour dropped bombs north of town starting small fire, further 2 Wellingtons missing. About 8 enemy aircraft bombed Alexandria balloon (pont?) hit, 1 house demolished in town, no damage dock area, 3 Beaufighters up did not sight enemy A.A. fire probably destroyed 1 enemy aircraft.

10/5 (corrupt group) 49 Hurricanes protection of shipping vicinity (Tobruk?) 10 Tomahawks shipping protections off Egyptian Coast 2 tactical R/C Hurricanes shot down by enemy fighters forward area. Single JU.88 approached to within 20 miles Alexandria and attacked hospital ship, setting it on fire. 4 Hurricanes from Alexandria sighted JU.88 but it escaped in cloud.

Night 10/11/5. 13 Wellingtons bombed Benghazi harbour starting small fires on bases Juliana and Cathedral Moles, mist prevented observation details damage.

11/5. 16 Tomahawks 4 Martlets 23 Hurricanes 6 Fulmars protection of shipping along Egyptian Coast. A Beaufighter intercepted two S.79s which attacked shipping off Damietta destroying one damaging second, latter last seen with one engine on fire. Beaufighter had one engine damaged in fight and crash landing write-off crew safe. A Blenheim on A/S patrol off Alexandria attacked S/M 30 miles north Aboukir with 4 250lb A/S bombs obtaining near misses.

Special Maryland search sighted at 0950 hours convoy 1 merchant vessel 8000 tons, 2 merchant vessels 3000 tons, 3 destroyers about 150 miles E of Malta course (151° or 150°?) 8 knots. 4 destroyers with escort 4 Beaufighters were despatched to intercept convoy. Destroyers were attacked at last light by enemy aircraft of which Beaufighters shot down 1 HE.111, damaged 1 HE.111, 5 JU.88s. 2 destroyers were sunk, third was severely damaged and had to be sunk after being taken in tow. A Sunderland on patrol ahead of returning destroyer attacked submarine with 4 L250 lb A/S bombs and machine gun fire, effect unknown. Enemy convoy was subsequently sighted by 2nd Maryland at 1654 hrs 11/5 about 30 miles south original sighting course 300° 6 knots.

Night 11/12 May. 5 Wellingtons bombed Benghazi harbour bombs bursting on Central Juliana and Cathedral Moles. 7 Wellingtons unable to locate Harbour bombed Berka and Satellite landing grounds and barracks in vicinity starting 2 fires.

12/5. 4 Tomahawks 26 Hurricanes 4 Fulmars shipping protection along Egyptian coast. Blenheim attacked S/M 50 miles N.E. Sidi Barrani with 4 250 lb A/S bombs, results unobserved. Second Blenheim attacked second S/M 120 miles due west Alexandria with 4 250 lb A/S bombs, direct hit caused large column water followed by large patch oil and bubbles. S/M believed destroyed. (H.Q. R.A.F. M.E. 0917G.M.T/13. 0937. 0942. 0957. 1004/13.)

War Diary.13.5.1942.
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean - Contd.

Cyrenaica
enemy
intelligence. (1) Indications show that Ras. Al. Hilal is being developed as Port for schooners and F boats which are similar to British A lighters. (2) Recent air R/C shows 3 or 4 E Boats in Benghazi. (Capt. S.l. 1031C/13 to TURBULENT.)

TORBAY. Your 1426/8 TORBAY sailed P.M./12 for Gibraltar and U.K. with following passengers on board. N.O.I.C. Malta and Capt. S.8. are requested to arrange onward route. (Capt. S.l. 1159C/13 to F.O.S. (R) C. in C. Med. etc.)

Bosphorous
Boom. Following from B.D. Officer, Turkey. Bosphorous Boom in back in position except that 3 deep nets are removed to depot for repairs. (N.A. Ankara 1215C/13 to Admty. C. in C. Med.)

Caucasus
policy. Following for Chiefs of Staff from Cs.in C.
1. We have been considering plans for dealing with possible German attack through Caucasus in autumn. Owing to lack of information of Russian policy or intentions in this area we are compelled to make our plans unilaterally and may later have to fight in equal ignorance of Russian plans. For example, we do not know what aerodromes we may be able to use in North Persia nor can we carry out R/C.
2. It is clear that we ought to fight as far forward in North Persia as our resources and maintenance will permit not only to give more effective assistance to Russians but also to safeguard Russian supply route and to keep down scale of air attack on our bases, Abadan and on shipping in the Persian Gulf. We are unable to plan on this basis without Russian co-operation.
3. Grateful if you would initiate action on high level, possibly through Mission in Moscow, with object of co-ordinating policy and leading up to Staff conversations. (Mideast 1415/13 to Air Min.)

TRITON. Adjust speed to pass through 034° 37' 020° 01' about 2201C/15 and thence through 034° 16' 026° 07' to arrive at Alexandria searched channel about 0530C/21. (Capt. S.l. 1715C/13 to Gr. S/M TRITON.)

THORN. 2 destroyers and 4 trawlers on patrol in sanctuary. No shipping expected a.m./14th. On account of enemy mines do not cross 50 fathom line before 1001 by which time sweepers will have completed. You may dive in searched channel or exercise sanctuary if you wish. Sweepers must be given a wide berth. (Capt. S.l. 1901C/13 to THORN.)

Malta
Air
Report. I.288 13/5. Part 1. My I.276 Night 8/9. Further details of R.A.F. damage. 12th alert 1535 hrs. ME.109's, Macchi 202s, 3 Cant 1007,

War Diary.13.5.1942.
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean.

Malta 4 JU.88s. Takali, 1 airman, 1 soldier, wounded,
 Air 2 Spitfires damaged, Craters aerodrome, 2 Cant
 Report. 1007 destroyed, 1 JU.88 1 Macchi 202 probably
 Contd. destroyed, 1 JU.88 2 ME.109s damaged by 34
 Spitfires 6 Hurricanes. 2 Spitfires shot down,
 1 Pilot killed, other safe. 2 Spitfires damaged
 in combat 1 Pilot wounded, other unhurt. 2 Spitfires collided
 taxiing 1 destroyed other damaged pilots unhurt. A.A. fired.
 Night 12/13 4 alerts 2000 2152 2300 0026 10 Raiders. 4
 civilians wounded, several houses damaged, Beaufighter
 destroyed 1 JU.88 A.A. fired. 13th 3 alerts 0547 1019 1356 hrs
 Me 109s Macchi 202s 2 JU.88 15 JU.87. Halfar 3 Hurricanes slight
 damage. 2 ME.109 destroyed 1 JU.87 damaged by 13 Spitfires.
 1 Spitfire damaged in combat, Pilot safe. A.A. fired.
 Part 2. Deliveries 12th 5 Wellingtons 2 Hudsons ex Gibraltar
 arrived, 3 Wellingtons left Middle East, 2 Hudsons Gibraltar
 same night, 1 Lodestar to Middle East. (H.Q. R.A.F. Malta
 1930/13.)

Announcement I feel sure that there was good reason for the
 of loss of premature announcement yesterday 12/5 of loss of
 3 destroyers. KIPLING, JACKAL and LIVELY but it is not
 apparent here. I trust that there is no
 intention of departing in the future from the
 normal procedure of informing Cs. in C. before the loss of
 ships on their station is announced and of informing the next
 of kin before the announcement is made. (C. in C. Med. 2047C/13
 to Admty.) Reply: Admty. 0151B/18. *See p 412.*

THRASHER. If anti-submarine activity is too great you may
 proceed to 039° 30' 018° 31' remaining south
 until 0730C/15. (Capt. S.I. 2325C/13 to
 THRASHER (R) TURBULENT.)

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Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies.

Vichy Repatriations, Madagascar. Intend taking early opportunity of ship returning Durban to send family of certain French officials who do not wish to co-operate with us and who will be repatriated. Total number will probably not exceed 120 persons of all sexes. Retention of family here undesirable and their repatriation which would be under their own arrangements as from Durban would have helpful effect on rest of population. (S.O.Force F., 0029C/13 to Admty. (R) C.in C. S.A.). (?Essential to) send by first available opportunity to (?Durban) following French officers and officials who do not wish to co-operate and whose presence here is undesirable from security point of view:- (list)
Under permit granted on occupation all these men could be considered for repatriation (corrupt group) Metropolitan France but in view of your 2218/9 you may wish to instruct Durban to hold them. No assurance has been given them of repatriation but civilians at any rate have a right to expect it. (S.O.Force F., 0031C/13 to Admty. (R) C.in C.S.A., N.O.I.C. Durban).

REVENGE VALIANT ROYAL SOVEREIGN Anxious that REVENGE should be taken in hand for renewal of 20 large and 1850 small boiler tubes as soon as possible and for concurrent fitting of armour which should have arrived from U.K. Understood less labour will be required in VALIANT towards (?end) of her refit and that REVENGE could be taken before VALIANT is completed. 2. Proposed that ROYAL SOVEREIGN should follow REVENGE for (a) renewal of 1548 small fire row tubes and 936 wing header tubes. (b) extensive repairs of all force draught fans. (c) extensive patching to inner bottom in machinery space. (d) fitting of horizontal mine sweepers. 3. Request (a) date REVENGE could be taken in hand for boiler repairs and fitting of armour and estimated date of completion. (b) confirmation that ROYAL SOVEREIGN could be taken in hand immediately after REVENGE. (C.in C. E.F., 0113Z/13 to C.in C. S.A.)

Port F. Reply to F.O.C.R.I.N. 0631Z/10 will not be sent until a reply is received to A.M.1942B/8 (Hush message, N.T.in W.D.) (to C.in C. E.F. only) and the whole question of bases in the Indian Ocean settled. (1st S.L., 0120B/13 to C.in C. E.F.)

E.F. Reinforcements. Request (a) ^{? D.T} Following reinforcements may be expected: ALBATROSS, HURSLEY, BELVOIR, BLACKMORE, CATTERICK, QUENTIN, PENN and ITHURIEL. (b) Date MAURITIUS and GLASGOW will rejoin. (C.in C.E.F., 0157Z/13 to Admty.) Reply: Admty. 1339B/14.

/ Indian ...

War Diary.

13.5.1942.
Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies. Contd.

Indian
Ocean
Bases.

In view capture Diego Suarez is it still considered necessary to continue with all Indian Ocean bases projects to which must now be added Port F? These projects entail heavy drain in personnel and equipment on our limited resources. Essential we are given order of priority without which future planning difficult. Development Seychelles in hand but have no trained battalions available at present for garrison.

(C.in C. India, 0410/13 to W.O. (R) C.in C. E.F.)

Movement
Summary.

No.38 dated 13/5. Ref.summary No.37, Serial No. 7R arrived Addu Atoll.

<u>Serial No.</u>	<u>Ship.</u>	<u>From.</u>	<u>To.</u>	<u>Remarks.</u>
1	SCOUT, COLOMBA	Colombo	Bombay	Nil.
	0.19, 0.23.	13/5.	16/5.	
2	SUTLEJ	Colombo	Cocos	
		12/5.	17/5.	
3	RANCHI	Mombasa	Bombay	Escort W.S. 17, B.2.
		10/5.	19/5.	
4	EREBUS	Seychelles	Mombasa	Nil.
		10/5.	14/5.	
5	RESOLUTION, ARROW, FOXHOUND.	Mombasa	Durban.	Nil.
		12/5.	17/5.	
6	MANXMAN	Durban	Diego Suarez	Nil.
		10/5.	13/5.	
7	NAPIER	Colombo.	Sey- chelles.	thence Mombasa.
		11/5.	15/5.	
8	NIZAM	Bombay	Sey- chelles.	thence Mombasa
		13/5.	18/5.	21st May.

(C.in C.E.I., 0616Z/13 to S.and A. E.I.Stn.)

Troop Convoys,
B.M.18.
B.P.44.
B.A.23.

My 1045/6 and 0705/12. B M 18 revised date of sailing is now 21/5.
YOMA will take the place of CITY OF LONDON.
This ship will be required to proceed to Cochin to disembark 660 troops and then proceed to Colombo to disembark remaining (?300) troops.

B.P.44. DILWARA is now required to call at Karachi en route to disembark 550 troops and will be ready to proceed on with Karachi ships to Basra on 23/5.

B.A.23. Revised date of sailing of Bombay ships is 25/5 Karachi ships 23/5. Following extra move is being arranged. Bombay Karachi 1 personnel ship VARSOVA sailing 16th May.

(P.S.T.O.India, 0647Z/13 to C.in C.E.I. (R) Armindia, D.S.T.etc.)

/ Aircraft ...

War Diary.13.5.1942.
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies. Contd.

Aircraft First line fighter aircraft of Eastern Fleet are
Airscrews. becoming unserviceable through lack of airscrews.
Can following be flown to Mombasa as soon as
possible, from R.N. or, if necessary, R.A.F.
stock? Martlet or Mohawk airscrews, in number 6. Fulmar mark
II airscrews Rotol type R X 5/7 in number 6.
(S.O.A.C., E.F., 0733Z/13 to C.in C. Med. (R) Admty. etc.)
Reply: C.in C.Med., 2116C/14. Admty. 2038B/16.

Operation Consider it most important that Press reports of
"Ironclad"
Reports. "Ironclad" should be released simultaneously in
U.K. and Union of South Africa.
Request arrangements may be made for simultaneous
release in both countries.
(S.O.Force F., 0856C/13 to Admty. etc.)
Reply: Admty. 1235B/14.

Italian My position 1200 A.T.S. 13/5. 09° 20' N.
Repatriations. 53° 21' E., speed 14 knots.
(GIULIO CESARE, 0935Z/13 to Admty. etc.)
Embarkation VULCANIA and SATURNIA completed
to-day, total figures follow tomorrow. Ships refuelling
completed but now awaiting water. P.S.T.O. Egypt and Naval
C.in C. E.I. informed.
(G.O.C.in C. E.Africa, 1025/13 to W.O.)

G/R A 25/5. Ref. Deputy C.in C. E.F. 1214/29/4/42
Requirements. and S.O.(I) Colombo 0710Z/3/5/42. Am unable to
carry out long range G/R plan until directive
governing your requirements is received.
Meantime request all G/R requirements are made solely by A.O.C.
222 Group.
(A.O.C. 222 Group, 0950Z/13 to C.in C. E.F., S.O.Force F.
(R) Admty. etc.)

K.11. Your 0533Z/11 Dutch S/M K.11 is docking at
Colombo on 16/5 and will be sailing for Bombay
as soon as possible the following week. On
arrival at Bombay K.11 will be placed under your operational
control for A/S training duty.
(C.in C. E.I., 1025Z/13 to F.O.C.R.I.N.)

Shipping, It appears from 1537/8 from B.A.D. Washington
Ceylon. that it is not clear that ships with cargoes for
Ceylon should now be sailed normally in accordance
with my 0401/2. Request B.A.D. Washington may
be informed accordingly.
(C.in C. E.I., 1115/13 to Admty.)

Diego A.M.1937/8. Request you will include available
Suarez, information under following headings.
resources. 1. Oil. (a) Capacity and location of storage tanks
for Diesel fuel and White oils. (b) Berths for

/ discharging ...

War Diary.13.5.1942.
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies. Contd.Diego
Suarez,
resources.
(contd.)

discharging tankers and bunkering. (c) Pumping arrangements for fuelling ships. (d) Particulars of oil barges if any. (e) Quantity and Quality of present stocks of Diesel Fuel and White oils. 2. Coal. What facilities exist. Are there any stocks?

(A.C.N.S.(T) 1329B/13 to S.O.Force F.)

Reply: S.O.Force F. 2314/15.

CONDE.

Information received from Todd that CONDE sailed from Tamatave presumably for Dakar a.m./9. (C.in C. E.F., 1513Z/13 to C.in C.S.A., Admty., F.O.C.N.A.)

Supply of
Naval
Aircraft.

A.M.2120/23/4 Naval aircraft of all types intended for Eastern Fleet can now be accepted Mombasa in limited numbers for erection and storage. All Martlets available are urgently required. Martlets are known to have been

embarked in following ships and information of present whereabouts of these ships and disposal of aircraft if not still on board would be of great assistance - S.S. BARON INCHCAPE, S.S.MANGALIHAT, S.S. ST. BERNARD, S.S. HARPAGON, S.S. LAERTES, S.S. LIBA, S.S. BARON BELHAVEN. As soon as reply to my 1604/13 (N.T.in W.R.) is received the number of other types of aircraft required Mombasa in immediate future will be signalled to C.in C. S.A. (Com. N.A.S., 1612Z/13 to Admty., C.in C. S.A., C.in C. E.I., (R) C.in C. E.F., R.A.A.)

Reply: Admty. 2143/15. C.in C. E.I. 1318/15.

S/M
Majunga.

R/C aircraft report 1 S/M under way in approx. position 6 miles north of Katsepe Light, not known if entering or leaving Majunga. (S.O. Force F., 1621C/13 to C.in C. E.I., C.in C. E.F., C.in C. S.A.)

Salaya
Harbour.

Instructions re survey. (Hydrographer 1635B/13 to F.O.C.R.I.N.)

PANTHER.

S.O. Force F's 1003C/11/5 is passed to you for information. 2. Can PANTHER be taken in hand at Bombay? 3. If so report if necessary material is available or signal Admty. details of requirements. (D.O.D.(F) 1821B/13 to D.S.R. Bombay).

MANXMAN.

Arrived Diego Suarez 1600/13. E.T.A. Kilindini 1600C/15. (S.O. Force F., 1911Z/13).

War Diary.13.5.1942.
WednesdayFOREIGN STATIONS.America & West Indies.

U/B Within 100 miles 25° N, 28° W. at 2045Z/12.
Fixes (N.S.H.Q. 0033Z/13).
by D/F. Within 100 miles 53° N. 60° W. at 2028Z/12 and
2227Z/12. (N.S.H.Q. 0330Z/13).
Within 100 miles 34.24 N, 74° W. at 0130Z.
(N.S.H.Q. 0519Z/13).
Within 30 miles 35° N. 75° W at 0146Z. (N.S.H.Q. 0653Z/13).
Within 100 miles 51° N, 42.30W. at 0012Z. (N.S.H.Q. 0741Z/13).
Within 50 miles 19.30 N. 75° W. at 0340Z. (N.S.H.Q. 0804Z/13).
Within 70 miles 30° N, 88° W. at 0316Z. (N.S.H.Q. 0920Z/13).
Within 60 miles 28.30 N. 89° W. at 0407Z. (N.S.H.Q. 1001Z/13).
Within 100 miles 11° N, 57° W. at 0551Z. (N.S.H.Q. 1040Z/13).
Within 100 miles 52° N, 35° W. at 0244Z. (N.S.H.Q. 1133Z/13).
Within 100 miles 23.30 N, 78° W. at 0824Z. (N.S.H.Q. 1936Z/13).
In locality of 47.30 N, 45° W. at 1346Z. (C. in C.U.S.Fleet
1944/13).
Area 50° 52' N., 31° 30' W. 1115Z to 1346Z. (N.S.H.Q. 2104Z/13).
Within 200 miles 47° 30' N., 45° 00' W. at 1346Z. (Chief U.S.N.O.
2148/13).
Within 75 miles 42.30 N. 38° W. at 1552Z. (N.S.H.Q. 2221Z/13).

O.N. 93. In view of routeing of O.N.93 Opanav is requested
O.N.92. whether this convoy requires Western local escort.
If not, C.O.A.C. is requested whether 24.18.6.
or 24.18.7. should escort O.N.92 and also

disposal of spare escort group.

(F.O.N.F. 0054Z/13 to Opanav, C.O.A.C.).

Since Western local escort will not be required for ON 93
desire that (?Task) unit be sailed to aid O.N.93. C.C.N.F.
sail same to join O.N.92 as far to Eastward as fuel permits.
C.T.24. 0933Z/13 to C.C.N.F., C.O.A.C.).

Cancel my 0054Z/13.

(F.O.N.F. 1133Z/13 to Opanav, C.O.A.C.).

My 1310Z/13 (N.T. in W.D.) para. (1) VERITY and WITHERINGTON
now proceeding ahead to join O.N.92 before dark 14/5 Corvettes
joining in accordance with my 1310Z/13.

(F.O.N.F. 2230Z/13 to C.T. F 24. T.U.24.1.3.(R) C.O.A.C.
Opanav, N.S.H.Q. Admty.).

U/B's This is C. T.U. 24.1.3. despatch 12 22 40
O.N.92. "(?Bearings) from C.T.U. 24.1.3. 2 submarines
sighted on surface to southwards of convoy O.N.92
by SPENCER and one definitely located to northwards
by sound contact by U.S. Destroyer GLEAVES 2 minutes later."
(Opanav 0116Z/13 to Admty, (R) C.T.24 etc).

LETO. 10 survivors, one dead, landed Father Point from
LETO torpedoed in 049° 32' N. 065° 19' W.
0640/12. List of survivors and missing follows.
(N.O.I.C. Quebec, 0305Z/13 to Admty.)

/My.....

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Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.American & West Indies. con 75:

LETO Contd. My 0305Z/13 amend to read 31 survivors ex. Netherlands LETO landed Father Point, 12 missing. (N.O.I.C. Quebec 1940Z/13).

Aircraft Delivery Depot. Briny 4487 12/5. U.S. Navy Dept. have now received authority to establish a delivery depot through which Lease Lend aircraft procured by them for us could be routed. This would cover R.A.F. flying boats as well as R.N. fleet types. Depot will be at Elizabeth City, North Carolina and will be operated by Consolidated Aircraft Corp., under contract to U.S. Navy Dept. (B.A.C. Washington 0336/13 to M.A.P.).

UNGAVA. U/B. Attack. QSS one attached (As received ? "attacked" intended) two torpedoes fired, counter attack, position 044° 32' N. 063° 05' W. (? 8 miles) east of Light Vessel. (Halifax 0405Z/13). 2 more Torpedoes fired at (?us). (UNGAVA 0415Z/13 to Halifax W/T).

U/B Reports. Intercepted 0426 G.M.T. WGBC1 DE NAA O. S/M sighted 12.30 N., 66.30. W at 0143 G.M.T. 130207. WGBC1 DE NAA. O S/M sighted 38.30 N. 70.43 W. at 1342. GCT/12 X 121615. WGBC1 DE NAA. O. S/B sighted 09.30 N 79.00 W at 2200 GMT/12. S/M attack 44.22 N 63.26 W. at 0112 GMT/13. 130251. Controlling Station Arlington VA Radio (Portishead Radio, T.H.I. 0628 BST/13).

DELNORTE. U/B. Master DELNORTE sighted S/M on surface steering N.E. at 0945 GMT/12 011° 20' N 062° 10' W. (N.O.I.C. Trinidad 1052Q/13 to S.O.(I) Kingston Jam)

Tankers & Shipping Routes. Cancel my 0902/7.
2. Tankers from Caribbean Sea and West Indian Ports bound for U.K. are to be routed via Freetown unless otherwise ordered.
3. All shipping from Gulf of Mexico bound for U.K. including tankers except fast ships which are normally sailing independently, is to be routed via Halifax for convoy, and is to be sailed to Key West for inclusion in coastal convoy or for onward independent routing by coastal route if found to be not of convoy speed. S.O.(I) Kingston Jamaica 1610/23/4, is to be amended accordingly.
4. Shipping from Gulf of Mexico with U.S. and Canadian East Coast destinations is also to proceed to Key West for instructions.

/All.....

War Diary.13.5.1942.
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America & West Indies. conTs:Tankers &
Shipping
Routes.
Contd.

