

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 2242

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War Diary.

1.6.1942.  
Monday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

The new battleship HOWE commissioned today.

British Air Operations.

Twelve Bostons with fighter cover bombed the dock area at Flushing today.  
8 Hurricane bombers escorted by 14 squadrons of Spitfires bombed the docks at Bruges and 8 Hurricane bombers escorted by 7 squadrons of Spitfires attacked a parachute factory at Calais.

Enemy Air Operations.

Some 87 fighters and bombers are reported to have taken part in 4 air attacks on Murmansk today. EMPIRE STARLIGHT, previously damaged was sunk by bombs.

Mining.

It is apparent that the existing arrangements are insufficient to prevent minelaying in the swept channels. As from today, therefore, certain patrols have been instituted for trial as from today.

Several mines were detonated today in the Humber area.

R.A.M. reported Operation S.N. 72 completed this forenoon.



War Diary.

1.6.1942.  
Monday.

SITUATION REPORT

Foreign Stations.

The Admiralty today warned Cs. in C. and F.Os. abroad that the attacks on Sydney by midget submarine show that the Japanese can transport these weapons very far afield and every possible precaution is to be taken.

Mediterranean.

6 Wellingtons attacked Messina last night.

America and West Indies.

The U.S. authorities today assumed responsibility for routeing and for reporting route and arrival and departure of all ships of the United Nations in the following areas:- Panama, Central America, Bermuda and Continental.U.S.

The first Halifax to Trinidad convoy (H.T. 1) arrived today, escorted by SUDBURY and THE PAS.

Australia.

18 heavy bombers and 6 Zero fighters attacked wharves and transport at Port Moresby at 0154Z today, causing some damage.



War Diary.1.6.1942.  
Monday.HOME COMMANDS.Policy.R.A.C.O.  
and  
F.O.I.C.  
Isle of  
Wight.Rear Admiral H.T. Baillie-Grohman C.B., D.S.O.  
O.B.E., has assumed appointment of Rear Admiral  
Combined Operations and F.O.I.C. Isle of Wight.  
(R.A.C.O. 0900/1.)C. in C.  
Rosyth.Adm. Ford returned to duty today as C. in C.  
Rosyth Vice Adm. Ramsey. (C. in C. Rosyth 1136/1.)Spanish  
shipping.B.N.A. Madrid's 1131/31. Suggest that tonnage  
limit of 2500 tons be adopted. (C. in C. Plymouth  
1242B/1 to Admty.)Defence of U.K.

Felixstowe.

"Outward" to be operated from 1300 to 1930 today.  
(D.B.D. 1100B/1 to B.D.O. Felixstowe.)Yarmouth  
and  
Lowestoft  
A/A Guns.Your 1600B/31. Four H.A.A. guns being returned  
Yarmouth/Lowestoft. (H.Q.F.C. 1720/1 to Admty.)

Seidisfiord.

A.L. B.D. 0671/42 of 14/5. Laying of indicator  
net defence at Seidisfiord completed. (A.C.I.C.  
2001B/1.)Movements.

UREDD.

UREDD arrived. (S.O. S/M Lerwick 0137/1.)  
*see next page*

H.34.

Cancel my 1255/31. H.34 sailing with convoy  
P.W. 164. Anticipate you should meet convoy  
about noon in 260° The Lizard 9, when you are to  
take over escort of S/M independently to Rothesay.  
(C. in C. Plymouth 0902B/1 to JAN VAN GELDER.)CAIRO  
for  
Gibraltar.A.M. 0022B/27. Request CAIRO be diverted as  
necessary. (F.O.I.C. Belfast 0914B/1.)

P.46.

(1) Intend to sail P.46 escorted by WHITE BEAR  
at 1700B/2 for Holy Loch routed as follows.  
E.T.A. 2300B/4. (S.O. S/M Lerwick 1123B/1.)

O.9.

Your 0920/31. Concur. Request will arrange  
onward escort to Rosyth. (Capt. S.7. 1134B/1 to  
Capt. S.9.)



War Diary.1.6.1942.  
Monday.HOME COMMANDS.Movements - Contd.

P.37 My 1057/31. <sup>/N.T. in W.D.</sup> Vessels sailed. (S.O. S/M Lerwick  
 UREDD. <sup>Sum p. 3</sup> 1402B/1 to A.C.O.S.)  
 O.14.

NEWARK. Propose to sail on completion of oiling at 0030B/2  
 and to R/V with R.A. (M) at 0800 in 65° 19' N  
 24° 38' W. (NEWARK 2120B/1 to A.C.I.C.)  
<sup>Sum p. 7</sup>

CASTLETON. Request you sail CASTLETON for Scapa A.M.  
 tomorrow. (R.A.D. 2250B/1 to N.O.I.C. Trelawney)

Operations.

K.C.6. (A) Operation K.C.6. M.T.Bs 55, 56, 50. (B) 1/2nd  
 June (C) St. Helens (D) Enemy coast between 01°  
 and 01° 30' W. (E) coastal shipping (F) 050° 15'  
 N (G) "Match" (H) 3 K G T (I) State D north of  
 050° 20' N (J) Carrying out operations returning  
 by A.M. QZS 239. (C. in C. Portsmouth 1027B/1  
 to 11 M.T.B. Flotilla.)

N.W. Norway S/M patrol. Your 1013B/31. Concur. (C. in C. H.F. 1029B/1 to  
 F.O.S.)

Combined Operations. A.M. 1434B/28. Request that as many smoke floats  
 up to a maximum of six be carried in addition to  
 the C.S.A. Gear and two depth charges. (D.D.O.D.  
 C. 1101B/1 to C. in C. Portsmouth.)

Operations off Dutch Coast. Weather permitting carry out the following  
 operations tonight. (1) One Unit M.G.Bs.  
 vicinity 51° 52' N 3° E. Free to act on enemy  
 reports to intercept I-boats retiring to Hook of  
 Holland. (2) One Unit M.G.Bs Eastern end Q E

14A. Until 0015/2 then to support M.T.Bs from vicinity  
 Thornton Ridge.  
 (3) One Unit M.T.Bs to proceed with patrol (2) then to  
 investigate West Scholde. Unit may attack surface vessels  
 without challenge east of 2° 40' E. If visibility permits all  
 units are to reach initial positions for (1) and (2) at dusk.  
 (C. in C. Nore 1150B/1 to BEEHIVE.)

Denmark Straits Patrol. CUMBERLAND on patrol "White". TUSCALOOSA leaves  
 Hvalfiord for patrol "White". \*NORTHERN SPRAY  
 in Denmark Straits. (A.C.I.C. 1455B/1.)  
<sup>\* See p. 6</sup>

East Coast Trial Patrols. My 1040/30 is forwarded as requested begins:-  
 Addressed D 21 D 16 repeated F.O.s Harwich,  
 Humber, Yarmouth, Cdre. Sheerness, C. in C.  
 Rosyth.  
 My 1054B/14/4 and N O M 44. It is apparent that

/existing...



War Diary.1.6.1942.  
Monday.HOME COMMANDS.Operations

East Coast Trial Patrols. Contd. existing arrangements are insufficient to prevent minelaying in the swept channels.

2. Following patrols will therefore be instituted for trial as from 1/6.

No. 1 patrol 57 F to 56 buoy.  
No. 2 patrol 56 to 57 buoy.  
No. 3 patrol 57 to 56 A buoy.  
No. 4 patrol 56 A to 4 buoy.  
No. 5 patrol 4 to 3 B buoy.  
No. 6 patrol 3 B to 3 buoy.

3. Insufficient destroyers are available at present to carry out all these patrols. Following arrangements will therefore be made. No. 1 patrol. Corvette with F N convoy will part company at 2315 and proceed to patrol until 0330 when she is to leave patrol and overtake convoy transferring to F S when met. When there is no F N convoy a Corvette is to be specially detailed for this patrol. When F N convoy proceeds by inner route Corvette is to part company at No. 4 buoy and proceed to patrol. No. 2 patrol. Additional escort of F N convoy is to carry out this patrol from 2315 until 0400 then rejoin F N convoy until F S is met as hitherto. On nights when there is no F N convoy a destroyer is to be specially detailed for this patrol, as ordered by C. in C. Nore. When F N convoy proceeds by inner route destroyer is to part company at No. 4 buoy and proceed to patrol.

No. 3 and No. 4 patrols. 16th Flotilla.  
No. 5 and No. 6 patrols. 21st Flotilla.  
Destroyers carrying out No. 3 patrol will also act as additional A/A escort for the F N convoy as far as the Northern limit of her patrol area.

4. When Southbound convoys pass through their areas patrol destroyers are to continue their patrols ahead of the convoy keeping 3 to 4 miles ahead of escort in position N until the Van of the convoy is about 4 miles from Southern end of their patrol when they are to turn and pass down landward side of convoy to resume patrol astern of it.

5. C. in C. Rosyth is requested to arrange for S.O. of R.E.F. to be in position N when F S convoy is between No. 4 and No 3buoys. Additional escort (Nore destroyers) is to be position F.

6. Speed on patrol should not normally exceed 15 knots with 20° zig-zag except when visibility is 2 miles or over, when speed should be 20 knots. 1040B/30/5/42 Ends. (C. in C. Nore 1740B/1 to Admty.)

QQ 2.

Operation QQ 2 successfully completed. Am anchoring vicinity for the night. (S.O. T.L.D.F. 2248B/1 to C. in C. Nore.)

British Air Activity.

Strait# of Dover.

My 1019B. One cannon Hurricane of 32 Squadron took off to attack E 25D but failed to locate target. One Hurricane Bomber of 174 Squadron attacked track E 1D and claims near miss. (V.A. Dover 1021B/1) See also Enemy Intelligence.

/Roborough...



War Diary.1.6.1942.  
Monday.HOME COMMANDS.British Air Activity - Contd.Roborough  
R.N. Air  
Station.

It is understood R.N. Air Station Roborough is to come under your command. Information is requested of the anticipated date of completion of turn over, as it is desired to remove Naval personnel at an early date. (R.A.N.A.S. 1922B/1 to H.Q. 19 Group.)

East  
Coast.

Large numbers of friendly bombers will approach East Coast, possibly flying low, between 0200 and 0600. (C. in C. Nore 2219B/1 to Ships and Authorities.)

Mining.

S.N.72.

NORTHERN SPRAY will be patrolling N.E. of present mine field and will endeavour to keep fishing vessels clear. (A.C.I.C. 0230B/1 to R.A.M.)  
S.N.72. Lay completed as planned. (R.A.M. 1110B/1.)

Humber.

At 1224/31 one Red Mine exploded by Sweeper in S.80° W H.3 Buoy 2 miles.

At 1532/31 one Mine self-detonated in 160°

Humber Light Vessel 3 miles.

At 1705/31 one Mine self-detonated in 022° Humber Light Vessel 3 miles. (F.O. Humber 1545B/1.)

Following 4 mines detonated by Sweepers at 1013B/1, 1041B/1, 1145B/1 and 1148B/1 respectively. Details. (F.O. Humber 1930B/1.)

Harwich.

At 1007/1 one Ground Mine exploded by Sweepers in 51° 59.5' N 1° 41.6' E. (F.O.I.C. Harwich 1742B/1.)

"Tincture"

Request you repeat operation "Tincture" by p.m. 4th as described in my 1207/10/9/41. (D.M.S. 1817B/1 to F.O.I.C. Milford Haven.)

Enemy Intelligence.

NORDVARD.

Report grade B 2 dated 27/5 states NORDVARD about to sail from Bordeaux with torpedoes and supplies for U/Bs in Western Atlantic. Reappearance and dimensions same as FERNHILL but bow may be slightly raked and topmast cut down. Vessel is stated to be carrying torpedoes and supplies for U-Boats in West Atlantic. (F.O.S. 1036B/1 to S/Ms South of 51° N.) (C. in C. W.A. 2154B/1.)



War Diary.1.6.1942.  
Monday.HOME COMMANDS.Enemy Intelligence - Contd.

Invasion Craft. My 1149/30. (A) Reports from Vienna and Belgrade state large number of German Naval personnel and invasion craft proceeding eastwards. Graded A 3.

(B) One hundred invasion craft which had arrived Danzig or Gdynia have suddenly been ordered to return to Kiel fully laden. It is reported they are also intended for Danube. Graded A 3.

(C) Infer Germans have decided to make landing attempt on Russian coast in Black Sea. Graded Z B. (N.A. Stockholm 1611/1.) N.I.D.3. Comment. (A) The number of German Naval personnel in Bulgaria is probably some 5,000. More than half of these are said to be training for landing operations. A number of special invasion craft are being erected at Varna in Bulgaria from parts sent from Germany. More of these craft are also being put together at Constantza and probably at Galatz and Braila in Roumania. It is not known exactly how many of these vessels are ready for sea, but certainly some of them have been finished and seen afloat.

(B) This number appears grossly exaggerated. Recent reccos. show 6 T.L.C. at Gdynia and 8 at Kiel.

U-Boats.

U-Boat attacked by NEWARK 31/5. Your 0237/1. Thorough search of area carried out for 4 hours. Several doubtful contacts obtained without result. (SARDONYX 0311B/1 to C. in C. W.A.)

Your 0237B/1. No contact. Intend to continue search alone till 0800B/1 and then proceeding to Hvalfiord. (NEWARK 0327B/1.)

No further contact. Have abandoned hunt. E.T.A. Hvalfiord 1730B/1. (NEWARK 1145B/1 to A.C.I.C.)

*See p. 4.*

U-Boat reported. 1 S/M 200°, 2 miles, Course 090°. Position 46° 30' N 12° W. (A/C 0815/1 to 19 Group.)

Navigational.

57 B. Buoy. 57 B buoy reported extinguished. (C. in C. Nore 1057B/1.)

Great Yarmouth. Underwater work in progress until further notice off Gt. Yarmouth Harbour entrance. Extreme caution should be exercised whilst passing vessels engaged. (F.O.I.C. Gt. Yarmouth 1516B/1.)

Yarmouth area. Wreck marking buoy in 052° 47' 12" N 001° 50' 36" E is extinguished but undamaged. (WHADDON 2301B/1.)



War Diary.1.6.1942.  
Monday.HOME COMMANDS.Casualties and Defects.ARCTIC  
PIONEER.  
(Bombed  
27/5.)

ARCTIC PIONEER sunk 095° St. Helen's Fort 9 cables. Vessel appears badly damaged aft, but the hull from forward to 2/3rds of vessel aft appears undamaged as seen from outboard. After section not yet examined. Raising might be carried out. Two Hotchkiss guns and mountings have been recovered. The 4" rifle Mark IV, 1916 on Mark 9, 1917 mounting is now secured by 5 bolts and 2 hours work should complete its recovery. (Supt. Salvage Southampton 1121/1.)

STAGHOUND  
(Bombed  
27/3.)

STAGHOUND raised and berthed alongside Haldon Pier Torquay, Harbour entrance now completely open. (N.C.S.O. Dartmouth 1807/1.)

WILD  
SWAN.

Your 1916/22. In view of Yard Message 1200 of 13/5 WILD SWAN cannot be taken for refit before end of July without delaying work of equal priority. (A.S. Portsmouth 2000/31.)

WELLINGTON.

Have a leak in number 2 oil fuel tank. Ship will require docking after arrival at Londonderry. (WELLINGTON 2015Z/1.)

Shipping and Convoys.

P.S.1.

P.S.1. sailed 0850/1. (C. in C. Portsmouth 0900B/1.)

AMSTERDAM  
PRAGUE.

Intend sailing transports AMSTERDAM and PRAGUE for Lerwick at 2030/2. E.T.A. 0730/3. (N.O.I.C. Invergordon 1046/1.)

U.R. and  
R.U. Convoy  
Escorts.

U.R. and R.U. convoys. Request you will sail two destroyers of 21st Group to arrive Aultbea A.M. every Thursday for escort of U.R. convoys. Destroyers will return with corresponding R.U. convoy. (C. in C. W.A. 1059B/1 to Commdre. Londonderry.)

P.Q.16.

Thank you very much for your 1101B/31 which is greatly appreciated. We are proud to have brought convoy through an estimated total of 228 Sorties of enemy aircraft. The discipline, courage, and determination of merchant ships were beyond praise. (ASHANTI 1232B/1.) *To whom?*  
Request your remarks on paras 5 and 9 of SEAWOLF's 0941B/31/5 which is being passed to you. (C. in C. H.F. 1601B/1 to C.S.10 (R) F.O.S.)

/Your...



War Diary.1.6.1942.  
Monday.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping and Convoys.

P.Q.16. Your 2348/30. (A) CARLTON, OCEAN VOICE, EMPIRE  
 Contd. BAFFIN, STARI BOLSHEVIK.  
 (B) ALAMAR, MORMACSUL, LOWTHER CASTLE, CITY OF  
 JOLIET, SYROS, EMPIRE LAWRENCE, EMPIRE PURCELL.  
 (C) From position J to B B (70° N 01° 21' W) then L and M to  
 74° N 16° E to 73° 30' N 19° E through 73° 30' N 22° 30' E, then  
 through 74° 30' N 28° 40' E to position O, P, and M Z.  
 (D) Calm or light wind. Thick fog from 2200/23 to 1600/24,  
 then intermittent fog until 0400/25. Visibility extreme  
 thereafter except during snow at 0300/26 and low visibility  
 for 5 hours from 0300/29. For cloud conditions see para F.  
 (E) Continuous from 0630/25 until 10 miles from Kilfin Is.  
 except from 0300/29 to 0800/29.  
 (F) 25th May 2020 to 2230, 7 torpedo bombers (Heinkel 111)  
 16 Junkers 88, CARLTON damaged. 2315 to 2330, 12 Junkers 88,  
 no casualties, cloudy nought 10th. 26th May 1800, 8 torpedo  
 bombers 3 Junkers 88, no casualties, cloudy 9/10 at 2000 feet.  
 27th May 0120, 7 torpedo bombers 3 Junkers 88, no casualties,  
 cloud 8/10 at 3000 ft. 1115 to 1630, repeated determined  
 attacks by Junkers 88 in groups of 6, 3 ships sunk, 3 damaged,  
 GARLAND damaged, cloud increasing from 0 - 7/10 at 3000 ft,  
 intermittent haze. 1925 - 2130, 6 torpedo bombers Junkers 88 in  
 groups of 6, 2 ships sunk, cloud 9/10 at 2000 ft. ALYNBANK  
 recorded attacks by 108 A/C in all this day. 28/5 2130, 4  
 Junkers 88, no casualties, cloud 10/10 at 1000 ft. 29th May  
 0430, 6 torpedo bombers 2 Junkers 88, cloud 10/10 1000 ft.  
 visibility 3 miles ineffective, no casualties. 2330, Murmansk  
 Portion attacked by 18 Junkers 88, cloud 8/10 at 5000 ft,  
 no casualties. 30th May 0800, Murmansk Portion attacked by 12  
 Junkers 87, no warning. 1020, 9 Junkers 88. 1245, 18 Junkers 87,  
 cloud 8/10 5000 ft. no hits. Archangel section (?attacked) as  
 follows:- 29/5 2240 to 2345, 15 Junkers 87 (?and) 88. 30/5  
 1740, 8 Junkers 88, torpedo attack not pressed home, 1 hit  
 obtained browning shot at 4000 yards, approached flying low,  
 dropped torpedoes at height 10 feet. Junkers 88 dive attack at  
 about 60° success on 27/5 attributed to cloudy condition which  
 favoured enemy, on this day attack pressed home to about 1000 ft.  
 in marked contrast attack from clear or completely overcast sky.  
 Enemy casualties 3 certain (one by Russian Fighter) four  
 probable (one by Cam Hurricane) 8 damaged. Probable includes  
 three which made escape.  
 (G) One attack only on convoy, 7 torpedoes fired, all ran on  
 surface. SYROS hit by 2 torpedoes and sank at 0302/26 in 072°  
 50' N 006° E. Snow storm. U-Boat attacked by LADY MADELINE  
 twice with 10 charge pattern. Oil seen by LADY MADELINE and  
 VOLUNTEER. 1500/25, U-Boat chased by MARTIN, firm contact  
 attacked and oil seen. 0600/26, MARTIN sighted 2 U-Boats who  
 dived. ACHATES and MARTIN commenced search 0650. No contact.  
 0850, two torpedoes fired at ACHATES both broke surface.  
 No contact charges dropped. 0930 second U-Boat engaged by  
 MARTIN with gunfire, 2 possible hits, no contact depth charges  
 dropped. No further attack. D/F bearings indicated 2 or more  
 proceeding on parallel course to convoy outside visibility range.  
 For next 3 days visibility dropped, sea calm.  
 (H) See my 1443/31 for escort. Expenditure of ammunition for  
 D.E.M.S.s follows.

/(I) Merchant...



War Diary.1.6.1942.  
Monday.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping and Convoys.

P.Q.16. (I) Merchant Navy casualties follow.  
Contd. (J)(1) Provision of auxiliary H.A. guns for destruction of shadower.  
(ii) Inclusion of rescue ship in convoy, survivors over crowded escort.  
(iii) Two or three long range R.D.F. warning sets with convoy.  
(iv) Ammunition. Stock required at Kola Inlet or carried in convoy, extra high explosive shells to be embarked in escort.  
(v) Long range Flying boat to carry out ice reconnaissance from North Russia.  
(vi) Ship of Senior Officer to carry additional V/S Staff. (S.B.N.O. North Russia 2223B/1 and 1546B/3 to Admty.)  
Pilot will meet you off Bolshoi Cieni Island. Arrangements made to transfer wounded to Murmansk hospital. Patrols have been warned to expect GARLAND about 2000. (S.B.N.O. North Russia 2241B/1 to GARLAND.)  
P.Q.16. EMPIRE ELGAR, MINOTAUR, WEST NILUS, ALCOA BANNER, SCHORS TCH (2 corrupt Groups) EVSKY arrived. (S.B.N.O. Archangel 2315B/1.)

W.S.19Z. Convoy W.S.19Z carrying military stores for the Cape will be ready to leave U.K. for Freetown on 4/6.

All ships can maintain a speed of 14 knots.  
Ocean Escort KENYA (Flag of S.O. Force T) and one other cruiser to be detailed by C. in C. H.F.)  
Destroyer Escort. (a) Destroyers from H.F. will be detailed by C. in C. H.F. and R.A.(D)  
(b) One Hunt each from W.A. and Plymouth Commands. (D.O.D.H. 1726B/1 to C. in C. W.A.)

COLOMBO 3 Destroyers of W.S.19P detailed to return Base  
EMPRESS OF are to meet COLOMBO, EMPRESS OF RUSSIA in  
RUSSIA. position (X) 047° 35' N 021° 34' W at 1800Z/3.  
(2) COLOMBO to amend time of R/V if necessary.  
(3) When met COLOMBO proceed Plymouth as ordered

by C. in C. Plymouth.  
(4) Route for EMPRESS OF RUSSIA. (K) 045° 01' N 022° 59' W.  
(L) 048° 35' N 021° 00' W (M) 080° Fastnet Light 10 miles.  
(N) Q Z F 18 to Liverpool. (C. in C W.A. 1802B/1 to NELSON, COLOMBO, C. in C. Plymouth.)  
Your 1802B/1 para 2. COLOMBO will be in position (X) at 1200Z/3.  
Course 021°, speed 15 knots. (COLOMBO 2259Z/1.)

O.S.29 Your 1238B/31/5. This proposal has been carefully  
O.S.30 considered but it is thought to be undesirable that R.A. West Africa's A/S forces should be depleted to the extent and for period entailed in view of (a) the great importance of the Cape/Freetown/U.K. traffic and (b) the fact that U/Bs may at anytime recommence operating in the Freetown/Cape Palmas Area. Further, unless these escorts returned to Freetown with homeward-bound tankers (which would extend their length of absence) the operation would be uneconomical in their use. (A.C.N.S.(T) 1851B/1 to C. in C. W.A.)



War Diary.

1.6.1942.  
Monday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping and Convoys - Contd.

H.X.190.

H.X.190. Average speed 9.55 knots. Fog  
18th to 20th May, otherwise weather above  
average.  
No stragglers, all ships arrived. (D.T.D.  
1853B/1 to Cominch.)



War Diary.1.6.1942.  
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Attacks by Midget Submarines.

Attacks in Sydney by midget submarine show that Japanese can transport these weapons very far afield. Every possible precaution is to be taken. (A.C.N.S.(F) 1333B/1, to C.in C. S.A., R.A. West Africa, C. in C. E.I., C. in C. E.F., C. in C. Med., F.O.C. R.I.N., F.O.C. N.A., (R) Dep. C. in C. E.F., A.C.N.B., N.Z.N.B., B.A.D., C. in C. Ceylon. 3rd B.S.)

North Atlantic.

EAGLE, My 1448/31. Ship sailed.  
"exercises". (F.O.C.N.A., 0718B/1, to Admty.,)  
My 0718. Search abandoned. Ship returned.  
(F.O.C.N.A. 1734B/1 to Admty.)

Vichy and Enemy Intelligence. Following received from Tangier who believe reliable.  
1. Reported French are transferring idle merchant ships to Axis in order to obtain revenue.  
2. Reported French Staff have sure information that 1 R/C group and 4 German bomber wings have left Sicily for Libya. 3. Greek dealer at Sfax states 20 Italian and 6 Greek fishing boats being forbidden to use that Port until further orders. Arabs are permitted to fish only off shore.  
4. Following French Naval Units in Tunisian waters, Destroyers TYPHON, TORNADE, S/Ms MARSOUIN and REQUIN, T/B L'IPHIGENIE.  
5. Fuel oil has been taken by Italian small craft from Bizerta to La Galite Island where there is no French Force. Supplies for submarines suspected. 1214/30/5.(Ends.)  
(F.O.C.N.A., 1020B/31 to Admty., etc.)

<sup>IK</sup>  
27.M.L. My 1846B/8. I intend to sail 27th Motor Launch  
Flt. Flotilla 7/6 escorted by ARMERIA.  
(F.O.C.N.A., 1222B/1 to R.A.W.A.(R) Admty., etc.)

LEESEE Arrived 1st.  
(German) (Bilbao, 1803/1 to Admty.)

CASTILLO Your 1015/28. Spanish tanker CASTILLO CAMPANARIO  
CAMPANARIO left for Caripito P.M. 1/6.  
(Tenerife, 1947/1 to S.O.(I) Gibraltar. (R)Admty.)

Bombing Restrictions. Institute submerged bombing restrictions (A) between 046° N., and 049° 30' N and 011° 30' W., and 013° 30' W from 2000B/2 until 0400B/5 (B) 25 miles either side of line joining 046° 36' N. 006° W and 045° 20' N. 004° W from 0200B/3 until 2300B/4. (H.Q.C.C., 2130B/1, to R.A.F. Gib.)

U/B. Bearings at 1911Z of Italian U/Boat 77C  
(D.D.I.C., 2228B/1 to F.O.C.N.A.)



War Diary.1.6.1942.  
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic.

PANTHER. Departure Simonstown 1740/31 PANTHER for Pointe Noire and Freetown. S. of A. 17 knots (2) changing to W/T organization P to 0700Z/3 E.T.A. Pointe Noire 1000Z/5 (3) R.A. W.A. is requested to inform Admty., of amended programme.  
(C. in C.S.A., 0752B/1., to R.A.W. Africa, B.N.L.O., Pointe Noire, (R) Admty.) *See p. 14 A*

Alleged Distress Report. Proceed immediately to assistance of KBXH (Signal letters undecypherable.) broken down in position latitude H plus 000°14' and longitude L plus 000° 41!  
(C. in C.S.A., 0807G.M.T./1, to U.S.S. ALCOAPOLARIS) W.D. Note.-  
Possible a decoy. See C. in C.U.S. Fleet 2322/3, 2130/4.  
U.S.S. ALCOAPOLARIS is being diverted to assist you. Should reach you p.m. today. Report situation at 2000.  
(C. in C.S.A., 0829GMT/1, to Ship using War Call Sign WHPH (R) Admty.)

WIVERN. Arrival 1200Z/1 departure 1420Z/1, S. of A. 16½. (N.O.I.C. Bathurst, 1846Z/1, to R.A.W.A.F.)

S/Ms Base. My 1627A/23/3 and R A West Africa's 1516Z/21. As it is improbable that their depot ship will be available at Freetown by July it is intended that the submarines should be based initially on Simonstown. (A.C.N.S.(F) 1019B/1 to C. in C.S.A., R.A.W.A.)

Situation. 2000/1/6. WIVERN 013° 59' 017° 50' to Ponta Delgada 15. BRIDGEWATER 011° 50' 017° 20' screening LADY DENISON PENDER. (R.A.W.A., 1041Z/1, to Authorities concerned.)

(?) CHARLBURY At 3 hours Z today in 06-58 S. 33-14 W. rescued (sunk 28/5) 8 survivors of British M/V THARLBUTY (as received ? CHARLBURY intended) torpedoed and sunk 28/5 in 16°-30' S. 30°-00' W. bound from Cardiff to

Buenos Aires. Am continuing search for additional survivors in 2 boats reported probably in vicinity. Ratings and names as follows. (list) to be landed at Rosyth this afternoon. (C.T.G. 23.3., 1050Z/1, to Admty.)

EDINBURGH CASTLE relief. Your 1517Z/19 and C. in C. S.A. 2327B/27/4. No relief accommodation ship available. All suitable merchant ships fully employed on urgent service. We must endeavour to keep essential services going in EDINBURGH CASTLE until barracks are ready. Request you will reconsider possibility of supplying steam and electric power from ship alongside or suggest any other means. (A.C.N.S. (F) 1142B/1 to R.A.W.A. (R) C. in C.S.A.)

AFTERGLOW...



War Diary.1.6.1942.  
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic. Contd.

AFTERGLOW. Your 1047/31 (N.T.inW.D.) AFTERGLOW resumed normal duty on 24/4/1942. Report of Board of Enquiry addressed to C. in C. S.A., only mailed from Falkland Is. in bags F. 6 on 18/5. (N.O.I.C.Falkland Isles (P.S.) 1416Z/1., to C.in C.S.A.(R)R.A.W.A.)

BENAKAT, My 1931Z/31 Diver reports no underwater damage  
→ THYSVILLE has been suffered by either (?vessel). Damage to collision. BENAKAT does not affect seaworthiness. (N.O.I.C., E.London, 1421Z/1, to P.S.T.O. Simonstown. (R) D. of S.T., S.S.T.O., Durban, S.S.T.O. Capetown.)

Situation. 2000Z/1/6. (C.in C.S.A., to S,A.Stn., 1535/1) See Lion Copy.

ARCHER. Estimated ARCHER will sail from Capetown for U.K. 7/6 on completion of essential defects, S.of A. 13 knots. 2. Ship will be in Azores area about 24/6 and will be available to provide additional escort for any S.L. convoy. 3. ARCHER has operational 4 Swordfish and 2 Martlets. (C.in C.S.A., 1649B/1, to Admty. (R) C.in C.W.A., R.A.W.A.)

CILICIA Your 1746/30/5. It is not anticipated that CILICIA will complete unloading at Tristan Da Cunha until about end of June. (C.in C.S.A., 1916Z/1 to Admty.)

→ THYSVILLE. Your 1451/30/5. Your 1507/28/5 stated THYSVILLE collision(30/5) as ready at four hours notice. Request report why she had not sailed by 30/5, observing that my 2138/10/4 to Simonstown and Durban only instructed her to proceed to Freetown when ready. (D.S.T., 1918B/1 to N.O.I.C. East London, P.S.T.O. Simonstown, S.T.O. Durban, S.T.O. Capetown.)

Convoy W.S. 19 Sailed 31st. Fuel lifted, etc.  
W. (S.S.T.O. Freetown, 1925Z/1, to C.in C.S.A.)

Mediterranean.

PROTEUS Cancel my 1221/31st.  
TAKU (Capt. S.l., 1148C/1 to S/Ms on Patrol.)  
THORN

Italian Re future use of Berbera and Jibuti.(G.O.C.in C.E.A.,  
Repatriations. 1515/1 to W.D.) See Lion Copy.

Turkey. Following is a repetition of my 1601C/1(begins)  
C.in C. Med.,(R) Admiralty from B.N.A. Ankara.  
Following from Adm.Kelly.  
2. Turks anticipate attack behind our lines in Lybia by parachute troop and barge landings if German attack progresses.



MOST SECRET

14 A

MOST SECRET. MESSAGE 1535/1st June IN

From C. in C. South Atlantic.

Date 1.6.42.  
Recd. 2130

Naval Cypher M by W/T

Addressed: S.A. Station Squadron repeated Admiralty.

IMPORTANT.

343. Situation 2000Z 1st June.

Area Q H.M.S. CILICIA off Tristan da Cunha *See p. 14*  
H.M.S. ASTURIAS patrolling in Area J one C and K one  
A BRITTANY, BARFOUNT, and BARRYMORE about 019 degs 00'  
South 011 degs 00' East to Walvis Bay.  
H.M.S. MAURITIUS, MILFORD, BELVOIR, HURSLEY with  
convoy W S 19 020 degs 20' South 001 degs 35' West  
131 degs 134.

H.M.S. PANTHER 028 degs 15' South 014 degs 40'  
East to Pointe Noire 17. *See p. 13.*

ISAAC SWEERS 029 degs 30' South 013 degs 20'  
East to Freetown 18.

H.M.S. CHESHIRE about 014 degs ? 00' South  
014 degs 30' East to patrol area K one D.

1535E/1.

Advance copy D.C. D.O.D.(F) D.D.I.C. D.T.D.

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

JR.



SECRET

MESSAGE

1515/1st June.

IN

14 B

Date. 1.6.42.  
Recd. 2245.

From G. C. in C. East Africa.

CYPHER

Addressed: The War Office. Repeated. C. in C. Middle East (for Political and Minstate) 12 Div. for Political  
**IMPORTANT**

053070. 27994 cipher 1/6.

Your 91850 (H.C.11) 31/5 (0055/31/5)

One. Consider Berbera can be utilised again for embarkation of repatriates from middle September onwards though embarkation women and children may have to be slowed down if weather conditions should be too adverse on any particular day. Use of Jibuti for second voyage Italian ships is therefore not considered to be essential.

Two. Present plans are to continue to collect balance repatriables at Direedawa Harar and neighbourhood whence they can be moved Berbera or Jibuti.

Three. Balance male evacuees will be collected Mandera for embarkation Berbera which useable for this category at any time.

Four. Present estimate numbers still Ethiopia are (A) repatriables 5,000 plus 400 priests and nuns. (B) Male evacuees for Southern territories 4,000. (C) Males for transfer to Eritrea 2,000. (D) Males for retention Ethiopia 500 plus families estimated at 1000.

Five. Understand Eritrea anticipates having between two and three thousand women and children available for repatriation second voyage.

Six. There are also likely to be about 250 women and children volunteers for repatriations from Somalia as well as 250 women and children at present Kenya ex Assab available for second voyage

Seven. There are approximately one thousand disabled P.O.W. and male evacuees awaiting examination by mixed Military Mission who will be ready for embarkation at an East African port on second voyage. All above figures are estimates but hope be able give firm figures in about 14 days time.

1515/1.

Recd. in War Registry at:  
1510/2.

Copies circulated by War Office to:-  
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D.T.D. (C)

D.H.I. (5)

M. (3)

I.P. (3)

W.D.



War Diary.1.6.1942.  
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean. cont'd:-

Turkey,-  
Contd. (iii) He has asked for a memorandum on my criticisms of his proposals for evacuation of Thrace in case of necessity. T.O.O. 1601/1(ends). (W.A. Ankara 1608C/1 to Admty.)

Malta Air  
Report. I. 337 1/6 CSR Malta. Part 1. 31st. 1749 hours, 7 ME.109, 8 Spitfires intercepted, no claim. Night 31/1, 1 special Swordfish 1 Albacore E-Boat searches found nothing. 0107 hrs., one JU.87 intercepted by Beaufighter. No claim 1st 4 Spitfires dawn patrol search found nothing. 0743 hrs., 6 ME.109s, 1 bomb land, no damage. 1 ME.109 destroyed, another damaged by 8 Spitfires. 1 Spitfire shot down sea, pilot killed. Part 2. Night 31/1. 6 Mark II Wellingtons successful attack Messina 2030 to 2128 hrs. Bombs, incendiaries, from 9500 feet all in target area. 4000 lb. bomb burst base of jetty, commercial oil tanks probably hit, repeated explosions, huge fires black smoke visible 40 miles. (H.Q.R.A.F., Malta, 1640/1.)

Enemy Units. At 1815C/1 aircraft reported P.C. and S. of 2 small merchant ships, 1 destroyer, 032° 01' 018° 28', 120°, 7 knots. Further R/C will follow. (S.l., 1919C/1, to S/Ms on Patrol)

German U/Bs,  
TURBULENT. 4 German S/Ms are known to be working between 024° and 027° E and may affect? you. (Capt.S.l., 2245C/1, to TURBULENT)



War Diary.1..6.1942.  
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies.

EASEDALE S.O. Force F's 2330/26 and Admty 1851/28.  
On completion of repairs request that R.F.A.  
EASEDALE may be completed to her full capacity  
of 100 octane and lubricating oil before being sailed to  
Kilindini.  
(C.in C.E.I. 0935Z/1 to Cdre i/c Durban (R) C.in C.E.F. C.I.  
S.A. Admty).

Diego Suarez Under water defences proposed. (A.C.N.S.(F)  
Manza Bay 1115B/1 to C.in C.E.I. amended 1208B/2)  
Tanga Bay See Lion Copy.  
Seychelles.

DORSETSHIRE E.in C. Eastern Fleet 1027/27. Was R.D.F. set  
sinking. in DORSETSHIRE in use and was anything seen on  
it prior to attack?  
(A.C.N.S.(F) 1253B/1 to C.in C.E.I.(R) C.in C.  
E.F., Dep.C.in C.E.F.). Reply (D.C.in C.E.F. 0600/6).

\* DUSQUESNE A/C report that \* S.S. DUSQUESNE seen in Baie  
(MAROUSSIO SOULON, Mayotte Island. DUSQUESNE is ? repainted  
LOGOTHETI) MAROUSSIO LOGOTHETI whose master is now in ? Diego  
Suarez and anxious to get his ship back. If a  
*Re-named GENERAL DUCHESNE.* ship can be diverted for the purpose propose it  
(1012907/42) be sent to bring DUSQUESNE in.  
*Record office case.* (S.O. Force F, 1409C/1, to D.C.in C.E.F. C.in C.  
8114. S.A.(R) N.O.I.C. Durban, Admty.). Reply Admty.  
2203B/3.

Eastern Movements of Eastern Fleet will be dependent to  
Fleet a great extent on long distance air R/C.  
Air R/C. Essential, therefore, that the 4 Catalina  
Squadrons should not be allowed to fall below  
strength. Request what standing arrangements are  
being made to make up for wastage, also arrangements for making  
good wastage of the 2 G.R. Squadrons which are detailed for  
working over the sea from Ceylon.  
(1st Sea Lord. 1737B/1 to Air Ministry).

Burma Air A.972.1/6. Intelligence Summary No.78 on  
Report. information received up to 1800 hours 1/6. Burma  
30/5. Blenheims attacked River Craft Chindwin-  
river; 1 steamer. 3 camouflaged barges, bombed  
and machine gunned 10 miles South Mussein. 1 Barge sunk, 50 and  
100 troops seen dispersing. Manalein. 3 Barges bombed and  
machine gunned. Bombs near misses. Mawlein, 1 launch 2 rafts  
machine gunned. 18 sunken craft observed Singaung. 31/5 3  
Blenheims attacked Kalowa with bombs and M.G. 3 direct hits foot  
bridge across river. 4 river steamers East Bank. 1 sunk  
steamer north of Singaung. 2 steamers Masein. 1 Barge 2  
steamers Mawlaik.  
(A.H.Q. India, 1800/1 G.M.T.).

GUARDIAN. Your 0847/31. Concur subject to ? GUARDIAN  
confirmation that position is suitable after  
inspecting local conditions.  
(S.O. Force F. 2134C/1 to D.C.in C.E.F.(R) Admty.  
C.in C.E.F. C.in C.E.I. R.A. 3 B.S.F.O.E.A. GUARDIAN.)



# MOST SECRET

1115B/1st June

MOST SECRET

~~SECRET~~

OUT

TO:- C. in C. East Indies 856.  
 Repeated C. in C. Eastern Fleet 198.  
 N.O.I.C. Diego Suarez.  
 F.O.I.C. East Africa & Zanzibar.  
 N.O.I.C. Seychelles.

DATE 1.6.42.

## NAVAL CYPHER (C)

From Admiralty.

Following underwater defences are proposed:-

- (1) Diego Suarez.
  - (A) A/S A/B boom as proposed in A.M. 1838/B/24.
  - (B) Controlled minefield to seaward of boom.
  - (C) A/T Baffles -
    - (i) Cape Diego 130 degs. for 3 cables
    - (ii) Between positions C. Diego 100 degs. 5 cables and 115 degs. 7.8 cables
    - (iii) 160 degs. Nosi Langor, 2.5 miles and 182 degs. 2.89 miles.
    - (iv) 185 degs. Nosi Langor 3 miles to the shore.
    - (v) Scaffolding from 160 degs. Nosi Langor 2.5 miles and shore at Hope Point.
  - (D) 3 H.D.A's on fixed bearing 183 degs. from Cairn on Nosi Volana in position 12 degs. 13' South 49 degs. 22' 35" East.

- (2) (a) Manza and (b) Tanga Bays.
  - (a) Manza Bay
    - (i) 6 cables A/T A/B boom between Ras Mavemayili and Ras Mnasini
    - (ii) Controlled Minefield to seaward of boom.
  - (b) Tanga
    - 2 A/T baffles.
    - (i) From Red buoy marking South end of Kwanawa Reef on a line 225 degs. Length 2 cables.
    - (ii) Between positions Ras Kasone Lt. 328 degs. 2 cables and ~~207 degs.~~ 5.5 cables. <sup>027° (amended 12/8/2)</sup>
    - (iii) A system of indicator loops to cover channels between Boma Peninsula Mwanba Wamba, Fungu Nyama and Ulenge Island is under consideration and a further signal will be made.

- (3) Seychelles.
  - 2 cables of A/T baffle sited 1 cable on either side of positions of floating pipe lines.

If indicator loops were provided a large system requiring much maintenance would be needed. A cable ship cannot be allocated at present to lay or maintain them. H.D.A/s alone are not recommended.

- (4) Priorities for provision of material in accordance with your 1313Z/9/5.

1115B/1  
 D. of L.D.(251)  
 Approved A.C.N.S.(F).  
 Distribution over/.....



Controller  
 Vice Controller  
 4th S.L.  
 V.C.N.S.  
 A.C.N.S. (F) (2).  
 A.C.N.S. (W).  
 N.A. 1st S.L.  
 N.A. to A.C.N.S. (T).  
 D. of L.D. (L.D. 003645/42).  
 D. of S.  
 D.B.D.  
 D. of P. (2).  
 D.O.D. (F) (2).  
 Duty Captain (2).  
 D.A/S.V.  
 D.N.I. (4).  
 D.D.I.C. (2).  
 D.T.M.  
 D.D.T.M.  
 D.S.D.  
 D.D.O.D. (M).  
 D.E.E.  
 Head of M.  
 D. of N.  
 Hydrog.  
 O.C.S.C.  
 I.P. (2).  
 W.D.  
 Deputy Controller  
 D.T.H.  
 D.H.E.  
 D.S.D.  
 Head of Sub. War Registry

} BATH.



1.6.1942.  
Monday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies.

A.S. 3. Following is a repetition of C.T.F. 34's 2135Z/31. Action Connav, Cominch; for information C.in C. Atlantic Fleet (U.S.) C.T.F. 23 (C.in C.A.W.I.?) R.A. West Africa, Navobs Freetown. Convoy A.S. 3 departs from base (M) 1900Z/31. Following route given by Connav 1643Z/28. except correct position (V) to read 08.30 N. 25.00 W. S. of A. 13. E.T.A. Momp 26° W. Davis Strait 9/6. (Cominch 0303/1 to R.A.W.A.).

MENTOR MENTOR, British, torpedoed twice in 024° 11' N. (sunk 28/5). 087° 02' W. at 0022 G.M.T./28 and sank. C.Bs. thrown overboard in weighted bags, depth of water 800 fathoms, information from Master. 85 in crew of whom 81 saved and just landed at Key West. 4 casualties ANTILOCHUS picked up survivors. (B.R.O. Key West, 0334Z/1, to Admty. (R) Ottawa etc.).

O.N. 97 (group missing) Your 0636/1. U boat was heard U/B. (?3) times between 0320Z and 041Z bearing (?073°) from O.N. 97. Have (?tracked) out on bearing without result while convoy altered 040° to starboard. (?C.T.U. 24.1.16, 0558/1 to C.in C.U.S. Fleet (R) C.T.F. 24. C.T.U. 24.1.16).

H.T. 1. Arrived SUDBURY and THE PAS escorting H.T. 1. (F.O.I.C. Trinidad, 0902Q/1, to C.O.A.C.).

B. 5 If no objection would like remaining Corvettes Escort Group. of B.5 escort group to call at Bermuda en route to Trinidad in order that use may be made of transport facilities. (C.in C.A.W.I. 1122P/1, to C.O.A.C. (R) Admty. N.S.H.Q. F.O.N.F.).

Movement 1800 G.M.T. 1/6.  
Summary. Ship Position Course Speed  
CARNARVON 03° N. 23° W. Patrol Blank.  
CASTLE  
(D.O.D. (F) 1130Z/1 to Opanav. (R) Comnav.)

O.N.S. 96. O.N.S. 96 N.U. alter course when local escort joins to point (X) omitting (W). (Connav, 1333/1, to C.T.U. 24.1.15., C.T.U. 24.18.3. (R) C.T.F. 24 Admty. C.O.A.C. N.S.H.Q. F.O.N.F.).  
O.N.S. 96. Concur your 1102Z/1st (presumably HURRICANE's 1102/1 intended re proposed route for O.N.S. 96). Canal my 1333/1. (Connav, 1755/1 to C.T.U. 24.1.15. (R) C.T. 24. C.T.U. 24.18.3. C.T.U. 24.1.16, Admty. C.O.A.C. N.S.H.Q. F.O.N.F.).

/Italian .....



War Diary.1.6.1942.  
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies. Contd.

Italian  
Repatriations. N.O.I.C. Freetown please pass to R.A.W.A.F. Onward route for ARCOLA? and TAIGETE from position (e) 021° 00' N. 040° 01' W. to (f) 014° 20' N. 060° 52' W. (g) 012° (?25') N. 068° 23' W. thence destination.  
(Connav, 1412/1, to Admty. (R) F.O.C.N.A., R.A.W.A.F.)

M.T.B. 335  
damage. Following from C.O. M.T.B. 339 (begins) - M.T.B. 335 sustained further slight damage to starboard bow in moderately heavy sea. Effecting repairs. Intend proceed dawn tomorrow. (Ends).  
(Treasurer, Grenada, 1415/1, to S.O.Cmdg. 19 M.T.B. Flotilla, Trinidad (R) Harbour Master Barbados, F.O. Trinidad, Admty. etc.).

U/B. U-Boat estimated in your vicinity by D/F has made sighting report of convoy or important unit at 0903Z/01 and 1037Z/01.  
(Navcom 1420/1. to C.T.U. 24.1.15 C.T.U.? 24.1.16 (R) Admty. N.S.H.Q. C.O.A.C. C.C.N.F. C.in C. A.F., C.T.F. 24. C.E.S.F.).

J.S.M. To have discretion in minor defence matters, including local defence schemes. C.O.S. (W) 190. (A.M., 1505Z/1 to J.S.M.). See Lion Copy.

T.U.  
24.1.16. Your 1132Z/1. (Not received in Admiralty). E.T.A. 050° W. 1400/2nd. In latitude 044° 56', course 259°.  
(C.T.U. 24.1.16, 1509Z/1, to F.O.N.F. (R) Connav, C.T. 24, etc.).

Tanker  
Diversions. BRITISH PRINCESS has been diverted to join convoy in 28.40 N. 24.01 W. Diversion should take effect 0200Z/2. Future diversions of this nature will be passed prefixed tanker diversions, to read in three columns, (1) Name of Ship, (2) Estimated time diversion effective, (3) Joining Position. (D.T.D. 1545B/1 to C.in C.A.W.I. S.O.I. Kingston).

Independent  
Ships. Your 1959/30. Request further reply as to whether Navy Dept. should be approached for concurrence that U.S. ships ESSO WILLIAMSBURG and SHELDON CLARK, mentioned in Masta 2508 para. 2, should be sailed independently as a special exception.  
(B.A.D., 1557Z/1, to Admty). Note:- Admty. 1852B/1 refers.

DIOMEDE  
defects. DIOMEDE reports that considerable noise has developed in port main bearing and increased until use of this engine became dangerous. (details). As vessel is no use in present condition propose she should return to U.K. forthwith, call at Bermuda en route if considered desirable to open up turbine for examination.  
(C.in C.A.W.I. 1602P/1, to Admty. (R) Cominch B.A.D., DIOMEDE).

/WESTMORELAND ....



**MOST SECRET**

18A

MOST SECRET

MESSAGE

1505z/1st June

OUT

Date 1.6.42

To J.S.M. Washington,  
Repeated C. in C. America and  
West Indies,  
Senior Army and R.A.F. Officers Concerned.

---

From Air Ministry

OZ 324 1/6/42 No. C.O.S.(W) 190

Following from Chiefs of Staff.

Reference A B C - 3 paragraph 13.

We are finding that the Chain of Command for resolving difficulties in minor defence matters is not satisfactory.

2. We propose, therefore, to delegate to you authority of Admiralty, War Office and Air Ministry in routine matters. In carrying out this task you may assume reasonable latitude. You should of course keep us or the Department concerned informed of any action you have taken and refer to London when in doubt.

3. Reference paragraph 5 of A B C - 3 the above includes Authority for approval of local defence schemes.

4. Procedure outlined in preceding paragraphs is a domestic matter and we do not consider it necessary to ask for amendments to A B C - 3 to give effect to it.

1505z/1

1st Lord  
1st S.L. (2)  
Controller  
4th S.L.  
Secretary  
V.C.N.S.  
A.C.N.S. (W)  
N.A. 1st S.L.  
P.A.S. (S)  
D. of P. (2)  
E.P.S.  
Duty Capt.  
Hd. of M.  
I.P. (2)  
W.D.

M.A.S.  
D. of L.D.  
Admiral Bellairs

Air Ministry Circulation:-  
Colonel Jacob  
Foreign Secretary  
War Reg. Admiralty  
C.6 Tels. War Office  
C.A.S.

Admiral Cunningham Room 64 O.B.I.



War Diary.1.6.1942.  
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies. Contd.

WESTMORELAND Intercept 1340 G.M.T. De unknown station. SSSS  
torpedoed. 35.55 N., 63.35 W., WESTMORELAND torpedoed at  
0640 G.M.T. De Mayo. Controlling station unknown.  
(Portishead Radio No T.O.O. Recd. 1606/1).

NORSEMAN Your 15340/30. This question should be referred  
(cable ship). to appropriate U.S. Naval Authority.  
(D.D.O.D.(F) 1607B/1 to B.R.O. Trinidad).

N.A. 11. D. of S.T.0021/2/5 para. 1, and 1307/20/5 para.1.  
Subject to your escort arrangement propose to  
embark LETITIA 14th and EMPRESS OF JAPAN 15th  
for sailing a.m./16. Both ships due Halifax 11/6. If desirable  
to anticipate sailing will endeavour to embark each ship one  
day earlier. Grateful for early reply confirming sailing dates.  
(N.S.H.Q., 1615Z/1, to Cominch (R) Cinclant, Opnav, etc.).

MEDEA. Information required Dutch MEDEA last reported  
due Ciudad Bolivar 18/5.  
(S.O.I. Jamaica, 1639B/1 to S.O.(I) Montevideo,  
C.S.A. Trinidad. (R) Admty. C.in C. A.W.I.B.A.D.  
N.S.Ottawa).

KYMA Your 1205/31. Ship is Dutch Schooner KYMA,  
overdue. reported in San Juan Vesca in error. Dutch  
MEDEA, my 1639R/1 refers.  
(S.O.I. Jamaica, 1641R/1 to Admty.).

U/B 1/6 S/M estimate.  
Positions. (Cominch, 1643/1, 1654/1, 1707/1, 1714/1, 1718/1,  
to Admty.).

YORKMOOR Chief Officer and 16 other uninjured survivors  
(sunk 28/5). S.S. YORKMOOR rescued by LAGUNA at 0900Z/31 in  
032° N. 075° 57' W. YORKMOOR sunk by gunfire  
from probably 2 S/Ms in 029° 54' 30" N. 072°  
25' 30" W. at 0215Z/28. 2nd shell carried away  
both aerials. One S/M surfaced after ship sunk and obtained  
ship's name, tonnage of cargo, port of departure, port of  
destination. S/M did not attack or assist survivors and submerged  
steering E. Other life boats containing balance of crew  
consisting of master and 27 others all uninjured estimated P.C.  
and S. 0800Z/3 031° 40' N. 075° 28' W. approx. N.W. 3 knots.  
U.S. authorities searching vicinity by air. Surface craft will  
search 2/6. My 1725Z/30 with list of survivors follows.  
(C.S.A. Charleston, 1654Z/1, to Admty. (R) N.S.H.Q.).

Trinidad, D.S.T.O. Capetown's 1445/29 (re DUCHESS OF  
shortage of BEDFORD sailed 28th E.T.A. Trinidad 13/6  
supplies. requirements fuel and water, no cargo on board).  
Request consideration be given to shipping all  
possible provisions from South Africa in event  
of further sailings with vacant cargo space. Need for all types  
of victualling stores is acute.  
(F.O.I.C. Trinidad, 1657Q/1, to Admty. (R) C.in CA.W.I.).

/ZURICHMOOR .....



War Diary.1.6.1942.  
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies. Contd.

ZURICHMOOR. ZURICHMOOR (Br.) overdue St. Thomas.  
(S.O.I.) Jamaica, 1658R/1 to Admty.).

K.N. 104. Arrived.  
(B.R.O. Norfolk, Va. 1713Z/1, to Admty.(R)  
N.S.H.Q. etc.).

MENTOR (1) B.R.O. Key West reports arrival of survivors  
FRED.W. GREEN of British MENTOR torpedoed and sunk 0022Z/28  
(sunk 28/5, 2411N 8702W. (2) C.F.T. 34 report rescue 2 boat-  
30/5). loads of survivors from British FRED W.GREEN in  
30.41N 62.05W. torpedoed and sunk night of 30/5.  
(C.in C.A.W.I. 1739P/1, to Admty).

U/B. S.S.TOPDALSJORD reports at 0100 R 30/5 bright  
moonlight, 016.02 065.43, submarine surfacing,  
crash dived, no description.  
(S.O(I.) Jamaica, 1758R/1, to Admty. etc.).

Independent Noted that the 16 knot tanker OHIO has been  
Fast routed to U.K. by Port Director, Houston, via  
Tankers. Key West and New York. Nothing is known here  
of any reduction in her speed.  
2. Certain fast tankers have recently been  
loaned to us by U.S. in order that advantage might be taken of  
their speed to run them independently and thus do the work of  
several slower ships.  
3. The tankers of 15 knots and over which have been loaned to  
us are:- OHIO, ESSO AUGUSTA, ATLANTIC SUN, AMERICAN SUN.  
E.W. SINCLAIR, and PENNSYLVANIA.  
4. Grateful if you could arrange with Navy Dept. (a) that  
U.S.R.O's be given instructions to sail these ships independently  
(b) that similar instructions are given regarding ESSO WILLIAMS-  
BURG and SHELDON CLARK. These two tankers are only 14½ knots  
but we should like to make them special exceptions to the 15  
knot rule. (c) that OHIO may be instructed to sail to U.K.  
independently providing that her speed has not suffered any  
considerable reduction.  
(D.T.D. 1852/1 to B.A.D.).

CHURCHILL. Bermuda departure 1035P/1 CHURCHILL for Curacao  
via Mona Passage. S.of A. 16 knots under  
orders C.T.G. 26. 3.  
(C.in C.A.W.I. 1927P/1, to Admty.(R) B.A.D.  
N.S.H.Q., etc.).

Portuguese Consul General Lisbon reports Portugese cod  
Fishing fishing vessels ARGUS and CREOULA will require  
Newfoundland. oil to be supplied middle of June by Imperial  
Oil Co. North Sydney, Nova Scotia, for summer  
fishing off Newfoundland and Greenland.  
2. In view of Admty. interest in assisting Portugese cod  
fishing fleet, request you will give every assistance in order  
that there may be as little delay as possible in supply.  
(Head of M. 1952B/1 to N.S.H.Q.,(R) S.C.N.O. Halifax).



War Diary.1.6.1942.  
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies. Contd.O.N. 97  
U/B.

D/F Bearings at 1751Z suggest U-Boat has reported convoy O.N. 97. (D.D.I.C. 2045B/1 to Cominch (R) N.S.H.Q.). U-Boat estimated your vicinity by R.D.F. at 1751Z and 1849Z 1st. May have made sighting report on convoy. (C.in C. U.S.Fleet, 2235/1, to C.T.U. 24.1.16(R) C.T.U. 24.1.15 Admty. C.O.A.C. N.S.H.Q. C.T.F. 24.C.in C. Atlantic Fleet C.C.N.F.).

Sub attack  
and sighting  
summary.

GONCALVES DIAZ 2 torpedoes, presumed sunk, 16.09 N. 70° W. 1215Z/24. MENTOR 2 torpedoes presumed sunk, 24.11 N. 87.02 W. 0022Z/28. JACK sunk 17.36 N. 74.42 W. 27/5. JOHN D. ARCHBOLD attacked 28.52 N. 90.25 W. 1/6. WESTMORELAND attacked 35.54 N. 63.55 W. approx. 1036Z/1. HAMPTON ROADS attacked 22.45 N. 85.13 W. 0940Z/1. OCEAN VENUS, 15 rounds. Plane sights sub. on surface 39.29 N. 68.53 W. 1808Z/31. Planes sight subs. 15.05 N. 64.45 W. 1901Z/31, 34.35 N. 76.23 W. 1222Z/1. M.V. sights sub. 22.40 N. 78.28 W. 1325Z/1. Subs. reported 21.05 N. 84.48 W. 2329Z/31 19.08 N. 80.12 W. approx. 0245Z/1. 12.47 N. 79.21 W. 2255Z/31. 14.28 N. 77.14 W. 2325Z/31. Latter two unconfirmed. Opanav and B.A.D. informed. (C.in C.U.S.Fleet, 2107Z/1 to Admty. for O.I.C.).

U.S.N.  
Dispositions.

Changes my 2120/25/5 location. (C.in C.U.S.Fleet, 2108/1 to Admty.) See Lion Copy.

RANPURA  
BITER  
N.A. 11.

RANPURA ready to sail Hampton Roads 10/6 for Halifax stopping New York en route to embark U.S. troops. BITER ready New York about 7/6 to proceed via Sound and Cape Cod Canal in time to arrive east end of canal 12/6 thence to Halifax.

Both Ships join N.A.11 sailing Halifax 16/6. C.in C. U.S. Atlantic Fleet will provide escort RANPURA Hampton Roads onward BITER east end of Canal to destination. (C.in C. U.S. Fleet 2141/1 to C.E.S.F. (R) Admty. etc.).

? ALEGRETE  
Torpedoed.

Barbados Radio reports intercept from ship with Signal Letters PUWS 13° 40' N. 61° 30' W, torpedoed 2156 G.M.T./1 B.A.D. pass to Cominch and Opanav. (Navycharge Bermuda 2157P/1, to Admiracirc, Admty).

Convoy K.S.  
504.

Your 1435/26 K.S.504 dispersed off Key West 1900 G.M.T./31. (B.R.O.Key West 2207Z/1, to Norfolk (R) Admty etc.

SONIA  
(torpedoed  
30/5).

S.S.SONIA torpedoed 15 miles West Seal Island, 30/5 19 Survivors landed Barrington Passage. C.O.A.C. Halifax 2215Z/1, to Admty. Cominch, N.S.H.Q.)

/Convoy K.N. 106 .....



**MOST SECRET**

M E S S A G E

2108/1st June.

2/A

MOST SECRET.

I N.

From C. in C., U.S. Fleet,

Date. 2.6.42.

Recd. 0640.

U.S. "X" by Cable.

Addressed Admiralty. Repeated COMNAVEU.

Serial 24. Changes my 2120/25 May locations.  
Atlantic. B.B.S. TEXAS left Bermuda 31st May,  
NEW YORK due Halifax 2nd June, NORTH CAROLINA at  
Norfolk, WASHINGTON at Scapa.

C.A.S. WICHITA at Scapa.  
C.L.S. SAN JUAN, PHILADELPHIA at Norfolk,  
OMAHA, MILWAUKEE, at Recife.

Pacific. C.V.S. LONG ISLAND at San Diego.  
C.A.S. CHESTER due San Diego about 2nd June,  
at sea. VINCENNES, NEW ORLEANS, PORTLAND, NORTHAMPTON,  
MINNEAPOLIS, ASTORIA, INDIANAPOLIS, PENSACOLA,  
LOUISVILLE left San Francisco 30th May, SAN FRANCISCO  
left same city 26th May with convoy.  
C.L.S. DETROIT at Pearl, ATLANTA, HONOLULU  
at sea, SAN DIEGO due that city 2nd June.

Norpac. ST. LOUIS at sea.

Soupac. LEANDER due Suva 2nd June.

Souwestpac. \*CHICAGO left Sydney 31st May to join allied  
squadron, \*TROMP left Sydney 31st May escorting convoy  
Z K 9 to Townsville, SALT LAKE CITY at Brisbane,  
PHOENIX at Fremantle. \* See next page.

Admiralty pass to COMNAVEU for Information. OPNAV  
and B.A.D. informed.

2108/1

1st Lord.

Advance copy sent D.C., D.O.D. (H)  
D.O.D. (F) & D.D.I.C.

1st S.L.

5th S.L.

V.C.N.S.

A.C.N.S. (H)

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

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

D.O.D. (F) (2)

D.C. (2)

D.A/S.V.

Hd. of M.

D.D.I.C. (2)

I.P. (2)

W.D.

D.N.I. (4)

D. of P. (2)

D.N.A.D.

Hd. of Air Branch.

U.S.N. (3).

MMC.



War Diary.1.6.1942.  
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies. Contd.Convoy K.N.  
106.

Will proceed from Key West north anchorage at 1100 G.M.T. on 2/6 S. of A. 10 knots due Norfolk (Virginia) 6/6.  
(details) Broutoff, Key West, 2232Z/1 to C. in C. A.W.I.).

Australia and New Zealand.

[4. cu p. 45.]

Sydney  
Midget  
S/M attack.

Enemy submarines probably 3 in number entered Sydney Harbour approx. 1200Z/31. 2 torpedoes were directed against U.S. Cruiser CHICAGO underway in harbour. Both missed but one sank H.M.A.S.\*KUTTABUL (Depot Ship). 2 killed, 10 wounded, and 13 missing. Other torpedo beached at Garden Is. failed to explode and proved to be 18" torpedo head approx. 8 feet in length. Present estimated effect of counter measures, 1 submarine definitely sunk and identified as midget type. Strict censorship has been imposed.

(A.C.N.B. 0424Z/1, to Admty. C.O.I.S. Colombo, N.Z.N.B.C. in C.E.F)

*See also 2242Z/1. \* See next page.*

## Movements.

Departures Port Moresby 2045Z/29 for escort duty CESSNOCK and GOULBURN. Departures Sydney 0319Z/31 U.S. Destroyer SELFRIDGE and H.M.A.S. WARREGO escorting convoy Z K 9 for Townsville. Arrival Exmouth Gulf 0809Z/30 U.S. Tender HERON. Departure Exmouth Gulf 1000Z/30 for Fremantle U.S. Seaplane Tender CHILDS. Departure Sydney 1643Z/31 U.S. Cruiser CHICAGO and U.S. Destroyer PERKINS to join U.S. Task Force 44. Departure Brisbane 0900Z/31. U.S. Destroyer FLUSSER for Sydney. Departure Sydney 0532Z/31. → Neth. Cruiser TROMP to join escort for Z K 9. (A.C.N.B. 1206Z/1 to C. in C.P.A.C. Admty. C. in C.E.I.N.O. Wellington C. in C. E.F. C.O.I.S. Colombo).

## Situation.

Serial number 130 from C.W.R. 31/5. 5 Hudsons attempted to attack pier at Dilli 30/5. Only one located target, result unobserved due to poor visibility.

2. 8 Hudsons attacked Penfoei Aerodrome, Koepang, 31st, bombs dropped in target area. No observations due to weather.
3. Allied air R/C. Ambon Bay 31/5 revealed 5 vessels, one 7000 tons, 2 3000 tons, one 500 tons, one possibly destroyed.
4. 5 Bites attacked Lae, Salamoia, 31/5 fires started among buildings, hits scored on runway. Concentrated M/G fire from East side exposed position of runway Lae also opposition from field battery.
5. Reliably reported Salamoia Runway regravelled and gun positions completed by 27/5.
6. Enemy troops Salamoia now estimated 75 but adequate M.T. for considerably larger number.
7. At least 1 unidentified aircraft reported vicinity Sydney (N.S.W.) between 1332Z/30 and 1427Z/30.

/8.....



War Diary.

1.6.1942.  
Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Australia and New Zealand.

Situation  
Contd.

8. At least 3\* Enemy Midget Submarines unsuccessfully attacked Vessels in Sydney (N.S.W.) Harbour at 1420Z/31st. KUTTABUL (ex Ferry Steamer) sunk. No other damage. 2 Midget Submarines definitely sunk.

9. Indication that unidentified vessel operating within 50 miles (?) of Fremantle between 1300Z and 1500Z/31. Graded C.3. B.A.D. Washington pass P/L copy to Opnav. (A.C.N.B., 2242Z/1, to Admty. etc.). See also ACN3 0424Z/1, page 22

\* Alleged to 4, see page 45.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Submarines Reported.

Estimated U-Boat positions.  
(D.D.I.C. 1412B/1, 1418B/1).



War Diary.

2.6.1942.  
Tuesday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

The discharge at Murmansk of ships of convoy P.Q.16 is being impeded by constant air attacks and it is understood that damage to the railway is also interrupting the flow of traffic.

British Air Operations.

The Russians report that in protection of convoy P.Q.16 from 26/5 to 2/6 inclusive the Soviet Air Force made 2028 Sorties of which 193 were attacks on Luostari, Kirkenes, Anak, Tromso and Hammerfest Aerodromes and the remainder R/C, convoy protection, A/S patrols, escorts for bombers and defence of Murmansk. The enemy lost 55 aircraft, the Soviet losses were 23 and 4 damaged.

Enemy Air Operations.

Some hostile aircraft were over the northern part of the Thames Estuary last night, but there is no evidence of minelaying.

Ipswich was attacked last night, damage and casualties are reported to have been comparatively light. No naval damage is reported.

For the past 8 days enemy R/C aircraft have paid special attention to the east coast as far north as the Firth of Forth.

There were two air raids on Murmansk today. The Russians claim to have destroyed 9 bombers and 3 fighters for the loss of 3 Soviet Hurricanes.

S.S. CITY OF BREMEN (Irish) was bombed and sunk at 1745 today in 49° 57' N 11° 35' W (100 miles S.W. of Cape Clear.)



War Diary.

2.6.1942.

Tuesday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Mining.

Four ground mines were exploded by sweepers in the Harwich area today.

Mediterranean.

Aircraft on Western Desert convoy protection duty report hits with depth charges early today on two U-Boats. Later in the forenoon an aircraft sighted two U-Boats together off the Egyptian coast, one of which was apparently damaged and transferring stores and crew.

America and West Indies.

Four ships were sunk by U-Boats today in 40° 14' N 66° 1' W 39° 22' N 70° 0' W, 23° N 62° 30' W and at the east entrance to the Yucatan Straits respectively.



War Diary.2.6.1942.  
Tuesday.HOME COMMANDS.Policy.

Hospital ship for North Russia. North Russia's 2046B/31. Strongly concur. It is doubtful whether conditions and draft supplied will be much better at Archangel.  
(Ad. Miles 1906C/2, to Admty.)

Flag of Vice-Admiral Curteis. Flag of V/Adml. A.T.B. Curteis C.B. will be transferred to KENYA at 0800/4.  
(C.in C.H.F., 1938B/2.)

Admiral Stark. It is understood that you are aware that Admiral Stark accompanied by Admiral Blake and Lieutenant Veasey, U.S.N. are due at Invergordon about noon 4th. It would be appreciated if the destroyer sent to provide onward passage to Scapa could be one of the U.S. Flotilla.  
(A.C.N.S.(I) 2105B/2, to C.in C.H.F.)

Movements.

NEWARK. Sailed NEWARK.  
(A.C.I.C. 0200B/2 to R.A.M.)

O.14. Scapa departure 1933/1 O.14. Arrival 0719/2 P.45  
P.45. (A.C.O.S. 0908/2)

CAIRO. Intend sailing CAIRO 0400Z/3rd by Irish Sea and QZ F 18 thence Gibraltar in accordance with your 1502B 31. E.T.A. . 0700Z/7.  
(N.O.I.C. Belfast 0945B/2.)

TORBAY. F.O. (S)s 1214/28. Onward route for TORBAY.  
UNBEATEN. From position  
(R) 050°, 009° proceed through position.  
(S) 049° 42', 006° 26' to R/V escort in 180°  
Lizard Head 5 miles at 0700/7 for passage Falmouth to await UNBEATEN on 8/6. 2. F.O.(S)s 2131/24. Onward route for UNBEATEN.  
From position (D) 049° 30', 008° 01' proceed to R/V escort in 180° Lizard Head 5 miles at 0700/8 for onward surface passage Portsmouth in company with TORBAY.  
(Capt. S.5. 1551B/2)

SEAWOLF. My 2216/27 and my 2244/1. Delay in return of  
TRIDENT. SEAWOLF AND TRIDENT to U.K., if convoy sailing dates are postponed can be accepted providing you can provision them.  
(F.O.S. 1604B/2 to S.B.N.O. North Russia)

RODNEY...



War Diary.2.6.1942.  
Tuesday.HOME COMMANDS.Movements - Contd.

RODNEY. Adty., 1343B/2. RODNEY escorted by 3 destroyers is to proceed so as to pass Greenock Gate at 0700B/4.  
(C.in C.H.F. 1728B/2)

P.46. My 1123/1. Sailed.  
(S.O. S/M. Lerwick 1738B/2)

COLOMBO. Your 2259/1. From position (X) proceed through (1) 49°30' N., 12°30' W. (2) 180° Bishop Rock 10 (3) 180° thence for 8½, thence by QZ S.278 to Plymouth. 2. Adjust speed to arrive position (2) at 0530B/5.  
(C.in C. Plymouth 1742B/2 to COLOMBO) See also Shipping and Convoys. p. 31.

SAKNARA. Request you will report approx., date when boiler-cleaning vessel SAKNARA will be ready to leave Humber for Iceland(C).  
(D.O.D.(H.) 2030B/2 to F.O. I.C. Humber.)

Operations.

Denmark Straits Patrol. RENOWN'S 1113B/31. Sailed. (TUSCALOOSA)  
(A.C.I.C., 0020B/2 to CUMBERLAND.)  
2200 situation tonight. TUSCALOOSA on patrol "White". NORTHERN SPRAY in Denmark Strait.  
(A.C.I.C. 1434B/2).

RUBIS Patrol. F.S.G. 2 para. 1. On reaching 045° N., after completing your lay, proceed on patrol in vicinity of 128° R R 48 miles (B) Proceed so as to cross longitude 004 degs west on your homeward route at 0001B 9th June. (C) Report on reaching position T on homeward route if you are unable to comply within 4 hours of (B) above.  
(D) Bombing restrictions for your homeward passage will be arranged.  
(F.O.S. 1011B/2 to RUBIS)

Hvalfjord. H.F. ships at Hvalfjord have reverted to 4 hours' notice for steam.  
(RENOWN 1301B/2.)

British Air Activity.

Bombing Restrictions. Cancel my 0008B/9.  
(C.in C. Plymouth 1508B/2 to H.Q.C.C.)

CAYRIAN. A/C shot down. It is now known that an Enemy A/C was shot down by H.M.T. CAYRIAN on night 29/30, maybe in addition to the one already reported in my 0235B/30 which was claimed by a Fighter. A/C was engaged by CAYRIAN at 0133/30 and was seen to fall in the river. Wreckage has now been picked up.  
(F.O.I.C. Humber 1545B/2.)

Bombing Operations. On day 1/6. 12 A/C bombed Flushing (H.Q.B.C.1700/2)

Thames...



War Diary.2.6.1942.  
Tuesday.HOME COMMANDS.British Air Activity - Contd.

Thames Estuary. During night 1/2 a very large number of friendly Own A/C believed bombers returned over the Estuary. At the same time reports were received of Hostile Aircraft and fire was opened at times on what must have been friendly planes. Most of this was from Mercantile Tugs and other ships not in W/T touch with the Nore who were anchored off the The Sunk after Operation QQ2. They did not even know the friendly recognition lights and had to be checked by personal contact from M.L. There were definitely some hostile planes over the Northern Part of the Estuary, but it is doubtful if there were any in the Southern Sector although GLENAVON reports having fired at an unidentified plane flying at about 400 feet which arrived 2 minutes after a "Red Warning" had been signalled. At 0242 one plane believed to be hostile flew over the Northern Sector burning navigation lights and a steady white light directed downwards. There was no evidence of minelaying.  
(S.O. T.L.D.F. 1701/2.)

Own A/C  
fired on.

On arrival in harbour brief report is to be signalled of circumstances in which ship in your convoy fired on ~~submarine~~ at approx., 0945/1, killing the air gunner.  
(C.in C.W.A. 2205B/2, to DUNNOTTAR CASTLE)

Enemy Air Activity.Murmansk  
bombed.  
EMPIRE  
STARLIGHT  
sunk.

EMPIRE STARLIGHT bombed Monday evening received 4 hits now aground with decks awash at high water. All holds and engine room flooded. No casualties.  
2. EMPIRE BAFFIN and OCEAN VOICE alongside. EMPIRE BAFFIN had several near misses.  
3. Discharge in port generally very slow so far owing to constant air attacks.  
4. Understand that railway outside also damaged interrupting flow of traffic but every effort being made in port and on railway repair damage.  
(Cormack 0644B/2 to Adty.)  
June 1st. Some 87 Fighters and Bombers reported to have taken part in 4 attacks on Murmansk. 8 shot down, Russians losing same number army fighters. Bombs dropped on Tromso aerodrome by coastal R/C aircraft.  
(?) EMPIRE STARLIGHT previously damaged was sunk by bombs when at anchor off Murmansk. No casualties.  
June 2nd. 2 raiders, no damage to shipping.  
(S.B.N.O. North Russia 2114B/2.)

Dover  
bombed on  
29/5.

During an air raid on H.M. Naval Base at Dover on the night of 29/5 following damage was caused by H.E. bombs to Admiralty property. Details. West Jetty had a direct hit on point outside submarine basin not used by Admiralty for berthing and not requisitioned. Damage to masonry, hand rails, rail tracks. This rail track is not used. U.P. Battery West Jetty ammunition store and refuge for personnel demolished. These were erected by Admiralty but taken over by War Department.  
(S.C.E. Chatham 1746/2)



War Diary.2.6.1942.  
Tuesday.HOME COMMANDS.Mining.

- Q.S.8. Request ships engaged in operation Q.S.8 may anchor in Yarmouth Roads nightly, returning to Harwich for fuel and provisions.  
(M.S.9. 1035B/2 to F.O.I.C. Yarmouth)  
Your 1035/2. Approved.  
(F.O.I.C. Gt. Yarmouth 1440B/2 to M.S.9)
- Humber. One red mine detonated by Sweepers at 1438/2.  
Details.  
(F.O. Humber 1945B/2.)
- Harwich. 4 Ground Mines exploded by Sweepers at 1114/2, 1215/2, 1500/2, and 1548/2 respectively. Details.  
(F.O.I.C. Harwich 2127B/2 and 2136B/2)

Enemy Intelligence.

- M/Vs off Havre. 2 M/Vs bearing 090°, distant 2 miles, course 090°. My position 49°38' N. 1° W.  
(A/C 0055/2 and T.O.R. 0134/2 to 16 Group).
- North Norway on 31/5. Russians report 31/5. Senja Island one S/M. Northern portion Varanger Fiord two destroyers. Kirkenes one S/M. Region of Inga Island one S/M. Unknown number merchantmen left Kirkenes for Western Norwegian ports. Varanger Fiord two S/Ms. Position 71° 52', 21°48' one S/M. Twenty miles North of North Cape one destroyer.  
(Ad. Miles 1939C/2.)

U-Boats.

- U-Boat reported. D/F bearings at 2307Z/1, indicate U/Boat may be in area within 100 miles of 41° 30' N. 24° 30' W.  
(D.D.I.C. 0843B/2 to COLOMBO) See also Enemy Intelligence.

Navigational.