5. All other shipping entering or leaving Caribbean Sea is to do so via Windward Passage Mona Sombrero, or Lesser Antilles Passage, passing through these channels in daylight.
(C. in C. A. & W.I. 1132P/13, as amended 1302P/16, to All N.C.S.O's, C.S.A's and R.O.'s holding routeing instructions at Atlantic Ports Jamaica Intelligence Area (R) Admty, N.S.H.Q. S.O. (I) Jamaica).

EGBA
missed
by U/B.

S.S. EGBA reports attacked by S/M at 0212Z/13 in 044° 20' N. 063° 26' W. Torpedo missed. Ship arrived Halifax 0532Z/13 undamaged. (C.O.A.C. Halifax 1240Z/13 to Admty, etc).

*See p. 426.*U.S. Coastal
Convoys.

Your 2241/12 para. 2. B.R.O's are being instructed accordingly, but I presume that I shall be kept fully informed of any instructions issued by Opnav, both as regards release or detention of shipping and route directives. Even after U.S. authorities assume full responsibility for all shipping, it will be important that I should continue to receive and promulgate this information in order that ports without U.S.R.O's may continue to function, and in order that I may ensure that B.R.O's carry out their duties in a proper manner. (C. in C. A & W.I. 1242P/13 to B.A.D. (R) Admty. N.S.H.Q.). See also 1738B/13.

PENELOPE.

F.O.C.N.A. 1158/10. From position A pass position Z 035° 00' N 060° 00' W. thence New York. If necessary to fuel leave position Z. from Bermuda and notify Opnav through C. in C. A W.I. B.A.D. Washington pass to Opnav. (C. in C. A. W.I., 1243P/13 to PENELOPE (R) Admty. etc).

N.A.10.

Your 1858/6. To meet the total of 6,000 required for N.A. 10. sailing Halifax about 3/6, propose to use DUCHESS OF YORK in addition to BATTERY. 2. DUCHESS OF YORK total capacity 4200 is due Freetown 17/5. S.T.O. Freetown should instruct her to proceed to Halifax and report anticipated date of arrival. P.S.T.O. Simonstown should report amount of accommodation actually available and whether any cargo space is vacant. (D.S.T. 1347B/13 to N.S.H.Q., P.S.T.O. Simonstown. . C.O.A.C., S.T.O. Freetown.)

U/B Attacks.

Q. S.S. 1 report attack by S/M in 044° 32' N, 063° 05' W. between 0405Z/13 and 0415Z/13 4 torpedoes missed 4 ships and 3 escorts arrived Halifax undamaged. (C.O.A.C. Halifax 1503Z/13 to Admty, etc).

/Convoy.....

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War Diary.13.5.1942.
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America & West Indies. conts:

- Convoy Escorts. Your 1926/1, concur. N.S.H.Q.'s 1651Z/12 refers. It is hoped that in fixing Westomp special regard will be given to endurance of individual escort vessels concerned, observing that an additional 12 hours steaming will be entailed and more if it becomes necessary to route the trans-Atlantic convoys further north.
(A.C.N.S.(T) 1510B/13 to C. in C. U.S.Fleet).
- NICOYA. C.O.A.C's 2230/12. Ship struck by two torpedoes, sank in 10 minutes.
(N.S.H.Q. 1520Z/13 to Admty etc).
- MARY RUTH. Due Halifax 5/5 from St.John's N.F. has not arrived.
(N.S.H.Q.Ottawa 1526Z/13).
- Naval Air Sqdns. My 2117/8 (re forming of number of Naval air Squadrons in U.S.)*Para.1.
U.S.Navy Dept. would like early information of proposed date of arrival at Grosse Ile of first extra course for training under Towers scheme modified.
2. Information is also required whether the full extra 20 will be sent for this date and required proportions as between fighter and other types.
(B.A.D. 1601Z/13 to Admty.).
- Plymouth U/B. Intercept DE VCS 1549 G.M.T. S/M sighted 26 miles S.W. 192 south from Barne Gat by S.S.PLYMOUTH.
(C.O.A.C.Halifax 1646Z/13 to Admty. C.W.A.).
- CALDWELL Tanker Escort. Departures 13/5 BRITAMSEA (Nor) and CITIES SERVICE FUEL (U.S.) 21 Halifax 18/5, escorted by CALDWELL No.8250 route and S. of A. in accordance with N.C.S.O Trinidad's 1541/5.
(N.C.S.O.Bermuda 1719P/13, to Admty.etc)
(C. in C. A.W.I. 2213P/13 to Admty.)
- U.S. Coastal Convoys. Your 2251Z/12. My 1811B/24/4 was drafted on assumption that most tankers from U.K. bound for Curacao and Aruba would sail in O.N. southbound convoys and arrive at Trinidad at approx. 14 day intervals.
2. It is now thought that O.N. southbound convoys will be rare and that most of these tankers will sail in O.S. convoys and consequently arrive at approx. 10 day intervals.
3. Of your alternatives, a 7-day cycle would be preferable as no tanker would then be waiting convoy at Trinidad for more than a week, but on occasions there would probably be no ships to escort and on other occasions there would be as many as a dozen vessels.

/Ideal.....

War Diary.13.5.1942.
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America & West Indies. contd:

U.S. Coastal Convoys Contd. Ideal would be to run convoy with 3 escort vessels as soon as possible after arrival of tankers approx every 10 days, if this is convenient to Navy Dept.
(A.C.N.S.(T) 17363/13 to B.A.D.(R) C. in C.A.W.I).

Convoy Escort System. My 1901/23/4 para.(1) Terminal arrangements for Boston permits starting system 15/5. Request C. in C.W.A. designates first O.N. and O.N.S. Convoy to follow new system. Cinclant designates first H.X. and S.C. Convoy to be co-ordinated in Boston-Halifax Convoy.
(C. in C.U.S.Fleet 1811/13, to Admty.).

Ice Bulletin 13/5. (C.T.24 1835/5 to Admty)

U/B Reports. Intercepted 1645 G.M.T. DE NSS. S/M sighted 30.24. N 81.15 W at 1035Z/1311020. S/M sighted 09.30 N. 78.00 W at 2200 G.M.T./12. S/M attack 4422 N 63.26 W at 0112 GMT/13.130251. S/M attack 28.38 N 90.05 W at 1155Z/13. 131229. S/M sighted 30.24 N. 81.15 W at 1035Z/131102. S/M attack 44.32 N 63.05 W. at 0405Z, also S/M sighted 11.15 N. 61.42 W at 1430Z, 130631. S/M attack 28.53 N 89.29 W. at 2006Z 130812. S/M sighted 39.25 N. 74.17 W at 1543Z/13. 131605. Controlling Station Annapolis Radio. (Portishead Radio, T.H.I. 1845/13).

Navigation. Received 1645 G.M.T. Govt Hydro, all ships and stations. Warning of wreck located off eastern entrance Cape Cod Canal, Mass, Salvage operations including diving under way. Wreck is marked by a lighted buoy 1900 yards 47° from Canal breakwater light. (Portishead Radio. 1851/13 to Admty.).

RANPURA. Your 1814/12 and B.A.R.M. 1702/12 not to all addressees. Following is proposed programme.
1. Work up in Chesapeake 1st week in June.
2. Leave Chesapeake about 10/6 for Halifax.
3. Proceed to U.K. with N.A.11.
4. Ship could embark either American troops in Chesapeake or Canadian troops at Halifax. Understand British Army Staff are taking this question up with Movement War Office.
(B.A.D. 1919Z/13 to Admty (R) N.S.H.Q. Cominch etc.)
Approved (D.O.D.(F). 1605B/14).

/U/B.....

War Diary.13.5.1942.
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America & West Indies. contd.

U/B Intelligence Sinking of U.352. by U.S.S. ICARUS 9/5. S/M attack and sighting summary MONT LOUIS torpedoed 8/5 sunk. LUBRAFOL torpedoed 9/5, sunk. VIRGINIA U.S. Tanker torpedoed and sunk 28° 53' N. 89° 29' W. 2006Z/12. CAPE OF GOOD HOPE sunk 11/5, not 10/5. ICARUS attack S/M, believed U-352 Capt. Hellmut Rathke. Contact first made by sound 100 yards ahead ICARUS at 2025Z/9. 4 minutes later sub. fired torpedo which missed but exploded 200 yards port quarter ICARUS; course reversed 5 depth charges dropped in swirl made by torpedo. Second attack made same spot with three depth charges. First attack killed Sub. Conning Officer, destroyed periscope and disabled motors. Attempt made to surface. One other depth charge then dropped. Sub. surfaced 2109Z down by stern abandoned ship. ICARUS commenced fire with gun scored 7 hits. 33 picked up including Captain. One died later. Crew states sub. had been in area 4 days. Sub. sighted on surface by plane 11.15 N. 61.42 W. 1430Z/12. Sub. sighted by M/V. 12.30 N. 66.30 W. at 0143Z/13. Sub. sighted from shore 30.24 N. 81.15 W. 1035Z/13. Sub. sighted by M/V. heading S. 39.25 N. 74.17 W. at 1542Z/13. H.M.C.S. UNGAVA attacked sub. 44.32. N. 63.05 W. at 0405Z/13. (C. in C. U.S. Fleet 1921/13 to Admty. for O.I.C.).

C.T.U. 24.1.11. U/B. Urgent U-boat warning. D/F fixed at 1346Z/13 in locality of 47.30 N. 45 W. indicates you may have been sighted by U-boat. (C. in C.U.S. Fleet 1944/13 to C.T.U. No. 24.1.11 (R) Admty. C.T. 24, N.S.H.Q.)

B.5. Escort Group. Your 1102/9 para. 1. No reliable forecast can be made but present estimate is about 3 months. Para. 2. Such employment has not yet been considered. (D.T.D. 1944B/13 to C. in C.A.W.I. (R) F.O.I.C. Trinidad, Cdre i/c Bermuda).

M/V Scuttling. Your 1447/12. Admty policy is contained in A.M.S.I. 177 and 178 and it would be preferred that this should continue to apply to British ships on U.S.A. charter. (A.C.N.S. (T) 1945B/13 to N.S.H.Q. (R) B.A.D.).

HAVELOCK WARWICK. Proceed with ships in company to Williamstad, Curacao, by shortest route. S.B.N.O. Curacao pass to C.A.P.A.C. HAVELOCK and WARWICK acknowledge forthwith. (C. in C. A.W.I. 2017P/13 to HAVELOCK, WARWICK, (R) Admty etc).

/U/B.....

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War Diary.13.5.1942.
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America & West Indies. cont'd:U/B
Report.Intercepted 1026 G.M.T. WGBC1 DE NAA. O. Sub.
sighted 29.15. N. 81.00.W. at 2017 G.C.T./13.
Controlling Station Arlington Virginia Radio.
(Portishead Radio 2025/13).

Mine. Ice.

W.J.A. 85.
(i) Floating mine reported 0835Z/10. 055° 15' N.
048° 53' W.
(ii) Icebergs reported 2030Z/12 bearing 070°
14000 yards from Cape Spear.
(C.N.S. Canada 2025Z/13 to all S.O.Is, Admty,
etc).Italian
Repatriations.ARCOLA Italian Las Palmas 30/5.
TAIGETE Italian St. Vincent 26/5.
(Curacao T.O.O. 2034/13 to M.W.T.).

CALGAROLITE.

Havana reports Captain and 21 members crew
British CALGAROLITE landed Isle of Pine today.
Another lifeboat with 23 remaining members of
crew expected shortly. Details of sinking awaited.
(S.O.I. Jamaica 2037R/13 to Admty, etc.).VIRGINIA
EGBA
torpedoed.Opnav Serial 13. VIRGINIA American Tanker
18000 D.W.T. torpedoed afire and sinking at
1506R/12 in 28.53.N. 89.29.W. Confidentials
unaccounted for. *EGBA British, torpedoed 13/5
in 44.20 N. 63.24 W. AURORA now beached.

Admiralty deliver to Comnav.

(Opnav. 2111/13 to Comnav (R) N.S.H.Q.). * See p. 422

Shipping
Co-ordination
Committee.Following from Salter from M. of W.T.
Your 2359Z/8. Regarding para. 7 (A) and (B) we
estimate about 50% only will be capable of 10
knots. 2. Your para. 9. We should like to see
spare capacity filled by some reduction of convoy speed
provided 3 day cycle can still be maintained. If this is not
possible and the 10 knots speed actually produces half filled
convoys then we suggest speed be lowered to 8½ or 9 knots and
cycle increased to 4 days.
3. Bunching of ships from O.N. convoys and other factors make
it impossible to do more than generalize and adjust as
experience shows necessary.
4. Your para. 12. We do not ourselves consider dirty tankers
to have any priority over clean tankers, but if it becomes
necessary to judge priorities in convoys we agree to leave
discretion to you and Sparks through Kelly Committee, keeping
us advised of any type of ship which is suffering unduly.
(D.T.D. 2111B/13 to B.A.D.).

/Flour.....

War Diary.

13.5.1942.
Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies. conTs.

Flour
Shortage
Jamaica.

Flour supply will not last two days only. S.S. MOYRA with substantial supply on board has been at Santiago de Cuba for 8 days. I should be grateful press Admty to order ship to sail here without further delay.

(Govr. Jamaica, No.T.O.O. to S.of S. for Colonies
(R) Govr. Bermuda for C. in C. A.& W.I.).

S.S.MOYRA is to be sailed from Santiago de Cuba forthwith for Kingston Jamaica. Cargo of flour very urgently required there. In event of any objection by U.S. authorities you should request special dispensation in this case as present flour stock Jamaica only sufficient for 2 days.

(C. in C.A. W.I. 2132P/13 to N.C.S.O. Havana Admty, Capt. i/c Jamaica, B.A.D. 2142P/13 to Admty.).

A.T.15 X.
(QUEEN MARY)
U/B.

A.T.15 X. D/F bearing at 1346Z/13. indicates enemy submarine within 200 miles of 047° 30' N. 045° 00' W.

(Chief U.S.N.Operations. 2148/13 to QUEEN MARY
(R) Admty etc).

U/B
Hunt.

R.C.A.F. reports at 2028, S/M 95 Miller 49. Sending 3 Sharks to attack. QUATSINO, MIRAMICHI, KELOWNA proceeding to investigate. (N.O.I.C.Esquimalt 2159Z/13 to Admty.etc)

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War Diary.13.5.1942.
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Australia & New Zealand.

S/M Sanctuary. QFA 98 S/M Sanctuary is established in following areas.
 (A) 034° 00' S. 151° 24' E. thence in 200° direction for 20 miles to position (B) thence in 127° direction for 10 miles to position (C) thence in 020° direction for 20 miles to position (D) thence position (A)
 (2) Attention is directed to A C D 154 chap. 3 para. 18.
 (3) N.O.I.C. Sydney N.S.W., is to inform authorities concerned when restrictions are in force.
 (A.C.N.B. 0459Z/13 to all concerned).

U.S. Movements. Arrival Brisbane 0713Z/12 U.S. destroyer WALKE. On passage 2216Z/11 U.S. Cruisers MINNEAPOLIS, ASTORIA, NEW ORLEANS.
 (A.C.N.B. 1349Z/13 to Admty, etc).
 U.S. Destroyer Tender BLACK HAWK and U.S. Destroyers PANOTT and PAUL JONES, left Fremantle 0800Z/10 for Melbourne.
 (A.C.N.B. 1807Z/13 to Admty etc).

Situation. Serial number 111 from C.W.R. 12/5.
 Air R/C 12/5 reports following enemy shipping;
 2241Z/11, 2 destroyers, 1 submarine, 1 tanker
 2 transports 006° 56' S. 155° 50' E at anchor. 2245Z/12, 1 cruiser, 1 destroyer, 006° 55' S 156° 15' E course 330°.
 0005Z/12 8 large transports, 3 destroyers, 3 barges, 2 small craft possibly M.T.B, at anchor Kessa Harbour. 0001Z/12, 1 large transport off Kessa. 0030Z/12, 1 transport, 2 tenders 004° 50' S. 152° 50' E. course S.
 In Rabaul harbour, 7 large transports, 15 other craft. No A/A fire encountered over Rabaul.
 2. 11 Zero fighters attacked Bomana Aerodrome Port Moresby at 2142Z/11. 13 P.39 intercepted, 1 missing 1 crash landed, 2 damaged. 1 Zero shot down, 1 damaged, 1 possibly damaged.
 3. 3 Zero fighters, 9 T.99 heavy bombers attacked Tila (3 miles) aerodrome Port Moresby 2320Z/11 no damage.
 4. Indication some units 4th Fleet including C. in C. still at sea noon 12/5.
 (A.C.N.B. 1544Z/13 to Admty, etc.).

Local Flotillas dispositions. Your 0308/25. Request you will organize your own local defence flotillas or groups and allocate them call signs as requisite from spare local call signs in S.P. 02253 series.
 2. Your para. 2, 10th Destroyer Flotilla is allocated.
 3. Where Fleet Minesweepers are used for purely Minesweeping duties, they should retain their correct Minesweeper Flotilla numbers.
 (D.S.D. 1643B/13 to A.C.N.B.).

War Diary.

13.5.1942.
Wednesday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Submarines Reported.

Estimated U/B positions.
(D.D.I.C. 1427B/13, 1440B/13).

430

14.5.1942.
Thursday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

TRINIDAD was reported by enemy aircraft at 1750 today. In the evening she was attacked by dive bombers and torpedo bombers and was hit by a bomb in approx. 73° 37' N 23° 25' E and at 2327B reported that she was stopped and set badly on fire.

R/C of Trondheim today gave no result owing to cloud.

The Admiralty have warned A.C.O.S. that an attempt to attack ships at Scapa by human torpedoes is to be apprehended. A.C.O.S. has asked for the provision of air patrol to give warning.

The Russians report that one of their submarines sank an enemy destroyer in Varanger Fiord today and that a Naval aircraft today damaged a destroyer which is believed to have sunk later.

Enemy Air Operations.

Four ME.109 attacked Brixham at 1853 today, causing some damage to small craft.

Shipping at Murmansk was bombed today, but no damage to ships has been reported.

At 1333A today two U.S. transports with BRIGHTON and WELLS were bombed 170 miles W by N of Thorshavn, Faroes. No damage has been reported.

War Diary.

14.5.1942.
Thursday.

SITUATION REPORT.

North Atlantic.

Two Sunderlands were sent to Gibraltar today by Coastal Command, to reinforce 202 Squadron for further special operations.

It is reported that JEAN BART has been ordered to carry out ocean trials. She is to be attacked if she proceeds north of 35° N.

Mediterranean.

Malta.

Lord Gort (Governor and C. in C. Malta.) sends a message today about the situation at Malta which "unless every thing is pulled together with a firm and vigorous hand the policy of drift must continue towards inevitable disaster." There can be no question of using Malta as a base for serious naval or large scale air offensive operations until the present critical situation has been corrected.

Cyrenaica.

11 Wellingtons bombed Benghazi last night 2 also attacked 2 ships outside the harbour, obtaining near misses and 1 possible hit.

Port Said mined.

The enemy's mining offensive continues by aircraft and possibly U-Boats. SS. HAV, FRED and MOUNT OLYMPUS were mined today off Port Said the 2 former being beached and the latter a total loss.

East Indies.

Only 1 M/S trawler, speed 7 knots with an Oropesa sweep is available at Kilindini. A U-Boat has been reported in Mozambique Channel and the entrance to the harbour is easily mineable. C. in C. E.F. intends to retain SEAHAM and BOSTON, which arrived today on their way to join 14th M/S.F. Mediterranean, until other arrangements for sweeping can be made.

14. 5. 1942.
Thursday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT.

America and West Indies.

U-Boats continued to be active today in the Newfoundland and Nova Scotia area, the Gulf of Mexico and the Caribbean.

A ship was torpedoed 90 miles S.E. of New York, two ships were attacked off the Mississippi Delta, two in Florida Strait, one off Grand Cayman, one in the Eastern Caribbean and one about 85 miles N.W. of Trinidad.

The Canadian tanker convoys from Halifax to Trinidad and return will be known as H.T. and T.H. respectively, each escorted by 2 corvettes. H.T.1 sails about 20/5.

Australia.

Shipping at Port Moresby was attacked at 0244Z today by 26 T.99 heavy bombers and 9 Zero fighters. No damage is reported.

War Diary.14.5.1942.
Thursday.HOME COMMANDS.Policy.

Refugees. Your 1918B/8. These men are not to be retained by N.N.L.O, but should for security reasons, be returned immediately to U.K. (A.C.I.C. 1322B/14).

PARTHIAN. Following is a repetition of my 1757B/30 to Admty.
Begins. Para.2 of my S.M. 04323 of 7/4 on P.D.0794/1942. Request early decision as to employment of PARTHIAN in view of vessel arriving Gibraltar 8/6. Ends.
(F.O.S. 1926B/14 to Admty.)

Lieut. Selivanoff. S.B.N.O. North Russia 2004B/27/4. U.S.S.R. Lieut Selivanoff has not arrived in Iceland. (A.C.I.C. 2042B/14 to Admty.).

Murmansk Proposed summer use. In order that adequate arrangements may be made for the supply of fuel, storage of ammunition, depth charges and minesweeping spares, supply and storage of provisions and canteen stores for escorts, minesweeping flotilla and base personnel, stock of survivors' clothing and prisoners of war and repair facilities, request I may be informed to what extent it is intended to use Murmansk during period when White Sea is open to navigation.
(S.B.N.O. North Russia 2121B/14 to Admty.).

Defence of U.K.

Clyde A/A Defences. My 1445/8. Further four Hy.A.A.Guns being deployed in special role Clyde in addition to those mentioned in above signal. (Air Ministry 1530/14 to Admty.).

C.K.D. Plant at Southampton. Your 1914B/12. Arrangements can be made to accommodate these ships at Southampton but proposal may necessitate some slight reduction in volume of other types of commercial traffic now using port.
Early information regarding site depot would be appreciated. Projected increase number of C.E. and C.W. convoys (A.M. 2107B/12) is likely to make it difficult to lend destroyer 1st D.F. to assist escorting P.W. and W.P. convoy.
(C. in C. Portsmouth 1937B/14 to Admty.).

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14.5.1942.
Thursday.War Diary.HOME COMMANDS.Movements.

QUEEN MARY. Cancel reference to DOUGLAS in para. (2) of my 1013/13. SCIMITAR, SALADIN, and SARDONYX are to R/V with CAIRO. DOUGLAS is to work up at Londonderry.
(C. in C.W.A. 1149B/14).
My 1013/13 Para. (2). Estimated QUEEN MARY will be 3 hours early at R/V.
(C. in C. W.A. 2247B/14).

COMMANDANT DUBOC. ^{/NT. W. D.} Your 1856/13 COMMANDANT DUBOC not yet arrived. Suggest she be diverted.
(WESTERN ISLES 1358B/14).

WASP. Aircraft disembarked from WASP are to be ready to embark on 16/5.
(2) On arrival at Scapa WASP is requested to arrange embarkation and to forward proposals for passage to V.A.2 who is requested to sail WASP screened by U.S. Destroyers, LANG, STERETT, and WAINWRIGHT for Clyde.
(C. in C. H.F. 1717B/14).

Force "W" Expect to arrive with RENOWN, WASP, U.S. Destroyer LANG, U.S. Destroyer STERETT, INTREPID and ECHO at 0645B tomorrow. Gate for RENOWN and INTREPID 0730. WASP, LANG, STERETT, ECHO entering later.
(S.O. Force W. 1742B/14 to A.C.O.S.).
Your 1752Z/14. This will be arranged.
(A.C.O.S. 2211B/14 to S.O. Force W).

Traveller P.211. Sailed LA CAPRICIEUSE escorting TRAVELLER, P.211, and P.43 in accordance with S.3's 1421B/11.
P.43. (F.O.I.C. Greenock 2214B/14). *See p 443*

MINNA. Request you will sail MINNA independently for Gibraltar P.M. tomorrow.
(D.O.D.(H.) 2329B/14 to C. in C. Plymouth).

Operations.

Combined Operation. Request PRINSES BEATRIX be sailed for Salen (Isle of Mull) A.M./17. to embark R.M.Commandos. C.C.O. will unload ship A.M./18. PRINSES BEATRIX to be sailed from Salen to Portsmouth in accordance with C.C.O's 1921/13.
(S.O. A.S.C. 1245/14 to N.O.I.C.Greenock).
My 1921/13. R.M.Commando should be embarked in PRINSES BEATRIX at Salen for passage to Portsmouth. Request date of embarkation be reported.
(C.C.O. 2025B/14 to V.A.C.T.).

/Demark.....

War Diary.14.5.1942.
Thursday.HOME COMMANDS.Operations.Denmark
Strait
Patrol.WICHITA on patrol "White".
(A.C.I.C. 1455B/14).

Patrols.

3 MGB's patrolling 10 miles S of Portland.
4 Destroyers and 3 MTB's may be patrolling to the
Eastward.
(C. in C. Portsmouth 1627B/14).Return
of
TRINIDAD.

Embarked SOMALI 28 cases gold for U.S.A.
Exchequer (approx. 1½ tons).
(? S.B.N.O. North Russia. 1701B/14 to Admty.).
You were probably reported by enemy aircraft at
1415.
(D.D.I.C. 1933B/14 to C.S.10 (R) C. in C.H.F.).
You were reported by enemy aircraft at 1730/14.
(D.D.I.C. 2116B/14 to TRINIDAD (R) C. in C. H.F, V.A.2, C.S.10).
A.M. 1933B/14. This sighting was probably of TRINIDAD and not
C.S.10.
(D.D.I.C. 2209B/14 to C.S.10 (R) C. in C.H.F.).
Have been hit by a bomb. My.P.C.S. at 2255, 73° 37' N. 23° 25'
same.
(TRINIDAD 2254B/14).
TRINIDAD hit by bomb in 073° 37' N, 023° 27' E.
(Capt.D.6. 2255B/14 to Admty, C.S.10, C. in C.H.F.).
TRINIDAD stopped and badly on fire in neighbourhood of 073°
34' N. 022° 56' E.
(Capt.D.6. 2327B/14 to C. in C.H.F. Admty. C.S.10).
Intend proceed in DUKE OF YORK with VICTORIOUS, LONDON and 9
destroyers passing Hoxa at 0415B/15. Route through (A) 062°
28' N. 004° 30' W. to pass position. (B) 66° 30', 11° 30' W
at 1130B/16, thence on course 050°.
(2) C.T.F.99 in WASHINGTON with 5th Escort group and destroyer
screen sailing from Hvalfjord to meet me in position (B) C.T.F.99
acknowledge.
(3) C. in C. Rosyth is requested to arrange A/S air and long-
range fighter escort. S.of A. 17½ knots.
(C. in C.H.F. 2353B/14 to A.I.G.47, C.T.F.99).

Interception.
of Enemy
Unit.

Destroyers are to proceed 1900/14 to anchor
at St.Helens. If ordered to proceed on patrol,
carry out orders in my 1503/13 except patrol
is to be south of Q Z X 324.
3 M.T.B's are to be at immediate notice in
harbour by 2100/14 and, if ordered to proceed
on patrol, are to carry out orders as in my 1507/13
C. in C. Portsmouth will assume H D guard for ships.
G.E convoy is to proceed eastwards, the rear of which will pass
C.2. buoy about 0100/15.
(C. in C. Portsmouth 1727B/14 to TYNEDALE, KRAKOWIAK, ALBRIGHTON,
BERKELEY, 11 M.T.B.F.).

/Enemy.....

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War Diary.14.5.1942.
Thursday.HOME COMMANDS.Operations.

Interception of Enemy Unit. Enemy Convoy, composition unknown, expected to pass Alderney Race. Westbound soon after 0300. Endeavour to reach 320° Cap de la Hague 5 miles by 0300. Patrol in vicinity and return so as to be within 30 miles of English Coast by 0500.
(C. in C. Portsmouth 2357B/14 to ALBRIGHTON, BERKELEY, TYNEDALE, KRAKOWIAK).

Patrols. Night 14/15 M.L.'s 200 - 201 from Ramsgate patrolling between Dumpton and North East Spit Buoys, E.T.D. 2240, E.T.R. 0530/15. M.G.B's 328 - 322 - 324 patrolling near number two buoy from 2245 to cover N.L.21C. *post from 9 - See p. 438.*
(V.A.Dover, 1911/14).

Unknown Operation. Request you will arrange for two C Type M.G.B's to be sailed so as to arrive Portsmouth by 20th May for special operation. Probable duration, one week. (D.D.O.D.(C) 1858B/14 to C. in C.Nore)
Request you will arrange for all available M.G.B's of the 4th +M.G.B. Flotilla to be sailed so as to arrive Dover by 20th May for special operation. Probable duration about one week. (D.D.O.D.C.1934B/14 to C. in C. Portsmouth).

Exercises.

A/C Exercise with THUNDERBOLT. Sailed 0758B/14 THUNDERBOLT, FLUELLEN. E.T.A. Weston-super-Mare. 0600B/15.
(C. in C. Plymouth 0820B/14.)
Your 1710B/13 and 0820B/14. No previous information has been received as to nature of operations or area in which they will take place. At least three days will be required for essential minesweeping previous to commencement of operations. In meantime ships will be held in Barry Docks.
(F.O.I.C. Cardiff 1105B/14 to C. in C. Plymouth).
My 0820/14 returned.
(C. in C. Plymouth 2020B/14).

British Air Activity.

Patrol "Skroo II.". In view of information received from Admiralty that attempt to attack ships at Scapa by human torpedoes is to be apprehended and as the existing C.H.L cover cannot be relied upon to give this warning request provision, may be made to fly following modified "Skroo" Patrol which it is proposed to be named "Skroo II" East and "Skroo II" West.
2. Object is to locate carrier submarine.
3. (A) "Skroo II" East between 58° 30' and 59° N, 10 to 40 miles east of Orkneys.
(B) "Skroo II" West between 58° 40' and 59° 10' N., 10 to 40 miles West of Orkneys.
4. Patrol would be asked for when weather and tide conditions in entrances were suitable for human torpedoes to operate. Latter
/consideration.....

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14.5.1942.
Thursday.War Diary.HOME COMMANDS.British Air Activity.

Patrols "Skroo II." Contd. consideration would govern position of patrol. Anticipated duration of patrol on nights requested 4 hours. (A.C.O.S. 1626/14 to C. in C. Rosyth).

Destroyers attacked. Three German Destroyers were attacked from the air off Yardo today, one ship alleged to have received four hits. Three air-raid warnings during the day, 20 bombs dropped near ships at anchor, but no damage reported. (S.B.N.O. North Russia 2124B/14).

Air Protection of North Russian Convoys. My 0909/15. 4 Coastal Command officers have arrived at Polyarnoe to advise Russian air staff on principles of fighter cover for convoys. There are however only 14 P E 3 long range fighters of which one may assume 10 ready for service. This number obviously cannot cover 8 knots convoys within time and Hurricanes are not sent more than 60 miles from aerodrome. If any useful measure of protection is to be afforded convoys more P.E.3's must be sent. Bombing of coastal aerodromes is never achieved because there are no bombers suitable for daylight attacks and there is no darkness. In all these circumstances heavier losses from air attacks on convoy must be expected unless more fighters and bombers are sent to North Russia. Situation should improve when extra tanks which have now arrived are fitted in Hurricanes. (S.B.N.O. North Russia 2212B/12).

Air R/C's Requested. Request R/C in following priorities. (a) P RU Narvik. (b) P RU Trondjhem, (c) "Lotus 2" (d) "Sentry 3." (C. in C. H.F. 2348B/14 to H.Q.C.C.).

Enemy Air Activity.

A/C over Iceland. Budareyri reports Condor flew over southern at 0845 and disappeared (? flying) north at 0910. (A.C.I.C. 1306B/14).

2 U.S. Transports Bombed. Following read. From Ship at Sea. Enemy A/C bombing convoy "Sodium" my position. 61° 33' N. 12° 24' W. (Liverpool W/T 1333A/14). *See p. 430.*

DOURO. Your 1316/13. *DOURO at 1315 - See p. 400.* Number of Survivors 10, name of ship DOULA, attacked with bombs, 4 bombs, dropped all hit. Attacking A/C believed to be a Heinkel 111. (A.C.I.C. 1344B/14 to C. in C.W.A.).

/Brixham....

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War Diary.14.5.1942.
Thursday.HOME COMMANDS.Enemy Air Activity.

Brixham
bombed.
M.L.511
damaged.
DENCADE
damaged.
Trawler BM6.
Sunk.
Trawler LT
1095
damaged.

At 1853 today four ME 109 attacked Brixham from the direction of Torquay. Harbour was bombed and machine gunned. M.L.511 damaged by near miss. Tug DENCADE damaged above water line by direct hit. Brixham Trawler BM.6. sunk at moorings and trawler L T 1095 damaged and towed into inner harbour. Inspector of C.G's building damaged by blast. Few minor but no fatal casualties. Bofors and M.G's were in action. (N.O.I.C. Dartmouth 2146/14).

TRINIDAD
Bombed.

(TRINIDAD 2254B/14) See Operations.

Mining.

N.L.21C.

My 1914B/13. N.L.21 C postponed owing to weather.
(V.A.Dover. 0934B/14). See p 426

Off
Aldborough.

Red Magnetic detonated at 1235 in 52° 17' 30" N
1° 59'.E.

(Cdr.M/S Lowestoft 1315V/14 and 2250B/14).

Request Q Z 614 may be cancelled and the

following Q Z X Message issued in lieu.

An area dangerous due to enemy ground mines is enclosed by lines joining the following positions.

(A) 52° 04' 33" N. 01° 43' 30" E. (B) 52° 11' 30" N. 01° 47' 54" E.
(C) 52° 12' 48" N. 01° 41' 48" E. (D) 52° 06' 00" N. 01° 37' 54" E.
(C. in C.Nore 1708B/14).

My 1808B/14. Beached and secured.

(Cdre. M/S Lowestoft. 2050B/14).

M.S.9. reports 17 mines exploded in sweeps in Q Z X 706.

Two more apparently cut, one of which was towed ashore and beached at Lowestoft. Clearing of area will be continued tomorrow. M.S.4 reports 25 mines cut and one detonated in sweep in operation Q S 8 which is being continued tomorrow.

(C. in C.Nore. 2222B/14).

Enemy Intelligence.

Straits of
Dover.

Enemy shipping plotted by RDF in Dover Strait from 0900/13 to 0900/14. Small vessels about ten miles from Boulogne from 0850/13 to 1130/13 possibly searching for survivors from M.T.B.action (See my 1024B/13).
(V.A.Dover. 1052B/14).

Swedish
Fishing
Boat.

For your information. Skipper of steam drifter DAISSY reports one Swedish line fishing boat proceeding towards the Flannan Islands from

/the.....

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War Diary.14.5.1942.
Thursday.HOME COMMANDS.Enemy Intelligence.Swedish
Fishing
Boat.
Contd.the Butt of Lewis at 0430/14.
(N.O.I.C.Stornoway. 1203B/14 to C. in C.W.A.).Mean
Draughts.My 0852/22/4. Amend as follows.
TIRPITZ 34 feet.
SCHARNHORST and GNEISENAU 30 feet.
Hipper class 23 feet.
(F.O.S. 1506B/14).Finland.
LEIPZIG.

1. Finland.
My 1807/12. There has been much activity of small craft operative recently in Finnish Gulf. Mines are now being swept in Eastern Approaches and there is evidence of German mines being sent from Gdynia. Kotka is being developed as an advance base, presumably for coming attack on Leningrad. Graded B.3.

2. Cruiser LEIPZIG which recently completed long refit at Stettin was again at that port May 8th. She was observed to have her bridge considerably extended, another platform on her after control bridge, and possibly her stern (?clipped) like. (Corrupt group) ~~EMOEN~~. Graded C.3.
(N.A.Stockholm 1734 /14).

O.I.C.Comment:- Para 1. 2 German minelayers are reported to have arrived Helsinki about 6th May. (Graded A1).
Para.2. LEIPZIG was seen at Swinemunde by R/C on 10/5.

Trondheim.
Narvik.R/C today Trondheim - no result owing to cloud.
Narvik, possible naval unit seen in Rombaks Fiord.
(D.D.I.C. 2024B/14).Navigational.Bristol
Channel.Gore buoy waterlogged. North Scarweather buoy not in position.
(N.O.I.C. Swansea 0930B/14).Buxey
Buoy.North Buxey Buoy reported missing from station.
(F.O.I.C.Harwich 1154B/14).Vaternish.
Light.STRONSAY, reports Vaternish Light extinguished at 0430/14.
(N.O.I.C. Aultbea 1219B/14 to N.O.I.C.Port ZA.
(N.O.I.C.Lochalsh 1441B/14 and 1443B/14)
(F.O.I.C.Greenock 1517B/14).

War Diary.14.5.1942.
Thursday.HOME COMMANDS.Navigational.

Jan
Mayen
Ice. Following from Jan Mayen begins. West Coast
Pack all sea. Ice East for line drawn from
edge of island and southwards.
(A.C.I.C. 1221B/14 to Admty.).

Portsmouth
Area. E.A. 2 buoy missing.
(C. in C. Portsmouth 1804B/14 to Admty.).

Greenock
Area. Q Z H 522 Vatirn Kent Point lights number 11
49 126 extinguished.
(C. in C. W.A. 1937Z/14 to T.U's 24.1.18, 24.1.17
24.1.4., 24.1.11.)

Casualties & Defects.

LORD
NUFFIELD. Gland in water end of water gauge standard on
boiler leaking badly. Defects will take 12 hours
if died down, otherwise will require relief.
Request instructions.
(LORD NUFFIELD 0720/14 to F.O.C.N.A.). *See p. 443.*

BANFF. *HT 24.1.13* *HT 24.1.13*
My 1812/12 and 1040/13. Sailing of BANFF
delayed owing to compass defects.
(C. in C.Nore. 1220/14).

CELTIC. N.C.S. Drifter GOLDEN WEST was in collision with
sailing vessel CELTIC at approx. 1300/13. in
St Monance Harbour. No damage to H.M. Ship.
(N.O.I.C. Methil 1230/14).

AZALEA. F.O.I.C. Greenock's 1526B/12. Ships are
proceeding to Holyhead owing to defects.
(C. in C. W.A. 1535B/14 to H.Q.F.C.).
Arrived AZALEA with defects and EMPIRE CONRAD.
(N.C.S.O. Holyhead 1833B/14 to F.O.I.C. Milford
Haven.). *See p. 448.*

Shipping & Convoys.

Murmansk.
Cargo
situation. Although frequent alerts caused interruptions
the general discharge and railway situation
is satisfactory. From 6th to 12th approximately
35,000 were discharged. The largest quantity
on one day was 7,400 tons from 12 steamers.

(3) Have cut down general cargo for British Ships to bare
minimum in order to release berths for American Steamers.

(4) Russians notified us that they had 15,000 tons Apatite
concentrate available for disposal but impossible to ship even
portion.
(Cormack 0915B/14 to Admty.).

/P.Q.16....

War Diary.14.5.1942.
Thursday.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping & Convoys.

P.Q.16.

ASHANTI with MARTIN proceed to pass Switha 1700/15 to Hvalfjord routed through 058° 50' N 007° 10' W. thence through Reykjanes passage.

3. Destroyers will be required to provide additional escort for P.Q.16 to North Russia and are to attend convoy conference at Reykjavik, thence proceed independently to Seidisfjord to complete and join convoy as ordered by A.C.I.C.

(R.A.D.H.F. 0945B/14).

H.Y.3. paragraph (4).

(a).P.(corrupt group).

(b).1.NORTHERN SPRAY, ST. ELSTAN, LADY MADELINE, RETRIEVER.
2.As ordered by C.S.10.

(c).1.(a) from Hvalfjord, HAZARD, (b) from Seidisfjord. A/S escort, ASHANTI.(S.O). MARTIN, GARLAND, ACHATES, VOLUNTEER, HONEYSUCKLE, STARWORT, ROSELYS, HYDERABAD, S/Ms TRIDENT, SEAWOLF, A/S Escort H.M.S.ALYNBANK. Personnel Ship; LLANSTEPHAN CASTLE.

2. Tuesday 19th May. (d) Cam ship EMPIRE LAWRENCE.

(ii)C.S.10.in NIGERIA, with a force of cruisers and destroyers will provide cover. This force will be known as C.S.10.

(C. in C. H.F. 1057B/14).

U.R.24.

R.U.24.

Cancel my 1943/30. Owing to small number of ships in U.R.24 and R.U.24 destroyers will not be sailed.

(C. in C. W.A. 1152B/14 to Cdre. Londonderry).

FRONTENAC,
J.A.BROWN.
BRITISH
PRESTIGE.

A.M. 2256/30 para. 7 (B). ST MARYS and CASTLETON are to provide escort to U.K. from the vicinity of the Azores for tankers FRONTENAC, JOHN A.BROWN and BRITISH PRESTIGE.

C. in C. W.A. is requested to make the necessary arrangements.

(D.O.D(H) 1338B/14).

After fuelling at Ponta Delgada you are to leave with Tanker FRONTENAC in time to R/V Tankers JOHN A.BROWN, and BRITISH PRESTIGE in 037° 50' N, 026° 01' W at 1800Z/17, course 000° 8½ knots.

(C. in C. W.A. 1726B/14 to CASTLETON, ST MARYS).

War Diary.14.5.1942.
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic.S.L. 109,
U/B attack.

S.L. 109 abortive U-Boat attack port side of Convoy driven off and several attacks carried out by LULWORTH and BIDEFORD. Torpedo fired from starboard side indicated another U-Boat but no hit scored nor any further attacked developed so far.

(LANDGUARD, 0031Z/14 to Admty., (R) C. in C. W.A., F.O.C.N.A.)

JEAN BART.

American report 13/5 Grade A.2.

Adm. D'Harcourt received orders from Vichy to execute ocean trials of JEAN BART. He objected as impossible. Darlan has ordered test as soon as practicable. Information confirms that test will be short sorties along coast with A/C protection. Fuel and stores are sufficient for short period only.

(Greenleaves, Tangier, 1245/14 to S.O.I. Gibraltar, (R) Admty., for D.N.I.)

Ref. Greenleaves 1245/14 to Admty. only. If JEAN BART leaves harbour and proceeds northwards intend issuing warning to her by W/T and to attack her if she proceeds north of latitude 35°.

(2) Necessity for P.R.U. A/C here is most urgent.

(F.O.C.N.A., 1544B/14 to Admty., (R) C. in C. S.A., C. in C. Med., R.A.W.Af.)

My 1522B and G.W.O. 71. If JEAN BART is met ship is not to be engaged to southward of latitude 35° N. unless specifically ordered.

(F.O.C.N.A., 2326B/14 to MALAYA, (R) Admty., R.A. West Africa.)

Use of
Allied
Ships.

Request confirmation that I may use allied ships if it becomes necessary to engage Vichy ships or carry out operation "Ration".

(F.O.C.N.A., 1302B/14 to Admty.)

Damaged U/B,
Cartagena.
U.573.

A.N.A's 1112/12. Protest made today through Spanish N.A. is being forwarded by Embassy to Madrid. N.A. has been asked:- (a) to ascertain length of stay granted to U-Boats (b) to obtain assurances that vessel will be interned after expiration of this period. As N.A. has indicated unofficially that he is unlikely to receive an immediate reply himself request you will follow this up.

(D.N.I., 1302B/14 to N.A. Madrid.)

My 1302B/14 in clarification. No formal protest but unofficial representations were made through Spanish N.A. to back up your efforts.

(D.N.I., 1959B/14 to N.A. Madrid.)

/LADY HOGARTH ...

War Diary.14.5.1942.
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic - Contd.

LADY HOGARTH, Sailed LADY HOGARTH to relieve LORD NUFFIELD
MIRROR. as escort to Cable Ship MIRROR.
(F.O.C.N.A., 1400B/14 to Admty.) *See p. 440.*

TRAVELLER, (1) TRAVELLER, P.211 and P. 43 pass Bishop Rock
P. 211, at 2300B/16 May and cross latitude 043° N. as
P. 43. follows:-
(a) TRAVELLER (1) 013° 01' at 0200B/22.
(b) P. 43 in 013° 01' at 0530B/23.
(c) P. 211 in 014° 01' 2300B/23.
(d) thence S/M proceed Gibraltar as ordered by F.O.C.N.A.
S. of A. on surface TRAVELLER 12 knots, P. 43 9 knots, P.211
11 knots.
(Capt. (S) 3, 1429B/14 to F.O.C.N.A., (R) F.O.S., Admty., C.
in C. Plymouth, Capt. (S) 1, Capt. (S) 8, Capt. (S) 5, Capt.
(S) 10.) *See p. 434.*

French (1) Your 1203B/13 (N.T. in W.D.) vessel leaving
Units, now.
sighted. (2) One unidentified destroyer 208° distance 9
miles course 010°. My position 336 P C L 12.
(SCOTTISH, 1706B/14 to F.O.C.N.A., (R) LOCH
OSKAIG.)

My 1706B COMMANDANT BORY.
(SCOTTISH, 1727B/14 to F.O.C.N.A., (R) LOCH OSKAIG.)
My 1706B both vessels southbound outside territorial waters.
G W O 36 A.1, consider excellent chance of taking vessel
prudently.
(SCOTTISH, 1840B/14 to F.O.C.N.A.)

THESEÉ My 1921/13 not to S.O.(I) Gibraltar. THESEÉ
(French) sailed about 1600 today for Oran.
(B.N.A. Lisbon, 1830B/14 to S.O.I. Gibraltar,
(R) Admty. for D.N.I.)

R/C A. 238 14/5. PRATC GIB/W1 (14/5).
Casablanca. 807 Squadron sortie dated 14/5 time 1830 shows
Casablanca on distant oblique photographs.
Harbour is fully covered but some quays are
partly obscured. DUGUAY TROUIN C/R has departed from berth
occupied on 13/5 and is not identifiable elsewhere in harbour.
However what appears to be a Naval Unit of size is indistinctly
seen at Phosphate quay. Only other apparent change since 13/5
is departure of EV and probably a D/R. JEAN BART and GALIS-
SONNIERE C/R at usual berths. Boom about B/S not distinguish-
able. 5 probably 6 S/Ms at S/M berth. C/T remains moored
outside entrance. Harbour boom partly opened.
(P.R.U. Gibraltar, 2025/14 to Air Min. (R) Admty., H.Q.C.C.)
R/C Casablanca 1830/14. JEAN BART and GLOIRE usual berth.
PRIMAUGUET moved but probably at phosphate quay where medium
sized naval unit can be seen indistinctly. Harbour boom
partly open, booms round JEAN BART not distinguishable.
(F.O.C.N.A., 2328B/14 to Admty., C. in C. Med., C. in C. S.A.,
Opnav, C. in C. Plymouth, R.A. W.Africa.) (As amended 2245B/14)

/U/B ...

War Diary.14.5.1942.
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic - Contd.

U/B. U-Boat reported in 38° 59' N. 13° 42' W. course 230°, 8 knots at 1430Z/14.
(D.D.I.C., 2230B/14 to RYE, HYTHE, WELSHMAN,
(R) F.O.C.N.A.)