- Reykjavik. Reykjavik Roads. Akrey buoy missing. Request @ZH.  
(A.C.I.C. 1205Z/2).
- North Russia Weather Reports. Weather reports from North Russia are of such great importance and are so irregular with the one exception of that made in accordance with your 1359A/29/3, would it be practicable for you to send reports for 0700Z and 1800Z and if at all possible for 1300Z and 0100Z in addition. The present 1000Z report would not be required. It would be much appreciated if you

/could...



War Diary.2.6.1942.  
Tuesday.HOME COMMANDS.Navigational.

North Russia could arrange for Archangel to carry out a  
Weather similar procedure to yourself.  
Reports -Cont. (D.S.D. 2050B/2 to S.B.N.O. North Russia)

Technical.

A/A procedure. D.C.N.S. says his Soviet destroyer with P Q 16  
shot down 4 aircraft on 29/5. This said to be  
done by barrage at from 6 to 8 cables from main  
armament using the new type of shell described  
by him as partly H.E. and shrapnel. Also said this feat had been  
favourably commented on by British escort ships.  
2. Can you find out any details of this procedure?  
(Ad. Miles 1842C/2, to S.B.N.O. North Russia)

Casualties and Defects.

VIDETTE II. Your 2133B/22/5. VIDETTE II is on slip for  
repairs to damage by incendiary bombs. Estimated  
time to complete 14 days.  
(C.in C. Portsmouth 1257B/2)

COMMANDANT D'ESTIENNE D'ORVES. Free French corvette COMMANDANT D'ESTIENNE D'ORVES  
has sustained slight damage to port bow whilst  
entering Cardiff docks. Approx., six days required.  
(F.O.I.C. Cardiff 1458B/2)

RODNEY. R.A.D. H.F. 1626/25. Reliefs have been detailed.  
Complement. (Combrax, Devonport 1616B/2 to RODNEY)

Convoy O.S.30. O.S. 30. FLEETWOOD collision with OIL RELIANCE.  
FLEETWOOD. Slight damage to her starboard quarter broke upper  
deck. Temporary repairs being effected. FLEETWOOD  
OIL RELIANCE. stem slightly buckled, and following further  
damage. Both ships proceeding with Convoy.  
(FLEETWOOD 2003B/2)

Shipping and Convoys.

W.S.19 P. Unable to meet W S 19 P (?owing to) bad weather.  
My P.C.S. at 0400 B/2, 054° 36' N. 012° 40' W,  
247°, maximum safe speed 10 knots.  
(SALISBURY 0400B/2)  
W.S.19P. My 1847B/27.

1. BUXTON is to endeavour to R/V with convoy in time to escort ARGUS from position (XX) at 0430Z/5. NELSON to amend time if necessary.
2. Failing this BUXTON is to proceed independently to Azores and fuel, then proceed independently to Argentia. In this case another destroyer is to be detailed to escort ARGUS in her place.
3. Should fuel situation require either BEAGLE or DOUGLAS being detailed for ARGUS, a substitute destroyer is to remain with W.S. convoy and fuel at Azores.
4. KEPPEL, LEAMINGTON must not fuel at Azores.
5. 1st destroyer detached to U.K. to report situation in full.  
(C.in C.W.A. 1824B/2 to NELSON, BUXTON, ECCLA.)



War Diary.2.6.1942.  
Tuesday.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping and Convoys - Contd.

S.C.84. S.C.84. Average speed 7.41 knots. Moderate  
ANTINOUS. weather throughout voyage. ANTINOUS lost convoy  
21/5 arrived 4 days early. All ships now reported.  
(D.T.D. 1207B/2 to Cominch)

Commodore of S.C.84 reports that U.S.S. ANTINOUS  
left convoy on night 20/21, and that he suspects that this was  
deliberate. ANTINOUS arrived Clyde three days ahead of convoy.  
Request U.S.N.L.O. may interrogate Master.  
(D.T.D. 1807B/2 to N.C.S.O. Clyde)

P.Q.16. Your 1601B 1. I concur generally in SEAWOLF  
0941B/31 and most particularly in paras. 3,4, and  
9. Para. 5. The station of S/Ms is a difficult  
problem. I have tried positions on the beam and position astern.  
I do not like either but consider position astern is the better  
and that, if S/Ms have sufficient speed, SEAWOLF objection would  
no longer be valid.  
(C.S.10 1625B/2 to C. in C.H.F.)

EMPRESS OF Cancel my 1802/1.2. EMPRESS OF RUSSIA is to proceed  
RUSSIA. from X. 047° 35' N. 021° 34' W. at 1200Z/3 through:  
COLOMBO. Y. 054° 34', 012° 37'. Z. 055° 30', 007° 59',  
thence Liverpool.

3. COLOMBO is to part company in position (X) and  
proceed to Plymouth as routed by C.in C., Plymouth reporting  
speed of EMPRESS OF RUSSIA.

4. SALISBURY, MANSFIELD are to meet EMPRESS OF RUSSIA as early  
as possible and escort to Bar Light Vessel thence returning to  
bases. 5. Instructions for BUXTON follow.

(C. in C.W.A. 1712B/2 to NELSON, etc.)  
C. in C.W.A., 1712. My P.C.S. 053° 26' N. 018° 15' W, 180°,  
10 knots. Request R/V Present visibility 4.  
(MANSFIELD 2200Z/2 to SALISBURY) *See p. 27.*

S.L.110. Commodore should ensure that the tankers who have  
joined convoy have the approach route to their  
respective ports.  
(C.in C.W.A. 1740B/2 to Escorts S.L.110)

Irish Sea The following escort programme for AA ships in the  
A/A Escorts. Irish Sea has been arranged to provide the maximum  
protection for convoys consequent on the reduction  
in AA ships due to present and future commitments.  
Details.  
(F.O.I.C. Belfast 1917B/2)



War Diary.

2.6.1942.  
Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

General.

Routeing. Pass to N.C.S.Os. A ship was recently routed to a position in mid ocean with orders to listen out for broadcast instructions. Others are frequently given U.K. as a destination.  
2. Such vague instructions are dangerous. Ships are invariably to be routed to a specific port or anchorage.  
3. A ship bound for U.K. whose precise destination is unknown is to be routed to Clyde for orders.  
4. This instruction supersedes my 1857/17/7/40. (D.T.D. 2204B/2 to A.I.G. 19. S.B.N.O. Archangel, S.B.N.O. N. Russia.)

Raiders.

Intelligence. A.M. 1724B/26/5. 1 No further indications of position of Raider E, Raider H or Raider J.  
2. Following ships overdue may possibly be raider casualties. HARPAGON due Capetown 23/5 from New York. KATTEGAT due Montevideo 26/5 from Capetown. If KATTEGAT was lost by enemy action Raider H was probably responsible. (D.D.I.C. 1703B/2 to B.A.D. R.A. West Africa. A.I.G. 13.)

North Atlantic.

TRAVELLER. Intend sailing TRAVELLER for working up patrol south of Alboran Island p.m. 3/6.  
(F.O.C.N.A. 1206B/2 to C. in C. Med. (R) Admty. N.O.I.C. Malta.)

3rd. 3rd. M.L. Flotilla maintenance staff and spare  
M.L. parts should accompany the 6 M.Ls. being sent to  
Flotilla. Malta. (D.D.O.D. C. 1946B/2 to F.O.C.N.A. (R)  
V.A. Malta. C. in C. Med.)

Air R/C P.R.U. Gibraltar 2201Z/2.  
Cartagena.



War Diary.

2.6.1942.  
Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic. conts:-

PARTHIAN  
REGENT. Your 1728/30/5. Accommodation is available 112 cells from each submarine named. (A.S. Gibraltar 2202B/2 to Admty. (R) F.O.C.N.A. F.O.S. Capt. S.8.)

French shipping. Gibraltar 1015. Armed Trawler LA\*TOULONNAISE Ships, all laden, IMERETHIE-II with few troops, LINCOLN deck cargo motor transport and drums, SAVOIE many passengers, ST LOUIS motor transport on deck westbound. 2015 Armed Trawler LA\*SERVANNAISE. S.S. PROVIDENCE, CEVENNES deck cargo sacks ST LOUIS apparently carrying guns forward SURVILLE all ships full, eastbound. (S.O.I. Gibraltar 2217B/2 to Admty. C. in C. Med. R.A. West Africa. S.O.I. Kingston.)

Axis Shipping. Berne report states German OSORNO and 2 others arrived Bordeaux in April from Far East. A previous report said PIETRO ORSEOLO had arrived in April, and it is also known that FUSIYAMA arrived in April. These may be the 2 others referred to. (D.O. 1002.)

South Atlantic.

Situation report. 2000/2 situation. WIVERN 019° 30' 020° 59' (? 348°) 16½.  
BRIDGEWATER 011° 50' 017° 20'.  
*See next page* AMARANTHUS, DROGOU 008° 15' 014° 55' 258° 10.  
CORINTHIAN 016° 50' 037° 30' 106° 10½.  
(R.A. West Africa 1037Z/2 to Ships in Area P of S.A. Station N of 8° N, Admty. etc.)

Pointe Noire A/A battery. B.N.L.O. West Africa has informed me that the Free French have reported to him that due to (A) non delivery of predictor (B) shortage of personnel the A/A battery at Pointe Noire Port is inoperative.  
2. Understand F.N.F.L. London informed. (S.O.I. Freetown 1047Z/2 to Admty.)

R/C Dakar. R/C of Dakar? at about 1230/1/6 shows RICHELIEU? present usual berth with booms in position. 2 "Galissoniere" Class Cruisers present 1 in Bassin Median with A/C shipborne and boom in

/position...



War Diary.2.6.1942.  
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic. Contd.R/C  
Dakar.  
Contd.

position the other moved to Bassin Petrolier with boom across bow. 2 "Fantasque" Destroyers present. JULES VERNE with 6 or 7 D S/Ms at Submarine Base. 3 Loire 130 Flying Boats of about 100 ft. span at air Fiance Base. Considerable increase Merchant Shipping since 25/5. (R.A. West Africa 1129Z/2 to Admty. (R) C. in C. S.A. F.O.C.N.A.)

PHYLLISIA.

Proceed at 1900Z/3 for Gibraltar calling at Bathurst for coal. Route. (R.A. West Africa 1340Z/2 to PHYLLISIA (R) B.D.O. F.O.C.N.A.)

FROBISHER  
C.M.28.

Sailed FROBISHER as escort to convoy C.M.28 routed in accordance with N.C.S.O. Durban's 1509Z/2/6. S of A 11½ knots. (Cdre. Durban 1456Z/2 to Admty. C. in C. E.I. C. in C. Dep. E.F. etc.) *See next page*

COMMANDANT  
AMARANTHUS  
DROGOU  
S.L.112.

Departure 2/6 AMARANTHUS, <sup>COMMANDANT</sup> DROGOU escort duty tanker and R/V S.L.112. (S.O.I. Freetown 1502Z/2 to Admty.)

M/S - A/S  
Trawlers.

Sailed PLADDA, SHAPINSAY, HILDASAY routed as my 1501/31/5. S of A 9 knots E.T.A. Diego Suarez 1600Z/10. SLUNA follows shortly on completion of repairs. (N.O.I.C. Durban 1602Z/2 to Admty. C. in C. S.A. C. in C. E.I. C. in C. E.F. S.O.I. Kilindini. S.O.I. Colombo, N.O.I.C. Diego Suarez. N.O.I.C. East Africa and Zanzibar, S.O. Force F.)

MAURITIUS.

Your 1425/2 (N.T. in W.R.) P C and S at 1700 022° 16' S 002° 05' E 133° 13.5. (MAURITIUS 1701Z/2 to C. in C. S.A.)

W.S.19P.

W.S.19P. To assist Freetown escort in locating convoy, the last escort calling at Ponta Delgada for fuel is to report, when well clear, convoy S of A and E.T.A. at 20° 00' N to R.A. West Africa. (C. in C. W.A. 1710B/2 to NELSON (R) Admty. C. in C. S.A. R.A. West Africa, Ships escorting convoy W.S.19P.) *See p 30*

Sailing  
of S.L.  
Convoys.

Commencing with S.L.113, S.L. convoys should be sailed from Freetown 24 days after O.S. convoys sail from Liverpool, provided that the escorts have a minimum of 4 days in Freetown. (D.T.D. 1922B/2 to R.A. West Africa (R) C. in C. S.A. C. in C. W.A.)



War Diary.2.6.1942.  
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic - Contd.W.S.19Q  
water at  
Freetown.

Your 1236/22. W.S.19Q has 24 days range on fresh water at 5 gallons but Master now considers it essential that water should be taken at Freetown. If this is confirmed on arrival supplies should be such as not to delay vessel or add to delay to W.S.19P. Quantity of water required at Capetown should be signalled by Freetown. (D of S.T. 2055B/2 to S.S.T.O. Freetown (R) S.S.T.O. Capetown)

C.M.28.

Convoy C.M.28 sailed 2/6 for Bombay, E.T.A. 0100Z/17. Personnel on board. (D.S.T.O. Durban 2134Z/2, 2138Z/2.) *See Medicine page.*

CHARLBURY  
(British)  
(torpedoed  
28/5.)

U.S. Cruiser OMAHA landed at Pernambuco 1/6 39 survivors (comprising Master and full crew except 1 fireman and 1 greaser killed) of CHARLBURY torpedoed 28/5. (S.O.I. Montevideo 2237Z/2 to Admty. (R) C. in C. S.A. S.O.I. Freetown, S.O.I. Kingston.) See also Opanv 0201/2, America and West Indies.

VOLENDAM

Ref. R.A. West Africa's 1723/31/5 and A.M. 2218 31/5 neither to you. Request report of reasons for reduction of VOLENDAM's speed of 12½ knots. (D of S.T. 2339B/2 to S.T.O. Freetown.)

MediterraneanEnemy  
Units.

My1919C/1. At 0115C/2 P C and S enemy 031° 35' 019° 23' 120° 7 knots. Anticipate enemy will alter to Northward after making landing. (Capt. S.1. 0141C/2 to S/MS on Patrol.)

Jibuti.

Re proposal to demilitarise. Consider present position with French prepared to resist either side is militarily a lesser evil than proposed second objective. (G.O. C. in C. E. Africa 1125/2 to W.O. (R) C. in C. M.E. for Min. of State.)

Cagliari

Regret R/C of Cagliari not possible today but Wellingtons will bomb harbour tonight and report if cruisers are absent. (V.A. Malta 1140B/2 to EAGLE. (R) F.O.C.N.A. Admty. C. in C. Med.)



War Diary.2.6.1942.  
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean - Contd.CELENO  
ALBARO

My 1255C/27. CELENO and ALBARO, both loaded expected transit Istanbul for Aegean 2/6. B.3. (Description.) (S.O.I. Istanbul 1144C/2 to S.O.I. Med. Capt. S.1. (R) D.N.I.)

CLYDE.

Proceed through following positions.  
A. 038° 00' 011° 44'. B. 037° 54' 011° 54'.  
C. 037° 20' 012° 50'. D. 037° 10' 013° 12'.  
E. 036° 10' 014° 00' to arrive E about 1600/7.  
2. Further signal will be made giving instructions for entering (island) harbour. (V.A. Malta 1220B/2 to CLYDE (R) C. in C. Med. etc.)

Attacks  
on U/Bs.

Night 1-2/6 and 2/6 attacks by A/C 40 miles N.W. and 50 miles N.N.W. of Sidi Barrani. One hit claimed in each attack. German U/B later seen to be in difficulties, a second U/B crash dived. (D.S.1003.)

Enemy  
Intelligence.

From evidence of W/T activity from Naples on 27th and 28/5 and appearance of 2 6" cruisers at Cagliari that were recognised at Messina and also from absence of 8" cruiser and 2 "Cavours" from Messina, it seems probable the 2 last-named units may now be working from Naples. From our evidence call sign 5 D.O. and 6 V.M. are the same ship and 5 D.O. is active this morning. (C.O.I.S. Alexandria 1258C/2 to Admty. (R) C. in C. Med. V.A. Malta. F.O.C.N.A.)

U/Bs.  
TURBULENT.

At 1050 today 2 German submarines sighted side by side on surface in 032° 37' 025° 10'. (Capt. S.1. 1635C/2 to TURBULENT (R) S/Ms on patrol.)

Malta.

Military situation report W/E 30/5. (Govr. Malta. 1815/2 to C. in C. ME.) See Lion Copy.

Malta Air  
Report.

I.339 2/6. C.S.R. Part 1 1st. 1532 hrs. 9 Me. 109C, 15 Spitfires intercepted, no claim. Night 1/2. 1842, 2 Ju.88s, 3 Wellingtons damaged one Ju.88 damaged by Beaufighter. 1950, 2 raiders, no damage, (2133 or 2143?) 16 raiders, Ta Kali dispersal one crater, elsewhere (civilian casualties) 0028, one raider, no damage. 2/6, 0715, 3 Cant 1007s, 20 fighters, bombs land, no damage, one Macchi destroyed, one RE.2001 probably destroyed, one Cant 1007, 2 RE.2001s damaged by 20 Spitfires, one Spitfire shot down sea, pilot rescued unhurt. (H.Q. R.A.F. Malta No T.O.O. Recd. 2255/2.) Part 2 of I.339. Night 1/2. Wellington 8s shipping sweep 2215 hours, one M/V 7000 tons, 2 destroyers, later joined by another M/V and D/R 240° Marsala 15 miles, course 185° 11 knots.



War Diary.

2.6.1942.  
Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean. Comd:-

Malta Air  
Report.  
Contd.

Bombs dropped from 500 feet. Near misses. 2305 hours 2 Swordfish, 3 Albacores, attacked 7000 ton M/V. Estimated 2 hits. 3 Mark 2 Wellingtons target Augusta submarine base. 1 failed to find owing to 10/10 cloud, other 2 dropped bombs from 8000 feet 2221 to 2235 hours. 1000-lb burst near oil tanks, other results unobserved. (H.Q. R.A.F. Malta 1654/2, 1850/2.)

PROTEUS.  
TAKU and  
THORN.

Take up position as ordered in my 1221/31 by 0001C/4. (Capt. S.I. 1711C/2 to S/Ms on patrol. (R) No. 201 N.C. Group.)

PARTHIAN.

PARTHIAN returned to Bermuda 30/5 with further defects. (F.O.S. 2156B/2 to Capt. S.I. (R) C. in C. Med.)



War Diary.2.6.1942.  
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies.Returning  
W.S. 18  
ships.

Intend to sail returning W.S. 18 ships as follows:- LIRONIA 4th June. EMPRESS OF CANADA 7th June. REINDEL DEL PACIFICO 8th June. ORDUNA 9th June. ORBITA, NIEUW ZEELAND 10th June. DEMPO 11th June. CAMERONIA on completion of repairs about 12th June. CAPE TOWN CASTLE for Australia and New Zealand, 12th June. (P.S.T.O. India, 0609Z/2 to D. of S.T.)

Convoy  
K.M. 1.

Your 2122Z/1. Intend to sail K.M. 1 escorted by DAUNTLESS from Kilindini arriving Diego Suarez daylight 6/6. (D. C. in C. E.F., 0945/2 to S.O. Force F, (R) Admty., etc.)

Dep.  
C. in C. E.F.

Admty. 2020/6. R.A. Danckwerts will assume (? assumed) appointment as Deputy C. in C. Eastern Fleet on 27/5. (C. in C. E.F., 1021Z/2 to Admty., (R) C. in C. E.I., etc.)

TRUANT  
report.

Convoy passed 15 miles West Yusang Island 0430Z/27 thence closing S.W. (? Colombo) to 006° 35' N. 099° 00' E. Coastal route not recommended. No surface or air patrols encountered. (TRUANT, 1210Z/2 to C. in C. E.F., (R) TRUSTY, C. in C. E.I., S.O.(S) Colombo.)

Japanese  
Shipping  
Tonnage.

Points from Lord Finlay's Report. (W.O. 1330/2 to C. in C. India.) See Lion Copy.

Japanese  
Threat.

Appreciation, responsibilities and commitments in Indian Ocean in event of Japanese attacks or raids. For Chiefs of Staff from C. in C. (Mideast, 1400/2 to Air Ministry.) See Lion Copy.

CROMARTY,  
ROMNEY.

E.T.A. CROMARTY and ROMNEY in company 0801Z/3 Diego Suarez. Oil fuel requirement, CROMARTY 28 tons, ROMNEY 90 tons. (CROMARTY, 1435Z/2 to S.O. Force F, (R) C. in C. E.F., S.O. M/S. 14.)

/Port ...







# MOST SECRET

M E S S A G E 1400/End June

MOST SECRET

IN

From Mideast

Date 3/6/42  
Time 0500

C I P H E R

To: Air Ministry repeated C. in C. East Indies, C. in C. Eastern Fleet.

IMPORTANT

IZ 441 00/55 2/6/42.

Following for Chiefs of Staff from Commander-in-Chief.

1. We have recently considered Middle East responsibilities and commitments in the Indian Ocean in the event of Japanese attacks or raids while our Eastern Fleet is in being. We have assumed that the scale of attack of one brigade group either for smash and burn raids or for temporary seizure of aerodromes is applicable equally to Southern Arabian shores of Gulf or Oman and Socotra as it is to East Africa as assessed in Troopers cable 79593 (MO.5) of 31.3.42.
2. We appreciate that as long as Eastern Fleet remains in being the maintenance of any Japanese forces on land would be difficult enough to make these operations more likely to be of a temporary nature.
3. Subject to confirmation after reconnaissances have been made to determine detailed composition of the land forces required, we estimate following additional naval and land forces necessary against threat in para 1.
  - (a) Naval. A/S vessels for local patrols Aden and entrance to Red Sea.
  - (b) Army. 2 Inf. bde gps, 7 inf bns, 1 3.7" how bty, 68 H.A.A. guns, 106 L.A.A. guns for following areas - oil installation and R.A.F. base at Bahref Ras el Hodd-Muscat-Jask area, R.A.F. bases at Sharjah, Dibai, Khor Jarama, Masira, Salalah, Isryan, and Socotra plus local guards required for landing grounds at Bushire, Lingeh. Bandar Abbas, Kuwait, Kalba and Asalu.
4. Furthermore, it has transpired that G.O.C. in C. East Africa has been instructed by War Office to plan this defence on basis of possibility of provision of an armoured brigade from Middle East.
5. Additional naval and land forces specified above are not repeat not available from present Middle East resources. In particular, provision of armoured brigade for East Africa quite impracticable at present.

**MOST SECRET**



6. Minimum R.A.F. defensive requirements against threat in para 1 above are assessed as follows.

Persian Gulf - Gulf of Oman - South Arabian coast as far west as long. 54 degs. east - 1 fighter squadron, one general recco. squadron, 1 torpedo bomber squadron, 1 flying boat squadron.

Gulf of Aden - South Arabian coast as far east as long. 54 degs. east (including Socotra) - 1 fighter squadron, 1 general recco. squadron, 1 torpedo bomber squadron.

East African coast as assessed in C.O.S. No. 76119 (MO 5) of 13. 3. 42.

Total squadrons (excluding flying boat squadrons under control A.O.C. 222 Group) 4 or 5 fighter, 2 general recco. 2 torpedo bomber and either 2 general recco. or two torpedo bomber.

Above excludes Middle East commitments for Defence Diego Suarez not yet assessed.

7. At present 1 LB/GR squadron and 1 L.B. squadron are located Persian Gulf and Aden respectively but in our assessment above we consider general recco squadrons should be substituted for both. To meet commitments East Africa we are re-arming 41 S A GHF squadron with Hurricane 11 B's repeat 11 B's and 2 G R flights (Blenheims and Ansons) are also available. In present circumstances, however, it is quite impossible for us to provide any further squadrons for Indian Ocean area; the most serious deficiency being torpedo bombers.

8. We would emphasise that the need for reinforcing Indian Ocean theatre may come at a time when other operations in progress in the Middle East theatre would make the difficulty of providing the above forces even greater than at present.

9. It is essential, therefore, that these additional forces should be provided from sources outside Middle East if we are to meet our important responsibilities in the Indian Ocean.

1400/2

Received in War Reg. 1055/3rd June

Circulation: -

- 1st Lord
- 1st S.L. (2)
- 5th 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)
- D.N.I. (4)
- E.P.S.
- Hd. of M. (2)
- I.P. (2)
- W.D.
- D.C. (2)
- D.D.I.C. (2)
- Admiral Blake

- Col. Jacob
- Foreign Secretary
- War Reg. Admiralty
- C.6 Tels. War Office
- C.A.S.
- Admiral Cunningham
- D.N.A.D.
- Hd. of Air Branch
- D. of L.D.



War Diary.2.6.1942.  
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies - Contd.

Port Defences. Your 0825/25/5 (received 1110/1/6.)  
 (1) I consider most unlikely that the guard loop at Colombo can be relaid until the monsoon has subsided.  
 (2) All the remaining indicator loops and H.D.A. cable in Ceylon has been embarked in CLAN MACGILLIVRAY for passage to Kilindini vide my 0501/17/5. Intended to send remainder of equipment and control (?) personnel as soon as possible.  
 (3) I was awaiting Admty. reply to my request for recommendation for the underwater defence of Seychelles (my 0744/26/4 and my 0501/17/5) before deciding future programme for MANCHESTER CITY and JAY.  
 (C. in C. E.I., 1516Z/2 to C. in C. E.F., (R) Admty., etc.)

Tananarive air attack. Following from Chiefs of Staff for Gen. Sturges. Your 0221 of 31/5 (1945/31, N.T. in W.D.) Please inform us urgently of circumstances which necessitated air attack on Tananarive aerodrome. (W.O., 1610/2 to Force 121.)

Burma, Air Report. A. 974, 2/6. Intelligence Summary Number 79 on information received up to 1800 hours 2/6.  
 Burma. Single enemy R/C Chittagong 1/6. 6 bombers reported same area later. 2 Hudsons bombed and machine-gunned craft at Fantha Sittaur Thaungdut on Chindwin River 1/6. Total 6 steamers 14 barges Pantha to Thaungdut. Similar attack by single aircraft was made on sampans Homalin 1/6. 5 B.17s of U.S.A. Air Force bombed docks and shipping Rangoon night 31/5. 3 merchant ships 3 tankers attacked. One tanker left listing. 10 night-fighters attempted interception. Intensive A.A. 7 searchlights.  
 (Air H.Q. India, 1655/2.)



War Diary.2.6.1942.  
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies.

*P.C.*  
 CHARLBURY C.T.G. 23.3 and JOUETT O 1180 8 action Opanv  
 (torpedoed C.T.G. 23.2 (R) C.in C. Lant, C.in C.U.S.Fleet  
 28/5). and Admty. Have recovered entire crew of  
 BRITISH CHARLBURY except 2 killed on board  
 during shelling by S/M. Proceeding Recife, E.T.A.  
 2020Z/1. Forwarding by mail complete list survivors and details  
 of sinking.  
 (Opanv, 0201Z/2, to Admty).

CHURCHILL. Your 1425/1. Having urgent stores on board for  
 Trinidad propose to proceed west of Sombrero  
 Island direct to Trinidad, E.T.A. 1000Z/4, and  
 thence to Curacao E.T.A. Santa Anna 1200Z/5. Require  
 assistance to repair defective A/S.  
 (CHURCHILL, 0245Z/2, to C.T.G. 26.3 (R) C.in C.A.W.I. Cdr.  
 American Forces at Curacao, Cdr. N.O.B. Trinidad).

U/B. U-Boat estimated your vicinity by D.F. at 0033Z/2.  
 (?May) have made a sighting report on convoy.  
 (C.in C.U.S. Fleet 0258/2, to C.T. F.35, (R)  
 C.T. F. 24, C.in C. Atlantic Fleet Admty. C.O.A.C.  
 N.S.H.Q. C.E.S.F.).

O.N.S.96. Left O.N.S. 96 in 046° 48' N. 049° 26' W. at  
 2200Z/1 escorted by Task Unit 24.18.3. ROCKINGHAM  
 remaining with convoy until 1900Z/2, in  
 anticipation of orders to detach and escort 3 ships for Wabana  
 and 1 ship for Botwood, ROCKINGHAM instructed to proceed  
 Argentia if no orders received. My P.C. and S. 046° 59' N.  
 050° 28' W. Suffix B. 270° 12 knots. Weather Report.  
 (C.T.U. 24.1.15. 0302Z/2, to C.in C. U.S. Fleet C.T. 24, (R) Admty.  
 C.in C. W.A. C.C.N.F. C.O.A.C. N.S.H.Q. C.T.U. 24.18.3.  
 ROCKINGHAM).

Mid- Personal for C.N.S. Canada and Adm. Little from  
 Ocean 1st S.L. Your 1650/27 and 1655/28. A. I  
 Escorts. appreciate difficulties which a reduction of  
 mid-ocean escorts to ten groups would involve,  
 but if there is no other way of assisting U.S.A  
 in protection of our vital trade in Gulf of Mexico and  
 Caribbean I still consider we should accept the disadvantages  
 for the time being. B. As I now understand from B.A.D.'s  
 1541Z/30 a considerable revision of the original proposals for  
 convoy in the Caribbean are contemplated, I suggest it would be  
 a great help if you could send an officer to discuss the whole  
 question with B.A.D. with a view to reaching agreement with  
 the Americans on a scheme that will employ our combined forces  
 to the best advantage.

(1st S.L., 0716B/2 to N.S.H.R, (R) B.A.D.).  
 Personal for Adm. Little from 1st S.L. Your 1755Z/30.  
 A. Please see my 0716B/2 to C.N.S. Canada. B. We had been  
 uncertain as to employment of the two A groups withdrawn from  
 mid-ocean escort, but appreciate that escort of trans-Atlantic  
 convoy to vicinity of Cape Cod by Western Local Escort as part  
 of general coastal convoy scheme will have increased  
 commitments of Western Local Escort Force. C. Even so we find  
 it difficult to account for amount of sea time given by C.N.S.

/Canada .....



War Diary.2.6.1942.  
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies.Mid-Ocean  
Escorts.  
Contd.

Canada in para. 3 of his 1650/27 but without full knowledge of detailed allocation and employment of Canadian escorts we cannot question his figures. D. Schene proposed in your 1541Z/30 is generally acceptable.

Detailed comments will be forwarded very shortly, but we certainly agree to retention of B.5 group in Caribbean area for the time being.

(1st S.L., 0721B/2, to B.A.D.).

Reference 1st.S.L.'s 0716B/2.

If Cominch would like to hold proposed meeting will be glad to send operation officers from N.S.H.Q. and F.O.N.F. to Washington to discuss mutual assistance.

(C.N.S.Canada, 1933Z/2, to B.A.D. (R) 1st S.L.).

ALCOA  
CARRIER.

2 boat loads survivors ex ALCOA CARRIER picked up by Cuban Gunboat in approx. 020.58, 081.38. (S.O.I. Jamaica, 0817R/2, to Admty. etc.).

O.N. 97.

O.N. 97 P.C. and S. 044° 51' 049° 0' 264° 9.5 visibility 4000 yards.

(C.T.24.1.16, 0901Z/2, to C.T.F.No.24.18.4.(R) C.T.24, Connav, F.O.N.F., C.T.24.1.15).

O.T. Convoys.

My 1350B/27. This instruction does not apply to ships which hold one ship pads. (D.T.D.1126B/2 to C.in C. A.W.I. B.R.O.Trinidad, S.B.N.O.Curacao, S.O.(I) Kingston).

Working up  
base, Bermuda.

Your 1826/23. See your 2001/30/5/. Requirements (details). (C.in C.A.W.I.1154P/2, to Admty.).

DERRYHEEN  
lifeboat.

Master of MOUNT AETNA reports sighting abandoned life boat No. 3 of S.S. DERRYHEEN of London complete with oars and sails at 1220 G.M.T.17/5 in 039° 12' N.065° 58' W. (N.C.S.O.Lisbon, 1247/2 to Admty.).

T.O. 4.

Sailed HAVELOCK and LAVENDER escorting T.O. 4. E.T.A. Curacao LAVENDER 1400Z/4, HAVELOCK 1400Z/4, HAVELOCK 2200Z/4. (N.O.I.C.Trinidad, 1302Q/2, to Cafac, (R) C.in C. A.W.I.Admty.Comcarib, S.O.(I)Kingston S.B.N.O. Curacao, N.O.B. Trinidad).

U.S. Forces.

My 1814/26. Changes in disposition of U.S. Forces in Atlantic. Battleships TEXAS - Left Bermuda 31/5. NEW YORK due Halifax 2/6. NORTH CAROLINA at Norfolk WASHINGTON at Scapa.

8" Cruisers WICHITA at Scapa.

6" Cruisers SAN JUAN - PHILADELPHIA at Norfolk.

OMAHA - MILWAUKEE at Recife.

(D.O.D.(F) 1317B/2 to C.in C.H.F.C.in C.A.W.I., N.S.H.Q.).

/DIOMEDE .....



War Diary.2.6.1942.  
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies. Contd.DIOMEDE  
DESPATCH.

C.in C. A.W.I.1602/1. It appears essential that DIOMEDE should return to U.K.to be made serviceable. 2. Subject to your concurrence ship should sail forthwith to Clyde via Freetown and Gibraltar. 3. Hoped that DESPATCH will relieve her in South America later in the year.  
A.C.N.S.(F) 1319B/2 to Cominch (R) C.in C.A.W.I. etc.).  
My 1602/1. In view of my 2222/1. and of DIOMEDE 1614/2 which is being passed to you, propose ship should proceed U.K. via Freetown and Gibraltar.  
(C.in C.A.W.I. 2202P/2, to Admty.(R) B.A.D.DIOMEDE).

Jamaica  
Working Up  
Base.

My 2251/20 (Re base for working up A/S craft) para.3. Considered that working up base for B.Y.M.S. should be at Jamaica. Propose utilising facilities now being prepared at Port Royal for base for 72 foot H.D.L. Flotilla for B.Y.M.S. for time being. 2. Consider following base staff will be required. 3. If accounts of vessels are to be carried in BUZZARD additional accountant staff will also be required.  
(C.in C.A.W.I. 1326P/2 to Admty.(R) B.A.D. etc.).

N.A. 11.

Your 1615Z/01, sailing date 16/6 confirmed.  
(C.in C.U.S.Fleet, 1425/2, to N.S.H.Q.(R) Cinclant C.T.F.24, Admty. etc.).  
Refer to this as my 1732/2. ROE, EBERLE, ERICSSON, designated Task Unit 21.6.2 escort convoy N.A. 11 consisting of EMPRESS OF JAPAN, RANPURA, LETITIA, BITER ready Halifax 16/6 to U.K.in accordance with routeing to be prescribed by Cominch.  
Return orders will be issued later.  
(Cinclant, 1825/2, to ROE, EBERLE, ERICSSON (R) C.in C.U.S.Fleet C.in C.W.A. C.O.A.C. C.T.G.21.2.).

CELANDINE

Sail CELANDINE when ready routed as my 1959/22nd. Report time and date of departure and speed.  
(Connav 1431/2, to Com. 5 (R) Admty. etc.).

U/B.

Cuban Navy Reports submarine sighted 0940 1/6 022° 40', 078° 28'.  
(S.O.I. Jamaica, 1446R/2, to C.in C.A.W.I. B.A.D. N.S.H.Q.).

NORMAN PRINCE  
(torpedoed 28/5).

U.S. reports from Martinique arrival Panamanian ANGOULEME with 32 survivors from NORMAN PRINCE (Br.) torpedoed 28/5 014° 40' 062° 15' Master and 16 on raft missing believed lost.  
(S.O.I. Jamaica, 1506R/2, to Admty etc.).

B.R.O.

Your 1024P/26 and my 1936B/21. In view of considerations advanced by Minister Ciudad de Trujillo, Parry may now wear uniform and call himself "British Routeing Officer".  
(A.C.N.S.(T) 1620B/2 to C.in C.A.W.I.(R) B.A.D. N.S.H.Q.).

/Overdue .....



War Diary.2.6.1942.  
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies. Contd.

Overdue Ships. FA PORT (U.S.) (? FAIRPORT intended) overdue San Juan. My 1812/24/5 cancel LAUTARO (Br.). (S.O.I) Jamaica, 1716R/2, to Admty. etc.).

St. Lucia defences Your 1852P/15. (? 1852/16 intended, (baffle at Port Castries)). No blue print furnished with baffles. Request sufficient information to lay net by cable also position of Northern and Southern extremities if placed R/V buoy. (B.R.O. St. Lucia, 1728Q/2, to C.in C.A.W.I. (R) Admty.).

Working up base. Admiralty's 1304/7. Request your estimate of dates for commencement of scheme. (C.in C.A.W.I. 1803P/2 to B.A.D.) Reply: 1737/5.

U/B Positions. 2/6 S/M estimate. (C.in C.U.S. Fleet, 1843/2, 1915/2, 1958/2).

Independent Fast Tankers. Tankers OHIO, ESSO AUGUSTA, ATLANTIC SUN, AMERICAN SUN, E.W. SINCLAIR, PENNSYLVANIA SUN, ESSO WILLIAMSBURGH and SHELDON CLARK now loaned British for U.K. services shall be routed as follows. From Gulf Ports independently to Key West for coastal convoys thence for a point East of Cape Canaveral breaking off from convoy and sailing independently by diversif routes to U.K. passing South and East of Bermuda. From (?South) Caribbean Sea Ports route independent through passages in Lesser Antiles (?thence) 3 diversif routes to U.K. (Connav, 1844/2 to \*C.G.S.F., C.C.S.F., C.P.S.F., Com. U.S. Force Aruba, for Routeing Officers. (R) N.S.H.Q. Admty. C.in C. A.W.I. S.O.(I) Kingston) \* C.E.S.F.

BANGOR Minesweepers In view allocation of 6 BANGOR M/S for A/S and M/S duties on west coast of Canada, Naval Board recommends that these vessels should be loaned to R.C.N. and commissioned as H.M.C. Ships for duration of the war on a similar basis to that of the 10 Flower class Corvettes. Under this arrangement Canada would be responsible for all costs other than alterations and additions which would remain responsibility of Admty. Admiralty 2304/4/12 refers. (N.S.H.Q., 1901Z/2, to Admty.

U/B attacked Aircraft attacked S/M in 043° 13' N. 066° 50' W. at 2014Z/2/5. (As received, presumably 2/6 intended). (C.O.A.C., 2035Z/2, Admty.).

/BERGANGER .....



War Diary.

2.6.1942.  
Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies. Contd.

BERGANGER  
torpedoed.

Intercepted 1845 G.M.T. de WSC. SSSS SOS  
torpedoed 39.22 N. 70.00 W, S.S. BERGANGER de  
WIM/WSC. Controlling station Tuckerton Radio.  
(Portishead Radio, No. T.O.O., Recd. 2100/2).

MALPEQUE,  
attack on  
U/B.

Ran attack on submerged S/M in 046° 29' N. 054°  
39' W. at 2049Z/2nd.  
(MALPEQUE, 2147Z/2, to F.O.N.F, Admty, 2300Z/2 to  
Admty.C.O.A.C.).



War Diary.2.6.1942.  
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Australia and New Zealand.

U.S. Forces. My 1939/26. Changes in dispositions.  
Aircraft Carrier LONG ISLAND at San Diego.  
8" Cruisers - VINCENNES, NEW ORLEANS, PORTLAND,  
NORTHAMPTON, MINNEAPOLIS, ASTORIA, INDIANAPOLIS,  
PENSACOLA at sea. SAN FRANCISCO left San  
Francisco 26/5 escorting convoy.  
6" Cruisers - DETROIT at Pearl Harbour. ATLANTA, HONOLULU  
at sea. SAN DIEGO due San Diego 2/6. ST. LOUIS at sea in  
North Pacific Area.  
(D.O.D. (F), 1316B/2 to C, in C. E.F., N.Z.N.B., A.C.N.B.,  
N.S.H.C. As amended 1816B/2).

Situation. Serial No. 131 from C.W.R. 1/6.  
Ref. my serial 130, para. 8.  
Now consider at least 4 enemy S/MS were operating  
inside Sydney (N.S.W.) harbour. Air searches depth 200  
miles on 1/6 were negative. Large S/M sighted 5 miles off  
Cronulla (034° 03' S. 151° 11' E.) 1505Z/31 course 180°.  
2. (? 3) Fortresses attacked (? wharves) at Rabaul 1605Z/31,  
result not observed. Extremely heavy A/A fire.  
3. 4 Fortresses attacked Lae and Salamoa 1/6. 1 hit on runway  
at Salamoa. Visibility poor, no further results observed.  
4. Strong enemy patrol reported at Heaths Plantation (11 miles  
from Lae). Unconfirmed report (? wireless station) post and  
W/T installation established.  
5. 18 heavy bombers and 6 Zero attacks wharves at Port Moresby  
and transport at 0154Z/1. Buildings damaged. Intercepted  
by 17 P.39, 7 P.400. 1 enemy bomber destroyed 1 Zero probably  
destroyed. 2 P.39 shot down, 1 missing.  
6. Unidentified aircraft reported over (? Nauru) 0555Z/1.  
7. Natives report warship with 3 funnels off Makira Bay  
(Solomon Is.) 24th, convoyed, course S.E.  
8. 4 unidentified aircraft reported over Horn Island 1930Z/31.  
9. Air R/C of Bampton - Bellona Reef area 21/5 report 2  
contact mines on Island.  
10. Ref. my serial 130, para. 9, air and naval search 1/6  
negative.  
(A.C.N.B., 1946Z/2 to Admty., etc.)

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.Submarines Reported.

Estimated U/B positions.  
(D.D.I.C., 1456B/2, 1510B/2.)



War Diary.

3.6.1942.  
Wednesday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

In future all shipping of convoy speed from the U.K. bound for the Gulf of Mexico, Caribbean and West Indies is to be sailed only in O.N. or O.N.(S) convoys.

Mining.

U.S. STEEL WORKER from Convoy P.Q.16 was sunk presumably by a magnetic mine, in Kola Inlet when returning to anchorage after discharging at Murmansk.

South Atlantic.

Various measures are being considered to relieve the serious congestion at Durban and Capetown which results in large numbers of merchant vessels having to be at unprotected anchorages at these ports. Amongst the proposals it has been suggested that Diego Suarez might be used as a holding port for southbound vessels waiting to enter Lourenco Marques or South African ports.

Mediterranean.

Operation  
"Style"

EAGLE flew off 31 Spitfires for Malta this morning in approx 37° 47' N 2° 46' E. Only 27 of them arrived safely, the last two flights being attacked by ME.109s near Pantellaria.

5 Wellingtons from Malta attacked enemy cruisers in Cagliari harbour at 0006 today.



War Diary.

3.6.1942.  
Wednesday.

SITUATION REPORT.

East Indies.

The first Kilindini - Diego Suarez convoy (K.M.l.) sailed today with DAUNTLESS as escort.

America and West Indies.

A force of aircraft, reported to number 4 bombers and 14 fighters, attacked Dutch Harbour, Alaska late this afternoon (G.M.T.)

Anglo-Canadian-U.S. Naval talks are to be held in Washington, to make arrangements for the most effective manner of employing the available naval forces for trade protection in the Caribbean.

Australia.

At least 3 vessels were attacked by U-Boats today between Newcastle and Wilson's Promontory. S.S. IRON CHIEFTAIN was sunk.



War Diary.3.6.1942.  
Wednesday.HOME COMMANDS.Policy.Admiral  
Stark.  
(onward passage  
to Scapa)/see p. 26.  
Your 2105/2. Arrangements have been made.  
Comdesron 8 in U.S. Destroyer WAINWRIGHT will  
be at Invergordon from 1100B/4. (C. in C. H.F.  
1503B/3 to Admty.)13th and  
21st. M.T.B.  
Flotillas.Cancel A.M. 1225/12 March. As M.T.Bs with  
Sterling Admiral engines will have less endurance  
than those with Packard engines, the 13th M.T.B.  
Flotilla is allocated to Dover and the 21st.  
M.T.B. Flotilla to Harwich. (D.D.O.D. C. 1758B/3  
to R.A.C.F.)Movements.RODNEY  
LIVERPOOL  
KENYAScapa departure 0644/3 RODNEY with ESCAPADE,  
MIDDLETON, BLANKNEY.  
0655/3 LIVERPOOL with KENYA, ONSLOW, ICARUS,  
MATCHLESS, MARNE and BEDOUIN. (A.C.O.S. 0657/3.)  
A.M. 1343B/2. Route (a) 270° Oversay 6 miles.(b) 055° 01' N 015° 30' W. (c) 048° 59' 020° 30'. (d) 042°  
58' 025° 10'.

2. F.O.C.N.A. is requested to issue onward route.

3. N.O.I.C. Greenock arrange fuelling Ponta Delgada and sail  
ships accordingly. (C. in C. W.A. 1128B/3.) /see p. 52

LOBELIA.

/R.T.C.N.D.  
Your 0116B/3. My P.C.S. 054° 55' 018° 06',  
258°, 12. (LOBELIA 0700A/3 to Admty.)

BLEASDALE.

Proceed passing Switha 1200B today to Portsmouth  
to join command of C. in C. Portsmouth. Route.  
(R.A.D. H.F. 0930B/3 to BLEASDALE.)SEAWOLF  
TRIDENTYour 1604/2. Provisions will be arranged.  
(S.B.N.O. North Russia 1003/3 to F.O.S.)

SAKARA

Your 2030B/2. 12/6. Approx. (F.O. Humber 1027/3.)

MANCHESTER

My 1931B/28. para 4. When released by R.A.(M)  
MANCHESTER returns to Scapa. (C. in C. H.F.  
1059B/3 to MANCHESTER.)TORBAY  
UNBEATENYour 1548/2. Request you amend R/V to 180°  
Lizard 10 miles to avoid convoy routes.  
(C. in C. Plymouth 1142B/3 to Capt. S.5.)

O.9.

Your 1134/1. This will be arranged. (Capt. S.9.  
1205B/3 to Capt. S.7.)P.614  
O.10LA CAPRICIEUSE escorting P.614 and O.10 off Islay  
during dark hours tonight bound Clyde. (C. in C.  
W.A. 1635B/3 to RODNEY, KENYA.)



War Diary.3.6.1942.  
Wednesday.HOME COMMANDS.Movements - Contd.

MOONSHINE Sailed 1730B/3. M/S Trawler MOONSHINE and Tug  
FLYING FLYING KESTREL. Routed to Horta as in C. in C.  
KESTREL. W.A. 1207/16/5. E.T.A. 10/6. (N.O.I.C. Milford  
Haven 1731B/3.)

WHEATLAND Request you sail WHEATLAND for Hvalfiord and  
INTREPID INTREPID for Scapa as convenient tomorrow.  
(C. in C. H.F. 2245B/3 to R.A.D.)

Operations.

K.C.7. (A) Operation K.C.7. M.T.Bs 56 55 50.  
(B) 3rd/4th June. (C) St. Helens. (D) 049° 42'  
N 000° 52' W. (E) Coastal shipping.  
There may be a movement from Cherbourg to Le Havre.  
(F) 050° 15' N (G) "Advent" (H) 3 F W T (I) (corrupt group)  
D North of 050° 20' N. (J) Carry out operation returning by  
Q Z S 239. Force is not to proceed east of line F buoy to Cape  
La Heve. Destroyers and light craft are operating east of  
this line. (C. in C. Portsmouth 1207B/3 to 11th M.T.B. Flotilla)

"Bristle" Carry out under Air Ministry Order A "Bristle"  
tonight. (V.A. Dover 1211B/3 to C. in C.  
Portsmouth, N.O.I.C. Newhaven.)

Iceland Request you sail KENT to patrol "Black" passing  
Faroes 062° 39' N 020° 13' W at 1200B/4.  
Patrol. (2) KENT is to take full A/S precautions while  
on patrol.  
(3) Intended final destination of KENT is Scapa.  
(C. in C. H.F. 1212B/3 to RENOWN.)  
C. in C. H.F. 1212B/3. Intend to sail at 0201B/4.  
(KENT 1759B/5 to A.C.I.C.)

N.W. Norway 1. Zones K 20 to K 34 inclusive are cancelled.  
S/M Patrol. 2. An area 25 miles either side of a line  
joining 069° 01' N 007° 58' E and 071° 40' N  
017° 20' E is established. This area is sub-  
divided into 10 patrol zones, each approx 25 miles long,  
numbered from south to north K 35 to K 44 inclusive.  
3. S.B.N.O. North Russia pass to SEAWOLF, TRIDENT. (F.O.S.  
1243B/3.)

Denmark Situation at 2200 tonight. TUSCALOOSA on patrol  
Straits "White", NORTHERN SPRAY in Denmark Straits.  
Patrol. (A.C.I.C. 1333B/3.)



War Diary.3.6.1942.  
Wednesday.HOME COMMANDS.British Air Activity.

Bombing operations. On night 2/3, 4 A/C bombed the docks at Dieppe. (H.Q.B.C. 1430/3.)

Fearn Aerodrome Fearn Aerodrome to become Naval. Admiralty propose defence conference 1500/11. Please confirm rep. will attend. (Hofor 1900/3 to Scotco.)

Enemy Air Activity.

Thames Estuary. On night 2/3 enemy A/C activity over the Estuary appeared to be chiefly planes going or coming from East Kent area, and was confined to the period between 0150 and 0345.

At 0243 an A/C believed enemy crashed in flames over the Kentish Flats. Between 0220 and 0240 ships engaged several enemy A/C one of which returned the fire over Oaze and south Barrow area. No evidence of minelaying. (S.O. T.L.D.F. 1729/3.)

Murmansk bombed on 2/6. On 2/6 in 2 raids 60 bombs dropped on Murmansk and 72 bombers and fighters took part. Russians claim 9 bombers and 3 fighters (?certain). 3 Soviet Hurricanes lost. (S.B.N.O. North Russia. 2150B/3.)

Mining.

"Tincture" Cancel my 1817B/1. (D.M.S. 1137B/3 to F.O.I.C. Milford Haven.)

S.N.72. Situation report at 2000. S.N.72 MANCHESTER, ST. MARYS, WILTON, SLADIN, NEWARK 060° 32' N 12° 2' W to Butt of Lewis 13. (C. in C. W.A. 1422B/3.)

Q.S.8. Intend to proceed 0430/4 to commence clearance 0830 at position "S". Programme. (9th M/S F. 1930B/3 to C. in C. Nore.)

U.S. ship sunk. June 3rd. American ship sunk in 045° Mishaynmpi 15 cables when returning to anchorage (?after) discharging. Magnetic mine presumed. (S.B.N.O. North Russia 2150B/3.)

Enemy Intelligence.

E-Boats. E-Boats heard on 43.2 Mc/s 275 SKL5. Minelaying indicated. (EGLINTON 0252B/3.)  
My 0252B. Cancel reference to minelaying. (EGLINTON 0341B/3.)

Boom Breaker. Sortie A/860 on 2/6 shows Sperrbrecher AX.400' departed Rotterdam since 30.5.42. (R.A.F. Medmenham 1820/3.)

Varanger Fiord. R/C over Varanger Fiord on 2/6. No U-Boats or Warships. (S.B.N.O. North Russia 2150B/3.)



War Diary.3.6.1942.  
Wednesday.HOME COMMANDS.Enemy Intelligence - Contd.

KÖLN  
SCHARNHORST  
PRINZ EUGEN  
NÜRNBERG

Photographic R/C Kiel at 1603B/3. KÖLN at Wik Commercial Harbour. SCHARNHORST, PRINZ EUGEN, NÜRNBERG present in former berths. (D.D.I.C. 2338B/3.)

U-Boats.

U-Boat reported. Belgian trawler reports sighting object considered to be a S/M on the surface W.S.W. Wolf Light 10 miles at 2359/2. (F.O.I.C. Falmouth 0934B/3.)

Navigational.

Archangel North Dvina Entrance and Iokanka. Buoys and Light Vessel positions. (S.B.N.O. Archangel 1030B/3.)

Dover. S.W. Gate Buoy light extinguished. Temporarily replaced by fixed white light visibility 2 miles. (V.A. Dover 1512B/3.)

Casualties and Defects.

FLEETWOOD  
(Collision  
2/6.)

Your 2003B/2. You are not to hesitate to return to base if there is any doubt whether ship is seaworthy and capable of carrying out her duties during the round trip. (C. in C. W.A. 0006B/3 to FLEETWOOD.)

PICTOU Sailed PICTOU. E.T.A. 2230/3. Galley out of action. Motor burnt out, spare required. (WESTERN ISLES 1030B/3 to F.O.I.C. Greenock.)

ATALANTA. Your 2041/2. ATALANTA requires repairs to boilers and decks before sailing. Estimated time 6 days. (F.O.I.C. Falmouth 1249B/3.)

B.O.DAVIES  
THERMOPYLAE  
GOLDEN EMBLEM  
ARCHIMEDES  
VENTOSE  
WOODBIDGE

Your 1835/2 and my 1028/3. B.O.DAVIES and THERMOPYLAE developed defects and are now under repair at Lyness. GOLDEN EMBLEM, ARCHIMEDES and VENTOSE also defective and being repaired, date of completion doubtful. WOODBRIDGE is underengined and needs decarbonising, present speed unlikely to exceed 4 knots and 16 hours running will mean dangerous overheating of engine. After this consider vessel would require to be towed for a period. (A.C.O.S. 1943/3 to Admty.)



War Diary.3.6.1942.  
Wednesday.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping and Convoys.

- W.S.19P. Your 1811B/2. At 2115B/2 my P.C.S. were 053° 33' N 017° 45' W, 202° 14. Adjusting as necessary to R/V position (X) or earlier if weather permits. (BUXTON 0054B/3 to C. in C. W.A.)  
Amend R/V X X to 043° 10' N 23° 18' W at 0500Z/5.  
2. My position 1200Z/3 050° 47' N 21° 35' W. Suffix A. Course 205° CHARLESTOWN detached, BUXTON not met. (NELSON 1223Z/3 to C. in C. W.A. BUXTON, WILD SWAN.)  
Request you will report on the circumstances whereby destroyers for W.S.19P failed to join convoy after fuelling at Londonderry. (D.O.D.(H.) 1720B/3 to C. in C. W.A.)
- O.N.S.100. C.T.U. 24.1.11 in ASSINIBOINE plus ACONITE, MIMOSA, DIANTHUS, NASTURTIUM\* sailed O.N.S.100. (C.T.G.24.7. 0725/3.) \*London Diary.
- EMPRESS OF RUSSIA. My P.C.S. are 051° 47' N 018° 32' W 194° 10 knots. Request speed of advance EMPRESS OF RUSSIA. (MANSFIELD 1027B/3 to C. in C. W.A.)  
Your 1712B/2 para 3. At 1200Z/3 EMPRESS OF RUSSIA. P.C.S. 47° 14' N 021° 55' W (? 039°) 16½ knots. (COLOMBO 1312Z/3.)
- P.Q.17. In view of C.S.10 1625B/2 with which I concur, it is intended station S/M escorting P.Q.17 astern of convoy with escort as for P.Q.16 pending further experience. S/M with surface speed of 13 knots will be employed as far as practicable. (F.O.S. 1242B/3 to C. in C. H.F.)  
The next P.Q. convoy will not sail before 24/6. (D.O.D.(H.) 1712B/3.)
- W.P.166. Your 1203/2. Intend all trawlers less FIR ex "Consular Group 22" to join W.P.166 on 4/6 as additional escorts to Portsmouth. (N.O.I.C. Dartmouth 1251/3 to C. in C. Portsmouth.)
- W.S.19Z. Intended sailing escorted by KENYA, LIVERPOOL, BEDOUIN, ICARUS and ESCAPADE passing Clyde Boom 2200B/4 to R/V ONSLOW, MARNE, MATCHLESS, BLANKNEY, MIDDLETON, KUJAWIAK and BADSWORTH at 0800B/5 in 270° Oversay 6 miles, thence as in Admty. 1158/2. (F.O.I.C. Greenock 1704B/3.) See p. 48.
- S.L.110. Request you will sail KIRKELLA forthwith to meet S.L.110 at position A at 1850B/3 or in North Channel as requisite. (N.O.I.C. Liverpool 1753/3 to Cdre. Londonderry.)
- C.T.17. C.T.17 sailed 1757/3. (D.S.T.O. Greenock 1800/3.)



War Diary.

3.6.1942.  
Wednesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping and Convoys - Contd.

Attacks on P.Q.16. Your 2348B/30/5. Following taken from ALYNBANK's report: (A) CARLTON, OCEAN VOICE, EMPIRE BAFFIN, STARI BOLSHEVIK (B) EMPIRE LAWRENCE, EMPIRE GNOME, LOWTHER CASTLE, ALAMAR, CITY OF JOLIET, MORMACSUL, SYROS (C) to position J thence 69° 17' N 04° 10' W 70° 28' N 00° 52' E 72° 08' N 03° 30' E thence to M and N and through 73° 40' N 22° 35' E 74° 37' N 27° 10' E thence to O P and Q. (D) Hours of fog, cloud, clear sky 30, 114, 18. Wind light and variable. Sea smooth. (E) May 24th. one Focke Wulfe. May 25th. from 0650 continuous by Focke Wulfe. continuous by Blohm Voss 138 H A flying boats. May 27th. continuous. May 28th continuous. May 29th 0930 shadowing aircraft lost sight of until 2130 when one Ju.88 appeared, which disappeared after ensuing attack. (F) 2116 May 25th. 72° 08' N 03° 30' E 7 Ju.88. Bombs no damage. 2120 May 25th 7 Heinkels 115 and Ju.88s. Torpedoes. No damage. One Ju.88 destroyed. Cam plane launched. 2135 May 25th 5 Ju.88s. Bombs. SS. CARLTON damaged by near miss. One Ju.88 destroyed. Second damaged by Cam plane. Pilot wounded baled out and rescued by volunteers. 2300 May 25th 72° 17' N 04° 12' E 11 Ju.88s. No damage. One Ju.88 destroyed one on fire and 3 emitting black smoke. 1815 May 26th. 73° 55' N 11° 10' E 7 JU.88s and one He.115. Bombs no damage. 1900 May 26th. Group of He.111. Bombs. No damage. Very poor attacks. 0145 to 2125 May 27th between 73° 57' N 16° 10' E and 74° 00' N 25° 10' E convoy was attacked by 108 A/C with bombs and on 2 occasions aerial torpedoes. Following vessels sunk: EMPIRE LAWRENCE, EMPIRE PURCELL, CITY OF JOLIET, LOWTHER CASTLE, ALAMAR. Damaged OCEAN VOICE, STARI BOLSHEVIK, EMPIRE BAFFIN, MORMACSUL. May 28th 0655. MORMACSUL abandoned and sunk. 1728 73° 34' N 35° 20' E 4 A/C sighted. 2125 4 He.111 attacked no damage. May 29th 0430 72° 45' N 36° 45' E. 11 He.111 attacked with torpedoes. No damage. 2230 70° 44' N 38° 20' E. Archangel portion attacked by 25 Ju.88. No hits although each A/C dropped 4 bombs. Three Ju.88 made individual attacks. No damage. May 30th 0005. One Ju.88 attacked. No damage. 0030. Two Russian fighters joined convoy. 1735 68° 23' N 39° 30' E 8 Ju.88 attacked from high level. 32 bombs. No hits. Total enemy aircraft employed during attacks on convoy

| Date.        | JU.88 | HE.111. | HE.115 | Shadowing Aircraft. |
|--------------|-------|---------|--------|---------------------|
| May 24th     | nil   | nil     | nil    | one                 |
| May 25th     | 29    | nil     | 3      | one                 |
| May 26th     | 8     | 2       | nil    | two                 |
| May 27th     | 95    | nil     | 13     | one                 |
| May 28th     | 4     | 4       | nil    | one                 |
| May 29th and |       |         |        |                     |
| May 30th     | 33    | 7       | nil    | two                 |
| Total        | 169   | 13      | 16     | 8                   |

(G) May 26th 72° 35' N 05° 30' E steamship SYROS on starboard quarter convoy torpedoed and sank in 3 minutes. Passing through patch of fog U-Boat entered convoy on port side passing down between columns 3 and 4. Was sighted and fired on by PENDFG 43 and 44. U-Boat headed towards starboard rear column and torpedoed SYROS who had dropped astern of station. Escorts astern dropped many depth charges. (H) ALYNBANK expended 55 per cent 4 inch H.E. and 2500 rounds Oerlikon. Merchant vessels especially U.S. ships also very short. (I) Not known. (J) Continuous shadowing very exasperating and demoralizing. Short range weapons of little value as bombs released when aircraft were out of range. (S.B.N.O. Archangel 1825B/3 to Admty.)

/LLANSTEPHAN...



3.6.1942.  
Wednesday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping and Convoys. - Contd.

LLANSTEPHAN  
CASTLE.

My 0825/29/5. Confirmed that arrangements for  
LLANSTEPHEN CASTLE are postponed by about one  
fortnight. (D.S.T. 1948B/3.)

O.N and  
O.N.S.  
Convoys.

In future all shipping of convoy speed from the  
U.K. bound for the Gulf of Mexico, Caribbean  
and West Indies is to be sailed only in O.N. or  
O.N.S. convoys. (D.T.D. 2254B/3.)



War Diary.3.6.1942.  
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic.French  
Shipping.

Passings 2/3. Westward IMERETHIE II, LINOIS, SAVOIE, ST. LOUIS all full. Eastward PROVIDENCE, CEVENNES, PORT ST. LOUIS, SURVILLE all full.  
(V.A.C.N.A., 0905B/3 to Admty for M.E.W.)

CLYDE.

A.M. 0153B/3 to F.O.C.N.A. only.  
Following is repetition of my 1846B/30 (Begins).  
V.A.M. (R) Admty. C. in C. Med. S.1, S.10, F.O.S,  
S.O. S/Ms. Malta. My 1838B/28. Departure 1750  
CLYDE. (Ends.)  
(F.O.C.N.A., 1132B/3 to Admty., F.O.S.)

Bombing  
restrictions.

Ops. 214, 3/6 serial No. G.105.  
Institute the following submerged bombing  
restrictions. (A) From 0200/4 until further  
notice Area 56 E. of Q4°. (B) 2000/4 to 2359/6  
45 miles either side of line joining 49° 00' -  
13° 00' and 49° 46' - 08° 00'.  
(H.Q.C.C., 1246/3 to R.A.F. Gibraltar, (R)  
F.O.C.N.A., S.8.)

CARADOC.

CARADOC delayed for a maximum of 48 hours by  
engine defect.  
(F.O.C.N.A., 1256B/3 to Admty., R.A. West Africa.)

Wreckage  
sighted.

Master of VINRIVER sighted wreckage in 037° 50'  
N. 023° 40' W. 1730/2.  
(N.C.S.O. Ponta Delgada, 1713C/3 to S.O.I.  
Gibraltar, (R) Admty.)

TRAVELLER.

My 1206/2 departure TRAVELLER.  
(F.O.C.N.A., 1900B/3 to C. in C. Med., (R)  
Admty., V.A. Malta, F.O.S.)

A/C.

One A/C shadowing bearing unknown 15 miles  
height 5000 feet my position 36° 20' N. 1° 43' W.  
course 270° height 1700 feet.  
(A Sqdn., 2040/3 to Gibraltar.)



War Diary.3.6.1942.  
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic.

- EMPIRE  
RIDLEY. Your 1114/30. Request findings of any local enquiry be communicated by telegraph and that remains of any incendiary material found be held pending further instructions.  
(D.N.I., 0952B/3 to Cdre. i/c. Durban, (R) S.O.I. Capetown.)
- JOSINA  
(Spanish) JOSINA sailed Fernando Po 24/5 for Pasajes due 7/6. Approx. noon position 3/6 17° N. 19° W. Ship sailed without surrendering outward Vicert (As received ? "Navicert".) and outward crew list. Important these documents should be secured and forwarded British Consul Fernando Po. Request ship be intercepted if possible.  
(R.A. West Africa, 1019/3 to F.O.C.N.A.)
- THYSVILLE. Disposition (corrupt group) 1st vessel was put from 4 to 12 notice for steam by order of P.S.T.O. and is waiting here for epidemic on board to abate and meantime repair collision damage reported my 1451/30th my 1031/31st (? 1931/31 intended re damage to THYSVILLE.) are in hand and should be completed 15/6.  
(N.O.I.C. East London, 1212Z/3 to D.S.T.)
- Situation. 2000/3.  
(R.A.W.A., 1337Z/2, ?1337Z/3 intended.)  
See Lion Copy.
- SLUNA. Sailed SLUNA routed as in my 1501Z/31/5. S. of A. 9 knots. E.T.A. Diego Suarez p.m./11.  
(Cdre. Durban, 1503Z/3.)
- Situation Report. 2000/3. Situation.  
BRIDGEWATER escorting to Freetown about 009° 50' N. 015° 50' W.  
PHYLLISIA off Freetown to Bathurst 6 knots.  
CORINTHIAN 015° 52' N. 033° 22' W. 106°, 10½.  
(R.A. West Africa, 1507Z/3.)
- RODNEY. A.M. 1343B/2 (N.T. in W.D.) 2. If practicable, destroyers should fuel from RODNEY rather than from oiler specially detailed. 3. It is desirable that RODNEY and destroyers should arrive at Cape in company.  
(D.O.D.(F), 1559B/3 to R.A. West Africa, (R) C. in C. S.A.)

/M.L. ...



# MOST SECRET

56A SA

MOST SECRET

M E S S A G E

1337Z/2<sup>3</sup> June  
IN

From R.A. West Africa,

Date 3.6.42

Recd. 2221.

NAVAL CYPHER 3M by W/T.

Addressed Ships in Area P in South Atlantic Station South of 8 degrees North, Admiralty, C.i/c S. Takoradi, R.N.O. Lagos.

Situation report 2000 3rd June. All positions North and West unless otherwise stated. CANNIA LAERTES, patrolling sector T. EANDANGO off Sainte Maria. H.M.S. AMIRANTHUS, DROGOU 007 degrees 23' 018 degrees 45' 258 degrees 9.

COMMANSANT DETROYAT 006 degrees 12' 014 degrees 12' to Freetown 10.

H.M.S. AUBRETTIA 3 escorts with L.S.6 002 degrees 35' 007 degrees 08' 253 degrees 7½.

Motor launch with S.T.24 004 degrees 34' 000 degrees 17' 077 degrees 7½

H.M.S. BOREAS off Lagos 246 degrees 16. H.M.S. SNOWDROP (two) 2 tugs and tug STEYTLER with BELWORT in tow 003 degrees 20' 004 degrees 45' East to Pointe Noire 5½.

H.M.S. PRETORIA CASTLE H.34 B.H.M.S. CARNARVON CASTLE 010 degrees South 006 degrees 10 to H.34 D.H.M.S. ALCANTARA 015 degrees 40' South (?000 degrees) 40' 134 degrees 1'

V.S.19 W 014 degrees 20' South 000 degrees 30' East to position 015 degrees 30' South 001 degrees 30' East 25.

H.M.S. CARLISLE 002 degrees 10' South 000 degrees 30' 282 degrees 14.

BRUSHWOOD and 3 trawlers 005 degrees 15' South 070 degrees 10' East to Walvis Bay 7.

1337Z/2 (? 1337Z/3)

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

- 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.T.D.(3)
- D.T.D.(M)
- D.A/S.W.
- D.D.I.C.(2)
- I.P.(2)
- D.C.(2)
- Hd. of M.
- W.D.



War Diary.3.6.1942.  
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic - Contd.

M.L. proposed Request Portuguese Govt. may be informed that visit to it is proposed that one of H.M. Motor Launches Bissao. shall visit Bissao for 24 hours arriving about 10/6, and that I may be informed early if there is any objection to this visit.  
(R.A. West Africa, 1653/3 to B.N.A. Lisbon, (R) Admty.)

CHARLBURY My 1531/2 not to S.O.(I) Freetown ref. CHARLBURY torpedoed. Captain states particulars of 28/5. technique employed by submarine. After firing first torpedoes from 500 yards on starboard bow submarine crash dived to avoid being rammed, surfaced 800 yards on port quarter and opened fire with machine guns few seconds after being observed. Machine gunfire was continuous and directed against bridge gun platform boat deck and later was implemented by 4.7 gun shells and later torpedoed thousands of machine gun bullets fired without cessation until vessel abandoned making weather decks untenable. When submarine departed she fired a rocket.  
(N.C.S.O. Pernambuco, 1715/3 to Admty., (R) S.O.I. Freetown.)

ARCHER. Your 1002/29/5 and your 1649/1, not to ARCHER, and A.M. 2114/28/5. In view of failure of 2 engines and other defects possibility of being obliged to return ARCHER to U.S.A. for repairs being considered, though undesirable and to be avoided if possible.  
2. Request you will report immediately nature of defects and whether considered these could be remedied in U.K.  
(D.O.D. (H), 1753B/3 to C. in C. S.A., (R) ARCHER.)

Free French Two Free French Chasseurs allocated to French Patrols. Equatorial Africa are being retained at Home until July at out request.  
2. Free French Naval Authorities have asked that until arrival of Chasseurs, Free French Ships under your orders be sent regularly and in rotation, as far as operational work permits, to patrol the coasts and visit the ports of French Equatorial Africa.  
(D.O.D. (F), 1850B/3 to R.A. West Africa, (R) C. in C. S.A.)

Vichy One auxiliary vessel and 3 M/Vs French seen Shipping. 015° 34' N. 016° 58' W. 012°, 8 knots.  
(S.O.I. Freetown, 1857Z/3 to S.O.I. Gibraltar.)

/DIOMEDE ...



War Diary.3.6.1942.  
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic - Contd.

DIOMEDE. A.M. 1319/2 am ready to sail when ordered. Maximum speed except in case of emergency about 12 knots at which estimate fuel consumption will be 85 tons per day. Total fuel stowage 978 tons owing to leaky tanks. B.A.D. pass to all addressees. (DIOMEDE, 1905/3 to C.T.F. 23, (R) Admty., B.A.D., C. in C. U.S. Fleet, C. in C. A.W.I., C. in C. S.A., F.O.C.N.A., C. in C. W.A., R.A. West Africa.) *Sum p. 65.*

Use of paravanes. Pass to N.C.S.Os. All merchant ships should stream paravanes while crossing Agulhas Bank. Masters of ships concerned should be instructed accordingly. (D.T.D., 2021B/3 to C. in C. W.A., A.I.G. 19 (Negative Malta.), (R) Connav.)

Mediterranean.

Cagliari, Enemy Cruisers. My 1140/2. Cruisers believed still in harbour. (V.A. Malta, 0139B/3 to EAGLE, (R) F.O.C.N.A., Admty., C. in C. Med.)

M.E. Air Report. A. 667, 3/6. Bi-Weekly Opsum No. 26. 29/5. 7 Bostons made last night attack on Derna Harbour 3 bombs falling near destroyer at Mole. Other bombs among barges and in town.

Night 29/30. 5 Wellingtons laid 7 mines off Benghazi. Bombs dropped to cover operation. (H.Q. R.A.F. M.E., 0956/3 G.M.T.)  
N.T. of later part of this signal in W.D.

PORPOISE, CLYDE. Admty. 1508/23. C.O. of PORPOISE considers it preferable to make approach to Marsamxett at 150 feet in view of vulnerability of S/M on surface during very slow procession astern of BERYL whose sweeping speed is barely 4 knots. 2. I intend to carry out a thorough search of the channel to be used before PORPOISE sails or CLYDE arrives. 3. BERYL found no indication of mines while escorting PORPOISE. 4. I therefore intend that PORPOISE should leave and CLYDE arrive diving to 150 feet and without being preceded by a sweeper or having a close escort. 5. Asdic beacon will be provided off Delimara to avoid S/M having to come to periscope depth to fix herself. 6. Details as to time CLYDE should arrive will be signalled later. (V.A. Malta, 1157B/3 to C. in C. Med., (R) Admty., F.O.C.N.A., Capt. S.1, Capt. S.8.)

/Operation ...



War Diary.3.6.1942.  
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean - Contd.

Operation "Style". My 1134B/3 (N.T. in W.R.) 27 arrived. Last 2 flights attacked by Me.109s near Pantellaria. 4 missing.  
(V.A. Malta, 1227B/3 to EAGLE, (R) Admty., C. in C. Med., F.O.C.N.A.)

Enemy Units. At 1305C/3 P.C. and S. of 2 large merchant ships, 3 destroyers, 037° 35' 019° 28', 155°, 15 knots. Further R/C will follow.  
(Capt. S.1, 1541C/3 to S/Ms on Patrol.)

Malta Air Report. I. 341, 3/6. C.S.R. Malta. 2 alerts 1418 hours, 1550 hours.  
3rd 2 alerts. 1148 hours, 1325 hours.  
Part 2. Night 2/3. 5 marks 2 Wellingtons target Cagliari cruisers in harbour.  
2130 - 2301 hours. Bombs, incendiaries, flares from 8000 feet. 4000-lb bomb burst between railway station and gas works, 2 small fires vicinity St. Augustine barracks.  
(H.Q. R.A.F. Malta, 1630/3.)

Cdre., Aden. C.W. List of 6/5/1942. Commodore C.A.A. Larcom assumed duties as Commodore-in-Charge, Aden, at 0800/29.  
(C. in C. Med., 1706C/3 to Admty.)

Enemy Units. PROTEUS, TAKU. At 1640 P.C. and S. of 1 large merchant ship, 3 destroyers, 037° 08' 019° 30', 150°, 15 knots. Use "Roosters" as follows: PROTEUS 0001 to 0200, TAKU 0200 to 0330. Usual procedure. Torpedo Wellingtons expected to attack about 0145.  
(Capt. S.1, 1809C/3 to S/Ms on Patrol.)



**MOST SECRET**

From Gov. & C. in C. Malta.

Date 5/6/42.  
Recd. 0245

CYHER

Addressed C. in C. Middle East. Repeated War Office.  
053267. G/1619 Cipher 2/6. MOST SECRET.

Military situation report week ending May 30.

One. Enemy. Air Activity. Slight except fighter sweeps. By day bomber effort totalled only 6 Cants and 24 Fighter Bombers. One sharp dusk raid 25th 9 JU.88's and 4 Fighter Bombers. Targets aerodromes. Night raiders total 43 over week bombs widespread. Fighter sweeps decreasing in strength. More E Boat activity particularly night 27/28 when 18 sighted and attacked by Beaufighter.

Enemy aircraft casualties - A.A. damaged one JU 88. R.A.F. destroyed one JU 88 4 Macchi 202 one RE 2001 damaged two Cants one ME 109 two Macchi 202 two RE 2001 probably destroyed two ME 109.

Two. Own troops. R.A.F. Wellingtons carrying out offensives against Messina Catania and shipping. Total 35 sorties over week. This encouraging to population and troops. Increasing demands by R.A.F. for assistance from Army now 2500 men employed. Assistance also being given to farmers for harvest. Slight damage to two gun posns. Army casualties. 8 O.Rs. killed. 6 O.Rs. wounded. 28 Uxbs disposed weighing 8 tons excluding anti personnel bombs.

Three. Other events. In order save fuel electricity cut off also milling brewing pumping cut. Troops and civilian population still accepting reduced rations and discomforts cheerfully.

1815/2

1st Lord.

Recd. in War Reg. at 2220/3.

1st S.L. (2)

War Office circulation:-

4th S.L.

S. of S.

S.D.4.

5th S.L.

C.I.C.S.

D.Q.M.G.

V.C.N.S.

V.C.I.G.S.

Q(Ops.)

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

D.M.O. & P.

E(Ops.)

N.A.1st S.L.

D.D.M.O. (0)

Casualties

D.O.D. (F)(2)

M.O.I.5.

Col. Rolleston

D.D.I.C. (2)

D.M.I.

(Cab. Office)

D. of P. (2)

D.D.I.I. (1)

C.N.S. Admiralty.

D.C. (2)

M.I.3.14.

H.W.R.

Hd. of M.

D.N.A.D.

D.S.D.

C.A.S. Air Min.

D.N.I. (4)

Hd. of Air

S.D.2.

A.M.C.S. Air Min.

E.P.S.

C.C.L.S.

D.A.A. & C.D.

Col. Jacob.

I.P. (2)

D. of L.D.

A.A.4.

S. of S. (For. Office)

D.P.D.

Admiral Blake

**MOST SECRET**



3.6.1942.  
Wednesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

Sinking of DORSETSHIRE. Request you will reply to A.M. 1253B/1/6. I have no information. (C.in C.E.I. 0510Z/3. to C.in C.E.F.(R) Admty.).

NELSON Your 0228/6/5 and your 1351/2. Has NELSON been delayed? (C.in C.E.F. 0615Z/3 to Admty.) Reply, Admty. 1711/6.

HEINRICH JESSEN. Re taking up on behalf of Govt. of India. (F.O.C.R.I.N. 0701Z/3, to D.S.T.O. Bombay (R) Admty etc.).

Movements. Summary No. 44. (C.in C.E.I.0715Z/3). See Lion Copy.

Singapore transports. 053121. 0109 cipher 1/6. Chinese General Staff report Japanese transport left Singapore 13/5 loaded with flour and 10 more fully loaded waiting in anchorage for escort to Japan. (M.A. Chungking, No.T.O.O.Recd. from War Office 0810/3).

RAMILLIES. Your 2017C/2 to Admty. (re sailing of RAMILLIES escorted by DUNCAN, DECOY, ACTIVE, THAMES - N.T. in W.D.). Presume you have taken into consideration the probability heavy weather and head sea on approaching Durban at this season. Maximum draught for entering this harbour under best conditions is reported to be 38' 6". (B.S.3, 0855Z/3, to S.O. Force F.(R) RAMILLIES, Admty.C.in C.E.F.) Your 0855/3. (a) Yes. (b) Noted. (S.O.Force F. 1604C/3 to R.A. 3.(R) Admty. C.in C.E.F.).