P.R.U. A/C,
Gibraltar. Ops. 103, 14/5. Ref. your 1202B/13 regret
deeply that Maryland still unserviceable but
should leave tomorrow 15/5. Shortage of
Mosquitoes and important operations in Home
Waters make it impossible to provide any other
A/C for A.O.C. Gibraltar's use.
(C. in C. C.C., 2241B/14 to F.O.C.N.A., (R)
A.O.C. Gibraltar, Adnty.)

Italian
U/B. Bearing of Italian U-Boat 62U at 2050Z/14.
(D.D.I.C., 2330B/14 to F.O.C.N.A.)

South Atlantic.

CARLISLE. My 1601Z/13 CARLISLE sailed 0600Z/14.
(N.O.I.C. Durban, 0805Z/14 to Adnty., C. in C.
S.A., C. in C. E.I., N.O.I.C. Port Elizabeth,
N.O.I.C. East London.)

Movement
Summary. 2000Z/14. All positions N. and W. unless other-
wise stated.
WILD SWAN, LYDD, 015° 55', 018° 45' to Bathurst,
15.

BUSHWOOD, 3 Trawlers, 3 Tugs, 1 Ferry about 012° 30', 018° 35'
to Freetown 7.

TAMARISK 009° 45', 015° 55' to Freetown, 12.

DUNNOTTAR CASTLE, 4 Escorts with S.L. 110, 009° 30', 017° 20',
285°, 7½.

ST. WISTAN 006° 10', 011° 50', 125°, 8.

CANNA, PICT, patrolling Sector T.

ARCHER, BRIDGEWATER 003° 55', 014° 20', 167°, 12½.

U.S. Aircraft Carrier RANGER, 1 Cruiser, 5 Destroyers, 002°
01', 022° 35', 270°, 14½.

BRITTANY, 2 Boom Vessels, SYRINGA, 004° 01', 003° 10' to
Takoradi, 8.

WIVERN 003° 40', 003° 10' to Takoradi 12.

AUBRETIA, 2 Motor Launches with L.S.5, 002° 30', 004° 15',
230°, 7½.

VIOLET off Takoradi to join L.S.5.

VINDICTIVE, 2 Corvettes, 001° 45' S. 003° 15', 101°, 11.

/MILFORD ...

War Diary.14.5.1942.
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic. contd:

Movement Summary. (Contd.) MILFORD 009° 30' S. 003° 20' to Freetown (? 13 or 14).
 COLOMBO 007° 45' S. 011° 45' E. to Pointe Noire 14. *See p. 307.*
 EMILE BAUDOT 012° 10' S. 002° 10' E., 132°, 8.
 ALCANTARA, PRETORIA CASTLE patrolling H. 34D.
 U.S. Cruiser MILWAUKEE, U.S. Destroyer MOFFETT off Ascension to N.W.
 (R.A. West Africa, 1201Z/14 to Ships in Area P, T.F. 36.)

ARETHUSA. Owing to partial failure of forced lubrication pressure, necessary to retain ARETHUSA at Freetown for 36 hours at 8 hours notice to examine main bearings and gearing of after unit. Ready to sail tomorrow (15/5).
 (R.A. West Africa, 1234Z/14 to Admty., (R) C. in C. S.A.)
 Arrival 14/5 ARETHUSA.
 (S.O.I. Freetown, 1317Z/14 to Admty., F.O.C.N.A., C. in C. W.A., S.O.W.P.)
 Proceed at 1800Z/15 for Capetown.
 Route A. 005° 10' N. 014° 40' W.
 B. Equator 008° 40' W. thence to Pointe Noire for fuel.
 E.T.A. 0800Z/19. On completion of oilings proceed through position - C. 012° 55' S. 009° 10' E.
 D. 020° 20' S. 009° 10' E.
 E. 032° 03' S. 016° 18' E. to Capetown, E.T.A. 1630Z/23.
 (R.A. West Africa, 1917Z/14 to ARETHUSA, (R) C. in C. S.A., Admty.) *p. 448^A*

U.S. Southern air route across Africa. U.S. Ferry Command hopes to commence operation of new Southern air route across Africa about 1/6.
 (ii) Route expected to be as follows: Natal (Brazil), Ascension, Pointe Noire, Leopoldville, Buk(?am)a, Elizabethville, Dodoma, Mombasa, Mogadishu, Aden.
 (C. in C. S.A., 1615B/14 to S.A. Station, Director of Coastal Air Force.)

Signals, Shipping Positions. Your 0034/13.
 My 0933/8 and 1521/8 are being passed to you as typical A.S. and F.S. signals.
 (C. in C., S.A., 1642B/14 to Admty.)
 W.D. Note:- Copies of signals referred to are in Lion Copy only, 14/5.

D'IBERVILLE. My 1504/2. Report that D'IBERVILLE delayed at Tamatave by repairs. Grade A.1.
 (C. in C. S.A., 1755B/14 to S.O. Force F. C. in C. E.F.)

/BUSEN ...

SA. *with 14/5.*

IN 445A.

MOST SECRET

MESSAGE

MOST SECRET

0933Z/8th May.

FROM: ~~S.O. (I) Capetown.~~

Date: 18.5.42.

Recd: 0715.

Naval Cypher M by W/T & T/P. RECIRCULATION.

ADDRESSED: A.I.G.123.

A S 449 7th Hottentot Bay OLWEN R.F.A. knots 8.5
Capetown 11th 029 degs 014 degs. FORTOL R.F.A. knots
8.5 Capetown 11th 029 degs 014 degs.

6th MOSSAMEDES MALANGE (Portugal) knots 9
Lourenco Marques unknown.

7th Capetown EXTON (U.S) knots 10 New York
5th June 020 degs 004 degs West 009 degs 016 degs

ILLINOIS(U.S) knots 9 Baltimore 9th June 020 degs
004 degs 009 degs 016 degs

TOPDALSFJORD(Norway) knots 10.5 Trinidad 28th
023 degs 005 degs 011 degs 018 degs

EXHIBITOR (U.S) knots 16 Trinidad 22nd 022 degs
004 degs 010 degs 017 degs.

Expected sailing 8th Capetown BOSKOOP (Holland)
knots 11 Walvis Bay 16th 025 degs 013 degs.

My A S 444 0931Z 3rd BUENOS AIRES (Norway)
left East London 7th estimated time arrival Montevideo
25th.

0933Z/8.

Advance Copy D.C. D.O.D.(F)

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

D.A/S.W.
Hd. of M.
D.S.D.
D.N.I.(4)
N.I.D.10.
I.P.(2)
W.D.

SA. 14/5.
445B.

MOST SECRET

M E S S A G E 1521Z/8 May IN

Date 15/5/42.
Recd. 0838

From S.O. (I) Freetown.

NAVAL CYpher 3M BY W/T RECIRCULATION

Passed to Admiralty for information.

Addressed C. in C. South Atlantic, S.O. (I) Capetown,
N.O.I.C. Durban, S.O. (I) Montevideo, All
H.M. Ships operating in or passing through
South Atlantic Station (except Ships in Area G
and Falkland Islands Area). From S.O. (I) Freetown.

F S 447 Philadelphia 8th May KING JAMES 9 knots
Capetown 13th June 12 degs. North 52 degs. West 3 degs.
(?26 degs) 17 degs. South 10 degs. 26 degs. 4 degs. East.
Port Arthur 2nd May ARNDALÉ 9½ knots Capetown 3rd
June 4 degs. North 40 degs. West 9 degs. South 21 degs.
25 degs. 1 degs. East.

Aruba 3rd May BRITISH CHARACTER 9½ Freetown 19th
May 7 degs. North 45 degs. West 00 degs. 31 degs. 01 degs.
North 24 degs. 6 degs. 20 degs.

Freetown 7th May LOURENÇO MARQUES Portugal 11½
Lisbon unknown.

Curacao 2nd May ATHEL SULTAN 9 knots Freetown
20th May 5 degs. North 41 degs. West 1 deg. 23 degs. 5 degs.
17 degs.

Guanta 2nd May HOEGH GIANT Norway 10 knots Freetown
18th May 02 degs. North 41 degs. West 00 degs. 30 degs.
3 degs. North 21 degs. 6 degs. 17 degs.

St. John N.B. 7th May EMPIRE FOREST 9½ knots
Capetown 8th June 012 degs. North 052 degs. West 004 degs.
027 degs. 006 degs. South 020 degs. 030 degs. East.

New York 4th May HOEGH SILVERCLOUD Norway 11 knots
Capetown 1st June 008 degs. North 040 degs. West 008 degs.
South 023 degs. 031 degs. 001 degs. 034 degs. 011 degs.
East.

St. John N.B. 2nd May WENTWORTH 9½ 1st June 008 degs.
North 040 degs. West 005 degs. South 021 degs. 027 degs.
001 degs East.

New York 5th May KUPA Yugo Slavia 8 knots Capetown
12th June 009 degs. North 040 degs. West 004 degs. South
021 degs. 028 degs. 003 degs. East.

New York 30th April CARMONA Panama 9 knots Buenos
Aires 30th May unknown.

1521Z/8

Advance copy D.C. DO.D. (F), D.T.D.

1st Lord.

1st S.L.

V.C.N.S.

A.C.N.S. (H)

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

A.C.N.S. (T)

N.A. 1st S.L.

D. of P. (2)

D.C.D. (H) (2)

D.C.D. (F) (2)

D.C. (2)

D.D.I.C. (2)

D.T.D. (2)

D.T.D. (M)

D.T.D. (C)

D.A./S.W.

Hd. of M.

D.S.D.

D.N.I. (4)

N.I.D. 10

I.P. (2)

W.D.

War Diary.14.5.1942.
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic - Contd.BUSEN TV

Capetown departure a.m. 13/5 Whale Catcher BUSEN
*(? IV) for Durban on passage Dar-es-Salaam for
"LL" (? conversion). S.O.A. 11 knots E.T.A.
Durban p.m. 16/5. Vessel wears Norwegian ensign,
is manned by Norwegian shipping crew.
(C. in C. S.A., 1757B/14 to N.O.I.C. Durban,
N.O.I.C. East Africa and Zanzibar, N.O.I.C.
Dar-es-Salaam, Admty., (R) N.O.I.C. Capetown.)

* See 15/4. p. 464.

ETHIOPIAN.

N.O.I.C. Takoradi's 1155/11. Recommended that
an A/S Trawler should be provided as escort
as far as Pointe Noire and that ETHIOPIAN should
then proceed unescorted.
(A.C.N.S.(F), 1825B/14 to R.A.W.Af., (R) N.O.I.C.
Takoradi, C. in C. S.A., C. in C. E.I.,
ETHIOPIAN.)

Operation
"Ironclad"
Reports.

S.O. Force F 0856/13. Essential that release in
South Africa should not be later than release
in U.K.

2. N.O.I.C. Simonstown's letter 024 of 8/3
addressed to Director of Press Division refers.
(C. in C. S.A., 1836B/14 to Admty., (R) S.O.
Force F, S.O.(I) Capetown, Cdre. Durban.)

EMPIRE
AMETHYST.

Have you any news EMPIRE AMETHYST due Freetown
28/4.

(D.T.D., 1954B/14 to S.O.I. Freetown, (R) R.A.
West Africa, C. in C. S.A.)

Mediterranean.

Malta
Situation.

IZ 290 HE/1173.

In his cable to me on assuming command P.M.
described situation in Malta as "Most anxious
and dangerous situation at a late stage".

Emergency exists now and has existed for some time. Lack
of co-ordination, lack of forward planning and general lack of
harmony are contributory to this state of affairs. Unless
everything is pulled together with a firm and vigorous hand the
policy of drift must continue towards inevitable disaster. In
my view there can be no question of using Malta as a base for
serious naval or large scale air offensive operations until
present critical situation has been corrected. Unless convoy
is successful Malta faces starvation, and to re-establish the
base much work requires to be done on preparation of aerodromes
and restoration of harbour facilities and fuel and ammunition
supplies.

/Para. 6 ...

War Diary.14.5.1942.
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean. cont'd:

Malta. Para. 6 of 163 (2300)* of 7/5 from Secer retains
 Situation. Service Commanders under their respective
 (Contd.) Cs. in C. until such time as safety of the Island
 is endangered. Invested as we are today by
 sea and air, I emphasise that this emergency
 could not well be graver, and, indeed, I was led to understand
 that this was the reason for my appointment. I, therefore,
 maintain my view that at this critical stage fighting services
 and civil administration must operate in Malta under one
 supreme commander so as to ensure that maximum co-ordinated
 effort is produced. This in no way affects present system of
 administration through Cs. in C. Mideast and Med. Fleet with
 which I am in full agreement.
 (Govr. Malta, 1630/14 to Troopers (R) C. in C. M.E. for M.E.
 Defence Committee.)
 * W.R. Note. Presumably telegram which was repeated to Cs.
 in C.M.E. in OZ. 167 is intended.)

Malta I. 293 14/5. C.S.R. Malta 14/5. Part I.
 Air Report. 13th, 2 alerts 1611, 1713 hours, Me.109s, Macchi
 202s, 1 R/C Ju.88. 1 Macchi 202 damaged by
 Spitfires. A/A damaged 1 Me.109.
 Night 13/14. 1 raider 2256. Luqa, 1 unserviceable Spitfire
 destroyed. 14th, 4 alerts 0451, 0554, 0700, 1036. Me.109s
 some with bombs, Macchi 202s, 3 Ju.88. Ta Kali, 1 Spitfire
 damaged, craters dispersals aerodrome. 5 Ju.88s, 3 Me.109s
 destroyed, 1 Me.109, 1 Macchi 202 probably destroyed, 3 Me.109s
 damaged by Spitfires and Hurricanes. 1 Spitfire crashed,
 another shot down, pilots killed, other Spitfires damaged in
 combat pilots safe. A/A shared in destruction 1 Ju.88.
 Part II. Deliveries 13th, 1 Wellington, 1 Hudson ex Gibraltar
 1 Lodestar ex M.E. arrived, 2 Wellingtons left M.E., Hudson
 Gibraltar same night. Lodestar burst tyre take off burnt out
 crew and passengers safe.
 (H.Q. R.A.F. Malta, 1741/14.)

ARCHER ^{25. 3. 34}
 Martlets. Your 2353/10. If ARCHER intended request date
 of arrival to allow for withdrawal of 805
 Squadron from Western Desert and for preliminary
 training. My 1945/11 assume hooks will be sent
 in any case for either (? plan) one or two in
 your 1215/10.
 (C. in C. Med., 1820C/14 to Admty.)

CENTURION. Your 1729/13. CENTURION cannot be docked in
 Mediterranean. Request estimated maximum
 continuous seagoing speed in her present
 condition.
 (C. in C. Med., 1836C/14 to C. in C. E.I.)
 (Reply: C. in C. E.I., 1325/15.)

LIVEZY,
KIPLING,
JACKAL.Re sinking (in Med) 1942C/14 to Admty) Hush - Most
Secret.

/RAMB IV ...

War Diary.14.5.1942.
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean - Contd.

RAMB IV (bombed and sunk 10/5.) Your 2232/10. It is suggested that as bombing was from a great height, attack on RAMB IV may not necessarily have been deliberate. Even if the enemy still have the intention of observing the Convention, it seems clear that the legal immunity of hospital ships may have little

value in E. Mediterranean unless details of each voyage are notified beforehand to the enemy.

2. Therefore considered that we should try effect of notifying voyages of all hospital ships in Mediterranean. If name of ship, date of sailing route and destination is given on each occasion and ship then makes its position every say 6 hours, the enemy would have little excuse for attacks whilst ships are on passage. If, after such notification further attacks occur which in our opinion are deliberate we shall be driven to conclude that enemy does not intend to observe Convention and to take appropriate counter action.

3. Subject to your concurrence and to approval of H.M.G., intention is:- (a) To lodge immediate protest over RAMB IV. (b) To inform enemy that hospital ship movements will be communicated in advance.

4. Admty. 1318/5. No reply has yet been received from Italians but on receipt of your reply these representations will be renewed at the same time as our protest is made regarding sinking of RAMB IV.

(Hd. of M. Approved by 1st Lord, 2000B/14 to C. in C. Med., (R) V.A. Malta, H.Q. M.E.) Reply: C. in C. Med. 1312/16.

Aircraft
Airscrews. Your 0733Z/13th. Regret no spares available of any type suitable for you from R.N. or R.A.F. Shortage of airscrews is limiting first line strength in Mediterranean. (C. in C. Med., 2116C/14 to S.O.A.C. E.F., (R) Admty., etc.)

ARETHUSA. Admty. 1043B/19. Following alternative programmes are submitted. (ARETHUSA, 2214Z/14 to C. in C. Med.) See Lion Copy.

U/B,
TURBULENT. R/C aircraft reports S/M in approx. 033° N. 022° E. at 1810C/14. (Capt. S.1, 2259C/14 to TURBULENT.)

See p. 445

SECRET.

MESSAGE.

IN.

2214Z/14th May.

From H.M.S. ARETHUSA.

Date. 15.5.42.

Recd. 2137.

Naval Cypher "C" by W/T.

CORRECTION.

Addressed C. in C. Mediterranean repeated Admiralty
 C. in C. East Indies C. in C. South Atlantic
 F.O.C. Red Sea Force, C. in C. Eastern Fleet
 R.A.W.Af.

Admiralty 1043B 9th May.

Following alternative programmes are submitted.
 Programme A.

<u>Arrive.</u>	<u>Place.</u>	<u>Depart.</u>
a.m. May 19th	Freetown.	p.m. May 15th.
a.m. May 23rd	Pointe Noire	p.m. May 19th.
a.m. May 30th	Capetown	p.m. May 23rd.
p.m. June 2nd	Mombasa	p.m. May 30th.
p.m. June 5th	Aden	a.m. June 3rd.
a.m. June 7th	Suez	a.m. June 6th.
	Alexandria.	- - -
	Programme B.	As for programme A until May 29th,
	then:-	
a.m. May 30th	Mombasa	
	(Clean 4 boilers)	p.m. June 5th.
p.m. June 8th	Aden	a.m. June 9th.
p.m. June 11th	Suez	a.m. June 12th.
a.m. June 13th	Alexandria	- - -

(2) Neither programme allows any margin for bad weather which if experienced rounding Cape of Good Hope may make it necessary to fuel at Durban, though were this done time might be saved by greater speed. Programme B allows 6 days at Mombasa for cleaning all boilers.

(3) Request decision which programme should be aimed (? at) and whether ship should fuel at Durban in order to avoid being below 20% remaining before reaching Mombasa.

2214Z/14.

▲ Most Secret Distribution.

Advance Copy Ops., O.D.

V.C.N.S.
 A.C.N.S.(H)
 A.C.N.S.(F)
 N.A. 1st S.L.
 Capt. Pim.
 Ops (3)
 O.D.(5)
 O.D.8.
 D.A/S.W.

O.I.C.
 D.P.S.
 M.(2).
 Mails.
 Movts.
 I.P.(3)
 W.S.
 E. in C.

War Diary.14.5.1942.
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies.Torpedoes
and
Mines.My 1259/17/4. Intentions regarding future
shipments.
(D.A.S.0112B/14 to C.in C.E.F.)171 M/S
Group.Request early information as to probable date of
arrival of 171 M/S group L L and S A fitted
trawler urgently required for duty in Kilindini
area. Latest information available to me of
date of leaving U.K. ESTRELLA, D'ALVA, and POLO NORTE, in January,
ESTRELLA DO MAR and HATSUSE in April.
(F.O.E.A., 0815Z/14 to Admty.)
Reply: 1117/15.OLWEN
OLYNTUS.My 1305/21/4. Is there any news of R.F.A's
*OLWEN and OLYNTUS please?
(C.in C. E.I., 0920Z/14 to C.in C. S.A.)
* See p. 445 A.

B.M.17.

Convoy B.M.17 Colombo portion arrived.
(N.C.S.O. Colombo, 0925Z/14 to Admty.)

Force F.

Grateful for information when you anticipate
being able to free carrier and DEVONSHIRE to
join Eastern Fleet.
(C.in C. E.F., 1137Z/14 to S.O. Force F.)Minesweepers,
Kilindini.Only minesweeping craft available at Kilindini
is one minesweeping auxiliary trawler, speed 7
knots with an Oropesa sweep.
(2) A U-boat has been reported in Mozambique
Channel and D/F reports give further indication
of its presence in this area. (3) Entrance to this harbour is
narrow and easily mineable. (4) SEAHAM and BOSTON have arrived
today and I intend retaining them until other arrangements for
sweeping can be made.
(C.in C. E.F. 1151Z/14 to Admty. (R) C.in C. Med.)
Reply: Admty. 1206B/17.Operation
"Ironclad"
Reports.Your 0856/13. Regret not possible to arrange
simultaneous release (reason). Hoped to issue
an official communique summarising the whole
operation based on your reports as soon as
possible.
(D.P.D., 1235B/14 to S.O. Force F.)E.F.
Reinforcements.Your 0157/13. ALBATROSS is in W.S. 18 at
Capetown, MAURITIUS, HURSLEY, BELVOIR left U.K.
10/5 escorting W.S.19, due Capetown 6/6, BLACKMORE,
PENN leave U.K. 30/5 escorting W.S.19B due
Capetown 26/6. QUENTIN leaves U.K. 20/6 with W.S.20 due Capetown
17/7.
2. Remainder are uncertain.
(D.O.D.(F) 1339B/14 to C.in C. E.F.)

/ Flying ...

449A E.I.

MOST SECRET

~~MOST SECRET~~

IN

From:- 121 Force.

0144/14th May

Date. 16.5.42.
Recd. 1000

C Y P H E R

Addressed The War Office.

P.O.13 cipher 13/5 (1100/13) 050051.

PART THREE

If our authority were extended I should recommend a similar form of administrative control and endeavour to keep existing structure from Governor General and his Conseil d'Administration downward limiting British control to a political Mission at centre with very few travelling political liaison officers. Above scheme would function and as has been proved in Diego-Suarez Vichy French officials and public will cooperate with British. It should be remembered that trusted Vichy officials were sent to this naval port and even more willing cooperation with British is to be expected elsewhere. The introduction of Free French would

- (a) have disruptive effect on public order
- (b) be unacceptable to great majority of French population
- (c) jeopardize any hope of cooperation with British i.e. be regarded as breach of faith on our part.

Their absence from this force has in French opinion been the best proof of honesty of our motives. Introduction of French National Committee now would be a calamity. No (repeat no) Commander in such circumstances could guarantee to land in island. Without Free French the administration could remain truly French under tricolour and I believe that a condominium could be established with French Governor General and British participation limited to provision of power and money and minimum control of government. It is essential that I be kept fully informed of reactions of Vichy Government in France to French operations. Message ends.

Note by C.6 Tels.

Message delayed through being undecipherable.

0144/14

Received in War Reg at
0100/17

1st Lord D.P.D.
1st S.L. I.P.(2)
V.C.N.S. W.D.
A.C.N.S.(F)(2)
A.C.N.S.(W) Adml. Chalmers.
Nav. Sec.
N.A. 1st S.L.
D.O.D.(F)(2)
D. of P.(2)
E.P.S.
D.N.I.(4)
D.D.I.C.(2)
C.C.O.(2)
D.C.(2)
D.S.D.
Hd. of M.(30) & for
other Govt. Depts.

War Office circulation:

P.U.S. Maj. Morton
P.U.S.(F) (10 Downing St.)
C.I.C.S. Mr. A.E.T.
V.C.I.G.S. Benson
D.M.O.&P. Cab. Offices.
D.D.M.O.(O) Mr. Mack For.
D.P. Office
M.O.1.5.11.(4)
G.S.(P) Mr. Waldoek
S.D.5 Admiralty(2)
I.P.1.(2) War Reg.
Q.(Ops.) Admiralty.
D.F.(2)
F.I.(4)

War Diary.14.5.1942.
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies. - Contd.Flying
Boats
for R/C.

Your 1331/9. In view of small number of Catalinas available in Ceylon, concur that Diego Suarez should rely on it's own shore-based aircraft for seaward R/C for the present.

2. If further operations in this area are undertaken Catalinas operating from Seychelles should provide R/C in order to release local aircraft for offensive operations.

3. I consider eventually long distance R/C aircraft should be based on Diego Suarez and I suggest a Catalina from Seychelles should be sent here at an early date to see what facilities are available and what more are required.

(S.O. Force F., 1517C/14 to C.in C. E.F. (R) Admty. etc.)

SPRINGTIDE.

Your 1725Z/12, concur.
(S.D.G., 1535B/14 to C.in C. E.I.)

HERISLE.

Advise paying out 60 fathoms cable to avoid drifting on reef.
(Port Captain, 1638Z/14 to HERISLE (R) HOTSPUR).

Air Report.

A.924 14/5. Intelligence Summary No. 60. On information received up to 1800 hours 14/5 - Burma 13/5 6 Blenheims attacked River craft on Chindwin River South of Shwegin, 1 direct hit and 19 near misses, machine gun attack also made. 13/5, 3 Wellingtons made an attack on Akyab Aerodrome, 5 enemy aircraft observed on aerodrome 3 of which were probably damaged.
(G.H.Q. India, 1829/14 GMT).A/A defence,
Ceylon.From Chiefs of Staff No. C.O.S.(India)56.
1. Following received from C.in C. Ceylon No.1407Z/13 in reply to an enquiry from here, (re numbers and distribution of A/A guns).
2. W.O. Telegram No.86463 of 5/5 gave our estimate of A.A.defences required for bases in Ceylon. Until an adequate scale of defence has been reached Eastern Fleet cannot use bases in the Island.
3. Please state whether you agree with our estimated target for defence of Ceylon and estimate date by which A.A. defences will be brought up to scale from resources at your disposal.
(Air Min., T.O.O.1836Z/14 to C.in C. India (R) C.in C. Ceylon)"Ironclad"
Shipping.

Disposal. (D.O.D.(F) 2245B/14 to S.O. Force F. and Cdr., 121 Force) See Lion Copy.

ROYAL
SOVEREIGN.CORFU's 0401/13 (N.T.in W.D.). Amended E.T.A. 0600Z/16. Acknowledge.
(ROYAL SOVEREIGN 2358Z/14 to N.O.I.C. Bombay).

E.I.
450A.

MOST SECRET

MESSAGE 2245B/14th May

OUT

~~MOST SECRET~~

Date 14.5.42

To S.O. Force F 109 and
Commander 121 Force.
Repeated C. in C. Eastern Fleet 861
C. in C. East Indies 499.
C. in C. South Atlantic 533.
C. in C. India.
IMPCON Durban.

NAVAL CHIEFS(O.T.T.) A.2, and F.

From Admiralty and War Office.

IMPORTANT

Disposal of IRONCLAD shipping.

1. DUCHESS of ATHOLL and ORONSAY to Durban as soon as you can release them.
2. FRANKONIA to Durban unless you can send 13 Brigade to Bombay in her before shipping in paragraph 4 available.
3. 22 East African Brigade due embark Mombasa 1st June or earlier in shipping arranged by D. of S.T. Dates of embarkation South African Brigade not yet known. Second echelon Force 121 incl. aircraft, vehicles and stores detailed in our 85536 of 30/4 to IMPCON repeated to you in our 86509 of 5/5 due to tranship to LLANDAFF CASTLE.
4. Unless 13 Brigade despatched as in paragraph 2 propose personnel of 13 and 17 Brigades move Bombay in assault shipping and either ships which bring South African Brigade or, in an emergency, in ships which bring East African Brigade. M.T. of 13 Brigade in NAIRNBANK and MARTAND and of 17 Brigade in ships which bring M.T. of East African and South African Brigades.
5. All surviving landing craft with their crews, maintenance and reserve personnel are to be sent to India. If DERWENTDALE's complement of M.L.C.'s is very short she may if C. in C. East Indies desires embark the balance for those at Colombo.
6. *ROYAL ULSTERMAN and *BACHAQUERO to U.K. via Durban. *KARWIN, *KARWINA, SOBIESKI, WINCHESTER CASTLE, and *DERWENTDALE to U.K. after discharge of personnel and landing craft in Bombay.
7. Beach parties and naval communication personnel are to return to U.K.
8. Separate signal re disposal of remainder personnel of 121 Force will follow but 5 Commando is for U.K. less those referred to in A.M. 2252/9th May not to all addressees.

Agreed with Ministry of War Transport.

9. S.O. Force F pass to Commander 121 Force.

2245B/14 D.C.D. (F)

1st Lord.	Sec.	D.C. (2)	I.P. (2)
1st S.L.	N.A. 1st S.L.	C.C.O. (2)	W.D.
5th S.L.	D.C.D. (F) (2)	D.S.D.	D.N.A.D.
V.C.N.S.	D. of P. (2)	Hd. of M. (D. of Mov.	
A.C.N.S. (F) (2)	E.P.S.	20 Copies for W.C.	
A.C.N.S. (W)	D.N.I. (4)	circulation) (30)	
Naval Sec.	D.D.I.C. (2)	D.P.D.	

War Diary.14.5.1942.
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies.LADY
RODNEY.Pass to C.T.24 SS. LADY RODNEY escorted by
ROXBOROUGH should arrive Halifax 1130Z 14th.
(?ROXBOROUGH 0001Z/14 to C.O.A.C. Halifax.)WARWICK.
[REDACTED]
(to proceed
to
Willemstad)Your 2017P/13. ^{N.T. & W.D.} Am proceeding best speed.
Your 2333P/11 nothing seen. Position left
2000P/13th. (WARWICK 0012P/14 to C. in C.
A.W.I. (R) HAVELOCK.) *See next page.*D/F
bearings
of S/Ms.Within 100 miles (1) 48° N 29° W at 1730Z/13
(2) 25° 30' N 27° 30' W at 1759Z/13.
(N.S.H.Q. Ottawa 0038/14.)U/Bs
sighted.At 2332Z/13 my A/C reports periscope and conning
tower showed for 6" in 045° 37' N 060° 00' W.
(C.O.A.C. 0246Z/14 to Admty.)sighted 45.37 N 60 W at 2332 G.M.T./13. 045?/14. (Portishead
Radio No T.O.O./14)
U.S. A/C reports submarine sighted in 018.20 N 076 W at
1855 G.M.T. Dived. (S.O.I.) Jamaica 1630R/14 to D.N.I. Admty.)Air
Report.A.761 14/5 Z.13. Operations 13/5. All times
G.M.T. Gander all patrols cancelled due weather.S/M
sighted.Enemy submarine sighted 2332 45° 37' N 60° 00' W
6 miles off Port beam convoy, but dived before
A/C could reach the spot. Total darkness
prevented a second run. (H.Q. E.A.C. 0418/14.)LISE
(sunk
12/5.)22 survivors from LISE (Nor.) landed Curacao
yesterday (13/5) LISE sunk in 013.53 N 068.20
W by 2 submarines at 0300R/12. (S.O.I. Jamaica
0456R/14 to C. in C. A.W.I. B.A.D. N.S.H.Q.)
LISE (Nor.) for Curacao ex O.S.26 sunk by 2
S/Ms in 13.53 N 68.20 W at 0301R/12. (N.S.H.Q.
Ottawa 1634Z/14.)

S.24.

U.S. S/M S.24 late 33 hrs. Arriving Point Dog
1300Z/14. Time remaining at Point modified
same amount. Comdr. S/M Squadron 3 2345 5th
C. in C. U.S. Fleet 1855 7th. (C. in C. U.S.
Fleet 0654/14 to C.T.Fs. 21,22,24,28,29. N.O.B.
Bermuda, N.O.B. Newport.)U/B
attack.Intercepted 0533 G.M.T. de PJC Curacao (Unread)
torpedoed 13.55 N 68.20 W reported by General
Comdr. Curacao. (Portishead Radio T.H.I.0740/14)
Intercepted 1012 G.M.T./14. S/M attack 13° 55'
068° 10' W at 0700 G.M.T. (Navycom Bermuda
1053P/14 to Admty.)

/Movement...

War Diary.

14.5.1942.
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies - Contd.

Movement Summary.	1800 G.M.T. 14/5.			
	Ship.	Position.	Course.	Speed.
	PENELOPE	35° N 39° W	270°	18
	Convoy S.L.109)			
	LANDGUARD)	29° N 26½° W	033°	7
	HAVELOCK)			
	PIMPERNEL)	15° N 66° W	167°	12½
	LAVENDER)			
	GODETIA)			
	WARWICK	15½° N 66° W	219°	15
	Transport			
	QUEEN ELIZABETH	16½° S 35½° W	026°	20
	ALCANTARA)			
	PRETORIA CASTLE)	Equator 22° W	Patrol	Blank
	A.T.15X)			
	QUEEN MARY)	52½° N 39° W	049°	25
	S/M P.552.	53° N 42½° W.	049°	9
	(D.O.D.(F) 0907Z/14 to Opnav.)			

SATURN Your 1432/13 (N.T.in W.D. Re. requiring of SATURN at Trinidad) SATURN is still required at Trinidad. (C. in C. A.W.I. 1022P/14 to Admty.)

Recoding Tables for S/Ms. (A) Your 1251/13 to F.O.S. only. Request in future arrangements may be made for S/Ms to be sailed with S.Ps enumerated in S.P. form A2C (3) article 44 (A). (B) Your 1732/11 para 3 consider bombing restrictions for S/Ms on passage should in future be at least 15 miles either side of route to allow of navigational errors by both S/Ms and A/C. (F.O.S. 1114B/14 to F.O.N.F.)

TAIGETE. ARCOLA. (Italian) Position at noon/14/5 11.40 N 66.52 W course 089 speed 8.7 knots. (Barbados Radio 1210/14 to Admty.)
Departed Curacao 1800Q/13. ARCOLA 8.5. knots E.T.A. Las Palmas 30/5. TAIGETE speed 9.5 due St. Vincent 26/5. (Opnav 1350/14 to Admty.)
S.B.N.O. on board Italian TAIGETE feels it would be politic to allow Italian crew of two tankers to go ashore at Cape Verde and Canary Islands, otherwise these men will be confined on board possibly six or more months. British guard getting ashore at Curacao. Request replies to British Consul at St. Vincent, C.V. and Las Palmas. (S.B.N.O. Curacao 1649QR/14 to Admty.)

NASTURTIUM collision damage. Following received from F.O.N.F. "Damage to a wharf, one M/V, a water taxi and a motor car caused by NASTURTIUM in collision on 13/4. Damage to ship not assessed until diver has examined. Request approval effect repairs locally without prejudice to final decision as to blame which, however, clearly lies with Navy. T.O.O. 1256Z/13". (C. in C. W.A.J. 1210B/14 to Admty.)

War Diary.14.5.1942.
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies - Contd.

- PENELOPE. F.O.C.N.A. 1158/10. From position A pass through Z 035° 00' N 060° 00' W thence New York. If necessary to fuel leave position Z (?direct to Bermuda and notify Opanav through C. in C. A.W.I. (C. in C. A.W.I. 1243P/14 to PENELOPE.)
See previous page.
- Convoy S.C.84. C.T.U. 24.1.12 in BROADWAY plus DRUMHELLER, DUNVEGAN, MORDEN, BRANDON, POLYANTHUS, BUCTOUCHE, designated ocean escort for convoy S.C.84. BROADWAY sailing 24 hours after remainder of escort to overtake. CHAMBLY will sail as S.O. of escort and detach when BROADWAY joins. (F.O.N.F. 1333Z/14, 1632Z/14.)
- A/S Training for Escort Forces. Request Navy Dept. may be asked for particulars of training facilities, including training S/Ms for escort forces based on Argentina. Experience has shown that regular A/S Exercises are essential if these vessels are to be kept efficient, and it is understood that facilities are being provided. Facilities provided at Londonderry are being fully used by U.S. escorts visiting Northern Ireland. (Admty. 1337B/14 to B.A.D.) Reply: B.A.D. 2253Z/15.
- ?NICOYA (torpedoed 12/5.) 80 survivors NYCOLA arrived Gaspé 1700/13. Chief Officer sighted large sized submarine 500 yards distant from motor boat. (N.O.I.C. Gaspé 1358Z/14.)
- KENTUCKY (9264 tons) Admiralty 1909/12. Opanav can provide destroyer escort for tanker KENTUCKY from Delaware Cape at daylight 17/5 for 24 hours. U.S. authorities request B.R.O. Philadelphia confirm immediately to Opanav and B.A.D. vessel will be loaded in time to comply and that he consults Com.4. regarding route. (B.A.D. Washington 1401Z/14 to B.R.O. Philadelphia. N.S.H.Q. Ottawa.) (W.D. Note: Cancelled by 1305/15. q.v.) My 1909/12. To sail Gibraltar to arrive at earliest opportunity. Details of oil cargo to be loaded. Request immediate report whether vessel is fitted with or for paravanes and whether escort can be arranged as requested in my 1909/12 or throughout voyage if necessary for ship to proceed Curacao. (D.T.D. 1711B/14 to B.A.D. Washington.)
- Flour for Jamaica. No. 367. Your tel. No.369. Admiralty have telegraphed instructions that ship named should sail forthwith. (S of S for Colonies 1415/14 to Gov. Jamaica.)
- ST. CROIX. Unable to pump fuel from forward tank. Returning to St. John's N.F. P.C. and S 049° 43' N 044° 56' W at 1430Z/14. (ST. CROIX 1430Z/14 to Opanav)

War Diary.14.5.1942.
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies - Contd.

Convoy A.S.3. Sailing from Charleston 27/5. (Opnav 1510/14 to C. in C. A.F. (U.S.) U.S. TEXAS, Com. Eastern Sea Frontier. Com. Caribbean Sea Frontier, C.T.F.23. Alusnob. Freetown, N.O.B. Bermuda. R.A.W.A. C. in C. A.W.I. Bermuda, Admty. Com.6.)

Ice report 14/5. N.S.H.Q. Ottawa 1531Z/14.

RANPURA. Your 1919/13. Proposed programme approved. (D.O.D.(F) 1605B/14 to B.A.D. Washington.)

Ships for Gulf of St. Lawrence. To proceed to Sydney (C.B.) for convoy, and should be provided with instructions for entering. Independently sailed ships are to be routed accordingly and Masters of such ships sailing in O.N and O.N.(S) convoys should be informed they will be detached for Sydney by orders of Commodore. (D.T.D. 1620B/14 to C. in C. S.A. R.A.W.A. F.O.I.C. Milford Haven, F.O.I.C. Mersey, F.O.I.C. Belfast, F.O.I.C. Greenock, F.O.I.C. Glasgow, F.O.I.C. Cardiff, N.O.I.C. Oban, N.O.I.C. Aultbea, A.C.I.C.)

O.N. Convoys. Ships for Colon and ports to the westward in Gulf of Mexico and Caribbean are not to be sailed in O.N. (South) convoys. M.A.R.I. Section II, para (1) will be amended. (D.T.D. 1636B/14 to F.O.I.C. Milford Haven, F.O.I.C. Mersey, F.O.I.C. Belfast, F.O.I.C. Greenock, F.O.I.C. Glasgow. N.O.I.C. Oban, N.O.I.C. Aultbea.)
Amendment No.9 to M.A.R.I. Section II part (1) (b) delete "O.N. (South)". (D.T.D. 1712B/14 to 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. R.A.W.A. S.O.I. Jamaica. A.C.I.C.)

12-knot ships. Are instructions for ships of 12 knots and above given in your 1212/25/3 para (B) and 1159/? to be followed when Key West - Norfolk coastal convoys are in operation. (N.S.H.Q. Ottawa 1640Z/14 to Admty.)

Air patrol from Sable I. Arrangements have been made by A.O.C. Eastern Air Command to establish an air patrol from Sable Island commencing 15/5. Patrol will be carried out by one Walrus A/C over a radius of 90 miles Sable Island.
(2) Enemy reports will be passed P.L. via departments transport station on Sable Island.
(3) Movements of A/C and sightings of Allied Forces will not be reported. (N.S.H.Q. Ottawa 1650Z/14.)

/Trinidad...

455

14.5.1942.
Thursday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies - Contd.

Trinidad Tanker Convoys. N.S.H.Q. Ottawa's 1658Z/1. Canadian Tanker convoys from Halifax to Trinidad and return are designated H.T. and T.H. respectively, each escorted by 2 corvettes detailed by C.O.A.C. Halifax.

2. C.O.A.C. Halifax is to sail these convoys from Halifax to Trinidad at approx. 14 days interval commencing with H.T.1 about 20/5.

3. F.O.I.C. Trinidad is requested to arrange onward route to loading port and return route to Halifax.

4. N.S.H.Q. Ottawa and C. in C. A.W.I. will be responsible for diversion these convoys in their respective areas. (N.S.H.Q. 1652Z/14 to C.O.A.C. (R) Admty. C.E.S.F. etc.)

Shipping Route instructions. Opanav 1828/12. Instructions in Giro do not allow for the inclusion of C. in C. A.W.I. in the address of route messages. It is essential that I should receive these signals while I remain responsible for diversions in this area. It is also most desirable that I should continue to receive routed for some considerable time even after U.S. have taken over full control. In order that I may be in a position to ensure that the routing of British ships is being satisfactorily carried out, propose that this matter be taken up urgently with U.S. authorities and that pending issue of revised instructions and supply of necessary codes to me British routing officers should continue to initiate route signals for British and Allied ships for whom I am responsible. After 30th May these need be addressed to me only in order to avoid duplication. (2) It is important also that I should be included in the address of all route instructions issued by Opanav. This also is not allowed for in Giro. (3) Is it the intention that Vesca messages from ports in Jamaica Intelligence Area are to cease when superseded by ?Merco messages on 30th May. (C. in C. A.W.I. 1732P/14 to Admty.) Replies: Admty. 1852/15, 1854/15, 1243/17, B.A.D. 2341/18.

Ice Bulletin 14/5. Comtask 24 1833/14.

Sub. attack and sighting summary. GULF PENN torpedoed and sunk 28-29 N 89-17 W 1450/13. GULF PRINCE torpedoed one hit 4 misses 28-32 N 91 W 1140Z/13. EASTERN SUN two torpedoes missed 28-48 N 91-51 W 0947Z/14. POTRERO DEL LLANO torpedoed 25-35 N 80-06 W 0520Z/14. Unconfirmed two other vessels attacked near same position. STAVROS torpedoed 39-45 N 72-35 W 1200Z/14. U.S.S. CHEMUNG one torpedo missed 25-05 N 79-48 W 1115Z/14. M.V. reported attacked at 13-55 N 68-10 W 0700Z/14. FEDERAL U-88 type painted pea green. M.V. sighted Sub 28-38 N 91-30 W 0811 to 0830Z/14. Sub sighted 34-25 N 77-14 W 0007Z/14. Sub contact 44-03 N 61-58 W 0630Z/14. Plane sighted periscope and C.T. 45-37 N 60 W 2332Z/13. (Cominch 1902/14.) Intercepted 1624 G.M.T. sub attack 28-30 N 89-55 W at 0752 G.M.T. (remainder unread) (Portishead Radio No T.O.O./14.)

/Convoy...

War Diary.14. 5. 1942.
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies - Contd.

- Convoy adminis-
tration. Classify this as restricted. Effective 2400 G.M.T. 15/5 Convoy and routeing section now under office of Naval Operations is transferred to cognizance of Cominch. Mail address Cominch. Radio Call Sign T U B A. Cable address Connav Washington. Assigned mail (Convoy and routeing). Request necessary dissemination. (Cominch 2015/14)
- CALGAROLITE My 2037/13. Ship torpedoed and sunk in 019° 24' N 082° 30' W at 1415 E.S.T./9. S/M proceeded East. Search proceeding for second boat. (S.O.I, Jamaica 2048R/14 to C. in C. A.W.I. B.A.D. N.S.H.Q. Ottawa.)
- Curacao
Trinidad
convoys. Your 1633/13 (?1633/11 intended) Concur in your view regarding extension of escort to Eastward. Presume Admiral Oldendorf will represent this to Com. Caribb under whose orders the escort vessels have been placed. Anticipate 10 British escort vessels will eventually be available. (C. in C. A.W.I. 2132P/14 to S.N.O. Curacao.)
- Coastal
lights. Request you will comply with all instructions from Commandant 15th Naval District about extinguishing aids to navigation without further reference to me but inform me of lights to remain permanently exhibited so that shipping may be informed. It will be assumed that all other lights will normally be extinguished. (C. in C. A.W.I. 2147P/14 to Governor of British Honduras.)
- St.
Lawrence
shipping. My 2223 1st. April para (A) convoy will be routed as necessary and not necessarily with reference to this dividing line. (N.S.H.Q. Ottawa 2226Z/14 to Admty. C. in C. A.W.I. S.O.I. Gib. S.O(I) Freetown, S.O(I) Capetown. Opnav. B.A.D.)
- ATHEL-
PRINCESS. Your 1145/14 not to Admty. If bound for U.K. ATHELPRINCESS should be routed to Key West following coastal convoy and thence to Halifax for H.X. convoy. (C. in C. A.W.I. 2232P/14 to N.C.S.O. Havana.)
- CLAN
SKENE. Master and 72 survivors from CLAN SKENE landed here today Thursday by a U.S. Destroyer. Ship was torpedoed in 031° 43' N 070° 43' W at 0700 G.M.T./10.
- Capt. Gough declares that codes 16 and 18, independent ship code, Mersigs 1 and 2 and Camisi in the wireless operators office which was wrecked by separate explosion, that ship although doubled up she was still awash when abandoned. Further that all other C.Bs were thrown overboard by the Second Officer in a weighted box. (R.O. San Juan P.R. 2239/14.)

War Diary.14.5.1942.
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Australia & New Zealand.

Convoy Arrived.
S.U.4. (Comdre. W.Aus., 0744Z/14 to Admty.)

Movements. CESSNOCK and BALLARAT escorting KARSIK arrived Port Moresby 0551Z/13. VOYAGER and U.S.S. GOLD STAR arrived Fremantle 0800Z/13. TOWNSVILLE escorting MATABELE arrived Darwin 2256Z/13th. U.S.C. CHICAGO, U.S.D. PERKINS, U.S.C. PORTLAND arrived Sydney 2113Z/13. (A.C.N.B. 1206Z/14 to Argentia, Admty., C.in C. E.I., N.O. Wellington, C.O.I.S. Colombo.)
STUART, U.S.D. BULMER, and U.S.D. BARKER, escorting ANCON, ANDUB LURLINE, MONA PASSAGE, VERNON, MONTUCY, and HUGH L. SCOTT arrived Adelaide 0601Z/14. ARUNTA left Melbourne 0235Z/14 for Sydney. (A.C.N.B. 1549Z/14 to Admty., C.in C. E.I., N.O. Wellington, C.in C. E.F., C.O.I.S. Colombo, Compac).