RECORDER  
STORE NORDISKE.

Arabian Sea Cables ships RECORDER and NORDISKE are working in Arabian Sea. (S.O.(I) Colombo, 1045Z/3).

STORE

FORMIDABLE  
INDOMITABLE  
spares.

Position regarding aircraft spares for FORMIDABLE is rapidly becoming serious due to shortage of the following (list). In order to prevent a rapid rise in unreliability and unserviceability of aircraft, requested that a complete range of spares for each type may be supplied as soon as possible. Also requested that spares for INDOMITABLE, where there is a similar shortage, may be hastened. (D.C.in C.E.F., 1208Z/3 to Admty).

/MONTEREY .....



SECRET. 0715Z/3rd June. M E S S A G E IN

From C. in C. East Indies. Date 4.6.42.  
Recd 1112.  
Naval Cypher C (Old) by W/T.

Addressed All Ships and Authorities East Indies Station.  
Negative. Cdr. Burra Coast. Admiralty.  
C. in C. South Atlantic. N.B. Melbourne.  
F.O.C. Red Sea Force. Cdre. i/o Durban.

IMPORTANT. AIDAC.

899. Movement Summary Number 44 of  
3rd June reference Movements Summary Number 42  
one B.S. PRINCE DE LIEGE diverted 31st May to  
Diego Suarez. 6 BARONIA, H.M.S. BARSTOKE arrived  
Seychelles 2nd June. 10 H.M.S. ~~BARLANE~~ now  
due Karachi 4th June. 12 H.M.S. MARGUERITE due  
Colombo 5th June. 13 H.M.S. ENTERPRISE due  
Bombay 7th June. 14 H.M.S. EMERALD returned  
Mombasa 1st June. 15 H.M.S. WORCESTERSHIRE due  
Aden 4th June. Reference Movement Summary  
Number 43. 3 H.M.S. CYCLAMEN left Durban  
31st May for Diego Suarez. 4 Dutch destroyer  
~~JAN~~ VAN GALEN left Mombasa 1st June, due  
Seychelles 3rd June, and Colombo 7th June. 11  
H.M.S. TRUANT due Colombo 6th approximately.

| Serial Number. | Ship  | From                  | To                       | Remarks.           |
|----------------|---|-----------------------|--------------------------|--------------------|
| 1              | PANGKOR                                     | Karachi<br>1st June.  | Khor Kuwai.<br>3rd June  | -                  |
| 2              | Dutch Minelayer<br>WILLEM VAN DER<br>ZAAN   | Bombay<br>4th June    | Colombo<br>6th June      | Escort<br>IKAUNA   |
| 3              | M L 1098<br>M L 1036                        | Colombo<br>2nd June   | Trincomalee<br>4th June  | -                  |
| 4              | H.M.S. ARETHUSA                             | Aden<br>2nd June      | Suez<br>-                | -                  |
| 5              | Trawlers<br>SHAPINSAY,<br>HILDASAY, PLADDA. | Durban<br>31st May    | Diego Suarez<br>-        | -                  |
| 6              | H.M.S. DAUNTLESS                            | Kilindini<br>3rd June | Diego Suarez<br>6th June | Escort<br>K M One. |

0715Z/3.

Advance copy sent Ops. O.D. Trade

|                           |           |               |                  |
|---------------------------|-----------|---------------|------------------|
| V.C.N.S.                  | O.D.8.    | M. (2).       | D.M.S. Cit.      |
| A.C.N.S. (T).             | D.P.S.    | W.D.          | D.D.O.D. (M).    |
| A.C.N.S. (F).             | O.I.C.    | D. of P. (3). | D.D.O.D. (C) (2) |
| N.A. 1st S.L.             | D.A/S.W.  | D.B.D.        | D.T.D. (4).      |
| Capt. Pim, Admiralty Hse. | I.P. (3). | D.N.I. (4).   | D.T.D. (C).      |
| Ops. (3).                 | Mails.    | D.N.L.O. (2). | D.T.D. (M).      |
| O.D. (5).                 | Movts.    | D.M.S.        | N.I.D. 10(2).    |



War Diary.

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Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies. cont'd:-

MONTEREY. Your 1433/2 (N.T. in W.D.). Arrangements made to embark 800 P.O.W. and escort of 150 in MONTEREY 7/6 and sail 8/6. C. in C. E.I. is requested to state whether ship can proceed without escort. (P.S.T.O., India, 1239Z/3, to B.A.D. (R) D.S.T., F.O.C.R.I.N. C. in C.E.I.)

Burma Air Report. A. 978 3/6. Intelligence Summary No. 80. On information received up to 1800 hours 3/6. Burma - Single enemy R/C (?Palenda) 1/6, and Chittagong 2/6. 3 Wellingtons bombed Oyster island 2/6. Bursts near jetty and lighthouse. Huts machine gunned. No activity. (A.H.Q., India, 1740/3)

Movements. Diego Suarez departure 3/6 for Durban. RAMILLIES (S.O. Force F) escorted by DUNCAN (Capt.(D) 2) DECOY, ACTIVE. Tug THAMES and M/V GREYSTOKE (? in company). (N.O.I.C. Diego Suarez, 1801C/3, to Admty., S.O. Force F., etc.) *See p. 60.*

W.S.20. Convoy W S 20 will include STIRLING CASTLE, 18½ knots, and M.T. ship CLAN CAMERON, 15 knots, both for Melbourne. 2. Request you will arrange escort from Cape to Australia. (D.O.D. (F) 1816B/3 to C. in C.E.F., (R)A.C.N.B. etc.)

Appointments. A.M. 0109/3. (Hush - N.T. in W.D.) Do you wish any adjustments to Staff asked for in your 1632/17? 2. Is it intended that Deputy C. in C. and both Commodores shall be at Colombo? 3. Is it now intended that the R.A.A. asked for in para. 1 of your 1150/26 will be employed in Ceylon? If so have you any further employment for Rear Adm. Elliott? (V.C.N.S. 1913B/3 to C. in C.E.F. (R) Dep. C. in C.E.F.)

Japanese Officers in Madagascar ? U-boat attack on Diego Suarez. 053458. 0.248 cipher 3/6. In reply to your 92403 (M.O.5) 2/6 (2510/2, - N.T. in W.D.) last sentence. Originally the attack was assumed to be French due to alleged identification aircraft both by R.A.F. officers and local inhabitants as a Potez. Subsequently after death of 2 Japanese Staff Officers, my 0.240 of today, and thumbnail picture collected from document, I believe attack to have been Japanese. Document and clothing will be forwarded to East Africa Command next mail for expert examination. Chief officer of BRITISH LOYALTY who engaged C/T of S/M with small arms fire considered C/T to be normal and not two-man type. Air R/C reveals no trace S/M or crashed A/C. (121 Force, 2031/3 to W.O.)

MAROUSSIO LOGOTHETI. Re requisitioning on behalf of Greek Govt. (M. Br. 2203B/3 to N.O.I.C., Diego Suarez (R) C. in C.S.A., C. in C.E.I.)

Shipping...



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FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies - Contd.

Shipping,  
Diego  
Suarez.

Various measures are being considered to relieve serious congestion at Durban and Capetown. Suggested that Diego Suarez might be used as a holding port for Southbound vessels waiting to enter Lourence Marques or South African ports. Request your remarks.  
(A.C.N.S. (T) 2352B/3 to C.in C.E.F. (R)D.C.in C.E.F. C.in C.S.A.)

Cocos  
Mutiny.

Mutiny Cocos Island 9/5. Presume SUTLEJ now returned Ceylon. Please cable causes and effect mutiny, and any action being taken.  
(W.O., 2355/3, to C.in C.India)



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Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies.

A.T.16 Sailed U.S. NEW YORK, KEARNEY, GLEAVES, MAYO,  
N.A.10. H.M.S. DWARF, BENSON, LIVERMORE escorting A T 16  
and N A 10.  
(S.O.I. Halifax 0902Z/3 to Admty., etc.)  
Sailed 1100Z/3. C/T 35 escorting A.T.16 and  
N.A. 10 routed in accordance with Connav's 1908/25/5. S of A  
12.5. knots. Code word Cellar.  
(C.O.A.C. Halifax 1540Z/3, to C. in C. U.S. Fleet, Connav, C.in C.  
Atlantic Fleet U.S., Admty., (R) C.in C.W.A., C. in C.A.W.I.,  
N.S.H.Q., N.O.I.C. Greenock, C.T. 24, F.O.N.F., C.T. 35).

UMTATA S.S. UMTATA will be ready to leave St. Lucia in  
repairs. tow U.S. Tug EDMOND MORAN within a few days for  
Hampton Roads for repairs. Consider escort  
essential. Please arrange. B.A.D. Washington  
pass to Cominch, Comeast and Comcaribsea Frontier.  
(C. in C.A.W.I., 1032P/3, to Cominch (R) Admty., B.A.D., etc.)

Air Report. A. 998 3/6 ZZ269. Operations 2/6. All times G.M.T.  
Yarmouth. Hudson A/C 113 B.R. Squadron on O.A.S.,  
patrol BX23 sighted U-Boat at 2014, 43°17' N., 66° 50' W. at  
distance of 5 miles. No attack made. At 2201 same A/C sighted  
U-Boat at 3 miles distance 43°13' N., 67° W. Attack made.  
Results unknown. One Hudson 113 Squadron on patrol 2138 off 2355  
made further search in area where U-Boat was attacked at 2201.  
One Canso Al62 B.R. Squadron on search south of Yarmouth. On  
patrol 0800 off 0013/3 diverted to 40° 14' N., 66° 1' W., to look  
for survivors S.S. MATTAWIN torpedoed at 0120 swept area (details)  
before commencing search for survivors. One lifeboat located  
40.15 N., 65.50 W., at 1522 and aircraft remained in area until  
survivors were rescued.  
Yarmouth. Rescue boat ARRESTEUR proceeded to 6 miles N.E. Port  
Maitland, Bay of Fundy, on report from local R.C.M.P. that red  
flares were seen at 0030. Located 3 fair sized fishing boats  
anchored where flares reported seen. Boats were engaged in hand  
line fishing which was unusual procedure considering 0500 G.M.T.  
Capt. suspicious but did not investigate because uncertain of  
authority, boats in darkness until ARRESTEUR approached.  
(A.O.C., E.A.C., 1045/3)

U.S. Baffle, My 1152/29/5, para.2. U.S. authorities intend to  
Barbados. divide the U.S. Baffle between Barbados and  
Antigua, laying about half a mile at each place.  
Under these circumstances Navy Dept., do not  
consider it advisable to adhere strictly to directions in Admty.,  
1410/27. (2) U.S. authorities expect to ship gear about 20/6  
in intermediate cargo vessels to Bridgetown and St. Johns.  
Important that discharge of gear should not cause delay to ships.  
Apart from moorings, heaviest life is approx. 5 tons. Separate  
signal being made to Barbados and Antigua regarding possibility  
of local manufacture of concrete mooring clumps in order to save  
shipping space.



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Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies. contd.

U.S. Baffle, Barbados, Contd. (3) No reply to my 1142/29 yet received from Com. Carib. Suggest Lavelle visit Barbados and Antigua as early as possible.  
(C. in C.A.W.I., 1212P/3, to F.O.I.C. Trinidad  
(R) Admty., B.A.D.)

U/Bs. Subs sighted by aircraft 012° 20' N., 063° 45' W. course 140° at 1620Z/3rd.  
(N.O.I.C. Trinidad, 1252Q/3 to C.A.F.A.C.,  
JAN VAN BRAKEL, N.O.B. Admty., S.O.I. Jamaica,  
ALETES, C. in C.) *See p. 66.*

Caribbean Trade protection. Your 1933Z/2. (N.T. in W.D.)  
I have seen Adm. King who is in agreement with proposed triangular talks in Washington.  
(B.A.D., 1259Z/3 to C.N.S. Canada (R) Admty.)

NEWSCARRIER. Ref. Admty. 1821/29. No further news of NEWSCARRIER available in N.S.H.Q. As no details of route was made available to N.S.H.Q., can you reply to Admty., regarding route furnished?  
(N.S.H.Q., 1427Z/3 to Connav (R) Admty., etc.)

Trinidad Tanker Convoys. Your 1512/2. Canadian Oil Controller Tankers on Halifax-Trinidad run are to sail in convoy with maximum of 6 in each convoy. These ships have priority in T.H. convoys in accordance with N.S.H.Q., 2015Z/19 paras. 1 and 2. Request you will sail TH.2, 4/6, composed of CLIO, STANVAC CAPETOWN, J.H. SENIOR, F.G. BARSTOW, REGINOLITE, CITINS SERVICE FUEL. If any of these ships are not ready BRITISH GOVERNOR and/or MURENA can be included to make total of 6.  
(N.S.H.Q., 1502Z/3, to F.O.I.C. Trinidad. (R) C.O.A.C., Admty., C. in C. A.W.I., S.O.I. Kingston).

H.T.2. HEPATICA, SNOWBERRY, sailed escorting H T 2.  
(S.O.I. Halifax 1521Z/3 to Admty., etc.)

Convoy Titles. My 1525/17/5. Delete Q.S.S. and S.Q.S. convoys and add: H.T. - Halifax, Trinidad. T.H. - Trinidad, Halifax, J.N. - all northbound convoys from St. Johns N.F. to ports east coast of Newfoundland and Labrador. N.J. - all convoys from ports east coast of Newfoundland and Labrador southbound to St. Johns N.F. S.B. - Sydney to Cornerbrook. B.S. - Cornerbrook to Sydney.  
(N.S.H.Q., Ottawa 1530Z/3 to Admty., Connav, etc.).  
(See Summaries Folder).  
Requested that N.C.S.O's and B.R.Os may be instructed to send extracts from Sailing Telegrams of OT, TO, KN, KS, HT and TH and local convoys in two parts in accordance with C.B.04024(41)



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FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies. conts.-

Convoy Art. 88 Part I being sent in highest medium  
Titles, available to sender.  
Contd. (D.T.D. 1534B/3 to N.S.H.Q., C.in C.A.W.I.,  
(R) S.O.I. Jamaica.)

? O.N. Convoy. Reference C.E.S.Fs 2207.2. (N.T.in W.D.) Both  
N.S.H.Q. Ottawa and C.O.A.C. Halifax agree with  
reduction to 11 knots or if necessary to 10 knots.  
(2) It is most desirable however that the turn round at Boston  
of Escort Groups from O N S should be as quick as possible.  
(N.S.H.Q. Ottawa 1550Z/3 to Cominch)

DAVY CROCKETT, Vital parts for Abadan 100 Octane plant are being  
escort. shipped from New Orleans in S.S. DAVY CROCKETT  
flying U.S. flag speed 11 knots. 2. Date of  
sailing about 15/6. 4. M.W.T. have suggested in  
view of great value of this plant, ship should if possible be  
escorted on entire route. 5. Request if any British escort may  
be expected after Trinidad.  
(B.A.D., 1557Z/3 to Admty.) Reply Admty. 1813/6.

DIOMEDE. Your 1319/2. Cominch has suggested in signal  
1955/2 to Comnavu that DIOMEDE can refit in U.S.A.  
Request early decision.  
(B.A.D., 1601Z/3 to Admty. (R) C. in C.A.W.I.)

My 2202/2 and your 1319 2. DIOMEDE now reports (further defects)  
2. Following alternatives for consideration (a) ship's staff to  
lift cover and cut out any damaged astern blading with view to ship  
having full ahead power on passage to U.K. instead of only 12  
knots reported in DIOMEDE's 1614/2. (b) Steam starboard engine with  
port turbine and gearing disconnected and shaft trailed. Estimated  
ahead speed obtainable 15 to 16 knots. 3. In either case very  
little astern power will be available. Alternative (a) is  
recommended. Request very early decision.  
(C.in C.A.W.I., 1642P/3, to Admty. (R) B.A.D. DIOMEDE) Reply  
Admty. 1740/4. *See p. 58.*

Vichy Fort de France 30/5 and 2/6 (B.2.) 30/5 ANGOULEME  
Intelligence. (Coal) arrived. Dakar, 30/5 (B.2.) 30/5,  
BOURGES, DAHOMEY, arrived from North with escort.  
Tunis, 2/6 (B.2.) Departures 21/5, G G CHANZY for  
France, 24/5 STE. CHRISTINE and ARGONNE (Phosphates) for France.  
20/5 P.L.M. 21, CAMBRASIN, ST. ALAIN, ST. SIMONE and STE. MARTHE  
(all with phosphates), 30/5 VINICOLO for Tripoli, (food, gasoline).  
(B.A.D., 1631Z/3 to Admty.)

Dutch Harbour Received from 13th Naval District. Air Attack being  
Air attack. carried out on Dutch Harbour now. Request C. G S  
and C A S be informed.  
(C.O.P.C., 1632Z/3, to N.S.H.Q., as amended 1731Z/3)  
My 1632Z/3. Information received attacking force is 4 bombers,  
14 fighters.  
(C.O.P.C., 1647Z/3, to N.S.H.Q.)



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War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies. - Contd.

S.B.N.O. Curacao. My 1044/23. Your appointment is altered to S.B.N.O. and British Routeing Officer, Curacao, but no change of Telegraphic address is to be made.  
(C.in C.A.W.I., 1724P/3, to S.N.O., Curacao (R) Admty., S.O.I. Jamaica)

U/B. S/M sighted by aircraft 12° 02' N., 63° 36' W., at 1826Z/3 course 132°. U.S. BARNEY proceeding to area.  
(N.O.I.C., Trinidad, 1752Q/3, to C.A.F.A.C. (R) D.S. JAN VAN BRAKEL, Admty. ALETES, etc.) *S... p. 64*

Tankers H.T. and T.H. Groups. My 2150/18. Additions to and deletions from list of tankers.  
(N.S.H.Q., 1808Z/3, to C.O.A.C. (R) C.in C.A.W.I., etc.)

CARRABULLE (U.S.A.) (shelled by U/B 26/5). Overdue San Juan.  
(S.O.I. Jamaica 1819R/3)

U/B Positions. 3/6 S/M estimate.  
(Cominch, 1843/3, to Admty.)

LIVERPOOL PACKET (torpedoed 30/5) My 2215/1. LIVERPOOL PACKET, Ex Sonia Markland Shipping Company, torpedoed and sunk at 2347Z/30 12 miles west of Seal Island. 19 survivors, 2 killed. My 1851/3 with list survivors follows.  
(C.O.A.C., 1849Z/3 to Admty. (R) N.S.H.Q., Connav, F.O.N.F.)

U.S. and Shipping Signals. Your 2149/29, para 3. (Duplication of Vesca and Route signals). Telegraphic address Connav - was introduced for this purpose and Navy Dept. consider that it will suffice, also that prefix Vesca in Vesca signals is unnecessary.  
(B.A.D., 1905Z/3 to Admty.)

POLYPHEMUS (sunk 26/5) POLYPHEMUS, Dutch, torpedoed and sunk 2215 G.M.T. 26 in 038° 12' N., 063° 22' W. S/M not sighted before attack. Surfaced after attack, was over 200 feet long, deck gun fore and aft, A/A gun on bridge and large red and grey bull painted on C/T. C/Bs thrown overboard in weighted cases. 6 to 8 of crew believed killed in forecastle. remainder in 5 lifeboats. Occupants of one lifeboat were landed at New Bedford on 2/6. My 2008 follows giving names.  
(B.R.O., Boston Mass., 1957Z/3, to Admty. (R) N.S.H.Q.)

S/M attack and sighting summary. Unknown ship torpedoed 2156Z/1 probably ALEGRETE. BRURNEEN may be NORMAN PRINCE at 14° N., not 40° N.

one...



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FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies. conts:-

S/M attack and sighting summary, Contd. One submarine attacking O.N.92, possibly rammed night of 12-13/5. Another possibly U - 45 type painted light grey apparently light blue conning tower. SAMUEL Q BROWN, U - 88 type. Action to Admiralty for O.I.C. From C. in C. U.S. Fleet. Plane sighted submarine 4C-40N 67.40 W. 2205Z/2. M/Vs. sighted submarines, one on surface 29.25 N., 85.44 W. 0328Z/3rd. One 34.45 N. 71.40 W. 0946Z/3rd. Opnav and B.A.D. Washington informed. (C. in C.U.S.Fleet, 2004/3 to Admty. (R) C.C.S.F., C.E.S.F., C.G.S.F.)

NORLAND. NORLAND, Norwegian, formerly EMPIRE PICT, torpedoed and sunk 20/5 about 500 miles E. Bermuda. No further details known. My 2028 follows giving names of 15 survivors picked by POLYPHEMUS, Dutch, on 23/5 in 032°35' N., 064° 12' W. (B.R.O., Boston, Mass, 2009Z/3 to Admty., (R) N.S.H.Q. )

Attacks on U/Bs. F-353 serial number 1. Summary of official assessment of attacks on subs. Admty. assessment lettering system used U.S.S. BROOKLYN 16° 30' N. 60° 38' W. 14/12 (E). U.S.C.G. CAMPBELL 42° 54' N. 61° W., 2336Z/26/1 (D) PATRON 82, 4 attacks 43° 50' N. 53° 50' W 1845/28/1 (E), 46° 15' N., 53° 15' W 1700Z/1/3 (B) 45° 50' N., 48° 50' W. 1641Z/15/3 (B) 40° N. 72° 36' W 1446Z/15/4 (E) U.S.S. R.1 36° 50' N. 60° 52' W. 1220Z/16/4 (D). U.S.S. ROWAN 30° 10' N. 70° 45' W. 1713Z/22/4 (E) U.S.S. WOOLSEY 40° 07' N. 72° 56' W. 1024Z/29/4 (E) Aircraft Scouting Squadron 1 D 3 near Ambrose Lightship 1211Z/1/5 (E) Coast Guard plane 36° 20' N. 74° 57' W 1630Z/15/5 (D) PATRON 31, 14° 34' N 56° 36' W. 1322Z/19/5 (E) H.M.S. LE TIGER 33° 54' N. 77° 15' W. 1439Z/2/5 (H) Cases classed as F. G H I prior to 1/5 not included. What is present position of A.G. and A.J? (C. in C.U.S.Fleet, 2021/3 to Admty., for O.I.C.)

BAGHDAD (sunk 30/5). Ship BAGHDAD, Norwegian, torpedoed and sunk by S/M of unknown nationality 014° 15' N. 054° 30' W., due East Barbadoes 0145 G.M.T. 30/5. 11 survivors landed by motor life boat 1445. G.M.T., 4 injured. One other life boat with Captain and 9 others got away but not arrived. One died, 8 believed missing. S/M not seen. 3 attacks, first 2200/29, missing, 2nd, 0115, and 3rd, 0145/30. Struck. M/Ship of Fred Olsen Line, Agent Lamport and Holt, New York, cargo general, mail 316 bags for Brazil. Ship bound Halifax from New York. (Treasurer Grenada, 2045/3, to Admty.)

S.21. U.S. S/M Notice. S.21 departs from Coco Solo 1300Z/6. (Route to New London) Surface or submerged at discretion, assuming total



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FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies. cont'd.

S.21  
Contd.                    bombing restriction to 15 miles each side of track 100 miles ahead and astern of estimated position.  
(C.in C.U.S.Fleet, 2116/3, to C.T.F.s, etc.)

Sink-at-sight areas.        Ref. Admty., 1558B/11/4.    Brief talk with Adm.King about strategical areas. He is ascertaining what has been done or is intended. Personally he is in general agreement with proposals in A/M quoted above, but that we should limit any action to our own area of strategical responsibility.  
(B.A.D., 2209Z/3., to Admty.)

Distress Message 1/6.        Alusna Capetown's 1040/3 (N.T.in W.D.) S.S. CHRISTOPHER NEWPORT not in that area. Advise if your 0807/1 to S.S. ALCOA POLARIS intended assistance to ship concerned.  
(C.in.C.U.S.Fleet, 2322/3, to C.inC.S.A.(R) Alusna, Capetown) See also Cominch 2/30/4.

OTTAWA.                    My P. C. and S. at 0200Z/4 052° 04' N., 042° 49' W. 050° 7 knots, weather report.  
(OTTAWA, 2335Z/3, to Connav (R) C.T.F. 24, etc.)

Australia and New Zealand:

WELLEN U/B attack.                Particulars of S/M attack on U.S.S.R. WELLEN 16/5; 033° 09' S., 152° 22' E. 1030Z/16, weather fine, sea smooth. Gunfire only, range 200 yards, 5 rounds. Damage caused to Deck House, Winch, Steampipe. 3 wounded. WELLEN replied with 10 round gunfire and 100 rounds machine gun. Submarine estimated 300 feet length with 4" guns.  
(A.C.N.B., 0453Z/3 to Admty. (R) Opnav)

Situation.                Serial number (?132) from C.W.R. 2/6. Port Moresby reconnoitred by 3 zero fighters 0140Z/2. 14 enemy bombers reported over Wuwu and (?K)O(?K)oda on 2/6. (11) Unspecified number of small ships observed 005° (?30') S. 152° 55' E at 0005Z/ 2 course N. (111) One Fortress unsuccessfully attacked Rabaul 2/6. No activity seen on (?V) Unakanau aerodrome. (IV) 4 Catalinas at 1315Z/1 caused large fire in warehouse on Makambo Island, (Solomon Is.). No shipping observed Tulagi Harbour, no aircraft activity Gavutu or Guadal Canal. (V) Ref. summary for 30/5 (serial number 129) (begins) Report states 3 Catalinas after causing large fire in dock area Gavutu (?Island) were forced down in sea, 2 (?sank). (VI) Unidentified aircraft considered enemy sighted over Rose Bay

(Sydney)...



3.6.1942.  
Wednesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Australia and New Zealand. conts:-

Situation, (Sydney N.S.W. Harbour) between 0150 and 0217Z/2.  
Contd. (VII) D/F indicated 1715Z to 1800Z/1 enemy unit  
probably S/M operating off Sydney (NSW) one  
within 60 miles of 036° S. 153° E one within  
60 miles (?035°) S 152° E. (VIII) (?5) Hudsons demolished  
barracks Atamboea (Timor) 0930Z/2 extensive fires started.  
One Hudson lost. Light A/A fire only opposition. B.A.D.  
Washington pass to Opnav.  
(A.C.N.B., 1644Z/3 to Admty, etc.)

Timor. Situation. (W.O., 2030/3 to Aust., and N.Z.  
Govts.) See Lion Copy.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

S/Ms Reported.

Estimated U/B positions.  
(D.D.I.C. 1426B/3, 1438B/3).



69A

From:

D.O.

**MOST SECRET**

TYPEX.

Date 6.8.42.  
Recd.

Addressed: Australia (Govt.) New Zealand.

W.G. 476/11/47.

*Timor Situation.*

No.447. No.304.

Addressed: to Prime Minister of Commonwealth of Australia No.447 Most Secret repeated to Prime Minister of New Zealand No.304 Most Secret.

My telegram of 26th May D No.263

Following further particulars have been made available from report dated 18th May from the Portuguese authorities in Timor.

2. There appeared to be few Japanese troops in the island. These were not strong enough to suppress the groups of Netherlanders and Australians operating in Portuguese Timor whose patrols had penetrated into the neighbourhood of Dilli. The Japanese forces appeared to be concentrated around Ermera, where they had recently carried out a heavy bombardment with the apparent object of terrorising the population.

3. The Japanese had succeeded in winning over a large proportion of the native tribes in Dutch Timor but had not achieved similar success in Portuguese Timor, where the authorities had done their best to prevent contact.

4. The Japanese troops were undisciplined and the officers aggressive, whilst the military authorities were hampering the activities of the Portuguese officials.

5. The Japanese had abandoned work on the aerodrome at Dilli before its completion and had embarked the men and material elsewhere, leaving the aerodrome unguarded.

2030/3.

Received from D.O. 1710/6

D.O. Circulation

Foreign Office Mr. Ashley Clarke Colonial Office  
Mr. Lloyd War Office (M.O.2) Lt. Col. Spurling (4)  
Air Ministry Mr. Verney (3) (Plans Division)  
Admiralty (M. Branch)

1st Lord.  
1st S.L. (2)  
4th 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)  
A.C.N.S. (W)  
Naval Sec.  
N.A. 1st S.L.

D.N.A.D.  
Hd. of M. ( )  
D.O.D. (H) (2)  
D.O.D. (F) (2)  
D.C. (2)  
D.N.I. (7) and  
D.D.I.C. (2)  
D. of P. (2)  
D.A/S W.  
D.P.D.  
Admiral Blake.

I.P. (2)  
W.D.  
D.S.D.  
Admiral Bellairs.  
E.P.S.  
for U.S.N. and  
D.N.L.O.

JR



War Diary.

4.6.1942.  
Thursday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

An aircraft on trans-Atlantic flight reports that at 0207 G.C.T. he passed a suspicious surface craft in 51° 10' N. 37° 4' W., steering 250°, believed to be an aircraft carrier; an aircraft was sighted near the vessel.

Operation  
"Bristle".

A minor reconnaissance was carried out by special service troops in the Etaples area in the early hours of today with aircraft co-operation. Considerable opposition was encountered on land. One enemy patrol boat was sunk and one damaged. There were naval casualties in and superficial damage to M.G.B. 326, M.Ls. 293 and 137 as the result of air attack about 0630 in mid-Channel.

KENT sailed this morning for Iceland - Faeroes patrol.

British Air Operations.

132 aircraft of Bomber Command attacked Bremen last night.

Enemy Air Operations.

Poole was attacked again last night. Accommodation ship SONA was damaged and had to be evacuated, and some petrol tanks were burnt out. The port is closed owing to the presence of U.X.Bs. in the harbour.



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War Diary.4.6.1942.  
Thursday.SITUATION REPORT.South Atlantic.Raider *STIER*  
in south  
Atlantic.S. B.R. 1337

SS. GEMSTONE, Capetown to Baltimore reported being shelled by a\*raider at 1006 G.M.T. today in 1° 52' N. 26° 38' W. (about 670 miles N.E. of Natal [Brazil]). CARNARVON CASTLE and PRETORIA CASTLE were sent to investigate. The latter on 5/6 found Panamanian schooner REINE MARIE STEWART burning to the waterline after being\*\*shelled in 7° 37' N. 22° 47' W. (about 600 miles S.W. of Freetown) at 1800Z/4.

\*\* *by S/M.*\* *STIER*Mediterranean.

Wellingtons last night attacked and probably hit with 2 torpedoes a 6000 ton merchant ship escorted by 3 destroyers N.W. of Derna. At dawn today a Beaufort torpedoed the same ship N.E. of Benghazi; and later R/C indicated that the ship was sunk.

COCKER (A/S Whaler) was torpedoed by a ~~U-Boat~~ <sup>\* *German E-boat*</sup> and sunk at 0101 today in 32° 6' N. 24° 12' E. whilst on escort duty from Tobruk to Alexandria.

\* *V.A. Weirhold. 22.2.50.*

JANUS was damaged by a mine probably acoustic in Arabs Gulf this afternoon.

China.Attack on  
Midway I.

An enemy force, including 4 aircraft carriers, approached Midway Island today and at 1830Z enemy aircraft attacked the island, destroying the power house. The enemy carrier force was attacked by U.S. land and carrier planes and submarines throughout the day. One aircraft carrier of SORYU class is reported to have been struck by 3 torpedoes from U.S. S/M NAUTILUS and the remaining 3 carriers damaged by bombing. Two battleships of this force are reported to have been damaged by bombs or torpedoes.

/An ...



4.6.1942.  
Thursday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT.

China.

Attack on  
Midway I.  
(Contd.)

An occupation force approaching from the westwards was attacked by U.S. aircraft. Two transports were hit by bombs and torpedoes and one battleship was set on fire from a direct bomb hit.

America and West Indies.

The commander of the U-Boat which sank SS. TUSCALOOSA CITY this afternoon to the south-westward of the Cayman Islands adopted the unusual course of assisting the survivors whilst in their boats, instead of firing on them.

Australia.

Further  
U-Boat  
attacks  
off Sydney.

An R.A.A.F. aircraft observed a vessel believed to be SS. IRON CROWN (3353 tons) being torpedoed by a submarine at 1000Z today in 38° 17' S., 149° 44' E. (off C. Howe) and attacked the U-Boat, obtaining 2 near misses. A B.25 aircraft with a Dutch pilot attacked and claimed to have sunk a U-Boat at 2200Z today in 35° 22' S. 152° 36' E. (off Jervis Bay N.S.W.)



War Diary.

4.6.1942.  
Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Policy.

North Atlantic dispositions. Disposition of Operational Units in North Atlantic. Area Scapa. DUKE OF YORK, WASHINGTON, LONDON, NORFOLK, WICHITA, MANCHESTER, NIGERIA, One destroyer, Four destroyers (U.S.)  
Area North Russia. Two destroyers.  
Area Iceland. (C) RENOWN, VICTORIOUS, KENT, CUMBERLAND, TUSCALOOSA, Five destroyers. Area Clyde. RODNEY, KENYA, LIVERPOOL, Six destroyers. Passage to S. Atlantic. NELSON, ARGUS.  
Area Gibraltar. EAGLE, CHARYBDIS, CAIRO, Two destroyers.  
(D.O.D.(H) 1128B/4 to C. in C. U.S. Fleet.)

ANSON. On completion ANSON will come under the orders of C. in C. H.F., and will proceed to Scapa for trials and working up as ordered by him.  
(D.O.D.(H) 1334B/4).

A/S Escort Trawlers for Portsmouth. Owing to loan of Chasseur Flotilla to C.C.O. only 4 A/S trawlers are now available for local patrols and coastal convoys. In view of frequent daylight air attacks on coastal convoys escort is essential. Request 4 A/S trawlers may be lent temporarily until Chasseurs are returned to C. in C. Portsmouth. (C. in C. Portsmouth 1727B/4 to Adty.)

Admiral Stark. Scapa arrival. 1816 U.S.S. WAINWRIGHT.  
(A.C.O.S. 1817/4.)  
Admiral Stark has hoisted his flag in WASHINGTON.  
(C. in C. H.F. 1951B/4 to Admtty.)  
My 1951/4. Admiral Stark has now given orders for his flag to be hauled down. (C. in C. H.F. 2217B/4 to Admtty.)

Defence of U.K.

Fearn V.A.F. Station Defences. Admtty. propose meeting at 1500/11 to discuss planning for defence of V.A.F. station Fearn Ross-shire when this is transferred to Navy.  
4. Please notify Admiralty direct that time and date are suitable. (Dacoast 4. 1340/4 to A.A.C.O.)

Lerwick - Bressay Ferry. C. in C. H.F. asks that shipping to take up to 150 men and one section Bren Carriers should be held available at short notice to ferry reinforcements between Lerwick and Bressay, in emergency periods.  
2. Understand 2 Steam Drifters and 1 Motor Drifter are available. Will these fulfil requirements and how long notice would be required. (D.L.D. 2007B/4 to A.C.O.S.)



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4.6.1942.  
Thursday.War Diary.HOME COMMANDS.Movements.

- SPEEDY. My 1014B/2. Sailed.  
HEBE. (N.O.I.C. Greenock 0215B/4.)
- LIVERPOOL. Arrived LIVERPOOL and KENYA escorted by Capt.  
KENYA. (D) 17 in ONSLOW, MARNE, MATCHLESS, BEDOUIN,  
ICARUS. (N.O.I.C. Greenock 0546B/4).
- RODNEY. Arrived RODNEY escorted by BLANKNEY, ESCAPADE,  
MIDDLETON. (N.O.I.C. Greenock 0704B/4).  
Request you sail QUENTIN to R/V RODNEY at  
2130B/5 in no. 5 Clyde channel buoy. (N.O.I.C.  
Greenock 1218B/4 to N.O.I.C. Liverpool.)  
Intend sailing RODNEY escorted by PATHFINDER and PENN passing  
Clyde boom 1745B/5 to R/V QUENTIN at 2130B/5 at number 5 Clyde  
Channel Buoy. Thence in accordance with C. in C. W.A. 1128B/3.  
(N.O.I.C. Greenock 1254B/4). *See p 84.*
- TORBAY. My 1548/2 <sup>/N.T. & W.D.</sup> para 3. Trawler KINGSTON JACINTH.  
UNBEATEN. (Capt. S.5. 0925/4 to TORBAY, UNBEATEN).  
My 1551/2. Paras. 1 and 2. Amend position of  
R/V to 180° Lizard 10 miles. (Capt. S.5. 1221B/4  
to TORBAY, UNBEATEN).
- WHEATLAND. Proceed passing Switha 1600B/4 to Hvalfiord  
routed through 58° 45' N. 07° 2' W., thence through  
Reykjanes passage. (R.A.D. 0933B/4 to WHEATLAND).
- INTREPID. Request you will sail INTREPID for Scapa forthwith  
(R.A.D. 0941B/4 to A.C.I.C.)  
Sail INTREPID 1815. E.T.A. 0500/6. (A.C.I.C.  
1915B/4 to A.O.O.S.)
- BANDIT. Leave Methil at 0500/5 and proceed independently  
by standard route to Scapa.  
(C. in C. Rosyth 0949B/4 to BANDIT.) *See p 79*
- P.614. Arrived <sup>Holy Loch (P.L.)</sup> P.614 and O.10 escorted by LA CAPRICIEUSE.  
O.10. (F.O.I.C. Greenock 2154B/4).
- COLOMBO. E.T.A. 0930B/5th. (COLOMBO 2259B/4 to C. in C.  
Plymouth.)

Operations.

- Operation "Bristle". All craft have returned  
and are returning, troops having been put ashore  
at Hastings. A landing was made but was unsuccess-  
ful and there were several military casualties.  
As result of air attack by 6 M.E.'s in mid  
channel about 0630 there were casualties in  
M.G.B. 326 and S.G.B. 4 and air-sea rescue M.L's  
137 and 293. (V.A.Dover 0927B/4).

/My.....



War Diary.4.6.1942.  
Thursday.HOME COMMANDS.Operations.

Operation "Bristle"  
- Contd.

My 0927B. The landing was made at 0245 and the withdrawal at 0340, considerable opposition being encountered. Whilst the troops were on shore M.G.B. 324 and 330 on patrol immediately to Southward of beach encountered two enemy patrol boats, one of which was sunk and the other damaged. M.G.B. 326 and M.L.s 137 and 293 suffered superficial damage in air attack during a withdrawal.

Revised casualties are Military 2 other ranks missing from landing, 1 other rank killed in air attack on M.G.B. 326. In M.G.B. 326 three ratings wounded, in M.L. 293 1 Officer and three ratings wounded, in M.L. 137, 2 ratings killed, 3 officers and 9 ratings wounded.

There were no casualties in S.G.B. 4 as previously reported. Escorting fighter aircraft were present both immediately before and after the attack by six M.E.s. (V.A. Dover 1956B/4). M.L.s 293 and 137 were attacked by enemy aircraft at 0630 today. Following casualties on M.L. 137 and M.L. 293. Names. (N.O.I.C. Newhaven 2012B/4).

Search off Flushing.

1. Weather permitting tonight Thursday one unit of M.T.B.s with one unit of M.G.Bs. in support is to search between 51° 22' N. 2° 43' E. and 51° 22' N. 3° E.
2. Opportunity should be taken for representative of Signal School to examine Kwinte Bank Buoy.
3. Surface vessels may be attacked without challenge east of 02° 30' E.
4. Units should remain in company as long as possible. (C. in C. Nore 1036B/4 to BEEHIVE).

D.P.S. 1126B/4.  
Head of M. 1549B/4.  
See R.U.

Operation. ~~"Bristle"~~  
Departure M.T.Bs. 14 and 72, M.G.Bs. 60 and 58. (F.O.I.C. Harwich 2114B/4).

Denmark Straits Patrol. NORTHERN SPRAY in Denmark Straits. TUSCALOOSA on patrol "White". (A.C.I.C. 1622B/4).

Interception of Convoy. Proceed forthwith to R/V at 180° Start Point 11 miles. (C. in C. Plymouth 2052/4 to KRAKOWIAK, ATHERSTONE, BROCKLESBY).  
Air R/C indicates that a convoy escorted by two torpedo boats and two patrol vessels steering Westward will be in approx. 049° 46' N., 001° 51' W. at about 0045/5. Proceed to R/V in 049° 52' N. 002° 30' W. at 2330, then proceed and sink Convoy and escort. Be within 20 miles 165° Portland Bill by 0500. (C. in C. Plymouth 2104/4 to ATHERSTONE, BROCKLESBY, TYNEDALE, FERNIE, KRAKOWIAK).  
Your 2104/4. Earliest time I can reach R/V is 0030/5. (TYNEDALE 2215B/4 to C. in C. Plymouth).  
BROCKLESBY will be 50 minutes late. (C. in C. Plymouth 2308/4 to TYNEDALE).



4.6.1942.  
Thursday.War Diary.HOME COMMANDS.British Air Activity.

- Reborough. Following received from 19 Group. Your 1922/1/6. Expected completion date 12th June. 1825/3. (R.A. N.A.S. 1109B/4 to Admty.)
- R/C of Bordeaux. Request photographic R/C of Bordeaux to locate shipping twice weekly until further notice. (D.D.I.C. 1228B/4 to H.Q.C.C.)
- Bombing operations. On day 3/6, 6 A/C bombed Cherbourg and 6 A/C attacked Havre. On night 3/4, 125 A/C bombed Bremen, and 3 A/C bombed the docks at Dieppe. (H.Q.B.C. 1500/14).
- Expansion of Fleet Air Arm. Requisitions for Naval A/C in U.S.A. up to mid-1944. Details. (Ministry of A/C Production 1909/4). See Lion Copy.
- Convoy P.Q.16. Summary of operations by Russian Air Forces to bomb German aerodromes. (30 Mission 2025/4). See Lion Copy.

Enemy Air Activity.

- Poole bombed. SONA damaged. A. Accommodation ship SONA hit and damaged by bomb (U.X.) Ship evacuated and down by head. R.A.F. Reserve Depot Lake Camp emergency petrol storage tanks Bolsons Yard Hamworthy burnt out by I.B.s. (N.O.I.C. Poole 0530/4). Part of Poole closed owing to presence of U.X.Bs. in harbour. (N.O.I.C. Poole 0530/4).  
Air attack was made on Holton Heath night of 3rd/4th. No damage, casualties, or interference with output. Unexploded bombs reported in close proximity to factory boundary, and being investigated. (Supt. Holton Heath 1421B/4).

Mining.

- Thames Estuary. One ground mine detonated at 0719/3. Details. (Capt. M/S Sheerness 1206/4).  
One ground mine detonated at 1017/3. Details. (Capt. M/S Sheerness 1211/4).  
One Red Mine exploded by Sweepers at 1822/3. Details. (Capt. M/S Sheerness 1224/4).  
One ground mine detonated at 0502/2. Details. (Capt. M/S Sheerness 1521/6).
- Rosyth Command. From 1st April 1942 to 2nd June 1942, the following stranded and drifting mines have been dealt with in this Command. Details. (C. in C. Rosyth 1645/4 to Adty.)

/Clearance....



# MOST SECRET

1909/4 June.

M E S S A G E

DATE. 4.6.42.

To: British Air Commission,  
Washington.  
CYPHER.

From: Ministry of Aircraft Production.

MAP.5434 4/6. Briny 1176 and Briny 3188.

Admiralty have reviewed the position in the light of information obtained from Smeeton during his visit here and of the requirements of aircraft to meet the programme of expansion for the Fleet Air Arm up to mid-1944. They confirm following requisitions for Naval aircraft in U.S.A. :-

|                         |  |
|-------------------------|--|
| First Lease Lend.       | 200 T.B.F.1.<br>50 Goose<br>150 Martlet IV<br>50 S.O.3.C.<br>100 O.S.2.U.3.<br>250 Stinson Reliant.              |
| Second Lease Lend       | 70 Martlet IV.<br>130 Martlet VI (F.6.F)<br>150 S.O.3.C.   |
| Navy Appropriation Acts | 600 Martlet V (F.4.F.4)<br>225 Martlet VI (F.6.F)<br>1120 F.4.U.<br>450 S.B.2.C.<br>200 T.B.F.1.<br>150 S.O.3.C. |

2. Admiralty would be interested in the further 286 T.B.F. requisitioned if not repetition not required by R.A.F.

3. The above statement is intended to supersede previous analyses. Please confirm that position is now clear from your point of view.

4. Important that airframe and engine spares, tool kits, ground and handling equipment, propellers, etc. should be available concurrently with deliveries of aircraft. Pass to B.A.D. and for D.D. of S. referring to Admiralty message 1712/19/3. 1909/4

- 1st Lord.
- 1st S.L. (2)
- 4th S.L.
- 5th S.L.
- V.C.N.S.
- A.C.N.S. (H)
- A.C.N.S. (P) (2)
- A.C.N.S. (I)
- Parl. Sec.
- Sec.
- P.A.S. (F)
- D. of S. (2)
- D.O.D. (H) (2)
- D.O.D. (F) (2)
- D.N.A.D.
- D.A.H.
- Hd. of Air (A.0014/42)
- D. of S.
- D.C. (2)
- Hd. of M.
- I.P. (2)
- W.D.

H.A.P. Circulation:  
 P.S. to Minister, Parliamentary Sec.  
 C.G. Permanent Sec, C.R.D., C.N.R., A.V.M.  
 Ling. Second Sec., Dep. Sec., D.G.N.D.P.  
 (Orig), P.A.S. (C), P.A.S. (P), D.D.G. Stats. I...  
 P.S.6., P.S.12, P.S.15 (G). Hon. T.H.Brand

Recd. in War Registry on 6th June.



SECRET MESSAGE. 2025/4th June. IN

From: 30 Mission. Date 5.6.42.  
Time 0408

CIPHER

Addressed: Air Ministry.

VX 8297 Air. 660 4/6.

Following Summary of air operations undertaken Russian Air Forces to provide protection for convoy which left Iceland for Russia 21/5.

Army and Navy Air Forces both operated under General Kuzyhetzov.

2. Although G.A.F. commenced operations against this convoy 22/5 Russians were prevented by weather conditions from attacking German Aerodromes before 27/5.

3. On 27/5 total of 52 Bomber and 49 Fighter Sorties despatched against Aerodromes at Banak, Kirkenes and Luostari. Of these only 6 found their target. No results observed.

Russian Casualty:- One Bomber damaged.

4. 28/5. 9 or 7 out of 13 bombers found and attacked Banak. 6 G.A.F. Bombers destroyed on ground, hangars and barracks damaged. On return journey 3 Me.109s destroyed. Army Air Force carried out 321 Sorties, but operations again hampered by fog.

Reported Russian losses:- 1 bomber  
2 Fighters.

5. 29/5. Attacks on Luostari and Banak prevented by fog but on Kirkenes successful. 2 German aircraft hit and runway damaged. 1 Me.109 and Me.110 destroyed in air.

6. 30/5. Convoy now protected by 16 Pro.3s and 76 Hurricanes. 6-Ju.88 and 2 Me. 109s shot down other damaged.

Russian losses:- 3 fighters.

Russian Bombers with Fighter cover attacked Luostari and Kirkenes.

7. 31/5. Banak bombed.

8. 1/6. Germans made several attacks Murmansk and Russian on Luostari.

Reported Russian losses:- /Russian

8. 29/5. Attacks on Luostari and Banak prevented by fog but on Kirkenes successful. 2 German aircraft hit and runway damaged. 1 Me.109 and Me.110 destroyed in air.



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Russian Losses:- 3 Bombers  
4 Fighters.

Germans ..... 5 Ju.88  
4 Ju.87  
7 Me.109.

9. Period 21-31 May Russians carried 1055 Sorties. Following numbers aircraft made available.:-

Bombers 59  
Fighters 194  
Flying Boats & Seaplanes 45

Russian Bombers included new type L.4.

10. Germans used Ju.88 carrying 2 Torpedoes.

2025/4.

|               |                                  |
|---------------|----------------------------------|
| 1st Lord.     | Received from Air Ministry       |
| 1st S.L.      | 1140/6.                          |
| 4th S.L.      |                                  |
| 5th S.L.      | Air Ministry circulation:-       |
| V.C.N.S.      | C.A.S.                           |
| A.C.N.S. (F)  | V.C.A.S.                         |
| A.C.N.S. (H)  | A.C.A.S. (0)                     |
| Naval Secy.   | A.C.A.S. (1)                     |
| N.A. 1st S.L. | D of Plans                       |
| O.D. (5)      | D.W.O.                           |
| C.C.L.S.      | D.O.N.C.                         |
| O.I.C. (3)    | D.A.F.L.                         |
| Ops (3)       | W.O.9                            |
| D of P (3)    | A.1.3.A.1.                       |
| M (2)         | A.1.3.D.                         |
| I.P. (3)      | A.1.3.B(action)                  |
| D.P.D.        | Brigadier Firebrace (War Office) |
| W.D.          | S of S                           |
| D.N.I. (5)    | A.S.P.3.                         |
| Ad. Blake     | Minister of Defence (10)         |
| D.N.A.D.      | S of S for Foreign Affairs       |
| D.T.D. (4)    | A.C.A.S. (P)                     |
| D.T.D. (M)    | D.Plans                          |
| D.T.D. (C)    | C.N.S. (2)                       |
|               | C.I.G.S. (2)                     |



War Diary.4.6.1942.  
Thursday.HOME COMMANDS.Mining-Contd.

- Clearance of 324 Q.Z.X. 1. It has been decided to clear 324 Q.Z.X. before 20/6.  
2. C. in C. Nore is requested to sail 9th M.S.F. on conclusion of operation Q.S.8 or not later than 14th June so as to arrive off the area as soon after daylight as possible on day one of operation.  
3. C. in C. Portsmouth is requested to provide 2 trawlers, arrange fighter escort and allocate code letters for the operation.  
4. SARGASSO should accompany 9th M.S.F.  
6. Mines were swept when Northern edge of area was defined in May, 1941 and were awash at low water. (A.C.N.S. H. 1720B/4).

Humber. Two mines detonated by Sweepers both at 0740/4. Details. (F.O. Humber 1745B/4).  
Mine exploded by Sweepers at 0856/4. Details. (F.O. Humber 2230B/4).

S.N.72. Arrived R.A.(M) in SOUTHERN PRINCE, PORT QUEBEC, MENESTHEUS, AGAMEMNON, ADVENTURE, and NEWARK. Arrived and sailed ST. MARYS. (N.O.I.C. Port Z.A. 2046/4).

Enemy Intelligence.

E-Boats. 2 Enemy war motor boats in 53° 15' N. 2° 31' E., course 090°, speed 30 knots. (A/C P. Sqdn. 0405/4 to 16 Group.)

Suspicious vessel. Following received from A/C on transatlantic flight. Begins. Passed suspicious surface craft at 0207 G.C.T. fully lighted 2 rows lights headed in wind at long 37° 4' W., 51° 10' N., course surface craft 250°, speed unknown. Believe enemy aircraft carrier. Sighted plane near vessel. Ends. (T.A.C. Prestwick 0645/4).

NORDVARD. A.M. 2223B/29/5 and A.M. 1645B/31/5. Further examination of photographs of Bordeaux on 30/5 show that NORDVARD had probably left before that date. She was not present in the port on 1/6. (D.D.I.C. 1205B/4).

RIO GRANDE. Photographic R/C of Bordeaux 1/6 showed the German vessel RIO GRANDE moving down river. The vessel arrived Bordeaux from Japan in March or April 1942 and may now be proceeding to Japan. (D.D.I.C. 1212B/4) (F.O.S. 1324B/4). (C. in C.W.A. 1604B/4).

North Norway. First June Russians report. Varanger Fiord. One destroyer 70° 55', 34° 50', 1 submarine. Unknown number merchantmen sailed from Kirkenes to Westward. 2nd June 71° 28', 25° 55' one destroyer. (Ad. Miles 1441C/4).

/Enemy.....



War Diary.4.6.1942.  
Thursday.HOME COMMANDS.Enemy Intelligence.North  
Norway  
- Contd.

Enemy troop movements northward along Rovanemi Petsamo Kirkenes road reported June 3rd. Tanks, lorries and infantry estimated to constitute fresh division. Weather has not permitted second R/C to confirm. (S.B.N.O. North Russia 1842B/4).

U-Boats.U-Boats  
reported.

Following report from A/C on Trans-Atlantic Flight. Submarine 53.09N 17.58W. Visual. Fresh oil. (T.A.C. Prestwick 0720/4). Am over enemy submarine in 55° 35' N. 10° 44' W. Searching. (A.O.C. 15 Group 1135/4).

U-Boats  
attacked.

2 U-Boats attacked by A/C F/172 in Bay of Biscay. Details. (Chivener 1000/4). See Lion Copy. BOOTLE in 058° 40' N. 003° 57' W. reports having attacked submerged submarine at 1225B/4. (A.C.O.S. 1316B/4).

When released by R.A. (M) proceed to 058° 44' N. 003° 50' W. and hunt submarine reported by BOOTLE at 1225. CHIDDINGFOLD, WHEATLAND, and BOOTLE are searching in vicinity. (R.A.D. 1600B/4 to WILTON.)

Attacked firm contact at 1900 in 279°. TORNESS 10. Continuing to investigate. (CHIDDINGFOLD 1915B/4 to A.C.O.S.) My 1915. Consider contact non-sub. Continuing search. (CHIDDINGFOLD 2049B/4).

Navigational.North  
Dvina.

My 1030B/3. North Dvina entrance. Russian(s) (? have now) promulgated following alterations. Details. (S.B.N.O. Archangel 1015B/4).

Miscellaneous.Fuel at  
Murmansk.

Following is a correction to my 2241B/1 begins: Fuel remaining 30/5. Shore tanks 15,000 boilers 2,500 diesel HOPEMOUNT 4,200 boilers 2,000 diesel T.O.O. 2241B/1st ends. (S.B.N.O. North Russia 2114B/4 to Adty.)

R-Craft  
from U.S.A.

My 1851/30/5. Following latest forecast arrivals of craft from U.S.A. Details. (C.C.O. 2145B/4 to V.A.C.T.)

Casualties and Defects.STEEL  
WORKER.

STEEL WORKER sank evening/3rd in deep water after explosion when proceeding from wharf to roads after discharging explosives. (2) Cause being investigated. No planes over Murmansk all day. (3) Only casualty 1 sailor now in hospital. (4) No cargo discharged except explosives. (Cormack 0731B/4).

/Dinghy.....



SECRET.

M E S S A G E

1000/4th June. IN.

78A

From. Chivonor.

Date. 4.6.42.

Recd. 1900.

W/P BY W/P.

Addressed. 19 Group, repeated H.Q.C.C. Admiralty, (O.I.C.)-  
St. Eval.

A. 1. CHI/04/4/6 2. PH/03/3/6 3. Wellington F/172  
Camouflage black - 4 Torpox D/C's  
Captain- S/L Groswoll Navigator- P/O Pooley.

B.

2054 Airborne Chivonor on A/S patrol 3/6/42  
2156 Bishops Rock  
2257 SPTC 0000 on patrol.  
0106 LGTC 0500- S/E contact 20 miles ahead-land  
return from Spanish Coast.  
0115 PSTC 5722  
0144 12 miles due south of CVBK 2045 sighted and  
attacked U boats (Section C refers)  
0200 MTBI sighting report sent but not acknowledged  
W/T went U/S  
0235 12 miles due south of CVBK 2045 S/C base position.  
of U boats confirmed by astro-fix at 0310  
0415 SPTC 3543  
0434 SPTC 4352 S/L range and bearing fix from Scillies  
0509 Scillies  
0557 landed Chivonor 4/6/42  
S/E used through.

C. 1.

Both U/Boats sighted on surface 1st one at 0144 2nd.  
One at 0151 in position 12 miles due south of CVBK 2045 and  
both on CO. 200 degs T speed 8 to 10 knots.

2. Aircraft was 6 $\frac{1}{2}$  miles away at 2000 when S/E contact on  
homing aerials was obtained on first U/Boat. This U boat was  
picked up on the Leigh Light when aircraft was  $\frac{3}{4}$  miles  
away. Second U/Boat was 3 $\frac{1}{2}$  miles away when picked up on S/E  
(on homing aerials) and just under one mile when picked up on  
Leigh Light.

3. 1st U/Boat- similar to U 25. Illustrated on page 223 of  
Jane's Fighting Ships 1940 except that no gun forward or aft  
of conning tower was seen 2nd U/Boat similar to U27 as  
illustrated on page 223 of same publication.

4. None seen.

6. N/A

7. 1st U-Boat - D/C's were dropped at an angle of 20 degs  
across U-boat from starboard to port.

2nd U- boat - 2 machine gun attacks made just after  
aircraft passed over U- boat from starboard to port.

8. 4- 269 lb. Torpox filled D/C's MK. VIII. Mark XIII  
Pistol set to explode at 25 feet 35 feet spacing.

/9. U-boats.



(2)

9. U- boats were fully surfaced.

10. N/A

11. Three D/C's were definitely seen to explode one on the starboard side which exploded about 5 yards from the hull two to three points on starboard quarter the other two exploded on the port side of the U-boat one about 7 yards from hull two to three points on port bow and the other 35 feet ahead. Speed of attack was 150 M.P.H. and D/C spacing was set for 35 feet at this speed.

12. Nil.

13. 44 minutes not relieved by another aircraft.

14. Wellington F/172 was at 2000' on CO. 360 degs T. When S.E. contact was obtained on homing aerials  $6\frac{1}{2}$  miles to starboard contact disappeared after 15 seconds as pilot did not alter course to starboard more time being required to settle down aircraft was turned slowly to port having switched on beam aerials when another S/E contact was obtained to starboard at 5 miles. This was kept on beam aerials for about 20 seconds until aircraft was heading 360 degs. When homing aerials were switched on again. Aircraft turned 90 degs to starboard and contact again obtained on starboard homing aerial at 5 miles homed and at 1 mile Leigh Light was switched on and U- boat was picked up  $\frac{3}{4}$  miles away dead ahead at this time aircraft was 450 feet and U- boat was lost sight of due to steepness of dive causing light to be obstructed by fuselage preventing pilot from seeing target aircraft turned 90 degs to port switching over to beam aerials and immediate contact was obtained at  $3\frac{1}{2}$  miles. At that time aircraft was at 600 feet. Aircraft turned 90 degs to port using homing aerials and a two star Red Pyrotechnic was fired by U-boat. Captain checked up with navigator on recognition signals for own submarines and was informed it would be Green Flare. This Pyrotechnic gave good idea of U-boats position and aircraft homed on S.E. the Leigh Light being switched on at 1 mile height of aircraft being 450 feet U-boat was illuminated at  $\frac{3}{4}$  mile and descending to 50 feet 4 D/C's were dropped three of which were seen to explode straddle U-boat. Aircraft then turned 110 degs to Port switching on beam aerials but no contact made turn was continued through 60 degs with no results. Turn was continued switching on to homing aerials (which took 4 secs) A 300 degs turn was completed with no S/E results. On passing over scene of attack beam aerials were switched on and aircraft made a slow wide turn to Port about six miles from scene of attack and after turning through 360 degs approach was made with homing aerial switched on. Contact was obtained at  $3\frac{1}{2}$  miles homed and at first just under one mile Leigh Light was switched on which illuminated another smaller U-boat on CO. 200 degs T. Dead ahead at the same time a lamp was observed signalling about 2 miles dead ahead of U-boats course U- boat fired a rocket which exploded at 400 feet into 5 or six White Stars. Aircraft passed over U- boat at 150 feet from starboard to Port and Leigh Light was traversed to extreme deflection (120 degs) lighting U-boat indirectly and allowing rear gunner to fire 200 rounds which were seen to rocket from Conning Tower and from the hull along the water line. Aircraft then turned 360 degs to port and neglecting this U-boat flew along its course toward where the signalling lamp had been seen Leigh Light was used for search but nothing was sighted. Aircraft then made left hand circuit and homed on to U-boat another rocket was fired and another M.G. attack similar to the first one was carried out as wireless was U/S and PLE almost reached aircraft S/C for base no positive evidence of damage to 1st U-boat was observed in the way of wreckage or oil but was not seen again after attack in spite of the search carried out above



(3)

- H. 1. 45 degs 20'N 06 degs 15' W
- 2. 0140.
- 3. Maximum
- 4. Nil
- 5. 090 degs W/35 M.P.H. at 2000'
- 6. Moderate
- 7. Fine and clear
- 8. Fine and clear

1000/4.  
Advance copy Ops. O.D. D.A/S.W.

- 1st Lord.
- 1st S.L.
- 4th S.L.
- 5th S.L.
- V.C.N.S.
- A.C.N.S. (H)
- A.C.N.S. (T)
- A.C.N.S. (W)
- Nav Sec.
- N.A. 1st S.L.
- Capt Fin.
- Ops. (3)
- O.D. (5)
- D.N.I. (4)
- D.T.D. (4)
- D.T.D. (M)
- D.T.D. (C)
- O.I.C. (4)
- D. of P. (3)
- D.A/S.W. (2)
- I.P. (3)

- W.D.
- D.P.D.
- D.S.D. (2)
- M. (2)
- U.S.N. (3)
- D.N.A.D.
- C.C.L.S.
- Adl. Usborne.

EDC.

ft  
to

d

e.



4.6.1942.  
Thursday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Casualties and Defects-Contd.

Dinghy. Departure H.S.L's 124, 132 to search for Dinghy with six occupants in 52° 50' N. 2° 33' E. (F.O.I.C. Gt. Yarmouth 0740B/4).

BANDIT. Your 0948B/4. Ship unable to proceed at 0500/5 owing to compass having to be re-adjusted. (N.O.I.C. Methil 2245/4 to C. in C. Rosyth). *See p. 74.*

Shipping and Convoys.

W.S.19P. *(Failure of destroyers to join after fueling at Londonderry)* Your 1720B/3. <sup>P.52.</sup> Destroyers involved were MANSFIELD, BUXTON, SALISBURY and CHARLESTOWN.

2. In view of shortage the first 2 named had to be employed as escort for the Liverpool portion and SALISBURY escorted Clyde portion. All above put into Moville to top up with fuel in accordance with previous practice. CHARLESTOWN was due to join convoy from Londonderry but was delayed by defects. All 4 destroyers had sailed from Londonderry by 1140/1 to overtake convoy.

3. CHARLESTOWN should have rendezvoused with convoy a.m. 2nd but reported not met and in very poor visibility. Remaining destroyers were then some distance astern and reported wind force 7, heavy sea, and poor visibility. MANSFIELD and BUXTON were only making good 10 knots and had sustained weather damage. SALISBURY was making good 15 knots.

4. Situation was reviewed at 1600/2 and in view of the fact W.S.19P. was due to detach 3 destroyers to R/V with EMPRESS OF RUSSIA that night and the weather forecast offered little or no improvement in conditions, it was decided to order convoy to retain 3 destroyers, and SALISBURY and MANSFIELD were directed to meet EMPRESS OF RUSSIA.

5. On receipt of signal from CHARLESTOWN a little later it became apparent CHARLESTOWN's fuel condition would in any case not permit of her remaining with convoy later a.m. 3rd. and she was therefore directed to return to base at nightfall 2nd if convoy not met. She did, in fact, meet convoy.

6. BUXTON was directed to continue and endeavour to make R/V with convoy as she was detailed to escort ARGUS before proceeding Argentia and it was desired to get her on to Gibraltar or the Azores.

7. Operations Division Admiralty were consulted before putting into effect procedure outlined in paras. 4, 5 and 6 above. Investigation of time spent in oiling at Londonderry has been made and there appears to have been no undue delay. (C. in C. W.A. 0013B/4 to Adty.)

Composition and destinations. (D.S.T. 1554B/4) See Lion Copy.

N.A.10. Convoy N.A.10 comprising DUCHESS OF YORK for  
W.S.21. Liverpool and BATORY for Clyde is due 11/6.  
W.S.20 3. DUCHESS OF YORK will be included in convoy  
W.S.21 and BATORY in W.S.20. (D.S.T. 0211B/4).



**MOST SECRET**

MOST SECRET

MESSAGE

1554B/4th June

OUT

To R.A. West Africa 258.

Date 4.6.42.

C. in C. South Atlantic 104.

C. in C. East Indies 926.

Repeated C. in C. Mediterranean 543 B1

F.O.C. North Atlantic 661.

F.O.R.S.C.A. 572

C. in C. Eastern Fleet 278

F.O.C. India.

N.O.I.C. Durban

Naval Cypher F.O. and Naval Cypher (X)

From Admiralty.

IMPORTANT. to R.A. West Africa.Following transports sailed United Kingdom  
31.5 in convoy W S 19 P.

| <u>Code<br/>NO.</u> | <u>Ship</u>          | <u>Speed</u> | <u>Destination</u>  | <u>Numbers<br/>on<br/>Board</u>          | <u>Pendant.<br/>No.</u> |
|---------------------|----------------------|--------------|---|--|-------------------------|
| H.2.                | WARWICK<br>CASTLE    | 18           | South Africa<br>East Africa<br>Middle East<br>Undecided                       | 23<br>2464<br>48<br>736                  | 44                      |
| H.3.                | BRITANNIC            | 17           | West Africa<br>South Africa<br>Middle East<br>India<br>Undecided              | 7<br>67<br>108<br>4148<br>753            | 42                      |
| H.4.                | VICEROY OF<br>INDIA  | 17           | South Africa<br>East Africa<br>Middle East<br>India                           | 43<br>8<br>3305<br>156                   | 32                      |
| H.5.                | ARAWA                | 14.2         | South Africa<br>Middle East<br>Iraq<br>India<br>Ceylon<br>Undecided           | 662<br>64<br>140<br>144<br>5<br>648      | 31                      |
| H.6.                | STAFFORDSHIRE        | 14½          | West Africa<br>South Africa<br>Aden<br>Middle East<br>Iraq<br>India<br>Ceylon | 1<br>46<br>2<br>31<br>251<br>1596<br>254 | 51                      |
| H.7.                | CHRISTIAN<br>HUYGENS | 15½          | East Africa<br>Middle East  | 1<br>2669                                | 21                      |
|                     | H.8.....             |              |   |  |                         |



| <u>Code No.</u> | <u>Ship</u>           | <u>Speed</u> | <u>Destination</u>  | <u>Numbers on Board</u>        | <u>Pendant No.</u> |
|-----------------|-----------------------|--------------|---|--------------------------------|--------------------|
| H.8             | OTRANTO               | 17           | South Africa<br>Aden<br>Middle East<br>India<br>Ceylon    | 101<br>3<br>264<br>3728<br>111 | 53                 |
| H.10.           | LACONIA               | 16           | Middle East<br>Undecided                                  | 1<br>3727                      | 22                 |
| H.11.           | ANDES                 | 21           | East Africa<br>Middle East<br>India                       | 1<br>3399<br>99                | 34                 |
| H.12.           | AQUITTANIA            | 22           | West Africa<br>South Africa<br>East Africa<br>Middle East | 2<br>7<br>1<br>5801            | 43                 |
| H.13.           | ORCADES               | 19           | Middle East<br>India                                      | 959<br>3172                    | 41                 |
| H.14.           | STRATHALLAN           | 18           | Middle East<br>Undecided                                  | 97<br>4300                     | 33                 |
| H.15.           | CATHAY                | 15           | West Africa<br>India                                      | 77<br>3636                     | 52                 |
| H.16.           | U.S. CHRIS-<br>TOBAL  | 19           | Undecided   | 1234                           | 63                 |
| H.17.           | U.S. MEXICO           | 17           | Middle East<br>Undecided                                  | 20<br>1173                     | 12                 |
| H.18.           | U.S. SANTA<br>ROSA    | 18           | Middle East<br>Undecided                                  | 71<br>2431                     | 24                 |
| H.19.           | U.S.<br>J.V. MCANDREW | 17           | Undecided   | 2080                           | 62                 |
| H.20.           | U.S. SANTA<br>ELENA   | 19½          | Undecided   | 2187                           | 54                 |
| H.21.           | ORONTES               | 18           | Middle East<br>Undecided                                  | 117<br>3524                    | 23                 |

2. H.M.S. NELSON also sailed with convoy with 245 personnel on board for West Africa.

3. Following.....



# MOST SECRET

3. Following guns, M.T. stores, etc. were shipped in transports:-

| <u>Ship</u>        | <u>Contents</u>               | <u>Destination</u>                     |
|--------------------|-------------------------------|--|
| WARWICK CASTLE     | M.T. guns ammunition, stores. | East Africa                            |
| ARAWA              | M.T.                          | East Africa & India                    |
| CHRISTIAAN HUYGENS | M.T. Stores<br>M.T.           | South Africa<br>East Africa & India    |
| OTRANTO            | M.T. Stores<br>Guns<br>M.T.   | South Africa<br>East Africa<br>Colombo |
| LACONIA            | M.T. Stores                   | Undecided                              |
| ANDIS              | Stores                        | Madagascar & India                     |
| AQUITANIA          | Stores                        | Middle East                            |
| ORCADES            | M.T. Guns Stores              | East Africa                            |
| STRATHALLAN        | Guns, M.T.<br>Stores          | East Africa<br>Undecided               |
| CHRISTOBAL         | M.T. Guns Stores<br>M.T.      | Undecided<br>Durban                    |
| MEXICO             | Stores                        | Undecided                              |
| SANTA ROSA         | M.T. Stores                   | Undecided                              |
| J.W.MCANDREW       | M.T. Guns Stores              | Undecided                              |
| ORONTES            | M.T. Stores                   | Undecided                              |

4. Following M.T. ships also sailed in convoy W.S:19 P.

| <u>Code No.</u> | <u>Ship</u>  | <u>Speed</u> | <u>Contents</u>                              | <u>No. of Personnel on Board</u> | <u>Destination</u>    | <u>Pendant NO.</u> |
|-----------------|--------------|--------------|--|----------------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|
| R.499           | U.S. JAVA    | 15 1/4       | M.T. tanks, guns, stores ammunition          | 5                                | India                 | 64                 |
| R.500           | U.S. TALISSE | 14           | M.T., tanks guns, stores, ammunition<br>M.T. | 12                               | Middle East<br>Durban | 61                 |
|                 | R.501.....   |              |  |                                  |                       |                    |



| Code No. | Ship                   | Speed. | Contents  | No of personnel on board | Destina- tion  | Pdt. No. |
|----------|------------------------|--------|---|--------------------------|----------------|----------|
| R.501    | U.S. PEOLAU<br>ROEBIAH | 14     | M.T. Tanks<br>guns, stores<br>ammunition<br>Tenders )<br>Stores ) | 15                       | Middle<br>East | 11       |
| R.503    | NEW ZEALAND<br>STAR    | 15½    | M.T. Tanks,<br>Guns, stores,<br>ammunition.                       | 15                       | Middle<br>East | 13       |

5. A.M. 1646/11/5 not to all addressees refers regarding AQUITANIA proceeding independently as W.S. 19Q.

6. Separate signal has been made regarding on-carriage of personnel for West Africa from Freetown.

7. P.S.T.O. Simonstown should arrange for on-carriage of personnel from South Africa as follows:-

(a) For East Africa ex VICEROY OF INDIA, CHRISTIAAN HUYGENS, ANDES, and AQUITANIA by transfer to WARWICK CASTLE.

(b) For Aden and Middle East ex WARWICK CASTLE, BRITANNIC, ARAWA, STAFFORDSHIRE, OTRANTO, LACONIA, ORCADES, STRATHALLAN, MEXICO, SANTA ROSA and ORONTES.

(c) For India Ceylon and Iraq ex VICEROY OF INDIA, ARAWA, and ANDES.

8. Further signal will be sent regarding on-carriage arrangements for personnel for destination undecided ex WARWICK CASTLE, BRITANNIC and ARAWA.

9. P.S.T.O. India should arrange for on-carriage from Bombay for all personnel for Ceylon and Iraq.

10. ARAWA will turn round in South Africa and proceed to Plate to load for U.K. WARWICK CASTLE will turn round at Mombasa and return to U.K.

11. Proposals for (a) release of other troopships in South Africa and on-carriage arrangements

(b) disposal of AQUITANIA after disembarkation at Suez

(c) disposal of U.S. Ships after disembarkation

(d) disposal of all other troopships

(e) allocation of ships as between Capetown and Durban for replenishment and

(f) destination of ships with personnel for destination undecided, will be notified later.

12. Commodore of Convoy is Commodore K.E.L. Creighton in ORCADES, Vice Commadore is Captain French in VICEROY OF INDIA.

13. Addressees pass to S.T.O's and Military authorities concerned.

1554B/4.  
D. of S.T.  
M.W.T. Ext. 2187.

1st S.L. (2)

4th S.L.

V.C.N.S.

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

A.C.N.S. (M)

N.A. 1st S.L.

D.O.D. (F) (2)

Hd. of M. (13)

D.D.I.C. (2)

D. of P. (2)

D. of S.T.

D.T.D. (3)

D.T.D. (M)

D.C. (2)

I.P. (2)

W.D.

D.N.I. (4)

Admiral Blake

D. of S.



War Diary.

4.6.1942.  
Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping and Convoys-Contd.

A.T.15Z. Convoy A.T.15Z is due Clyde p.m. 9/6 with  
W.S.19Y. approximately 10600 personnel for Great Britain  
and is due to sail again in W.S.19Y on 17/6.  
Embarkation of W.S.19Y will take place 16/6 and  
a.m. 17/6. Total to embark about 10600.  
(D.S.T. 0212B/4).

A.T.16. Convoy A.T.16 comprising BARRY and SIBONEY for  
C.T.18. Belfast and MUNARGO for Clyde is due 11/6.  
2. BARRY has on board for Northern Ireland  
total of 4665 and for Great Britain 122.  
SIBONEY has 1811 for Northern Ireland and  
MUNARGO 1220 for Great Britain.  
6. All three ships will be included in convoy  
C.T.18 sailing Clyde 16/6. (D.S.T. 0214B/4).

North Your 2346/30/5 para. J. Commodore's suggestion.  
Russia 1. If ammunition suitable for ships guns is  
Convoys. being carried for export that quantity might be  
stowed in accessible position in each ship and  
Master given authority to broach it if running  
short.

2. 2 spare Oerlikon gun barrels to be carried in ships mounting  
these guns so that they can be mounted quickly to replace  
barrels being cleared of jams which are very frequent.  
3. 2nd A/A ship to accompany convoys of more than 20 ships.  
4. W/T Officer or Petty Officer to be available at Hvalfiord  
to explain system M.F. and H.F.D/F guard to wireless operators  
since Commodores no longer have Petty Officer telegraphist on  
staff and many ships assemble at Hvalfjord for Convoy conference  
new to organization. (S.B.N.O. North Russia 0951B/4 to  
Adty, C. in C.H.F.)

Your 1524/16, 1754/1, and 2046/1.

Decisions on matters raised in these signals depend to some  
extent upon the destinations of the various components of  
escorting forces of P.Q. convoys during the summer months.  
What policy do you intend in this respect?

2. If destroyers are to go to Murmansk as they did last summer,  
it would seem better to keep reserve torpedoes for destroyers  
there.

3. No hospital ship available. Can accommodation be  
provided now for hospital unit and stores at Murmansk or  
Archangel and which is preferred?

4. Confirm that tanker is still required in P.Q.18.  
Also report where HOPEMOUNT will complete discharge and expected  
date of sailing for Iceland (C).

5. Is it anticipated that it will be possible to obtain  
coal for trawlers at both Murmansk and Archangel, either from  
shore stocks or from ships in the convoy, or will it be  
necessary to send coal specially to Murmansk?

(A.C.N.S.(H.) 1651B/4 to S.B.N.O. North Russia).

S.N.N.O. North Russia 1444B/31, 2051B/31, and 0901B/2. All the  
ammunition requested for Convoy escort and listed in para. 2  
below can be provided from Scapa reserve. The Oerlikon demand  
would however exhaust the entire stock held at present.  
Immediate replacement of the latter would be essential and  
replacement of the remainder in due course most desirable.

2. 4.7 Q.F. for D.E.F. E.M.F. or Mark eleven. 1,200 rounds.  
4.7 B.L. 160 rounds.



War Diary.4.6.1942.  
Thursday.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping and Convoys. Contd.:

|          |                                       |               |
|----------|---------------------------------------|---------------|
| North    | 4 inch Q.F. Mark 16 or Mark 5 or B.L. | 1,850 rounds  |
| Russia   | 3 inch Q.F.                           | 160 rounds    |
| Convoys  | 12 pounder                            | 650 rounds    |
| - Contd. | 2 pounder H.V. with tracer.           | 3,600 rounds  |
|          | 2 pounder L.V. with tracer.           | 6,710 rounds  |
|          | Oerlikon 50/50                        | 17,200 rounds |
|          | 0.5.                                  | 10,000 rounds |

and one barrel for Oerlikon gun.

3. The above does not include ammunition for convoy nor for reserves referred to in my 1954B/28 and 1303B/30.

4. My 1721/4 also refers. (C. in C.H.F. 1717B/4 to Admty.) My 1717/4 para. 2. Request you investigate and report by signal what arrangements would have to be made to accommodate this amount of ammunition plus about 25 tons of 12 pounder Oerlikon and point 303 for Merchant vessels in two or three destroyers of "I" or "E" class in addition to outfits which latter ships should carry for their own defence.

2. 2 Cases should be considered:-

Case 1. Destroyers subsequently to form part of escort for Homeward bound Convoy replacing ASHANTI and MARTIN who would return independently.

Case 2. Destroyers return independently after delivering ammunition. (C. in C. H.F. 1721B/4 to R.A.D.)

P.Q.17. P.614 and P.615 will escort P.Q.17 to Murmansk. If you could use P.615 for anti sub exercises she could arrive Reykjavik about 18/6. P.614 will join convoy from Seidis Fjord. (F.O.S. 1027B/4 to A.C.I.C.)

BENALBENACH. Your 1948B/3. Does this also apply to BENALBENACH. (S.O. A.S.C. 1145/4 to D.S.T.)

B.B.82. B.B.82 includes 5 tankers from Belfast and 2 tankers joining from Holyhead. As one A/A ship only can be provided for this convoy, maximum air support is requested. (F.O.I.C. Belfast 1301B/4 to C. in C.W.A.).

P.W.166. Intend sailing TYNEDALE from Needles 2300 today by convoy route to R/V with convoy P.W.166 at daylight and to Plymouth on completion of escort. (C. in C. Portsmouth 1353B/4).

EMPRESS OF RUSSIA. My 1712/2 para. 4. SALISBURY is to part company off Mull of Kintyre and proceed to Greenock. (C. in C. W.A. 1646B/4 to SALISBURY).

Tankers in B.B., O.N.M., O.G.M., O.S.M. Convoys. Your 1846/22/12/41 and my 2313A/5/1/42. Propose that until further orders the number of tankers in B.B., O.N.M., O.G.M., and O.S.M. convoys be limited to 6 in each convoy irrespective of the phase of the moon. (C. in C.W.A. 1810B/4).

/Procedure.....



4.6.1942.  
Thursday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping and Convoys-Contd.

Procedure on  
sighting  
U-boats.

When Admiralty signals that one of 2 or more convoys has been sighted by a U-Boat but is uncertain which, and the escort of one of these convoys has herself obtained a bearing of the U-boat and therefore knows which convoy is being reported, she is to signal this information to Admiralty repeated C. in C.W.A. and escorts of convoys concerned. (C. in C.W.A. 1904B/4).

U.R.27.

SCIMITAR and SABRE are to turn over escort to trawler and return Londonderry. (C. in C.W.A. 2158B/4.)

W.S.19Z.

Convoy W.S.19Z sailed. E.T.A. Freetown 1000Z/19. (N.O.I.C. Greenock 2234B/4 and 2236B/4).



War Diary.4.6.1942.  
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.General.Japanese  
"defended  
areas".

Admiral Miles 1507C/4. See Lion Copy.

North Atlantic.Use of  
Allied  
Ships.

Your 1302/14. A Dutch. Should Dutch units be available instructions in A.T. 2005/22/4/41 still stand.

B. Poles. Do not wish their units to be employed against French.

C. Norwegians have intimated unofficially that they would not object to use of their ships against French but that official approval of their Government must be obtained. Action is being taken to obtain this approval.

D. United States. Question of inviting U.S. to make joint demarche to Vichy concerning movements of French Battleships is still under consideration. In the meantime U.S. forces may not be employed against French.

E. Free French units are not to be used in operations against Vichy.

(Hd. of M. Approved A.C.N.S.(F) 0141B/4 to F.O.C.N.A.).

ALOUETTE

ALOUETTE sailed 0709 B/4 to R/V CITY OF OXFORD and EMPIRE CONRAD off Horn for Escort to Lisbon. ALOUETTE then assumes Y one patrol. (F.O.C.N.A. 0729B/4 to Admiralty (R) LOCH OSKAIG, IMPERIALIST.

S/Ms for  
Gibraltar.

C.in C. Med.1054/2 and my 1134/2. Following is expected date of additional S/Ms. leaving U.K. for Gibraltar to work up.

P.22 12/6, P.37 early July, P.54 mid July RORQUAL, P.48 early August. P. 212 and P.219 will carry out work up patrol from U.K. and will not be available to leave till end August at earliest. In view of arrival of PARTHIAN and REGENT request early report whether above S/Ms from U.K. can be accepted in view of possible congestion at Gibraltar. (F.O.S. 1031B/4 to F.O.C.N.A.(R) C.in C.Med. Admty.).

Use of  
Paravanes.

Ref: A.M.S.I. 13/42 and I.C.O.C. 69. Information is requested to use of paravanes by ships sailing in convoy in case they are routed to South Ireland. (F.O.C.N.A. 1058B/4 to Admty.). (sup. 106)

/P. 44 .....



SECRET

MESSAGE 1507C/4 June

IN

Date 5.6.42.

From. Admiral Miles.

Recd. 1148

U.S.S.R. (Z) BY T/P via B.P.

CORRECTION

Addressed. Admiralty.

609. The following areas are described by Japanese as "Defended Areas" and are forbidden to shipping. Positions have been taken from a Russian Chart. All latitudes are North and Longitudes East. (A) Area to northward of a line drawn from Southern extremity of Sokocusan Island to western extremity of Quelpart thence from S.E. extremity Quelpart Touranto 3431 12842 to 3500 12914 L and ending at Kotan-Ko 3523 12921. (B) Area to south and east of a line joining northern point of Okishima Island to northern point of Tsushima thence from southern extremity of Tsushima to 3310 12758 to 3200 12758 to southwestern point of Yakushima Island. (C) Areas to north and east of line joining south western point of Yakushima Island to Yorishima Island to 3200 14400 to 3600 14700 to 4000 14800. (D) La Parouse Strait. Eastern boundary by a line joining 4601 14210 to Mizyo light to 4527 14200. Western boundary by line joining 4603 14156 to 4527 14139. Two safe channels each two miles wide pass through this area only to be used in daylight after giving five to ten days notice. Northern channel centre line runs in 090 degrees direction in latitude 45 degrees 49 minutes 40 seconds. Southern channel centre line runs 069 degrees from position 45 degrees 30 minutes 50 seconds north 141 degrees 41 minutes 0 seconds east.

1507C/4.

Advance copy to Hydrog D.M.S.  
O.I.C.Ops.

Note:- Correction refers to 6th line from end "to pass through this area only." at end of line has been deleted.

V.C.N.S.  
A.C.N.S. (F)  
A.C.N.S. (T)  
A.C.N.S. (W)  
H.A. 1st S.L.  
Ops. (3)  
O.D. (5)  
O.I.C. (3)  
D.N.I. (5)  
D.of P. (3)  
Hydrog (2)  
D of H  
Staff Charts  
M (32)  
D.M.S.  
D.M.S. Citadel  
D.T.M.

D.D.T.M.  
D.T.D. (4)  
D.T.D. (M)  
W.D.  
I.P. (3)  
F.O.S.  
Ad. Blake  
U.S.N. (3)



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4.6.1942.  
Thursday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic. Contd.

- P. 44. My 1042/1. (?departure) 1135 P.44. C.in C. Med. pass Capt. (S) 1, Capt. (S) 10. (F.O.C.N.A. 1158B/4 to V.A.Malta, C.in C. Med (R) Admty. Capt. (S) 1, Capt. (S) 10.
- MIRROR Intend sailing MIRROR escorted by STELLA CARINA Cable repairs. 1700B/6 to carry out repairs as follows.  
(a) Lisbon - Gibraltar number 1 in 036° 15' N. 007° 23' W.  
(b) Lisbon - Madeira number 2 between (W) 036° 51' N. 010° 36' W and Y 037° 31' 010° 10' commencing in position (W).  
(F.O.C.N.A. 1242B/4 to Admty (R) MIRROR).
- CARADOC Intend sailing CARADOC at 2200B/5 routed through (A) 035°, 50' N. 006°, 28' W. (B) 32°, 40', 10°, 10'. (C) 28°, 01', 13°, 30'. (D) 25° 02', 16°, 28'. (E) 20°, 49', 18°, 50'. (F) 14°, 10', 18°, 50'. (G) 10°, 45' 17°, 30' thence Freetown S.of A. 16 knots E.T.A. 0900B/11. (F.O.C.N.A. 1302B/4 to R.A. West Africa (R) Admty. C.in C. S.A. CARADOC.)
- SOKOL Capt.(S) 10 1911/16/4 to F.O.(S) SOKOL completion date dockyard work 16/6. (A.S.Gibraltar, 1422B/4 to Admty(R)F.O.C.N.A., F.O.S.).
- RIO GRANDE RIO GRANDE may have sailed from Bordeaux about (German) 1/6 bound for Japan. Description. 6,100 tons gross, speed 13½ knots. (F.O.C.N.A. 1604B/4 to S. & A. N.A. Station).
- CAIRO. Ref: N.O.I.C. Belfast 0945/2/6. Am 1¼ hours early. E.T.A. gate 0900B/7. (CAIRO 1721B/4 to F.O.C.N.A.).
- P. 43. My 1042/1. Departure 1715P. 43. (F.O.C.N.A. 1802B/4 to V.A. Malta, C.in C. Med. (R) Admty. Capt.(S) 1, Capt. (S) 10.)
- RODNEY. C.in C. W.A.1228/3 (? 1128/3 intended). para. 2 onward route. E 039° 26' N. 025° 28' W. F 037° 38' 026° 28' G 025° 01' 023° 25' R.A.W.A.F. is requested to issue onward route from G. (F.O.C.N.A. 1946B/4 to RODNEY, R.A.W.A.F. PENN, PATHFINDER, QUENTIN, (R) Admty. C.in C.W.A. C.in C. S.A.) *See p. 74.*
- LOCH OSKAIG Am being attacked by enemy A/C. My position 38° attack by 27' N. 9° 18' W. enemy A/C. (LOCH OSKAIG 2042B/4 to Gibraltar W/T).  
LOCH OSKAIG with THURSO and EGYPTIAN shadowed by F.W. in 38° 27' N. 09° 17' W.  
(LOCH OSKAIG 2054/4 to Gibraltar W/T).

/1 F.W. ...



4.6.1942.  
Thursday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic. Contd.

LOCH OSKAIG 1 F.W. bearing 270° height 3000 feet course  
attack by 150°. My position 38° 27' N. 9° 17' W.  
enemy A/C. (LOCH OSKAIG 2100B/4, to Gibraltar W/T).  
Contd. Your 1207B/2. Left R/V with THURSO and EGYPTIAN  
at 2000B/4 S.of A. 8½ knots.  
(LOCH OSKAIG, 2145B/4 to F.O.C.N.A.(R) ALOUETTE).

Italian Bearings at 2029Z of Italian U-Boat 16L.  
U/B. (D.D.I.C.2303B/4 to F.O.C.N.A.).

South Atlantic.

W.S. 19. Simonstown departure 1500Z/4 SHROPSHIRE for  
escort Durban portion W.S. 19.  
(C.in C. S.A. 1003B/4, to Admty. etc.).

HILDASAY My 1602Z/2 HILDASAY returned with engine defect.  
(Cdre., Durban, 1006Z/4, to Admty. etc.).

GEMSTONE QQQQ 1° 52' N. 26° 38' W. attacked by gunfire deZB1  
"Q" Report (Ascension W/T, T.O.R. 1006 G.M.T./4 to  
Raidy STIER. Freetown W/T.).  
(B.R. 1337) Ship attacked by gunfire in 001° 52' N. 026°  
38' W. proceed patrol I 34. (B).  
(R.A. West Africa 1047Z/4 to CARNARVON CASTLE (R)  
Admty. C. in C. U.S. Fleet T.F.No.23. PRETORIA  
CASTLE.).

Ship attacked by gun fire in 001° 52' N. 026° 38' W. investigate  
then patrol H 34 (C) and (D) to eastward of 026° W.  
(R.A. West Africa 1049Z/4, to PRETORIA CASTLE (R) Admty. C.in C.  
S.A. C.in C. U.S. Fleet, C.T.F. 23, CARNARVON CASTLE.).  
My 1049/4 ship attacked was steamship GEMSTONE bound Baltimore  
from Capetown.  
(R.A. West Africa, 2039Z/4 to PRETORIA CASTLE (R) CARNARVON  
CASTLE C.in C. U.S. Fleet, T.F. 23).  
Received 1859 G.M.T. QQQQ GEMSTONE attacked by gunfire 1°. 52' N.  
26°. 38' W. 1010/4 DE BIOL 1125/4.  
(Portishead Radio T.O.R. 2059/4 to Admty).

ARCHER Your 1753/3. ARCHER is making good defects at  
Capetown and will be able to sail for U.K.  
Work can be carried out in U.K.  
(C.in C. S.A. 1048B/4, to Admty (R) ARCHER).

/Bullion .....



War Diary.4.6.1942.  
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic. Contd.

Bullion.

*42nd Escort Group*

Bullion was despatched as follows in:  
 A. TOTLAND, 40 boxes. B. WESTON, 36 boxes.  
 C. WELLINGTON, 36 boxes. D. GORLESTON, 34 boxes.  
 (R.A. West Africa 1155Z/4 to Admty).

CAMBRIA.

CAMBRIA reported at 0100Z/4 that she is returning to Rio de Janeiro.  
 (N.C.S.O. Rio de Janeiro, 1302Z/4 to Admty. (R)  
 S.O. (1) Montevideo. S.O. (I) Freetown SL).

Freetown.

Re: development by U.S. Navy Dept.  
 (Admty. 1338B/4 to R.A. West Africa) See Lion Copy)

Movements  
Summary.

2000Z/4 Area Q. CILICIA off Tristan Da Cunha, ASTURIAS proceed from K.1 A. to H 34 D. CHESHIRE patrol in K. 1 D. MAURITIUS, MILFORD, HURSLEY, BELVOIR with W.S. 19 030° 12' S. 011° 35' E.  
 133° 13½ SHROPSHIRE from Simonstown to R/V with W.S. 19 at 1200Z/5. W.S. 19 W. 022° 45' S. 006° 00' E. to Capetown 25.  
 (C.in C. S.A. 1509B/4 to S.A. Stn. Sqdn. (R) Admty).

PHYLLISIA

My 1340/2. PHYLLISIA holds recognition signals to 15/6. She carries no W/T.  
 (R.A. West Africa 1701Z/4 to F.O.C.N.A. N.O.I.C. Bathurst).

GEORGE CLYMER  
 (U.S.A.)  
 ALCOA POLARIS  
 (U.S.A.)  
 ALCANTARA.

GEORGE CLYMER reported broken shaft in message received at 0034/31st no time. She is still broken down and reported noon position 3/6 015° 30' S. 016° 43' W. ALCOA POLARIS was diverted 1/6 but her subsequent movements are unknown. U.S. Naval Attache fully (? informed) and has asked Washington for assistance. ALCANTARA is being sent until situation clear. Propose GEORGE CLYMER should be towed to Pernambuco if necessary.  
 (C.in C. S.A. 1713B/4 to Admty. (R) T.F. 23 ALCANTARA. R.A. West Africa).  
 Proceed in execution of my 1713B/4.  
 (C.in C.S.A. 1717B/4 to ALCANTARA (R) T.F.No.23 Admty. R.A. West Africa).

VOLENDAM

VOLENDAM sailed 4th in SL. 12.  
 Ref. your 2339/2 Master stated ship could make 13 knots but could only maintain 12½ owing to necessity for Drydocking. Your 2230/27 survivors on board 1 Officer ex CHURRUCIA 19 Officers 11 Ratings ex ROWALLAN CASTLE none embarked Freetown. Details in My Code.  
 (D.S.T.O. Freetown ? 1855Z/4 to D.of S.T. (R) R.A. West Africa Admty for Trade Division).

/German Mine .....



86A

SECRET MESSAGE. 1338B/4th.June. OUT.

Date 4.6.42.

To:- R.A.West Africa 254,  
repeated Commodore-in-Charge, Freetown,  
B.A.D.Washington 6.

NAVAL CYBER (X)

From Admiralty.

Your 1922Z of 27th.May not to B.A.D., and my 1332/4.  
We believe that U.S.Navy Department fully appreciates  
importance of Freetown, and that they are full out to  
help us provided that we satisfy them that all British  
services are doing their utmost.

(2). Our request that they should help us in developing  
Freetown was originally made in response to offer from  
Mr.Hopkins when he was here last July. Their decision  
on Freetown has been delayed first by prior claims on  
their assistance for British requirements in other theatres,  
and then by their own war requirements. If, notwithstanding  
their large commitments elsewhere, they are prepared to help  
us at Freetown we felt it would be impossible for us to  
withdraw our application merely because of stipulations  
which are reasonable and realistic.

(3). We are aware that advent of American Construction  
Units will give rise to many problems in the Colony, but we  
are confident in the assurance given in your last sentence.  
It is important that provision of accommodation for them  
should be accelerated, see B.A.D.'s 2045/2.

(4). Please give copy to Governor.

1338B/4  
Head of Military Br.(34)

|                    |                        |                 |         |
|--------------------|------------------------|-----------------|---------|
| 1st.Lord           | C.D.(5)                |                 |         |
| 1st.S.L.           | D.T.D.(4)              | Dept.Contr.(3)  | } Bath. |
| 2nd.S.L.           | D.A./S.W.              | D(4)            |         |
| 3rd.S.L.           | D.B.D.(2)              | Under Sec.      |         |
| Vice Contr.        | D.S.V.P.(2)            | Asst.Under Sec. |         |
| 4th.S.L.           | D.N.E.(C.C.)           | C.E.in C.       |         |
| Contr.H.S.R.       | D.57.                  | E.in C.         |         |
| V.C.N.S.           | D of S.                | D.A.S.(4)       |         |
| A.C.N.S.(T)        | E.in C.                | D of S.         |         |
| A.C.N.S.(H)        | C.E.in C.              | P.              |         |
| A.C.N.S.(F)        | A.S.(C.L.)             | M.F.            |         |
| A.C.N.S.(W)        | F.                     | E.in C.F.M.B.   |         |
| Civil Lord         | M.A.S.(4)              | D.A./S.W.(2)    |         |
| Sec.               | D.C.L.                 | D.C.L.          |         |
| Nav.Sec.           | C.L.                   | C.S.L.          |         |
| P.A.S.(S)          | D of S.T.(2)           | L.              |         |
| Fin.Sec.           | D.N.C.                 | C.E.            |         |
| N.A.to A.C.N.S.(T) | W.G.F.                 | D.N.A.          |         |
| P.A.S.(PR)         | Ad.Blake               | D.E.A.          |         |
| P.A.S.(F)          | Ad.Cunningham          | S.W.R.          |         |
| N.A.2nd.S.L.(2)    | Ad.Bellairs            |                 |         |
| D.M.R.             | I.P.(3)                |                 |         |
| H.Br.              | W.D.                   |                 |         |
| M.S.               | M.30 and for -         |                 |         |
| D.P.S.(2)          | M.36.                  |                 |         |
| E.A.P.             | 37                     |                 |         |
| D.N.I.(7)          | 38 (M.06883/42)& for   |                 |         |
| H.F.               | C.O.(Mr.Edwards)       |                 |         |
| D.of P.(3)         | W.O.(Major Haviland(2) |                 |         |
| E.P.S.             | (Brig.Harrison         |                 |         |
| D.of L.D.(2)       | M.W.T. (Mr.Duggan)(3)  |                 |         |
| D.T.S.D.           | A.M.                   |                 |         |



4.6.1942.  
Thursday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic. Contd.

German  
Mine

CITY OF EASTBOURNE reports sighting German X or Y type mine floating in 31° 00' S. 15° 30' E. at 1555 G.M.T. on 23/5. It appeared to be 1/3 afloat new freshly painted black with no red lead showing. Attempt was made to sink it but failed. (R.A. West Africa, 1903Z/4 to C. in C.S.A. (R) Admty).

COMMANDANT JOHN W. MACKAY  
DROGZOU

Amend previous orders proceed to locate JOHN W. MACKAY escorted by CORINTHIAN and join escort. MACKAY is estimated position E.E. 014° 04' 30" N. 025° 52' W. at 2000Z/5 then work towards position, F.F. 006° 53' N. 028° 13' W. (R.A. West Africa, 2037/4 to COMMANDANT DROGZOU (R) CORINTHIAN, BROOM, Escort S.L. 112, Capt. (D) 18).

*See p. 90*

Mediterranean.

COCKER  
sunk.

Regret to report COCKER torpedoed by U-boat and sunk at 0101/4 in 032° 06' N. 024° 12' E. while on escort duty from Tobruk to Alexandria. C.O. and 15 picked up. COCKER had an almost

unrivalled record of good and arduous service with the inshore squadron and as KOS. 19 during the evacuation from Greece and Crete.

(C. in C. Med. 1106C/4, to Admty. (R) R.A. Alexandria).

Enemy Ship  
Damaged.

Big ship reported stopped and hit in 034° 10' 021° 01' at 0600/4th.

(Capt. S.I. 1253C/4, to S/Ms on Patrol).

My 1253/4. At 1125 damaged ship with Italian destroyers GENERALE ACHILLE PAPA and FULMINE stopped in 034° 01' 021° 05'.

(Capt. S.I. 1425C/4, to S/Ms on patrol).

My 1425/4. In case ship has not already been sunk A S V aircraft will search between 0100 - 0400. Any submarines in vicinity of position should use "Rooster" between these times. Aircraft has been warned that more than 1 may be switched on at once.

(Capt. S.I. 2003C/4 to Subs on Patrol). \* Sunk 9/11/41.

Black Sea.

Situation Report. 1. Re-grouping of enemy forces in Crimea completed. Considerable forces concentrated around Sevastopol and Simferopol. Heavy air attacks on Sevastopol during last few days and determined attack on town may be expected very shortly. 2. Air R/C reported two S/Ms on slips at Nikolaiev. These may be new or may be ?uncompleted submarines left behind by Russians.\* 3. Enemy air activity along Caucasus coast continues to be slight. 4. Concentrations of small boats and sections of pontoon bridges in several occupied ports along northern shore of Sea of Azov. These are probably to assist land offensive towards Rostov for landing operation against Taman peninsular.

(N.L.O. Black Sea. 1320C/4 to Admty. Admiral Miles).

\* Confirmed ex - Russian, see 1317/6.

/CLYDE .....

*U331*

*Reginaldo Guiliano } 6837 tons*

*\* Should be German E-boat, Vice-Adm. Waichold, FDS, 22-2-50*

*F/F*



War Diary.4.6.1942.  
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean. conts.

CLYDE. My 1220B/2. Cancel time of arrival at position E. Proceed direct E. to Western end of S.E. searched channels. Adjust speed to arrive position 142° Fort Saint Lucian 4.8 miles at 1230B/8. Thence proceed direct to bottom in position 142° Fort Saint Lucian one mile.

(ii) Permission to proceed will be made on (02)30 and 0430 M.S. routine on 8/6. If permission is not received retire to N.W. and repeat the operation 24 hours later.

(iii) You are to remain at maximum safe depth between 035° 42' N. 014° 26' E. and 142° Fort Saint Lucian 2 miles relying D.R. and Asdic bearing.

(iv) M.L. 126 will be anchored position 240° Delimara light 3 cables and will transmit on frequency H. from 1200B until CLYDE arrives. You are to indicate your arrival by raising both periscope and mast before bottoming.

(v) Surface at 2050B and proceed alongside Shell Pier.

(vi) 2 buoys are laid 200 feet to S.W. of BRECONSHIRE. Enemy E. Boats may be encountered off Malta.

(V.A. Malta, 1358B/4, to CLYDE (R) C.in C.Med., F.O.C.N.A. Capt. S.I., Capt. S. 8).

Operation "Style". 31 Spitfires flown from 0615B to 0834B 3/6 in approx. 037° 47' N. 002° 46' E. in light easterly breeze.

2. Shadowers observing continuously from 0640B to 1210B.

3. From 1210B there was indication of shadowing until presumed enemy aircraft sighted very high overhead by escorting Hudson at 1938 in 036° 32' N. 001° 52' W. of which RD/F had given no indication. Visibility extreme. (EAGLE, 1410B/4, to Admty. etc.).

Italian Warships. State mid-May. (a) Battleships. VITTORIO VENETO, GIULIO CESARE,  at Taranto. IMPERIO has carried out trials but owing to variety of troubles she is not yet ready for service. LITTORIO still unfit for service owing to damage. (b) Cruisers. BOLZANO under repair and still absent from heavy Cruiser Squadron. (c) Light Cruisers. GIULIO GERMANICO, CLAUDIO TIBERIO, CORNELIO SILLA, all ready for service under Command of Adm. Castulli. (d) Destroyers. Of 29 in commission 20 are fit for service. (e) U-Boats. 62 are in commission but it is not known how many are fit for service. A. 2. (N.A. Stockholm, 1557/4, to Admty).

Malta Air Report. I. 344 4/6. C.S.R. 4th. 4 Spitfires. Dawn Shipping search found nothing. Alert 0827. (H.Q. R.A.F. Malta, 1600/4).

Cositrep No. 385. 3. Air. Night 3/4. Albacores attacked small craft Derna harbour. Wellingtons attacked 6000 tons M/V escorted by 3 destroyers N.W. of Derna scoring 2 probable hits with torpedoes.

A Beaufort torpedoed same vessel N.E. of Benghazi at dawn. R/C later reported convoy stationery and stern of M/V \* lifting. (C.in C. M.E. 1820/4) \* Presumed sunk, see Cositrep 388, 1105/6.



War Diary.

4.6.1942.  
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

PANSY  
MARIT.

PANSY sailed escorting (MARIT) through 019° 30'N., 086° 19' E at 1200Z/5 and Western Channel (?M) at 0230Z/6. S. of A. 2 knots.  
(N.O.I.C. Vizagapatam 1202Z/4 to Admty., F.O.C.R.I.N. S.O. (I) Colombo. S.O. (I) Bombay., N.O.I.C. Calcutta. Also pass to A.O.C. Bengal. Dep.C. in C.E.F.)

Japanese  
Units.

D/F bearings from Auckland, Waipapakaurai, and Awarua showed Japanese units E.O., REKU, KETA and R 11 S.E. of Sydney between 0700 and 1400 G.M.T./2. Presume you are obtaining these fixes. (C.S. Colombo, 1209Z/4 to A.C.N.B. (R)N.Z.N.B.)

Shipping,  
E.Coast of  
India.

Your 0929/30/5 para. 3. We fully concur in this proposal and our appreciation is that a further increase in amount of shipping using Bay of Bengal is acceptable at present to meet requirements referred to in para. 1.  
(A.C.N.S. (T) 1900B/4 to F.O.C.R.I.N.)



**MOST SECRET**

MOST SECRET

MESSAGE

IN

From:- 121 Force

1836/4th June

Date. 5.6.42.  
Recd. 0140

C Y P H E R

Addressed:- The War Office

IMMEDIATE

053669. PO/60 cipher 4/6.

1. H.M. Government's commitments with regard to Free French is realized.

2. Your 91705 (M.O.5) and 91706 (M.O.5) of 29/5 and 92403 (M.O.5) 2/6 noted.

3. I and my officers are in daily and intimate contact with French population in Diego Suarez and we have had the opportunity of speaking with several residents of Tananarivo 2 of whom have come from there since our occupation. All my information from these and other sources is that there is no repeat no section of the population in Madagascar who has any feeling but active dislike for Free French and that if latter came here they would turn co-operation into hostility.

4. From same source I am convinced any hope of a coup d'etat unless backed by presence of British troops in or near Tananarivo can be discounted.

5. The population is loyal to Petain but sufficiently detached Vichy to make it possible for an agreement to be reached on peaceful grounds even in defiance of Vichy to whom they would plead force majeure.

6. I am grateful decision conveyed in your 92403 (M.O.5) 2/6 and will follow instructions contained therein and carry out as far as local and general circumstances permit policy outlined in your 91706 (M.O.5) 19/5.

1836/4

Recd. in War Reg. at 1540/5 June

- 1st Lord
- 1st S.L. (2)
- V.C.N.S.
- A.C.N.S. (W)
- A.C.N.S. (F) (2)
- Sec.
- N.A. 1st S.L.
- P.A.S. (S)
- D.O.D. (F) (2)
- D. of P. (2)
- D.N.I. (4)
- E.P.S.
- Hd. of M. (2)
- I.P. (2)
- W.D.
- D.C. (2)
- D. of L.D.
- Admiral Blake
- Admiral Chalmers.
- D.D.I.C. (2)

War Office circulation:

- S. of S. C.N.S. Admiralty,
- P.U.S. C.A.S. Air Ministry.
- P.U.S. (F) A.M.C.S. "
- C.I.G.S. Mr. Mac (F.O.)
- V.C.I.G.S. Major Morton (10,
- D.M.O. & P. Downing St.)
- D.D.M.O. (O) Mr. E.T. Benson
- D.P. (2) (Cabinet Offices)
- M.O. 1.2.5.11.
- D.H.I.
- D.D.M.I. (I) Mr. Kimber (D.O.)
- M.I. 3. H.W.R. Admiralty
- L.F. (a)
- F.I.
- Col. Jacob.
- Foreign Secy.



War Diary.

4.6.1942.  
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies.

U/B U-Boat estimated in your vicinity by D/F has made sighting report of a convoy or important unit 3rd. (C. in C. U.S. Fleet 0324/4 to address omitted.)

U.S. Atlantic Fleet Location Sheet Number 25, 3/6  
Disposition contained in Cinclant's 1512/3 reads as follows:  
RANGER, AUGUSTA and 4 destroyers en route  
Argentia arrived 1/6.

NORTH CAROLINA, WASP, QUINCY, PHILADELPHIA, BROOKLYN, SAN JUAN and 6 destroyers at Hampton Roads.  
SAVANNAH at Bermuda.  
Task Force 34 (TEXAS and 3 destroyers) escorting Convoy A.S.3. departed Bermuda 31/5 to eastward.  
Task Force 35 (NEW YORK and 6 destroyers) depart Halifax 3/6 for U.K. escorting A.T.16 and N.A.10. (Comnaveu 0735/4 to Admty.)

|                   |  |                                  |                |                |
|-------------------|--|----------------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| Movement summary. | 1800 G.M.T. 4/6.   |                                  |                |                |
|                   | Ship   | Position                         | Course         | Speed          |
|                   | CORINTHIAN)<br>escorting<br>cable ship }<br>J.W. MACKAY )<br>Convoy A.T.16 )<br>Convoy N.A.10 )<br>(D.O.D. F. 0930Z/4 to Opanav (R) Comnaveu. Cominch) | 14½° N 28° W<br><br>45½° N 55° W | 101<br><br>062 | 10½<br><br>12½ |

DURBAN B.A.R.M. 2152/21/5. In view of U-Boat situation between Bermuda and Halifax and observation D Class cruisers have in past made passage from Bermuda direct to U.K. at 15 knots suggest that (?after completing) DURBAN proceed direct from Bermuda omitting call at Halifax. If DURBAN's endurance has been reduced during her refit to extent making this impracticable suggest she refuel Ponta Delgada. B.A.R.M. pass to DURBAN. (C. in C. A.W.I. 1132P/4 to Admty. (R) B.A.R.M. C. in C. U.S. Fleet. DURBAN.) Reply Admty. 2221/5.

BAGHDAD BAGHDAD, Norwegian, torpedoed sunk by S/M 0145 (sunk 30/5) G.M.T./30. S.O.I. Kingston (Jamaica) given full particulars yesterday. 11 survivors arrived Grenada G.M.T. 1445/3. One other life-boat with Captain and 9 others got away, whereabouts unknown. Boatswain died, 8 others believed missing. (Treasurer, Grenada 1145/4 to Fairmiss (R) Admty.)

T.H.2. Your 1502/3 T.H.2. J.H.SENIOR (Pa.) F.Q.BARSTOW (U.S.) not arrived at Cape Amber sailed (Pa.) STANVAC Capetown (Pa.) MURENA (Du.) BRITISH GOVERNOR (Br.) CITIES SERVICE FUEL (U.S.) REGINOLITE (Br.) missed convoy engine trouble. (N.O.I.C. Trinidad 1302Q/4 to N.S.H.Q. Ottawa (R) C.O.A.C. Admty. C. in C. A.W.I. S.O.I. Kingston (J) ) Sailed SUDBURY and THE PAS escorting T.H.2. E.T.A. Halifax 0900Z/15. (N.O.I.C. Trinidad 1432Q/4 to C.O.A.C. (R) Admty. etc.)

/Shipping...



War Diary.4.6.1942.  
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies - Contd.

Shipping Signals Your 1555/12/5. S.O.I. Jamaica has been instructed to make necessary arrangements and has requested N.S.H.Q. to arrange for advance reports to be made from Southern U.C. Atlantic ports as requirements. S.O.I. Jamaica now proposed that contiguous areas be requested to signify in route signal if ship is British managed. I concur and suggest that this would be a useful addition to all route signals. (C. in C. A.W.I. 1303P/4 to Admty.)

PARTHIAN Leave Bermuda p.m. 5/6 if trials are satisfactory proceed through following positions.  
R. 034° 30' N 053° 00' W. S. 035° 30' N 038° 00' W. T. 034° 40' N 023° 00' W. to Gibraltar. S of A 11 knots. Wireless watch in accordance with Admiralty Fleet Order S.1/42 Section A.C. table 2 (3) (b) until 1200Z/10 then in accordance with Section N.A. table 2 (1) line 9. (C. in C. A.W.I. 1303P/4 to PARTHIAN (R) Admty. F.O.C.N.A. B.A.D. N.S.H.Q. Ottawa. C. in C. U.S. Fleet. C. in C. Atlantic Fleet. F.O.S. Naval Base Bermuda.) Cancelled see 1913/5.

B.X. Convoys. Concur your 1655Z/28 (re sailing of B.X. Convoys.) as qualified by C.E.S.F. 2207/2 and your 1550Z/3. (C. in C. U.S. Fleet 1551/4 to N.S.H.Q.)

CARIBSTAR Have you any news of CARIBSTAR (U.S. due Trinidad 24/5 from New York? (D.T.D. 1605B/4 to B.R.O. Trinidad (R) S.O.I. Jamaica.) Reply 1021/5.

U/B positions. 4/6 Submarine estimate. (Cominch 1651/4, 1659/4, 1709/4, 1713/4, 1719/4 to Admty.)

DIOMEDE. Your 1642/3. DIOMEDE should carry out alternative (a) (D.O.D. (F.) 1740B/4 to C. in C. A.W.I. (R) B.A.D. DIOMEDE.)

BUTTERCUP COLUMBINE BUTTERCUP with COLUMBINE in company departed U.S. N.O.B. Argentia at 0930Z/5 and proceeded Trinidad via Bermuda. Following direct route. Speed 13 knots. Upon arrival Bermuda after dark despatch to C.T.G. 26.3 for duty. Guard normal British communications channel. E.T.A. Bermuda 2000Z/8. N.O.B. (group missing) Bermuda pass to S.O.P.A. Bermuda. (C.T. 24 1745/4 to BUTTERCUP COLUMBINE. (R) Cominch, UNICORN, C.T.G. 26.3. C.T.G. 27.2. Admty. C. in C. W.A. C. in C. A.W.I. HAVELOCK.)

UMTATA repairs Ref. C. in C. A.W.I. 1032P/3 providing escort to UMTATA in tow St. Lucia to San Juan. On arrival at latter port investigate possibility of effecting repairs permitting ship proceed further under own power and unescorted. (Cominch 1812/4 to C.C.S.F.)

/Attack...



92

War Diary.4.6.1942.  
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies - Contd.

Attack on U/B S/M attacked by merchant ship in 043° 52' N 067° 42' W at 1732 G.M.T. (C.O.A.C. 1841Z/4 to Admty.)

YORK,  
MOOR (sunk 22/5) Attack by submarine. (1) YORK MOOR (2) Runciman Shipping Co. (3) 21450/22/5 029° 25' N 072° 30' W (4) Position as in (3) (5) course S.W. (6) surface (7) ship sank (8) none (9) large type number U112 or U115 (10) gunfire (11) thrown overboard in weighted box. My 1902/4 with list of survivors follows. (B.R.O. Norfolk Va. 1901Z/4 to Admty. (R) N.S.H.Q.)

A.T.15Z. For A.T.15Z on crossing 65° 00' W alter course for position E omitting D (Connav, 1920Z/4 to U.S. TRIPPE (R) Admty. C.O.A.C. etc.)

Escort Groups Corvettes Personal for 1st. S.L. Your 2305B/21/5 para. 1B (11) There appears to be some confusion about present allocation of corvettes. No Canadian corvettes from A1 or ?A2 or any other groups have been allotted to U.S. coastal convoy.

2. Present allocation of all Canadian corvettes is as in my 1650Z/27. Request confirmation of allocation of all R.N. corvettes including those manned by allied navies.

3. My 1650Z/27 para IV. Cancel 2 groups of 6 corvettes allotted to U.S. coastal escort and amend corvettes remaining in mid-ocean groups to read 88.

4. If the above figure is correct it appears that a number of corvettes could be released from mid-ocean force without reducing the number of groups.

5. Conference at Washington is expected to take place on 8/6. Request your opinion as to minimum number of corvettes which should be allotted to each mid-ocean group. Suggest this could be reduced to 6 which would allow to be running and 2 refitting. (C.N.S. Canada 1940Z/4 to Admty. (R) B.A.D.) Reply: Admty. 1133B/6.

ROXBOROUGH My 1350Z. <sup>INT. W.D.</sup> 2 hours late. At least 1 bearing has wiped on port engine. Bearing will require opening for examination and lubricating. System requires (?dismantling) Am proceeding on starboard engine. (ROXBOROUGH 2015Z/4 to C.O.A.C. Halifax.)

Ships sunk. Connav Serial 4. Following ships previously reported now confirmed sunk HEREDIA, SYLVAN ARROW, MERCURY SUN, PLOW CITY, DARINA, BETH, FRED W GREEN. WM. B THOMPSON arrived Guantanamo 24/5. Admty. pass to Connaveu, London for action. (Connav 2100Z/4 to Connaveu.

/QUEEN...



War Diary.4.6.1942.  
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies - Contd.

QUEEN ELIZABETH (A.T.15Z) Departed Ambrose L.V. 1725Z. (N.S.H.Q. 2041Z/4, Opanav 2102Z/4 to Admty. N.S.H.Q.)  
 With concurrence of Navy Dept. QUEEN ELIZABETH has been instructed not to comply with M.A.R.I. Sec.2 para 12 but only to break W/T silence if she will be late at R/V or if otherwise ordered by Admty. (B.A.D. 2117Z/4 to Admty. (R) C. in C. W.A.) Reply: Admty 1825/5.  
 Route etc. D. 40.00 N 60.00 W. E 43.00 50.00. F. 52.00 45.00. G 56.00 30.00. Chop 56.22 26.00. H. 57.00 20.00. J 56.30 08.30. knots 26.5. Days' voyage. B.A.M.S. all publications necessary. High Frequency. Speed to be adjusted to arrive at Chop 1400 G.C.T./8 adjusted to cross 15.00 dawn/9. Conhydrolant. Approaches to Clyde. Belfast. Oban. Loch Ewe. Liverpool. Ends.  
 (Radio Washington 2241Z/4 to Admty. N.S.H.Q.)

Sub attack & Sighting Summary. Unknown tanker sunk 12.01 N 63.31 W 1956Z/3. Possibly one U-88 and one U-45 attacked vessels vicinity Mona and Windward Passages 28 Feb. to 12 March. JACK torpedoed. HALSEY probably only one submarine and one torpedo. POLYPHEMUS 2 torpedoes U-88 type. Large bull painted in gray and red on sides of C/T NORLINDO U-88 type. D.D. attacks sound contact 63.55 N 23.30 W about 1200Z/14 April. Patrol craft attacks sound contacts one 34.57 N 75.55 W 1730Z/2 vicinity wreck. One 35.03 N 75.20 W 0529Z/3 vicinity 2 wrecks. M.V. fires at periscope 43.52 N 67.42 W about 1732Z/4. Panair sights submarine on surface 12.20 N 63.45 W 1330Z/3. D.D. made sound contact 37.57 N 72.50 W 0705Z/4. M.V. sights periscope 37.49 N 68.10 W 1810Z/3. ATENAS shelled periscope 27.35 N 89.28 W 1300Z/26 May. Submarine surfaced 25.50 N 89.05 W 2209Z/26. 7 shell hits on ATENAS which opened fire. Submarine crash dived. Opanav and B.A.D. informed. (Cominch 2051/4 to Admty for O.I.C.)

U.S. S/M. U.S. Submarine notice. My 0604/28. Vessel departed patrol area 4/6 course 180° speed 90 miles per day. Arrives 10 miles East of Mount Hill light 7/6 between 1200 and 1500Z. Submerged during daylight. Surfacing in darkness. Total bombing restrictions 15 miles each side of track and 50 miles ahead and astern estimated position. (Cominch 2055/4 to Admty. etc.)

Distress Report 1/6 My 2322Z/3 ALUSNA, Capetown, 1100Z/4 consider ship using call sign K B X H may be decoy. Request diversion of SS. ALCOA POLARIS be cancelled unless distress confirmed. (Cominch 2130/4 to C. in C. S.A. (R) ALUSNA, Capetown.)

U.S. Transports. Voyages from Puerto Rico under control of U.S. Army. (B.A.D. 2217Z/4 to D.S.T.) See Lion Copy.

Overdue shipping ALLISTER due Tampa 1/6 from Kingston not arrived. (Opanav (another version gives originator as ?N.S.H.Q. Ottawa) 2231Z/4 to Admty. C. in C. A.W.I. S.O.I. Kingston. Connav.)

/KNOXVILLE...



# MOST SECRET

MOST SECRET

MESSAGE 2217Z/4 June IN.

From: B.A.D. Washington.

Date: 5.6.42

Recd: 0330

Naval Shore Code Nii by Cable

Addressed: D. of S.T repeated N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, C. in G. America and West Indies, N.O.I.C. Kingston, N.O.'s I.C. Bermuda, Trinidad, Bahamas, B.N.L.O. New York.

IMPORTANT

Most secret.

Your 2050 30th and 2357 29th latter not to all addressees.

1. Following U.S.A. ships now at Jamaica are about to carry following voyages under control of U.S.A. Army.

- A. SICILIEN - Puerto Rico Panama New Orleans.
- B. J L CLEM - Puerto Rico New Orleans
- C. ALONQUIN - Puerto Rico Trinidad New Orleans
- D. FLORIDA - Puerto Rico Trinidad, Aruba, Panama, New Orleans

E. (KGAZ) EVANGELINE - as for FLORIDA. Ports of call cannot be changed.

2. U.S.A. Navy have stipulated not more than 100 British passengers may be embarked in any one ship since they will be unescorted. Families are not repetition not to be taken.

3. U.S. Authorities desire arrangement may be made locally at Jamaica and Trinidad to take advantage of these ships to remove British Passengers to U.S.

4. It is not anticipated there will be any opportunity to move large numbers for sometime since escorts are not available except for very high priority ships.

5. No passages for personnel from Bahamas Windward Is. or Leeward Is. or British Guiana can be arranged unless they can move to Trinidad or Jamaica by local arrangements.

6. Subject to restrictions in para. 3 above suggest local authorities might arrange passage in U.S. cargo ships many of which have passenger accommodation.

B.R.O. pass to B.N.L.O. New York.

2217Z/4

Advance copy sent D.C. D.O.D. (F) D.T.D.

|                 |               |              |                |
|-----------------|---------------|--------------|----------------|
| V.C.N.S.        | D.O.D. (F)(2) | Hd. of M.    | D. of S.T. (2) |
| A.C.N.S. (H)    | D.N.I. (4)    | D.D.I.C. (2) | U.S.N. (3)     |
| A.C.N.S. (F)(2) | D.I./S.W.     | E.P.S.       | Admiral Blake  |
| N.A. 1st S.L.   | I.P. (2)      | D.T.D. (3)   | Admiral        |
| D. of P. (2)    | W.D.          | D.T.D. (M)   | Cunningham.    |
| D.O.D. (H)(2)   | D.C. (2)      | D.T.D. (C)   |                |



**MOST SECRET**~~MESSAGE. 2500/1th time.~~

MOST SECRET.

I N.

From The War Office.

Date. 5.6.42.

Recd. -

C Y P H E R.

Addressed British Army Staff, Washington.

073/2518, 92792. Cipher (M.O.4a) 4/6.

MOST SECRET.Reference W.O. 92388 of 2/6 and your  
GO/168 of 16/4.

FIRST. Following is suggested draft directive to which you should obtain U.S. agreement, after amendment by you as seems fit in light of your local knowledge.

BEGINS.

1. Whole Caribbean area is now U.S. defence responsibility and following has been agreed with them.
2. Defence of Caribbean area rests on series of mutually supporting U.S. air, land and sea bases, which provide for their own local defence and also for mobile naval, army and air forces to counter enemy attack in any part of Caribbean area.
3. Role to be played by non-base British territories (including non-base islands in Bahamas, Windwards and Leewards) is to organise best local defence to resist external attack and to impose maximum delay on enemy, pending relief by U.S. mobile forces of Caribbean Defence Command.
4. Commander, Caribbean Defence Command, General Andrews, with headquarters at Panama, has operational command of all military forces of the Associated Powers in his district which includes following British territories: Jamaica, Trinidad, the Bahamas south of and including Great Exuma, Windward and Leeward Islands, British Honduras, Barbados and British Guiana. The Commander, Eastern Theatre, Metropolitan U.S. Command, has operational command of forces in the Bahamas north of and excluding Great Exuma. Each Commander has responsibility and authority to co-ordinate the operations of participating forces of all British combatant services in his district, subject to their terms of enlistment, to organise task forces, to assign missions, to designate objectives and to exercise such co-ordinating control as he deems necessary. He is NOT however authorised to control the administration or discipline of the forces of the combatant services to which he does not belong, nor to issue any instructions to such forces beyond those necessary for effective co-operation.



5. Army operational orders received from the higher U.S. Authority will therefore be complied with.

6. Army operational instructions will always be complied with, but where time permits and the British Army Commander does not agree with his instructions from the higher U.S. Commander, he may refer to the Joint Staff Mission.

7. The duties and position of the British Commander, in those colonies whose territories include leased bases, will be governed by the terms and conditions of ABC-3.

8. The nationality of the officer to assume command of the combined local defence forces will be determined by the terms of paragraphs 20 and 21 of ABC-3.

ENDS.

SECOND. Please report if U.S. Army Department likely to agree to issuing similar directive to local U.S. Army Commanders.

2300/4

War Office Distribution:-

|                     |                  |                                      |
|---------------------|------------------|--------------------------------------|
| S. of S.            | D.C.M.G.         | D.M.S. (A)                           |
| C.I.G.S.            | D.D.M.O. (O)     | M.S. la.                             |
| V.C.I.G.S.          | D.D.M.I. (I)     | A.L.M.                               |
| A.C.I.G.S.          | D.D.S.D.         | Q. (Ops.)                            |
| A.G.                | D.D.S.D. (W)     | Q. (M) 3.                            |
| O.M.G.              | D.G.A.R.         | F.I.                                 |
| D.M.O. & P.         | D.D. Mov. (S).   | Admiralty (War Reg.)                 |
| D.H.I.              | M.O. 1, 2, 4, 8. | Admiralty (Hd. of Milty. Br.)        |
| D.S.D.              | M.I. 2.          | Air Ministry (A.M.C.S.)              |
| D.S.D. (W)          | S.D. 2. 12.      | Air Ministry (Gp. Capt. Long)        |
| D.A.A. & C.D.       | A.A. 4.          | Col. Office (Lt. Col. Rolleston) (8) |
| D.D.A.A. & C.D. (A) | M.S.             |                                      |

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

Recd. from War Office at 1300/5.

+ 2300/2 M/S.



War Diary.4.6.1942.  
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies - Contd.

KNOXVILLE CITY. My 2126/23/5 KNOXVILLE CITY (U.S.) torpedoed 1/6. (N.S.H.Q. 2251Z/4 to Admty. etc.)

African Air Route.

J.S.M. 252. At meeting of Combined Chiefs of Staff on 2/6, we agreed that British should accept responsibility for defence of the southern Trans-African Air Ferry route, i.e. the route via Leopoldville and Mombasa.

Also agreed that British would undertake necessary action with Free French and Belgian authorities with regard to protection of those aerodromes within their territories. (J.S.M. 2321Z/4 to Chiefs of Staff London.)

Australia and New Zealand.

U/B Campaign

S/M activity Australian Station. IRON CHIEFTAIN (4812 tons) torpedoed and sunk approx 1240Z/3 in (?033°) 55' S 151° 50' E. AGE (4734 tons) shelled by S/M 1110Z/3 in 033° 45' S 151° 59' E.

No damage or casualties. S/M fired 4 shells probably 4 inch. BARWON attacked by S/M (?19)43Z/3 in 038° 05' S 150° 14' E. Torpedo self-exploded close to ship. H.M.A.S. BINGERA has picked up 12 survivors from IRON CHIEFTAIN. (A.C.N.B. 0348Z/4 to Admty. etc.)

Port Moresby Raid 1/6

Report from Port Moresby Raid No.59 on 1/6 states Approx. 90 seconds before arrival enemy bombers 5 enemy fighters made cross white smoke. Subsequently enemy bombers flew through centre of pattern and bombs were heard to drop about 12 seconds later. First such instance reported here. (Allied Air Force, Melbourne 0510Z/4 to Air Min.)

Movements.

Departure Suva LEANDER and U.S.S. TUCKER on escort duties. (N.Z.N.B. 0540Z/4 to Admty.)

Wellington

Underwater defences planned. (N.Z.N.B. 1517M/4 to B.A.D. Admty.) See Lion Copy. Reply: B.A.D. 0043Z/5. 45A

Situation

Serial number 133 from C.W.R. 3/6. R/C by unidentified A/C believed enemy over Broome 0330Z/3.

(2) Enemy aircraft over Bulolo 1/6.  
(3) Allied air R/C 2/6 reports 10 vessels, 10 flying boats, Simpson Harbour, Rabaul. 3 vessels Henry Reidbay (47 miles S of Rabaul) 1 small transport 60 miles S.E. of Henry Reidbay Bay, course N.



War Diary.

4.6.1942.  
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Australia and New Zealand.

Situation (4) 3 Fortresses attacked wharf and Military  
Contd. Camp Rabaul ? 1615Z/2. Bombs in target area.  
Small fires started along shore.  
(5) Unconfirmed report 31/5 states enemy  
strength Tulagi 600.  
(6) 2 small enemy S/Ms reported sighted Vaulcluse area  
Sydney Harbour 1815Z/3.  
(7) Coastal Vessel AGE shelled by light grey S/M at 1110Z/3  
in 033° 45' S 151° 59' E. No damage or casualties. Vessel  
arrived safely in port. S/M fired 4 shells all of which missed.  
(8) Coastal Vessel IRON CHIEFTAIN torpedoed by S/M in 033° 55'  
S 151° 50' E at 1242Z/3. Some survivors rescued.  
(9) Coastal Vessel BARWON reports near missed by unexploded  
torpedo from S/M in position approx 30 miles S.S.E. Cape Howe  
at 1943Z/3. No damage. B.A.D. Washington pass to Opnav.  
(A.C.N.B. 1527Z/4 to Admty. etc.)

Movements. Arrivals 3/6 0640Z H.M.A.S. BENDIGO Fremantle  
1040Z U.S. Seaplane tender CHILDS. (N.O.  
Melbourne 1528Z/4 to Admty. etc.)

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Submarines Reported.

Estimated U/B positions. (D.D.I.C. 1445B/4,  
1446B/4.)



**MOST SECRET**

95-A

MOST SECRET

M E S S A G E 1517M/4th June

IN

From N.Z.N.B.

Date 4/6/42

Time 1647

NAVAL CYPHER (X) BY CABLE

Addressed B.A.D. Washington, Admiralty. ~~7~~

892. Your 0001/3 and N.Z. Legation 0207/3 net to Admiralty. Underwater defences planned for Wellington.

- (A) Heavy indicator net (my 1804/5/5 paragraph 2(A)).
- (B) Controlled minefield (my 0624/8/4) paragraph (A) (2).
- (C) Guard loop close to seaward of (B).
- (D) One H.D.A. position 180 yards 245 degrees from front leading light (my 0624/8/4) paragraph (B) (3).
- (E) Indicator loops numbers one and two (my 1624/24/4 not to Admiralty)
- (F) Six individual ship close protection A/T nets (Admiralty 1237/10/5).
- (G) A/T net (my 0624/8/4) paragraph (B). (1) and 1804/5/5 paragraph 3.

2. It was appreciated that risks envisaged in your 0001/3 paragraph (2) was present but is was considered that one (F) above would reduce risk (my 0958/30/4 ~~7~~)

3. If indicator nets are placed one mile seaward of Hope Shoal Beacon (A) nets will be continually damaged by heavily southerly weather which extends as far north as Falcon Shoal and may be inoperative when emergency arises. (B) One (E) and one (C) above cannot be placed owing to lack of room (C) Indicator loop number two will be valueless owing to lack of hunting room between it and net (D) Reliance for detection will be placed almost entirely on net as loop number one will be unreliable in heavy weather.

4. It is considered that proposals in (one) above will give a higher percentage of probable detection and protection than (three) in spite of disadvantages if it is desired to add to security request consideration be given to placing an A/T baffle from Kau Point in a direction 141 degs. for 1800 yards.

5. Your 0001/3 paragraph (one). Prefer nets made up before supply.

6. N.Z. Legation's 0207/3 paragraph (two). Request supply.

1517/4

~~7~~ no trace.

RN

(Circulation overleaf).....



95B

2.

1st Lord.  
1st S.L.  
Controller.  
Vice Controller.  
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)  
N.A. 1st S.L.  
D.O.D. (F) (2)  
D. of P. (2)  
D.N.I. (4)  
D.C. (2)  
D.D.I.C. (2)  
Hd. of M. (B.D. 0745/42)  
D. of L.D.  
D.B.D. (B.D. 0571/42)  
D.D.O.D. (M)  
D. A/S W.  
D.T.D. (3)  
D.T.S.D.  
D.T.M.  
U.S.N. (3)  
Adm. Cunningham (64 O.B.I.)  
D. of S.  
I.P. (2)  
W.D.  
Adm. Blake.  
Dep. Contr. }  
D. of S. } BATH BY  
Hd. of S.W.R. } COURIER.

RN



5.6.1942.

Friday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

The port of Rosyth was closed from 0954 to 1404 on account of low visibility.

Mining.

Enemy minelaying was suspected off the Tees last night and Tees Bay was closed from 0340 /5 to 1245/5.

3 further ground mines were exploded in the Harwich area today. Minesweepers of the Nore Command today swept their 2000th ground mine of the war.

North Atlantic.

Submarines PARTHIAN was REGENT are to be converted to store carrying duties on arrival at Gibraltar.

At 1655 a Sunderland aircraft on patrol in the Bay of Biscay sighted and attacked with depth charges a U-boat about 90 miles north of Santander and estimates severely damaging the U-boat which remained on the surface for an hour. Aircraft were detailed to hunt the U-boat.

LUIGI TORELLI

An Italian submarine entered Aviles today to execute repairs and was granted permission to stay until 2400/6.

Mediterranean.

6 Wellingtons attacked shipping at Naples from 2206 to 2317. No ships have been reported hit.



5.6.1942.  
Friday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT.

East Indies.

2 Japanese raiders in south Indian Ocean.

SS. ELYSIA, Freetown 13/5 for Bombay was sunk by a disguised merchant raider in approx. 27° 33' S., 37° 5' E., at 0536Z today (some 200 miles to the eastward of Durban) S.O. Force F was asked to send EMERALD to investigate if he could spare her. All ships between Beira and Port Elizabeth were ordered to be routed as close to the coast as safe navigation allows. Later ABDIEL and \*DORSETSHIRE who picked up ELYSIA's survivors reported that there were two raiders, both fast Japanese motor ships of 15,000 and 8,000 tons respectively, carrying seaplanes, torpedo tubes and about 8 guns. They made off to the south-eastward. \* Hospital Ship.

U-boats in Mozambique Channel.

At 0320 G.M.T. SS. SILVERASH (? BEECH) in 13° 8' S., 42° 12' E., passed 2 ship's life boats and rafts full of men stated to have been torpedoed. At 1943 SS. BENGLOE reported being attacked by a submarine in 11° 19' S., 42° 2' E. U.S. MELVIN BAKER was torpedoed and sunk at 2350 G.M.T. today in 21° 44' S. 36° 38' E. FROBISHER reported to C. in C. S.A. that SS. ATLANTIC GULF was sunk by a U-boat this morning probably in 20° S., 38° E.; D/F indicated that the U-boat was Japanese. Later in the forenoon British tanker GEORGE H. JONES reported that she was engaging a submarine in 29° 21' S., 38° 27' E: SS. GEORGE H. JONES is in the North Atlantic and the signal may be an enemy ruse. SS JOHNSTOWN was torpedoed by a Uboat about 120 miles NE of Mozambique today.

U-boat attack on Diego Suarez.

Assertions were made in Tokyo today concerning a submarine attack on Diego Suarez on May 30. It was claimed that a battleship of the Queen Elizabeth type and a cruiser of the Arethusa class were seriously damaged, but this statement was denied by the Admiralty in a communique today. "There were no casualties in H.M. Ships" the communique added. (121 Force 2031/3 to War Office refers).

China.

At 1330Z today 8 rounds were fired at Midway Is., believed to be from a submarine. At 1959Z today battleships of the Japanese supporting force were attacked by all available U.S. heavy and dive bombers 125 miles 264° from Midway Is. One direct hit and one near miss were seen. All the Japanese force were seen to be retiring westward at 12 knots.

/The...



5.6.1942.  
Friday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT.

China - Contd.

The summary of the enemy casualties, believed to indicate the minimum, as the result of two days' action is as follows:-

3 or probably 4 battleships damaged, 2 aircraft carriers sunk and remaining 2 seriously damaged.  
2 cruisers damaged,  
2 transports damaged.

Aircraft casualties on both sides appear to have been heavy.

America & West Indies.

Further air  
raid on  
Dutch  
Harbour.

At 0405Z today a Japanese aircraft carrier, 3 cruisers and 2 destroyers were sighted 120 miles to the south westward of Umnak (Aleutian Is). and an aircraft carrier, probably HOSHO north of Unalaska. At 0355Z carrier planes attacked Dutch Harbour for the second time, setting the fuel storage on fire. U.S. aircraft which attacked the enemy naval force reported strong fighter opposition.

Australia.

It is now reported that at least 3 and probably 4 submarines are operating between Newcastle and Wilson's Promontory and that a second ship has been sunk. Sailings of merchant ships under 12 knots from ports between Melbourne and Brisbane inclusive have been suspended. Coastal convoys are to commence on 8/6. An R.A.A.F. aircraft attacked a U-boat at 0310Z today in 32° 12' S., 154° 6' E., (off Harrington Inlet N.S.W.) and apparently damaged or destroyed the enemy.



War Diary.

5.6.1942.  
Friday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Movements.

ASHANTI  
MARTIN. Local weather forecast for 5th 6th and 7th June indicates that A/C will not be active and see also Admiral Miles 1113 30th. (?You) may wish to consider sending ASHANTI and MARTIN to Scapa at high speed to replenish and (?obtain) ammunition. Their present supply of Oerlikon ammunition can be made up from remaining ships of escort.  
(S.B.N.O. North Russia 1334B/5 to C. in C.H.F. (R) Admty.)  
Your 1334B/5th. Request you will sail them accordingly.  
(C. in C.H.F. 1652/5 to S.B.N.O. North Russia)

RODNEY. Sailed RODNEY in accordance with A.M. 1343B/2 routed in accordance with C. in C.W.A. 1128B/3 and F.O.C.N.A. 1946B/4 estimated S. of A. 16 knots. Latest message held Q K A 58 Q G A 81 Q G B 110.  
(N.O.I.C. Greenock, 1748B/5) *S. A. 107*

NEWFOUNDLAND. Intend sailing hospital ship NEWFOUNDLAND for Canada 1630B/6 S. of A. 14 knots. Crossing 007° 00' W. at 0800B/7 then in accordance with route issued by Admiralty.  
(N.O. I/C Liverpool 1910B/5).

Operations.

Enemy Convoy; TYNEDALE, ATHERSTONE, BROCKLESBY, return to Plymouth. KRAKOWIAK rejoin W.P. 166 position South Portland Bill 0400.  
(C. in C. Plymouth 0338B/5 to TYNEDALE repeated ATHERSTONE, BROCKLESBY, KRAKOWIAK.)

British Air Operations.

Force T. Expect one Hudson A/A escort from about 1615B/5. to dusk 5th.  
(C. in C.W.A., 1442B/5 to S.O. Force T)

Bomber Command Reports of minor attacks on Boulogne docks 4/6 Report. and Dieppe night 4/5 June.  
(H.Q. B.C. 1530/5)

Attack on U-Boat by A/Cs. For information. Own A/C attacked U.Boat in 044° 57' 003° 32' at 1555 course 270. Estimated enemy severely damaged. Further Sunderland A/C is being sent to attack.  
(F.O.S. 1654B/5 to RUBIS.).

My 1655 (course and speed of enemy submarine (limited circulation) N.T. in W.D.) U boat submerged. P. and C. of the enemy S/M 44° 56' N 3° 25' W. (?190 degs.) large oil steak.

(A/C B.I.N. Duty U 1740/5)

My 1740 oil speed 1 knot.

(A/C B.I.N. 1819/5)

My 1654/5th. At 1655 enemy course was 090° speed 5 knots.  
(F.O.S. 1854B/5 to RUBIS.).

My...



5.6.1942.  
Friday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

British Air Activity.

Attack on U-Boat by A/Cs. Contd. My 1854. (a) At 1730 U Boat dived in 044° 56' 003° 25'. (b) Aircraft is following oil streak and attack will continue until dark. (c) Submerged bombing restrictions are in force in area 56 east of 004° W. except this U boat. No attack will be carried out after dark. (F.O.S. 1932B/5 to RUBIS)  
Oil fading am returning to fuel. (A/C BI.N. 1939/5)  
My 1654 Re attack on U Boat. One further Sunderland 4 Hudson and one Whitley are also proceeding to attack. (F.O.S. 1954B/5 to RUBIS)

S/M Sighted. S/M in sight on port side G.C.N. (A/C. B.I.N. Duty U 1950/5)

Enemy Air Operations.

Lowestoft bombed. Reference. C.A.F.O. 587/40 Lowestoft bombed by single aircraft at 0120B/5. A to D nil. About 8 civilian casualties. (N.O.I.C. Lowestoft 0341B/5)

Mining.

Tees Bay. Tees Bay closed as from 0330/5 owing to suspected minelaying. (N.O.I.C. Hartlepool 0340/5)  
My 0340/5. Ports of Tees and Hartlepool now opened normal procedure resumed. (N.O.I.C. Hartlepool 1245/5)

Seidisfjord. As minefield at Seidisfjord unduly restricts the anchorage which is now used to a greater extent than formerly it is intended to rift and not relay it. Pending discussions now in progress for the better defence of this port Commanding General Iceland Base Command concurs in this. (A.C.I.C. 1350B/5 to Adty.)

Enemy mines. F.O.I.C. Harwich has reported that Walrus A/C on patrol on 3rd reported sighting moored mines in 51° 57' N., 02° 27' 30" E. (C.in C.Nore 1446B/5 to Adty.)

Air Rescue Craft from Brightlingsea report suspected enemy mines in following positions:-

- (A) 1.1/4 miles 112° from Havengore Head, Foulness.
- (B) 1/2 mile North of S.E. Maplin Buoy.

(R.N.O. Burnham-on-Crouch 1615/5 to Adty., VERNON.)

Liverpool. Your 1829A/13/1/42. Ground mine swept 0905B/5 in 53° 31' N. 03° 24' W. approx. (F.O.I.C. Liverpool 1530/5)

Operation Q.8. My 1035B/2. in order to take advantage this

favourable...



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War Diary.5.6.1942.  
Friday.HOME COMMANDS.Mining.

Operation Q.8. Contd. favourable weather intend extending present period of operations by 2 or 3 days subject to fresh provisions being available in Yarmouth Roads late 6th June. Requirements. (S.O. M/S F.9 1804B/5 to N.O.I.C. Great Yarmouth.)

Mines off Harwich. Explosion presumed ground mine 1 cable astern of fishing smack at 1030 in 51° 46.3' N 01° 10.1' E vessel damaged. Heavy explosion plume 40 feet. Vessel making 4½ knots with paraffin engine, 18 fathoms chain sweep out. Confirmed by Clacton. (F.O.I.C. Harwich 1844B/5.)  
Ground mine report.  
(A) (I) 1410 (2) 1656/5/6/42. (F.O.I.C. Harwich 2132B/5.)

Nore Minesweepers. Minesweepers of Nore Command today swept their 2,000th ground mine of war. This result means that a considerable proportion of enemy total minelaying effort has been successfully dealt with in this command in spite of his continual effort to render our minesweeping abortive by account(ing) method. The minesweepers have previously dealt with many difficult problems and I desire to mark this occasion by expressing my appreciation of how well they have carried out this work which is essential for the successful prosecution of the war. (C. in C. Nore 2236/5.)

U-Boats.

S/M Reports. Am over enemy submarine in 46.00 N 05.46 W. (A/C 7B8 1529/5.)

U-Boat attacked. Have attacked S/M in 44° 57' N 3° 42' W with depth charges estimate 2 hits and has been severely damaged by Air attack. (U/- Sqd. 1555/5, 1600/5.)

Enemy Intelligence.

P.R.U. Swinemunde Bremen. P.R.U. Swinemunde 1430/4. LEIPSIG and EMDEN present. No R/C of Trondheim today. Photographs of Bremen at 1300/4 show SEYDLITZ still present. (D.D.I.C. 0016B/5.)

Small craft in Channel. Last night 4th/5th June R.D.F. plotted about 5 small craft proceeding at 30 - 35 knots and presumed to be E-Boats from a position 9 miles North of Dunkirk to Gris Nez and thence across to the Varne about 0100. M.G.Bs. 10, 7 and 6 were despatched to intercept but were probably heard by E-Boats which retired to Boulogne arriving at 0235. M.G.Bs. then swept Eastwards along enemy coast route where other craft probably R-Boats were operating. Interception was foiled by coastal mist which also prevented 11 Group aircraft from sighting their target. (V.A.Dover 1009B/5.)



5.6.1942.  
Friday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Navigational.

Sheringham  
Buoy Light.

Flash reported irregular.  
(F.O.Humber 0920/5)

Rosyth.

Port of Rosyth closed owing to low visibility.  
(C.in C. Rosyth 0954/5)  
Cancel my 0954/5.  
(C.in C. Rosyth 1404B/5)

Ice and  
weather report.

White Sea open to navigation for all but light  
craft. (S.B.N.O. Archangel 1147B/5).

Lights on  
Belgium  
Coast.

M.T.B. 72 reports as follows.  
(C.in C. Nore 1224B/5).

Miscellaneous.

Ammunition  
for  
Murmansk.

Your 1954/28. Action is being taken to send in  
P.Q.18 now loading the following quantities of  
reserve A/A ammunition for Murmansk.  
(D.G.D. 2003B/5 to C.in C.H.F.)

Technical.

Intercommuni-  
cation using  
R/T between  
Soviet destroyers  
escorting P.Q.10.

Your 0948/16/4 nothing heard by LIVERPOOL who  
was not in close company with Russian  
destroyers. (2) ORIBI reports R/T heard on  
several occasions when Russian destroyers  
were in company with Q P 10 but thought they  
were Russian aircraft on aerodrome control as  
they were similar to signals heard in Kola  
inlet when fighter patrol were operating. Signals at all times  
were loud and clear.  
(C.in C.H.F. 2342B/5 to S.B.N.O. North Russia)

Casualties and Defects.

Suspected  
sabotage  
in  
SIR GALAHAD.

C/O of M/S Trawler SIR GALAHAD repairing at D and  
W Hendersons Yard, Glasgow, reports suspected  
sabotage by arson discovered and successfully  
countered at 1743/3. Police investigating and  
will report.  
(F.O.I.C. Glasgow. 1721/5 to Adty.)

FLEETWOOD  
(Sloop)

FLEETWOOD has sustained damage by collision.  
Stem is badly distorted and fractured below water  
line, plating in vicinity of stem buckled.  
Requested port for docking and repairs.  
(Cdre. Londonderry 1800/5)



5.6.1942.  
Friday.War Diary.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping and Convoys.

W.S.19P. P.C. and S. of W.S. 19 P at 2000B/4th 045° 14' N  
023° 39' W. 173° 12 knots BUXTON met. My P.C. and  
S. are 046° 20' N. 022° 32' W 042°. 15 knots  
LEAMINGTON in company.  
(KEPPEL 0200B/5 to C.in C.W.A.)

P.Q.17. Your 1027B/4 (~~N.F.in W.D.~~) The use of P.615 will  
be much appreciated.  
(A.C.I.C., 1231B/5 to F.O.S.)  
Your 2342B/4 and Admiralty 1909/2. Vessels and  
Armaments. Names and details.  
(A.C.I.C. 1831B/5, to C.in C. H.F.)

Atlantic  
convoy  
escorts.

Corvettes of mid-ocean groups.

1. For the last 12 out and Home convoys the average number of corvettes per group has been: Western Approaches 4.2, R.C. Navy 4.3.
2. Western Approaches has 48 corvettes allocated to 7 mid ocean groups. Of this number 4 are not yet complete and 4 are detached on Russian convoys. Of the remaining 40, 31 are with their group and 9 are refitting. The effective average per group today is therefore 4.4.
3. Information as to employment of Canadian corvettes is scanty. The number completed appears to be 80. This number includes the 12 corvettes released when groups A1 and A2 were disbanded. Presumably owing to some misunderstanding these appear to have been retained by R.C. Navy instead of being allocated to American Seaboard. Of the 80 R.C.N. corvettes, 32 are shown as based on Halifax, an unspecified number of these being employed in Western local escort force. The remaining 48 (which include 7 lent by Western Approaches) appear to be allocated for duty with 5 mid ocean groups - 1 American group and 4 Canadian.
4. To summarise: W.A., with 40 corvettes operating in 7 groups, put on as many corvettes per convoy as do R.C.N. with 48 corvettes operating in 5 groups.  
Moreover whereas W.A. maintains group system R.C.N. seems to have given up any attempt to do so F.O.N.F. 1415Z/23rd Feb. began with these words "Names of ships allocated to various groups are subject to such constant changes that they are not normally promulgated till shortly before sailing". He then indicated his "present intentions" for group organization and it is noted that of the 24 corvettes originally allocated to the 5 groups now operating only 5 remain today with their original groups.
5. It is still held that the minimum strength of corvettes for mid ocean groups is 6 in order to ensure 4 being in operation.  
(C.in C.W.A., 1613B/5 to A.C.N.S.(T) Personal)

A.T. 15 Z.  
QUEEN  
ELIZABETH.

B.A.D. Washington is requested pass to U.S.  
Authorities A T 15 Z. Connav 1626/1. Admiralty  
2028 B/2.  
(1) One. A. Route for QUEEN ELIZABETH.  
H. 57° 00', 20° 00'. K. 56° 47', 15° 00'.



5.6.1942.  
Friday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping and Convoys.

A.T.15 Z. L. 56° 40', 12° 01'. M. 55°35' 06° 59' thence  
 QUEEN Clyde.  
 ELIZABETH. B. Position.  
 - Contd. J. is to be omitted.  
 C. Speed of advance 25 knots.  
 (2) DELHI, VENOMOUS, SALADIN, SCIMITAR, SABRE,  
 GEORGETOWN, are to sail from Londonderry and sweep along route  
 R/V in K at 0400Z/9.  
 (3) DELHI is to escort to Clyde. Destroyers to proceed  
 Londonderry on reaching North Channel.  
 (5) No risk of weather damage is to be taken. DELHI is to use  
 discretion as to reducing speed of convoy or detaching escort  
 should weather demand. If obvious on way out that weather will  
 preclude close escort, DELHI is to turn escort to sweep ahead of  
 QUEEN ELIZABETH reporting his intention.  
 (C.in C.W.A. 1752Z/5).

Freetown When through escort to and from Freetown was  
 escort given by Western Approaches escorts it was  
 force. envisaged that this would release Freetown local  
 escorts for much needed service elsewhere.  
 (2) R.A. West Africa continues to give local  
 escort to these convoys, although on a reduced scale, and it  
 would seem therefore that some reduction in the size of his  
 escort force might be considered.  
 (C.in C.W.A. 1954B/5 to Adty.)

? My 1137/6/5 (N.T.in W.D.) In view of the  
 comprehensive nature of the reports required by  
 War Office and Air Ministry, regret that  
 institution of a standard form of report for the three services  
 is considered impracticable.  
 (D.T.D. 2042B/5 to S.B.N.O. Archangel)

Ammunition S.B.N.O. North Russia reports that U.S.Merchant  
 for North ships in P Q 16 fired 97% of their H.A. ammunition  
 Russia and that some ships also fired ammunition from  
 convoys. their cargo. 2. To meet this problem British  
 ships are being given a large increase over their  
 usual allowance and reserves of ammunition are being formed in  
 North Russia. 3. Request you will inform American Authorities  
 including Mr. Harriman as he asked to be informed of questions  
 connected with these convoys.  
 (V.C.N.S. 2337B/5, to B.A.D. Washington).



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5.6.1942.  
Friday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic.

U-boat report. EGYPTIAN reports seeing periscope in 37° 10' N. 09° 03' W. distance 1 mile. (LOCH OSKAIG 0750B/5 to Gibraltar C.C.O.)

German A/C attack on British M/Vs. Attack reported outside bar of Tagus by German A/C on British Merchant ships, (?2035) A/C appeared to suffer damage (A.2). (N.A. Lisbon 1030B/5 to S.O.(I) Gib. (R) Admty.) My 1030/5 German A/C sighted off Peniche 2015B/4 flying south. Carried out attack on British ships outside Tagus 2040B. 2. 2 German A/C seen off Sagres flying S.E. at 2130B/4. (N.A. Lisbon 1831B/5 to S.O.(I) Gib. (R) Admty.)

27th M.L. Flotilla. My 1222B/1 sailing delayed. Intend to sail 15/6. (F.O.C.N.A. 1132B/5 to R.A.W.A. (R) Admty., C. in C.S.A.)

SPEEDY. HEBE. C. in C.W.A. 1445/31/5 from (V) pass through (W) 220° St. Vincent 20 miles thence Gibraltar (F.O.C.N.A. 1226B/5 to SPEEDY, HEBE (R) Admty., C. in C.W.A., N.O.I.C. Greenock.)

DERWENT. E.T.A. Ponta Delgada 2359Z/5. Request N.C.S.O. Ponta Delgada may be informed. (DERWENT, 1520Z/5 to F.O.C.N.A.)

W.S.19P. 1. E.T.A. Ponta Delgada DOUGLAS 2200Z/6. BUXTON 1000Z/7 340 tons short. 2. BUXTON then in accordance with C. in C. W.A. 1824B/2 para 2. 3. BEAGLE detailed for ARGUS, DOUGLAS for S.L.111. (NELSON 1630Z/5 to F.O.C.N.A. (R) Admty. C. in C.W.A.)

WIVERN. WIVERN arrived Ponta Delgada 1645 G.M.T. 5. (N.C.S.O. Ponta Delgada 1655/5 to S.O.I. Gib. (R) Admty.)

Axis Shipping. 5/6 repeated M.E.W. etc. Italian DREPANUM arrived 4th expect complete load 8th. German JOAO PESSOA full load ready for sea. German LESSEE expect complete load 10th. (Consul, Bilbao 1803/5 to Admty.)

French Units. Following has been received. 2 Destroyers bearing 090° distant 8 miles course 080. My position 36° 10' N. 0° 48' W. (A/C using Call sign V.9.R.U. 2025/5 to Gib. W.T.)

/PARTHIAN.....



War Diary.

5.6.1942.  
Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.-Contd.

PARTHIAN.  
REGENT. A.M. 1728/30/5 and A.S. Gibraltar's 2202/2/6.  
PARTHIAN and REGENT are to be taken in hand  
for conversion to store carrying duties on  
arrival at Gibraltar. (D.O.D.(F) 2130B/5 to  
F.O.C.N.A., (R) C. in C. Med. F.O.(S) A.S. Gib.  
S.8.)

CARADOC. My 1302/4th not to C. in C. Eastern Fleet.  
Sailed CARADOC. (F.O.C.N.A. 2302B/5 to R.A.W.A.  
(R) Admty. C. in C.S.A. C. in C.E.F.)

Use of  
Paravanes. Your 1058B/4. All merchant ships in H.G. Convoys  
fitted with P.V's should be warned that they  
may be required to use them on passage to U.K.  
and Commodore should be instructed that P.V's  
are to be streamed if ordered to pass south of  
Ireland (R) when between the 100 fathom line and  
Tuskar Rock. (D.T.D. 2330B/5 to F.O.C.N.A.)

JONQUIL. MY P.C. and S. at 2359B/5 030° 55' 017° 09' 061°  
12. E.T.A. gate 0700B/8. Convoy dispersed  
2200B/4 (? 030°) 11' 021° 51'.  
(JONQUIL 2348B/5 to F.O.C.N.A. (R) Admty.)  
Amended see 2219B/7.

South Atlantic.

CHARLBURY,  
torpedoed  
28/5. Your 2237/2. CHARLBURY. Report position of  
sinking if possible. (C. in C.S.A. 0212B/5 to  
S.O.I. Montevideo (R) Admty.)  
Your 0212B/5 CHARLBURY torpedoed 29/5 approx.  
position 006° 22' S. 029° 44' W. (S.O.I.  
Montevideo 2143Z/5 to C. in C.S.A. (R) Admty.)