** Not identified.*

Situation. Serial number 112 from C.W.R. 13/5. Air R/C over Amboina morning (?12th) reports 4 large M/Vs, 3 medium size Ships and small Craft of about 1000 tons. 9 Hudson attacked at approx. 2200Z/12 sinking one 3000 tons vessel, scored direct hits on one 3000 tons and one 2000 tons, and near misses on one 5000 tons, also fire caused? on Wharf. Air R/C 13/5 reported 3 Life boats containing approx. 45 men believed Japanese off Kitva Island, (Trobriands) unidentified S/M in 013° S. 147° E. at 0626Z/13. Raid number 48 on Port Moresby at 0230Z/13 by 6 Zero Fighters. 7 Miles Aerodrome attacked. 11 P 39s intercepted. 2 Zero probably destroyed and one damaged. 3 B 17s attacked enemy shipping Rabaul Harbour at 2245Z/12 3 near misses. Accurate observations impossible due to poor visibility. Enemy shipping sighted by air R/C 13/5 included one Light Cruiser 14 M/Vs Rabaul Area at 2250Z/12, 3 Fast Warships off Southern Tip Nantai Island (?sailed) at 2240Z/12 course 320° one heavy Cruiser, one Tender at Kessa (Buka) 0045Z/13, at least one Destroyer, 2 Transports off Buin (Bougainville) at approx. 2230Z/12, one M/V 008° 20' S. 150° 40' E. at 2205Z/12. Large vessel possibly A/C Carrier, at 0540Z/13 course Easterly. A/C stated to be patrolling over vessel.
(A.C.N.B., 1559/14 to Admty. etc.)

Responsibilities Will be discussed.
of N.Z.N.B. & (N.Z.N.B., 1642M/14 to Admty.)
American
Command.

U-Boat Campaign.S/MS Reported.

Estimated U/B positions.
(D.D.I.C. 1432B/14 1507B/14)

War Diary.

15.5.1942.
Friday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

C. in C. H.F. left Scapa at 0425 today in DUKE OF YORK with VICTORIOUS, LONDON and 6 destroyers to R/V with WASHINGTON, TUSCALOOSA and destroyers to provide cover for 10th C.S. covering TRINIDAD, and Convoys P.Q.16 and Q.P.12.

TRINIDAD
sunk.

At 0141B Capt. D.6 reported that the fire on board TRINIDAD had got out of control and he had sunk the ship with torpedo.

Force W.

RENOWN and WASP arrived at Scapa this morning escorted by 4 destroyers. Force W is now disbanded, the flag of S.O. Force W having been struck at 0900/14.

TYNEDALE on patrol with other destroyers to intercept an enemy convoy attacked two enemy armed trawlers off Alderney last night and left them sinking.

British Air Operations.

An aircraft of Coastal Command sighted a submarine in company with a medium sized merchant vessel about 1230Z today in 44° 7' N. 9° 9' W. and attacked the former. The merchant vessel answers very closely to the description of German S.S. MUNSTERLAND or HAVELLAND, which have been taking refuge in Japan since September 1939 and August 1940 respectively.

Coastal Command aircraft carried out successful attacks on enemy convoys off Terschelling today.

No P.R.U. of Trondheim was possible today. No major naval units were sighted at Narvik.

Hurricanes attacked 3 enemy minesweepers off Cap de la Hague today; one of the enemy ships blew up, one was set on fire, and the third was damaged.

War Diary.

15.5.1942.
Friday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Enemy Air Operations.

F.W. aircraft are operating from Trondheim today.

S.S. YAKA was holed by air attack at Murmansk today and was beached.

The German long range bomber effort against Great Britain from January to May of this year was approximately 20% of the effort over the same period last year.

The 10th C.S. was shadowed from 1030 and was attacked by about 25 Ju.88 from 1855 to 2000 today. No damage was caused to either side but C.S.10 emphasises the grave danger which his force ran in the absence of an aircraft carrier with fighters.

Mining.

Large numbers of mines, types unknown have been detonated and moored mines cut, off Aldeburgh. 4th M.S. Flotilla are engaged in clearing the area.

Mines were detonated today in the Thames Approaches and Bristol Channel.

Operation
16D.

ADVENTURE reported this operation completed at 0348.

North Atlantic.

R.A.F. report that a cruiser and probably a destroyer have left Dakar.

15.5.1942.
Friday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT.

South Atlantic.

Station
Limits.

C. in C. S.A., now that South African forces are co-operating at Madagascar, suggests that the 1939 limit of his station should be re-instituted so that it includes Mozambique Channel, Zanzibar and Madagascar, and that it should be renamed Africa Station.

Sabotage.

A case of suspected sabotage is reported from DUNNOTTAR CASTLE, A.M.C.

W.S. 18
runs on
minefield.

Destroyer depot ship HECLA with troop convoy W.S.18 was damaged by a mine off Cape Agulhas this afternoon and later S.S. SOUDAN was mined and sunk in the same convoy. HECLA reached Simonstown at 0730/16. This is a different minefield from that reported off Capetown in March, S.S. SPEYBANK, which had been in German hands since January 1941 was sighted in this area on 13/5.

CONDE.

C. in C. S.A. instructed his squadron today that Vichy ship CONDE, reported sailed from Tamatave on 9/5, presumably for Dakar, is if intercepted to be sent in under armed guard.

Mediterranean.

It is reported that an attack by human torpedoes was attempted on Alexandria last night. The enemy were detected and failed to penetrate the harbour defences. 4 men were captured, and clothing from 2 more recovered.

America and West Indies.

In view of U-Boat activity in the Gulf of Mexico the Admiralty held up until 22/5 a few tankers in anticipation that the U.S. Naval Authorities will temporarily suspend the movement of shipping in and to and from that area.

War Diary.

15.5.1942.
Friday.

SITUATION REPORT.

America and West Indies - Contd.

Two ships were torpedoed today about 400 miles east of Barbados and one 250 miles S.S.W. of Mobile.

Australia.

S.S. NANKIN reported being bombed and gunned by a merchant ship raider at 0850Z/10 in 26° 43' S. 89° 56' E. At 0906/10 she reported that she had abandoned ship. Messages were intercepted by S.S. ERIDAN, which arrived Fremantle on 14/5.

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War Diary.15.5.1942.
Friday.HOME COMMANDS.Policy.Technicians
in MAGNET 4

Your 0508B/13 para 1. Are these technicians to be allowed to land. (P.S.T.O. West of Scotland 1231B/15 to D of S.T.)

Russian
Forces.

My 1722C/27. Following additional 12 Guardships and 6 Trawlers and call signs have been produced by Russians. Names. Further list of 27 trawlers has been received will send unless you wish it signalled. (Ad. Miles 1722C/15 to Admty.)

Movements.

MANCHESTER.

Your 2234/14 Fleet Unit leaving by Hoxa 0415/15. Amend time Gate required. (A.C.O.S. 0008B/15 to MANCHESTER.)

QUEEN
MARY.Cancel my 2247/14. My 1013/13. Owing to A.T.15X being early amend R/V to 056° 23' N 012° 40' W at 0500Z/16.
2. VOLUNTEER is to proceed Londonderry forthwith.3. Cancel my 1559/13. (C. in C. W.A. 0825Z/15 to SARDONYX, KEPPEL, CAIRO, Q. MARY.)
My 1807B/13. Sailed. (F.O.I.C. Belfast 1131B/15.)
Disregard my 1013/13. Following escorts have been detailed to meet you at 0500Z/16 in 056° 23' N 012° 40' W. CAIRO, KEPPEL, LEAMINGTON, SARDONYX, SCIMITAR, SALADIN. Onward route from position (O) through (P) 056° 22' N 011° 59' W (Q) 055° 35' N 007° 01' W thence Clyde. (C. in C. W.A. 1855B/15 to QUEEN MARY.)RENOWN
WASP
(Force W)

Scapa arrival RENOWN, WASP escorted by INTREPID, ECHO and U.S.S. LANG and STERETT. (A.C.O.S. 0839B/15.)

TRIDENT
SEAWOLF.S.3's 1823/12. Both submarines arrived and escort sailed for Holy Loch. (S.O. S/M Lerwick 1001B/15.)
A.C.O.S. 1915/13. TRIDENT sailed 1227B/15 and SEAWOLF at 1403B/15. E.T.A. Seidisfiord 2100B/17 and 1300B/18 respectively. (S.O. S/M Lerwick 1405B/15.)

MINNA.

A.M. 2329/14. MINNA is to be sailed independently to Gibraltar forthwith at best speed. (2) Route. (C. in C. Plymouth 1248B/15 to N.O.I.C. Dartmouth.)
C. in C. Plymouth 1248/15. Sailed. E.T.A. position E 1800/18. (N.O.I.C. Dartmouth 1815/15 to F.O.C.N.A.)

War Diary.

15.5.1942.
Friday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Movements - Contd.

S.G.Bs. for Your 1349/14. Request you arrange for available
Newhaven. S.G.Bs to be sailed for Newhaven on 18/5. My
1905/15/1 refers.
(D.D.O.D.(C), 1414B/15 to R.A.C.F.)

COMMANDANT WESTERN ISLES 1358/14. Request you will divert
DUBOC. COMMANDANT DUBOC to Greenock to comply with my
1856/13.
(D.O.D.(H), 1704B/15 to C. in C. W.A.)

Operations.

Return of Scapa departure C. in C. H.F. in DUKE OF YORK
TRINIDAD. with VICTORIOUS, LONDON, FAULKNER, FURY, MARNE,
TRINIDAD ECLIPSE, ORIBI, WHEATLAND.
sunk. (A.C.O.S., 0425/15.)
Capt. (D) 6 in company in position H (73° 30' N.
8° 2' E.), course 222°, 22 knots. Have been
shadowed since 1030. Capt. (D) 3 detached at 2340/14. Attack
on TRINIDAD consisted of (? 25) dive-bombers synchronized with
10 torpedo bombers.
(C.S. 10, 1331B/15 to C. in C. H.F.)
Following is paraphrase of Capt. (D) 6's 0141B/15 which may not
have been received begins: My 2327B/14. Fire out of control.
Have sunk TRINIDAD with torpedo. All survivors including
C.S. 18 and Captain on board destroyers. Ends.
(C.S. 10, 1813B/15 to Admt., C. in C. H.F.)
10th C.S. was attacked by about 25 Ju.88 from 1855 until 2000
today Friday. Due to low cloud conditions difficult for both
sides. Apart from one aircraft seen omitting black smoke and
many near misses no damage to either side. A (? carrier)
with fighters would have enjoyed a good time and saved me grave
anxiety.
(C.S.10, 2234B/15 to C. in C. H.F., Admt.)
Albacores will be searching for you between 0800 and 1000.
On sighting DUKE OF YORK the 2 forces are to carry out battle
exercises.
W/T silence is to be observed.
(C. in C. H.F., 2323/15 to C.T.F.99.)

Interception My 2357B/14. Following report from TYNEDALE
of Convoy. begins.
2 Armed Convoy not intercepted. Two armed trawlers
Trawlers sunk. engaged and left stopped and sinking. One
trawler transmitting on Asdic Set of British
type. Cape De La Hague and Alderney Lights
both on.

Consider Convoy was to eastward, but time did not permit of
further search being made.
No gunfire from shore. No damage or casualties.
(C. in C. Portsmouth, 1057B/15 to Admt.)
My 1533B/15. Sailed Needles 2000. Amend time of contact to
2200/15.
(C. in C. Portsmouth, 2027B/15.)
My 2037B. KRAKOWIAK sailed.
(C. in C. Portsmouth, 2317B/15 to C. in C. Plymouth.)

/Patrols ...

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War Diary.15.5.1942.
Friday.HOME COMMANDS.Operations - Contd.

Patrols.

Patrol C - WINDSOR.
 Patrol D - EGLINTON.
 Patrol K - MEYNELL.
 Patrol M - VIVACIOUS.
 (C. in C. Nore, 1600B/15.)

Enemy M/V
sunk.

Russian S/M M.176 returned from Patrol and
 claims to have sunk one ship in Varanger Fiord.
 (S.B.N.O. North Russia, 2000B/15.)

Exercises.Trials in
Bristol
Channel.

With reference to VERNON's 1515B/14 and my
 1710B/13. It is for consideration that as the
 trials referred to involve the employment of a
 submarine they should be carried out in the
 vicinity of Swansea: observing that the area
 between the Holms and Weston is the most contaminated in the
 Bristol Channel and the greater proportion of it has never
 been swept. Without exhaustive clearance it could not be
 considered 100% clear. Swansea Bay is much safer and more
 sheltered, if difference in spring range of tide can be
 accepted.
 (F.O.I.C. Cardiff, 1103B/15.)

British Air Activity.Bombing
restrictions.

Request surface bombing restrictions 15 miles
 either side of a line joining 49° 30' N. 04°
 40' W. and Falmouth from 0600/15 until further
 orders.

(C. in C. Plymouth, 0112B/15 to H.Q.C.C.)

Institute surface vessel bombing restrictions in respect of all
 small fishing vessels 15 miles either side of line joining
 Scillis and Ushant thence 15 miles off French coast to Lorient
 and in particular Concarneau Bay area from 0001/16 until
 2359/20.

(H.Q.C.C., 0915/15.)

Cancel my 0112B/15.

(C. in C. Plymouth, 1106/15 to H.Q.C.C.)

A/C for
WASP.

Your 1717B/14. Aircraft embarking.
 (R.N.A. Station, Hatston, 0950B/15 to C. in C.
 H.F.)

Fleet
Air R/C.

Admiralty have assumed responsibility for
 ordering and keeping C. in C. H.F. informed of
 further air R/C in connection with Fleet move-
 ments.
 (A.C.N.S. (H.), 1016B/15.)

/Patrols ...

War Diary.

15.5.1942.
Friday.

HOME COMMANDS.

British Air Activity - Contd.

Patrols
"Skroo II."

Your 1626/14. This will be arranged when asked for.
(C. in C. Rosyth, 1155B/15 to A.C.O.S.)

Air Protection of Russian Convoys.

From Admiral (? Miles) and Group Captain Cheshire My 1324C/14, my 1735C/24, and S.B.N.Q. North Russia's 2212B/12.
We hear that Naval Staff had a meeting with Defence Committee two days ago and decision on provision of more bombers and fighters are expected shortly.
(Mil. Mission, Moscow, 1159C/15 to Admty.)

Patrols.

Second sorties of both "Lotus II" and "Sentry III" are now flying and will complete at 0115 and 0530 respectively tomorrow.

Intention is to fly as third sorties "Lotus I" and "Sentry III" tomorrow, commencing on completion of second sorties or as soon after as possible.

(A.C.N.S.(H), 2203B/15 to C. in C. H.F.)

Enemy Air Activity.

Enemy A/C.

F.W. aircraft are operating from Trondheim a.m. today.
(D.D.I.C., 0747B/15 to A.I.G. 47.)

BRIGHTON attacked.

Your 1124B/15. ^{N.T. W.D.} F.W. aircraft dropped 1 bomb then proceeded northward. No damage.
(BRIGHTON, 1245A/15 to C. in C. W.A.)

TRINIDAD (Bombed 14/5.)

Have sunk TRINIDAD with torpedo.
(Capt. D.6, 0141B/15.)
See Operations.

Murmansk bombed.
YAKA (U.S.A. 5432 tons) beached.

3 air raids May 15th. (? 15 or 17) Junkers 88 attacked ships at anchor. American ship YAKA was holed and beached.
(S.B.N.O. North Russia, 2000B/15 to Ad. Miles.)
YAKA reported bombed in Roads. Engine room full of water. Salvage tug being sent.
Cormack, 2020B/15 to Admty.)

Mining.

16.D.

Operation 16 D completed.
(ADVENTURE, 0348/15.)

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War Diary.15.5.1942.
Friday.HOME COMMANDS.Mining - Contd.

Q.K. 3. Weather permitting carry out operation ordered in my 1506B/12 tonight.
(C. in C. Nore, 1104B/15 to BEEHIVE.)

Harwich Area.

One magnetic mine detonated in approx. 51° 42' N. 01° 01.5' E.
(F.O.I.C. Harwich, 1504B/15, 2244B/16, 1258/17.)

1 magnetic mine detonated in approx. 51° 41' N. 1° 09' E. at 1505.
(F.O.I.C. Harwich, 1654B/15.)

S.N. 72.

Your 2154/13. Concur in laying of S.N. 72 before S.N. 3B.
(A.C.N.S. (H), 1533B/15 to R.A.M.)

Bristol Channel.

2 magnetic mines detonated by Sweepers at 0815/15 and 1120/15 respectively. Details.
(Capt. M/S Bristol Channel, 1717B/15.)

Q.Z.Y. 236.

As this channel has now been used by small craft for the past six months without casualties, and an exploratory sweep has been carried out with negative results, request Q.Z.Y. 236 may be cancelled.
(F.O.I.C. Tyne, 1725/15.)

Q.Z.X. 706.

Q.Z.X. 706 now considered clear. Request cancellation.
(C. in C. Nore, 1820B/15.) ~~Area now clear.~~
Cancel my 1232/13. Area now clear.
(C. in C. Nore, 1826B/15 to MEYNELL, VIVACIOUS, HOLDERNESS.)

Enemy Intelligence.

Trondheim.

First R/C of Trondheim today unsuccessful.
(D.D.I.C., 1145B/15 to A.I.G. 47.)
No P.R.U. Trondheim was possible today.
(D.D.I.C., 1914B/15 to A.I.G. 47, A.I.G. 21.)

Enemy M/V.

One vessel medium not exceeding 10,000 tons bearing ? 100°, 17 miles, position 43° 35' N. 9° 25' W.
(A.O.C. 19 Group, 1155/15.)

/Narvik ...

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War Diary.15.5.1942.
Friday.HOME COMMANDS.Enemy Intelligence - Contd.

Narvik. Visual R/C Narvik reports no naval units there. Visibility clear and pilot considers any main unit would have been seen if present. Large tanker in Rombaks Fiord.
(D.D.I.C., 2233B/15.)

SEYDLITZ, Photographic R/C a.m. today shews:-
LEIPZIG, Bremen - SEYDLITZ alongside in Werfthafen.
EMDEN, Swinemunde - LEIPZIG at railway quay. EMDEN
SCHARNHORST, arrived and berthed at Naval Base.
NURNBERG. Kiel - SCHARNHORST in southern floating dock.
NURNBERG at entrance to inner dockyard basin.
(D.D.I.C., 2237B/15.)

U-Boats.

U-Boats D/F bearings at 0117Z/15 indicate U-Boat in your
reported. vicinity.
(D.D.I.C., 0413B/15 to T.U. 24.1.3.)
Following has been read. A E contact 57° 38' N.
14° 14' W. Attempting to confirm.
(A.O.C. 15 Group, 0810/15.)
My 0810. Have obtained A.S.V. contact in 57° 38' N. 14° 14' W.
(? probably a submarine) attempt (? to) film unsuccessful
resuming sweep.
(A.O.C. 15 Group, 0915/15.)

U-Boat Following received. My 1155/15 (See Enemy
attacked. Intelligence) Submarine in company dived.
(A.O.C. 19 Group, 1210/15.)
Have attacked enemy with depth charges and
estimate no hits 4 near misses (? am shadowing)
(A.O.C. 19 Group, 1315/15.)

Navigational.

Ice. My 2222B/9. Aircraft R/C 12/5 shows that
packed drift ice extends at least as far as a
line joining the following positions 70° 30' N.
6° 30' W., 72° N. 1° 30' E., 73° 50' N. 6° 30' E., 75° N. 7°
30' E. Brash ice known to extend further 10 miles to S.E. at
extreme ends and also to line 74° 10' N. 9° 20' E., 73° 10' N.
8° 30' E. It is improbable that outer limit of brash ice extends
more than 30 miles outside the remainder of the line. Ice edge
is now 30 miles off entrance to Bell Sound Spitzbergen.
(D.N.M.S., 0003B/15 to C. in C. H.F.)

Vaternish My 2200/13. Vaternish Point Light No. 1149
Light. is again in order.
(N.L.B. Edinburgh, 1155/15.)

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War Diary.15.5.1942.
Friday.HOME COMMANDS.Casualties and Defects.

PORTIA My 1421/27/3. PORTIA refloated.
(Grounded (F.O.I.C. Harwich, 0940B/15.)
27/3.)

Unknown Intercept 0941 G.M.T. de Q Z 8. FDM de Q Z 8
ship. aircraft. S O S bearing 307° from Stornoway,
distance unknown, keep lookout on route.
Controlling station unknown.
(Burnham Radio, 1141/15.)

Shipping and Convoys.

EMPIRE My 1805B/13 and 1159B/14. *N.T. & W.D.*
CONRAD, Sailing of SPIREA, AZALEA, 29th M.L. Flotilla
SPIREA, and EMPIRE CONRAD postponed.
AZALEA, (F.O.I.C. Milford Haven, 0037B/15.) *See p. 440*
29 M.L.F.

U.S. Convoy Following received from Secretary of the Navy.
routeing. Convoy and Routeing section now under office
of Naval operations is transferred to C. in C.
U.S. Fleet, effective 2400Z/15/5. Assignment
made to Cominch (convoy and routeing) of radio
call sign Tuba and cable address Connav Washington Mail address
Cominch.
(Comnav, 0801/15 to Admty.)
Your 1811/13. Recommend new system start with O.N.S. 92.
It is suggested that in future, Admiralty should not route
westbound convoys beyond 52.00 W. and that you would arrange
onward route and Westomp. This would conform to present
procedure by which C.O.A.C. Halifax routes eastbound convoys to
first point on Admiralty route.
(A.C.N.S.(T), 1101B/15 to C. in C. U.S. Fleet.)
Reply: Opnav 1540/16.

D.S. 27 A.M. 1906/13. (? CHARLESTOWN) and WELLS
(LEINSTER) (? detailed)
(R.A.M., 0906/15.)
Your 1350/11. In view of other commitments
could D.S.27 be postponed to 23/5. *Reply 16/5 - p. 501.*
(P.S.T.O. West of Scotland, 1513/15 to D. of S.T.)

FRONTENAC. My 1726B/14. Onward route from R/V to position
JOHN A. BROWN, M. 39° 30' N. 25° 59' W.
BRITISH N. 54° 01' N. 17° 30' W., thence North Channel.
PRESTIGE. Amend S. of A. through R/V to read 8 knots.
Report if ships not met by nightfall.
(C. in C. W.A., 0949B/15 to CASTLETON, ST. MARYS.)

/F.N. 8 ...

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War Diary.

15.5.1942.

Friday.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping and Convoys - Contd.

F.N.708.

My 1745/14. No sailings from Humber owing to fog.
(N.C.S.O. Humber, 1007/15.)

Fuel in
North Russia.

Admiralty 1922B/1 and 2132B/13. Present stocks of fuel oil in Archangel and Molotovsk. Boiler fuel 11,740 tons. Diesel oil 500 tons (available only in (? exceptional) circumstances).

All convenient (? British) tanks, tankers and barges now full. Consequently Admiralty tanker should be brought Archangel with second group of escorts fuelling here.
(S.B.N.O. Archangel, 1035B/15 to Admty.)

W.S. 19X.

My 0239/14. H.1 will not now be included in W.S. 19X but should be prepared for W.S. 20.
2. H.21 will be included in W.S. 19X and arrangements should be made accordingly.
(D.S.T., 1650B/15 to D.S.T.O. Liverpool.)

P.Q. 16.

Sailed ASHANTI, MARTIN for Hvalfjord. E.T.A. 0230Z/17.
(R.A.D., 1706B/15.)

Movements
of Russian
Ships.

Serial No. 48.
(D.T.D., 1820B/15 to Ad. Miles.)

Q.P. 12.

Pilot will meet INGLEFIELD off Bolshoi Oleni Island. Russian S/M K.23 returning to Polyarnoe is damaged and may be out of position. Routed 180° through 070° N. 034° 18' E., thence Kola Inlet, E.T.A. uncertain. No escort.
(S.B.N.O. North Russia, 1842/15 to Capt. D.3, ESCAPADE.)

Use of
Paravanes.

Pass to N.C.S.Os. Attention is drawn to A.M.S.I. 13/42. All ships fitted with paravanes should be instructed to stream them when approaching the coast inside the 200 fathom line except when in the North Atlantic north of 5° N.
2. Cancel my 1559/6.
(D.T.D., 1932B/15.)