ELYSIA  
attacked  
by raider. Following received. QQQQ. ELYSIA 27° 18' S.  
37° 29' E. course 255°, speed 12 knots, shelled.  
Shelled De ZSD (Jacobs W/T). (C. in C. S.A.,  
0553 G.M.T./5 to C. in C. E.F., C. in C.E.I.)  
Following received. "QQQQ ELYSIA 27.33 S. 37.05 E.  
shelled". (Colombo W/T, 0536/5 to Simonstown  
W/T, T.O.R. 0556Z).  
Note by W.R. This message has been passed to  
Rugby W/T for transmission to B.A.M.S. area 3C.  
W.D. Note:- Position differs from 0553 G.M.T.  
signal.  
Following has been read:- QQQQ ELYSIA 27° 18' S.  
37° 20' E. course 255° speed 12 knots, shelled.  
From: Jacobs W/T (ZSD) 0553 G.M.T.  
(Slang Kop W/T T.O.R. 0606 G.M.T./5) W.D. Note.  
Position differs from formers. See also  
East Indies, 0630Z/5.

/Shipping.....



War Diary.5.6.1942.  
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic-Contd.Shipping.  
Routeing.

Following received (Begins) N.O.I.C. East London N.C.S.O. Port Elizabeth, C.S.A. Lourence Marques Beira from C. in C. S.A. all ships between Beira and Port Elizabeth are to be routed as close the coast as safe navigation allows. T.O.O. 0956/5. (ends). (N.O.I.C. Durban 1002B/5 to C. in C.E.I. C. in C.E.F. C. in C.S.A.)

ATLANTIC  
GULF.

Panamanian ship ATLANTIC GULF attacked and sunk by submarine position (16° 03' S. 038° 03' E. at 0820Z. (FROBISHER 1113Z/5 to C. in C.S.A.)

REINE MARIE  
STEWART.

PRETORIA CASTLE reports Panamanian Schooner REINE MARIE STEWART sighted burning to waterline after being shelled in 007° 37' N. 022° 47' W. at 1800Z/4th. \*Appear possible same enemy vessel responsible for this and attack reported in my 1049Z/4. (R.A. West Africa 1115Z/5 to Admty. (R) CARNARVON CASTLE, PRETORIA CASTLE, C. in C. S.A., C. in C. U.S. Fleet, Comtask 23.)

*\* No - shelled by s/m - See p. 71 7 B.R. 1337*

RODNEY.

F.O.C.N.A.'s 1946B/4. Onward route from G. to H. 019° 58' N. 022° 30' W. to J. 010° 04' N. 018° 15' W. thence Freetown. (R.A.W.A. 1227Z/5 to RODNEY, PENN, PATHFINDER, QUENTIN (R) Admty. C. in C.W.A. C. in C.S.A. F.O.C.N.A.) *See p. 99*

MEDEA.

Your 1639R/1 MEDEA arrived Ceara 4/6. (S.O.I. Montevideo 1331Z/5 to S.O.I. Jamaica.)

ARCHER.

Your 1048/4. As there are no spare parts in U.K. can these be met from spares now in ship. If not what spares will be required. (D.O.D. (H) 1627B/5 to C. in C.S.A. (R) ARCHER).

GEORGE  
CLYMER,  
distress.

*See next page.*

On 3/6 Alusna, Capetown reported SS. CHRISTOPHER NEWPORT disabled due to engine breakdown in approx. 15° 47' S. 16° 12' W. Investigation disclosed above ship not in area and suggest possibility of decoy using her call. C. in C. S.A. now reports GEORGE CLYMER is ship concerned. (C. in C. U.S. Fleet 2035/5 to C. in C.U.S. Atlantic Fleet (R) C.T.F. No. 23, C. in C.S.A.).

MILFORD.

Your 1705/11 not to all addressees. MILFORD can be accepted for docking and refit including degaussing at naval dockyard, Rio. 5. Request you will sail MILFORD to Simonstown to embark gear, proceeding thence to Rio. Request E.T.A. Rio be communicated as soon as possible to N.A. Rio. (A.C.N.S. (F) 2136B/5 to C. in C. S.A. (R) MILFORD, N.A. Rio, A.S. Simons-town, R.A.W.A.) *See p. 116*



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5.6.1942.  
Friday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic-Contd.ALCANTARA.  
(to ASSIST-GEORGE  
CLYMER)Your 1713/4 only message received. Am proceeding.  
My P.C. and S. 012° 10' S. 007° 27' W. 250° 16  
knots fuel remaining 62%. (ALCANTARA 2200Z/5 to  
C. in C. S.A. (R) Admty., R.A.W.A., C.T.F. 23.)Mediterranean.CELANO.  
ALBARO.My 1144C/2. Vessels reported delayed: now  
expected 8/6. C.4. (S.O.I. Istanbul 1137C/5 to  
S.O.I. Med., S.I., (R) D.N.I.)

MURAT REIS.

S.O.(I) Alexandria's 1130/21/5 not to N.A.  
Ankara. Has MURAT REIS arrived destination?  
(D.O.D.(F) 1502B/5 to C. in C. Med.,  
(R) N.A. Ankara.)Malta  
Air  
Report.346 5/6. C.S.R. Malta 5/6. Night 4-5/6 no  
alerts. 5/6. 2 Alerts.  
(H.Q. R.A.F. Malta 1609/5 to Air Min.)Enemy Ship  
damaged.My 1425/4 careful R/C today shows no shipping  
within 100 miles of this position. (Capt. (S)  
1 1615C/5 to S/M's on Patrol).  
At 1905C/5 A/C reported P.C. and S. of 2 small  
merchant ships, 1 destroyer 033° 07'. 013° 36'.  
090°. 8½ knots. Further R/C will be made.  
(? Capt. (S) 1 1945C/5 to S/M's on Patrol.)  
Following has been received. My number one position  
of enemy 2 destroyers 36° 59' N. 1° 8' W. I  
have fuel remaining for 2 hours. 53E.  
(A/C using call sign VGRV 2035/5).



109

5.6.1942.  
Friday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies.

- Cocos Island. Reply to Admty 1457B/30 re conditions of service of C.S.W.S. men. Request reconsideration of position.  
(C.in C. Ceylon, 0557Z/5 to Admty (R) C.in C. E.I. Capt. O.S., Colombo). See Lion Copy. Reply Admty 1731B/7.
- Fleet Oilers. My 0746/10. (circulated under T.O.O. 0752/10 requesting arrivals and departures of certain Fleet oilers) add R.F.A. DINSDALE.  
(C.in C. E.I. 0603Z/5).
- Convoy BM 19. Colombo portion arrived.  
(N.C.S.O. Colombo, 0617Z/5, to Admty).
- ELYSIA raider. If you can spare her send EMERALD to investigate merchant ship raider reported shelling ELYSIA in 27. 33 S. 37. 05 E. at 0536Z/5.  
(D.C.in C. E.F., 0630Z/5, to S.O. Force F. (R) C.in C. S.A. C.in C. E.F., EMERALD, Admty).  
See also South Atlantic. p. 106
- Ship Torpedoed. Passed at 0520 G.M.T. 2 ships life boats and rafts (? full of) men stated torpedoed, 013° 08' S. 042° 12' E. at 0320 G.M.T. 5/6.  
(SILVERBACH (SILVERBEECH intended?) 0645/5 to Simonstown).
- Shipping Routes. Following being made to all ships within 200 miles (Corrupt Group) South are immediately to keep as close as they can to territorial waters and then proceed north or south to their destination 0725Z/5 (Ends).  
(Aden W/T, 0935/5, to C.in C. E.F. C.in C. E.I. P.S.T.O. India).
- Zigzagging. N.O.'S i/c pass to N.C.S.O'S and R.O'S.  
(1) Merchant Ships proceeding independently at 10 knots or over in daylight or moonlight are to zig-zag (A) when North of 015° S. and East of 065° E. (B) Also in Arabian Sea when North of 015° N. (C) Not in Persian Gulf when West of 057° W. (2) Cancel my 2016/24/4. My 2234/16/4 my 0913/16/4 (not to all addressees) my 0722/10/4 and my 1102 18/12/41. (3) Instructions in para. one will be promulgated in C.A.M.S.I. in due course.  
(C.in C. E.I. 1057Z/5, to E.I. Station repeated Admiralty A.C.N.B. N.Z.N.B.).
- GEORGE H. JONES, U/B attack(?). Following has been read. SSSS From GEORGE H. JONES, 29° 21' S. 38° 27' E. Submarine sighted, opened fire = 1115GMT/5.  
(Slangkop W/T, 1133GMT/5, Colombo W/T, 1215 G.M.T./5).  
Ref: submarine distress signal from GEORGE H. JONES, this ship is in North Atlantic. Signal /may ....



SECRET.

MESSAGE. 0557Z/5th June.

IN

DATE: 5.6.42.

RECD: 1400.

From: C. in C. Ceylon.

INTERSERVICE (X) BY W/T.

Addressed Admiralty Repeated C. in C. East Indies. Captain on Staff  
Colombo.

*Cocos Island: Shore Wireless staff.*

IMPORTANT.

*N.T. S.W.D.*

*p 802*

Your 1457B of 30th May. I fear this reply to my 0527/27 does not progress matters very much. I should not have asked for further powers if either (A) I had (?been) able to exercise these under Ceylon Defence Regulations or (B) I had been able to get volunteers for Cocos. The matter is of considerable operational importance. I find it hard to believe that it can be the intention to place these C.S.W.S. men in a specially privileged position which enables them to select their own station irrespective of the requirements for the prosecution of the war. Is not this the sort of case for which the Emergency powers (Defence) Act, 1940 and the Emergency Powers (Colonial Defence) Amendments Order in Council 1940 were designed.

2. The unpopularity of Cocos as a station apart from its isolation and exposed position arises from considerable financial sacrifice required of men who proceed there. The reasons for docking their colonial allowance are given in Admiralty message 1049 of the 4th December 1940 (4/42/1940) addressed to Admiral Superintendent Singapore. These reasons are based on what are no doubt sound administrative principles in normal times but present occasion is an emergency in which operational considerations should in my opinion override all others.

3. Request earliest possible reconsideration of position

0557Z/5.

*See p. 170*

- 1st Lord.
- 1st S.L.
- 2nd S.L.
- V.C.N.S.
- A.C.N.S.(F).
- A.C.N.S.(W).
- Sec.
- Nav. Sec.
- Earl. Sec.
- Fin. Sec.
- Civil Lord.
- N.A. 1st S.L.

- P.A.S. (S).
- Ops (3).
- O.D. (5).
- M. (5) Colonial Office.
- C.E. for action.
- D.N.I. (5).
- O.I.C.
- D. of E.
- D.S.D. 9.
- N.L.
- I.P. (3).
- W.D.

- Asst. Under Sec. } B
- C.E. } A
- S.W.R. } T
- H.



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War Diary.5.6.1942.  
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies. contd:-

GEORGE H. may be an enemy ruse.  
 JONES, U/B (D.D.I.C. 1845B/5, to C. in C. E.F. C.in C. S.A.  
 attack (?) Dep. C. in C. E.F. (R) S.O. Force F. EMERALD,  
 Contd. Cdre, Durban).

Convoy K.M. 1. your 1115Z/28, concur.  
 K.M.1. (D.T.D. 1341B/5, to N.C.S.O. Kilindini (R) C.in C.  
 E.I.)

Movements. Colombo arrivals 5/6 0300Z MARGUERITE. 1000Z  
 WARSPITE, ILLUSTRIOUS, FORMIDABLE, GAMBIA, LOOKOUT  
 LAFOREY, LIGHTNING.  
 (S.O.I. Colombo, 1400Z/5, to Admty etc.).

GUARDIAN Leave Kilindini 0615Z/5 and proceed Diego Suarez,  
 DAUNTLESS. E.T.A. 0700Z/9. Route A. 10° 40' S. 45° 50' E.  
 B. 11° 50' S. 49° (?27') E. 13 knots. DAUNTLESS  
 to arrange A/S escort as necessary entering  
 harbour. 2. On arrival you are to lay  
 indicator net as previously ordered and report by signal  
 estimated date of completion. 3. S.N.O. Afloat is in DAUNTLESS  
 who will continue carry out these functions.  
 (Dep. C.in C.E.F., 1421Z/5, to GUARDIAN, (R) DAUNTLESS, R.A.3,  
 F.O.I.C. East Africa & Zanzibar).

Burma Air A.985 5/6. Intelligence Summary No. 82 on  
 Report. information received up to 1800 hours 5/6.  
 2 B17E's of U.S.A. Air Force bombed docks and  
 shipping Rangoon 1500 hours 4/6, results  
 unknown. 6 freighters seen and 2 large vessels bassein.  
 (A.H.Q. India, 1646/5, to Air Min.).

R.D.F. in Your 1945/31/5. Reply. (D.S.D, 1959/5 to  
 Carriers. C.in C. E.F., (R) S.O.A/C., E.F.). See Lion Copy.

Co-operation Can a reply yet be given to my 2358/1st.May ?  
 with U.S.N. (A.C.N.S.(F) 2052B/5 to C.in C.E.F., C.in C.E.I,  
 (R) B.A.D.).

BENGLOE, Received 2031 G.M.T. GZZ (Cleethorpes Radio)  
 U/B. De VGIU. Following received at 1943/5,SSSS,  
 BENGLOE 11.19 S. 42.02 E. submarine attack.  
 (Portishead Radio, No T.O.O. Recd. 2242/5).

Shipping. All ships in Mozambique Channel when South of 010°  
 S. are to keep as close to mainland coast as  
 possible.  
 (C.in C.E.I. 2302/5, to G.B.M.S.3.).



**MOST SECRET**

MOST SECRET MESSAGE 1959/5th June OUT

To C. in C. Eastern Fleet 297. Date 5.6.42.  
Repeated S.O. A/C E.F.81.

Naval Cypher (D) O.T.T.

From Admiralty.

IMPORTANT.

Your 1945/31/5.

Para. 1.

Considerable minima at these positions are inherent in type 281 but extent reported indicates sets not working at full efficiency. It is noted however that early initial warning is being received.

Para. 2.

(a) Interrogators type 241 for WARSPITE, GAMBIA, FROBISHER and DEVONSHIRE as well as for SHROPSHIRE have been embarked in RODNEY.

(b) (i) Interrogators at present fitted in the Eastern Fleet were pre-production models supplied before sea trials were possible. Results with type 286M however had been satisfactory, giving saturation response at 50 miles with aircraft at 4000 feet with both front and rear aspect.

(ii). Preliminary sea trials have now been carried out in RODNEY and are being continued in HAWKINS. Full report is not yet available but show that provided set is in tune type 241 will interrogate 20° either side of line of shoot of aerial.

(iii) It appears possible that IFF Mark II N receiver and transmits on slightly different frequencies though this has not been confirmed. It is certain that these sets are very sensitive to variations of supply voltage which should be kept within one volt of 24 or 12 volts. Failures of IFF Mk. II N, in RODNEY trials were due to battery charging arrangements in aircraft. Where possible, sets should be adjusted in flight every twenty minutes.

(d) Subject to confirmation which will be signalled at the earliest opportunity it is suggested that:-

- (i) Frequency of Type 241 transmitters should be checked.
- (ii) Correct working frequency of Type 241 receiver should be ascertained by trial against friendly aircraft at long range.

Para. 3. ....

**MOST SECRET**



110<sup>B</sup>

MOST SECRET

Para. 3.

Not understood. H.M.S. ILLUSTRIOUS is fitted with type 281 with receiving aerial above homing beacon request further details.

If reference is to INDOMITABLE full height of extended telescopic mast is limited by top weight considerations and results in VICTORIOUS have proved satisfactory.

2. All the above matters are receiving urgent consideration and you will be kept fully informed. It is regretted that your operations are being handicapped but the unsatisfactory IFF situation brought about by the introduction of type 281 is temporarily inevitable.

1959/5.  
D.S.D. (51)

- 1st Lord
- 1st S.L. (2)
- 3rd S.L.
- Vice Controller
- 5th S.L.
- V.C.N.S.
- A.C.N.S. (F) (2)
- A.C.N.S. (W)
- N.A. 1st S.L.
- D.O.D. (F) (2)
- Duty Captain (2)
- D.N.I. (1)
- D.D.I.C. (2)
- D.G.D. (2)
- D.S.R.
- D.S.D.
- D.A/S.H.
- D.T.S.D.
- D.N.A.D.
- D. of P. (2)
- I.F. (2)
- W.D.
- Admiral Blake
- Dep. Cont. )
- D.S.D. ) Bath by Courier.
- Hd. of S.W.R. )

jr

MOST SECRET



5.6.1942.  
Friday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.China.

Enemy Intelligence. Jap Seaplane Car. KAMOI thought to be at Jaluit. D/F shows a ship reporting weather in (?40)° N. 175° E. C.in C. Pacific Fleet 82. Jap Seaplane Tender KAMIKAWA in area of Truk. 34 Destroyer Division in Marshall Is. 2 Enemy Carriers (?sighted) N.W. of Midway Is. at 1800Z/4. Enemy planes attacked Midway Is. 4 Enemy Carriers attacked by U.S. Land and Carrier Planes throughout day, latest reports indicate 3 Enemy Carriers and one Cruiser on fire. Of large force sighted (West of Midway Is.) and attacked yesterday bomb hits reported on 2 Battleships and 2 Transports also one Torpedo, hit on one transport. U.S. Submarine reports hitting damaged Japanese Carrier "Soryu" Class N.W. of Midway Is. (C.in C. Pacific Fleet, 1805Z/5, to C.in C. E.F., N.S.H.Q.).

Washops 84. Aleutian Islands. Japanese Forces sighted as follows: 0405Z/5 210° 120 miles from Umnak - 1 aircraft carrier, 3 cruisers, 2 destroyers. 1 aircraft carrier probably Japanese aircraft carrier HOSHO sighted North of Unalaska. At 0355Z/5 carrier planes attacked Dutch Harbour for 2nd time. Negligible damage to army installations and personnel but fuel storage set on fire. Midway Isles. Carrier planes bombed Midway Isles at 1830Z/4. Power House destroyed, slight damage to runway but aviation petrol storage intact. Carrier force approaching from N.W. attacked by planes from (? Unimack Islands) and (s/ms). (?1) "Soryo" class carrier reported to have been struck by 3 torpedoes from U.S. Submarine NAUTILUS. Remaining 3 aircraft carriers damaged. 2 battleships of this force reported damaged by bombs or torpedoes. (2) 2 Transports of occupation force approaching from Westwards hit by bombs and torpedoes and 1 battleship of force supporting them on fire from direct bomb hit. Forces believed to be continuing eastward towards Midway Isles. (J.S.M. Washington, 2239Z/5, to Admtty etc.).



5.6.1942.  
Friday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies.

Convoy Schedules. This is repetition of C.E.S.F. 2207/2 (begins). Action Cominch, Info Cinclant, N.S.H.Q., C.O.A.C., Comone, Comthree, refer N.S.H.Q. 1655/28. If sailings made as per 2 and 4 of reference, present volume of shipping indicates very few 12 knot vessels and consequent result some convoys with 50 or more ships.  
2. In view of frequent bad weather conditions and small size escort do not consider this advisable.  
3. Recommend schedule sailing B.X. convoys every Wednesday with intermediate sailings of vessels having speed of 11 knots and over with escort group of O.N. convoys if our vessels from Portland and St. Johns N.B. to join B.X. convoys sailing on Wednesdays only. (Ends).  
(Opnav, 0823/5 to Admty) (Washington 1600/5 to Cominch).

KNOXVILLE CITY KNOXVILLE CITY (U.S.) for Suez sunk 2/6 in 021° 25' 083° 50'. 30 survivors at Havana Cuban gunboat searching balance.  
(S.O.(I) Jamaica, 0844R/5, to Admty etc.).

P. 554. My 1158B/7/4. Owing to altered situation request  
P. 555. all spare gear for P.554, P.555, and P.556 be  
P. 556. sent to Cape Town if action proposed in signal  
quoted has not already been taken.  
(F.O.(S) 1021B/5, to B.A.D.(R) Admty etc.).

CARIBSTAR Your 1604/4. (1605/4 intended, request news of CARIBSTAR (U.S.)). Agents received advice from New York ship put into unknown port thought to be Jacksonville Florida for repairs, no other information available.  
(B.R.O. Trinidad, 1021Q/5 to Admty (R) S.O.(I) Kingston).

Trinidad Fixed Defences satisfactory.  
(F.O.I.C. Trinidad, 1032Q/5, to D.A/S.W.).

Movement Summary. 1800 G.M.T.

| Ship             | Position      | Course | Speed |
|------------------|---------------|--------|-------|
| PRETORIA CASTLE  | 04° N. 24° W. | Patrol | Blank |
| CARNARVON CASTLE | 03° N. 24° W. | Patrol | Blank |
| Convoy N.A. 10)  | 48° N. 54° W. | 053°   | 12½   |
| Convoy A.T. 13)  |               |        |       |
| Convoy A.T.15Z.  | 40° N. 60° W. | 093°   | 25.   |

(D.O.D. (F) 1122Z/5 to Opnav (R) Comnav, Cominch).

BAGHDAD Following from Grenada (Repeats 2045/3, q.v.)  
(sunk 30/5). (C.in C. A.W.I., 1143P/5, to Admty).

Overdue Ships. IMPERIAL (Chile) overdue Colon, UTACARBON (U.S.) overdue Balboa.  
(S.O.(I) Jamaica, 1226R/5, to Admty.etc). (See N.S.H.Q. 2254/6).



5.6.1942.  
Friday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies. Contd.

U.S. Forces. My 1317/2. Further dispositions U.S. Forces in Atlantic.  
Task Force 22. RANGER, AUGUSTA, 4 destroyers en route Argentia expected time of arrival 5/6.  
NORTH CAROLINA, WASP, QUINCY, PHILADELPHIA, BROOKLYN, SAN JUAN, 6 destroyers, arrived Hampton Roads 1/6.  
Task Force 34 TEXAS 3 destroyers escorting Convoy A.S.3, left Bermuda 31/5 to Eastward.  
Task Force 35 NEW YORK 6 destroyers left Halifax 3/6 for U.K, escorting Convoys A.T. 16 and N.A. 10.  
(D.O.D.(F) 1252B/5 to C.in C. H.F. C.in C.A.W.I., N.S.H.Q.).

DIOMEDE Your 1601/3. Please inform Cominch that we would prefer DIOMEDE to refit in U.K. as ship's company have been abroad since Feb. 1940 and most of them will have to remain in the ship after refit. If ship refitted in U.S.A. home leave arrangements would entail delaying the ship's completion and the occupation of valuable berths in trans-Atlantic convoys.  
(D.O.D.(F) 1347B/5, to B.A.D. (R) C.in C.A.W.I., R.A.W.A.).  
Admty. desires DIOMEDE return U.K. for repairs. Release her and direct her return Clyde via Freetown and Gibraltar.  
(Cominch, 2120/5, to Cinclant, (R) Admty etc.).

Convoy Signals. Request you send priority daily position report O.N and C T convoys to obviate discrepancies at Chop necessitation escorts breaking radio silence. Request sailing date and time of passing first ocean point for C T convoys.  
(Connav, 1352/5, to C.in C. W.A.(R)Admty.C.T.F.24).

WESTMORELAND Connav's 2127/1. WESTMORELAND torpedoed and sunk (torpedoed 1/6). at 1000Z/1 in 035° 54' N. 063° 35' W. 45 Survivors picked up from 2 life boats by CATHCART at 0757Z/3 in 036° 08' N. 065° 15' W. and landed Halifax 5/6, 3 unaccounted for and 20 in missing boat. My 1601Z/5 with list of Survivors follows.  
(C.O.A.C. Halifax, 1558Z/5, to Admty (R) Connav etc).

Coastal Convoys. Ref: Comeastseafron 2207/2. "Ref: N.S.H.Q. 1655/28 if sailings made as per two and four of ref: present volume of shipping indicates very few 12 knot vessels and consequent result some convoys with 50 or more ships.  
2. In view of frequent bad weather conditions and small size escort do not consider this advisable.  
3. Recommend schedule sailing BX convoys every Wednesday within termed dates sailings of vessels having speed of 11 knots and over with escort group G of ON convoys if our vessels from Portland and St.Johns N.B. to join BX convoys sailing on Wednesdays only".  
(Washington 1600/5 to Cominch).

/Dakar .....



War Diary.5.6.1942.  
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies. Contd.

Dakar, Algiers Dakar 3/6 B2. ~~LOT~~ returned, see my METER 1841/1 Intelligence. Algiers 3/6 B2. Departures for 30/5 KROUMID, Port Vendres. 30/5 EL BIAR Marseille. 31/5 ESTEREL Marseille. Arrivals from 28/5, ARTESIEN Marseille 28/5 ST. JULIEN Marseille. 29/5 CHATEAU LA ROSE Marseille, 29/5 RABELAIS Marseille (30 trucks). 29/5 ST. MARIN Port Bouc (Oil) 1/6 DJEBEL AURES Sete. 1/6 G G JONNART Marseille 30/5 JACQUES SCHIAFFINO Philippeville. 30/5 DJEBEL DIRA France. (B.A.D., 1615Z/5, to Admty).

MATTAWIN MATTAWIN torpedoed and sunk at 0130 G.M.T. 2/6 (sunk 2/6) in 040° 34' N. 066° 34'. S/M was submerged before attack. All crew and passengers embarked safely in life boat, none injured. Wireless operator's code thrown overboard in tin box. My 1649 follows gives names 20 survivors landed from one life boat on Cape Cod. (B.R.O. Boston Mass, 1622Z/5, to Admty. (R) N.S.H.Q.).

TUSCALOOSA I.D. From S.A. Telegraphic report CITY (A) TUSCALOOSA CITY, American. (B) Sunk (sunk 4/5). (C) 018° 25' N. 081° 31' W. 4/5 engine 1520, course not known. (D) Position not given 1820 course 045° true. (E) Fired 3 torpedoes submerged, later surface. (F) Slightly larger than S boat, colour light grey, one gun forward very close to C/T and another aft possibly 3 inch, straight bow not raised, estimated speed 15 knots, stern submerged, no net cutter, flash screen quite free of flooding. Submarine Commander did not fire on crew but helped survivors. (R.O. Barranquilla, 1703/5, to Admty (R) S.O.I. Jamaica).

Working Up Your 1803/2, which is being passed to Admty. Base. 1. This depends on final destination of ships which are not yet known. 2. Admty is requested to give estimated dates asked for. (B.A.D., 1737Z/5, to C.in C.A.W.I. (R) Admty).

U/B Positions. 5/6 S/M estimate. (C.in C. U.S. Fleet, 1813/5, to Admty etc.).

S.S. QUEEN Your 2117/4. Instructions in M.A.R.I. Sect. IV, ELIZABETH. para. 12, are temporarily suspended for all shipping, vide M.A.R.I. amendment No. 15. (D.T.D. 1825B/5 to B.A.D. (R) C.in C.W.A.). Your 1825/5. My 2117/4 referred to Mari Sect. 2 para. 12. (B.A.D. 2311Z/5 to Admty).

EMPIRE QQSS, EMPIRE WOODCOCK now at Philadelphia. Fire WOODCOCK on board, cancel my 0415/25. (N.T.in W.R.) (Baltimore, 1851/5, to Admty).

/Sugar ....



5.6.1942.  
Friday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies. Contd.

Sugar Ships, Caribbean. Your 1916/16/4. Propose that in future all ships bound for San Domingo to load sugar should be routed to San Pedro De Macoris unless draught on arrival exceeds 14 feet, when they should be routed to Ciudad Trujillo. Ref. position in former case should be given for Ciudad Trujillo, Barahona and Kingston Jamaica to facilitate diversion. This has been suggested by Minister, Ciudad Trujillo, after consulting with sugar co-ordinator and will avoid unnecessary passage and loss of time.  
(C.in C. A.W.I. 1902P/5, to Admty (R) B.R.O. San Pedro De Macoris S.O. (I) Jamaica).

BAGHDAD My 2045/3 re BAGHDAD. 2nd life boat with Captain (sunk 30/5). 9 others arrived 2030 G.M.T. to-day. C.Bs. in locked box went down with ship. Large sized German submarine painted grey, condition unobserved, armed with one 4" possibly 5" gun forward, one Q.F. gun aft, surfaced 0200 G.M.T./30 made enquiry re food supplies in life boats, then submerged. Direction of departure unobserved. (Treasurer, Grenada, 1905/5 to Admty).  
My 1629/21. BAGHDAD (Nor.) torpedoed and sunk 30/5. My 0649/21 Capetown only refers. Pass to C.in C. S.A. (N.S.H.Q. 2209Z/5 to C.in C. A.W.I. S.O.I. Jamaica, S.O.I. Freetown, S.O.I. Capetown).

PARTHIAN Cancel my 1303/4. PARTHIAN delayed, further signal will be made.  
(C.in C.A.W.I. 1913P/5 to PARTHIAN, Admty etc.).

H.X. Convoys. It is proposed to sail H.X. Convoys on Saturday instead of Sunday. Request your concurrence and indication of first H.X. Convoy it will be convenient to sail on altered day.  
(D.T.D. 1952B/5 to N.S.H.Q. (R) Connav etc.).

BERGANGER BERGANGER, Norwegian, sunk by torpedo 1830 G.M.T./2 (torpedoed in 039° 20' N. 070° 00' W. Submarine was 2/6). submerged. All officers and men and passengers embarked 3 lifeboats. Submarine surfaced after attack, believed to be large, about 2500 tons.  
C.Bs. thrown overboard in steel boxes by Master. My 2022 follows giving names of occupants 1 lifeboat landed New Bedford 5/6.  
(B.R.O. Boston,\* 1958Z/5 to Admty (R) N.S.H.Q.)  
\* Mass.

Navigation Your 2031/4 (N.T.in W.D.) It is still considered Coastal Waters. that a qualifying definition of coastal lanes is required in order that ships approaching the coast from seaward may know when to burn navigation lights. Admty has no information as to any coastal lanes on South American coast and it is suggested that instead the term "coastal waters" should be used or a specified distance from the coast, e.g. 20 miles.  
(D.T.D. 2010B/5 to B.A.D.), Reply: B.A.D. 2027/6.

/Sub attack .....



5.6.1942.  
Friday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies. conts:-

Sub attack and sighting summary. DELFINA torpedoed 20.20 North 67.07 West 0415Z/5. MARGOT 60 shells. U-45 type, fresh paint. 2 white fighting cocks painted on fore part C/T. Officer on sub who gave his name as Mueller stated Captain's name as Vogel. RUTH LYKES 25 shells. Probably U-88 type. Blue emblem with yellow zig zag simulating lightning after portion C/T. TUSCALOOSA CITY U-88 type. Blimp attacks magnetic contact 3848 N. 7434 W. 1258Z/1/5. Plane attacks periscope near 4025 N. 73.45 W. 0811Z/1/5. Possible damage. D D S attack sound contacts. 5540 N. 2432 W. 1753Z/6/4. 6355 N. 23.22 W. 1447Z/14/4. 52.39 N. 33.06 W. 2012Z/12/5. Patrol craft attacks sound contact 24.06 N. 83.03 W. 17/5. Plane attacks moving oil slick 33.29 N. 78.11 W. 2140Z/2/6. Plane sights sub 36.13 N. 72.30 W. about 1620Z/5/6. M V sights sub 39.02 N. 68.17 W. 1547Z/5/6.  
(Cominch, 2054/5, to Admty for O.I.C.).

MILFORD refit. Brazilian Govt. have agreed to accept MILFORD at Naval Dockyard, Rio, for docking and refit. MILFORD will be proceeding to Rio in near future. (A.C.N.S.(F) 2140B/5. to Opnav.(R) C.in C.A.W.I.etc)  
See p 107.

M.F. ELLIOTT. U.S. M.F. ELLIOTT overdue Caripito. (S.O.I. Jamaica, 2144R/5, to Admty. N.S.H.Q.,etc.).

TORVANGER. Nor. S.S. TORVANGER bound Capetown arrived with survivors. Crew refuse sail without escort. No escort available. Master and crew agree sail H.X. 193 be detached 45° W. Intend including TORVANGER H.X. 193 unless otherwise instructed. (C.O.A.C.2150Z/5, to N.S.H.Q.(R) Admty).

CELANDINE CELANDINE is still delayed with machinery defect. Duration at present indefinite. (B.A.R.M. 2206Z/5, to C.O.A.C.(R) N.S.H.Q. etc.).

? FAIRPORT Your 1716/2. FBIRONRC (As received) (U.S.) sailed Mobile May 31st due San Juan 6/6. (N.S.H.Q. 2212Z/5, to S.O.(I) Jamaica).

DURBAN C.in C.A. & W.I. 1132/4. DURBAN cannot visit Ponta Delgada till after 2/7. 2. Request you will reconsider route with a view to omitting call at Halifax. 3. 15 knots is acceptable. (D.O.D.(F) 2221B/5 to B.A.R.M.(R) C.in C.A.W.I.etc) C.in C. A.W.I. 1132/4. (1) DURBAN fuelled Ponta Delgada on 2/4/1942. (2) Following programme has therefore been proposed by DURBAN, and Cominch concurs.

| Arrives | Place              | Departs | S.O.A.     |
|---------|--------------------|---------|------------|
| -       | New York           | 8/6     | 20½ knots  |
| 8/6     | Norfolk (Virginia) | 12/6    | 20½ knots  |
| 13/6    | Bermuda            | 14/6    | 20½ knots  |
| 16/6    | Halifax            | 17/6    | 18 knots   |
| 21/6    | Iceland (C)        | 21/6    | 20½ knots  |
| 23/6    | Portsmouth.        |         | /(3) ..... |



5.6.1942.  
Friday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies. conts.

DURBAN  
Contd.

(3) The passage from Halifax to U.K. could be made at S.O.A. not exceeding 15 knots. This would entail delay of one day in reaching final destination. (4) Request early decision. (B.A.D., 2223Z/5, to Admty B.A.R.M., C.O.A.C. Cominch etc.). (Concur (D.O.D.(F) 1709B/6.)

ALGONQUIN  
German Seamen.

Admty 1811/16/4. 20 German Seamen left Ciudad Trujillo in U.S. Army Transport ALGONQUIN on 18/5 for interment in U.S. There is some doubt whether in fact U.S. Authorities intend to intern these men. Ciudad Trujillo despatch No. 33 to Ambassador, Washington, refers. Request you will consult Embassy and if necessary take up matter strongly with Navy Dept. (Head of M. 2319B/5 to B.A.D.).



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5.6.1942.  
Friday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.Australia and New Zealand.Wellington  
defences.

1. In view of your 1517/4, Navy Dept. agree to supply heavy indicator net for Kau point position. Net will be made up in panels to suit soundings on Admty. Chart. Estimated available for shipping in one month's time.
2. Your para. 4. A/T baffle will not be supplied at present.  
(B.A.D., 0043Z/5 to N.Z.N.B., (R) Admty.)

Movements.

Hospital ship WANGANILLA arrived Port Moresby 3/6. U.S. Transport WEST POINT arrived Melbourne 4th. U.S. Transport WILLARD A. HOLBROOK departed Sydney (N.S.W.) 3rd due Wellington 6th. U.S. transport VAN HEUTZ arrived Brisbane 3rd. (A.C.N.B., 0049Z/5 to Admty.)

Landing  
craft.

Request a small number of A.L.Cs. and M.LCs. may be diverted Australia so that training for combined operations can be commenced as early as possible. Locally built L/C cannot be available for some time.  
(A.C.N.B., 0816Z/5 to Admty.)

Situation.

- (1) R.A.A.F. aircraft observed vessel believed to be IRON CROWN (3353 tons) being torpedoed by a S/M 1000Z/4 in (? 038°) 15' S. 149° 45' E.\*

Aircraft attacked S/M, obtaining 2 near misses.

- (2) S/M sighted 0310Z/5 by R.A.A.F. aircraft in 032° 12' S. 154° 06' E. Aircraft dropped 4 - 250 pound A/S bombs from 700 feet causing very near misses large explosion and debris. Dark brown patch 50 yards square observed, bubbles still rising 40 minutes later.

- (3) B.25 aircraft (Dutch Pilot) attacked and claimed to have sunk 2200Z/4th S/M in position 035° 22' S. 152° 36' E.  
(A.C.N.B., 0829Z/5 to Admty., etc.)

\* Position amended, see A.C.N.B., 1246Z/6.

Serial number 134 from C.W.R.

Reports indicate at least 3 and probably 4 submarines, probably I classm between Newcastle and Wilson's Promontory.

Casualties IRON CHIEFTAIN and one unknown sunk. 3 other attacks by gunfire but vessels escaped. Sailings of merchant ships under 12 knots from ports between (? Melbourne) and Brisbane inclusive suspended. Coastal convoys operative from 8/6.

2. Air R/C 4/6 report no activity Tulagi.
3. 3 Fortresses attacked wharf area Rabaul 2050Z/3, one hit large fire.
4. 4 Hudsons bombed Koepang aerodrome (?15) 45Z/3.  
(A.C.N.B., 1416Z/5 to Admty., etc.)  
See Admty. 1218/6.

/Navigation ...



War Diary.

5.6.1942.  
Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Australia and New Zealand - Contd.

Navigation  
Lights.

Ships sailing independently or in Convoy in the area governed by Australian Commonwealth notice to Mariners No. 314 of 1941 are only to burn navigation lights to avoid collision. Amending notice to Mariners is being issued. (A.C.N.B., 1005Z/5 to All concerned W.F. Messages, N.R. 160.)

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Submarines Reported.

Estimated U/B positions.  
(D.D.I.C., 1419B/5, 1430B/5.)



6.6.1942.  
Saturday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

In the early hours of this morning S.G.B's 7 and 8, while patrolling the enemy Coastal Route off Berck-sur-Mer, sighted one enemy Destroyer and one E/R Boat. Short gun engagements ensued in which hits are claimed on the enemy and S.G.B. 7 was hit by one cannon-shell; and, for the first time in this area, a considerable amount of star-shell was fired by the enemy Coastal Batteries.

It is under consideration to base a squadron of Torpedo Aircraft in North Russia for attack on enemy surface vessels; and S.B.N.O. North Russia has today been asked to report, on the practicability of this proposal.

A certain number of new construction merchant ships are to be fitted with an anti-torpedo device known as Admiralty Net Defence (short title A.N.D.)

South Atlantic.

U.S. GEORGE CLYMER reported being torpedoed at 2056 today in 15° S. 18° W. (about 450 miles to the south-westward of Ascension.)

Mediterranean.

S.S. BOLSENA - sunk 16/5  
S.S. PENELOPE - " 14/5  
S.S. CAPO ARMA - " 24/5  
Dest: P~~ASSAGNO~~ " "  
(Torpedo Attack Register)

TURBULENT has returned to Alexandria from patrol and reports having sunk a "Navigatori" class destroyer (on 29/5) and three merchant ships on the shipping route to Benghazi, and a\*500-ton U-boat on the return passage.  
\* Not confirmed.

The Germans are completing two submarines which the Russians left on the slips at Nikolaiev, incompletely destroyed. Heavy air attacks on Sevastopol continue.



6.6.1942.  
Saturday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT.

Mediterranean-Contd.

A U-boat fired 3 torpedoes at Tobruk harbour in the early hours of today; all three exploded at the boom, causing no damage except to the boom which is being repaired.

East Indies.

The first Kilindini - Madagascar Convoy (K.M.1) arrived at Diego Suarez today escorted by DAUNTLESS.

U-boat and  
Raider  
situation in  
Mozambique  
Channel.

SS. SUSAK was sunk by a Japanese submarine at 0730 G.M.T. today in 15° 42' S. 40° 58' E. At 2358Z/5 SS. WILFORD (Lourenco Marques to Mombasa) reported being shelled by a raider in 20° 20' S. 36° 47' E. (in the Mozambique Channel) about 420 miles to the northward of the position where ELYSIA was sunk yesterday morning. Probably, however the attack on WILFORD was made by a U-boat.

C. in C. Eastern Fleet, who arrived at Colombo yesterday at 0933Z today ordered the Deputy C. in C.E.F. to make use of all available forces including INDOMITABLE to deal with the raiders. Rear-Admiral Danckwerts made the following dispositions:- DEVONSHIRE (7/6) DRAGON and DANAE (today) are being sailed from Mombasa to guard the north end of the Mozambique Channel, and CANTON from Capetown and CHITRAL from Mauritius are to guard the southern end of the Channel. EMERALD who left Mombasa on 3/6 for patrol has been ordered to position 29° 30' S. 34° 30' E. (about 200 miles east of Durban.) The S.A.A.F. have been asked to carry out air reconnaissance from Lindi and Diego Suarez but have only 2 aircraft available; and C. in C. E.F. is sending 3 Catalina flying boats to leave Ceylon tomorrow night for Kilindini via Seychelles. Admiral Danckwerts has asked H.Q. Middle East if they can spare a squadron of G.R. aircraft urgently to operate from Mombasa.



6.6.1942.

Saturday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT.

America and West Indies.

It is reported that a Japanese force consisting of one large and one small carrier, 2 cruisers and 2 destroyers, from which aircraft attacked Dutch harbour has been attacked by U.S. army bombers. One carrier is believed to have had its flight deck damaged whilst its planes were in the air.

Australia.

Reports indicate that there are at least 2 enemy submarines still off the coast of New South Wales, though no further attacks on shipping have been reported. A submarine was possibly damaged by air attack at 0638Z today in 34° 3' S. 151° 15' E.



6.6.1942.  
Saturday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Policy.

Iceland  
Fishing.  
Proposed  
reduction of  
Prohibited  
Area.

An investigation I have just completed into the constant presence of Icelandic fishing vessels in the prohibited area 66° 26' N., 23° 8' W. reveals that this area includes the best fishing ground off West Coast Iceland and that if prohibition in respect of fishing vessels is enforced serious reduction in amount of fish for British consumption will result. During the past year the prohibition has been disregarded by fishing vessels and Icelandic Government are reluctant to enforce it. The area to which unrestricted access is required is known as Djupall Deep and Hali and is bounded on the north by a line drawn 317° from Ritur Point Admiralty Chart No. 565. It is proposed that as in fact this ground has been worked during the past season without any ill effects it should now be removed from prohibited area. This would give great satisfaction to Icelandic Government and fishing interest and should not cause us any inconvenience. I have explained that if this concession is granted we cannot guarantee complete immunity from accident and this has been accepted. As fishing season has already started request early concurrence may be given to this proposal.  
(A.C.I.C., 1225B/6 to Admt).

Defence of United Kingdom.

Dungeness  
A/A guns.

My 1845B/2/5 to which no reply has been received. Suggest that if no other arrangement can be made the Bofors guns recently installed at Rye should, pending the development of facilities at that port be moved to Dungeness Point where they are far more likely to come into action.  
(V.A. Dover, 1837B/6 to Admt).

Request consideration to early establishment of suitable A/A guns such as two or more Bofors or Hispano Suiza on Dungeness Point to give protection against daylight attacks by low flying enemy fighter aircraft to the two air sea rescue M.Ls. which lie at the point by day when awaiting calls. An important signal station and coastal artillery batteries are also situated on the point. It is understood that personnel from latter could assist in providing crews for guns which would necessarily have to be continuously manned by day.  
Bofors guns provided by field army have recently been withdrawn.  
(V.A. Dover, 1845B/2 to Admt)

Movements.

UNBEATEN,  
TORBAY.

Captain (S) 5's 1551B/2 and 1221B/4. My position 049° 16', 009° 42' to be in 049° 43', 006° 07' at 0545B/7. E.T.A. R/V 1015B/7 proceeding on surface from 0545B/7 or 2100B/7 if submerged.  
Request instructions.  
(UNBEATEN, 0015B/6 to Capt. S.5).  
H.M.S. UNBEATEN 0015/6. UNBEATEN. Amend route to pass through following positions. (X) 180° Bishop Rock 15 miles.  
(Y) 180° Lizard Head 15 miles, thence to R/V at 1030/7.  
4. TORBAY to adjust speed to arrive R/V with UNBEATEN at 1030/7.  
(Capt. S.5., 1015B/6.

/ASHANTI...



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6.6.1942.  
Saturday.War Diary.HOME COMMANDS.Movements. - Contd.

ASHANTI,  
MARTIN. Sailed ASHANTI and MARTIN at best speed at 0210C routed (A) 070° N., 034° 20' E., (B) 073° 16' N., 034° 20' E. (C) (073°) 47' N., 024° 33' E., (D) (074°) 00' N., 015° 00' E., (E) 066° 53' N., 003° 50' W., thence to Scapa. (S.B.N.O. North Russia, 0153B/6).

P.615 A.C.I.C's 1231/5. P.615 is to be sailed with convoy U.R.28 leaving Loch Ewe 11/6. Unless otherwise ordered by C. in C. W.A., position of P.615 with U.R. convoy is to be in accordance with S.W.M.6 part 2 Para. 4. (F.O.S., 1044B/6 to Capt. S.3.)

UTMOST. (1) Intend sailing UTMOST escorted by WHITE BEAR at 2200B/8 for position (a) 290° Bishop Rock 5 miles. E.T.A. 2300B/10. Thence UTMOST diving by day through (b) 049° 10', 012° 30' (c) 046° 01', 012° 29', (d) 043° 01', 012° 28' E.T.A., 1000B/17, thence Gibraltar as ordered by F.O.C.N.A. (Capt. S.3., 1221B/6).

SIRIUS My 0948B/5. Sailed. (F.O.I.C. Greenock, 1304B/6).

INGLEFIELD Leave harbour at 0600 tomorrow and proceed by standard route to Scapa. (C. in C. Rosyth, 1541B/6 to INGLEFIELD).

Operations.

Engagement During patrol of Enemy Coastal route last night with one S.G.Bs. 7 and 8 reported sighting at 0203 one destroyer and enemy destroyer accompanied by an E/R boat on a northerly course in the vicinity of Berck one E/R boat. Buoy 5 miles off Berck Sur Mer. Enemy was again sighted at 0245. There were brief gun engagements during which hits on the enemy are claimed. S.G.B7 was hit by one cannon shell which temporarily stopped boiler room fan. Enemy coastal batteries fired a considerable amount of star shell which has not previously been experienced in this area. At 0212 an unidentified plot of a single vessel had been detected in our searched channel S.E. of Hastings on a W.S.W ly. course. S.G.B.4 who returning from patrol, having earlier lost contact with S.G.Bs. 7 and 8, endeavoured to intercept S. of Beachy Head but without success. She was rejoined by S.G.Bs. 7 and 8 before search was abandoned at 0447 by which time the plot had faded southwest of Beachy Head. Plot was never identified and may have been a drifting balloon. (V.A. Dover, 1042B/6).

/K.C.8...



War Diary.

6.6.1942.  
Saturday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operations. - Contd.

K.C.8 (A) Operation K.C.8. M.T.B.56, 50, and 54.  
(B) 6/7 June.  
(C) Yarmouth.  
(D) 049° 50' N., 001° 50' W., (E) Coastal Shipping or patrol craft. (F) 050° 15' N., (H) 3 J.M.G.  
(C. in C. Portsmouth, 1117B/6 to 11th M.T.B. Flotilla).  
My 1117. (I) State D north of 050° 20' N., (J) Carrying out operation and return by Needles Channel. Do not operate east longitude 001° 25' W.  
(C. in C. Portsmouth, 1257/6 to 11th M.T.B. Flotilla).

Offensive Weather permitting carry out following offensive  
Patrols. patrols tonight.  
(1) 1 Unit M.T.Bs. each on R.B.4 and R.B.5.  
(2) 1 Unit M.G.Bs. vicinity T.R.B.R. 3500  
A 7,000 ton tanker and 2 T class T.Bs. have been reported in Dunkirk and may move eastward tonight.  
(C. in C. Nore, 1856B/6 to BEEHIVE).  
Departure. M.T.B.30, 70, 72, 241. M.G.B. 74, 58, 60, 61.  
(F.O.I.C. Harwich, 2123B/6).

Iceland - At 2000 tonight, KENT on patrol south of Iceland.  
Faeroes (A.C.O.S., 1549/6).  
Passage.

Interception C. in C. Plymouth's 2104/4. Request brief  
of Convoy. report of this operation may be signalled.  
In particular was it possible to pass results of R.D.F. plot to destroyers?  
C. in C. Portsmouth's 1137/5 refers.  
(A.C.N.S. (H.), 1802B/6 to C. in C. Plymouth, Portsmouth).

British Air Activity.

Convoy Expect A/S air escort by one Fortress about  
W.S.19 Z 0730B/6, followed by one Sunderland.  
(KENYA). (C. in C. W.A., 0421B/6 to S.O. Force T).  
Expect air escort of one Liberator from 0530B/7, followed by 2nd Liberator escorting until half an hour after dark.  
(C. in C. W.A., 2316B/6 to S.O. Force T).

Bombing Serial No. G. 107. Between 0409 and 1000 on 7th  
restrictions. and 8th June institute total submarine bombing restrictions within radius of 35 miles of Lizard Head.  
(H.Q.C.C., 1149B/6 to R.A.F. Gibraltar).  
My Ops. 222/6/6 Serial Number G.107. Cancel restrictions forthwith. From 0400/7 to 1200/7 institute total submarine bombing restrictions 20 miles either side of a line joining 180° Bishops Rock 15 miles and 180° Lizard Head 15 miles.  
(H.Q.C.C., 1720/6 to Gibraltar).

/Bombing...



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6.6.1942.  
Saturday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

British Air Activity. - Contd.

Bombing Operations. During day 5/6, 6 A/C bombed the Power station at Havre, and 6 A/C attacked the Power Station at Ostend.  
(H.Q.B.C., 1710/6).

Own A/C fired on. S.O.T.L.D.F. 1701/2. Air Ministry ask that attention of units concerned should be drawn to the regulations for the opening of fire by ships in port contained in S.D. 158/1B paras 18 and 19 and S.P. 02312(3) chapters 3 and 4.  
(D. of L.D., 1841B/6 to C. in C. Nore).

North Russia. It is under consideration to base a squadron of torpedo A/C in North Russia.  
2. Request you will report on the practicability of this scheme with particular reference to the following points raised by A.O.C. in C. Coastal Command.  
(a) Facilities for off-loading from ships and erecting.  
(b) Suitability of Russian aerodromes and possibility of improving them. Minimum length of runway required. 1100 yards with good approaches.  
(c) Torpedo maintenance facilities.  
(d) Petrol supply together with information on octane value.  
(A.C.N.S. H., 2329B/6 to S.B.N.O. North Russia).

Enemy Air Activity.

Jan Mayen. Following from Jan Mayen. A/C heard West direction, 0732. Weather foggy.  
(A.C.I.C., 0231B/6).

Mining.

S.N.3 B. Intend to carry out Operation S.N.3 B. as follows. Details.  
(R.A.M., 1124/6) See Lion Copy.

Thames Estuary. One ground mine detonated by Sweepers at 1747/3, and 1445/3 respectively. Details.  
(Capt. M/S, Sheerness, 1219/6, 1246/6).  
Suspected enemy mines reported by Mr. A. Aldrick of Brightlingsea buried in Gunfleet Sands between Spitway buoys.  
(N.O.I.C. Brightlingsea, 1500B/6).

Off Brixham. At 1530/5 one Blue Mine exploded by Sweepers in 50° 24' 50" N., 3° 26' 50" W., Details.  
(Lt. Cdr. M/S Dartmouth, 1850/6).

K.B.2 Portsmouth 0221/73, 22nd April 1942, para. 6. Details of operation K.B.2.  
(a) 32 mines. Details. (b) Z line extends 2 miles 231° true 049° 31' 30" N., 000° 58' 54" W. Mines 400 feet apart. (c) Lay may be made in each direction.  
(C. in C. Portsmouth, 2137B/6 to 52 M.L. Flotilla).



# MOST SECRET

MOST SECRET.

M E S S A G E

1124 /6 June.  
IN.

FROM. R.A.M.

DATE. 6.6.42.

RECD. 1850

R.A.F. (31) BY T/P.

ADDRESSED. Admiralty, C. in C. Home Fleet, C. in C.  
Rosyth, H.M.S. SCOTT, repeated C. in C.  
Western Approaches, A.C.O.S., R.A.D. Home Fleet,  
Air Ministry, H.Q.C.C., H.Q.F.C., H.Q. 18 Group,  
H.Q. 14 Group.

Intend to carry out operation S N 3 B as follows

A. Surface minefield laid from South to North.  
D. (i) H.M.S. SOUTHERN PRINCE H.M.S. ADVENTURE H.M.S.  
AGAMEMNON H.M.S. MENESTHEUS, H.M.S. PORT QUEBEC  
H.M.S. SCOTT, H.M.S. BRIGHTON H.M.S. CASTLETON  
H.M.S. CHARLESTOWN H.M.S. WELLS.

E. Anti submarine air escort is requested whilst  
outside The Minches .

F. From (i) 060 degs. 20' 06" North 008 degs.  
37' 30" West through.  
(ii) 060 degs. 28' 36" 008 degs. 49' 30" and  
(iii) 060 degs. 34' 36" 008 degs. 52' to  
(iv) 060 degs. 49' 18" 008 degs. 42' 30" .

G. 0030 June 11th.

J. Through 059 degs. 00' North 006 degs. 06' West

K. 13 knots.

L. 1700 June 11th.

N. Through 059 degs. 48' North 005 degs. 30' West.

O. Port Z A 1615 June 12th.

H.M.S. PORT QUEBEC to Scapa practice area for H A practice.

P. H.M.S. WELLS to Newport P.M. on June 13th. H.M.S.

CASTLETON with H.M.S. PORT QUEBEC remainder with squadron

W. 32 miles. 14 knots.

X. Mark 22 One Star/17 3 star set to 20 feet.

Y. full outfit.

Z. As for two line ships in area B throughout.

1124/6.

Advance Copy Sent D.C., D.O.D. (H)  
& D.D.I.C. D.D.O.D. (M)

V.C.N.S.

A.C.N.S. (H)

A.C.N.S. (T)

A.C.N.S. (C)

N.A. 1st S.L.

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

Duty Captain. (2)

D.S.O.D. (H)

D.N.A.D.

D.N.I. (1)

D.D.I.C. (2)

D.A.S.V.

D. or P. (2)

Hd. of H.

D.T.M.

D. of L.D.  
Admiral Blake.

E.T.S.D.

I.P. (2)

V.D.

D.S.D.  
D.C.D.  
Hydrog.  
D.M.S.



6.6.1942.  
Saturday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Enemy Intelligence.

North  
Norway.

Russian Reports. 3rd June, northern part of  
Veuv Fiord one U-boat. 4th June, northern  
part Varanger Fiord one destroyer.  
(Ad. Miles, 1621C/6).

U-Boats.

U-boat  
attacked.

M.L.252 reports having carried out depth charge  
attacks in approx. 8 miles due west of Hoy Sound.  
Contact was lost at 2339. Two other M.Ls. have  
joined search. \*(?SCARBOROUGH) proceed area  
forthwith to carry out search. U.S. Destroyer RHIND is to join  
(?SCARBOROUGH) as soon as possible and assist.  
(R.A.D.H.F., 0306B/6 to ? SCARBOROUGH, RHIND).

*\*Left U-boat 23/5 - in Veed area -  
See p. 137.*

U-boats  
reported.

There were good D/F indications that a German  
U-boat was anywhere within 40 miles of 44° 40' N.  
2° 30' W., at 0145Z/6.  
(D.D.I.C., 0506B/6 to RUBIS).  
Fisherman reports Submarine 130° 6 to 7 miles  
from Peterhead at 1400/6.  
(N.O.I.C. Peterhead, 1530/6).

Technical.

A.N.D.  
Gear.

Approval has been given for a certain number of  
new construction merchant ships to be fitted with  
an anti-torpedo device known as Admiralty Net  
Defence (short title A.N.D.) N.C.S.Os. are to

keep a list of all such ships. Certain U.S.A. ships are also  
being fitted.

2. The following British ships have already been fitted with  
A.N.D.:- EMPIRE RHODES, EMPIRE HEYWOOD.

It is expected that the following ships will be fitted before  
proceeding overseas from the U.K.:- EMPIRE COLERIDGE, NICANIA,  
FRESNO CITY, EMPIRE NORSEMAN, EMPIRE CHAPMAN, JERSEY CITY, EMPIRE  
PRINCE.

Instructions for handling ships and Gear.  
(D.T.D., 1146B/6, 1156B/6).

Casualties & Defects.

FLEETWOOD.

My 1800B/5. Suggest that as FLEETWOOD is over  
eight months since refit and it is estimated  
repairs will take four to five weeks consideration  
may be given to refitting her at the same time.  
(Cdre. Londonderry, 1109B/6).  
Commodore Londonderry's 1800/5. FLEETWOOD can be  
taken in hand now for refit and repairs.  
(D.D.O.D.(H.), 1808B/6 to Cdre. Londonderry).



6.6.1942.  
Saturday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping & Convoys.

W.S.20. Following is proposed embarkation programme for  
convoy W.S.20. Details.  
(D.S.T., 0612B/6).

W.S.19 P. My P.C.S. are 052° 21', 014° 12', 042° 15.  
(KEPPEL, 0900B/6).  
E.T.A. 0330/7. LEAMINGTON in company.  
(KEPPEL, 1715B/6 to N.O.I.C. Londonderry).

North Russian Convoys. Your 1657/4. It is understood only small number  
of ships from each P.Q. convoy will be sent to  
Murmansk vide Adm. Miles 1129/13/4. Intention is  
to arrange escorts as submitted in my 1707/17/5.

(2) Escorts were only sent to Kola Inlet last summer on one  
occasion. Normally they fuelled and rested at Archangel.  
This course is recommended.

(3) In addition hospital staff should be urged at Archangel for  
summer months if accommodation can be provided. S.B.N.O.  
Archangel is requested to report on this question.

(4) HOPEMOUNT will be sailed for Iceland in Q.P. (?13) date  
uncertain. Confirmed that tanker will be required in P.Q.18  
unless Archangel fuel stock is augmented from Russian source  
before date of P.Q.18 sailing.

(5) Anticipated coal for Trawler escort can be obtained from  
ships in convoy if S.B.N.O. Archangel can make these arrangements.  
Small amount required (viz) (?maximum) 800 tons for 4 Trawlers  
with each convoy does not justify special delivery of coal  
for H.M. Ships only.

(6) Estimate 80% of depth charges ammunition minesweeper spares  
should be stored at Archangel during summer and remainder at  
(?Attoarno) for emergency. Only H.M. Ships using Kola Inlet  
will be 2 Minesweepers vide my 1707 May 17th.

(S.B.N.O. North Russia, 0914B/6 to Admty).

S.B.N.O. North Russia 0951/4 para 4. Can this be carried out  
for P.Q. 17 by Sub. Lieut. Borley H/F D/F officer on staff of  
R.A.(D) or is an additional H/F D/F officer required.

2. A convoy signal officer for Reykjavik will be appointed  
shortly.

(D.S.D., 1448B/6 to C. in C. H.F.)

My 1103B/12. Do you consider P.O, PURVIS party should continue  
in Russian convoys and if so have you any improvements to  
suggest.

(C. in C. H.F., 1226B/29 to C.S.10 ASHANTI).

Your 1226B/29. PURVIS gave good warning, but not considered  
necessary in convoy which includes long range R.D.F. warning  
set, as R.D.F. silence is lifted when shadows are in contact.  
Bombers appear to rely on shadower for weather report and to  
find convoy.

(ASHANTI, 1623B/5 to C. in C. H.F., (R) C.S.10).

It has been decided to discontinue ballasting British-controlled  
P.Q. ships owing to (1) Deadweight and filling cargo now  
available ex U.S. ships discharged in U.K.

(2) Improved prospects of homeward cargo. C.A.M. ships will  
continue to be ballasted.

(D.S.T., 2121B/6 to S.B.N.O. Archangel).



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6.6.1942.  
Saturday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping & Convoys. - Contd.

P.Q.18 My 2128B/18/5. C.A.M. Ship PRIMROSE HILL has been withdrawn from P.Q.18. Further signal will be made allocating C.A.M. ship for P.Q.18. (D.T.D., 1104B/6)

Ammunition for North Russia. A.M. 2003B/5. It is essential that as much as possible of this ammunition be sent in P.Q.17. Can this not be done by adding another ship from U.K. to P.Q.17 or by partially unloading some ships at Reykjavik and reloading with ammunition from local reserves.

(2) Consider amounts of 4.7 and L.V. as ammunition should be doubled and amount of 12 pounders Quadrupled, also that 4 inch mark V ammunition should be added.

(C. in C. H.F., 1145B/6 to Admty).

Ammunition for North Russian convoy. Proposed plan.

(1) H.F. to send 2 or 3 destroyers to Murmansk with maximum possible percentage replenishment for ocean escort, local escort, and merchant ships P.Q.16 as demanded by S.B.N.O. North Russia. All to be taken from Scapa reserve.

(2) M/Vs and ocean escort of P.Q.17 to carry maximum A/A ammunition for their own defence on outward and homeward passage, also some M/Vs to carry ammunition stock to replenish convoy and escort on arrival north Russia if necessary then land remainder as first consignment of free discharge.

(3) P.Q.18 and later convoy as for P.Q.17 with some ships carrying ammunition as cargo until satisfactory reserve has been built at Murmansk or Archangel.

(C. in C.H.F., 1221B/6 and 1948B/6).

Your 1721B/4. As ASHANTI and MARTIN are no longer concerned, it is estimated that by using INGLEFIELD and INTREPID and removing from them all following ammunition and utilizing ganway space in magazine and shell rooms to extent of blocking about one third of their own outfit on the outward journey, the re-estimated requirements of para.2 of your signal can be met, with following exception.

3. Your 1721B/4. It is unlikely that any large percentage of requirements for M/Vs can be embarked, but it is possible that stowage may be found as embarkation proceeds.

4. Intend to proceed with arrangements as in case one.

(R.A.D. H.F., 2348B/6 and 1016/7 to C. in C. H.F.)

Sighting of Convoys by U-boats. Procedure. Cancel W.A. G.M. 1904/4. When Admiralty signals that one of two or more convoys has been sighted by a U-boat, but is uncertain which, and the escort of one of these convoys has herself obtained a bearing which she considers clarifies the situation she is to signal this bearing and her deductions as to which convoy is being shadowed to Admiralty. This signal is to be repeated to C. in C. Western Approaches, and if in or near their area to F.O.C.N.A. and Rear Adm. West Africa and also to escorts of other convoys concerned. Signal is to include position course and speed of convoy at time obtaining bearing.

(C. in C. W.A., 1231Z/6 to W.A.G.M. 365 N).

/M.V...



War Diary.

6.6.1942.  
Saturday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping & Convoys. - Contd.

M.V recognition signals. Admiralty 780 A/6. The W/T Call Sign Recognition Procedure outlined in S.P. 02220 (2) Art. 66., amended by Addendum No.2 and S.P.C. 82/42, and in N.C.S.I., is cancelled from 15/7 and superseded by the following procedure:-

2. As from 0001 G.M.T. 15/7/42 S.P. 02296M (with June, and subsequently September as first month) will be brought into force world-wide, amended as follows. Details. (D.S.D., 1411B/6).

EMPIRE LAWN, The following ships all capable of a speed of 7  
EMPIRE FAIRY, to 8 knots will be ready to leave Milford Haven  
EMPIRE GOBLIN, in convoy on 25/6. Tugs - EMPIRE LAWN, EMPIRE  
ST. GEORGE, FAIRY and EMPIRE GOBLIN for Suez.  
FOINAVEN, Tug - ST. GEORGE for Trinidad. Steam Yacht -  
AARLA. FOINAVEN for Port Tewfik. Diesel Yacht -  
AARLA for Freetown.

2. Route.

3. FOINAVEN, AARLA and ST. GEORGE are fitted with W/T. EMPIRE LAWN, EMPIRE FAIRY, and EMPIRE GOBLIN are not fitted.

4. Escort will be provided by POST BOY, TEWERA, and EARL KITCHENER.

5. C. in C. W.A. is requested to provide route, sailing ships south of Ireland.

6. F.O.I.C. Milford Haven is requested to sail ships as requisite when ready.

(D.O.D. (H.), 1618B/6).

O.G. Convoys. Owing to recent Gibraltar Convoys reducing time on passage it is proposed to run Convoys at 18-day intervals during the summer months commencing with O.G. 86. Request your remarks. (A.C.N.S.(T), 1902B/6 to C. in C. W.A. F.O.C.N.A.).

Tankers in Your 1810B/4. Concur.  
BB. O.N.M., (D.T.D., 1922B/6 to C. in C. W.A.)  
O.G.M.,  
O.S.M.,  
Convoys.

CARLTON. Your 1909B/2. CARLTON returned damaged from P.Q. 16 will be ready 9/6. Should she be included in P.Q.17. (A.C.I.C., 1935B/6 to Admty).



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War Diary.6.6.1942  
Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.General.

From Chiefs of Staff. Account by Political Warfare Executive of state of resistance in Europe.  
(Air Min., 1700Z/6 to Cs. in C., Govrs. etc.)  
*See Lion Copy.*

Raiders.

Ruse to  
Avoid  
H.M. Ships.

Further instances have recently occurred in which enemy raider or supply ships have been able successfully to bluff H.M. Ships by pretending to be British Merchant Vessels.

2. Without discussing merits of these cases it is clear that these ships should have been suspect had C.Os of H.M. Ships concerned trusted the negative information which was, or should have been, in their possession.
3. Vesca and Merco Organisations should provide F.Os with sufficiently accurate information of movements of all Merchant Vessels in their station or area other than coastal traffic.
4. Evident that methods employed by F.Os in disseminating this information to H.M. Ships operating in or passing through their areas differ. This has been found to be confusing to H.M. Ships on passage.
5. Intended to promulgate instructions on this point by "A" message and C.A.F.O. on receipt of replies to this signal.
6. The basis of any system should be:-
  - (a) All H.M. Ships before sailing should be supplied with the movements of all Merchant Vessels on the station.
  - (b) This should be supplemented by a daily signal which should enable H.M. Ships to maintain a reasonably accurate shipping plot.
  - (c) H.M. Ships should be instructed to break W/T silence if necessary to check the whereabouts of any Merchant Ship encountered of which they have no information.
  - (d) C.Os of H.M. Ships should be instructed to ensure that Observers in their ship borne aircraft have adequate means of identifying Merchant Ships and instructions to report any suspect by W/T.
7. Considered that daily signal referred to in 6 (d) above should include all Merchant Ships at least one day's steaming outside station areas so that there may be no hiatus when ships pass from one station to another.
8. Apparent that on some stations this daily signal is replaced or augmented by an encounter signal for each particular warship. Undesirable to reply on an encounter signal only but there may be over-riding reasons in certain areas for not making a signal covering movements of all independent Merchant Shipping.
9. Addressees are requested to report by signal to Admty.
  - A. Whether Vesca and Merco signals do give all information required.
  - B. Whether H.M. Ships are in possession of all necessary information to enable them to identify bona fide merchant vessels encountered.
  - C. Their views on para 6.

/10 ...



**MOST SECRET**

1700z/6th June

MOST SECRET

MESSAGE

OUT

Date 6.6.42

To C.'s in C. India,  
 Ceylon,  
 Eastern Fleet,  
 Middle East  
 Mediterranean

Governors and  
 C.'s in C. Malta  
 Gibraltar

G.O.C. in C. East Africa  
 G.O.C. West Africa  
 C. in C. South Atlantic

Repeated B.A.D. Washington  
 for Field Marshal Dill,  
 F.O.C. - North Atlantic,  
 C. in C. Home Fleet by Admiralty.

From Air Ministry

*Occupied Europe, Resistance.*

OZ 384 6.6.42

Following from Chiefs of Staff.

Following account by Political Warfare Executive  
 of state of resistance in Europe is of interest.

2. Poland: losses under persecution terrible. Polish Government reckon 80,000 Poles disappeared. Spirit good: hatred of Germany intense. Weakness as always, internal dissensions.
3. Czechoslovakia: very different in character from Poles. Poles had aristocracy, well-educated middle-class and large ignorant peasantry. Czechs nation of small bourgeois, workers and peasants with high standard of education. To-day country is Germany's biggest arsenal outside Germany. Czechs are well off for secret communications. We get answers to telegrams within 26 hours. Czechs co-operated in recent raids on Skoda Works by lighting direction fires to guide airmen. Their resistance is well-planned. Loyal to Benes. Don't care much for British as Munich is not forgotten, but turn more and more to Russia for deliverance.
4. Low Countries: Spirit in Holland firm and obstinate. First rank in resistance. In Belgium people are ahead of Government. Would certainly co-operate in helping us. Like most oppressed peoples beg us to bomb their factories.
5. France: most difficult problem. Three different Frances-- Occupied, Unoccupied, French Empire. Four different authorities. No recognised Government. A Great Power defeated, humiliated, and looking for blame.

Pro-British/....



-2-

Pro-British sentiment not general. France our former friend, now enemy. Parallel of Russia in 1918. Hitler was clever in dividing France. After Armistice had lowest resistance. Considerable change since. In Occupied France, very good indeed, as good as anywhere; Unoccupied much flabbier but some improvement; Overseas Empire, perhaps little better than Vichy. Situation complicated by large numbers of military personnel families in France dependent on pensions.

Many complications. Where anti-German feelings strong often modified by objections to de Gaulle. Navy remembers Oren. Nevertheless improvement in France itself gives us right to hope for a considerable national revival before end of war.

6. Finally, not much hope of stimulating resistance to a more active stage without some considerable measure of Anglo-American military success. Maisky said "Best propaganda facts and figures. Best facts victories. Best figures dead Germans." May be moment in war when we might want to call on Allies to throw everything into scale. For this preliminary success would be needed. Must be sure of getting results from the people themselves. Problem is one of exact timing. A premature revolt would be easily crushed and retribution would be so terrible that it could never be staged again.

Regarding resistance generally, apathy is our greatest enemy. Our assets are (1) Germans have made no friends in any occupied country, (2) they have not been able to set up a regime which supplies any concrete example of the New Order. Our drawbacks that throughout Europe British and French policy during last twenty years has revealed our physical weakness. Belief in our strength was severely shaken and myth of invincibility of German army revived. It has been shaken since war against Russia but would revive if Germans had early successes this summer. Another most important factor in gauging potential strength of resistance is change brought about by technical improvement in weapons. Task of controlling much easier nowadays. No chance against a few tanks and dive-bombers. On the whole, resistance well maintained in all oppressed countries, although for the time being limited to undetectable sabotage. Gestapo, anti-sabotage units very ruthless, but occupied populations do force Germany hold down considerable total of divisions.

C.'s in C. India and Middle East pass to A.O.C.'s in C. India and Middle East respectively. G.O.C. West Africa

pass/.....



# MOST SECRET

pass to R.A. West Africa, and A.O.C. West Africa.

1700z/6

Received from Air Ministry 1015/7

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

- |                                |                           |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1st Lord                       | Air Ministry Circulation: |
| 1st S.L.(2)                    | Col. Jacob.               |
| V.C.N.S.                       | Foreign Secretary         |
| A.C.N.S.(H)                    | War Reg. Admiralty        |
| A.C.N.S.(W)                    | C.6 Tels War Office       |
| A.C.N.S.(F)(2)                 | C.A.S.                    |
| N.A. 1st S.L.                  |                           |
| P.A.S.(S)                      |                           |
| D.O.D.(F)(2)                   |                           |
| D.O.D.(H)(2)                   |                           |
| D. of P.(2)                    |                           |
| E.P.S.                         |                           |
| Hd. of M.(2)                   |                           |
| I.P.(2)                        |                           |
| W.D.                           |                           |
| D.N.I.(4)                      |                           |
| Duty Capt.(2)                  |                           |
| Admiral Blake                  |                           |
| Admiral Cunningham (64 O.B.I.) |                           |
| D. of L.D.(2)                  |                           |
| D.D.I.C.(2)                    |                           |



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6.6.1942  
Saturday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Raiders - contd.

Ruse to  
Avoid  
H.M. Ships  
contd.

10. This organisation must be supplementary to any challenge procedure now in force or which may be devised.

11. A system for indicating positions of Merchant Ships by reference to a gridded chart is now under review at the Admiralty.  
(D.O.D.(F) 1704B/6 to Cs. in C. etc.)

North Atlantic.

CITY OF  
BREMEN.  
(Br)  
sunk 2/6.

Whole crew of CITY OF BREMEN landed at Vigo today. Master states vessel sank 49° 57' N. 11° 35' W. 2/6 as result of bombs from German A/C at 1745 that day. No casualties. Please inform Liasion.  
(R.O. Vigo 0115/6 to Admty., for D.N.I. (R) S.O.I. Gibraltar.)

Movements.

WIVERN left Ponta Delgada 2315 G.M.T.5/6.  
DERWENT arrived Ponta Delgada 2315 G.M.T/5/6 and left 1000/6.  
(N.C.S.O. Ponta Delgada 1008/6 to Admty.)

MAIDSTONE,  
CORMORANT.

F.O.(S) 1031/4 intend transfer coast watching flotilla from MAIDSTONE to CORMORANT.  
(F.O.C.N.A. 1106B/6 to Admty. (R) F.O.S.)

S/Ms for  
Gibraltar.

Your 1031/4 submarines can be accepted.  
(F.O.C.N.A. 1108B/6 to F.O.S. (R) C. in C. Med., Admty.)

Situation  
Report.

Situation 2001B/6.  
(1) CARADOC 032° 34', 010° 15' through 28° 01', 13° 30' thence 222° 16. *See p. 134. ? next page*  
(2) CAIRO 036° 10', 006° 55', to Gibraltar 17½.  
(3) Fleet Unit WILD SWAN, BEAGLE 037° 09', 011° 34' through 37° 05', 11° 15' thence 104° 18.  
(4) JONQUIL, GERANIUM, SPIREA, 032° 57' 013° 05', 061° 12.  
(5) HEBE, SPEEDY, 045° 02', 015° 23' through 43° 02', 15° 20' thence 143° 13½.  
(6) ARMERIA, LEYLAND, 1 Merchant ship 22 Cape St. Vincent Coast-wise to Gibraltar 9.  
(7) ALOUETTE patrolling off Lisbon.  
(8) IMPERIALIST patrolling off Cape Roca.  
(9) SCOTTISH sailing 1300/7 to patrol Huelva Bight.  
(10) STELLA CARINA escorting cable ship MIRROR sailed 1700/6 to vicinity 36° 15' 07° 23'. *See 4/6 - p. 94 & next page*  
(11) LADY HOGARTH, ST. NECTAN sailed 1700/7 westbound 10 knots.  
(F.O.C.N.A. 1130B/6 to A.I.G. 23.)

/Situation ...



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War Diary.

6.6.1942

Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic.

Situation  
Report  
contd.

Situation 2001B/6.

- (1) W.S.(?)19 (Q) 33° 02' 20° 31' 184° 21.  
 (2) O.S.29, 20° 57' 20° 19' 182° 8½.  
 (3) CARADOC 032° 34' 010° 15' through 28° 01' 13° 30' thence Durban 16. *See previous page 9 p. 134*  
 (F.O.C.N.A. 1346B/6 to A.I.G. 65.)

Damaged  
Italian U/B.

Italian S/M entered Aviles yesterday. Name and extent of damage not yet known. Ambassador putting in note at once.

(N.A. Madrid 1323/6 to Admty.)

My 1323/6 arrival Italian S/M (?at) Aviles reported direct to M. of M. who was at Nice. Orders issued from there not yet known by M. of M. in Madrid, but further information promised as quickly as possible. Ministry says our A/C continually (?flying) over Aviles.

(N.A. Madrid 1324/6 to Admty.)

Following received from N.A. Madrid (as 1323/6)

(D.D.I.C. 2108B/6 to C. in C. Plymouth, C. in C. W.A. H.Q.C.C.)

TRAVELLER.

Keep S. of 035° (?30') during night 9/10/6.

Leave patrol p.m.10th through B. 035° 21' 003° 42' W. at 2230B/10. C. 035° 30' 004° 50' at

0400B/11. D. 035° 59' 005° 10' W. at 0730B to arrive Gibraltar 0830B/11.

(F.O.C.N.A. 1410B/6 to TRAVELLER.)

MIRROR  
Cable  
Repairs.

My 1242/4 ship sailed.

(F.O.C.N.A. 1714B/6 to Admty.) *See previous page*

DOUGLAS.

Expect to arrive R/V in 042° 43' N. 024° 20' W. at 0500Z/8.

(DOUGLAS 1715Z/6 to PELICAN (R) C. in C. W.A., CLARE.)

GIL EANES  
Navicert.

My R.S. Number 190 16/5 to D.N.I. para 3 (d)

Charlottetown Fishing Guild have asked for Navicert for GIL EAN(?ES) who will carry mails and parcels for Charlottetown Fishing Fleet on

Newfoundland banks calling first at New York. This mail was always carried in previous year without difficulty as ship was formerly Naval transport. American Legation has telegraphed Washington suggesting mails be sealed and retained on board at New York without censorship and delivered to Charlottetown ships as in previous years. Recommend M.E.W. be requested to concur to this arrangement and approve grant of Navicert against guarantee given to Guild.