F.S.303.

F.S.303. 7 ships making 5 knots against southern wind. Of these, 3 large ships for Tyne having difficulty in steering are being sent ahead with VICEROY, E.T.A. 20R buoy about 0100, VICEROY subsequently joining and escorting Tyne section with MONA'S ISLE.
(WESTMINSTER, 2210B/15.)

MOST SECRET

469A

MOST SECRET

MESSAGE

15110/156A May

IN

From Thirty Mission.

Date 18.5.42.
Recd. 2330.

(MOSCOW 'X') BY T/P

Addressed Admiralty, Air Ministry Repeated Ambassador
Kuibyshev.

551.

From Miles and Cheshiro. My 1159C/15 (not to Kuibyshev).
At meeting with D.C.N.S. and Naval air representative we
learnt that no decision had yet been taken but D.C.N.S. said
speaking unofficially he thought they might be favourable.

2. Miles said there had been a very long delay in providing
counter measures against enemy air threat in the North and
speaking unofficially gave as his own opinion that Admiralty
must be thinking on the following lines.

(A) If Soviet Government considers supplies through the
North were essential for victory then convoys must go on but
they would have to be held up until Soviet Government provided
adequate air force in that area to neutralise enemy's air
effort. P Q 16 and Q P 14 had in fact already been held up.

(B) If supplies were not essential then it would be better
to stop convoys for the time being.

3. We feel that if we are to get any real help out of the
Red Army air force this question must be taken up immediately
in London on the highest level

4. Admiralty pass to Air Ministry.

1511C/15.

Advance copy sent Duty Capt. D.O.D.(H) D.T.D.

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

D. of L.D.
D.N.A.D.
D. of P.(2)
D.A/S.W.
Hd. of M.(4) & for Air Ministry
I.P.(2)
W.D.
D.D.I.C.(2)
N.I.D. 10 Pay. Cdr. Wilson.

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War Diary.15.5.1942.
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic.

- U/B. Following is a repetition of Admty. 2230/14 (Begins) RYE, HYTHE, WELSHMAN. (R) F.O.C.N.A. U-Boat reported in 038° 59' N. 013° 42' W course 230° 8 knots at 1430Z/14. (Ends). (F.O.C.N.A.0321B/15 to Ships named).
- U/B attacked by HYTHE. My 2130/14 (N.T. in W.D.) further attack carried out at 2227B then contact not regained. Area searched until, 0900B/15 now proceeding Gibraltar. (HYTHE 0910B/15 to F.O.C.N.A.).
- ALOUETTE. Departure for Y.I. (F.O.C.N.A. 0925B/15 to Admty.(R) SCOTTISH, LOCH OSKAIG, IMPERIALIST).
- Casablanca R/C. Usual R/C Casablanca 0815/15. F. B/S JEAN BART, F.Cr. GLOIRE usual berth F.Cr. PRIMAUGUET stern on to oiling pier head with 3 destroyers each side. Harbour boom partly open (F.O.C.N.A. 1258B/15 to Admty. etc.). Visual R/C 1832/15. JEAN BART in usual berth. (F.O.C.N.A. 2358B/15 to Admty. etc).
- S.L. 109. C. in C. W.A. (?10) 19/14. Sailed BLACK SWAN, CAMPION, MALLOW, STONECROP, MYOSOTIS, GEORGETOWN, (F.O.C.N.A. 1544B/15 to Escorts of S.L.109. (R) Admty, C. in C. W.A.).
- Operation "Style." Your 1817/6 para.E. Conditional on Malta being able to receive them it is intended to fly all 32 Spitfires ex EMPIRE CONRAD in from EAGLE in one operation. 2. Date will depend on whether Malta is prepared to accept any aircraft which have not had their cannons air tested. If air test is insisted on delay of up to 14 days may result. (F.O.C.N.A. 1652B/15 to Admty. V.A.M.). (Can be accepted.(V.A.Malta 1159B/16)).
- LOLA. Your 1830/27. Motor Vessel LOLA arrived Tripoli (? ex-Dutch). 2/5. (D.N.I. 1815B/15 to F.O.C.N.A.)
- MALAYA. Arrival MALAYA, PARTRIDGE, ITHURIEL. (F.O.C.N.A. 2004B/15 to Admty.(R) R.A.W.A.etc.).

/HURSLEY.....

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War Diary.15.5.1942.
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic. conts:

HURSLEY.

Left Ponta Delgada at 2200Z having been delayed by head wind. My P.C.S. at 0730Z/16 will be 035° 40' N. 023° 38' W. 182° 15 knots. This speed cannot be exceeded after 0730 owing to limit of endurance.
(HURSLEY, 2230Z/15, to MAURITIUS (R) CARNARVON, CASTLE, CASTLETON, BELVOIR).

South Atlantic.

CONDÉ.

Vichy ship CONDÉ reported to have sailed from Tamatave 9/5 presumably for Dakar. If intercepted she should be reported and sent in under armed guard.
(C. in C.S.A. 0305B/15, to S.A.Stn).

PATELLA.

Your 1450/13. (?1430/13 intended). PATELLA has not arrived.
(S.O.(I) Capetown 0802Z/15 to Admty.).

W.S.18.

Arrivals ALBATROSS with Capetown portion of W.S.18.
(S.O.(I) Capetown 0854Z/15 to Admty. etc).

Africa
Station
Limits.

South African forces are co-operating Madagascar and it is highly desirable Union should have only one naval authority with whom to deal.
(2) Union is closely concerned with Ports of Portuguese East Africa and events at any time may

make it still more so.

(3) Durban is becoming storing base for forces further East and large reserves of all kinds are being established in Union. It is from Union that Madagascar and probably Mombasa will be supplied.

(4) For these reasons suggest 1939 limit of this station should be re-instituted so that it includes Mozambique Channel Zanzibar, Madagascar, and that it should be renamed Africa station.

(5) An additional advantage would be that intelligence and W/T area would be in line with station limits.

(6).I would have suggested including African coast up to Equatorial but so long as C. in C. E.I. is Deputy C. in C.E.F. it is perhaps preferable that Kilindini should remain in E.I. Station.

/It.....

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War Diary.15.5.1942.
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic. cont'd.Africa
Station
Limits.

(7) It would still be necessary to ask C. in C. E.I. for escort for W.S. Convoys from Durban northward unless A.M.'Cs were accepted as sufficient escort or my only cruiser was taken out South Atlantic.
(C. in C.S.A. 0857B/15. to Admty. (R) C. in C.E.F. etc).

S.L.110.

Following is repetition of my 2233Z/13 (Indecypherable) (Begins) - "Admty, F.O.C.N.A. C. in C. W.A.S., O.W.P. from Freetown. Departure 13/5 IBIS, HART ~~AND~~ ABERDEEN, PETUNIA, with S.L.110. (Ends).
(S.O.I. Freetown. 0919Z/15 to Admty, etc).

S.L.110 and O.S.27. If diversion to avoid meeting is contemplated propose that S.L.110 maintain route ordered to assist ships joining.
(D.T.D. 1138B/15. to R.A.W. Africa)

→ ARETHUSA.

My 1917Z/14. Amend E.T.A. Capetown to 0800Z/23. ARETHUSA requests provisions as in her 0843/5 be arranged accordingly, also 6 bottles of C.O.2. Gas.

(F.O.I.C. W. Africa 1102Z/15 to C. in C.S.A.).
Departure 15/5 ARETHUSA.
(S.O.(I) Freetown. 1921Z/15 to Admty. etc).

Dakar
Intelligence.

R.A.F. reports as follows:- 1 cruiser and probably destroyer have left Dakar, 3 submarines in harbour, 1 submarine exercising in bay.
(N.O.I.C. Bathurst, 1132Z/15 to R.A.W.A., (R) F.O.C.N.A., S.O.(I) Freetown S.L.)
(R.A.W. Africa 1555Z/15 to Admty.).

My 1132Z/15. R.A.F. reports destroyer still in Dakar. One submarine "Sirene" class ~~signature~~ ~~111111~~ S.W. of Goree Island, course 193°, 6 knots.
(N.O.I.C. Bathurst 1920Z/15 to R.A.W. Africa).

Dispositions. Situation 2000/15, positions N and W unless otherwise ordered.

ARETHUSA off Freetown to 005° 10' 014° 40' to equator 008° 40' 23.
CANNA, PICT, patrolling sector T.
ST. WINSTAN 004° 15' 009° 15' to Takoradi 8.
AUBRETIA, VIOLET, 2 M/L with L.S.5, 001° 05' 006° 45' 272° 7.
WIVERN 003° 50' 003° 10' 245° 18.
SPANIARD off Takoradi to West, 6.
BRITTANY, BARFOUNT, off Takoradi to Lagos 8.
BRIDGEWATER 000° 30' S. 011° 55' 075° 12.
ARCHER 000° 55' S. 012° 05', 151° 12.5.
MILFORD 005° 10' S. 006° 30' to Freetown 13.
VINDICTIVE, SNOWDROP, 002° 40' S. 001° (?30' E) 101° 11.

/COMMANDANT DETROYAT.....

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War Diary.

15.5.1942.
Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic. contd:

Dispositions. ^{(COMMANDANT} DETROYAT 000° 55' S. (? 000°) 30' E. to Lagos, 12.
Contd. PRESIDENT HOUDUCE 002° 10' S. 004° 45' E. 290° 9.
EMILE BAUDOT 014° 15' S. 004° 20' E. 132° 8.
ALCANTARA, PRETORIA CASTLE, patrolling I 34 B.
U.S. Cruiser MILWAUKEE, U.S. Destroyer MOFFETT, about
003° 05' S. 022° 05' to N.W.14.

(R.A.W. Africa 1215Z/15 to Ships in area P. of S.A.
Station South of 8° N. Admty, R.N.O. Lagos, C. in C. S.A.
N.O.I.C. Takoradi.)

Movements Summary 2000Z/15.

Area Q. CILICIA off Tristan da Cunha. CANTON, SHROPSHIRE
patrolling in area K.36 A and C.

GAMBIA with W.S. 18. Durban position (? portion), 035° 36' S.
022° 16' E., 075°, 12 knots.

CARLISLE from Durban, 17 knots.

E.T.A Simonstown 0600Z/16.

(C. in C. S.A. 1430Z/15 to S.A.Stn.).

HECLA
mined.

My 1601B. (N.T. in W.D.) HECLA mined, midship
compartment flooded, steering gear disabled,
no immediate danger of sinking, am standing
by to take her in tow, my position (162 or 113)

R. B.H. (?P) 8. (R.B. = 36° S., H.P. 20° E.).

(GAMBIA 1636B/15 to Simonstown).

CITY OF
CAPETOWN.*
Mined.

CITY OF CAPETOWN reports being mined in 036°
09' S. 020° 22' E. at 1830B.
(GAMBIA. 1839B/15 to C. in C.S.A.).

Ref. 1636/15. GAMBIA. Following ships now
proceeding to assistance of HECLA and CITY OF

CAPE TOWN. (a) From False Bay CHESHIRE, TEDCOTT, 1 Tug.

(b) From Capetown A/S vessels SOUTHERN PRIDE, SOUTHERN GEM,
Seaward Defence Force of minesweepers, SOUTHERN BARRIER, and
TERJE, 1 Tug.

(C. in C.S.A. 2151Z/15 to All Authorities Afloat, all H.M. Ships
and vessels operating in or passing through Area Q of S.A.Stn.
N.O.I.C. Simonstown.)

DUNNOTTAR.
CASTLE
Sabotage.

C.A.F.O. 199/41. Case of suspected sabotage
in DUNNOTTAR CASTLE, ocean escort to convoy
S.L.110. Ship left Capetown 2000/24/4.
and wire found round port screw at 0110 /25/4.
Circumstances appear to exclude accident. Screw

cleared by 0400 and ship proceeded. Written report follows.
(R.A.W.A.F. 1701Z/15 to Admty.).

St. Helena
D/F.

Your 1241/29/12. Approval has been given for
establishment of an H/F D/F Station on St. Helena
but difficulties are likely to be experienced
in connection with power supply, water,

accommodation and provision of building materials, labour and
transport, all of which will be discussed through U.K. High
Commissioner. Request you will submit proposals for a suitable
site.

(Head of M. 2112B/15 to C. in C.S.A.).

/SERINGA.....

* Sef.
Refers to
SUDAN,
see page
537.

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War Diary.15.5.1942.
FridayFOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic. conts.

SERINGA. Overdue shipping SERINGA (British) due Pernambuco 10/5 from Halifax has not arrived. (S.O.I.Montevideo, 2151Z/15 to Admty. etc).

Vichy A/C Bathurst reports Vichy aircraft made R/C over R/C. Jeswang and Bathurst areas 15/5. H.A.fire opened without result except to cause aircraft to take violent avoiding action. (R.A.W.A.F. 2351Z/15 to Admty. F.O.C.N.A.).

Mediterranean.

D.C.O.Med. Your 0950/14 (N.T. in W.D.) If other Services agree to Maund being Senior Officer of Directorate of Combined Operations he will be given the acting rank of Rear Adm. (1st Lord 1134B/15 to C. in C.Med) Other Services concur (C. in C. Med. 1104C/17).

Malta Smoke Your 2337/11 para.6. Experience at Brest has shown Screen. that a relatively small amount of screening is Suez Smoke sufficient to put the bomber off his aim, Trials. particularly when aircraft are being harrassed by A.A. fire and fighters and in spite of high ground landmarks in the vicinity. 2. Endeavour should be made to screen as large an area as possible when this can be done economically. If wind direction and contours not favourable for this, recommended that several screens are employed to confuse enemy as to whereabouts of shipping. 3. Governor Malta's 2145/13, further large supply of generators is being shipped in this convoy. (A.C.N.S(F) 1214B/15 to V.A.Malta). Your letter 1251/00391/9 of 31/3 re smoke trials at Suez Refinery. Trials with Haslar generators using fuel oil and also with H.C.E. generators show that effective smoke screening by day can be produced but as the quantities involved are about ten times the night requirements, the day screens will therefore have very limited application. The supply of H.C.E. is also limited. 2. Arrangements are being made to send Haslar Generators as soon as available. (A.C.N.S.(F) 1355B/15 to C. in C.Med.).

TORBAY. Proceed through following positions.
035° 39' N. 013° 55' E. D. 037° 10' N. 013° 12' E.
C. 037° 20' N. 012° 50' E. B. 037° 54' N. 011° 54' E.

/A...

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War Diary.15.5.1942.
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean. contd:TORBAY.
Contd.A.038° 00' N. 011° 44' E. 038° 20' N 009°
00' E. thence as ordered by F.O.C.N.A.
(V.A.Malta. 1311B/15 to TORBAY).Malta Air
Report.

I.295 15/5. CSR. Part I. 14th. Alert 1513
or ? 1516 hours 40 Me. 109s, Macchi 202s, 3 JU
88s, no damage. 2 Me. 109s destroyed, 1 Me. 109
probably destroyed, 2 Me. 109s damaged by
Spitfires and Hurricanes. 1 Spitfire missing, 1 damaged in
combat another on landing, pilots safe. A/A destroyed 1 JU 88,
damaged 1 JU 88, 1 Me 109. 1 German prisoner.
Night 14/15 2219 hours, 2 raiders. Did not cross coast. 1
BR 20 destroyed by Beaufighter. 0147 hours, 2 Raiders, 1
crossed coast. No bombs. No interceptions. 15th 5 alerts
0622 hours, 16 Me. 109s, 1 R/C JU.88, Spitfires Hurricanes
up, no interceptions. A/A fired. 0716 hours, 15 Macchi 202s,
3 SM 84s bombs sea. 1 Macchi 202 destroyed, 2 SM 84s damage, no
Spitfires. A/A fired. 0851 hours, 50 Me, 109s, and sea rescue
aircraft. 2 ME.109s damaged by Spitfires. 1 Spitfire damaged in
combat, crash landed, pilot safe. A/A fired. 1012 and 1054
hours rescue search.
Spitfires up no interceptions.
(H.Q. R.A.F.Malta. 1720/15).

Alexandria.

Human torpedo attack, night 14-15/5. (C.in C.Med.
1951/15, and R.A.L. 2034/15) not received in
W.D., see C. in C.Med. 1808C/16.
Situation Report 214.

TURBULENT.

Proceed towards 033° 20' 018° 45' . Further
orders follow.
(Capt(S) 2 (S.1 intended) 1957C/15. to TURBULENT).
Establish patrol in vicinity of position in my 1957/15 by 2200/16.
Aircraft will search early p.m./16. Further search will be made
commencing 2300/20 on "Rooster" from 2330 to 0330. Carry out
homing procedure in accordance with operation "Pigeon." Flares
will be dropped N.E. of target at 15 minute intervals from 0030 to
0230. All times zone minus 3.
(Capt.S.1. 2013C/15. to TURBULENT.)

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War Diary.15.5.1942.
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies.

MAURETANIA. Transport MAURETANIA sailed from Bombay 14/5 for Durban E.T.A. 22/5. Passengers. Requirements at Durban.
(P.S.T.O. India, 0555Z/15 to S.S.T.O. Durban)

Meteorological Organization, Madagascar. Your 1210/12th. Yes Please.
(C.in C. E.F., 0914Z/15 to C.in C. S.A.
(R) Admty. etc.)

DOMINION MONARCH. Transport sailed from Bombay 15/5 for Sydney via Colombo. E.T.A. Colombo 1200Z/17.
(P.S.T.O. India, 1003Z/15 to S.T.O. Colombo).

171 M/S Group. Your 0815/14. ESTRELLA DO MAR and HATSUSE now on passage left Horta 3/5. ESTRELLA D'ALVA and POLO NORTE will leave U.K. on 25/5.
(D.M.S.1117B/15 to F.O.E.A.)

A/S Cable-laying vessels. My 0529/10 para.5. GENERAL VAN GEEN has been selected and will be sailed to Mombasa as soon as possible.
(P.S.T.O. India, 1201Z/15 to C.in C. E.I.
(R) Admty.)

U/B. Your 1531Z/9. Japanese U-boat activity Indian Ocean week ending 15/5. 1 U-boat reported approx. 6 miles north of Katsepe Light near Majunga. May be French.
(Dep. C.in C. E.F., 1203Z/15 to C.in C. E.F.
(R) Admty.)

Seychelles. 11897/G cipher 14/5. S.D.4. Continuation our 10321 of 28/4. (T.O.O.0820/29).
Seychelles will require all available labour until anchorage installation completed. Will consider supplying labour for Mideast then.
(C.in C.India, 1205/15 to W.O.)

"Ironclad" Shipping. My 2245/14 replaces my 1319/7 and indicates disposal on completion of entire operation.
(A.C.N.S.(F) 1230B/15 to S.O.Force F., Cdr. 121 Force)

Supply of Naval Aircraft. Your 1612/13 BARON INCHCAPE due Karachi ?9/5.
(?) MANGAL at Capetown. ST BERNARD due Durban 27/4. HARPAGON left New York 10/4. LAERTES and LIBA not known. BARON BELHAVEN due Durban 16/5.
(C.in C. E.I., 1318Z/15 to Com.N.A.S., (R) Admty. etc.)

/ Your ...

War Diary.15.5.1942.
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies. - Contd.

Supply of Your 1612Z/13.
Naval Aircraft. BARON INCHCAPE due Karachi 21/5. MANGALIHAT
(contd.) (Dutch) reported mined 4/5 proceeding Durban for
docking. Discharged part cargo Capetown for
oncarrying to Bombay. ST. BERNARD arrived
Durban 26/4. HARPAGON due Capetown 23/5. LAERTES (Dutch)
torpedoed and sunk 3/5. BARON BELHAVEN due Durban 16/5.
LIMA (Swedish) due Table Bay 20/5.
(D.T.D., 2143B/15 to Com. N.A.S., (R) C.in C. S.A., C.in C. E.I.,
etc.)

CENTURION Your 1836/14. CENTURION estimated operating
endurance as follows, ship not having been
docked. (a) 2000 miles at 10 knots economical,
(b) 1700 miles at 14 knots, (c) 1300 miles at
16 knots.
(C.in C. E.I., 1325Z/15 to C.in C. Med.)

Red Sea Red Sea. Cancel Q C A 386.
Lights. Following lights are burning: (1) Perim high.
Perim low. Abu Ail. Jebel Teir. Ras Gombo.
Kavet. Kavet is fixed white 5 miles visibility.
(2) San Ganeb. Hindi Gider. Marsamarhu. Shab Baraya. South
Wingate beacon and Port Sudan entrance. (3) The Brothers.
Daedalus. Both reduced to 15 miles visibility. (4) All other
are extinguished.
(S.O.(I) Colombo, 1423Z/15) (Q C A 474).

Tanker, Sailing one full tanker for Diego Suarez forthwith,
Diego preferably BRITISH LOYALTY.
Suarez. (C.in C. E.I., 1604Z/15 to N.O.I.C. Seychelles
(R) S.O. Force F., C.in C. E.F., Admty., C.in C.
S.A.)

BROOMDALE. When R.F.A. BROOMDALE is empty of furnace fuel
request you will sail her Seychelles.
(C.in C. E.I., 1611Z/15 to S.O. Force F.)

Diego Reply to Admty. 1329/13. (S.O. Force F., 2314/15)
Suarez See Lion Copy. Amended S.O. Force F., 1019C/18.
resources.

Enemy C.R.21. from My Agent in Antananarivo 15/5.
Defence of Continuation of plan of defence of Antananarivo.
Antananarivo. (Military)
(Todd, 2325Z/15 to S.O. Force F.)

E.I.
477A

2314/15th May.

SECRET

M E S S A G E

IN.

From: S.O. Force "F"

Date: 17.5.42.

Recd: 0541.

Naval Cypher C by W/T

Addressed: Admiralty, Repeated C. in C. Eastern Fleet.
C. in C. East Indies, C. in C. South Atlantic.

IMPORTANT.

100. Section 1. Your 1 1329/13th.

(1) A. Fuel oil - 10 thousand tons capacity - 30 per cent full. Diesel - one thousand 800 tons capacity - 45 per cent full. White oil - sabotaged - small quantity only.

B. Only deep water berth is inside graving dock. Corvettes or lighters in (corrupt) harbour. There are no connections at deep water commercial jetty abreast Antsirane light.

C. 60 per cent effective. D. One in number. 100 tons defective. E. Quantity as in A quality unknown.

(2) Negligible quantity. Early supply necessary for town power station dock pump and machine shop.

Section 2.

Following additional information is communicated pending more detailed reports.

(3) A. Graving dock. Particulars generally as in dock book but no repetition no lifting appliance. Pump plant obsolete and only 35% effective as result of sabotage.

WARTENFELS scuttled in dock and 1 (one) CAISSON sabotaged in inner end stop. Old CAISSON has been placed in outer stop and dock pumped out. Estimate 3 months to repair CAISSON and float WARTENFELS with resources available provided by local labour co-operation. This seems likely.

B. (? Compartments) well laid out small general machine shop, wood-work shop, foundry and blacksmith shop, all undamaged.

C. Small quantities of miscellaneous stores including some ships' ventilators and rolled sections. Storehouses 30% intact.

(D)/

- 2 -

D. Dockyard depends on towns supply of electric power and light.

E. Yard craft 4 small tugboats. 3 water barges and upwards of 20? dumb lighters 50 to 200 tons.

(4) In general apart from sabotage all facilities suffered to certain extent from neglect.

(5) Deep water commercial jetty and associated warehouses fully effective including 2 1½ ton cranes.

(6) 7,000 gallons aviation petrol left intact at aerodrome which South Africa Air Force hope to use.

(7) When in working order and necessary stores and material provided port should be able to undertake moderate refitting of 8 inch cruisers and below including ~~Recommend~~ representatives of all dockyard departments be sent at once to supervise work of getting dockyard in running order.

Section 3. Distribution of defence.

All modern batteries (? except) P 7 were immobilised but following is or can be made serviceable.

(2) (a) P one. 175 332. Four 6.6 inch range 18,000 yards 360 degrees training three guns short serviceable. Fire control excellent modern undamaged.

(b) 153 362. Four 12.6 inch fixed training to cover pass. On completion parts breeches missed.

(c) Various positions Oranja, 7, 47 millimetres (3 pounder) five serviceable 2 breeches missed.

(d) 141349. Two 3.55 inch 1895 model small parts firing gear missing.

(e) P six A. 070345. Two serviceable shop 75 millimetre low angle.

(f) P 7. 925378. Four 5.4 inch modern guns serviceable range 15,000 yards 360 degrees training

(3) Positions as on Gridded chart F.049.

(4) Ammunition available for all guns.

(5) No boom, net controlled mine clearance.

(6) 75 contact mines Courier Bay 80% swept up probably few mines (? Rigny) Bay. Believed no other mines laid.

(7)/

Spurs,
Ship damage
to various
class. Dock
at, houses,
P. in various
positions.
Force F,
9C (18)

- 3 -

(7) Written report follows by air in due course.

23140/15.

(Advance copy sent P.O. A.C.N.S.(F),
N.A.1st S.L. D. of P.M., Ops, O.D.
O.I.C., Trade, D. of D.)

1st Lord	D.G.D.(2).
1st S.L.	D.M.W.D.
2nd S.L.	D.T.M.
3rd S.L.	D.D.T.M.
Vice Controller.	D.A/S.W.
4th S.L.	D.A.S.(L)
5th S.L.	S.Branch.
V.C.N.S.	N.L.
A.C.N.S.(F)(2)	Salvage Dept.
A.C.N.S.(T)	M.F.(L).
A.C.N.S.(W)	P.Br.
Parl. Sec.	C.P.
Financial Sec.	D. of S.T.(2).
Civil Lord.	D.E.E.
Controller (M.S.R.)	C.C.R.T.
Secretary	D.B.D.(2).
Naval Sec.	C.E.
N.A.1st S.L.	D.M.S.
N.A.to A.C.N.S.(T).	D.M.S.Citadel
P.A.S.(S)	C.E.in C.
P.A.S.(F)	D.T.S.D.
Ops.(3).	Admiral Bellairs.
D. of P.(3).	Hydrog.(2).
E.P.S.	D. of N.
D.N.I.(5)	Staff Charts.
O.I.C.(2).	D.S.V.P.(2).
D.S.D.(2).	M.(30) for action. T/P for Dep. Contr.(3).
M.(30) for action.	A.U.S.
D.P.D.	D.of S.
I.P.(3).	D.(4).
W.D.	E. in C.
D. of L.D.(2).	D.N.C.(2).
D.T.D.(4).(T.D.02066/42)	D.N.O.(4)
D.T.D.(M)	D.T.M.
D.T.D.(C)	D.A/S.W.(2)
D.of S.(2).	D.A.S.(4).
D.A.M.(2).	P.
D.N.A.D.	C.P.
Air Branch.	M.F.
O.D.(5)	D.E.E.(3).
D.57.O.B.	C.E.
E. in C.	L.Br.
M.S.Branch.	C.E.in C.
D.M.R.	C.I.N.O.
A.S.(H.S).	
D.E.W.D.(3).	
D.N.C.	
D.N.O.(2).	

Bath.

(B.A.9598)

War Diary.

15.5.1942.
Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies.

COMAYAGUA Honduras ship COMAYAGUA torpedoed 1100R/14
torpedoed. 14 miles West of Grand Cayman by German S/M.
Master and 35 crew survivors proceeding Jamaica
in CIMBOCO, 6 crew killed.
(S.O.(I) Jamaica, 0838R/15 to Admty., etc.)
U.S. Destroyer hove to at Georgetown 1100 to 1130/15 to secure
information re torpedoing of Honduras ship COMAYAGUA on 14th.
(R.O. Cayman Is., 1335/15 to Admty.)

Movement	1800 G.M.T. 15/5.			
Summary.	Ship	Position	Course	Speed
	PENELOPE	35° N. 48° W.	270°	18
	ALCANTARA)	Equator 25° W.	Patrol	Blank
	PRETORIA)			
	CASTLE)			
	Transport			
	QUEEN	09° S. 32° W.	026°	25
	ELIZABETH	55° N. 37½° W.	062°	9
	S/M P. 552			
	QUEEN MARY			
	(D.O.D.(F), 0956Z/15, 1653Z/15.)			

STANBANK British S.S. STANBANK, New York to Alexandria
(torpedoed via Capetown, torpedoed in approx 034° 55' N.
5/5.) 061° 47' W. on 5/5. Master and 39 crew picked
up by British S.S. RHEXENOR p.m./14 in 033° 48'
N. 062° 57' W. and landed at Bermuda. Chief
Officer and 8 crew still missing, last seen in
position of torpedoing steering S.W.
(C. in C. A.W.I., 1017P/15 to Admty.)

O.N.592, O.N.592 D/F indicates U-Boats' vicinity 048°
U/B. 30' N. 040° 30' W. at 0100Z/15.
(Opnav, 1026/15 to C.T.U. 24.1.3.)

PARTHIAN. Subject to satisfactory completion trials
PARTHIAN will be ready to leave Bermuda for
Gibraltar p.m./18. Request you will issue
route.
(C. in C. A.W.I., 1052P/15 to Opnav.)

U/B Montserrat reports B, S/M sighted on surface
Montserrat. 2 miles N. of Plymouth heading N. at 2300Q/14.
(S.O.(I) Jamaica, 1131R/15 to Admty., etc.)

/Sugar ...

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War Diary.15.5.1942.
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies - Contd.

Sugar Minister Ciudad Trujillo Telegram of 14/5 being
Transport, passed to you indicates Minister of Food is
Caribbean. giving orders as to where ships are to load
sugar. This is not in accordance with my
understanding of approved arrangement and takes
no account of safety of ships. 2. Request early confirmation
that - A. A.M. 1916/16/4 para. 3 and 4 amended by A.M. 1752/2
para. 2 is in force. B. Allocation of loading port is
business of C. in C. A.W.I. after consultation with Sugar
Co-ordinator. C. Minister of Food understands Admiralty's
intentions and has agreed to abide by such instructions as
have been given. 3. My 1102/6 refers.
(C. in C. A.W.I., 1142P/15 to Admty.)

Attack C.A.F.O. 834/41. (A) CHEDABUCTO (B) 0234Z/15
on U/B. (C) 43.52 N. 63.04 W. (D) 0315Z/15.
(CHEDABUCTO, 1200Z/15 to C.O.A.C., etc.)

Route My 1732/14. Following further comments on Giro
Instructions. are offered. (A) Chap. 1, paras. 7 and 9.
S.O.(I) Jamaica is not included in address of
Merco or route messages. Consider this is
essential in the case of ship proceeding into his area.
(B) Chap. II, para. 14. Certain difficulties in the application
of this procedure to Caribbean area. It has been found that
voyages do become unduly lengthened if ships are sent to
nearest routeing port for orders, and alternative of telegraphing
in case of ships requiring U.S. Coastal routes is too lengthy
to be practicable. Suggest 'through routeing' should be
recommended whenever possible. Request I may be furnished
with a list of ports where U.S. Routeing Officers are or will
be appointed.
(C. in C. A.W.I., 1232P/15 to B.A.D., (R) Admty., etc.)
Reply from N.S.H.Q. See 1621/16. Admty. see 2247/16.

U/B Intercepted 1025 G.M.T. WGBCI. Sub sighted
Reports. 25.40 N. 80.00 W. at 0321 G.C.T./15. 15082.
WGBC1 V NAA O S/M sighted 39.35 N. 72.14 W at
2043Z. WGBC1 sub sighted 28.48 N. 91.51 W. at
0952 G.M.T. 141001. WGBC1 O S/M sighted 18.15 N. 76.07 W.
at 1930Z/14 2349/14 WGBC4 de NBA sub attack 13.55 N. 68.10 W. at
0700 G.M.T. 0948/14.
(Portishead Radio, No T.O.O., Recd. 1240/15.)

Barbados, Your 2148/12. In view of very short length of
A/S Gear. anti-torpedo material in DRAMATIST, which would
be quite inadequate for Barbados or Antigua,
propose that consignment to St. Lucia should
stand. (2) Confirmed that material available for shipment in
August should be consigned to Barbados if of sufficient length
vide A.M. 1505/18/3.
(C. in C. A.W.I., 1242P/15 to Admty.)

/Bermuda ...

War Diary.15.5.1942.
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies - Contd.

Bermuda Passages. Request a suitable ship be diverted to arrive Bermuda before 9/6 to embark passengers for U.K. (Numbers) Your 0031/30/4 (Cancellation proposal to divert ESPERANCE BAY via Jamaica and Bermuda) Suggest if possible ship selected should carry out original programme for ESPERANCE BAY, embarking troops from Jamaica to Bermuda and from Bermuda to U.K. (C. in C. A.W.I., 1244P/15 to Admty.)

O.N. 91. Dispersed off Cape Cod in dense fog. P.C. and S. at 1300Z, 042° 18' N. 069° 15' W. 075° 13. WEYBURN in company. Weather report. (C.T.U. 24.18.4, 1251Z/15 to Opnav.)

KENTUCKY escort. In view of A.M. 1711/14 cancel my 1401/14. Further signal will be made as arrangements for loading cargo are known. (B.A.D., 1305Z/15 to B.R.O. Philadelphia, N.S.H.Q.)

Shipping, Mexico. Your 2241/12. In view of U/B activity in Gulf of Mexico is it probable that movement of shipping in and to and from that area will be temporarily suspended by U.S. Naval Authorities. We have held up temporarily a few tankers. (A.C.N.S.(T), 1328B/15 to B.A.D.) Following 7 tankers now understood to be in Gulf of Mexico ports are to be held pending further instructions unless already sailed. THORSHOV, NORHEIM, STICKLESTAD, BRITISH TENACITY, MAGDALA, OTINA, ALBERT L. ELLSWORTH. (D.T.D., 1330B/15 to N.S.H.Q.) (N.S.H.Q., 2101Z/15 to C.S.A. New Orleans.) (N.S.H.Q., 2102Z/15 to C.S.A. Galveston.)

MILDRED PAULINE. Schooner MILDRED PAULINE due St. Johns N.F. 8/5 from Barbados not arrived. (N.S.H.Q., 1331Z/15 to Admty., etc.)

S/M sightings. 27.55 N. 80.20 W. at 1020Z/15. 28.40 N. 80.15 W. at 1040Z/15. 28.50 N. 80.20 W. at 1045Z/15. 27.55 N. 80.20 W. at 1020Z/15. (Portishead Radio, 1355/15.)

BRITISH COLONY (torpedoed 13/5.) 9 survivors from BRITISH COLONY arrived Barbados 15/5. Vessel torpedoed 13/5 1945 zone time, about 90 miles N.E. Barbados. 1 or 2 other boats with survivors believed got away but not subsequently sighted, request air search. My 1445/15 to Admty. gives names etc. 7 survivors. (Harbour Master, Barbados, 1430/15 to Admty.) My 1430/15. Certain that 2 submarines carried out attacks. Vessel not actually seen to sink, back broken, hit by 3 torpedoes. No information obtainable re secret documents. (H.M. Barbados, 1755/15 to C. in C. A.W.I., (R) Admty.)

/Aruba

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War Diary.15.5.1942.
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies - Contd.

Aruba - Your 1331/9. Note that C. in C. W.A. 2049Z/6
Trinidad provides 10 escorts in due course. Since most
Convoy. tankers arriving will be from Freetown convoy,
whose cycle is 10 days, most desirable arrange-
ment is that Aruba - Trinidad convoy should run
about every 10 days with due regard to fitting in with Freetown
traffic and using 3 escorts.
(C. in C. U.S. Fleet, 1530/15 to C.C.S.F., (R) Admty., etc.)

St. Lawrence. My 2237/12. C.O.A.C. Halifax is to order
general routeing policy for traffic between all
ports in River and Gulf of St. Lawrence.

Desirable that coastal traffic should now be kept moving as
far as local situation permits.

(N.S.H.Q., 1533Z/15 to C.O.A.C., (R) Admty., etc.)

My 1533/15. INDOCHINOIS and MOSDALE both of 15 knots speed
are ready at Montreal to proceed to U.K. independently.

Suggest they proceed in Q.S. 1 and be detached as convenient
in Cabot Strait. N.C.S.O. Sydney to report to Admty. for
diversion purposes time and position of detachment.

(N.S.H.Q., 1534Z/15 to C.O.A.C.)

N.S.H.Q. Ottawa's 1533/15. Gulf and River shipping is now to
proceed as follows:

(A) In accordance with G.L.II.

(B) Via Sydney (C.B.) (corrupt group) Convoy to be organised
by N.O.I.C. Sydney (C.B.)

(C) Independent routeing as required. Route to keep close
to coast and use Gut of Canso, but not Cabot Strait.

(C.O.A.C., 2030Z/15 to N.S.H.Q.)

TABORFJELL. Ref. message 0045/6 from P. 552 not addressed
Admty., referring speed of TABORFJELL (Nor.)
TABORFJELL overdue Montreal since 6/5 from New
York. Have you any information?
(N.S.H.Q., 1639Z/15 to N.O.I.C. St. Johns N.F.)

Shipping Your 2035/16/3 referring to ships keeping ?250
Bahamas. miles clear of Bahamas. As these instructions
are not included in M.A.C.R.I. I assume they
should be regarded as cancelled, but grateful if
you would confirm.
(C. in C. A.W.I., 1732P/15 to Opnav, (R) Admty.,
etc.)

LINCOLN, One S/M bearing 290° distance 1 mile course
U/B. unknown. My position 42.20 N. 66.14 W.
(LINCOLN, 1815Z/15 to Halifax W/T.)

KOSMOS II. S.O.(I) Kingston's 1748R/3 (re suspension of
sailings between Trinidad and Caribbean Ports.)
U.S. Destroyer has arrived to escort KOSMOS II
to Key West. Request instructions.
(S.B.N.O. Curacao, 1821QR/15 to Admty.)
Reply: Admty., 1504/16.

War Diary.15.5.1942.
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies - Contd.

P. 552. My P.C. and S. 054° 20' N. 040° 00' W., 061°, 9.
(P. 552, 1830Z/15 to F.O.S.) *See p. 478*

Route instructions. C. in C. A.W.I. 1732/14 para (2). This will presumably be done but it is requested that you will keep a watching brief.
(D.T.D., 1852B/15 to B.A.D.)

Your 1732P/14.

- (1) Vide my 1851/15.
- (2) Vide my 1852/15.
- (3) No, vide Busra Sect. J second para.
(D.T.D., 1854B/15 to C. in C. A.W.I.)

JAVA ARROW. My 2127/8, (JAVA ARROW torpedoed 6/5.) JAVA ARROW now reported arrived Port Everglades 9/5.
(N.S.H.Q., 1904Z/15 to Admty.)

U/B Reports. Sub attack and sighting summary. POTRERO DEL LLANO sunk, one torpedo. CALGAROLITE sunk 19.24 N. 82.30 W. 1815Z/9. ONTARIO, ALCOA, PURITAN and CHENANGO a U.88 type. Plane attacked sub 39.35 N. 72.14 W. 2043Z/14. Plane attacked sub on surface 28.25 N. 79.55 W. 0535Z/14. Plane sights sub on surface 28 N. 79.55 W. 0540Z/14, 25.15 N. 80.12 W. 0700Z/14, 27.55 N. 80.20 W. 1020Z/15. Sub sighted 25.35 N. 79.55 W. 0521Z/15. Plane sights three subs on surface at 28.40 N. 80.15 W. 1040-1045/14.
(C. in C. U.S. Fleet, 1915/15 to Admty. for O.I.C.)

S.C. 84. My 1333Z/14. Intend to sail Task Unit 24.1.12 to join in 047° 23' N. 051° 12' W. at 0800Z/18.
(F.O.N.F., 1920Z/15 to T.U. 24.18.1.)

Ships' Paravanes, instructions. Your 2101/12. Yes. Moored mines have already been encountered in South African and Australian Waters and this form of attack may be developed in approaches to any port where depth of water does not exceed 200 fathoms. My 1559/6 has been amended.
(D.T.D., 1931B/15 to N.S.H.Q.)

Ships attacked by U/B. Opanav serial 15. POTRERO DEL LLANO, mexican tanker, sunk by torpedo 13, 2335Q in 28° 58' N. 80° 29' 20" (as received) W. en route Tampico, New York. 22 Mexican survivors, 12 missing. AURORA refloated, now in New Orleans. CALGAROLITE Brit. torpedoed and sunk 9/5 in 19° 24' N. 82° 30' W. Master and 21 crew landed Isle of Pines 13/5. 23 others still out in second boat. No information on confidentials. LISE, Nor. torpedoed and sunk 12/5 in 13° 53' N. 68° 20' W. 8 survivors arrived Curacao 13/5. STAVROS Greek, torpedoed 14/5 49° 45' N. 72° 35' W. Was afire but reached New York.
(Opanav, 2011Z/15 to Spenavo, London.)

/A/S ...

War Diary.15.5.1942.
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies - Contd.A/S Training
for Escort
Forces.

Ref. A.M. 1523B/9 and 1337B/14.
These questions are being raised with Navy Dept.
Meanwhile with reference to A.M. 1810B/2
(circulated to 1st Sea Lord only.) I have asked
Cdr. McIntyre to send me a memorandum explaining
his difficulties at Argentina.
(B.A.D., 2253Z/15 to Admty.)

U/B.

Intercepted 2230 G.M.T. S/M sighted 35.35,
74.35 W. at 1630Z/15. 1945/15.
Controlling Station Arlington, Virginia Radio.
(Portishead Radio, No T.O.O., Recd. 2340/15.)

M.A.C.R.I.

Amendment 13, M.A.C.R.I., 2nd edition.
(Opnav, 2053/15 to Admty., etc.)
See Lion Copy.

ETTRICK
BANK.

Your 1243P/11. ETTRICK BANK apparently did not
receive diversion message as she is reported
North of Miami.
(B.R.O. Key West, 2135Z/15 to C. in C. A.W.I.)

STANBANK.

My 2054/23/4. STANBANK torpedoed 5/5.
(N.S.H.Q., 2202Z/15 to Admty., etc.)

Australia and New Zealand.NANKIN,
"Q" Report,
10/5.

Following intercepted by ERIDAN en route
Fremantle on 10/5. (Begins) Q Q Q Q. A A A A
26.43 S. 89.56 E. NANKIN gunned, bombed, T. of R.
0850, followed by ship abandoned T. of R. 0906.
(Message end).
(Cdre. W. Australia, 0518Z/15 to A.C.N.B.)
W.D. Note: A.C.N.B. 0741Z/16 gives date of this
incident as 10/5, not 15/5.

/Situation ...

MOST SECRET

MOST SECRET

MESSAGE

IN

AW1
483A

2053/15th May

FROM: OPNAV.

Date: 16.5.42.

Recd: 1559.

Naval Cypher B by Cable.

ADDRESSED: Admiralty N.S.H.Q. Ottawa. C. in C. America & West Indies. S.O.(I) Kingston. C.O.A.C. F.O.N.F. SPENAVO London.

IMMEDIATE.

Amendment 13 MACRI 2nd edition. In section 1 paragraph 6 entitled Cape Inhaca to Straits of Florida. Under southbound delete subparagraph 15 and 16 and substitute following

"K K 15 K K thence close aboard and to southward of obstruction lighted Whistle Buoy "4 C F". Newly established in approximate position latitude 33 - 34.4 North longitude 78 - 00.8 West. K K 15 A K K thence through position latitude 33 - 34.5 North longitude 78 - 1 (one) 2.7 West. K K 16 K K thence pass close aboard to Southward obstruction lighted Whistle Buoy "6 C F". Newly established in approximate position latitude 33 - 39.2 North longitude 78 - 22.2 West".

In subparagraph 17 change first line to read "thence pass close aboard to southward of". In same para under Northbound change first line in subparagraph 20 to read "thence pass 2 miles to southward of Little".

Delete subparagraph 21 and 22 and substitute following "K K 2 1 (one) K K thence pass 2 miles to Southward obstruction lighted Whistle Buoy "6 C F" newly established in approximate position latitude 33 - 39.2 north longitude 78 - 22.2 west. K K 2 1 (one) A K K thence through position latitude 33 - 32.7 north longitude 78 - one 2.8 30. K K 2 2 K K thence passing 2 miles to southward obstruction lighted Whistle Buoy "4 C F" newly established in approximate position latitude 33 - 34.4 56 longitude 78 - 00.8 West"

Atlantic Sea Frontier Commander pass to routing officer (2 corrupt groups) Frontier. For information additional copies of amendments 4 - 13 being forwarded by mail.

All interested are informed N O I C Jamaica please pass to S.O.(I) Kingston. Note K K as used in despatched indicated parenthesis.

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

2053/15.

- Advance Copy D.C. D.O.D. (F) D.T.
- D.D.I.C. (2)
- D.T.D. (2)
- D.T.D. (M)
- D.T.D. (C)
- Hd. of M.
- A.E. (3)
- X.F. (2)
- W.D.
- D. of P. (2)
- D.A/S.W.

War Diary.15.5.1942.
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Australia and New Zealand - Contd.

- Situation. Digest. Serial No. 113 from C.W.R. 14/5.
3 B.26s attacking shipping in Rabaul Harbour
2130Z/13 scored near miss on 1 transport: medium
and accurate A/A fire encountered. 12 zero fighters, 3 other
possibly T.96 Mitsubishi Navy, 2 Me.109s intercepted. 6 zero,
1 Me.109 shot down. Tactics of fighters exposing themselves
to our fire indicate poorly trained personnel. 20 ships
observed in harbour, 1 transport entering harbour. Possibly
tanker 70 miles S. of Rabaul course 355°.
- (2) 3 B.17s attacked large transport (15/20,000 tons) 20 miles
South of Rabaul 0300Z/14. Nil hits. Intense but inaccurate
A/A fire from escorting ships.
- (3) 40 bombs dropped on Lae aerodrome 2155Z/13 by 5 B.25s.
Damage uncertain. One B.25 crash landed at Port Moresby. 12
aircraft observed on aerodrome during attack but only 2 bombers.
1 fighter R/C 2200Z/13. 1 building set on fire.
- (4) 7 mile aerodrome, Port Moresby, attacked 2130Z/13 by 13
zero fighters. 2 destroyed, 1 seriously damaged believed
destroyed.
- (5) Shipping at Port Moresby attacked 0244Z/14 by 26 T.99
heavy bombers and 9 zeros, no damage reported.
- (6) 4 Hudsons attacked moored seaplane N. of Nivani Island
(Deboyne Islands) and left it sinking. No enemy activity
observed.
- (7) Following sighted by air R/C 14th, Port Moresby. Small
transport 001° 55' S. 148° 20' E. at 0050Z/14 course N. 2
transports, 1 cruiser, 3 destroyers in Kavieng Harbour. Small
transport 003° 15' S. 150° 30' E. course N.N.E. 0130Z/14.
- (8) 1 unidentified aircraft sighted off Nauru course N.E.
0130Z/13 and again on 14/5.
(A.C.N.B., 1441Z/15 to Admty., etc.)

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.Submarines Reported.

Estimated U/B positions.
(D.D.I.C., 1436B/15, 1452B/15.)