(N.A. Lisbon 1751B/6 to Admty.)

/CARADOC ...



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6.6.1942  
Saturday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic - contd.

CARADOC. Have gearing trouble in starboard engine. Returning to Gibraltar on port engine. My P.C. and S. 033° 10' N. 009° 34' W. 044° 11 knots. (CARADOC 1900B/6 to N.C.S.O. Gibraltar, V.A.C.N.A. (R) Admty., R.A. West Africa, C. in C. S.A.)

See p. 132

A/C report of 2 ships. Inexperienced crew of transit Wellington reports 2 ships of ordinary cargo type, thought to be small, black hulls, at 1100/6 in 045° 28' N. 007° 38' W. course west speed about 6 knots. (F.O.C.N.A. 2146B/6 to Admty., C. in C. Plymouth)

South Atlantic.

WILFORD (Norwegian) "R" Report. Following received begins: RRRR from B L T P 20° 20' S. 36° 47' E., gunned T.O.O. 2358Z/6 ends. (N.O.I.C. Durban 0017Z/6 to C. in C. E.I., C. in C. S.A., C. in C. E.F. D. C. in C. E.F., S.O. Force F. Capt.(S)8, FROBISHER, EMERALD, Admty.)

Raider attack on Shipping. Hospital Ship DORSETSHIRE with 119 survivors from ELYSIA reports 2 similar raiders. Fast Japanese motor ships 4 goal post masts, 2 passenger decks amidships, camouflaged white and grey vertical stripes. Carry (five groups missed). Ships feasible (? somewhere) East from here, my position 027° 20' S. 036° 58' E. DORSETSHIRE proceeding Diego Suarez. Repeat your 2747Z/5. (ABDIEL 0029Z/6 to Commodore i/c Durban, C. in C. S.A., C. in C. E.F., EMERALD.)

My 0029Z/6. From survivor just (? rescued) one ship 15000 tons, one ship 8000 tons. Both may have torpedoes, latter carries small flying boat. Raiders made off S.E. to E. at 1010B/5, speed about 20 knots.

(ABDIEL 0123Z/6 to Cdre. i/c Durban, C. in C. S.A., C. in C. E.F. EMERALD.) See also East Indies. p. 142

N.I.D. Comment. Larger ship may have been one of the new Osk ships of Hokoku Maru class (18,000 tons, 19/22 knots) or the older Argentina Maru class (13,000 tons 17/20 knots) of the same line. Former has an endurance of over 17,000 miles and the latter 10,000. No details of armament are known. The smaller ship was possibly of the Kunikawa class (7000 tons) which are fitted to carry about 8 guns of 6-inch calibre or less. Speed 17/22 knots. Normal endurance at loaded speed 8/10,000 miles but probably fitted with deep tanks for carrying an extra 1,000 tons of fuel. Both types of ship probably carry 1 or 2 float planes. The aircraft recently sighted over Diego Suarez may, therefore, have come from these vessels.



War Diary.

6.6.1942  
Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic - contd.

ORONSAY A.M. 2013/26 and A.M. 2245/30. Possible that  
escort. Vichy authorities may know that Vichy personnel  
are on board ORONSAY, and may attempt inter-  
ception. 2. You should take steps to ensure  
safety of ORONSAY. PRETORIA CASTLE may be used as ocean escort  
to U.K. delay in her return being accepted.  
3. Report your proposals.  
(A.C.N.S.(F) 0139B/6 to R.A.W.A. (R) C. in C. S.A., F.O.C.N.A.)

Water 1. Water requirements for future W.S. Convoys  
Supplies, at Freetown are expected to average 12,000 tons.  
Freetown. 2. Desired that if practicable stay in port  
should not exceed 72 hours.  
3. Request information (re increased facilities  
and development)  
(D.S.T. 0226B/6 to S.S.T.O. Freetown (R) R.A.W.A.  
C. in C. S.A.)

ABDIEL. Return to Harbour to arrive off entrance at  
0400Z/7.  
(N.O.I.C. Durban 0844Z/6 to ABDIEL (R) C. in  
C. S.A. etc.)

W.S.19 W.S.19. E.T.A. Freetown Fairway Buoy 0730Z/11.  
(NELSON 0931Z/6 to F.O.I.C. West Africa (R)  
Admty.) *2 - pp 136 143*

W.S.19 P. W.S.19 P. E.T.A. 20° N. 2100Z/9. S. of A. 14  
knots. E.T.A. Freetown Fairway buoy 1200Z/13.  
(NELSON 0934Z/6 to R.A. West Africa (R) Admty.)

Dispositions. Weekly statement 6/6 area Q.  
Cape to Durban SHROPSHIRE. Cape to K.4 D. \*CANTON.  
Cape area CHESHIRE. Simonstown EXPRESS, VINDICTIVE,  
HECLA, HURSLEY, MAURITIUS, MILFORD, BELVOIR. \*See p 141  
Capetown\*BUDDING ROSE, SOUTHERN PRIDE, SOUTHERN GEM, ATHENE,  
ARCHER, Netherlands HEEMSKERCK. Durban VALIANT, ARROW,  
FRITILLARY, JASMINE, PACHECO, KELANTAN, CORSICA, SONDRRA,  
*see 4/6.5 55* \*HILDASAY, BACHAQUERO. (?Port Elizabeth) KHETI, PHILOMEL,  
\* EMILE BAUDOT, ROYAL ULSTERMAN. Walvis Bay to Cape. BRITTANY,  
BARFOUNT, BARRYMORE.  
(C. in C. S.A. 1040B/6 to C. in C. E.I., F.O.I.C. W. Africa,  
C. in C. E.F., C. in C. A.W.I., F.O.C.N.A.)

*\* 4 Steamers - (R) List - 7/6/54*

*\* 4nd: Capetown 27/5  
(P.R. List)*

/DIOMEDE ...



6.6.1942  
Saturday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic - contd.

DIOMEDE. DIOMEDE released from Task 23 proceeding Clyde U.K. via Freetown Gibraltar. DIOMEDE pass to Alusna, Montevideo, for information and turn in to him all U.S. publication devices and acknowledge this despatch.  
(Navcom, Washington 1405/6 to Opanav (R) Cominch, Admty. etc.)

GEORGE CLYMER, Your 2200/5. Report proposed action when  
ALCANTARA. American ship GEORGE CLYMER is met. Suggest towing towards Pernambuco until rescue tugs can be sent.  
(C. in C. S.A. 1411B/6 to ALCANTARA (R) Admty. etc.) *See next page.*

*/N.T. - H.D. but see 3/6 - p. 60 - (E. India)*  
RAMILLIES. Your 1601/3 ~~not~~ to other addressees. Anticipate minimum depth in entrance to Channel at high water at 1210 G.M.T. Wednesday 10/6 will be 40 feet. This will be confirmed before your arrival. Dredging operations in progress.  
2. If present anticipated draughts of 38.5 feet forward cannot be still further reduced by ships own resources it may be necessary on account of swell to anchor ship in outer anchorage for disembarkation of heavy weights. Consider this, most undesirable on account of enemy submarine now operating and limited anti-submarine protection available here. Diagram (corrupt group) ships bottom has been examined for projections beyond draught mark quoted.  
3. Request you will give consideration to arriving at Durban breakwater half an hour before high water.  
(N.O.I.C. Durban 1503Z/6 to S.O. Force F. (R) Admty., C. in C. S.A., C. in C. E.F.) *should be under E. India*

W.S.19 Q. W.S.19 Q. will be detached at 1200Z/7 in 032° 05' 025° 40' routed through position (U) and as in Admty. 1855B/26/5. S. of A. 19½ knots.  
(NELSON 1549Z/6 to R.A. West Africa, F.O.C.N.A. (R) Admty.) *See pp 135 & 143*

MILFORD M.F.A. has seen President Vargas regarding MILFORD  
repairs. and reports him as saying that Brazilian Govt. will be delighted to give facilities for repair to H.M. Ships and Mr. Phillimore learned from Bank Brazilian that there should not be any difficulty about method of payment.  
(N.A. Rio de Janeiro 1559Z/6 to D.N.I.)



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War Diary.

6.6.1942  
Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic - contd.

ETHIOPIAN. Sailed ETHIOPIAN escorted by ARRAN to Equator through A. 000° 00' 007° 50' E.  
B. 009° 30' S. 010° 40' E. C. 016° 30' 010° 50'.  
D. 027° 35' 014° 30'. E. 034° 30' 017° 35'. E.T.A. Simonstown a.m.20/6. Codes 2405 (18) (19) Ind. (3) ref. position Capetown Z Z 034° 19' S. 018° 00' E.  
(N.O.I.C. Lagos 1605Z/6 to C. in C. S.A. (R) Admty., R.A. West Africa.)

Dispositions. Weekly state 6/6. Freetown: EDINBURGH CASTLE, PHILOCTETES, VELOX, BRIDGEWATER, BOREAS, 4 Corvettes. Freetown Area: WESTON, GORLESTON, TOTLAND, WELLINGTON, 5 Corvettes, CARLISLE, ISAAC SWEERS. Verdes Area: CORINTHIAN, LARGS, 1 Corvette, \*BRADFORD, SCARBOROUGH, SANDWICH, LEITH, FOWEY, (Corrupt Groups).  
(R.A.W.A. 1623Z/6 to Admty. etc.)

*X See 9/6- p. 224.*

*\* Repairing at Gibraltar - (Per 12 List)*

→ GEORGE CLYMER. Your 1713/4. If necessary ALCANTARA is to tow GEORGE CLYMER to Freetown.  
(D.O.D.(F) Approved A.C.N.S.(F) 1647B/6 to C. in C. S.A. (R) T.F.23, R.A. West Africa, ALCANTARA.) *See previous page*

EXCELLER. Following has been made to American ship EXCELLER (Begins) Keep as close to coast as navigation permits between position O and position P. Zig-zagging between position P and position J and from longitude of K plus 005° 00' to destination. 7805 G.M.T.6/6 (ends).  
(C. in C. S.A. 2101B/6 to Dep. C. in C. E.F.)

→ GEORGE CLYMER (British (U.S.) "3" Report. Following has been read:- SSSS De WHPV (unknown W/T) 15° 00' S. 18° 00' W. Torpedoed taking to lifeboats 2056/6, HOPEPEAK.  
(Freetown W/T 2130/6.)

ALCANTARA. My P.C. and S. at 0001Z/7 014° 10' S. 014° 30' W. 260° 16 knots. Fuel remaining (?8 ?58) 5%. Request instructions.  
(ALCANTARA 2300Z/6 to C. in C. S.A. (R) Admty. R.A. West Africa, C.T.F. 23.)



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War Diary.6.6.1942  
Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean.

Situation Report 218. Western Desert. Patrols by night craft continue on somewhat reduced scale. Several unsuccessful attacks by U-Boats on convoys. No certain results from counter attacks by escorts.

2. Aircraft report hits with depth charges on U-Boat at 0045/2 in 31° 56' N. 25° 27' E. and at 0700/2 in 32° 07' N. 25° 33' E. R/C aircraft at 1040/2 sighted two U-Boats together in 32° 37' N. 25° 10' E. one apparently damaged and transferring stores and crew. Naval Albacores attacked small craft in Derna Harbour night 3/4, result uncertain.

3. COCKER sunk, see my 1106/4.

4. Alexandria. JANUS damaged by mine probably acoustic which exploded in Wake at 1724/4. JANUS was in 35 fathoms in 31° 15.5' N. 29° 44' E. steaming 28 knots and was under 20° helm. Repairs estimated to take about 3 weeks.

5. Central Mediterranean. Enemy 6000 ton Merchant ship making for Benghazi escorted by 3 destroyers was attacked in 34° 40' N. 21° 08' E. by T/B Wellingtons during night 3/4 and again in 34° 10' N. 21° 00' E. by T/B Beauforts at dawn. 2 probable hits by Wellingtons and one certain by Beaufort. Later R/C indicates ship was sunk.

6. 27 more Spitfires flown to Malta on 3/6 from EAGLE. (sp: "style")

7. Submarines. TURBULENT has sunk one Navigatori destroyer one 4000 ton merchant ship and two medium sized merchant ships all on shipping route to Benghazi. Also one 500 tons U-Boat on return passage. Details follow. (not com - film)

(C. in C. Med. 0028C/6 to Admty.) *for names see p. 120.*

MAGEO 1. B.A.D. Washington's Meter 166 of 24/5/1942  
APRILE contained a report from Algiers of 22/5, graded  
(Italian) B.2 that on 14/5 CORNELIS II a small tug formerly  
Belgian, VILLE DE TIPAZA and BRESCOU were transferred to Italians.

2. A report has now been received dated 31/5 graded B.2 that VILLE DE TIPAZA and BRESCOU have now been handed over to Italy with 6 months bare form of charter; and that they sailed from Bizerta under Italian flag with Italian crews, renamed MAGEO and APRILE respectively.  
(N.I.D. 20 6.6.42)

Bi-weekly Night 2/3, 2 Wellingtons laid 4 mines off  
Opsum 27. Benghazi.  
(H.Q. R.A.F. M.E. 0910/6.)  
Bi-weekly Opsum 27, part 2. Night 3/4. 3  
Albacores bombed small craft in Derna Harbour, results unobserved  
2 A.S.V. Wellingtons 2 torpedo Wellingtons attacked southbound  
convoy, 1 M/V 6000 tons, 3 destroyers, about 130 miles N.N.W.  
of Derna. 1 possible hit on M/V with torpedo. 2 Beauforts  
despatched to make dawn attack on convoy. 1 located ships and  
hit M/V with torpedo. Convoy left stationary with steam issuing  
from M/V. R/C later reported convoy still stationary and M/V  
listing at stern. 1 A.S.V. Wellington 2 torpedo Wellingtons  
were unable to contact ship. Night 4/5 and R/C of area  
following day reported much wreckage and patches of oil on surface  
with 3 lifeboats 1 burning in vicinity; ship presumed sunk.  
(H.Q. R.A.F. M.E. 0909/6 G.M.T.)

/Ref. ...



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War Diary.

6.6.1942  
Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean. conts.-

Bi-weekly  
Opsum 27  
contd.

Ref Cositrep 385 para 3 (1820/4) Merchant ship now presumed sunk as R/C of area 5/6 reported floating wreckage and oil patches with lifeboats in vicinity.  
(C. in C. M.E. 1105/6.)

COETLOGAN.

Arrival 6th.  
(Barcelona 1230/6 to D.S.T.)

Black Sea.

My 1320C/4 para 2. Confirmed that these submarines are ex Russian which were not completely destroyed. Germans are completing them. 2. Heavy air attacks on Sebastopol continue.  
(N.L.O. Black Sea 1317C/6 to Admty., Adm. Miles.)

Malta Air  
Report.

I. 348, 6/6. CSR. 5th.  
Night 5/6. No alerts. 6th 4 alerts. Dawn 0329 hours, 2 JU.88 approaches Island both destroyed by 7 Spitfires, 2 Spitfires damaged in combat pilots uninjured. 0515, 4 Cant 1007s and large fighter escort target Luqa, no damage, one Re 2001 destroyed, two Re 2001s probably destroyed, two Cant 1007s, 1 ME 109 damaged by 15 Spitfires. 1 Spitfire damaged in combat. Pilot uninjured. 0614, 5 ME 109s, 8 Spitfires up, no interception. 0718, 20 fighters on search, one Re 2001 destroyed, one Re 2001 probably destroyed, 3 Re 2001s 1 ME 109 damaged by 19 Spitfires.  
(H.Q. R.A.F. Malta 1640/6.)  
I.348 6/6. Part 2.  
Night 5/6. 6 D Mk. 11 Wellingtons target Naples Shipping 2206-2317. Harbour and part town covered in smoke screen. Some bombs including 4200 lb. fell centre town west of railway station, others near shipping, numerous fires 3 visible 25 miles. 2 Wellington 8s shipping search and strike Palermo Naples. 1 did not find target and dropped bombs 2350 hrs. on Marettimo, no results seen. 0012 machine gunned coaster 700 tons 206° (corrupt group) 51 miles course 360° (19 or 29°)kts. Second aircraft sighted 2331 2 B/Rs 009° Palermo 44 mls. course 210° 20 kts. Lost contact before attack could be made, returned with bombs.  
(H.Q. R.A.F. Malta 1645/6.)

TRITON  
PAPANICOLIS.

Gr. S/Ms TRITON and PAPANICOLIS sailed 1730C and 1840C/6 and proceeded from searched channel as follows. TRITON through 035° 15' 026° 37' to operate in Aegean east of 024° 30' E. PAPANICOLIS through 035° 05' 023° 23' to operate in Aegean west of 023° 46'.  
(Capt. S.1. 1715C/6 to C. in C. Med. (R) R.A. Alex. etc.)



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War Diary.

6.6.1942  
Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean - contd.

Mine.

Red mine detonated in position 50° 2.15  
Cape Carmel light at 1245C.  
(N.O.I.C. Palestine Ports, 1731C/6 to Admty.)

Enemy  
Units.

My 1945/5 (re 2 merchant ships and destroyer  
sighted) These ships sighted at anchor in  
031° 25' 015° 46' at 1715 today.  
(Capt. S.1 1825C/6 to 1st S.M.F. at Sea.)



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Saturday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

- Enemy Unit. At 1950Z/5 bearing Simonstown 058° (B) Bulawayo 095° (B) Durban 038° (C) Japanese units SINA probably S/M. Approx position 020° S. 039° E.  
(C.O.S. Colombo, 0220Z/6 to E.I., Stn.)
- Force at Colombo. It is essential to clean boilers of 19th Flotilla.  
2. Intend therefore to remain Colombo until 11/6.  
3. Notice for sea destroyers in emergency 8 hours.  
(C. in C. E.F., 0435Z/6 to Admty., (R) D. C. in C. E.F., C. in C. E.I.)
- DORSETSHIRE sinking. Your 1253/1. No indications obtained from R.D.F.  
(D. C. in C. E.F., 0600/6 to Admty., (R) C. in C. E.I.)
- Hunt for Raiders. Make use of all available forces including INDOMITABLE to deal with raiders. Further signal will be made about Catalinas which are being sent.  
(C. in C. E.F., 0933Z/6 to Dep. C. in C. E.F., (R) R.A.3, C. in C. S.A., etc.)  
C. in C. E.F. 0945/6 (circulated as T.O.O. 0933/6.)  
3 Catalina flying boats leave Ceylon night 7/8, arriving Seychelles p.m./8 and continue thence to Kilindini 9/6.  
(C. in C. E.I., 1307Z/6 to Dep. C. in C. E.F., (R) C. in C. E.F., etc.)  
Amended by C. in C. E.I., 1411Z/7, q.v.  
DEVONSHIRE, DRAGON, DANAE are being sailed to guard north end of Mozambique Channel.  
EMERALD ordered towards 029° 30' S. 034° 30' E.  
CANTON from Capetown and CHITRAL from Mauritius R/V in 031° S. 042° E. at 0900Z/8 to guard southern end.  
Air R/C requested from S.A.A.S. from Lindi and Diego Suarez.  
(Dep. C. in C. E.F., 1005Z/6 to Admty., (R) C. in C. E.F., etc.)
- B.M. 20. Convoy B.M. 20 arrived.  
(N.C.S.O. Colombo, 1010Z/6 to Admty.)
- DAUNTLESS. Complete with fuel with despatch and keep steam at one hour's notice. Acknowledge.  
(Dep. C. in C. E.F., 1049Z/6 to DAUNTLESS, (R) R.A. 3.)

/F.O. Ceylon ...



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6.6.1942.  
Saturday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies - Contd.

F.O. Ceylon and Shipping Control. Your 1537/24. Transfer of "Y" organisation, Deputy C. in C. E.F. and shore base Operational staff from Colombo to Kilindini was dictated by situation in April when Ceylon was exposed to seaborne land attack by Japanese against which no adequate defence existed.

2. Situation in this has improved but can by no means be regarded as secure and I do not contemplate a retransfer until a radical improvement has taken place.

3. Control and routing of ocean shipping is an operational function which should be carried out by my deputy and his operational staff who must be in close touch with "Y" organisation and O.I.C. which will shortly be completely established at Kilindini.

4. C. in C. E.I. informs me that apart from the slightly better communication between Bombay and (group missed) (? Ceylon) as compared with Kilindini (group missed) see no reason why the ocean routing should not be carried out from the latter. The "close touch" between him and M.W.T. representative in India referred to in your 1537/24 is confined to cable and wireless communication which can equally well take place between Bombay and Kilindini.

5. For frequency procedure reasons I am most averse to F.O. Ceylon undertaking control and routing of ocean shipping the bulk of which on this station passes close to Kilindini.

6. Unless there are other objections of which I am unaware I propose to (? make) arrangements for transfer to Kilindini observing that these are almost complete.  
(C. in C. E.F., 1050Z/6 to Admty., (R) C. in C. E.I., F.O.C.R.I.N) Concur. (A.C.N.S.(T), 1204B/7.)

GUARDIAN. Return to Kilindini forthwith.  
(Dep. C. in C. E.F., 1336Z/6 to GUARDIAN,  
(R) V.A.2, E.F., N.O.I.C. Kilindini, DAUNTLESS.)

Movements. Colombo arrivals 6/6 0131Z TRUANT, WILLEM VAN DER Zaan, 0730Z VAN GALEN. Departures 1000Z FALMOUTH, SHOREHAM.  
(S.O.I. Colombo, 1341Z/6 to Admty., etc.)

ELYSIA,  
BENGLOE,  
ATLANTIC GULF  
and 1 other  
(sunk 5/6)

ABDIEL reports SS. ELYSIA sunk in 027° 33' S. 037° 05' E. at 0536Z/5 by Japanese raiders consisting of two fast motor vessels 15,000 and 8,000 tons similar types with four Goalpost Masts two passenger decks camouflaged white and grey vertical stripes probably heavily armed and may have torpedoes. Carrying seaplane.

See p. 134

/SS. BENGLOE ...



War Diary.

6.6.1942.  
Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies. contd:-

ELYSIA,  
BENGLOE,  
ATLANTIC GULF  
and 1 other  
(sunk 5/6.)  
(Contd.)

SS. BENGLOE attacked by S/M 011° 19' S. 042° E.  
at 2032Z/5th. SS. ATLANTIC GULF sunk by S/M  
probably 020° S. 038° E. at 0820Z/5. D/F  
indicates latter S/M is Japanese. Another  
vessel name unknown sunk 013° 08' S. 042° 12'  
E. at 0320Z/5.  
(C.O.I.S. Colombo, 1430Z/6 to E.I. Stn., (R)  
Admty.) *See p. 134*

RAMILLIES.

*See p. 136.*

Request  
for G/R  
Aircraft.

Total number of S.A.A.F. aircraft available for  
G/R in Mozambique Channel is 5 Ansons of which  
2 only are serviceable, remainder being held up  
for spares. A concerted attack by 2 Japanese  
raiders and a number of U-Boats started in this  
area yesterday 5/6 and I anticipate that it will increase in  
intensity and the lack of air R/C is serious.

2. Can you spare one Squadron of G/R aircraft urgently to  
operate from Mombasa?  
(Dep. C. in C. E.F., 1612Z/6 to H.Q. M.E., (R) Admty., etc.)

NELSON,  
RODNEY.

Your 0615/3 June. No. NELSON sailed in  
accordance with A.M. 2032/21 para. 5. E.T.A.  
Capetown 1/7.  
2. RODNEY, QUENTIN and PENN E.T.A. Capetown  
26/6.  
(D.O.D.(F), 1711B/6 to C. in C. E.F.)  
*See 10/6 - p. 251.*

K.M. 1.  
DAUNTLESS.

Convoy K.M. 1 arrived. DAUNTLESS has assumed  
(group not read) (corrupt group) S.N.O. Diego  
Suarez.  
(DAUNTLESS, 1730Z/6 to D. C. in C. E.F.,  
(R) C. in C. E.F., etc.)

Convoy  
(M.K.) 1

Diego Suarez arrivals 6/6 CYCLAMEN, M/V BRITISH  
ENERGY. Convoy (M.K.) 1 consisting of KEREN,  
KARANJA, H.T. WINCHESTER CASTLE, H.T. SOBIESKI,  
escorted by DAUNTLESS, ANTHONY.  
(N.O.I.C. Diego Suarez, 2106C/6 to Admty., etc.)



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6.6.1942.  
Saturday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies.

Chilean S/Ms. Your 1245/2. No written reply yet received from Chile and Navy Dept. are now of opinion that they are unlikely to receive one. U.S. N.A. has informed Chilean Naval Authorities that submarines encountered outside territorial waters will be considered hostile and may incur risk of attack. U.S. N.A. has been assured by Chilean Naval Authorities that prompt information regarding prospective movements of Chilean submarines will be furnished him.  
(B.A.D., 0101Z/6 to Admty.)

Transports at U.S. Ports, status. In interests of security it is most desirable that British Troop Transports calling at U.S. Ports should be treated as Naval Auxiliary Vessels. Arrangements.  
(D.S.T., 0112B/6 to S.T.Os. etc.)

U/Bs. By R.D.F. enemy U-Boat transmissions at 0255Z/6 locality 40° N. 71° W. At 0311Z/6 locality 40° N. 70° W.  
(C. in C. U.S. Fleet, 0654/6 to C.T.F. 24, Admty., etc.)

Curacao - Trinidad Convoys. My 1918/20/5. Cancel para. 2 and substitute "Convoy sailing telegram for O.T, T.O. and T Cape Convoy should be sent in 2 parts, as follows, in accordance with C.B. 04024 (41) now in transit to you.  
(A) Part 1 to be sent in highest medium available. (1) Ref. number of convoy. (2) time and date of sailing. (3) time convoy is due at dispersal point. (4) S. of A. (5) Route of convoys. (6) escorts. (9) Secret positions. (14) recoding tables held by ships.  
(B) Part 2, to be treated as confidential but must not be sent in P/L. (1) Ref. number of convoy. (10) names of ships in convoy. (11) cargo. (12) first port of arrival. These items should be set out in 4 columns."  
(C. in C. A.W.I., 1132P/6 to B.R.O. Trinidad, S.B.N.O. Curacao, (R) Admty., N.S.H.Q., S.O.(I) Kingston, Jamaica.)

Escort Groups, Corvettes. Personal for Adm. Nelles and Adm. Little from 1st S.L. Your 1940/4.  
A. Your para. 1. It had been assumed that you had arranged with Connav for Canadian corvettes to be allocated for a section of U.S. Coastal Convoy under terms of A.M. 1736/16/4.  
B. Your para. 2. Confirmed that allocation of R.N. and Allied-manned corvettes is as stated in my 2305B/21/5. Corvettes manned by Allied Navies are allocated as follows and were included in totals given in para. B.

/South ...



War Diary.

6.6.1942.  
Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies.

|            |                                   |                         |
|------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Escort     | South Atlantic.                   | 2 Free French.          |
| Groups,    | Trans-Atlantic Escorts            | 4 Free French.          |
| Corvettes. | based in U.K.                     | 5 Norwegian, 2 Belgian. |
| (Contd.)   | Based in Canada and Newfoundland. | 2 Free French.          |

The 5 R.N. and 2 Free French corvettes lent to R.C.N. were included in total of 78 based Canada and Newfoundland.

C. Your para. 3. Total corvettes in mid-ocean groups is 78 in 11 groups, made up as follows:-

|                                  |                       |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Based in U.K.                    | 37 in 6 groups.       |
| Based in Canada and Newfoundland | 34 plus 7 lent.       |
|                                  | Total 41 in 5 groups. |

D. Your para. 5. Agree that corvettes in each mid-ocean group should be reduced to 6. With average of 2 destroyers in each group, this would give average working strength of 6 vessels per group. Total corvettes for 11 groups would thus be 66 divided as follows:- R.N. 36 in 6 groups, R.C.N. 30 in 5 groups.

E. On foregoing basis, 1 corvette from the B groups and 11 from the A and C groups could be released. In addition, it is presumed that some of the 9 under training will shortly become available.

F. I suggest that at the conference the possibility of starting the H.X. convoy from Boston should be considered, since this would eliminate the B.X. convoys and the extra escorts that these convoys entail.

G. Ref. B.A.D's 1541/30/4.

I presume you agree that with the institution of the Key West and N.W.I. convoy your Halifax - Trinidad tanker convoys will no longer be required.

(1st S.L., 1133B/6 to N.S.H.Q. (R) B.A.D.)

Route signals. My 1502/27/5. Para. 3 (B). Until further orders Commandants of sea frontiers are to be omitted from the addresses of route signals and Vescas.

(C. in C. A.W.I., 1142P/6 to N.C.S.Os., C.S.As., and R.Os. in Jamaica, I Area at Atlantic Ports only. (R) Admty., etc.)

C. in C. U.S. Fleet 1836/4 (N.T. in W.D.) Mention of "British possessions in U.S. strategic areas", in first sentence of Busra para. G (C) indicated to me that B.R.Os in British Ports should send route signals and Vescas in British codes as a permanent and not a temporary arrangement. This was in fact ordered in my 1502/27/5 para. 3 (B). Cominch's request is therefore not understood.

(2) B.R.Os. are being instructed to omit Sea Frontier Commanders from address of Vescas and route signals until further orders.

(C. in C. A.W.I., 1152P/6 to Admty., (R) N.S.H.Q., B.A.D.)

My 1502/27. Para. 3 (B). After "British Routeing Officers" add "and British Reporting Officers".

(C. in C. A.W.I., 1242P/6 to N.C.S.Os., C.S.As., and R.Os. in Jamaica Intelligence Area at Atlantic Ports only, (R) Admty., etc.)



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War Diary.6.6.1942.  
Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies - Contd.U.S. Army  
Transports.Your 2217/4/6. Passage requirements now.  
(Details.)3. Suggest use ALGONQUIN if sufficient  
accommodation available after Trinidad to clear  
all above.

(M.O.C. S.T.D. Jamaica, 1331R/6 to B.A.D.)

SONJA  
MAERSK.Stranded 44° 29' N. 63° 32' W. at 1500Z/5 and  
sank in 15 fathoms at 1930Z/5. Entire crew  
and C.Bs landed Halifax.

(C.O.A.C., 1454Z/6 to Admty., (R) N.S.H.Q.)

Shipping  
Diversions,  
BERGANGER.Truth of M.A.R.I. Sect. 2 para. 12 (G) continues  
to be instanced. Latest case is BERGANGER,  
13 knots, due Boston from Santos 4/6. N.S.H.Q.  
Ottawa 0013Z/2 diverted her from S/M reported  
in vicinity 37.00 N. 64.00 W., vessel estimated

to be then 240 miles from this danger. Actually she was 60 miles past it as evidenced by time and position of being torpedoed by another S/M. To remedy inadequacy of existing arrangements and in an endeavour to overcome U.S. scepticism as to value of diversions it is strongly recommended that Route Signal contain a lettered position on route and in vicinity on either side of Chop line but not in it. Time of passing this position to be stated. Ships more than 2 hours behind or ahead of D/R to break W/T silence and report to all diverting authorities concerned number of hours early or late at this position as soon as this can be determined accurately. Alternatively, if breaking of W/T silence considered inadmissible route signal to contain time as well as date of Chop and N.C.S.Os to give Masters most positive instructions for maintaining this time and also day to day D/R positions by decreasing or widening zigzags.

(N.S.H.Q., 1512Z/6 to Admty., (R) C. in C. A.W.I.)

DURBAN.

Your 2221/5.

(1) Passage from Bermuda to U.K. direct at  
15 knots would involve ship arriving with less  
than 15% of fuel.(2) In view of this strongly recommend programme suggested  
in my 2223/5.

(B.A.D., 1525Z/6 to Admty., (R) C. in C. A.W.I., DURBAN, etc.)

Your 2223/5/6. Concur in proposed programme for DURBAN.

(D.O.D.(F), 1709B/6 to B.A.D.)

NEWSCARRIER.

My 1417Z/3 (1427/3 intended). Cominch C and R  
reports he has no further information of  
NEWSCARRIER (U.S.)

(N.S.H.Q., 1624Z/6 to Admty., F.O.N.F., C.O.A.C.)

/BUXTON ...



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War Diary.

6.6.1942.  
Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies - Contd.

- BUXTON. BUXTON due Azores 1000Z/7 for fuel has been ordered to proceed thence direct to Argentina to join Unit B.6.  
(C. in C. W.A., 1652Z/6 to C.T. 24, (R) Admty., etc.)
- M.A.R.I. Amendments. As M.A.R.I. is now being used as standard routing instructions for all ships in Atlantic and as amendments 21 and 22 apply only to British Managed Shipping recommend they be withdrawn as amendments and made as signals only. Request future amendments to M.A.R.I. be submitted to Cominch C and R for concurrence before promulgation in order to insure mutual understanding.  
(Cominch C and R, 1705/6 to Admty.)  
Reply: Admty 1245Z/8.  
M.A.R.I. Amendment No. 23. (D.T.D., 1743B/6.) See Lion Copy.  
M.A.R.I. Amendment No. 22. (substituted for 1531/5, cancelled.) (D.T.D., 2223B/6) See Lion Copy.
- LILLIAN (sunk 3/6) u 156 Trinidad Schooner LILLIAN sunk 0300Q/3/6 40 miles S. Barbados. 22 landed St. Vincent. Captain, 2 passengers missing, submarine very large, light grey appearance, not new (2 corrupt groups). 1 man states marked U.7.  
(S.O.I. Jamaica, 1739R/6 to Admty., etc.)
- Ice bulletin 6/6. (C.T.F. 24, 1800/6 to Opnav, Cominch, etc.)
- U/B Postions. 6/6 submarine estimates.  
(Cominch, 1813/6, 1919/6, to Admty.)
- Overdue Ship. SMALLAND (BR) (as received) from Neuvitas overdue Antilla since p.m. 30/5.  
(S.O.I. Jamaica, 1822R/6 to Admty., etc.)
- DAVY CROCKETT, escort. Your 1557Z/3. Importance of these parts cannot be overstressed and it is considered that special measures should be taken as regards shipment and escort. Problem would be simplified if gear could be loaded in a fast ship and included in a troop convoy sailing for Middle East. Request you will endeavour to arrange accordingly, but early information is desired if this cannot be done so that arrangements for onward escort from Trinidad can be considered.  
(D.T.D., 1813B/6 to B.A.D.)  
Reply: B.A.D. 2045/9.

/CARIBSTAR ...



147A

SECRET

M E S S A G E

1743B/6th June

OUT

Date: 6/6/42

Addressed: C in C South Atlantic 193  
 C in C America & West Indies 447  
 N.S.H.C. Ottawa 155  
 C.O.A.C. Halifax  
 F.C.C.N.A. 706  
 R.A.W.A.F. 306  
 A.C.I.C. 875  
 S.O.(I) Jamaica.  
 Repeated: CONTIN  
 B.A.D. Washington 86

NAVAL CYBER X

From: Admiralty.

Pass to F.O.I.C's and N.C.S.O's Amendment  
No. 23 to M.A.R.I.

- (1) Section I, paragraph 4. Cancel last sentence and substitute "The last position on the Standard Route should be the same as the last position on the Convoy Route in all cases"
- (2) Section I, paragraph 5(a) and (c), cancel "N.C.S.I.264" and substitute "N.C.S.I.264/41(N.C.S.I.53/42)".
- (3) Section II, paragraph 14 sub. paragraph 2(a) cancel and substitute "All ships from and to U.S.A. and Canadian East Coast Ports, coastwise in conformity with M.A.C.R.I" Sub-paragraph 2(b) cancel and substitute "Fast independently sailed ships from and to U.K. ports, (i) either side of Bermuda, (ii) enter or leave by any of the passages between Cuba and Trinidad, such passages to be traversed in daylight."
- (4) Section II, paragraph 14, sub-paragraph 3(a), cancel and substitute "All ships from and to U.S.A. and Canadian East Coast ports, coastwise in conformity with M.A.C.R.I."
- (5) Section IV, paragraph 1, sub paragraph (ii), cancel reference to Section IV, paragraph 8 and substitute (see Section IV, paragraph 8, sub paragraph 6.)

1743B/6.

for D.T.D.(983)

A.C.N.S.(T)  
 A.C.N.S.(H)  
 A.C.N.S.(F)  
 N.A. 1st S.L.  
 Ops.(3)  
 O.D.(5)  
 D.T.D.(18)  
 D.T.D.(M)  
 D.T.D.(C)  
 D.A./S.W.  
 O.I.C.(2)  
 I.P.(3)  
 W.D.



147B

SECRET

MESSAGE

OUT

2223B/6th June

To: C. in C. America & West Indies, Date 6.6.42.  
 N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 172. 452.  
 C.O.A.C. Halifax.  
 F.O.C.N.A., 712.  
 C. in C. South Atlantic, 197.  
 R.A. West Africa, 310.  
 A.C.I.C. 878  
 S.O.(I) Jamaica.

Repeated: COMNAV.  
 B.A.D. Washington 95.

NAVAL CYpher (X)

From: Admiralty pass to F.O's I.C. and N.C.S.O's.

Cancel My.1531/5 and substitute the following.  
 Amendment No. 22 to M.A.R.I. Insert new section iv  
 para. 7"

1. No ships sailing in the Atlantic are to call at Trinidad or other West Indies ports or any South American port north of and including Bahia for the sole purpose of bunkering.
2. Ships from South American ports outside the Caribbean and South African ports bound for U.K. (a) of 15 knots and over, without an intermediate call for passengers or cargo, are to be routed direct calling at Freetown for bunkers if necessary. (b) of 7½ knots to 14.9 knots inclusive are to be routed to Freetown for homeward convoys.
3. Ships sailing in either direction between North American ports or Bermuda and South Atlantic ports, by ocean route, should bunker, if necessary, at Freetown or a South American port south of Bahia.
4. Ships from U.K. to South Atlantic should bunker if necessary as in (3) above.

2223B/6.

for D.T.D. (983)

4th S.L.  
 V.C.N.S.  
 A.C.N.S. (F) (2)  
 A.C.N.S. (T)  
 N.A. 1st S.L.  
 O.D. (5)  
 Ops (3)  
 D.T.D. (18)  
 D.T.D. (M)  
 D.T.D. (C)  
 D. of S.  
 D. of S.T. (2)  
 I.P. (3)  
 W.D.



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War Diary.6.6.1942.  
Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies - Contd.

CARIBSTAR. Have you any information U.S. CARIBSTAR reported sailed Norfolk, Virginia 15/5 for Trinidad? (S.O.I. Kingston, 1826R/6 to B.R.O. Key West, (R) Admty., etc.)

MATTAWIN, sinking. My 1659/5 re MATTAWIN (N.T. in W.D.) My 1859/6 with list 39 missing follows. (C.O.A.C., 1858Z/6 to Admty., N.S.H.Q.)

U/B. Submarine reported 047° 11' N. 061° 35' W. at 1400Z/6. (C.O.A.C. Halifax, 2005Z/6 to Admty.)

Navigation, Coastal Waters. Your 2010B/5. Coastal lanes are described as the normal tracks followed by ships proceeding coastwise. Ships approaching the coast from seaward should observe this description and also the 5 mile rule when making port. 2. Not intended to insert above explanation in G.I.R.O. (B.A.D., 2027Z/6 to Admty.)

Sub attack and sighting summary. Auxiliary vessel attacked 33.43 N. 77.39 W. 1600Z/6. CITY OF ALMA torpedoed and sunk 23.00 N. 62.30 W. 1410Z/2. DAVID McKELVEY sunk one torpedo 28.30 N. 89.55 W. 0552/14/5. ABGARA U.88 type. COMAYAGUA, possibly U.88 type. SANDAR probably U.45 not U.88 type. PARNAHYBA, sub fired 30 rounds. \*Munger tare ball U.88 type. OCEAN VENUS, four near misses on sub. Patrol craft plane and blimp attack oil slick and oil bubbles 39.50 N. 72.57 W. about 1650Z/5. Sighting reported 1547Z/5 now believed friendly patrol vessel. (C. in C. U.S. Fleet, 2044/6 to Admty. for O.I.C.)\* as received.

MOUNT TAYGETUS. MOUNT TAYGETUS, Greek, due Sydney 2/6 has not arrived. 2002/26 May from C.T.U. No. 24.1.15 refers (Ships of O.N.S.96 reformed after scattering due to gale.) (N.S.H.Q., 2109Z/6 to Admty., etc.)

Ships sunk. Admty. pass to Comcone. Connav serial 6. Following ships previously reported now confirmed sunk: WESTMORELAND, MATTAWIN, BEATRICE, DELFINA, COMAND sunk 0414Z/5, 020° 22' N. 067° 07' W. WEST NOTUS shelled and sunk 1/6 036° 16' N. 069° 08' W. ANNA (Sweden) sunk 3/6 034° 10' N. 068° 22' W. cause unknown 20 survivors apparently entire crew. AEOLUS and BEN JOSEPHINE, 2 American fishing vessels, both sunk by S/M 3/6 approx. 200 miles N.E. of Boston. CITY OF ALMA torpedoed and sunk 1410Z/2 023° 00' N. 062° 30' W. Request information on CITY OF MELBOURNE also MONTENOL and SHAFTESBURY. My 2100/28. (Connav, 2117/6 to Comcone, (R) N.S.H.Q., C.E.S.F., S.O.(I) Kingston, Jamaica.)

/Washops ...



War Diary.6.6.1942.  
Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies - Contd.

Washops 85. Aleutian Islands. Japanese Force consisting of 1 large and 1 small carrier, 2 cruisers and 2 destroyers attacked by army bombers. 1 carrier believed to have flight deck damaged whilst planes were in the air.

Midway Is. 1330Z/5, 8 rounds fired at Midway Is. believed to be from submarine. 1959Z/5, battleships of supporting force in position 264° Midway Is. 125 miles attacked by all available B.17 and dive bombers. 1 direct hit and 1 near miss observed. All Japanese force were observed to be retiring to westward at 12 knots. Summary of enemy casualties, believed to indicate minimum, as a result of 2 days action: 3 probable 4 battleships damaged, 2 aircraft carriers sunk, remaining 2 seriously damaged, 2 cruisers damaged, 2 transports damaged. Aircraft casualties on both sides appear to have been heavy. (J.S.M. Washington, 2211Z/6 to Admty.)

M.A.C.R.I. Sect. 2 para. 4 to M.A.C.R.I. temporarily suspended.  
(Connav, 2215/6 to Various.)

Overdue Ships. Your 1226/5. IMPERIAL (Chile) arrived New York 28/5 from Havana. Re UTACARBON (U.S.) see my 1939/6 to Jamaica and C. in C. A.W.I. only. Ship now reported sailed Honolulu 2/6 for Los Angeles.  
(N.S.H.Q., 2254Z/6 to S.O.I. Jamaica, (R) Admty., etc.)



6.6.1942.

Saturday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Australia and New Zealand.

A/C attack on U/B. My 0829Z/5 (3). Claim consider high probability. Attack made from 400 feet. 6 300 pound demolition (as received) bombs dropped. Debris and large oil patch observed. (A.C.N.B., 0436Z/6 to Admty., etc.)

Movements. Departures Townsville 2320Z 74th for Sydney U.S. Destroyer SELFRIDGE and Netherlands Cruiser TROMP. (A.C.N.B., 1206Z/6 to Admty., etc.)

Suspension of Shipping. Your 1416/5. Request you will arrange for coastal convoy assembly ports to originate a post sailing telegram to be despatched to Admty., as soon as possible after sailing of convoy. 2. Convoy sailing telegram to include following information:- (a) Designation of Convoy. (b) Sailing date. (c) Complete nominal list of merchant ships included together with destinations (D.T.D. 1218B/6 to A.C.N.B.)

IRON CROWN (torpedoed 4/6) My 0729 Z/5, 0829 intended. (1) Confirmed vessel was IRON CROWN. 5 survivors have arrived Sydney in MULERA. IRON CROWN carried a cargo 5,500 tons iron ore. Vessel was struck amidships and sank in 30 seconds. Amend position of sinking 038° 17' S., 149° 44' E. (A.C.N.B., 1246Z/6 to Admty., etc.)

Situation. Serial 135 from C.W.R. IRON CROWN 2nd vessel sunk as result of S/M activity off East Australian Coast. Enemy S/M probably destroyed and another possibly as result of air attack. (2) Enemy air R/C over Buna and Cape Nelson (Papua) Area 4/6. (3) 12 unidentified A/C reported 60 miles S.W. Darwin 5/6. (4) Rabaul raided 1430Z/4 by 3 Fortresses, damage slight. (5) Enemy strength Tulagi now reported 200 troops. (A.C.N.B., 1444Z/6 to Admty., etc.,)

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Submarines reported.

Estimated U/B positions.  
(D.D.I.C. 1351B/6).



War Diary.

7.6.1942.  
Sunday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

M.T.B's and M.G.B's which were despatched to intercept a tanker which it was thought might leave Dunkirk had an engagement last night with enemy N.T.B's and E-boats. One enemy T.B. was torpedoed and M.T.B's 30 and 70 suffered some damage.

British Air Operations.

195 Bomber Command aircraft attacked Emden last night. The raid was considered very successful

North Atlantic.

ARGUS, with <sup>four</sup> fought aircraft for Malta, arrived at Gibraltar today from U.K.

Italian  
S/M  
damaged.

Two Sunderlands of Coastal Command attacked an Italian submarine on the surface at 0712 and 0743 today respectively 15 miles N.E. of Santander. Both aircraft were damaged by the U-boat's fire. About 1000 a S/M entered Santander harbour, damaged by bombs from air attack. The crew were interned; several members who were wounded were taken to hospital. A damaged U-boat was seen later by our aircraft, beached at Santander.

A Wellington attacked a U-boat with machine gun fire 90 miles north of Gijon at 0123 today. No results were seen.



7.6.1942.  
Sunday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT.

South Atlantic.

A ship made a raider distress signal at 0100 G.M.T. today in 10° 20' S. 16° 47' W. (about 300 miles to the southward of Ascension.)

U.S. GEORGE CLYMER was torpedoed <sup>by raider</sup> yesterday in position reported to be 14° 49' S. 18° 30' W. or 15° 15' S. 17° 8' W. and was abandoned and sunk by ALCANTARA whilst derelict. (9/6 - See p. 224)

SS. CHILE (Capetown for the Mersey independently) was torpedoed about 2200 today and sunk 250 miles south of Freetown.

Mediterranean.

25 enemy aircraft attacked Malta at dusk; some damage was caused at Ta Kali Aerodrome.

A Sunderland attacked a U-boat at 1150 today about 90 miles N.E. of Algiers and estimates 2 hits. A Catalina was sent to continue the search.

East Indies.

C. in C. Eastern Fleet considers that the enemy operating in the Mozambique Channel are submarines and not raiders and he does not consider the cruiser patrol at the northernmost end of the Mozambique Channel is desirable. He thinks it unlikely that the raiders will move north of Madagascar.

C. in C.E.F. reported at 1742Z today that if no further evidence of the raiders is received before dark tomorrow he intends to act on the supposition that they have left Mozambique Channel and he details his proposed dispositions on the assumption that the enemy might either go north outside Madagascar to attack our communications between Mombasa and Gardafui or make an attack on shipping concentrations

/near.....



War Diary.

7.6.1942.  
Sunday.

SITUATION REPORT.

East Indies-Contd.

near Durban: in these dispositions additional ships employed will be DAUNTLESS, INDOMITABLE, and CALEDON. The Catalinas are to patrol between the Seychelles and Farquhar Is. on 10/6 and 11/6.

China.

Reconnaissance today showed the Japanese forces which attacked Midway Island to be about 850 miles west of Midway.

America and West Indies.

U-boat off  
Vancouver.

U.S. COAST TRADER was sunk in 48° 15' N. 125° 40' W. (about 30 miles S.W. of Vancouver Island) this afternoon, it is believed by internal explosion.

Australia.

Sydney  
shelled.

A submarine shelled Sydney N.S.W. at 1415Z today and Newcastle was shelled, probably by a second submarine at 1625Z. Unidentified aircraft were over Sydney at 1432Z and over Newcastle at 1500Z today. (page 206)



War Diary.

7.6.1942.  
Sunday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Movements.

*LIZARD, HD  
23/9/47*

RUBIS. My 1011/2. From position 047° 46' N. 007° 50' W. proceed to R/V in 180° Lyness 10 miles on 13/6 as arranged Capt. (S) 5.  
(B) H.Q.C.C. is requested to arrange submerged bombing restrictions as follows.  
(C) My 1053/31/5 para. 5 is not required after 1200/9.  
(F.O.S., 1227B/7 to RUBIS.)

LEOPARD. Your 1510B/5. As it is not possible to arrange A/S exercises for LEOPARD for the whole of each day she is there, I consider it essential for LEOPARD to remain at Merville until 13/6 if she is to obtain adequate practice.  
(Capt. D. Greenock, 1921B/7 to F.N.F.L. London.)

TORBAY, UNBEATEN. E.T.A. 0430 position (c) Western Channel Q.Z.S. 239 at speed of advance ordered in Capt. (S) 5's 1015/6. UNBEATEN, KINGSTON JACINTON in company.  
(TORBAY, 2029B/7 to C. in C. Portsmouth.)

*See 4/16 - p. 74*

Operations.

|                                   |  |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| Engagement with E-Boats and T.Bs. | 2 destroyers 225° in 51° 25' N. 3° 4' E.<br>(M.T.B. 30, 0047/7.) |
| One Enemy T.B. damaged            | Am engaging enemy E-Boats.<br>(M.T.B. 30, 0050/7.)               |
| M.T.Bs 30 and 70 damaged.         | Retiring north-westward.<br>(M.T.B. 30, 0100/7.)                 |
|                                   | Preliminary report of coastal force activity on night 6/7.       |

The arrival of 2 "T" class T.Bs at Dunkirk indicated that the tanker "T.7", previously reported there, might move eastward during the night.  
All available M.T.B. supported by M.G.Bs were despatched to the following positions: M.T.Bs 30, 70 to 51° 27' N. 03° 04' E.  
M.T.Bs 72, 241 to 51° 37' N. 03° 15' E.  
M.G.Bs 74, 58, 61, 60 to 51° 35' N. 03° 00' E.  
Units arrived in position about 0015/7 and at 0047/7 approx.  
M.T.B. 30, Sub. Lt. G.W. Elton R.N.V.R. with S.O. 4th M.T.B. Flotilla on board, sighted 2 "T" class T.Bs in 51° 26' N. 03° 02' E. The enemy opened fired and M.T.Bs attacked, M.T.B. 30 firing 2 torpedoes which apparently missed, and M.T.B. 70 also fired 2 the second of which was seen to hit one T.B. amidships. The explosion of this torpedo was observed by M.T.B. 30 and heard by ear and hydrophone by M.G.B. 74. M.T.Bs 30 and 70 withdrew under very heavy fire from T.Bs and various units of E-Boats during which time the Captain of M.T.B. 30 was killed and her Coxswain wounded (BEEHIVE's 0529/7 to Admty.) and both boats suffered some damage.

/At ...



War Diary.7.6.1942.  
Sunday.HOME COMMANDS.Operations.

Engagement with E-Boats and T.Bs. One Enemy T.B. damaged. M.T.Bs 30 and 70 damaged. (Contd.)

At 0136/7 approx. in 51° 40' N. 03° 15' E. M.T.Bs 72 and 241 sighted what appeared to be the tanker but turned out to be 2 armed barges. M.T.B. 241 fired 1 torpedo which ran between the barges, but M.T.Bs were attacked by E-Boats and lost touch. M.G.Bs sighted both actions and closed but failed to make any contact. (C. in C. Nore, 1336B/7 and 1753B/7.)

Offensive Patrols.

Arrivals M.T.Bs 241, 72, 70, and M.G.Bs 74, 60, 61, 58. (F.O.I.C. Harwich, 0635B/7.)

Interception of E-Boats. Firing by Enemy and Own Coastal Batteries.

At 2258/6 M.T.Bs 218, 221, 38 and M.G.Bs 324, 328, 330 were despatched to intercept a track of a number of vessels plotted by R.D.F. from a position 6 miles N.W. of Dieppe at 2130 steering north-easterly. The striking force was recalled at 2332 when it became evident that the plot was of an electric storm. Shortly after the boats had turned and were in mid-channel between Gris Nez and Dungeness the M.T.Bs engines must have been heard as enemy coastal batteries fired a number of star-shell accurate for line but several miles short. At 0035/7 R.D.F. detected three or four small vessels ten miles west of Boulogne which proceeded at 35 knots reducing to 15 knots while rounding number ten buoy at 0105 then retiring on a southerly course at high speed. Presumably minelaying E-Boats. The plot faded 18 miles west of Boulogne at 0200 when apparently turning east. M.G.Bs 324, 328, 330 left harbour at 0058 with orders to intercept. The Senior Officer appreciated that his inferior speed would only permit interception off Boulogne. He shaped course accordingly and lay about 2 miles off Boulogne between 0230 and 0330 but without sighting any enemy craft. He was not apparently detected from the enemy coast due no doubt largely to his silent engines. The two M.Ls on Dungeness patrol were unfortunately at the south westerly end of the patrol and had not the speed to intercept the enemy. Coastal artillery fired 21 rounds from Lydden Spout and Dungeness batteries between 0100 and 0120. (V.A. Dover, 0950B/7.)

Denmark Straits Patrol.

CUMBERLAND leave Hvalfjord as necessary to R/V with TUSCALOOSA in 065° 30' N. 024° 40' W. at 0500Z/9 and relieve TUSCALOOSA on patrol "White". On relief TUSCALOOSA returns to Hvalfjord. (RENOWN, 1210B/7.)

Iceland - Faroes Passage.

Situation 2000 tonight. KENT on patrol South Iceland. (A.C.O.S., 1556/7.)



War Diary.7.6.1942.  
Sunday.HOME COMMANDS.Exercises.

RORQUAL. RORQUAL will be exercising in Area C off Plymouth a.m. and p.m. June 8th. (C. in C. Plymouth 1126B/7.)

British Air Activity.

Survivors Visit and removal of six wounded by Catalina A/C at Gron Mark 1, P/210 at 1900/6. Details. Fiord, (R.A.F. Sullom Voe 1030/7 to 18 Group.) Spitzbergen. See Lion Copy.

North Russian Air Activity. Following summary of Soviet Air Force activities in protection of P.Q.16 (17) from 26/5 to 2/6 inclusive has been received from D.C.M.S. (1) Total number sorties 2028. Of these 193 were attacks on aerodromes. Remainder were reconnaissance, protection of convoy, A/S patrols, escorts for bombers, and defence of Murmansk. (2) Total numbers bombs, varying from 250 kilogram H.E. to 10 Kilogram "splintering", dropped on aerodromes were Luostrari 294, Kirkenes 111, Anak 523 (majority 10 K.G. splintering), Tromso 12, Hammerfest 36. (3) Enemy lost 55 A/C. Soviet losses 23 and 4 damaged. (30 Mission 1127/7 to Admty.)

Torpedo A/C Base in North Russia. Your 2329B/6. Is this project to be considered Most Secret or are Russians to be consulted. (Ad. Miles 1204C/7 to Admty.) Passed to H.Q.C.C. and Air Ministry for information 9/6.

Bombing Operations. On night 6/7, 195 A/C bombed Emden (H.Q.B.C. 1200/7.)

Liberator A/C for Middle East. A.X. 125, 7/6. As many as can possibly be made serviceable of the five Liberator 11s on loan to Coastal Command are to proceed immediately to Middle East for operations. Complete crews are to be provided by Coastal Command. These aircraft are to be ready to leave on 9/6 and will be despatched at the first opportunity under arrangements to be concerted between Coastal Command and 44 Group. Six Lancasters are to be loaned to Coastal Command to replace the Liberators. Anticipated period of loan of Lancasters approx. three weeks. (Air Ministry 1601/7.)

W.S.19Z. My 2316B/6. Cancel second Liberator. Expect air escort by Catalina from 2200B/7. (C. in C. W.A. 1645B/7 to S.O. Force T.)



# MOST SECRET

156A

MOST SECRET

MESSAGE

1030/7th June IN

From: R.A.F. Sullom Voe A.

Date 7.6.42.

Recd: 1525

Interservice (Gen X) by T/P

Addressed: H.Q. 18 Group repeated O.I.C. Admiralty H.Q.C.C.

IMMEDIATE

1. SUL/01/7/6.
2. By telephone
3. Catalina Mark 1 P/210
4. Load carried - supplies Capt. in F/L Healy navigator P/O Schofield. (0721/6/6)

B. Special Recce. 0721/7/6 airborne Sullom Voe  
0731 set course for KKPT Linne 0920 in position ZZNY  
0117 sighted floating mine 1011 in position QKZG  
0940 sighted floating mine. 1121 in position KQBR  
0117 sighted enemy aircraft believed to be Heinkel 116.  
Enemy A/C on course 290 degs 10 miles distant. Heinkel  
closed to 1400 yards astern and P/210 took evasive  
action and climbed to cloud. 1151 in position QQAN  
4801 sighted floating mines QUPP made landfall by S.E.  
at 28 miles bearing 355 degs and/c for Kapp Linne.  
1753 arrived Kapp Linne and altered course coastwise  
for Grond Fjord. Found entrance to ice Fjord fog-  
bound. Having gone so far Captain decided to risk entry.  
and after passing through about one mile of fog, found  
clear patch off Grond Fjord. Waited at least ten  
minutes for heavy snow storm to clear and sighted Grond  
Fjord. 1805 commenced establishing contact with  
survivors by Aldis 1820 dropped message giving details  
of intended operations. Dropping of supplies and nature  
thereof-intention of landing reparation of six wounded  
required.

1822 dropped 20 Ross rifles, 2500 rounds  
point 303 and 500 rounds point 45 ammunition.  
1825 commenced trial approach to find ice-clear  
patch for landing. 1832 waterborne Grond Fjord.  
1852 anchored. 1855 launched collapsable dinghy  
and Captain with Sergeant Thomas went ashore taking  
aldis lamp and accumulator, very pistol and cartridges,  
stretcher and Lewis gun with stand, magazines and spares.  
1900 landed Grond Fjord and met by Norwegian C.99  
Lund, Lt. Comm. Glen, Major Watman and several others.  
Received written report from Lt. Comm. Glenn and  
despatch for Norwegian High Command for Norwegian C.O.  
which are being taken to H.Q. 18 Group by the A.O.C.  
The Captain also received telegrams of personal  
messages to be sent to survivors relations. Meanwhile,  
the six wounded were taken aboard in the survivors'

rowing boat/.....



rowing boat. Medical supplies, a two gallon jar of rum, tobacco and cigarettes were sent ashore with this boat.

2000 Captain re-embarked. 2010 anchor weighed  
2021 airborne Grand Fjord. 2027 S/C from Kapp Linne  
for base 0645/8/6 made landfall north Unst.  
0705 Waterborne Sullom Voe S.E. carried and used.H.

1. 73 degs N 14 degs E.
2. 2027.
3. 100 yards
4. 10/10ths stratus at 300 feet.
5. 270 degs/10 ts,
6. Smooth UUM fog
8. Low stratus cloud and extensive fog over the area of patrol. Winds generally light.

1030/7.

1st Lord.

1st S.L. (2)

5th S.L.

V.C.N.S.

A.C.N.S. (H)

A.C.N.S. (T)

Ad. Blake.

N.A. 1st S.L.

D.C.D. (H) (2)

D.C. (2)

D.D.I.C. (2)

D.N.I. (4)

D.S.D.9.

W.D.

D of P (2)

D.N.M.S.

E.P.S. (2) and for Ad. Hamilton

Hd. of M. (20) (for W.C.O. A.M. & W.O.)

I.P. (2)

D.N.A.D.

C.C.L.S.

D.M.S.

D.D.O.D. (M)

W.D.



War Diary.7.6.1942.  
Sunday.HOME COMMANDS.Enemy Air Activity.

Poole  
SONA sunk  
by D.A. bomb  
dropped 4/6.

Accommodation ship SONA now a total loss. D.A. bomb detonated at 0052/7. Vessel's back broken. Wreckage litters quay. Extensive damage to adjacent buildings including Naval Store. Quay road and railway have sunk several inches. Water mains burst. No casualties or apparent damage to FLORINDA. (N.O.I.C. Poole 0638/7.)

Thames  
Estuary.

Between 0050 and 0200/7 there was considerable air activity over the Estuary. Some 28 hostile A/C are thought to have been operating but only a very few came westward of

the Oaze.

At 0055 a mass of white flares fell in the water in the vicinity of the Red Sand.

Between 0110 and 0145 some ten plots were obtained from hostile A/C in the Edinburgh Channels area but planes were high and there was no evidence of minelaying either here or in other patrolled areas.

At 0120 an aircraft flying very low and with a failing engine was heard flying to the north eastward near B.4 buoy. It had lost height rapidly after having been previously heard near The Girdler.

The night was fine but much haze and poor surface visibility. (S.O. T.L.D.F. 1607/7.)

Torquay  
bombed.

At 1845/7 four ME.109 Fs attacked Torquay. Weather clear. Four high explosive bombs dropped. Three on shore and one in Harbour, also machine gun fire. Several houses damaged 24 casualties, four serious. No Naval or Military damage. Fire was opened by Lewis gun at Torquay, and by Bofors guns at Brixham. (N.O.I.C. Dartmouth 2306/7.)

Shetlands  
R/C.

At 1950B/7 enemy A/C probably Ju.88 flew low over centre of Bressay from N.E. and at 50 feet out through the South entrance to Lerwick harbour in the direction of N.O. Ness. (N.O.I.C. Lerwick 2323B/7.)

Mining.

Harwich.

3 magnetic mines exploded by Sweepers at 1105/7, 1006/7, and 1245/7 respectively. Details. (F.O.I.C. Harwich, 2156B/7.)



War Diary.7.6.1942.  
Sunday.HOME COMMANDS.Enemy Intelligence.

German Rubber Situation. Renewed German offers to Sweden of Buna rubber are stated authoritatively to be largely due to easing of the German supply situation owing to the arrival in Germany of 20,000 tons of natural rubber from the Far East round Africa to Portugal and Bordeaux. From Bordeaux some rubber routed overland to Germany and some re-shipped in small boats along the coast. At least one shipment succeeded in getting through to Hamburg direct from the Far East. Germans are now increasing the percentage of real rubber in Buna tyres from 5 to 17. The Germans state they can assure the Swedes of regular moderate supplies of Buna rubber because German production exceeds consumption of tyre factories thus confirming the bottle-neck previously reported. This is probably owing to lack of textile fabric. The Swedes expect the Germans to demand quid pro quo. (Stockholm, 2130/7 to Min. of E.Warfare.)

U-Boats.

U-Boat reported. Am over enemy S/M in 45° 20' N. 6° 37' W. S/M was sighted on surface and observed to submerge. When first sighted was on course 030°, 15 knots. (A/C B. Sqdn., 0126/7.)

Enemy submarine sighted on surface and then observed to submerge course 090° speed 8 knots. (A/C, 0328/7 to 19 Group.)

Am over enemy submarine in 45° 5' N. 6° 30' W. (A/C P. Sqdn., 0345/7 to 19 Group.)

U-Boat not attacked. Am returning to base. (A/C, 0440/7 to 19 Group.)

Details of sighting. (Chivenor, 1045/7 to 19 Group.)  
See Lion Copy.

W.S. 19Z. (KENYA, LIVERPOOL) One outward and one inward bound U/B may be in your vicinity today. (D.D.I.C., 0955B/7 to Escorts W.S. 19Z.)

U-Boats attacked. At 0123 in DVBK 2628 (undecipherable) faint SE contact 11 miles. Started homing on contact 7½ miles 10° to starboard. A/C at 2,500 ft. on Co. 210°, sighted vivid phosphorescent light first thought to S/L beam. A/C approached from astern at 500 ft., switched on Leigh/E, 1 mile away saw U-Boat fully surfaced 60° from heading on starboard bow, distant 400 yards, long - type, approx. 1000 T. light grey colour, Sp. 15 knots. A/C passed ahead of bow at 200 ft., banked to starboard to make second run. Rear-gunner fired 200 rounds, result not seen.

/U-Boat ...



U  
158A

M E S S A G E

1045/7th June.

SECRET.

IN.

From Chivenor.

Date 7.6.42.  
Time 1940

P/L BY T/P.

Addressed 19 Group. Repeated H.Q.C.C. Admiralty. (O.I.C.)  
St. Eval.

Form Orange.

- (A) 1. CHL/05/7/6.  
 0221 MFBI. "Attack enemy submarine which was in position CVBK 3821 at 0126 - course 030 - speed 15 knots - T.O.O. 0200"  
 0233 MFB2. "My 0200 Position of enemy U-Boat CVBK 2023 - T.O.O. 0225."  
 0235 MFB3. "Keep look-out for aircraft possible crashed in Irish Sea area - T.O.O. 0200."  
 0255 CVWY 0557 altered course to make for reported position of U-Boat.  
 0315 Astro fix in position LGTC 5858.  
 0328 CVBK 0430 - S/E contact 7 1/2 miles 20 degs. on starboard bow as A/C was on Co. 071 degs. (T) at 2,000 feet home and switched on Leigh equipment at 1 mile distance homing descended to indicated height of 450 feet, but failed to pick up U-B. because indicated altimeter height (450 feet) was in excess of actual height resulting in beam not being trained accurately. U-Boat was finally illuminated 20 degs. to port of A/C on Co. 090 degs. (T) speed approx. 12 knots when A/C was flying at 200 ft. (estimated actual height) and at range of about 1/4 mile. This was too late for A/C to attack. U-Boat was seen to be diving and deck was just awash as A/C passed U-Boat. A/C turned to starboard switching on beam aerials then turned to port but got no contact and having turned on homing aerials proceeded on reciprocal of original search track. No further S.E. contact. U-Boat was sighted visually submerged to conning tower depth but too late to turn on Leigh equipment or for pilot to attack pilot not having sighted conning tower himself. Comprehensive search using both beam and homing aerials carried out for further 1/4 hour but without result. Captain considered P.L.E.E. reached and S/C for base. U-Boat estimated to be about 500 tons. Long conning tower with pronounced step deck painted black tank bulges appeared white about 4 men believed seen in conning tower.  
 0348 CVBK 0530 S/C to resume patrol.  
 0351 MTB1. "Am over enemy S/M in position CVBK 0530 - T.O.O. 0345.  
 0430 FNTC 2247 resume patrol.  
 0443 MTB2 "Enemy S/M previously reported was sighted on surface and observed to submerge - Co. 090 degs. - speed 8 knots. T.O.O. 0328."  
 0451 MTB3 "U-Boat not attacked, Am returning to base. T.O.O. 0440."

1045/7

Advance copies sent Ops. O.D. D. A/S W.

- 1st Lord.
- 1st S.L.
- 4th S.L.
- 5th S.L.
- V.C.N.S.
- A.C.N.S.(H)
- A.C.N.S.(T)
- A.C.N.S.(W)
- N.A. 1st S.L.
- Capt. Pim.
- Ops. (3)

- O.D. (5)
- D.N.I. (4)
- D.T.D. (4)
- D.T.D. (M)
- D.T.D. (C)
- O.I.C. (4)
- D. of P. (3)
- I.P. (3)
- W.D.
- D. A/S W. (2)

- M. (2)
- U.S.N. (3)
- D.P.D.
- D.S.D. (2)
- D.N.A.D.
- Ad. Osborne.
- Ad. Blake.
- A.H.Q.H.F.



War Diary.7.6.1942.  
Sunday.HOME COMMANDS.U-Boats.

U-Boats  
attacked.  
(Contd.)

U-Boat then seen to be diving at shallow angle disappearing rapidly owing to speed. Wisps of low cloud obscured early sighting in Leigh/E. A/C then turned 180° to port. Approached position from ahead about 120 secs. after first sighting in Leigh/E, but nothing further was seen. (Chivenor, 1215/7 to 19 Group.)

Whitley aircraft will attack damaged Italian U-Boat on a line 090° from 043° 35', 002° 42'.

Attack will not take place after 2300 B. Submerged bombing restrictions in area 56 East of 004° W. remains in force. (F.O.S., 1752B/7 to RUBIS.)

Navigational.

Poole  
(Bombed 4/6)

N.O.I.C. Poole's 0530/4. Port of Poole will be opened as from 0600/8. (C. in C. Portsmouth, 2335B/7.)

Casualties and Defects.

Convoy  
O.S. 30.  
HISTORIAN  
and PORT  
AUCKLAND  
Collision.

HISTORIAN and PORT AUCKLAND in collision at 0050Z/7 in 046° N. 019° 25' W. CROCUS standing by reported PORT AUCKLAND badly holed number 2 holds, making for nearest port, water gaining. HISTORIAN returning Home Port, has bad leak in forward tank. Request instructions. (PHILANTE, 0307Z/7 to C. in C. W.A.)

SS. PORT AUCKLAND and SS. HISTORIAN collided in O.S. 30 last night. Both damaged and to U.K. Both capable of ten knots. CROCUS is screening. My P.C.S. at 0915/7 G.M.T. 045° 35' N. 019° 05' W., 000°, ten knots. 155° request route and instructions Freetown 165. (CROCUS, 0805N/7 to C. in C. W.A.)

WOLVERINE is to be sailed as quickly as possible at best speed consistent with weather conditions toward 051° 05' N. 013° 59' W. to meet HISTORIAN returning to U.K. owing to collision damage. (C. in C. W.A., 1046B/7 to N.O.I.C. Londonderry.)

Your 0805N/7. Steer for 51° 05' N. 13° 59' W. Relief escort is being sent. (C. in C. W.A., 1328B/7 to CROCUS.)

Your 1330N/7. Steer for 180° Tuskar Rock 10 miles. (C. in C. W.A., 2335B/7 to CROCUS.)

My 1046/7. CROCUS is escorting HISTORIAN and PORT AUCKLAND, P.C.S. 47° 01' N. 19° 46' W., 043°, 10 knots at 1500, altering course for 180° Tuskar Rock 10 miles at about 0100/8. Proceed to meet these vessels and escort them through Q.Z.F. 18. (C. in C. W.A., 2345B/7 to WOLVERINE.)

/GOLDEN ...



War Diary.7.6.1942.  
Sunday.HOME COMMANDS.Casualties and Defects. - Contd.GOLDEN  
EMBLEM.

My 2020/6. <sup>14.5.42 W.D.</sup> GOLDEN EMBLEM returned 0325 with defects.  
(A.C.O.S., 0901B/7 to N.O.I.C. Faroes.)

FLEETWOOD.

Your 1808/6. FLEETWOOD can be taken in hand at Liverpool forthwith.  
(F.O.I.C. Liverpool, 1048B/7 to Admty.)

BRIGHTON.

My 2316/26/5. BRIGHTON trials show that great improvement has been effected in lubricating system and ship is now fit and proceeding for service.  
(F.O.I.C. Glasgow, 1624B/7.)

LA MALOUINE.

On arrival at Sheerness after completion of refit following omissions in LA MALOUINE have been discovered. Details.

2. These items are being taken in hand at Sheerness and it is hoped ship will be ready to sail for destination a.m. 12th.  
(C. in C. Nore, 2224B/7.)

Shipping and Convoys.

O.G. Convoys.

Your 1902B/6. Concur that 18 days should be considered the normal interval but suggest that date of sailing of O.G. convoys could be advanced or delayed according to the progress of the H.G. Convoy.  
(C. in C. W.A., 1130B/7 to Admty.)

D.S. 28.  
S.D. 27.

D.S. 28 composed of SS. LEINSTER speed 16 knots carrying 900 personnel for Iceland (C) will be ready to leave Clyde 11/6. She will return as S.D. 27.  
(D.O.D. (H.), 1340B/7.)

Russian  
Convoys.

Your 0914B/6, para. 3. Attached to 126 Base Unit are one surgeon and six medical orderlies including dispenser. Equipment for Field Hospital of 18 beds. Limited number drugs and medical stores. Application has been made for further stock. No accommodation at present but anticipate no difficulty in obtaining this if required. Para. 4. Concur. Para. 5, rather small coal supply available Archangel and Whaotovsk. Suggest all M/Vs have extra bunkers available for bunkering alongside and creating a reserve, some cargo space being allotted if necessary for the purpose. Para. 6, arrangements made.  
(S.B.N.O. Archangel, 1530B/7.)

CARLTON.

Your 1935B/6. This will depend on number of ships ordered to be sailed in P.Q.17. All ships in A.M. 1909B/2 have preference over CARLTON.  
(D.T.D., 1645B/7 to A.C.I.C.)



War Diary.7.6.1942.  
Sunday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic.A/C attack  
on U/B.

(1) At 0405B/7 Sunderland on A/S patrol sighted and attacked U-boat on surface in 037° 25' N., 002° 57' E., course 045° 12 knots estimated no hits. A/C returned to base, engine damaged 0420, E.T.A. 0730.

(11) 2nd Sunderland has been sent to continue search.

(Gib. W/T 0405/7, 0415/7, A/C 7XM Duty VO420/7 F.O.C.N.A., 0928B/7 to Admty. (R) C. in C. Med., V.A. Malta, EAGLE).

U/B sighted  
by A/C.

The following has been received. In position 37° 56' N., 4° 18' E., on surface observed to dive course 080° 4 knots.

(A/C 7XMM 1150/7).

Following has been read. Enemy S/M has submerged have lost touch last seen in 37° 52' N., 4° 05' E.

(A/C 7XMM 1400/7).

P.43  
U/B.

P.43 is 50 miles astern station. Enemy S/M in 037° 25', 002° 57' E., at 0405B course 045° 12 knots.

(F.O.C.N.A., 0840B/7 to 8th S/M Flotilla).

*P 165.*Cobalt at  
Nemours.

American grade A.1. 500 metric tons cobalt shipping by Epinat Group from Casablanca now at Nemours and expected to be shipped within few days for probable enemy destination. (Greenleaves Tangier, 1001/7 to Admty, for D.N.I. S.O.(I) Gibraltar).

JOAO PESSOA  
(German).

Reported struck a reef and sank 2 miles from San Sebastian on 7/6. (D.O.R., 1025).

Axis  
Shipping  
Bilbao.

Your 1528B/28 (Request report re position to date) R.O. Bilbao reports position to date as follows:- Man named Erhardt asked Enskalduna Shipbuilding Yard to overhaul 4 Italian ships. Question of re-inforced hull and provision of gun platform discussed. Castellanos of Enskalduna wrote port Captain. Latter asked him call and told him it was Spain's duty to help Germans advising him go ahead with work. Castellanos asked confirm in writing. Port Captain refused but promised his support in case difficulty. Ships concerned are: FIDELITAS, AFRICANA, MONBALDO, XXIV MAGGIO. (N.A. Madrid, 1117/7 to Admty).

N.I.D. Comment. Consul Bilbao reported 23/4/42 reliability A.I. that 4 Italian ships mentioned in last para. were coming to Bilbao for overhaul and alteration, including gun platform. Vessels are carrying iron ore to Bordeaux. Tonnage ranges from 5372 to 6214 gross.



War Diary.

7.6.1942.  
Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic. - Contd.

- WILD SWAN, BEAGLE. Propose to sail WILD SWAN with H.G.84 to prudent limit of endurance then to U.K. (ii) Request instructions for BEAGLE. (F.O.C.N.A., 1252B/7 to Admty).
  
- Damaged Italian U/B. Spanish experts given Italian S/M at Aviles 40 hours to execute repairs and leave. This expired 2400 hours 6/6. (B.N.A. Madrid, 1334/7 to Admty). (N.I.D. Comment. Passed to H.Q.C.C., S.O.(I) Plymouth).
  
- Movements. Arrival ARGUS, WILD SWAN, BEAGLE. (F.O.C.N.A., 1822B/7 to Admty). Arrival CARADOC with defects. (F.O.C.N.A., 1834B/7 to R.A. West Africa, (R) Admty. C. in C. S.A. E.F.) SCOTTISH returned with defects. (F.O.C.N.A., 2215B/7 to Admty. (R) ALOUETTE, IMPERIALIST.)
  
- French Shipping. Gibraltar 1205 Armed Tug TOURTERELLE, Tug PELICAN, Towing Barge westbound. (S.O.(I) Gibraltar, 1857B/7 to Admty).
  
- ARCHER. ARCHER sailed from Capetown 1400Z/7 direct for U.K. routed through J. 31° N., (?S. intended) 5° E., K. 19° S., 4° W. L. 8° S., 15° W. M. 17° N., 27° W., N. 37° N., 23° W. O. 54° N., 15° W. P. 56° N., 10° W., thence as ordered by C. in C. W.A.
  2. S. of A 13 knots to 10° S., thence 12 knots.
  3. Shifts (?to) W/T organisation for area P. at 1900Z/13 E.T.A. position P. 0600Z/30.
  4. C. in C. W.A. is requested to order onward route from position P.
  5. In view of inability to distil ship may require to call at Freetown for water.
 (C. in C. S.A., 2003B/7 to Admty. R.A.W.A., C. in C. W.A.) *See also p. 164*
  
- Submerged Bombing restrictions. Ops. 229 7/6. Serial G. 109 Institute submerged bombing restrictions from 2000/8 until 0800/10 within 20 miles either side of line joining 046° 36' N., 006° W., and 045° 18' N., 004° W. (H.Q.C.C., 2120B/7 to R.A.F. Gibraltar (R) F.O.C.N.A.)
  
- JONQUIL SPIREA. My 2348B/5 for 0700B/8 read 0900B/8 SPIREA request Dockyard berth dynamo seized. (JONQUIL, 2219B/7 to VULCAN (R) Capt. (D) 13).



War Diary.

7.6.1942.  
Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic.

WILFORD (Norwegian) "R" Report. Following received. RRRR from WILFORD 20° 20' S., 36° 47' E., gunned 2358Z/6 (Walvis W/T) (Simonstown, 0002 G.M.T./7) (Slankop W/T, 0224/7).

DIOMEDE. This is a paraphrase of C.T.F. 23 despatch 1405/6. DIOMEDE released from T.F.23 proceed Clyde U.K. Via Freetown Gibraltar, imperative DIOMEDE pass to Alusna Montevideo for information and turn in to him all U.S. publication devices and acknowledge this despatch (C.T.23., 0034Z/7 to DIOMEDE (R) Cominch B.A.D., Opanav, Admty. R.A.W.A., Alusna Montevideo X). Your 1405/6. Regret it appears signals exchanged between B.A.D. Washington U.S. Authorities and British Authorities have not reached you. (Recapitulation) (DIOMEDE 0251/7 to C.T.F. 23 (R) C. in C. A.W.I., C. in C. U.S. Fleet U.S.C.N.O. B.A.D.). See Lion Copy. Admty. pass to R.A. West Africa. C.T.U. 23 despatch 1405/6 directs DIOMEDE report when ship staff repairs completed at which time Cominch will furnish routing to Freetown. Ship remains under U.S. operational control until passing Long. 26° W. (?Cominch, 1659/7 to U.S. Minelayer AROOSTOOK, U.S. Dest. WILLIAMS, C. in C. Atlantic Fleet, CLEOPATRA, C.T.U. 23, DIOMEDE, Admty. B.A.D. R.A.W.A.F., Montevideo, Alusna.)

"R" Report. Received 0144 G.M.T. Following received at 0100 G.M.T. RRRR 10.20 S., 16.47 W. Rest unread QRN. De BOGI. Controlling Station Portishead Radio. (Portishead No. T.O.O. Received 0305/7).

GEORGE CLYMER torpedoed. by *mine 4/6.* Your 2300/6. Proceed to position mentioned in my 0012B/7 to investigate pick up survivors and report. Do not attempt to take GEORGE CLYMER in tow if still afloat. (C. in C. S.A. 0604B/7 to ALCANTARA (R) Admty., R.A.W.A. C.T.F. 23).

The following has been read via Freetown W/T ZSC. Ship torpedoed send aid and instructions in plain language at once. (GEORGE CLYMER T.O.R., 0845/7).

(Following has been received via Freetown W/T)

Is there any reply, please hurry, batteries wont hold out much longer.

(GEORGE CLYMER. T.O.R. 1140Z/7 to Ascension Radio).

In touch GEORGE CLYMER in 014° 49' S., 018° 30' W., ship hit by 2 torpedoes, engine room flooded, master states ship probably unsalvageable, officers (?alike) disagree, merchant crew abandoning ship. Am remaining in vicinity. If consider risk justified will endeavour take (?in tow) tomorrow. Fuel remaining 56.5% Intend remaining on group F (?T) until situation clear.

(ALCANTARA, 1600Z/7 to C.C.S.A. (R) Admty. R.A.W.A.F. C.T.F.23.)

Following has been read (via Freetown W/T) Have you seaplane to be sent here at once?

(Slankop T.O.R., 0903Z/7).



163A

SECRET.

MESSAGE.

0251/7th June.

IN

From. H.M.S. DIOMEDE.

Date: 7.6.42.  
Recd: 1459.

Naval Cypher (M) by Cable.

Addressed. C.T.F. 23. Repeated. C. in C. America & West Indies, C. in C. U.S. Fleet, U.S. C.N.O., B.A.D. Washington.

IMMEDIATE.

Your 1405 6th. Regret it appears signals exchanged between B.A.D. Washington U.S. Authorities and British Authorities have not reached you. C. in C. America & West Indies reported H.M.S. DIOMEDE defects to Admiralty.

Admiralty requested C. in C. U.S. Fleet to release H.M.S. DIOMEDE for repairs in U.K. C. in C. America & West Indies proposed in view of H.M.S. DIOMEDE restricted speed ship's staff should lift L P turbine cover and cut out damaged blades in astern turbines which from evidence available he considers had partially stripped and was cause of noise reported in port gear box.

Admiralty approved and C. in C. America & West Indies requested B.A.D. Washington to ask U.S. Authorities to issue necessary instructions to H.M.S. DIOMEDE. In anticipation thereof I have commenced work. C. in C. America & West Indies 1602 1st June, 1642 3rd 1612 5th and Admiralty's 1319 2nd, 1740 4th refers. OPNAV pass to Cdr. Task Force 23 for information to C. in C. U.S. Fleet Admiralty R.A. West Africa also Cdr. Task Force 23's 1405 6th to C. in C. America & West Indies.

0251/7.

Advance Copy. Ops., O.D., D.

- |               |                 |                             |
|---------------|-----------------|-----------------------------|
| 1st Lord.     | O.D. (5)        | D.N.C.                      |
| 1st S.L.      | D.A./S.W.       | M. (2)                      |
| Controller.   | O.I.C.          | T/P for Dep. Contr. (3) } B |
| Vice Contr.   | I.P. (3)        | D. (4) } A                  |
| V.C.N.S.      | W.D.            | D.N.C. (2) } T              |
| A.C.N.S. (H)  | Ad. Cunningham. | E. in C. } H                |
| A.C.N.S. (F)  | U.S.N. (3)      | (B.A. 4509)                 |
| A.C.N.S. (W)  | Ad. Blako.      |                             |
| H.A. 1st S.L. | D. 57 O.B.      |                             |
| Ops. (3)      | E. in C.        |                             |



War Diary.

7.6.1942.  
Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic. - Contd.

PRETORIA CASTLE. Return to Freetown through 005° 02' N., 019° 30' W. Report E.T.A. (R.A. West Africa, 0915Z/7 to PRETORIA CASTLE (R) Admty, C. in C. U.S. Fleet, T.F. No. 23., C. in C. S.A., CARNARVON CASTLE).

PRETORIA CASTLE has been recalled to Freetown. (R.A. West Africa, 1821Z/7 to C. in C. U.S. Fleet (R) T.F.23) To escort ORONSAY, see 2127/7. *next page*

→ ABDIEL Sailed ABDIEL by ? route R.9 speed 21 knots E.T.A. Simonstown 0545Z/9. (N.O.I.C. Durban, 1147Z/7 to Admty. C. in C. S.A. C. in C. E.I., etc).

Shipping Diversion. A.M. 2223B/6. (N.T. in W.D.) Request you will divert shipping at sea in your areas as necessary to conform. (D.T.D., 1450B/7 to C. in C. S.A. R.A. West Africa, C. in C. A.W.I.)

→ ARCHER. Capetown departure ARCHER through J. 031° S., 005° E. K. 019° 004° W. L. 008° 015° M. 017° N., 027°. N. 037° 023°. O. 054° 015° P. 056° 010° thence as ordered by C. in C. W.A. S. of A., to 10 S., 13 knots thence 12. Shift to W/T organisation for Area P., 1900Z/13. E.T.A. position P. 0600Z/30. (S.O.(I) Capetown, 1535Z/7 to Admty, C. in C. S.A. R.A.W.A., C. in C. W.A. F.O.C.N.A.) *See p. 162.*

→ ELYSIA (British) sunk 5/6. ABDIEL arrived today with 2 officers 14 Lascars 3 passengers survivors of ELYSIA sunk by Japanese raider in 27° 15' S., 36° 24' E., at 0740 G.M.T. 5/6. Seven lifeboats launched, 4 picked up by DORSETSHIRE, 1 by ABDIEL. Fate of remaining 2 unknown. Third Officer reports all C.Bs. were dumped overboard. (Cdre. Durban, 1628Z/7 to Admty. S.O.(I) Capetown, S.O.(I) Kilindini, S.O.(I) Colombo.)

Situation Report. Situation 2000Z/7 Area Q. CILIGIA off Tristan da Cunha. CHESHIRE on patrol about 037° 30' S., 023° 00' E., ALCANTARA about 015° 00' S., 018° 00' W.

BELVOIR, HURSLEY 034° 55' S., 023° 00' E., to R/V with. W.S. 8/6. BRITTANY, BARFOUNT, BARRYMORE 030° 00' S., 016° 00' E., to Cape-town 8.

BUSHWOOD, AIGLON, HATSUSE, ESTRELLA DO MAR, 017° 00' S., 010° 15' E., to Walvis Bay.

→ SHROPSHIRE with W.S.19 Durban portion 035° 25' S., 025° 30' E., to Durban 12. ARCHER off Capetown to the North. (C. in C. S.A., 1646B/7 to S.A. Stn. Sqdn. (R) Admty).



War Diary.

7.6.1942.  
Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic. - Contd.

Africa Station Limits. Your 0857/15. Appreciated that co-operation of S. Africa in Diego Suarez is a factor in favour of proposed change of station limits.  
2. Considered however, that Diego Suarez should be under same control as other Indian Ocean operational bases and for this reason proposed change cannot be approved.  
3. Question of adjusting intelligence area boundaries to conform with station limits is under consideration.  
4. C. in C. S.A. pass to High Commissioner.  
(Hd. of M. Approved V.C.N.S., 1757B/7 to C. in C. S.A. (R) C. in C. E.F., Dep. C. in C. E.F.)

Ascension Aerodrome. My 2252/29/4. Col. Tomlinson has informed Colonial Office that aerodrome at Ascension, although unfinished, will be available to receive aircraft about (?8)/6.  
(Head of M., 1801B/7 to C. in C. S.A. (R) R.A. West Africa).

W.S.19 Q. W.S.19 Q. E.T.A. Freetown Fairway Buoy 0730Z/11. Acknowledge.  
(R.A. West Africa, 1801Z/7 to NELSON (R) W.S.19 Q)

ORONSAY escort. A.M. 0139B/6. PRETORIA CASTLE will meet in vicinity of Equator and escort to Freetown. Onward escort will be PRETORIA CASTLE to U.K. and BOREAS to N.W. of the Verdes.  
(R.A. West Africa, 2127/7 to Admty (R) C. in C. S.A., F.O.C.N.A.)

CHILE (British) "S" Report. Following received. S/M Raider. SSSS de GMYP. 4° 17' N., 13° 48' W., CHILE, tracks of two torpedoes seen 2130 G.M.T.  
(Call sign GMYP (No signification) T.O.R. 2139Z/7). Independently routed from Capetown to Mersey.  
(D.S. 1008).

Mediterranean.

P.43

Port engine defective under (Alternative - cannot) repair. From 0600B/7 will remain 50 (?miles) (corrupt group) station.  
(P.43, 0447B/7 to C. in C. Med., (R) Capt. S.8).

*See /p 161*

/Mines...



War Diary.7.6.1942.  
Sunday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean. - Contd.

Mines. Weekly minelaying and sweeping summary for week ending 6/6. Sweeping carried out twice daily. 1 red mine detonated in position 050° 2.15 miles Cape Carmel Light 6/6. (N.O.I.C. Palestinian Ports 1201C/7 to Admty).

Axis Shipping. My 1255C/27 and 1541C/5 (S.O.(I) only) PANAGHIA THIMIANI sailed from Istanbul ? at 16 hours notice G.M.T. 6/6. (S.O.(I) Istanbul, 1215C/7 to S.O.(I) Med., S.l. (R) D.N.I.)

THORN, TAKU, PROTEUS, PORPOISE. THORN is to operate W. of 017° E., until further orders. Intended TAKU and PROTEUS should rest until commencement of future operations. Proceed forthwith to following positions: TAKU 035° 48' 020° (?30') PROTEUS 035° (?36') 020° 10'. PORPOISE remain W., of 019° 30', further orders (?will) follow. (Capt. S.l., 1231C/7 to THORN, TAKU, PROTEUS, PORPOISE (R) 10th S/M F).

Enemy Units. My 1825/6. From A/C report these vessels appear to have sailed eastward. (Capt. S.l., 1241C/7 to THORN (R) PROTEUS, TAKU).

CLYDE. Enter harbour. My 1358B/4, for Motor Launch 126 read BERYL frequency B fixed transmitter and receiver. (N.O.I.C. Malta, 1302C/7 to CLYDE).

Trans-African Reinforcement Route. Ref. CC/34 to Chiefs of Staff development of Trans-African reinforcement route. G.H.Q. Middle East consider that development of the Juba-Kosti section must be undertaken by an individual with a first hand knowledge of the route and have asked whether Eng. Rear Adm. G. Morgan, O.B.E. who is eminently qualified by previous service with Sudan Govt. in this area, could be spared for this work. Before asking V.A. Malta if Eng. Rear-Adm. Morgan can be spared from Malta, request if T.L. would be willing to consider the loan of this officer. It certainly appears that he is ideally suited for the task. (C. in C. Med., 1549C/7 to Admty).

Malta Air Report. I, 349 7/6 C.S.R. Malta. 6th 3 alerts. 1727 hours, 1829 hours, dusk 25 raiders including Ju.88s. 2 Spitfires up, no combats. A/A destroyed 1 Ju. 88 Luqa no damage. U.X.Bs. Takali, craters dispersal U.X.Bs. slight damage ambulance. Elsewhere (civilian casualties) Night 6/7, 2 alerts 2019 hours 2 raiders bombs land sea Beaufighter no combats. 0124 hours 3 raiders bombs land sea Beaufighter up, no combats.



War Diary.

7.6.1942.  
Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean - Contd.

Malta 7th 3 alerts, dawn 0330 hours 1 Ju.88 and  
Air Report fighter escort 11 Spitfires up, no combats.  
Cont. Takali, small craters aerodrome anti personnel  
bomb from dusk raid exploded wounding 10 civilians  
0918 hours, 16 fighters, coast not crossed one  
Me.109 destroyed another probably destroyed by 11 Spitfires  
1143 hours, 8 Me. 109s. 12 Spitfires up, no interception.  
(H.Q., R.A.F., Malta, 1615/7).  
Night 6/7. 6 Mark 2 Wellingtons target Messina train ferry,  
1 returned early mechanical trouble, 2140 to 2251? hours.  
bombs and incendiaries from 9,500 feet most bombs including  
4,000 lb. vicinity target, numerous fires 1 visible 25 miles.  
(H.Q., R.A.F., Malta, 1625/7).



War Diary.7.6.1942.  
Sunday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies.

- Madagascar. Unofficial French counter proposals and additions to Aide Memoire. (121 Force 0038 /7 to W.O.) Comments and Appreciation. (121 Force 1547/7, 1655/7 to W.O.) See Lion Copy.
- Hunt for Raiders. Keep Admiralty and myself informed of general dispositions made to deal with raiders.  
2. Signal proposed employment of Catalinas. (C. in C.E.F. 0455Z/7 to D. C. in C.E.F., (R) Admty.)
- W.S.18B. Convoy W.S.18B arrived. (N.C.S.O. Bombay 0541Z/7 to Admty.)
- Kenya, local defence, immobilisation. Kenya Govt. has approved that in event of invasion Administrative Officers should remain at their posts in mufti, take no part in any fighting and assist enemy in controlling civil population if their services are required.  
2. They say that question whether other Govt. officers should do likewise is a matter for local decision in light of local considerations and they request recommendations after full consultation with authorities concerned from provincial and district commissioners. General Manager K.U.R. and H, heads of other Government Depts. and chiefs of Navy, Army and R.A.F.  
3. In view of experiences of Admty. civilian officers in mufti assisting in work of immobilisation in Far East, which I consider they must do here in event of such being ordered, question is one of grave importance on which Admty. directions are requested.  
4. My personal view is that for this purpose alone, notwithstanding other urgent reasons of discipline and status abroad all Admty. civilian personnel must be in the appropriate naval rank or rating and wear uniform. (F.O. E.Africa 0737/7, to Admty. (R) C. in C.E.F.)
- Raiders. Preliminary reports suggest that Japanese raiders operating Madagascar area may be 2 of the following:- 1. M/V KYUSYU MARU, 8666 tons, 16½ - 19½ knots. Strengthened for 8 guns, can carry 3295 tons fuel and consumes 30 tons per day.  
2. M/V ARIMASAN MARU, 10,523 tons, 10½ - 19¼ knots. Strengthened for five 5-inch guns. Can carry 3998 tons fuel and consumes 30 tons per day.  
3. M/V AWAZISAN MARU 9793 tons, 20 knots, bunkers 1950 tons and consumes 31 tons per day. (C.S., Colombo 0739Z/7 to Admty. C. in C.E.F. etc.)
- India Air Report. 13783/I cipher 6/6. Sitrep 4. Blenheim bombed machine gunned Akyab 1150/5. 4000 ton M/V seen 400 yards off main jetty. No A/A encountered. (C. in C. India, 0930/7 to W.O. etc.)

/CORFU.....



# MOST SECRET

168A

MOST SECRET

MESSAGE

0038/7th June

IN

From J21 Force.

Date 7.6.42.  
Recd. 0230.

CIPHER

Addressed The War Office.

MOST IMMEDIATE

PO/66 cipher 6/6. Most Secret. 054039.

My P.O./65.

## FIRST OF FOUR PARTS

Following are unofficial French counter proposals and additions to Aide Memoire.

Para. 4. Delete last sentence and substitute "these should include safeguarding and potential use based on mutual good faith of all ports and air fields and should be accompanied by a bona fide offer of full co-operation excluding actual employment French Forces but including installation French coast defences and anti-aircraft armaments at certain points to be specified by British Commander".

Para. 5. Delete 1st sentence and substitute "British Forces would respect French sovereignty and territorial authority throughout Madagascar including Diego Suarez".

Para. 6. Delete 1st clause and substitute "British Commander would ask that French troops other than those who in certain conditions could undertake the defence of ports and air fields should be maintained etc".

## SECOND OF FOUR PARTS.

Delete last sentence and substitute "in the event of agreement on this the British Commander would in no way wish to maintain British troops in capital but would propose establishment of an Anglo American organisation (?assist) (?civil) (?area)".

Para. 7. Delete after words with this aim and substitute "would extend every latitude to commercial houses to put this into effect."

Para. 8. Delete after word granted and substitute "to those officials who in spite of all did not wish to remain in Madagascar".

Paras. 9 and 10 omit altogether at this stage.

## THIRD OF FOUR PARTS./.....



THIRD OF FOUR PARTS.

Proposed additions as follows:-

1. Agreement made with French Commander at Diego Suarez regarding temporary military occupation recognised by French thereby putting an end to hostilities.
2. Madagascar to maintain attitude of resistance to all foreign attack from whatever quarter.
3. No sabotage by French of ports factories railways etc.
4. Assurance regarding feeding population in Diego Suarez and exchange of local products.
5. Uninterrupted communication between local Government and French Metropolitan Government regarding cables wireless codes etc.

LAST OF FOUR PARTS.

6. Free seaborne traffic with France, control by approved organisation (Navicerts).
7. Uninterrupted coastal traffic.
8. French administration to continue at Diego Suarez including control of budget revenue and expenditure.
9. French forces continue role of defence and security.
10. Freedom of flight for French military and commercial aircraft except over Diego Suarez.
11. No British interference in police or courts or appointment officials. Comments.

0038/7.

Received from War Office at 1155/7.

1st Word

1st S.L. (2)  
 V.C.N.S.  
 A.C.N.S. (W)  
 A.C.N.S. (F) (2)  
 Secretary  
 N.A. 1st S.L.  
 P.A.S. (S)  
 D.O.D. (F) (2)  
 D. of P. (2)  
 D.N.I. (4)  
 E.P.S.  
 Head of M.  
 I.P. (2)  
 W.D.  
 Duty Capt. (2)  
 D.D.I.C. (2)  
 D. of L.D.  
 Adl. Blake.

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**MOST SECRET**

168<sup>c</sup>β.

M E S S A G E 1547/7 June IN

From 121 Force.

Date 8/6/42.  
Recd. 0035

CYPHER

Addressed The War Office.

MOST IMMEDIATE

054212. PO/67 cipher 7/6.

2nd of 2 Parts.

If Annet, or other influential officials are not (repeat not) behind this and it is at best outcome of hopeful imaginary small pro-British coterie or at worst time saving bluff no (repeat no) harm can come of continuing this attempt find a modus vivendi provided military measures for defence here are neither interrupted nor jeopardized. For if it succeeds we shall have gained measure of control in Island within our military (?resources) and if it fail we can use the fact of unsuccessful attempt (?seek) a peaceful solution as propaganda in weakening resistance Tananariwe Govt. to attack and adherence of population to Vichy. It is certain nobody wishes to continue to fight against us, that all fear attack from the Japanese, and if left to themselves most would wish to co-operate with us against them. In Diego Suarez several French military and civil officials have asked to form species of Home Guard in order to fight with us and release our soldiers for front line duties.

6. The attack by Japanese submarines the appearance of Japanese aircraft and destruction of 2 Japanese officers have made all Frenchmen in authority sit up and take notice. There were no (repetition no) hostile reactions to our attack on Tananariwe aerodrome. Before Barnett's arrival I had considered conditions so favourable that I was about to suggest desirability of establishing direct contact with Governor General and myself or our staffs.

7. I shall await your instructions before allowing Barnett to return but hope you will give me latitude to keep door open for next stage. I consider this should be an intimation that so long as an accredited French official arrives with definite request to negotiate there are some hopes of agreement.

8. Barnett had no (repeat no) authority to consult Carter but I think was right to do so. You may wish to use Carter now and to ask his intervention in pourparlers either at this stage or later. (He is) reputed to be most sympathetic and helpful to British interests and told Barnett that our proposal formed ground agreement. I believe his co-operation would be valuable.

9/.....



1683

9. At the same time I recommend there should be no (repeat no) delay in sending Barnett back and I therefore ask for immediate reply.

1547/7

Recd. in War Reg. at 0925/8.

War Office circulation:-

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

S. of S.  
 P.U.S. (F)  
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 V.C.I.G.S.  
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 A.M.C.S. Air Ministry.



**MOST SECRET**

168 E

~~MOST SECRET~~ June IN

From 120 Force.

Date 8/6/42.  
Recd. 0120

CYPHER

Addressed The War Office.

MOST IMMEDIATE

054213. PO/68 cipher 7/6. MOST SECRET.

My PO/66 and 67.

Firstly. My comments on French proposals are as follows:-

Para. 4. We must insist full occupation and use ports required.

Para. 5. Clearly we must have permanent and over-riding control over Diego Suarez whereas in remainder Island direct control need only be exercised in emergency. I think compromise can be found.

Para. 6. Last (?clause). I understand this would not (repeat not) prevent visits of British officers in uniform and civil status the (?political) Mission appeal strongly to me.

Secondly. Following comments on additions. 1-4. No comment. 5. Some form censorship appears to be essential. 6. This is a matter on which I cannot (repeat not) usefully comment but it appears to present grave difficulty. 7. I prefer controlled coastal traffic. 8-9. Subject to British military interest. 10 Numbers and lanes of flights subject to British control. 11. We should insist on convention safeguarding rights of British Military Forces.

Thirdly. In view further precision implicit in French proposals we should (?now) add a clause to effect local French (?authorities) shall at all time afford such reasonable facility as may be required by British Military Authorities and that in event of emergency or (?of any) imminent attack British Military Commander shall be (?entitled to) take all measures (?as he) may (?consider) necessary for safeguard (?ing of) his Forces and defence of Island.

1655/7  
Recd. in War Reg. at 0925/8

1st Lord.  
1st S.L. (2)  
V.C.N.S.  
A.C.N.S. (F) (2)  
A.C.N.S. (W)  
Nav. Sec.  
Sec.  
N.A. 1st S.L.  
D.O.D. (F) (2)  
D. of P. (2)  
D.N.I. (4)  
D.D.I.C. (2)  
D.C. (2)  
C.C.O. (2)

Hd. of M.  
D.P.D.  
I.P. (2)  
W.D.

D.D.M.I. (I)  
M.I. 3.  
D.F. (A)  
F.I. (4)  
Q. (Ops)  
Admiralty (Col. Spraggatt)

War Office circulation:-  
S. of S. Col. Jacob.  
P.U.S. (F) Cab. Off. (Mr. Benson)  
C.I.G.S. Major Norton (10  
Downing St.)  
V.C.I.G.S.  
D.M.O. & P. For. Off. (Mr. Mack)  
D.D.M.O. (10) Col. Off. (Mr. Sabbin  
Clare)  
D.P.D. Admiralty (Mr. Waldoek)  
G.S.P. M.O. 1.5.11. (4)  
D.M.I. A.M.C.S. Air Min.  
Admiralty (War Reg.)  
C.A.S. (Air Min.)



168<sup>F</sup>

# MOST SECRET

DATE: 8.6.42

From: War Registry.

---

Most Secret message circulated under T.O.O.  
1655/7 was originated by Force 121 and not Force 120.

- 1st Lord
- 1st S.L. (2)
- V.C.N.S.
- A.C.N.S. (F)(2)
- A.C.N.S. (W)
- Nav. Sec.
- Sec.
- N.A. 1st S.L.
- D.O.D. (F)(2)
- D. of P. (2)
- D.N.I. (4)
- D.D.I.C. (2)
- D.C. (2)
- C.C.O. (2)
- Hd. of M.
- D.P.D.
- I.P. (2)
- W.D.

MC



War Diary.7.6.1942.  
Sunday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies-Contd.

CORFU. In view of the situation CORFU will not meet  
FROBISHER. you and all ships of convoy C.M.28 are to  
C.M.28. proceed to Kilindini. (D.C. in C.E.F. 0953Z/7 to  
FROBISHER (R) C. in C.E.I. Cdre R.I.N., D. of  
S.T., C. in C.E.F., Admty.)

Orders for Your A.67 June 7. Request Catalinas call  
Catalinas. Seychelles in order to operate from there on  
patrol between Seychelles and Farquhar Is. on  
10th and 11/6. Patrol to locate Japanese raiders  
possibly crossing from the S.E. Thereafter  
Catalinas proceed to Mombasa. (D. C. in C.E.F.,  
1045Z/7 to 222 Group (R) C. in C.E.F., F.O.I.C.  
Addu Atoll, C. in C.E.I., N.O.I.C. Seychelles,  
241 Wing.)

Madagascar Your 1941B/3. (Requesting details of capture of  
Operations. Madagascar and French casualties, N.T. in W.D.)  
Full details given S.O. Force F's No. 56 to  
Admty. T.O.O. 2139C/12/5 amended by 121 Force  
Message to Troopers number 0122 T.O.O. 1100/17/5 (N.T. in W.R.)  
Nothing further to add by signal. Estimate of French casualties.  
European, killed 52, wounded 189, natives, killed 33, wounded  
259, Prisoners of War taken 4,000. Included in above French  
Officer casualties, killed 7, wounded 14, prisoners of war 95.  
(N.O.I.C. Diego Suarez 1110C/7 to Admty.)

Shipping Your 1050Z/6 para. 6. Concur. (A.C.N.S. (T)  
Control from 1204B/7 to C. in C.E.F. (R) C. in C.E.I.,  
Kilindini. F.O.C.R.I.N.)

Raiders, My appreciation is that submarines are operating  
Appreciation. in Mozambique channel and not raiders.  
For this reason I do not consider cruiser patrol  
at northernmost end of Mozambique channel is  
desirable. It seems unlikely that raiders will move north of  
Madagascar. I anticipate further attacks to southward of  
the island as more probable. (C. in C.E.F. 1255Z/7 to  
D. C. in C.E.F., (R) Admty. B.S.3.)

TRUSTY From D/F bearings training ship KASHII was  
information. alongside in northern part of Malacca Straits  
P.M./6th. Last reported at Singapore.  
(S.O.(S) Colombo 1357/7 to TRUSTY.)

Catalinas. Amend my 1305/6. (1307/6 intended, re Catalinas  
to meet raider situation.) Catalinas will  
call Addu Atoll P.M./8 leaving independently as  
soon as fuelled 9/6 for Kilindini direct,  
arriving before dark 9/6 or daylight 10/6.  
(C. in C.E.I., 1411Z/7 to D. C. in C. E.F. (R)  
C. in C. E.F. Admty. etc.)

/Aircraft.....



War Diary.7.6.1942.  
Sunday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies-Contd.

- Aircraft. Re supply of Martlets, Hurricanes, and certain equipment. (D.N.A.D., 1636B/7 to C. in C.E.F. (R) R.A.(A)). See Lion Copy.
- Catalinas. D. C. in C.E.F. 1645Z/7. See 0742Z/8.
- Cocos Island, Your 0557Z/5. Further investigation your  
C.S.W.S. first para. is being undertaken, but improbable  
staff. that compulsion of such civilians will be  
practicable. Meantime report whether special  
allowance would induce men to volunteer and if so what sum is  
recommended. In the special circumstances, Adty. are  
prepared to authorise any reasonable inducement allowance.  
In any event you are authorised by C.A.F.O. 571/42 dated 26/3/42  
in exceptional circumstances to enter civilians into Naval  
Service if they consent to be so treated and their services  
are essential. (Head of C.E.I. 1731B/7 to C. in C. Ceylon  
(R) C. in C.E.I., Capt. O.S. Colombo.)
- Raiders. My 1005/6. If no further evidence of raiders  
Dispositions. is received before dark 8/6 intend to act on  
supposition that they have left Mozambique  
Channel.
2. Possibly subsequent action might be to go north outside  
Madagascar to attack our communications between Mombasa and  
Guardafui or to make an attack on concentration of shipping  
outside or near Durban.
3. It is to be noted that call sign fix by D/F bearings  
within 60 miles of 023° 30' S. 037° 00' at 1903Z/6 is same as  
that heard on day after attack on Diego Suarez.
4. Intend to make following dispositions: (a) EMERALD  
patrolling 80 miles to eastward of Durban. (b) CHITRAL and  
CANTON patrolling 206° Cape St. Mary's to 240. (c) DANAE and  
DAUNTLESS between Diego Suarez and Farquhar Is. (d) INDOMITABLE  
and DEVONSHIRE proceed 9/6 towards position 005° N. 052° E.  
(e) DRAGON after refuelling to join REVENGE and 2 destroyers  
about 10/6 for passage through Mozambique Channel thence to  
Capetown and Durban respectively for docking. (f) CALEDON  
patrolling off Mombasa. (g) 3 Catalinas west from Seychelles  
patrol between there and Mozambique on 10th and 11/6,  
thereafter probably to Mombasa, thence A/S patrol from Lindi  
in Mozambique Channel shipping lane. (D. C. in C.E.F.  
1742Z/7 to Admty. (R) C. in C.E.F., C. in C.S.A., C. in C.E.I.  
V.A.2. E.F.)



E.I.

170A.

# MOST SECRET

1636B/7th June

MOST SECRET

OUT.

To: C. in C. Eastern Fleet 330  
Repeated R.A.(A) 85.

Date: 7.6.42.

## Naval Cypher ( Flag Out)

From Admiralty.

Your 1511Z/31 May and A.M. 1726B/24.

(a) Attempts to obtain additional Martlets on the highest plane at present unsuccessful. No further Martlet II deliveries are outstanding. Following are anticipated amended despatches ex U.S.A. of Martlet IVs for Eastern Fleet:-

|                   |    |
|-------------------|----|
| Leave U.S.A. June | 36 |
| " " July          | 36 |
| " " August        | 34 |
| " " Sept.         | 26 |

but it is hoped deliveries may be expedited.

(b) Arrangements in hand for transfer from R.A.F. of twenty tropicalised Hurricanes IIB now being packed for shipment ex U.K. on high priority. They will be flight delivered to Mombasa by Takoradi route. Aircraft should reach Mombasa mid August. Investigations have proved that direct shipment from U.K. is most satisfactory, and quickest method of supply.

Your 1047/29th April. Notwithstanding your 1033Z/30th April fitting arrester hooks by personnel not fully conversant with type presents technical problems possibly not fully appreciated. This aspect being examined with Hawkers highest priority. Details follow.

Arrangements made to ship 34 sets R/T 1304 and associated modification. Fitting of this before delivery impracticable.

1636B/7.

D.N.A.D. (203) Approved by  
A.C.N.S.(F)

- 1st Lord
- 1st S.L.
- 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.N.I.(4)
- D. of P.(2)
- Hd. of M.
- D.N.A.D.
- Hd. of Air
- D.A.M.
- D.A.M.R.
- Duty Capt.(2)
- I.P.(2)
- W.D.
- N.I.D.10.
- Ad. Blake
- D.S.D.

# MOST SECRET



War Diary.

7.6.1942  
Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies.

- NORVARDES. Ex Norwegian motor ship NORVARDES may be enemy S/M depot ship? All units warned to maintain vigilance and care in identifying call signs? of vessels.  
(C.T.24 0351/7 to T.F.24.)
- LETITIA. LETITIA sailed U.K. 3/6 in convoy C.T.17 with following personnel on board.  
2. My 0021/2 refers regarding future service of LETITIA.  
(D.S.T. 0456B/7 to N.S.H.Q. (R) B.A.D. C.O.A.C.)
- T.O.5. Sailed JAN VAN BRAKEL and CHURCHILL escorting T.O.5. E.T.A. Curaçao 2100Z/9.  
(F.O. Trinidad 1252Q/7 to C.A.F.A.C. (R) C. in C. A.W.I., S.O.(I) Jamaica, Admty., S.B.N.O., Curaçao Operations Base, Comcarib.)
- PARTHIAN. Cancel my 1617/16 (1716/16 intended) Your 1203P/6 (?1303/4 intended re route for PARTHIAN) Sailing PARTHIAN when ready about 8/6 through point (d) 33.10 N. 58.30 W. (e) 34.00 N. 47.00 W. (f) 34.40 N. 35.00 W. (g) 35.00 N. 15.00 W. thence to Gibraltar.  
(Connav 1335/7 to C. in C. A.W.I. (R) C. in C. U.S. Fleet etc.) Leave Bermuda 0900P/8 and proceed to Gibraltar. Pass through following positions (as in 1335/7) S. of A. 11 knots. Operate in accordance with S 1/42 sec A C table 2 (3) (B) until 1200Z/13, then in accordance with Sec N A Table 2 (1) line 9.  
(C. in C. A.W.I. 2122P/7 to PARTHIAN, (R) Admty., F.O.C.N.A., B.A.D., N.S.H.Q., C. in C. U.S. Fleet, F.O.S., N.O.B. Bermuda.)
- SONJA MAERSK. (GRETE?) MAERSK (SONJA MAERSK intended?) aground at (Keker Kakjuak?) now reported sunk at 1909Z/5 in 42.29 N. 63.32 W.  
(N.S.H.Q. 1411Z/7 to Admty., Connav.)
- WESTERN HEAD. Havana reports 6 survivors British WESTERN HEAD landed Guantanamo, other details awaited.  
(S.O.(I.) Kingston 1416B/7 to Admty., C. in C. A.W.I., N.S.H.Q. B.A.D.)
- ALCOA PILGRIM. Trinidad report U.S. ship THOMAS NELSON landed Chief Officer and 8 men ex U.S. ship ALCOA PILGRIM torpedoed 0100 G.M.T/28/5 016° 28' 067° 37'. Ship sunk in 90 seconds, only 3 rafts launched, one still missing, total complement 40.  
(S.O.(I.) Kingston 1423R/7 to Admty., C. in C. A.W.I., B.A.D., N.S.H.Q. Connav.)



War Diary.

7.6.1942  
Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies - contd.

BAGHDAD (sunk 30/5) Ref. Grenada 2045/3rd, \*times were eastern (?zone) not G.M.T. (S.O.I. Kingston 1426R/7 to Admty. etc.) \* Sinking of Norwegian Ship BAGHDAD 30/5.

GEO. W. MCKNIGHT. After repairs an unsuccessful application was made for a certificate for voyage to West Africa. Admty. and M.W.T. then agreed ship should remain in Aruba pending opportunity convoy to Key West. This joint opinion has been reported to New York in commercial messages.  
2. No instructions have been sent to master or agents for movement of ship. Request report circumstances in which she was sailed for Key West.  
(D.T.D. 1442B/7 to B.R.O. Aruba)  
Reply: Aruba 1011/8.

TIBERIUS (Dutch) My 1517R/16/5. Key West 1416Z/4 reports ship arrived Miami 1/6.  
(S.O.I. Jamaica 1509R/7 to N.S.H.Q. Ottawa (R) Admty. etc.)

FAIRPORT (overdue) My 1716R/2. Cancel FAIRPORT (U.S.)  
(S.O.I. Jamaica 1511R/7 to Admty. etc.)

CARRABULLE (overdue) My 1819/3 not to Connav. Ottawa reports U.S. CARRABULLE shelled and on fire 26/5 in 026° 18' N. 089° 21' W.  
(S.O.I. Kingston 1523R/7 to Admty., B.A.D. Connav.) *Jan 2/50 p. 173*

Vichy Shipping. Algiers and Casablanca arrivals and departures.  
(B.A.D. 1601Z/7 to Admty.)  
See Lion Copy.

Raft. BUTTERCUP. Raft containing 30 survivors sighted by U.S. aircraft in 034° 28' N. 065° 34' W. at 1445Z/7. Carry out search until dark tomorrow 8/6. U.S.S. OWL should be in this vicinity a.m./8. (C. in C. A.W.I. 1607P/7 to BUTTERCUP (R) Admty. etc.)  
My 1607P/7. All survivors from raft rescued by U.S. plane from Bermuda. Carry out search as ordered for other possible survivors. U-Boat may be in the vicinity.  
(C. in C. A.W.I. 2142P/7 to BUTTERCUP (R) Admty. etc.)



172A

SECRET

MESSAGE

1601Z/7 June

IN

Date 7.6.42.

From B.A.D. Washington

Received 2018

Naval Cypher Xb Cable

Recirculation

Addressed Admiralty.

438 Meter.

Algiers 6th June B.2. Departures for Marseille -  
2/6 TLENCEN (Iron Ore). 3/6 G.G. JONNART.

Arrivals

From

|                          |                  |
|--------------------------|------------------|
| 1/6 CATHERINE SCHIAFFINO | Sote             |
| 2/6 CAP FALCON           | Bone (Phosphate) |
| 2/6 ST. ALBERT           | Marseille.       |
| 3/6 G.G. GREVE.          | Marseilles       |

Casablanca 4th June B.2.

Departures

For

|                 |                    |
|-----------------|--------------------|
| 23/5 LOUDDIER   | Port -tienne       |
| 29/5 MARIA ZITA | Lisbon (Phosphate) |

Arrivals

From

|                     |                                      |
|---------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 29/5 FORT ST. LOUIS | Dakar (Escort<br>LA BOUDREUSE)       |
| 3/6 SAVOIE          | Marseille (Escort LA<br>TOULONNAISE) |
| LINOIS,             |                                      |
| IMBRIE II           |                                      |
| ST. LOUIS,          |                                      |
| ST. CYRILLE         |                                      |

1601Z/7.

- V.C.N.S.
- A.C.N.S. (H)
- A.C.N.S. (F)
- N.A. 1st S.L.
- D.N.I. (4)
- O.I.C. (3)
- O.D. (5)
- W.D.
- D.T.D. (2)
- D.T.D. (M)
- D.T.D. (C)
- D.E.V.D. (3)
- M. (2)
- Ad. Chalmers



War Diary.

7.6.1942  
Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies - contd.

CUYABA (Axis repatriations) My 1353/22 SS CUYABA delayed to depart Rio de Janeiro about 5/6 for Lisbon via Bahia and Recife. Routed from Recife via 00.25 S. 30.45 W. 11.15 N. 24.32 W. 22.53 N. 18.06 W. 34.48 N. 11.36 W. Additional description. (C. in C. U.S. Fleet 1616/7 to C. in C. Atlantic Fleet (U.S) Admty., C. in C. A.W.I., C.T.F.23. C. in C. S.A., F.O.C.N.A., C.C.S.F., R.A. W. Africa.)

U/B attacked. U.S. destroyer sighted U-Boat in 034° 04' N. 066° 16' W. a.m./7. D/C attack carried out. (C. in C. A.W.I. 1757P/17 to BUTTERCUP (R) N.O.B. Bermuda.)

U/B Positions. 7th. S/M estimate. (C. in C. U.S. Fleet 1807/7, 1810/7, 1816/7, 1818/7, 1821/7.)

Sugar Ships Caribbean. Your 1902/5. Request you will check and repeat limiting draught on arrival. A vessel which loaded recently at San Pedro de Macoris reported maximum draught at safe berth is 12 feet and any further loading must be effected at open anchorage or at another port. (D.T.D. 1834B/7 to C. in C. A.W.I. (R) B.R.O. San Pedro de Macoris, S.O.I. Jamaica.) Reply: 0927/9.

Ice Bulletin 7/6. Halifax 1900/7 to Opnav etc.

GEORGE CLYMER. Admiralty reports GEORGE CLYMER torpedoed 15° S. 18° W. at about 2056/6th. (Cominch 1945/7 to C. in C. Atlantic Fleet (U.S) (R) C.T.F. No.23, C. in C. S.A. ALRIDNA Capetown.)

S/M attack and sighting summary. Auxiliary Naval Vessel Y N 30 attacked 33. 43 N. 77.39 W. 1600Z/6. Unidentified vessel presumed sunk 21.15 N. 86.04 W. 1000Z/6. Unidentified vessel attacked at 23° N. 84.35 W. 0410Z/7. MATTAWIN, 2 torpedo hits. \*CARRABULLE, 1 torpedo hit, 100 rounds. U-88 Type, Black figures on C/T 20" - 24" high, U-36. Periscope sighted coastal battery 12.12 N. 69.05 W. 1615Z/6. Submarine on surface attacked by patrol craft 34.04 N. 66.16 W. 0530Z/7. Plane sights periscope 41.18 N. 71.20 W. approx. 1507Z/7. (C. in C. U.S. Fleet, 2010/7 to Admty., for O.I.C.) \* *See p. 172*



War Diary.7.6.1942.  
Sunday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies - Contd.HARVESTER  
defect.

E.T.A. U.S. Nav. Op. Base Argentia 0900Z/8 with HARVESTER, PIORUN, F.S. RENONCULE, ORCHIS. LOBELIA arrived before proceeding a.m./8? Permission is requested for HARVESTER to defer oiling to examine leaks in oil fuel tanks. (C.T.U. 29.1.17, 2039Z/7 to S.O. U.S. Naval Op. Base Argentia, (R) B.M.C.)

U/B.

S/M reported by coast watchers 10 miles S.W. Port Morant at 1550R today Sunday. Air R/C in bad weather negative. Possible confusion with 3 P.Ts from Guantanamo. (S.O.I. Jamaica, 2056R/7 to Admty., etc.)

Washops 86.

Aleutian Islands. 1 carrier, 2 cruisers and 8 destroyers last reported 200 West of Dutch Harbour. U.S. attacking A/C reported strong fighter

opposition.

N. Midway Is. area. Naval action continuing, no further details available. (J.S.M. Washington, 2117Z/7 to Admty., etc.)

Escort Groups, Personal for 1st S.L.

Corvettes. Your 2305B/2/5 para. 3 stated 37 corvettes were based in U.K. and 73 based in Canada and Newfoundland including two groups allocated to U.S.

coastal escort duty and 4 to tanker convoys. This left 99 corvettes in mid-ocean groups. Your 1133B/8 states only 78 in mid-ocean groups. Difference in above figures 21 corvettes. III. 7 R.C.N. Corvettes were transferred during May from F.O.N.F. to C.O.A.C. for tanker convoy and to reinforce Western local groups.

IV. Request information if there were any transfers of R.N. corvettes from mid-ocean groups to account for remaining 14 corvettes.

V. Your 1133B/6 para. F.1. This will be discussed. F.11. We will agree to absorption of H.T. convoys provided U.S.N. can guarantee the minimum requirements of AAP for Halifax and the Portland lifeline to Montreal.

VI. Consider however a direct route from West Indies to either New York or Halifax is essential due to heavy traffic via Halifax to U.K. and the fact that coastal convoy route from Trinidad to Halifax will take approx. 23 days as compared with 20 days in T.H. convoys.

(C.N.S. Canada, 2136Z/7 to Admty., (R) B.A.D.)

/Shipping ...



War Diary.

7.6.1942.  
Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies - Contd.

Shipping  
Diversions.

In view of major diversions being effected in South Atlantic request amended chop dates crossing 40° W. may be signalled for following ships.

| Name                    | T.O.O. of Diversion made.                  |
|-------------------------|--|
| KOTA GEDE (Dutch)       | C. in C. S.A. 1820/6.                      |
| NOTOS (Dutch)           | Admty. 1658/2.                             |
| HOPEPEAK                | C. in C. S.A. 1446/5.                      |
| GARN (Norwegian)        | Admty. 1829/5.                             |
| AALSUM (Dutch)          | Admty. 1918/4.                             |
| EMPIRE MIST             | C. in C. S.A. 1441/5.                      |
| STANVAC CALCUTTA (Pan.) | Admty. 1642/4.                             |
| AORANGI                 | Admty. 1727/5 and<br>C. in C. S.A. 1801/6. |

(C. in C. A.W.I., 2139P/7 to Admty.)



War Diary.

7.6.1942.  
Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Australia and New Zealand.

Situation.

Serial 136 from C.W.R. Report 6/6 indicates at least 2 enemy S/M still off New South Wales coast but no further attacks on shipping reported. 1 S/M possibly damaged by air attack 0638Z/6 034° 03' S. 151° 15' E. 2. Enemy suffered heavily our raid on Abamboea 190 (Timor) June 2nd.  
(N.B.Melbourne, 0911Z/7 to Admty etc.).

Midget S/Ms.

Request all possible details in connection with attacks by midget submarines.  
(D.N.I. 1903B/7, to A.C.N.B.).

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Submarines Reported.

Estimated U/B positions.  
(D.D.I.C. 1354B/7 1430B/7).



177

8.6.1942

Monday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT.

British Air Operations.

12 Bostons, escorted by 8 squadrons of Spitfires attacked the docks at Bruges today; no bombs hit the targets but a factory and railway lines were hit.

Enemy Air Operations.

The port of Poole was reopened at 0600 today.

Convoys W.P.168 and P.W.168 were attacked late this evening in the Start Point area. No damage has been reported.

Mining.

Further magnetic mines were detonated today in the War Channel off Cromer.

Enemy E-boats made another presumed minelaying sortie from Boulogne last night into the Dover area. Our light forces were unable to intercept the enemy.

41 aircraft of Bomber Command laid mines last night off the Frisian Islands.



178

8.6.1942  
Monday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT.

North Atlantic.

Operation  
"Salient"

EAGLE, CAIRO and 6 destroyers left Gibraltar this morning to fly off Spitfires to Malta. CHARYBDIS left yesterday evening.

South Atlantic.

The new aerodrome at Ascension, although not yet finished, is available for use from today.

Mediterranean.

Seven Wellingtons attacked Cagliari last night.

East Indies.

U-boats in  
Mozambique  
Channel.

At 1618 G.M.T. SS AGIOS GEORGIOS IV (Suez for Capetown and East Canada) reported that she was being shelled by a raider in 16° 12' S. 41° 0' E. (at the South approach to the Mozambique Channel).

At 1653 G.M.T. she reported that she had been hit and was steering 270° at 9 knots. It seems likely that the attack was made by a U-boat and not by a raider.

SS CHRISTOS MARKETOS made a submarine distress signal at 1747Z today in 5° S. 40° 53' E. (about 100 miles S.E. of Mombasa) though F.O.I.C. East Africa and Zanzibar reports that survivors state the ship was torpedoed and sunk in that position at 0800Z today, presumably by a submarine.

F.O.I.C. East Africa and Zanzibar considers that the possibility of sabotage by internal explosion cannot be excluded.



179

8.6.1942  
Monday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT.

East Indies.

U-boats in  
Mozambique  
Channel  
contd.

C. in C. E.F. thinks it possible that the Japanese aim at forcing shipping by submarine attacks to abandon the Mozambique Channel and pass East of Madagascar, thereby facilitating attacks by raiders. Lack of A/S escorts prevents convoys from being used for ships on the East African coast at present routed independently; all that can be done at present is to harrass U-boats with such aircraft as are available.

China.

The list of enemy casualties up to date in the battle near Midway Island are reported to be as follows:-

|                   | Sunk       | Damaged |
|-------------------|------------|---------|
| Battleships       | -          | 3       |
| Aircraft Carriers | 4          |         |
| Heavy Cruisers    | 2          | 3 badly |
| Destroyers        | At least 1 | some    |
| Transports        | 4          | 4       |

America and West Indies.

Two ships in Convoy T.O.5 were sunk by U-boat at 2030 Q.R. today in approx. 11° N. 66° 43' W.

Owing to poor visibility the movements of the Japanese forces in the Aleutian Islands area are obscure.



180

8.6.1942  
Monday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT.

Australia.

U-boats  
off N.S.W.

At least two enemy submarines were located off the N.S.W. coast today, and a submarine distress signal was heard at 0350Z today by Sydney radio. SS ORESTES was shelled by a U-boat at 1605Z/8 100 miles south of Sydney N.S.W., and later reported that she was on fire. The ship was sighted at 2045Z/8 on her normal course and no sign of fire was seen.

The first coastal convoy C.O.1 sailed today from Newcastle to Melbourne, Adelaide etc.



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War Diary.

8.6.1942  
Monday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Policy.

Icelandic  
Fishing  
Areas.

A.C.I.C's 1225B/6. No objections.  
(C. in C. H.F. 1026B/8 to Admty.)

Portsmouth  
Operational  
H.Q.

I intend transferring my Operational H.Q. to  
Fort Southwick at 1400/15.  
(C. in C. Portsmouth 1133B/8.)

Movements.

TORBAY.

*/N.O.I.C. W.D.*  
Your 2029B. Enter by Needles channel and  
pass Needles Lighthouse at 0530.  
(C. in C. Portsmouth 0007B/8 to TORBAY.)

P.219

Sailed P.219 escorted by LA CAPRICIEUSE. E.T.A.  
Clyde 2359B/8.  
(N.O.I.C. Barrow 0806B/8 to F.O.I.C. Greenock.)

OPHIR.

My 1155B/7. Sailed at 1136.  
(F.O.I.C. Portland 1153B/8 to C. in C. Portsmouth)  
Your 1155B/7. Arrived Needles 1550/8.  
(C. in C. Portsmouth 1624B/8 to F.O.I.C. Portland)

→URSULA.

My 1349/6 and C. in C. W.A. 1725/6.  
Intend to sail URSULA escorted by LA CAPRICIEUSE  
at 2030B/9 for 270° Barra Head 5 miles, E.T.A.  
1600B/10, for special trials. (ii) Trials will  
commence at 1600B/10 and will be completed by  
2000B/13th when both ships will return to Holyloch.  
(Capt. S.3 1455B/8.)

P.615.

P.615 will sail with convoy U.R.28 from Loch  
Ewe. S/M is to be stationed in accordance  
W.A.C.I. Part 381 para.4.  
(C. in C. W.A. 1905B/8 to F.O.I.C. Belfast.)

(1) Intend\* sailing P.615 escorted by YESTOR at 1030B/10 for  
Loch Ewe. E.T.A. 0830B/11.

(2) N.O.I.C. Aultbea is requested to sail P.615 in company with  
convoy U.R.28 for Reykjavik. F.O.S. 1044/6 refers.  
(Capt. S.3 2141B/8.) \* from Holy Loch

→URSULA.

URSULA escorted by LA CAPRICIEUSE sails Holy Loch  
2030/9. E.T.A. 270° Barra Head 5 at 1600/10 for  
trials.  
(F.O.S. 2002B/8.)

UTMOST.

Sailed UTMOST escorted by WHITE BEAR in  
accordance with S.3s 1221B/6.  
(F.O.I.C. Greenock 2208B/8.)



War Diary.

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Monday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operations.

Attempted interception of E-boats. E-Boats made another presumed minelaying sortie from Boulogne last night. They were first detected at 2340 15 miles from Boulogne on a W.S.W'ly course, speed 30 knots and then approached C.2 Buoy from the Southward. They retired in a similar direction, the plot being lost at 0210 30 miles S.W. of Boulogne. M.G.Bs 10, 7, and 6 had arrived on their pre-arranged Patrol between the Ridge and Bullock Buoy at 2345 and endeavoured without success to intercept the enemy's withdrawal near the Vergoyer Bank. It seems likely that E-Boats made the large Southerly detour having heard the M.G.Bs. The M.Ls on Dungeness Patrol were to the N.E. and again were unable to intercept owing to inferior speed.  
(V.A. Dover 0933B/8.)

MARIE LOUISE MACKAY. (Penzance-Valentia Cable Repair) Intend sailing MARIE LOUISE MACKAY with P.W.D.169 on 10/6 to D.1 buoy, thence independently escorted by PEARL to carry out paragraph A of A.M.1333B/5.  
2. Weather permitting estimated this repair will take 2 days.  
3. Request escort be detailed to relieve PEARL in vicinity of Helwick.  
(C. in C. Plymouth 1152B/8 to C. in C. W.A.)

Engagement with E-Boats and T.Bs on 7/6. My 1336B/7. Subsequent reports indicate that M.T.Bs 30 and 70 made contact with a total of four "T" class torpedo boats working in pairs.  
(C. in C. Nore 1512B/8.)

Iceland-Faroes Patrol. Estimated position at 2000 tonight. KENT on patrol south of Iceland.  
(A.C.O.S. 1612/8.)

Exercises.

RORQUAL. RORQUAL will be exercising in area D. from 0900 to 2000/9.  
(C. in C. Plymouth 1904B/8.)

British Air Activity.

QUEEN ELIZABETH. Convoy A.T.15 Z. Request fighter protection for QUEEN ELIZABETH escorted by one cruiser and five destroyers from 1715B/9 until arrival.  
(C. in C. W.A. 1801B/8.)



War Diary.

8.6.1942  
Monday.

HOME COMMANDS.

British Air Activity - contd.

Trial A/C attacks on Convoy. To test methods for countering air torpedo attacks on a convoy it is desired to carry out trial attacks on a convoy off N. Ireland. Consider these attacks must be carried out by fully trained operational pilots. It is understood a Squadron of F.A.A. A/C could be made available and it is proposed the trials should occur between about 23 and 30 June. Request a suitable squadron may be allocated. (C. in C. W.A. 1906B/8 to Admty )

North Russia. Proposed Base for Torpedo A/C. Your 2329/6. Soviet Air Force maintains at least eight torpedo bomber type S.B. at Vaenga which are held in readiness during R/C flights. Coastal Command Officers now here have seen them loaded.

(a) No difficulty in off-loading crates of A/C from ships with suitable derricks at Vaenga Pier maximum draught 20 feet, or Murmansk Dock maximum draught 25 feet.

(b) Vaenga aerodrome appears most suitable. Suggest Wing Commander Isherwood R.A.F. of 151 Wing be consulted. There are no runways. Large machines can take off in one direction only as aerodrome is about 3000 yards by 700 yds. and 16 wind usually up and down. Murmashi not suitable. Conditions Archangel aerodromes not ruined.

(c) Presume torpedoes for Soviet torpedo bombers are serviced at aerodrome.

(d) Petrol is 100 octane. There are no hangars. There would be no difficulty in dispersing additional 16 bombers around edge of aerodromes. Soviet authorities have not been consulted re accommodation of personnel.

(S.B.N.O. North Russia 2009B/8 to Admty.)

Your 1204C/7. You are requested to discuss this matter with the Soviet authorities but in so doing please ensure that they understand:-

(1) that we have the project under consideration only, have made no promises and are not committed in any way.

(2) that the object of these aircraft is to attack enemy surface vessels and that this movement in no way relieves the Soviet from their obligation to secure the convoy against submarine and air attack, or from the need to maintain a continuous bombing effort upon the German occupied aerodromes.

(A.C.N.S. H. 2141B/8 to Ad. Miles.)

Enemy Air Activity.

Jan Mayen. Following from Jan Mayen 7/6. Four Motor land plane observed 0635 South Coast. South Lagoon 1055 M.G. attack old station, 3 bombs dropped, no damage, and A/C heard 1407 S.W'ly direction. (A.C.I.C. 0150B/8.)

Convoy attacked. 1 A/C shadowing Convoy "Range" in 50° 27' N. 2° 22' W.

(Convoy Escort 1850/8.)

Convoy "Range" in 50° 20' N. 3° 9' W. is being shadowed by one enemy A/C.

(Convoy Escort 2318/8.)

/Convoy ...



MOST SECRET

183A

2122B/8

From. S.B.N.O. North Russia.

Date. 9.6.42.

Time. 1550.

I.D.C. O.T.T. BY W/T & T/P

Addressed. Admiralty. Rept. Admiral Miles.,  
C. in C. Home Fleet., S.B.N.O. Archangel.,  
H.Q.C.C.

199.

Admiral Miles 1819 April 30th.

1. Coastal Command Officers report as follows

- (a) After cool reception they have been given facilities to visit aerodrome operations room and discuss convoy escorts with staff and pilots themselves.
- (B) They are satisfied that latter who are keen well trained and equipped employ methods similar to our own.
- (C) Given sufficient long range fighter escorts up to 300 miles could be provided by P E 3's and within 50 miles by Hurricanes.
- (D) They estimate requirements to be for Murmansk. 36 long range fighters P E 3 or preferably Beau fighters stationed at Vaenga solely for convoy and blocking patrol duties and 36 Hurricanes long range to augment escort up to 100 miles radius. For Archangel. Use of same long range fighters operating from Vaenga and 36 Hurricanes long range stationed at Ponoï to augment escort up to 100 miles radius.
- (E) They consider fighter escorts are often in vicinity of convoys but not directly overhead and not seen by escorts.
- (F) With present number available about 16 continuous escort planes within 200 miles radius is impossible.

2. Coastal Command officers propose now returning U.K. unless advisory mission wishes to see them. Visit to aerodrome at Archangel not considered advisable because Archangel air staff impress upon them that Vaenga staff is responsible for all escort work and that same squadron will be employed in White Sea and discourage further tour. Admiralty pass to H.Q.C.C. C. in C. Home Fleet.

\* Presumably not sent to Admiralty. 2122B/8

Advance copy  
D.C., D.O.D. (H)  
D.D.I.C., D.T.D.

Note. Passing action taken by War Reg.  
Delay in circulation of this message  
due to confusion with another message on  
similar subject.

|              |                |                      |              |
|--------------|----------------|----------------------|--------------|
|              | A.C.N.S. (H)   | D.T.S.D.             | Hd. of Air   |
| 1st Lord     | A.C.N.S. (T)   | D.N.I.D.             | D.T.D. (2)   |
| 1st S.L. (2) | Npv. Sec.      | D.C. (2)             | D.T.D. (M)   |
| 4th S.L.     | N.A. 1st S.L   | D.N.I. (4)           | D.D.I.C. (2) |
| 5th S.L.     | D. of P. (2)   | Admiral Hermon Hodge | D.A/S.W.     |
| V.C.N.S.     | D.O.D. (H) (2) | Admiral Blako        | I.P. (2)     |
| A.C.N.S. (W) | Hd. of M. (6)  | C.C.L.S.             | W.D.         |

R.N.



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War Diary.

8.6.1942  
Monday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Enemy Air Activity.

Convoy  
attacked -  
contd.

Convoy "Range" is being attacked by enemy A/C.  
(Convoy Escort 2320/8.)

Convoy  
attacked.

Convoy "Review" is being shadowed by one enemy  
A/C.  
(LINCOLNSHIRE 2202/8.)  
Convoy "Review" in 90° 18 miles from Start  
Point is being attacked by enemy A/C.  
(LINCOLNSHIRE 2327/8.)

Mining.

Operation  
"Tincture"

Request you will carry out operation "Tincture"  
by 0200/10.  
(C. in C. W.A. 1006B/8 to F.O.I.C. Milford Haven.)  
Cancel my 1006B/8. Operation "Tincture" not now  
required.  
(C. in C. W.A. 1617B/8 to F.O.I.C. Milford Haven.)

Mines off  
Cromer.

LL Sweepers detonated 6 red magnetic mines at  
1101, 1103, 1107, 1207, 1215 and 1901  
respectively. Details.  
(F.O.I.C. Gt. Yarmouth 1147B/8, 1227B/8, 1258B/8,  
1946B/8, 1241B/9.)

Yarmouth  
Area.

LL Sweepers detonated Red Magnetic Mine at  
1901 in 291° 57 Buoy 3 miles.  
(F.O.I.C. Gt. Yarmouth 1946B/8 and 1241B/9.)

B.S.77.

Prepare to carry out B.S.77 on 11/6.  
(C. in C. Nore 1524B/8 to PLOVER.)

Q.S.6.

My 1158/8. 22 mines intercepted and sunk in  
swept waters across north end of area. Remaining  
mines were all hit and have most probably sunk.  
(M/S 9 1825B/8.)

U-Boats.

Italian  
U-Boat  
attacked.

My 1752/7. Further air attack will take place  
tonight. Bombing restrictions in area 56 south  
of 044° 30' and east of 002° W. are cancelled  
from 2000/8.  
(F.O.S. 1119B/8 to RUBIS.)

U-Boats  
reported.

Air R/C shows one U-boat leaving La Pallice  
at 1140 today.  
(F.O.S. 1841B/8 to RUBIS.)  
D/F at 2050/8 G.M.T. suggests that convoy O.N.100  
may have been reported by a U-boat.  
(D.D.I.C. 2334B/8)



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War Diary.

8.6.1942  
Monday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Navigational.

- Humber. H.9 buoy light extinguished and damaged.  
(F.O.I.C. Humber 1024B/8.)
- Norwegian Coast. The Norwegian Press have announced that the following areas are dangerous to shipping:- Sandnessjoen Area and Vefsenfiord. Details.  
(Hydrog. 1112B/8.)
- Ice off North Iceland. Ice R/C on 7/6. Packed drift ice extends from 066° 34' N. 025° 50' W. to 069° 03' N. 018° 35' W, thence 070° 20' N. 016° 55' W, thereafter running N.E. by N. N.W. of Jan Mayen Island appears clear of ice. The S.E. coast except for clear water in the Bay is surrounded by drift ice.  
(A.C.I.C. 1405B/8) (R.A.F. Iceland 2337Z/8)
- Molotovsk. Molotovsk. Nikolsky Buoy now established for duration of summer months in approx. 020° Solza 6.5 miles marking entrance of channel. Buoy is not lit.  
(S.B.N.O. Archangel 1742B/8.)
- Lowestoft. 9-foot Patch. Survey of Lowestoft Approaches has revealed A.9 foot patch in 1.73 miles 070½° from St. John's Church Spire, Lowestoft. Details.  
(F.O.I.C. Gt. Yarmouth 1826B/8.)

Technical.

- Oiling at Sea. My letter WA 990/162M of 2nd April 1942 on oiling at sea with rubber hose. Request I may be informed when it is anticipated that oilers fitted in the manner suggested i.e. with suitable stirrup rails etc. will be available. It is understood that a few oilers are being fitted with derricks aft as proposed in my 1029A/11/1/42. Although this arrangement may be of value for oiling small vessels during summer months, it is essential that properly fitted oilers should be available before the coming winter.  
(C. in C. W.A. 0042B/8 to Admty.)  
Investigate and report feasibility of your destroyers fuelling at sea from Ranger Class Oil Tankers.  
(C.T.F. 99 2040B/8 to Comdesron 8.)

/North ...



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War Diary.8.6.1942  
Monday.HOME COMMANDS.Technical - contd.

North Russia. (i) Effective jamming of enemy aircraft homeward  
Proposed W/T signals would provide considerable protection  
Receiving and to P.Q. and Q.P. convoys.  
Jamming (ii) It is suggested most effective method  
Stations. would be to have (?) beaconing stations who are  
also on direct communication with convoys escorts  
on appropriate port wave so that information  
concerning frequency to be jammed could be passed to them.  
(iii) (?U.K) and near Murmansk are the proposed sites for these  
stations.  
(iv) Admiralty is requested to earmark necessary equipment and  
personnel and to inform A.C.I.C. of largest items to be sent.  
(v) S.B.N.O. North Russia is requested to obtain permission  
from Russian authorities for installing a receiving station and  
jamming station about 3 miles apart.  
(vi) A.C.I.C. is requested to remark on method of conveying  
stores and personnel and living arrangements. Stores and  
personnel could be sent from Scapa to Reykjavik or Seidisfiord  
in H.M. Ships.  
(C. in C. H.F. 1551B/8 to Admty., A.C.I.C., S.B.N.O. North  
Russia.)

M/V Signal S.P.2405 is to be brought into force world wide  
Codes. on 1/7 to replace Merchant Navy Code and Decode  
and S.P. 02424 (Diversion Code) and use of  
prefix Mersigs in messages to and from M/Vs  
in the Atlantic is to cease on this date.  
(D.T.D. 2205B/8.)

Casualties and Defects.

HISTORIAN. Your 0107B/8. Please repeat my 2220Z/7 to  
PORT AUCKLAND. WOLVERINE. Alter to 060° at 0500 G.M.T.  
(Collision (CROCUS 0030Z/8 to C. in C. W.A.)  
7/6.) - 159 My 2345/7. For 180° Tuskar Rock 10 miles read  
180° Fastnet Rock 10 miles.  
(C. in C. W.A. 0102B/8 to WOLVERINE)  
(C. in C. W.A. 0107B/8 to CROCUS.)  
Your 1755B/8. CROCUS parted company to rejoin convoy 1600B/8.  
My P.C.S. at 2200B/8, 049° 45' N. 013° 50' W, 060°, 9½ knots.  
(WOLVERINE 1925B/8 to C. in C. W.A.)  
Proceed to Londonderry.  
(C. in C. W.A. 2219B/8 to CROCUS.)  
Your 2219B/8. In view of my position and your 1758B/8 I am  
continuing in accordance with my 2205B/8. Request instructions.  
(CROCUS 2310B/8 to C. in C. W.A.)

NIBLICK. My 2245B/7. Sailed at 0730 after delay caused  
by dynamo defect.  
(F.O. Humber 0732B/8 to F.O. Yarmouth.)



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War Diary.

8.6.1942  
Monday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping and Convoys.

- O.S.30 O.S.30. My 2125B/4 para C. Cancel HISTORIAN  
O.S.31. and PORT AUCKLAND. Both ships are returning  
to U.K. escorted by CROCUS. Propose to resail  
CROCUS with O.S.31.  
(C. in C. W.A. 0033B/8 to R.A. W.A.F.)
- H.X.192 Ships of 11½ knots and over are to be detached  
forthwith and proceed as H.X.192 fast, escorted  
by two corvettes.  
(C. in C. W.A. 0805Z/8 to C.T.U. 24.1.5.)
- F.N.29 Sheerness departure with F.N.29, PETERHEAD  
at 0800.  
(C. in C. Nore 0902B/8.)
- D.S.28. Admiralty 1340/7. ST. MARYS and NEWARK detailed  
for D.S.28.  
(R.A.M. 0910/8.)
- Escorts for F.N. and F.S. Convoys. It is regretted that owing to other commitments  
no additional destroyer escorts from this  
Command will be available for F.N. and F.S. convoys  
after F.N.29 and F.S.24. Endeavour will be made  
to maintain the existing patrols.
2. It is hoped to be able to resume escort about 25/6.  
(C. in C. Nore 1036B/8.)
- Ammunition Reserves for Murmansk. My 1221/6 para (1) and R.A.D. H.F. 2348/6.  
Intend sailing INGLEFIELD and INTREPID to  
Murmansk loaded with following ammunition in  
addition to their normal outfit:- (A) 417 Q F  
Mark IX H.E., 312 shells, 160 charges.  
(B) 417 B L H.E. 160 rounds. (C) 4-inch Q F Mark 16 H.E., 500  
rounds. (D) 4-inch Q F Mark 5 H.E., 120 rounds. (E) 4-inch Q.F.  
Mark 4 Shrapnel. 50 rounds, H.E. 20 rounds. (F) 4-inch B.L.  
Mark 9 H.E., 150 rounds (G) 3-inch Q F H.E., 120 rounds.  
(H) 12 Pounder Q F H.E. 630 rounds. (I) Pom-pom H V, 3600 rounds.  
(J) Pom-Pom L V, 1100 rounds. (K) Oerlikon, 14400 rounds minimum.  
(L) .5 Vickers, 7200 rounds. (M) .5 Browning, 5000 rounds.  
(N) .303 gun, 19300 rounds. (O) .3 Martin, 3000 rounds.  
(P) .3 Browning, 2000 rounds. (Q) Oerlikon barrel, one.  
(R) Oerlikon spare part box, one. (S) Depth charge carrier and  
cartridges, 17.  
(2) S.B.N.O. North Russia is requested to distribute above among  
convoy escorts and merchant ships to best advantage.  
(3) As so little American ammunition is being sent recommend that  
U.S. ships take care to replenish from cargo, augmented where  
possible from supplies listed in para one and being lent weapons  
from British Ships as necessary.  
(C. in C. H.F. 1137B/8 to Admty.)  
Your 1145B/6. Arrangements have been made and you will be  
informed of particulars as soon as possible.  
(A.C.N.S. W. 1909B/8 to C.in C. H.F.)



War Diary.

8.6.1942  
Monday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping and Convoys - contd.

- S.C.85. Report forthwith your P.C.S. and names of ships detached for Iceland (C).  
(C. in C. W.A. 1201Z/8 to C.T.U. 24.1.14.)
- Coastal Traffic Routes. Cancel my 1624A/21/2. Coastal traffic from South to ports in Morecambe Bay and Solway Firth should proceed from 000° Skerries 4 miles direct to Morecambe Bay Lt. Vessel, passing to westward of outer end of Q Z S 215, thence by Q Z S 36, or 282, or coastal route as requisite. Ships bound Preston should proceed to Bar Lt. Vessel, thence by Q Z S 303, 304.  
(F.O.I.C. Liverpool 1206/8.)
- O.S.32. BURDOCK. Consider that BURDOCK requires at least 10 days for working up at Tobermory. Propose to sail BURDOCK with O.S.32.  
(C. in C. W.A. 1253B/8 to R.A. West Africa.)
- A.T.15 Z. QUEEN ELIZABETH. Your 1752/5 para (5). Obligated to detach Escort Destroyers 2 hours after sailing. Destroyers will sweep outward at best speed and be met by \*SHEIK on inward journey and utilized if they can steam 20 knots and above, otherwise they will previously have been turned to sweep homeward. Sacrifice of Destroyers services in Rockall Area is much regretted. *\*Not identified*  
(DELHI 1425B/8 to C. in C. W.A.) *See p. 182.*
- S.L.111 S.L. 111 split at 0601Z/8 in 042° 25', 024° 40' A. 14 ships escorted by DOUGLAS and CLARE, 013°, 10½. Names. RAPANA, BRITISH ENGINEER joined. PERIBONKA left yesterday, unable to keep up. My position 1402Z/8, 043° 40', 024° 15', 014° 7'.  
(PELICAN 1431Z/8 to C. in C. W.A.)
- H.X.191 H.X.191. Average speed 8.19 knots. Fog until 31/5 followed by good weather. Four stragglers night of 30th. All ships now reported.  
(D.T.D. 1730B/8 to Connav.)
- S.C.85. S.C.85. Your 1307Z/8. Maintain course 088° until daylight tomorrow as fast ship will be overtaking you to the north and south of your route tonight.  
(C. in C. W.A. 1806Z/8 to C.T.U. 24.1.14.)
- Navigation Lights. In B.A.M.S. areas 2B and 4, when southward of 4 deg. North dimmed navigation lights are normally to be exhibited:-



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8.6.1942  
Monday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping and Convoys.

Navigation  
Lights -  
contd.

- (a) When within 5 miles of harbour entrances or in approaches to inland waters.
  - (b) When in coastal lanes (i.e. normal tracks followed by ships proceeding coastwise.)
- (D.T.D. 2200Z/8 to B.A.M.S. Areas 1, 2, 3, 4.)



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8.6.1942.  
Monday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic.COLTSFOOT,  
SALVONIA.0915 COLTSFOOT escorting tug SALVONIA sailed vicinity Cape de Gata.  
(F.O.C.N.A., 0948B/8 to EAGLE, (R) Admty., V.A. Malta., C. in C. Med.)Operation  
"Salient".Departure for Operation "Salient" 2130/7 CHARYBDIS. 0920/8 EAGLE, CAIRO, WESTCOTT, WISHART, PARTRIDGE, ANTELOPE, WRESTLER, ITHURIEL.  
(F.O.C.N.A., 0956B/8 to Admty., (R) V.A. Malta, C. in C. Med.)

CLYDE.

V.A. Malta's 1943/7. <sup>INT. W.D.</sup> Consider CLYDE unfit for operational patrol where A/S activity may be expected due to depth limit of 150 feet and removing of one third of batteries.  
(F.O.C.N.A., 1032B/8 to C. in C. Med., (R) V.A. Malta, F.O.(S), Capt. S.1, Admty.)  
CLYDE not to be used - see C. in C. Med. 1902C/8.  
P. 195Damaged  
Italian  
U/B.On 7/6 about 1000 hours Italian S/M entered harbour damaged by bombs from 3 aeroplanes. Several members of crew taken to hospital.  
(Santander, 1055/8 to Admty, D.N.I.)H.G. Convoys,  
Sailing dates.Your 1902/6. Concur with C. in C. W.A. 1130/7 observing that H.G. convoys sailing dates would also be liable to adjustment dependent on circumstances.  
(F.O.C.N.A., 1120B/8 to Admty., (R) C. in C. W.A.)P.R.U.  
Genoa,  
Spezia,  
Leghorn.Request P.R.U. R/C of Genoa, Spezia and if possible Leghorn may be flown at the first opportunity.  
(D.O.D.(F), Approved A.C.N.S.(F), 1311B/8 to H.Q.C.C.)MOONSHINE,  
FLYING  
KESTREL.C. in C. W.A. 1053B/2.  
Request you will instruct ships onward route from Horta as follows through position D. 030° 30' N. 026° 40' W. E. 019° 50' N. 021° 50' W. thence Freetown as ordered by R.A. West Africa.(2) Request arrangements be made to supply MOONSHINE with 75 tons coal and FLYING KESTREL 135 tons coal.  
(F.O.C.N.A., 1318B/8 to British Vice-Consul Horta, (R) British Vice-Consul Ponta Delgada, Admty., C. in C. W.A., C. in C. S.A. R.A. West Africa.)

/BUXTON ...



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War Diary.8.6.1942.  
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic - Contd.

- BUXTON. 038° 14' N. 028° 30' W. to Argentina.  
(F.O.C.N.A., 1718B/8.)
- Shipping Information. Your 1704B/6. Para. 9 (a) Vescas. Yes Merco, no, following additional information required - route, speeds, destinations and dispersal points of all ships breaking off from convoys.  
(2) Para. 9 (B) No, following are additional requirements -  
(1) supply of Lloyds Shipping Index to all H.M. ships.  
(2) Situation report covering all Merchant Shipping excluding neutral shipping already shown in W.P.P.S. (3) Para. 9 (C) concur with para. 6. (4) A grid system would be of highest value.  
(V.A.C.N.A., 1651B/8 to Admty.)
- SCOTTISH. Sailed SCOTTISH for Y. 3.  
(F.O.C.N.A., 1831B/8 to Admty., (R) IMPERIALIST, ALOUETTE.)
- SPEEDY. E.T.A. 0608/9.  
(SPEEDY, 2000B/8 to F.O.C.N.A.)
- Cobalt at Nemours. Following received from Greenleaves, Tangier. (Begins) Americans request following be treated as Most Secret to protect official sources. My 1001/7. Shipment will be made from Nemours routed to Marseilles by one of following: ~~SAINT~~ SAUVEUR 10/6. LE REMOIS 17/6. SAINT RAYMOND 20/6. Agents at Marseilles are Sareschenker proving German destination. Second shipment probably in near future to clear 1500 tons stock accumulated at Casablanca. T.O.O. 1117/8. (Ends)  
(S.O.I. Gibraltar, 2242B/8 to Admty.)
- R/C Casablanca. Photo R/C Casablanca 1535/8. JEAN BART alongside Quai Dalande protected by double torpedo boom. PRIMAUGUENT moored stern on to jetty Delure immediately inside harbour entrance with merchant ship alongside starboard beam. Harbour entrance boom gives protection from seaward. GLOIRE alongside jetty Delure. Merchant ship alongside starboard bow with boom extended from its stern.  
(F.O.C.N.A., 2230B/8 to Admty., etc.)
- BUXTON. Ponta Delgada departure 8/6 1000(~~9-7th~~) BUXTON for Argentina.  
(F.O.C.N.A., 2318B/8 to N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, C. in C. A.W.I., N.O.I.C. Liverpool, C.T.F. 24, Capt. (D) Liverpool.)



War Diary.

8.6.1942.  
Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic.

GEORGE  
CLYMER  
torpedoed

ALCANTARA 1600Z/7, Do not consider risk of towing justified. Is value of cargo worth sending out vessel to tow and escort or should derelict be sunk by ALCANTARA?  
(C. in C. S.A., 0540B/8 to Admty., (R) ALCANTARA, R.A. West Africa, C.T.F. 23.)

Your 0540. Master and Engineer consider back badly strained. Under deck cargo chiefly timber. Weather conditions at present unsuitable for passing tow. Ship now completely abandoned. Request permission to sink.

(ALCANTARA, 1100Z/8 to C. in C. S.A., (R) Admty., R.A. West Africa, C.T.F.)

Your 1100Z/8. Approved. Proceed Capetown complying with my 1233/30/5 en route.

(C. in C. S.A., 1704B/8 to ALCANTARA, (R) Admty., R.A. West Africa, C.T.No. 23.)

Your 0540/8 attempt to salvage is not considered justifiable. Derelict should be sunk.

(D.T.D., 1246B/8 to C. in C. S.A., (R) R.A. West Africa, C.T.F. 23, ALCANTARA.)

(Cancelled, see note after 1620/8.)

Your 0540/8.

Tug and escort should be sent if salvage is at all practicable.

(D.T.D., 1620B/8 to C. in C. S.A., (R) R.A. West Africa, C.T.F. 25, ALCANTARA.)

Note:- A.M. 1246/8 cancelled before transmission.

→ See 9/6-12.4.

CANTON.

CANTON is required for refit in U.K. end of June. Request you will sail her for Capetown as soon as she can be spared.

(C. in C. S.A., 0957B/8 to C. in C. E.F., (R) CANTON, D/C. in C. E.F., Admty.)

Japanese Raiders.

Written report survivors landed by ABDIEL of 2 Japanese raiders as follows.

15,000 and 8000 tons respectively, similar in appearance, larger 5 decks, smaller 3 decks, counting from waterline; with raked stem, squat raked funnels, cruiser stern. 2 goalpost masts 1 set in in fore well deck, the other at after end of amidships superstructure: 2 pole masts 1 on forecandle and 1 well aft. Speed about 20 knots each probably armed with 8 guns, have torpedo tubes and carry aircraft. Vessels square with white and grey vertical stripes. (S.O.I. Capetown, 1009B/8 to Admty., C. in C. E.F., C. in C. E.I., F.O. East Africa and Zanzibar.)

Situation Report.

KELT, SPANIARD, LAERTES patrolling sector T. US.S. RALEIGH 004° 50' N. 011° 50' W. to Freetown 16.

M.L. 281 and 289 escorting to Freetown E.T.A.

0630/9.

BENGALI off Monrovia. ~~ARRAN~~ about 000° (? 01') N. 007° 45' W. 150°, 8.

SNOWDROP about 003° 20' N. 004° 30' E. to Lagos (Nigeria) 12.

BELWORT in tow 3 tugs off Pointe Noire to Walvis Bay.

CARNARVON CASTLE patrolling I.34B.

(R.A. West Africa, 1229Z/8 to Admty., C. in C. S.A., N.O.I.C. Takoradi, R.N.O. Lagos.)

/SUTLEJ ...



War Diary.

8.6.1942.  
Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic - Contd.

m/v SUTLEJ  
"S" Report.

Following has been read S S S S 2° 52' N. 15° 31' W. SUTLEJ. Submarine periscope sighted. (Freetown W/T, 1257Z/8.)

CHILE  
torpedoed.

CHILE torpedoed in 4° 20' N. 13° (? 51') W. probable about 2200/7. (R.A. West Africa, 1315Z/8 to Admty., (R) C. in C. S.A.)

Co-operation  
with S.A.  
Force.

My 1905/21 (1005/21 intended ?) and previous signals. High Commissioner message to D.O. No. 977 of 2/6 refers. 2. Situation is as described in High Commissioner's message. Prime Minister and Gen. de Villiers mean business. Latter now staying in my house drawing up plans and recommendations with me for fullest co-operation of R.N. and Victoria Union force connected with coast defence. Stock financial and other implications of move will be reported in due course. Para. 4 of my 1748/25 (1748/15/4 intended ?) still stands. (C. in C. S.A., 1515B/8 to Admty.)

Movements  
Summary.

2000Z/8. Area Q.  
ENGADINE about 034° (? 00') S. 027° 00' E. to Capetown.  
CILICIA off Tristan da Cunha.  
(? CHESHIRE) to Simonstown from South E.T.A. 9/6.  
ALCANTARA about 014° 50' S. 018° 30' W.  
SHROPSHIRE, BELVOIR, HURSLEY with W.S. 19 Durban portion 032° 43' S. 029° 56' E. to Durban E.T.A. 0400Z/9.  
BRITTANY, (? BARFOUNT), BARRYMORE from (? Walvis Bay) 8 knots E.T.A. Capetown 0900Z/9.  
BUSHWOOD, AIGLON, HATSUSE, ESTRELLA DO MAR, 019° 00' S. 010° 30' E. to Walvis Bay.  
ABDIEL from Durban route R.9 E.T.A. Simonstown 0545Z/9.  
ARCHER 032° (? 30') S. 011° 00' E. 280°, 13 knots. (C. in C. S.A., 1614B/8 to S.A. Stn. Sqdn., (R) Admty.)

AGIOS  
GEORGIOS IV  
"R" Report.

R R R R AGIOS GEORGIOS IV 16° 12' S. 41° 00' E. course 270° speed 9 knots shelled and hit de Z S D (Jacobs W/T). (Slangkop W/T 1830/8, 1844/8, 1653 G.M.T./8.)

CARLISLE,  
ISAAC  
SWEERS

Intend to sail CARLISLE and ISAAC SWEERS in company at 0700/9 for Wicklow fuelling at Bathurst. Onward route from Bathurst:  
E. 014° 02' N. 019° 03' W. F. 015° 01' N. 020° 01' W. G. 022° 02' N. 019° 03' W. H. 027° 50' N. 013° 42' W. K. 032° 27' N. 010° 40' W. L. 035° 40' N. 006° 40' W. Thence to Gibraltar. S. of A. 14 knots. E.T.A. 0600/16. CARLISLE destination is Plymouth, ISAAC SWEERS destination in U.K. unknown, believed to be Southampton. (R.A. West Africa, 1639Z/8 to F.O.C.N.A., (R) Admty., C. in C. Plymouth.)

/Shipping ...



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War Diary.8.6.1942.  
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic - Contd.Shipping  
Diversion.

My 1450/7. Ships now at sea bound from South African ports to ports south of Jacksonville and routed to Trinidad for bunkers should not be diverted to Freetown.  
(D.T.D., 1740B/8 to C. in C. S.A., R.A. West Africa, (R) C. in C. A.W.I.)

Escort for  
BATORY.

G.O.C. in C. W.A. QM/45552 cipher 7/6, not to C. in C. S.A. Request you will reply whether return escort for BATORY from Lagos to Takoradi and Freetown can be provided.

2. C. in C. S.A. is requested to remark on possibility of either CILICIA or CANTON escorting BATORY from Freetown to U.K. on assumption approximate date is 21/7.  
(D.O.D.(F), 1910B/8 to R.A. W.A., (R) G.O.C. in C. West Africa, C. in C. S.A.)

Reply: Escort can be provided.  
(R.A.W.A., 1805Z/9.)

Cape  
Palmas.

Proposal for Naval W/T station.  
(R.A.W.A., 2221Z/8 to Admty.)  
See Lion Copy.

Mediterranean.Italian  
Shipping.

My 1604C/14. 2 Italian steamers expected Istanbul from Trieste 2nd half June. B.3.  
(Beyoglu, 1506C/8 to S.O.I. Med., (R) D.N.I., S.O.(I.) Istanbul.)

Malta Air  
Report.

I. 351. C.S.R. 8/6.  
7th. Two alerts, 1906 dusk, 11 raiders including Ju.88s and Ju.87s, flares dropped, Beaufighter up, no combats, 6 illuminations,

1 Ju.88 destroyed by A/A Luqa, U.X.Bs. Elsewhere, 4 civilian casualties and damage.

Night 7/8, 0122, 1 raider, bombs sea.

8th. 4 Spitfires dawn shipping search found nothing. 0630, Luqa D/A exploded, 3 soldiers wounded, 1 Spitfire slight damage. 0901, 10 Me.109s, 1 Me.109 damaged by 13 Spitfires, 1 Spitfire missing, search unsuccessful.

(H.Q. R.A.F. Malta, 1530/8.)

/Part ...



SECRET

2221Z/8th June.  
M E S S A G E

IN.

From: R.A. West Africa

Date: 10.6.42.  
Recd: 0915.

## Naval Cypher (X) by W/T

Addressed: Admiralty repeated C. in C. South Atlantic 784

9. I consider that establishment of Naval W/T Station in neighbourhood of Cape Palmas would be of very considerable assistance in protection of British and American shipping in that area.

(2) The coast in the vicinity of Cape Palmas is becoming increasingly important and this area is not satisfactorily covered by Freetown or Takoradi W/T Stations. During recent submarine activity in this area I was considerably hampered by lack of effective communications.

(3) The R.A.F. wish to establish a small W/T Station at Marshall and it is understood that U.S.A.A.C. are negotiating with Liberian Government to establish W/T Station at Cape Palmas details of latter Station unknown but considered probable it will be in connection with air and weather.

(4) A.H.Q. West Africa have approached U.S. authorities in Liberia in subject on behalf of Navy as well as themselves.

(5) A.H.Q. West Africa are also negotiating through the Governor Sierra Leone and Charge D'Affaires Monrovia with Liberian authorities to obtain permission to instal an R.A.F. and Naval W/T Station.

(6) Air Ministry have approached Foreign Office on subject and latter have instructed Charge D'Affaires Monrovia to approach Liberian Government.

(7) Provisional proposals re Naval Station are

- (a) An HF transmitter to carry out B.A.M S:
- (b) An HF transmitter to work fixed service with Freetown.
- (c) Constant 500 kc/s and ship shore frequency watch.
- (d) D.F. watch on 500 kc/s.

8/.



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- 2 -

(8) Further details will be signalled when available.  
Request covering approval.

2221Z/8.

Advance copy Ops. Trade,  
D.S.D. M.

V.C.N.S.  
A.C.N.S.(T)  
A.C.N.S.(F)  
P.A.S.(S)  
N.A.1st S.L.  
Ops.(3)  
O.D.(5)  
O.I.C.(3)  
D.N.I.(5)  
M.(3)  
D.S.D.(2) for action  
D.T.D.(4)  
D.T.D.(M)  
D.T.D.(C)  
O/C W/T Room (2)  
D.S.D.9.  
Ad. Blake  
U.S.N.(3)  
W.D.  
I.P.(3)  
File X.



War Diary.

8.6.1942.  
Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean. con't.

Malta Air  
Report.  
(Contd.)

Part 2 of my I. 351, 8/6.  
Night 7/8. 7 Mark 2 Wellingtons target Cagliari  
shipping, 2126 to 2213 hours, effective smoke  
screen whole harbour and part town. Numerous  
fires in vicinity Air Force and Augustine  
Barracks.  
(H.Q. R.A.F. Malta, 1605/8.)

THRASHER.

THRASHER sailed 1800C/8 and proceeded from  
searched channel through 032° 40' 029° 05' and  
034° 37' 023° 06' to comply with your 1201/8. *N.T.A.W.3*  
(Capt. S.1., 1611C/8 to C. in C. Med., (R) V.A.  
Malta, N.O.I.C. Alexandria, 201 N.C. Group,  
S/Ms on Patrol.)

CLYDE.

*N.T.A.W.3.*  
Your 1943/7 and F.O.C.N.A.'s 1032/8. CLYDE is  
not to be used.  
(C. in C. Med., 1902C/8 to V.A. Malta, (R)  
F.O.C.N.A., F.O.S., Admty., S.1.) *p.190*



8.6.1942.  
Monday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

GENOTA (overdue). Dutch GENOTA left Geraldton 30/4 for Abadan. Not arrived. (S.O.(I) Colombo, 0421Z/8 to Admty etc).

Burma Report. 13837/I. cipher 7/6. Situation report (?11). 4 Blenheims attacked 4,000 ton (?M/V) at Akyab from 50 to 100 feet (W.D. Note. No date given ? 6/6). 12 bombs dropped including 3 overshot on jetty area and warehouses. 4 bombs in South part town. Vessels sampans and wharf machine gunned. 1 aircraft crashed into sea near target. Return fire from 4 machine guns on vessel. (C. in C. India, 0530/8 to W.O. etc).

Raiders R.A. & B.S. 0622Z/8 to C. in C. E. F. - See 1231Z/29/6.

Convoy B.A. 24, Transport RAJULA (?sailed) from Bombay 8/6 for Suez via Aden and Massawa. E.T.A. Aden 1500Z/13. Numbers on board. (P.S.T.O. India, 0531Z/8 to S.T.O. Aden).

B.A. 24 consists of RAJULA, troops and stores for Suez sailed 1000Z/8 escorted by SONAVATI to position R. 2. routed through Q. 18° 29', 69° 45'. R. 18° 21', 66° 32'. S. 18° 05', 59° 34'. T. 13° 33', 50° 14'. S. of A. to R, 12½ knots, thence Bear Island speed 4 E.T.A. Aden, 1500Z/13. (N.C.S.O. Bombay, 1007Z/8 to Admty).

Catalinas. Following is a repetition of my 1645Z/7. (Begins) Request Catalinas call at Seychelles in order to operate from there on patrol between Seychelles and Farquhar Is. on 10th and 11/6. Patrol to locate Japanese raiders possible crossing from S.E. After Catalinas proceed to Mombasa. T.O.O. 1645Z/7. (Ends). (D. C. in C. E.F., 0742Z/8 to 222 Group (R) C. in C. E.F., etc). (W.R. Note - See 0455/7 from C. in C. E.F.)

DUSQUESNE. S.O. Force F's 1409C/1/6. Air R/C p.m. Sunday 7/6 add: Vessel has floating catamarans securing both sides also their berthing lines on one bow have been removed indicating possibility of some craft having proceeded alongside. One large seaworthy motor boat and 2 smaller (?boats) anchored in close proximity. (N.O.I.C. Diego Suarez, 1015C/8 to D. C. in C. E.F.)

Raiders, Appreciation, Dispositions. It seems possible that Japanese dispositions aim at forcing trading in Mozambique Channel by S/M attacks to pass E. of Madagascar and thereby facilitate attacks by raiders. 2. Lack of A/S escorts prevents convoys being used for ships on E. African coast at present routed independently All that can be done is to harass S/Ms with air as is available. There should be a further improvement in this respect when Catalina squadrons referred to in your 0109/3 (Hush, N.T. in W.D.) arrive at Kilindini proving (?providing) A.S.V. is effective.



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War Diary.8.6.1942.  
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies. con. 15:-Raiders,  
Appreciation,  
Dispositions.  
Contd.

3. I have considered detaching one carrier with GAMBIA and MAURITIUS to hunt raiders in area south of Madagascar leaving WARSPITE and remaining carrier to cover northern part of Indian Ocean. Situation of INDOMITABLE as in my 0544Z/8.

4. If Japanese have in fact received a serious set-back off Midway Is., this splitting up of Force A might be acceptable, although present lack of special Intelligence introduces an element of risk. Objections are:-  
(a) Prospect of a single carrier finding a raider unless scent is hot is somewhat remote. (b) This will interfere seriously with progressive training of carriers.

5. I attach great importance to 4 (B). We have made considerable progress but still lack experience in operating 3 (?carriers) together especially in night operations and massed fighter direction. 6. Unless the Americans desire that Force A should remain in this area for prolonged period I shall aim at returning to Kilindini in time to collect INDOMITABLE (?on completion of) her repairs and destroyers ex JULIUS and then proceed to area E. of Seychelles where weather conditions should be suitable for flying and geographical position admits of W/T being used during air exercises. The latter is an essential requirement.

7. (?Should) there be recrudescence of raider activities it may be practicable to employ whole carrier force in sweeps since it is unlikely enemy would be aware of our whereabouts and consequently unlikely to risk forces in northern part of Indian Ocean.

(C.in C. E.F., 1146Z/8 to Admty, (R) D.C. in C.E.F. Cin C.S.A. C.in C.E.I., R.A. 3.B.S., F.O.C.A.C.).

U.S. Pacific  
Operations,  
information.

Request following be passed to C.in C. Pacific Fleet (Passing action being taken by W.R.) (begins).

1. On behalf of Eastern Fleet I send you warm congratulations on outstanding success achieved by Pacific Fleet. 2. I should be most grateful if information can be furnished on tactical aspect of engagement and especially with regard to air operations as follows:  
(a) Depth and results achieved by air R/C. (b) Types used for shadowing technique of both sides and results achieved.  
(c) Extent which RD/F was used for fighter interception, average distance of interception and any evidence concerning enemy fighter direction striking forces, (1) number, types and (?composition) used by both sides (2) Were escorts used. (3) Depth of strikes. (4) Height of approach. (5) Technique of attack. (6) Relative effectiveness of bomb and torpedo.  
(e) Fighters. How were these used in defence of both sides?  
(f) A/A fire. Relative effectiveness of long range and short range. Effect of the foregoing are required for my personal information and to assist me in training my ships and especially carriers. If reply is sent via Admty it can be re-transmitted to me in cypher held by myself only.

(C.in C. E.F., 1149Z/8, to Admty). Reply 1450/13.

Addu Atoll  
CLAN FORBES.

Proposals for employment of M.N.B.D.O. in CLAN FORBES and other personnel required at Addu Atoll, including defence of Gan aerodrome.  
(C.in C.E.I., 1321Z/8 to Arminia (R) Admty etc.)  
See Lion Copy.

/Kilindini .....



197 A

SECRET

MESSAGE

1321Z/8 June

IN

From C. in C. East Indies.

Date 9.6.42.

Recd. 0640

INTERSERVICE (GEN X) BY CABLE

Addressed. ARHINDIA. Repeated. Admiralty, C. in C. Eastern Fleet, Deputy C. in C. Eastern Fleet, P.O.C. Royal Indian Navy, 713, Com. Royal Indian Navy, S.C.E. East Indies.

IMPORTANT

947. 1. As a result of the decision to proceed with the construction of the aerodrome on Gan as a matter of first priority and also to proceed with the improvement of the pier and construction of roads and causeways on that Island the following proposals for the employment of MNBDO in CLAN FORBES and of other personnel required at Addu Atoll are forwarded for your early consideration.

(a) MNBDO in CLAN FORBES to move the 6" guns at Seychelles to their new positions and to mount the 4" guns there as previously arranged. Crews for these guns to remain at Seychelles as previously arranged but only essential stores and landing craft to be left there. On completion of above Colonel Kulis in CLAN FORBES to return to Colombo. CLAN FORBES after completing with certain stores and landing craft to proceed to Addu.

(b) Construction of roads other than those required for movement and installation of guns mentioned in (a) above should not be commenced at present and the Pioneer Coy. and Artisan section detailed to proceed to Seychelles for this work should be diverted to Addu calling at Colombo en route.

(c) Royal Marine Engineering Coy. and their equipment now en route from U.K. in ORMONDE plus balance of labour required to be sent to Addu when available.

2. Programme was fully discussed with Colonel Bruce who knows detailed requirements.

3. Request your early concurrence and also that consideration may be given to (a) the provision of 8 Bofors guns for the defence of Gan aerodrome. (b) The provision of anti-E.Boat guns at the entrances to Addu as approved in original defence scheme.

4. Duties of planning and administering Addu will be carried out by P.O. Coylon to whom all communications on this subject should be addressed in the future.

|              |                      |               |                      |
|--------------|----------------------|---------------|----------------------|
| 1st Lord     | A.C.N.S. (W)         | 1321Z/8       | D of L.D. (2)        |
| 1st S.L.     | N.A. 1st S.L.        |               | Ad. Blake            |
| 2nd S.L.     | N.A. to A.C.N.S. (T) |               | D.T.S.D.             |
| 3rd S.L.     | Ops. (3)             | D.N.A.D.      | W.D.                 |
| Vice Contr.  | O.D. (5)             | Air Br.       | I.P. (3)             |
| 4th S.L.     | O.I.C. (3)           | E.in C. (PMB) | Dep. Contr. (3) Bath |
| 5th S.L.     | D.N.I. (5)           | D.A.S. (2)    | D. (4) } by          |
| V.C.N.S.     | A.G.R.M.             | D.N.O.        | E.in C. (PMB) } T/P  |
| A.C.N.S. (F) | D.57.O.B.            | M. (2)        | D.A.S. (4) } (BA     |
| A.C.N.S. (T) | C.E. in C            | D. of P. (3)  | D.N.O. (4) } 4734)   |
|              | D.G.D. (2)           | Ad. Bellairs  | C.E. in C.           |



8.6.1942.  
Monday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies - Contd.

Kilindini Boom. A.M. 1048B/1/5, 2208B/21/4. All authorities at Kilindini have now agreed that A/S A/B Boom from Pillar L.T to North Shore as originally planned is practicable. Intend, therefore, to proceed with this scheme. Temporary expedients until Boom can be placed include (details). (3) Difficulties experienced with tide of up to 6 knots in the narrows are great. (D. C. in C. E.F., 1341Z/8 to Admty., (R) C. in C. E.F., etc.)

Burma Air Report. A. 994, 8/6. Intelligence summary No. 85 on information received up to 1800 hours 8/6. 7/6. 1 Blenheim Chindwin River bombed and machine gunned 4 steamers at Sittaung and Kaiewa, near misses. 3 Blenheims bombed and machine gunned motor vessel and W/T station Akyab, near misses. 1 Hudson bombed Buthidaung, 2 others failed to locate target. No damage seen. (Air H.Q. India, 1445/8.)

Diego Suarez, Events on 5/5. High Vichy Officers allege firing took place before ultimatum delivered at outset of operations had expired. To enable formal denial to be given confirm allegation is untrue. If true however state whether French troops fired first, where firing took place and under what circumstances. (W.O., 1500/8 to 121 Force.) Reply: 1849/13.

Signalling. (Corrupt group) during current operations in Mozambique Channel Kilindini W/T (MXV 3) will, in addition to normal transmission on Group V repeat operational traffic on 5700 kc/s. All ships are to keep listening watch on this frequency. N.O.I.C. Diego Suarez is requested to re broadcast traffic on this frequency using call sign MXX 1, and also operational traffic received on broadcast S.L. This routine will be commenced at 1200Z today. (D. C. in C. E.F., 1743Z/8 to Eastern Fleet at Sea, N.O.I.C. Diego Suarez, (R) C. in C. E.F., C. in C. S.A., Cdre. Durban, Admty., F.O. 3rd B.S.)

CHRISTOS MARKETOS. Following has been read. SSSS CHRISTOS MARKETOS 5° S., 40° 53' E. (Colombo W/T, T.O.R. 1747Z/8.)

Air Sqdns., Control. A. At present, the long range G/R Sqdns. working from Ceylon are operated by A.O.C. Ceylon in accordance with a directive from C. in C. Ceylon laid down in W.O. Telegram 1935/11/3 to C. in C. India. We are not clear, however, whether A.O.C. Ceylon operates Catalina Sqdns. which are based outside Ceylon. B. It is hoped to build up some Long Range shore based G/R Sqdns. and gradually to increase the number of T/B Sqdns.



SECRET

MESSAGE -- 18000/8 June III

From N.O. i/c Diego Suarez

DATE 11.6.42.

REC'D 0950

Naval Cypher (C 49) by W/T

Addressed Admiralty Repeated R.A. (A) Eastern Fleet, Comas Mombasa, C. in C. Eastern Fleet, C. in C. East Indies, C. in C. South Atlantic, D/C. in C. Eastern Fleet.

- A. Only one landing ground exists in the occupied area, namely, Arrachart Airport situated five miles south of Ansisirane latitude 012 Degrees 21' South longitude 049 Degrees 18' 20" East, adjacent to main road. Arrachart is occupied by R.A.F. and S.A.A.F units and consists of one grass landing strip 1000 yards long, and is reported to be useable in all weathers. It is outside main defended line.
- B. Prevailing winds are strong south easterly from April to November, and west to north west from December to March. Mean velocity throughout 24 hours averages 23 M.P.H. from April to November. Night winds are light and day winds increase with the sun. During April - November aircraft can operate from carriers anchored in harbour. From December to March average of mean velocities is 11 M.P.H. and annual rainfall averages 36 inches falls mostly in January to March.
- C. Other sites, chart number 1002 investigated by Lieutenant Cmdr. Noad, of main defence line approximately along 012 Degrees 18' South are (Corrupt Groups) -
- (1) 2.5 miles south of Oronjia lighthouse latitude 012 Degrees 17' South longitude 049 Degrees 23' East. One grass landing strip North West - South East under construction estimated completion end June. (Corrupt Group) satellite to ~~Corrupt Group~~. Only one landing strip possible.
  - (2) On Andrakaka peninsula latitude 012 Degrees 16' South longitude 049 Degrees 16' East area of suitable flat grass land approximately one and half miles square with scattered small trees. Landing ground site approximately 2 miles from harbour of Diego Suarez. Pending survey it is estimated one grass land strip North West - South East up to 2000 yards and one subsidiary landing strip East - West 1100 yards could be obtained. Clearing of preliminary strip 1000 yards long as emergency landing ground being started shortly.
  - (3) Air reconnaissance shows suitable sites in open country also available 2 1/2 miles North West of Anoritaba Peninsula latitude 12 Degrees 10' South Longitude 049 Degrees 17' East.
- D. Propose site C (2) as most suitable for Royal Naval Air Station. Subject to operational use by R.A.F. and South African Air Force when required. First portion of main landing strip one thousand yards by 150 yards estimated useable after three weeks work.

Best.....



198<sup>B</sup>

Best access by sea from Antsirane (corrupt group) that (corrupt group) sheltered harbour at Diego Suarez, thence existing earth road less than one mile to camp site and two miles to landing area. Small jetty at harbour will take lighters all tides after improvement. No crane available for (working) (Docamisville?) track from harbour to near site. Material available for extension. Some rolling stock available but no locomotives or tractors. No springs and reservoirs exist at Diego Suarez. Pumped supply to aerodrome proposed. Alternative sources under investigation. (Effective ?) electricity supply available from Antsirane for 250 personnel can normally be supplied. Ample space for dispersed aircraft storage.

R.E. Have mechanical plant for levelling of landing strips also Somerfeld track for one strip 500 yards by 30 yards. R.E. Personnel barely sufficient to meet urgent army commitments and unable to undertake additional work. Other main difficulties are inaccessibility, shortage of suitable vessels for sea transport, non existence of local P.W.D. Or contractors, shortage of labour especially skilled labour, lack of all kinds of material for building construction and electrical work.

F. Pending receipt of Admiralty requirements, preliminary layout as for Mauritius has been prepared with sites for expansion to 4 Squadrons. Pending provision of facilities for transporting and handling crated aircraft, it may be possibly arranged for some aircraft to be erected at Arra(y?).

G. Ranges: sites for air to air and bombing ranges are available. No suitable torpedo firing area nearer than William Pitt or Arramahiba Bay. No recovery vessels or safety boat available locally.

H. Defence: Place approved garrison Andrakaka site likely to be within Battalion Defence area.

All Naval, Military and Air Force authorities also Superintendent Civil Engineer, N.S.O, and Superintendent Electrical Engineer Durban have been consulted. Request instructions.

1800C/8

- |                      |                                       |                            |
|----------------------|---------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1st Lord             |                                       |                            |
| 1st S.L.             | Advance copy sent to Ops, O.D. O.I.C. |                            |
| 2nd S.L.             | D.N.A.D.                              |                            |
| 3rd S.L.             | Air Branch                            | D.G.D.                     |
| Vice Controller      | D. of P. (3)                          | D.D.O'D. (C) (2) C.E. in C |
| 4th S.L.             | D.N.I. (5)                            | D.T.M. D.T.M.              |
| 5th S.L.             | D. of L.D. (3)                        | D.C.L. D. of               |
| V.C.N.S.             | O.I.C. (3)                            | W.G.F. S.W.R.              |
| A.C.N.S. (F)         | D. of P. (2)                          | M.D.G.                     |
| A.C.N.S. (W)         | D.A.M.                                | D.S.V.P. (2)               |
| A.C.N.S. (T)         | I.P. (3)                              | D. of S.                   |
| Secretary            | W.D.                                  | D.E.E.                     |
| P.A.S. (S)           | D.A.M.R.                              | I.A.D.F.                   |
| Financial Secretary  | C.E. in C.                            | D.P.S.                     |
| Civil Lord           | Ops (3)                               | Dep. Con. (3)              |
| M (6)                | O.D. (5)                              | D.C.L.                     |
| N.A. to A.C.N.S. (T) | D.T.S.D.                              | D. 57.                     |
| D. 57.               | C.C.L.S.                              | L.                         |

M E B 27



8.6.1942.  
Monday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

Air Sqdns.,  
Control.  
(Contd.)

C. These Sqdns. will be distributed over a very large area but it is obvious that, if we are to get the best results, their activities must be co-ordinated by one person.

D. It seems to us that the only satisfactory arrangements would be for all aircraft whose normal function is to operate over the sea to be under the operational control of A.O.C. in C. Ceylon who would operate his aircraft under a general directive from you.

E. This question of control is likely to be discussed with Air Ministry in near future and your early remarks will be appreciated.

F. Ref. above, at present we are not clear who operates the Hudsons, Blenheims and T/B Squadrons.

(1st S.L., 1953B/8 to C. in C. E.F., (R) C. in C. Ceylon,  
D. C. in C. E.F.)



War Diary.

8.6.1942.  
Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies.

S/M.  
R.1. Following is N.O.B. Bermuda dispatch 2030/7. U.S. Submarine Notice. R1 departing patrol area today 300 miles due E. of Bermuda to arrive 10 miles E. of Mount Hill Light between 1200 and 1500Z/11 course 270°, S. of A. 90 miles per day, surfaced at night, submerged during daylight. T.B.R. established with local forces along this route 15 miles on each side and 50 miles ahead and astern of submarine's estimated position. (C. in C. U.S. Fleet, 0410/8 to Admty.)

GEO. W.  
MCKNIGHT. Your 1442B/7. N.S.H.Q. Ottawa 1647Z/3 to Aruba (begins). M.W.T. New York know situation regarding damage. Urgently request GEO. W. MCKNIGHT be routed to Keywest for orders (ends) Ship was then routed. (Aruba 1011/8 to Admty.)

Shipping  
Diversions. Admty. has requested me to divert ships at sea as necessary to conform to Admty. 2223/6. Request information if available as to what ships from American ports should be diverted in accordance with para. 3. (C. in C.A.W.I. 1023P/8 to N.S.H.Q. (R) Admty. etc.)

Trinidad  
Tankers. Your 1712/25. Presume tankers bound Gibraltar and Freetown should not be held for O.T. convoy unless latter passes reasonably close to Trinidad. Some O.T. routes pass far to Northward and give little coverage. (B.R.O. Trinidad, 1032Q/8 to Admty. (R) C. in C.A.W.I. etc.) Concur. (D.T.D. 1359/9).

Movements  
Summary. 1800 G.M.T. 8/6.  
Ship. Position. Course. Speed.  
Convoy (A.T.16 (50½° ?)N. 28° W. 077° 12½ knots.  
(N.A.10  
Convoy C.T.17 48° N. 44½° W. 241° 13 knots.  
(D.O.D. (F) 1120B/8 to Opnav (R) Comnav, Cominch).

Independent  
Ships,  
Routes. Your 1743/6. Amendment number 23 to M.A.R.I. Para. 4. It is not clear whether fast independent ships for U.K. from ports west of 079° W. (e.g. Colon). should leave by Florida Straits or by passages between Cuba and Trinidad. Request clarification. (C. in C. A.W.I. 1142B/8 to Admty. (R) B.R.O. Colon, etc.) Reply: Admty. 1511/9.

/Coastwise.....



War Diary.

8.6.1942.  
Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies-Contd.

Coastwise  
Shipping.

Ref. amendment number 23 made M.A.R.I.  
Expression "Coastwise in conformity with M.A.C.R.I." should be interpreted as follows. Either (A) via Key West for convoying or (B) join coast between Cape Canaveral and Cape Hatteras vide M.A.R.I. sec. II para. 14 sub. para. 9; Alternatively (A) should be used unless this unduly lengthens voyage. (C. in C.A.W.I. 1152P/8 to A.I.G. 129, B.R.O. St. Lucia, R.O. Barbados, (R) Admty. etc.)

U/B.

S/M periscope sighted 045° 45' N. 049° 30' W.  
course 260° true at 1020Z/8.  
(C.O.A.C. 1153Z/8 to Admty.)

M.A.R.I.  
amendment.

Your 1705/6. (A) Concur that Amendment No. 21 applies only to British managed shipping. It was issued as an explanation of the Chop system as now existing, and will be withdrawn from

M.A.R.I. It is for consideration whether some such instructions should not be included when B.U.S.R.A. para. F. is implemented. (B) The instructions in Amendment No. 22 were until recently in Section IV, para. 8 and had in fact been applied to U.S. managed shipping routed from Capetown. Request information as to routeing desired for such shipping from South African ports in order that instructions may be issued to routeing authorities.

(C) Regret misunderstanding. Future amendments will be referred for your prior concurrence. (A.C.N.S. (T) 1245Z/8 to Connav.)

Anti-Net  
Defence.

My 1622/6 has been passed to Admty. Following from Capt. Currey (begins) Admty. intends vessels fitted with anti-net defence to (?confirm) speed as maximum speed when nets are (? up).

This means vessels should (?placed) in convoys proceeding at about 10 knots. Vessels can proceed net down between 9 and 10½ knots according to weather conditions. Anti-net defence is not very effective below speed 7½ knots, ends.

(N.S.H.Q., 1414Z/8 to N.O.I.C. Montreal (R) C.O.A.C., N.O.I.C. Quebec, N.O.I.C. Sydney, (C.B.) N.O.I.C. St. John, (N.B.)).

My 1414/8. A.M. 1146/6, with instructions regarding anti-net defence ship is being passed to you and all other necessary authorities. Para. 5 states in no case is fact that ship is fitted with anti-net defence to cause her to be placed in slower convoy than she would otherwise have joined. (N.S.H.Q. Ottawa 1608Z/8 to N.O.I.C. Montreal, C.O.A.C. N.O.I.C. Quebec, N.O.I.C. Sydney, C.B., N.O.I.C. St. Johns, N.B. (R) Admty.)

U.S. Army  
Transports.

Your 1331/6, para. (3).

1. U.S. authorities orders are that no women or children may be embarked in any U.S. ship in your area and no more than 100 personnel of any sort may be embarked in any 1 ship. See para.(2) of my 2217/4.

/2.....



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8.6.1942.  
Monday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies.U.S. Army  
Transports.  
- Contd.

2. They also stress that all arrangements as to what personnel shall travel in which ship should be made locally.

3. Paras. (4) (5) and (6) of your signal will be answered by M.W.T., New York.  
(B.A.D. 1521Z/8 to M.O.C., S.T.D., Jamaica, (R) D.S.T. etc.)

Dispositions.

Section, N.W..

Q.S.7. CHEDABUCTO, QUEBEC 5 Fairmiles 048° 40' 063° 50' 7.5.

S.Q.8. SHAWIN(?IGAN), BURLINGTON, (? 046° 50' 060° 15' 7.

2 merchant ships Port Arthur due (corrupt group) 1500Z/9 from Quebec. (C.O.A.C. Halifax, 1525Z/8 to N.A. Escort Force (R) Admty.)

D/G,  
Halifax.

No. 99. D/G channel range Halifax N.S. is now in operation location 19 and 3 tenths cable to southwards George Island Light on the line bearing light in line (corrupt group) North 043° 36' 39" N. 063° 32' 42" W. approx., ref. Admty. Chart 311. (N.S.H.Q. 1557Z/8 to Admty. etc.)

U/B.

S/M report by A/C approx. 046° 40' N. 061° 40' W. at 1423Z/8. (C.O.A.C. Halifax 1557Z/8 to Admty.)

MATTAWIN.

My 1622/5, 1 lifeboat picked up in 040° 15' N. 068° 50' W. on 7/6 and landed at Nantucket. All hands now saved. My 1604 following gives names. (B.R.O. Boston 1558Z/8 to Admty. (R) N.S.H.Q.)

M.F.  
ELLIOTT  
(torpedoed  
5/6.)

My 2144/5 not to Connav. Trinidad report U.S. M.F. ELLIOTT torpedoed 2003 G.M.T./3 12.04. 63.49. 30 survivors including 7 U.S. gunners landed. Vicinity searched by U.S. plane. (S.O.I.) Kingston 1629R/8 to Admty. etc.)

L.27.

Your 2257/9/3. Intend to sail L.27 on completion of refit with only the two torpedoes brought with her. Request confirmation from F.O.N.F. that outfit can be completed as necessary observing that 5 torpedoes were left behind in GREENWICH. (B.A.R.M. 1722Z/8 to F.O.S. (R) Admty. etc.)

Trinidad  
Supplies.

In view of Admty. 1944/13/5. Consider minimum of 3 months supplies of Naval and victualling stores should be held at Trinidad. (F.O.I.C. Trinidad 1737Q/3 to C. in C. A.W.I. (R) Admty.)

/Special...



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8.6.1942.  
Monday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies - Contd.

Special Movements Forecast. My 1628/23/1/1941 and 1644/28/3/1941 are being repeated to you for information of Navy Dept. 2. As it is considered that this system should be universal and reciprocal, request you will enquire if (a) Navy Dept. would like to be included in circulation of Special Movements Forecasts by Admty and British authorities and (b) if they would reciprocate by initiating similar signals to all British and U.S. authorities concerned. (D.T.D. 1750B/8 to B.A.D. (R) N.S.H.Q.)

U/B Positions. 8/6 submarine estimate. (C. in C. U.S. Fleet 1758/8, 1813/8, 1821/8.)

Sub attack and sighting summary. ANNA shelled and sunk 34.10 N 68.22 W 0833Z/3. SAN VICTORIA 2 torpedo hits. Sub shelled by unknown vessel in vicinity. QUAKER CITY U-88 type. PEISANDER 2 torpedo hits. TISNAREN, sub fired 6 rounds. HAMLET 3 torpedo hits. Sub silhouettes not yet received.

Should your 1625Z/6 have O.I.C. serial number? Also should 3rd and 4th May be June. Surface and aircraft attack sub contact at 38.35 N 74.33 W 1900Z/20/4. Patrol craft attacks sub at 27.14 N 80.03 W 1030Z/6/5. Ferry plane reported sighting 9 subs between 04.20 and 04.35 N 07.20 and 03.25 W 1130 and 1230Z/June, presumed Sub headed course 282°. Plane attacks Sub 39.40 N 70.49 W 1956Z/7. Amer. export plane sights periscope 45.45 N 49.30 W 1020Z/8. Sub sighted 32.05 N 80.32 W 1345Z/8. (Cominch 1818Z/8 to Admty. for O.I.C.)

Tankers, routes. Following is a paraphrase of my 1350/27 and my 1126/2 to C. in C. A.W.I. (R) B.R.O. Trinidad, S.B.N.O. Curacao, and S.O.I. Kingston. All tankers which do not hold one ship recoding pads, sailing in or joining O.T. convoys and bound to Freetown, should be given an alternative route to Gibraltar. (ends.) Request instructions may be issued that different letters be used to indicate positions on the two routes. (D.T.D. 1912B/8 to Connav.)

PARTHIAN. Bermuda departure PARTHIAN in accordance with my 2122/7. (C. in C. A.W.I. 1913P/8 to Admty.)

M.A.C.R.I. amendments. Your 1943Z/2 interpreted to mean all future amendments to M.A.C.R.I. Amendment 17 now en route. While there is no objection to printing 30 additional copies it is not clear why there are this number of additional proposed holders having active operational interest in M.A.C.R.I. There are only 101 active holders including British Routeing Officers throughout entire Western hemisphere. For obvious reasons every effort is being made to restrict distribution. (Cominch Convoy and Routeing 1944Z/8 to Admty.) (Reply: Admty. 1545/9.)

/ U/B...



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War Diary.8.6.1942.  
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies - Contd.

- U/B. Shore watcher reported submarine sighted a.m. 8/6 in 050° 22' N 057° 33' W. (C.O.A.C. 2030Z/8 to Admty.)
- O.N. and O.N.(S) Convoys. Your 2053B/26. Agree modification last part section F Busra beginning "an exception" to read "O.N. and O.N.(S) convoys to be controlled in same manner as H.X. and S.C. except that in case dispersal Admiralty will assume responsibility for these ships up to reaching first port of call" (Connav 2040Z/8 to Admty.)
- NEWSCARRIER. Your 1821/29. No further information available. (N.S.H.Q. 2102Z/8 to Admty.)
- C.O. STILLMAN. (torpedoed 5/6.) 13 survivors Panamanian C.O. STILLMAN landed La Romana 8th (?June) Ship torpedoed night 5/6 40 miles S Saona Island, further details awaited. (S.O.I. Kingston 2121R/8 to Admty. etc.)
- BUSH RANGER (torpedoed 31/5.) Panamanian BUSH RANGER torpedoed 31/5 in 018° 15' N 081° 25' W 7 survivors rescued by U.S. Navy plane in 019° 50' N 082° 20' W landed Cayman Brac 7/6, Master and 16 lost with ship, plane still searching for 3 rafts with 19 men. (S.O.I. Kingston 2128R/8 to Admty. etc.)
- Dispositions. Serial 25. Changes my 2108/1 locations. Atlantic. BBS. NORTH CAROLINA left Norfolk 5/6. NEW YORK left Halifax 3/6. C VS. WASP at sea. RANGER at Argentia. CAS. QUINCY en route Panama. AUGUSTA at Argentia. CLS. SAN JUAN left Norfolk 5/6. JUNEAU left Newport 7/6. SAVANNAH due Boston 9/6. MEMPHIS at Trinidad. OMAHA on patrol. Pacific. CS. SARATOGA left Pearl 6/6. CA. CHESTER at sea. CL. SAN DIEGO, DETROIT, left Pearl 6/6. CONCORD at Callao. Norpac. CAS. INDIANAPOLIS, LOUISVILLE, in area. CL. HONOLULU at sea. Soupac. SAN FRANCISCO en route Spooner. LEANDER left Suva 4/6. ASCANIA at Suva. RICHMOND left Borabora 5/6. Souwestpac. CAS. AUSTRALIA at Sydney. CANBERRA, CHICAGO, at Brisbane. Admty. deliver to Comnav for information. (Cominch 2132/8 to Admty.)
- N.A.11. Convoy N.A.11 composed of EMPRESS OF JAPAN, LETITIA, RANPURA and BITER will be ready to leave Halifax (N.S.) on 16/6 for U.K.
2. Speed of slowest ship 15 knots.
  3. Escort will be provided by Task Unit 21.6.2. consisting of U.S.S. ROE, EBERLE and ERICSSON.
  4. C.O.A.C. Halifax is requested to sail ships to position X 48° N 50° W stating E.T.A. and estimated S of A. Admty. will promulgate onward route.



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8.6.1942.  
Monday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies. contd.-N.A.11.  
Contd.

5. Destinations of all ships Clyde.  
6. On completion of escort duty destroyers will proceed to Londonderry. (D.O.D.(H.) 2133B/8 to C.O.A.C. Halifax.)

ANNISTON  
CITY. U/B.

SSSS, ANNISTON CITY, Submarine sighted 30.00 N  
65.00 W. 2210/G.M.T. (Bermuda Radio 2153P/8 to Admty.)

Dakar  
Intelligence.

Dakar 5/6 B.2. 5/6 MONTESQUIEU, ARCTURUS arrived  
from north with escort. (B.A.D. 2200Z/8 to Admty)

Washops  
87.

Aleutian Island. No indication yet of attempt to land on any island. Owing to poor visibility movements of Japanese force(s) remain obscure. Midway Is. R/C report on 7/6 shows Japanese force about 850 miles West of the island. Details of further attacks on retreating enemy are lacking. Up to date list of enemy casualties believed to be as follows, 4 carriers of Cardivs 1 and 2 sunk, 3 battleships damaged, 2 heavy cruisers sunk, 3 others badly damaged. 4 transports sunk, 4 others damaged. Destroyers. At least one sunk and others damaged. (J.S.M. Washington 2207Z/8 to Admty. etc.)



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War Diary.8.6.1942.  
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Australia and New Zealand.

- Movements.** Departure Sydney (N.S.W.) 0728Z/7. U.S. destroyer PRESTON for Melbourne. (A.C.N.B., 0007/8 to Admty etc.).  
Arrival Sydney (N.S.W.) 0018Z/7. U.S. Dr. SELFRIDGE with Netherlands Cr. TROMP in company. with U.S. Gunboat TULSA left Townsville 1239Z/6 for Brisbane. (A.C.N.B., 0116Z/8, to Admty etc.).
- Brisbane** Q F A 103 Port of Brisbane is closed from sunset to sunrise to all incoming shipping with exception of warships and escorted convoys. (A.C.N.B., 0728Z/8, to all concerned Q.F.A. Messages)
- Situation.** Serial 137 C.W.R. 7/6. Evidence 5 large I Class Japanese S/MS allocated operating off Sydney during night 31/5 - 1/6. At least 2 S/MS still operating Sydney Newcastle Area and probably one Cape Moreton Area. One shelled Sydney at 1415Z/7. Newcastle shelled probably by 2nd S/M at 1625Z/7. No damage reported either area. Unidentified A/C over Sydney at 1432Z/7 and over Newcastle at 1500Z/7. 2. 2 Hudsons attacked enemy concentration at Ermera (Timor) 6/6 and caused slight damage. One Hudson on R/C dropped 4 bombs on Atamboera barracks. Light M/G fire only encountered. 3. Strong enemy force located at Mouth Buang River (13 miles North Salamoia). Army possibly H.Q. camp at mouth of Bwussi River (10 miles N. of Salamoia). On 3/6 enemy patrol visited Narakapor Aerodrome, 13 miles N.W. of Laor, burnt 2 villages and retired towards Lae. (A.C.N.B., 1026Z/8 to Admty etc.).
- Washops 87.** Aleutian Islands and Midway Is. (J.S.M., 2207Z/8 - See America and W. Indies).

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.Submarines Reported.Estimated U-Boat positions.  
(D.D.I.C. 1407B/8, 1424B/8).



War Diary.

9.6.1942.  
Tuesday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

Cases of suspected sabotage have been found in ANSON and HAWKINS.

Mining.

Mining off  
Portsmouth.

Minelaying by enemy aircraft last night is suspected off Portsmouth. The eastern entrance to Portsmouth was closed at 0512B today and was reopened to controlled traffic at 1033B.

South Atlantic.

C. in C.S.A. is concerned about the lack of air support to cover shipping off the coast of South Africa, especially since the recent raider and submarine attacks.

Mediterranean.

Operation  
"Salient".

32 Spitfires, flown off from EAGLE arrived at Malta this forenoon.

A Catalina attacked an enemy submarine south of the Balearic Islands at 0047 today, without success. A Sunderland relieved the Catalina to continue the attack this afternoon.

U-boat  
sunk.

At noon today another Catalina attacked an enemy submarine south of the Balearic Islands. The S/M surfaced and surrendered, then sank, leaving two survivors in the water.

/Wellingtons.....



War Diary.

9.6.1942.  
Tuesday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Mediterranean-Contd.

Wellingtons attacked shipping at Taranto last night and again from 2120 to 2229 today. Fires were seen in the dockyard area but an effective smoke screen covered the harbour.

There has been further U-boat activity in the Levant. A schooner was sunk by gunfire last night in 35° 35' N. 35° 15' E. and schooner traffic was temporarily stopped. Escorted sailings of merchant ships continue.

STUREBORG  
sunk.

The Swedish relief ship STUREBORG was sunk this morning by 2 torpedo aircraft whilst on passage from Piraeus to Haifa. There was only one survivor. The ship was 30 miles off the route agreed by the Axis and British authorities.

East Indies.

U-boats  
off  
Durban.

S.S. MAHRONDA reported having apparently been unsuccessfully attacked at 0427Z by one or more submarines with torpedoes in 25° 22' S. 35° 47' E. At 0506Z a station using call sign, G.Y.K. called MAHRONDA but got no reply. At 0524 MAHRONDA signalled "Nothing further to report". At 1430 G.M.T. an unknown ship using letters K.T.X.S. reported that she was still being attacked by a submarine in 25° 25' (or 35') S., 35° 40' E.

Hospital ship MANHANUI arrived at Durban this morning with 39 survivors of S.S. JOHNSTOWN torpedoed by a submarine on 5/6 in 15° S. 42° E.

Two of the 3 Catalinas sent to patrol from the Seychelles to report raiders will be unserviceable tomorrow.

C. in C.E.F. sends today a message regarding his attempts to obtain information from Admiral Leary (U.S. C. in C. S.W. Pacific.)

Shipping in the southern half of the Mozambique Channel was ordered today to keep not less than 100 miles from the coast of Africa.



War Diary.

9.6.1942.  
Tuesday.

SITUATION REPORT.

China.

The U.S. forces operating in the Midway Island area have lost contact with the enemy force. The latter is believed to be under protection of shore based aircraft at Wake; these aircraft have been reinforced lately.

America and West Indies.

U-boat  
attack  
on O.N.100.

Convoy O.N.S.100 was attacked in the early hours of today in the west Atlantic and MIMOSA (Free French corvette) escorting was \*sunk. F.O.N.F. sent escort vessels to reinforce the escort of O.N.100.

\* by U.124. (G-3.443)

U-Boat  
attack on  
B.X. 23A.

Convoy B.X. 23A was attacked this forenoon (G.M.T.) and SS. MALAYAN PRINCE and KRONPRINSEN were torpedoed in 42° 53' N. 67° 11' E. (60 miles west of Cape Sable). Both ships were got safely in to port.

It is proposed to reduce the mid-ocean (Atlantic) convoy escorts to not less than 6 ships operating strength at any time and to employ the ships thus released (approximately 10 in number) to strengthen the H.T. (Halifax - Trinidad) and T.H. convoys but with the southern terminal shifted from Trinidad to Aruba - Curacao, the convoys to be known as H.A. and A.H.

Australia.

The first coastal convoy G.P.1 sailed today from Sydney N.S.W. to Brisbane and Townsville.



War Diary.9.6.1942.  
Tuesday.HOME COMMANDS.Movements.

INGLEFIELD. My 1157B/8. Unless you advise weather later more favourable for unobserved passage intend sailing INGLEFIELD and INTREPID for Murmansk tomorrow routed through positions.  
 INTREPID. (Ammunition for North Russia.)  
 A. 068° 02' N. 002° 40' W.  
 B. 073° 55' N. 015° 31' E.  
 C. 073° 50' N. 024° 58' E.  
 Request onward route from position C.  
 (C. in C. H.F. 1010B/9 to S.B.N.O. North Russia.)

Your 1010/9. Weather forecast 10th, 11th, 12th June, Bear Island to Kola Inlet. Onward route position (d) 73° 01' N. 35° 48' E. (e) 69° 50' 38° 00'. (k) 360° Kildin Island North Light 5 miles. (S.B.N.O. North Russia 1550B/9 to C. in C.H.F.) Request you sail INGLEFIELD and INTREPID for Kola Inlet tomorrow routed as in my 1010/9 and S.B.N.O. North Russia 1550/9. (C. in C.H.F. 1927B/9 to R.A.D.)  
 INGLEFIELD with INTREPID proceed passing Switha 1200B tomorrow for Kola Inlet routed in accordance with C. in C. H.F. 1010B/9 and S.B.N.O. North Russia 1550B/9.  
 2. On arrival act under order of S.B.N.O. North Russia. (R.A.D. 2218B/9 to INGLEFIELD, INTREPID).

RUBIS. F.O.(S) 1227/7th Para. (a).  
 (1) R/V in position ordered at 0600/13th for escort for Portsmouth. (Capt. S.5 1105B/9 to RUBIS).

WELLS. My 1115/6. Intend to detach WELLS off Tiump Head on completion of operation S.N.3B at about 1100/12 to proceed to Newport (Mon) for refit. Standard route through Irish Sea. E.T.A. Barry Roads 2000/13. (R.A.M. 1258/9).

STAKESBY. Admty. 1332/5. Sailed RESTIVE towing STAKESBY. Salvage Steamer ATTENDANT in company. (N.O.I.C. Stornoway 1626B/9).

CATTERICK. N.O.I.C. Barrow's 0942/9 <sup>/N.T. L.W.D.</sup> approved.  
 F.O.I.C. Greenock is requested to sail CATTERICK for Scapa without delay on completion of D/F calibration etc. (D.O.D.(H.) 1849B/9).

LONDON. Request you sail LONDON to Greenock arriving a.m. 12th, leaving Greenock for Scapa p.m. 16th. (C. in C.H.F. 1924B/9 to C.S.1.).

URSULA. Sailed URSULA escorted by LA CAPRICIEUSE in accordance with S.3's 1455B/8. (F.O.I.C. Greenock 2032B/9).

/WASHINGTON.....



War Diary.9.6.1942.  
Tuesday.HOME COMMANDS.Movements-Contd.WASHINGTON.  
WICHITA.

Request you will sail in WASHINGTON with WICHITA and U.S. destroyers to Hvalfjord passing position A.  $360^{\circ}$  Cape Wrath 7 miles at 2300B/12, thence through positions B.  $058^{\circ} 45'$  N.  $007^{\circ} 12'$  W. and C.  $180^{\circ}$  Reykjanes 3 miles. S. of A. 18 knots.  
2. On arrival you are requested to assume duties S.O. Hvalfjord. (C. in C. H.F. 2212B/9 to Comtask 99)

OFFA.

Your 1247B/9 and C. in C. Rosyth's 1644/9.  
Request you will sail OFFA for Scapa direct.  
(R.A.D. 2215B/9 to F.O.I.C. Humber.)

Operations.4 Belgian  
Refugees.

At 1930/8 H.S.L. 149 met a German Motor Fishing Vessel fourteen miles East of North Foreland and escorted her into Ramsgate. Four men believed Belgians escaping to this country were on board.  
(V.A. Dover 0946B/9).

Engagement  
with 3  
Trawlers.

Last night M.G.Bs 41, 46, and S.3 on anti-E/boat patrol at U buoy 14 miles east of North Foreland were ordered at 2359 to attack enemy small craft plotted by R.D.F. passing Calais eastwards. Contact was made with three enemy trawlers off Gravelines and a brief engagement followed before contact was lost. Extent of damage to enemy not observed. Both officers in M.G.B. 41 wounded, C.O. only slightly. Superficial damage to M.G.Bs 41 and S.3. (V.A. Dover 0947B/9).

N.W. Norway  
S/M Patrol.  
Zones K.50,  
K.51, 10.B.,  
12.B., 2.  
Operational  
orders.

My 1243/3. Following additional zones are established. K.50 between latitudes  $072^{\circ} 40'$  and  $072^{\circ} 15'$  and longitudes  $017^{\circ}$  and  $020^{\circ}$  E. K.51 between latitudes  $072^{\circ} 40'$  and  $072^{\circ} 15'$  and longitudes  $020^{\circ}$  and  $023^{\circ}$  E.  
Russian zone 10.B between latitudes  $072^{\circ} 07'$  and  $071^{\circ} 34'$  and longitudes  $019^{\circ} 10'$  and  $021^{\circ} 54'$  E.  
Russian Zone 12.B. between latitudes  $072^{\circ} 58'$  and  $072^{\circ} 28'$  and longitudes  $024^{\circ} 20'$  and  $027^{\circ} 50'$  E.

Russian Zone 2 lines joining the following positions  $070^{\circ} 11'$   $019^{\circ} 59'$  E.  $071^{\circ} 11'$   $019^{\circ} 59'$  E.,  $071^{\circ} 21'$   $021^{\circ} 50'$  E.,  $070^{\circ} 44'$   $022^{\circ} 24'$  E., and the coast. (F.O.S. 1301B/9 to Adty, C. in C. H.F., etc.) See also F.O.S. 0927B/10.  
Cancel my 1053/18/4. North Russia.

1. Capt. (S) 9 is responsible for routing of submarines and for bombing restrictions and from patrol zones 35 to 44. Submarines are to be routed as far as practicable from Norwegian coast and may proceed on surface at C.O.'s discretion.
2. My 1301/9. S.B.N.O. North Russia is requested to route submarines and institute bombing restrictions for passage between North Russia and zones 50 and 51 and Capt. (S) 9 for passage of submarines between zones 50 and 51 and Lerwick.
3. F.O.S. will detail submarines for and institute bombing restrictions in all British patrol zones.



War Diary.

9.6.1942.  
Tuesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operations.

N.W. Norway  
S/M Patrol.  
Zones K.50,  
K.51, 10.B.,  
12.B., 2.  
Operational  
orders.

- Contd.

4. Object of submarine whilst on passage or in patrol zone is to attack and then report enemy vessels and U-boats providing a full salvo is kept for heavy ships. Attention is drawn to para. 5 (a). Early reports of outward bound enemy are vital and justify risking the submarine being sighted when reporting.
5. Submarines are
  - (a) Not to attack submarines unless definitely established as enemy. In zones 50 and 51 however submarines are not to be attacked at all. Russian submarines have orders not to attack submarines.
  - (b) Not to attack surface ships unless hostile identity is definitely established.
  - (c) To identify them to surface ships and aircraft recognized as friendly.
6. Surface ships will be instructed not to attack submarine in patrol zones unless hostile identity is established.
7. Submarines are normally to patrol in centre of their allotted zone.
8. If force leaves patrol prematurely submarines are to proceed down Northern limit of zone 55 to zone 44 thence direct to Lerwick unless otherwise ordered. F.O.S. and Capt. (S) 9 are to inform when well clear of other submarines.
9. Submarines may be ordered to proceed from one patrol zone to another with despatch or ordered to be in or patrol zone by particular time. In this latter event submarines are to adjust their average speed of advance so as to arrive in centre of the new zone at time ordered.
10. Submarines are warned to economize fuel strictly.
11. A copy of this signal is to be given to all submarines. (F.O.S. 1302B/9).

Denmark  
Straits  
Patrol.

Situation at 2159 tonight. CUMBERLAND on patrol "White". (A.C.I.C. 1433B/9).

Exercises.

RORQUAL.

RORQUAL will be exercising in areas D. and C. off Plymouth from 0830/10 to 0300/11. (C. in C. Plymouth 1733B/9)

British Air Activity.

Ice R/C.

Your 1405B/8. In order that the possibility of S.N.72 being damaged by ice may be assessed request ice R/C may include a position of the ice edge on an approx. bearing of 350° from Straumness. (R.A.M. 0902/9 to A.C.I.C.)

/Vaenga.....



War Diary.9.6.1942.  
Tuesday.HOME COMMANDS.British Air Activity.-Contd.Vaenga  
and  
Grasnaya  
approach  
corridors.

(1) C. in C. Northern Fleet requests following instructions may be promulgated to all concerned: In the event of British reconnaissance aircraft landing Vaenga aerodrome or in Grasnaya seaplane base they should approach by one of two following corridors. Details.

(3) When approaching corridors, within them, and when approaching aerodromes, height of A/C not to exceed 800 metres.

(4) Aircraft to make recognition signal in accordance with Admiralty general message 782 A.Z when entering corridors, approaching coast, or sighting allied warships.

(S.B.N.O. North Russia 1157B/9).

Bombing  
restrictions.

Institute the following submerged bombing restrictions (A) from 2200/10 to 1200/13 30 miles either side of line joining 290° Bishops Rock 5' and 49° 10' - 12° 30' (B) 20 miles either side of line joining 47° 46' - 07° 50' and 180° Lizard Head 10' from 2000/10 to 0800/13. (H.Q.C.C. 1202/9 to R.A.F. Gibraltar).

Bombing  
operations.

On day 7/6 no operations. On day 8/6, 12 A/C attacked Bruges. On night 8/9, 10 A/C bombed the docks at Dieppe. (H.Q.B.C. 1345/9).

892 Squadron  
to form in  
U.S.A.

My 2213/12/5. B.A.C. Washington report U.S. Naval Authorities agreeable to Martlet Squadrons forming and working up at Norfolk. Accordingly 892 Fighter Squadron for TRACKER to form there on 15/7 with six Martlet Mark Four. Personnel to assemble Eastleigh on 15/6 to await passage to U.S.A. (Hd. of Air Branch 2012B/9 to R.A.N.A.S.)

Mining.

Portsmouth.

Port of Portsmouth Eastern entrance closed due to suspected minelaying. (C. in C. Portsmouth 0512B/9).

My 0512B/9. Port of Portsmouth eastern entrance has been opened to controlled traffic.

Convoy C.E.88 is being swept out.

(C. in C. Portsmouth 1033B/9).

S.N.72.

Asking for ice R/C (R.A. (M) 0902/9) See British Air Activity.

Bristol  
Channel.

At 0548B/9 one Mine exploded by Sweepers. Details. (Capt. M/S Bristol Channel 0927B/9). Two Mines exploded by Sweepers at 0654B/9 and 0731B/9 respectively. Details. (Capt. M/S Bristol Channel 0929B/9 and 0931B/9).

/Thames.....



War Diary.

9.6.1942.  
Tuesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Mining-Contd.

Thames  
Estuary.

One ground mine detonated by Sweepers at 1657/8 and one at 1050/7. Details. (Capt. M/S Sheerness 0944/9 and 0946/9).

Off Start  
Point.

Commodore of Convoy P.W. 168 reports that during air attack last night two large parachutes were seen to fall into the sea in 50° 18' N. 3° 14' 30" W., possibly mines. Attacking aeroplanes were Junkers 88. (F.O.I.C. Falmouth 1041B/9).

Off  
Aberdeen.

Request that on conclusion of operation S.N.3B. you will order ADVENTURE to lay a line of Mark XVII mines in a direction 030° from 57° 07' N. 01° 21' W. (A.C.N.S. H. 1125B/9 to R.A.M.)

Harwich.

2 Ground Mines exploded by Sweepers at 1216/9 and 1555/9 respectively. (F.O.I.C. Harwich 1546/B/9, 1742B/9, 2239B/9)

Clearance  
of Q.Z.X.  
324.

Adty. 1720/4. Request all available intelligence concerning Q.Z.X. 324 other than that contained in para. 6 may be communicated. Request confirmation that flotilla and trawlers may be in Newhaven Harbour nightly. Propose arriving at area a.m. 13th. Programme. Request trawlers may R/V me C.2 buoy on 13th (9th M.S. 1700B/9 to C. in C. Portsmouth.)

Humber.

2 mines exploded by Sweepers at 1131B/9. Details. (F.O. Humber 1845B/9.

Enemy Intelligence.

North  
Norway  
on 7/6.

Russians report 7/6. Small number transports left Kirkenes for Western Norwegian ports. Vardo one destroyer. Group of transports on passage Vardo-Kirkenes. (Ad. Miles 1458C/9 to Admty.)

RIO GRANDE.

Cancel A.M. 1212B/4. Vessel is reported by P.R.U. to be still in river on 7/6. (D.D.I.C. 1658B/9).

Baltic  
Finland.

Minor German warship movements: Baltic ports: Finland: 3/6. Details. (N.A. Stockholm 1851/9).



War Diary.

9.6.1942.  
Tuesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

U-boats.

U-Boat reported.

Am investigating oilpatch in 60° 28' N. 30° 26' W. (C.C.15 Group 0900/9).  
My 0900. Fresh oil bubbles appearing. (A/C 0930Z/9).  
My position is 60° 40' N. 30° 50' W. Circling oil. (A/C 0950Z/9).

U-Boat attacked.

Am over enemy S/M. S/M has dived in 55° 21' N. 10° 5' W. (C.C. 15 Group 1745/9).  
Have attacked enemy with depth charges. My position 55° 24' N. 9° 28' W. (15 Group 1945/9).  
Am over enemy S/M in 55° 24' N. 9° 26' W. Enemy S/M previously reported when sighted was on course 360°, estimated speed 5 knots. (15 Group 2020/9).

Navigational.

Harwich.  
52 Buoy.

52 buoy reported unlit. (F.O.I.C. Harwich 0914B/9).

N.W. and W.  
Shipwash  
Buoys.

Trinity House reports N.W. Shipwash Buoy missing from station. Request whether this buoy should be replaced or not. (F.O.I.C. Harwich 1536B/9)  
My 1536/9. W.Shipwash also missing. (F.O.I.C. Harwich 1648B/9).

Archangel.

My 1030B/3. Dummy channel para. (2) (D). Buoy has been permanently removed. (S.B.N.O. Archangel 1112B/9 to Admty.)

Dover.

U and V Light Buoys lights extinguished. (V.A. Dover 1135B/9).

Technical.

North  
Russia.  
Proposed  
W/T  
Receiving  
and  
Jamming  
Stations.

Your 1551/8. There is no existing building which can accommodate proposed stations.  
2. Request therefore following (? details) before approaching C. in C. Northern Fleet.  
(a) Brief particulars of transmitter with particular reference to size, power input and output and aerial system required.  
(b) Total number of staff to operate and maintain transmitting and receiving stations assuming no local power supply available.  
(c) Is it intended to jam low frequency and H/F. (S.B.N.O. North Russia 1317B/9).



War Diary.9.6.1942.  
Tuesday.HOME COMMANDS.Casualties and Defects.HAWKINS.  
Suspected  
sabotage.

Sabotage is suspected in phase control unit design B for "RIS". Examination on 8/6 reveals identical break in internal wiring circuit of these 2 units. They were fitted during recent refit in Portsmouth and have not been stripped since they were installed. All other units fitted are also working unsatisfactorily and examination of these is being carried out. (HAWKINS 0102B/9 to C. in C. H.F.)

HISTORIAN  
and  
PORT  
AUCKLAND  
(Collision  
7/6)

Your 2310B/8. Disregard my 2219B/8. <sup>/N.T. W.D.</sup> Rejoin WOLVERINE. (C. in C.W.A. 0246B/9 to CROCUS). C. in C.W.A. 1758/8. PORT AUCKLAND and HISTORIAN expected Falmouth 10/6 with collision damage. If necessary to discharge cargo ships are to be brought to Southampton for the purpose after temporary repairs, returning to Falmouth for docking and permanent repairs. (D.T.D. 1954B/9).

? *Kerry*  
CATHERINE  
sunk 8/6.  
GOLDEN  
EMBLEM  
damaged.

My 1743/6. GOLDEN EMBLEM making water returned Scapa 7/6. CATHERINE sank 8/6 in northerly gale, crew safe. (A.C.O.S. 1006B/9).

P.219.

Diving trials completed satisfactorily. Leak in Z tank, and leaking hull pad of starboard group exhaust valve should be remedied when ship docks. Very slight singing from starboard propeller between 240 and 200 revs. Vessel is light in trial trim. Additional ballast may be required when ship is docked. (P.219 1209B/9 to Adty.)

MISOA  
grounded.

Following messages received by S.O.A.S.C. from MISOA. Ship grounded when unbeaching this p.m. Anticipate damage to port propeller. Shall disembark unit 1230 tomorrow. Request tomorrow's embarkation be cancelled. T.O.O. 2005B/6.  
2. My 2005/6. Hull damage appears confined to engine room. Ship apparently not making water elsewhere. Fuel tank bulkheads leaking badly. Engine performance shows no serious damage to propellers. Docking essential. Ship seaworthy for short passage. T.O.O. 1445/7. (C.C.O. 1246B/9 to Adty.)

ANSON.  
Sabotage.

One flexible cable lead into Y Turret found to have a nail driven through resulting in short circuit core. Cable was installed about February 1942 by Vickers but only tested last week. Damaged section held on board. Replacement completed. (ANSON 1547/9).



War Diary.

9.6.1942.  
Tuesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Casualties and Defects-Contd.

ECHO. Tubes in two of ECHO's boilers failed today and I consider now that ECHO is no longer to be relied upon for operational work.  
(S.O. 8th D.F. 2136B/9 to R.A.D.)

Shipping and Convoys.

H.X. 192. Local escort allocated H.X. 192 fast none,  
S.C. 85. H.X. 192 slow BUTSER, S.C.85 NARVIK.  
(N.O.I.C. Liverpool 0924B/9).

D.S.28. D.S.28. Intend sailing LEINSTER escorted by ST. MARY's passing Clyde Boom 1945B/11 to R/V NEWARK at 0445B/12 in 270° Oversay 6 miles.  
(N.O.I.C. Greenock 1014B/9).

Tankers Unless instructions to the contrary are received for Mexico from Admiralty all tankers leaving U.K. for or U.S.A. Gulf of Mexico or Eastern seaboard, are in future to be given destination New York for orders.  
(D.T.D. 1119B/9 to C. in C.W.A.)

O.S.30. Admty. 1937B/8, para. 1. Ship for South Africa may be detached in sufficient time to enable convoy to reform before nightfall.  
(C. in C.W.A. 1308B/9 to Escort O.S.30).

C.E.88. My 1903B/8. C.E.88 sailed less AVONWOOD at 1215. Delay in sailing due to Port being closed. Convoy instructed to proceed at maximum speed and endeavour to pass Sand Head buoy by 0300/10. No action was taken on your 1700/8 due to failure in signal distribution which is much regretted, but convoy was routed in accordance with your signal. (C. in C. Portsmouth 1313/9 to C. in C. Nore, V.A. Dover.)

W.N.95. My 1220B/5. Propose postponing W.N.95 25 hours approx. (N.C.S.O. Loch Ewe 1514B/9). Your 1514/9 concur. (C. in C. Rosyth 1810B/9 to N.C.S.O. Loch Ewe).

O.G. and H.G. Convoys. Your 1130B/7. It is not convenient to M.O.W.T. to advance date of sailing of O.G. Convoys but short delays can be accepted.  
2. It is therefore proposed to sail corresponding H.G. Convoys 15 days after the sailing of the O.G. subject to escorts having at least 4 days in Gibraltar.  
3. Request your concurrence to commence new cycle with O.G. 86. (D.T.D. 1712B/9 to C. in C.W.A.)

/O.S.31.....



9.6.1942.  
Tuesday.War Diary.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping and Convoys-Contd.

O.S.31.  
ORISSA. Admty. 1100A/12/4. Intend to sail ORISSA as additional escort to Clyde portion O.S.31 breaking off at position (C) and proceeding to Ponta Delgada for fuel subsequently rejoining. (N.O.I.C. Greenock 1744B/9).

RETRIEVER.  
PERSIER. H.M.T. RETRIEVER returned from P.Q.16 due to inability to keep up. Consider this vessel too slow for ocean convoy work and P.Q. convoys in particular. Intend sailing RETRIEVER to U.K. as escort for PERSIER being towed by EMPIRE LARCH and EMPIRE BASCOBEL to Tyne. Request a relief may be sent for P.Q.19. (A.C.I.C. 1816B/9 to Adty.)

P.Q.16. Your 1825/3. ALYNBANK's report studied with interest. Reference para. "J", the fact that bombs were dropped outside range of close-range weapons may be due to a healthy respect for them. If so, they have performed useful work. (A.C.N.S. (W.) 2020B/9 to S.B.N.O. Archangel.)

S.L. 111 S.L. 111. Your 1548B/9. PERIBONKA straggled 7th and has not rejoined. My 1431Z/8 refers. GEORGE H. JONES stopped for engine repairs 4th time in 2 days 2101Z/8 and has not rejoined. My P.C.S. at 2002Z/9 046° 10', 023° 15', 014° 6½. (PELICAN 2140Z/9 to C. in C.W.A.)

QUEEN  
ELIZABETH. Arrived A.T. 15Z escorted by DELHI. (F.O.I.C. Greenock 2214B/9).



War Diary.

9.6.1942  
Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Raiders.

Intelligence. A.M. 1703B/2. 1. GEMSTONE attacked by gunfire in 1° 52' N. 26° 38' W. at 1000Z/4. Possibly by Raider "J".  
2. GENOTA overdue at Abadan from Geraldton. In view of attack on NANKIN on 10th May (A.M. 2127B/19/5 refers), GENOTA may have been a victim of Raider "E".  
3. ELYSIA sunk by two Japanese raiders in 27° 33' S. 37° 05' E. at about 0600Z/5.  
4. WILFORD reported being gunned in 20° 20' S. 36° 47' E. at 2358Z/6 and AGIOS GEORGIOS reported being shelled in 16° 12' S. 41° 00' E. at 1600Z/8 but it appears likely that these were U-boat attacks.  
(D.D.I.C. 1716B/9 to A.I.G.13 etc.)

North Atlantic.

Damaged U-Boat at Santander. Photographic R/C by P.53 on 8/6 shows submarine with heavy list to port, beached with stern awash. Ocean-going type, possible Italian. Large hole amidships on starboard side. (St. Eval 0140/9 to 19 Group.)  
Sub. now aground in harbour badly holed. Attempt being taken in hand to dry dock and repair here. (Santander 1025/9 to Admty. (R) Gibraltar and Madrid.)  
Following received from British Consul Santander timed 1055/8. (Begins) On 7/6 about 1000 hours Italian submarine entered harbour damaged by bombs from 3 aeroplanes. Several members of crew taken to hospital. (Ends)  
(S.O.I. Gibraltar 1124B/9 to Admty., (for D.N.I.) (R) B.N.A. Madrid.)

Operation Salient. You have probably been reported by aircraft at 0625 G.M.T. (F.O.C.N.A. 0928B/9 to Force H. (R) Admty., C. in C. Med., V.A. Malta.)

U/B attacked by A/C. Following message has been received. 1 S/M bearing 180° course 270° speed 2 knots. My position 38° 45' N. 2° 13' E. (A/C Squadron 1130/9 to Gibraltar.)

Attack on U-boat. Course 136° estimated speed 10 knots, in approx. 38° 12' N., 2° 00' E., estimate no hits. (A/C D Squadron 1242/9, 1247/9, 1303/9.)  
1 Sunderland to relieve Catalina Dover patrol and to hunt U-boat attacked by Catalina in 38° 12' N. 2° 0' E. 1242 hours/9. (A.H.Q. Gibraltar part of 1745/9.)



War Diary.9.6.1942  
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic - contd.

- U/B Sunk. At 12 noon 9/6 a Catalina attacked an enemy S/M south of Balearic Islands. It appears that the S/M surfaced and surrendered and then sank, leaving 2 survivors in the water. Catalina attempted a rescue but was damaged in the attempt and had to return to base. (D.O.R. 1025.)
- JOAO PESSOA sunk. German vessel 51 (JOAO PESSOA) fully loaded struck rock 2 miles from San Sebastian early morning 7/6 and sank. (Consul Bilbao, 1213/9 to Admty. (R) M.E.W.)
- Barrels. Master of MOUNT AETNA (Greek) reports he passed 700 to 800 200-gallon iron barrels on 41st parallel between 051° W. and 023° W. between 19 and 26/5. Barrels appear to have been in water for several months. (N.C.S.O. Lisbon 1221/9 to Admty.)
- DROTTNINGHOLM (Swedish) DROTTNINGHOLM left New York 4/6 for Lisbon repatriated Axis diplomats routed 040° 10' N., 073° 45' W. thence on course 90° true probably parallel 040° 10' N., to 030° 00' W., thence course 95° to Lisbon. Ship is not to be molested. Description. (F.O.C.N.A. 1529B/9 to S. and As. N.A.)
- 27th M.L. Flotilla. Intend to sail 27th M.L. Flotilla escorted by ARMERIA at 2230B/10 routed through A. 035° 45' N. 006° 31' W. B. 033° 31' 009° 25'. C. 029° 40' 011° 41'. D. 026° 07' 015° 45'. E. 021° 09' 018° 40'. F. 014° 15' 018° 40' thence Bathurst. S. of A. 10½ knots E.T.A. 1600B/17. (F.O.C.N.A. 1730B/9 to R.A.W.A.F., N.O.I.C. Bathurst, (R) Admty. C. in C. S.A.)
- P.R.U. Genoa, Spezia, Leghorn. PH 85 9/6. Ref. your B.8 (1311B/8) The request therein made is receiving attention. This is a task of some magnitude but will be undertaken at the first opportunity. (A.D.I. (PH) H.Q.C.C. 1810/9 to Admty.)
- Cobalt for Germany. Casablanca 6/6 B.2. 500 tons Cobalt for Germany expected to be shipped from Nemours to Marseilles in ST. SAUVER 10/6 or REMOIS 19/6 or ST. RAYMOND 26/6. (B.A.D. 1811Z/9 to F.O.C.N.A. (R) Admty.)



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War Diary.9.6.1942  
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic - contd.

Force T. Left convoy W.S.19 Z in 039° 27' N. 016° 45' W.  
W.S.19 Z. at 1200B/9. E.T.A. in KENYA with BEDOUIN in  
company 2355B/10.  
(ii) KUJAWIAK detached independent E.T.A. 2300B/10  
Gate 2359B/10.  
(iii) Convoy routed through X. 036° 30' N. 015° 00' W.  
Y. 035° 30' N. 011° 00' W. Speed 11 knots.  
(iv) Request one oiler in Bay for KENYA and BEDOUIN and chart  
165 corrected by latest Q B B.  
(S.O. Force T. 1823B/9 to F.O.C.N.A. (R) Admty.)

German A/C. German A/C sighted off Cape Roca flying south  
0915B/8.  
(N.A. Lisbon 1851B/9 to S.O.I. Gibraltar (R)  
Admty.)

U/B. Following has been received. Enemy S/M  
previously reported was conning tower depth.  
(A/C Call Sign 7 XMN 1910/9 to Gibraltar W/T.)  
Following has been received. 1645 position  
37.46 N., 00.37 E. no attack.  
(A/C Call Sign 7 XMN 2030/9 to Gibraltar W/T.)

French Shipping. Gibraltar 1830 Light Cruiser EPERVIER. SS OUED  
TIFLET full deck cargo cork. SAINT CYRILLE light.  
PARAME laden, covered deck cargo. CAP BLANC, full  
deck cargo barrels, cable ship ALSACE, yacht EROS,  
Trawlers CAPITAINE, ARMAND, full, KERMARIA laden  
eastbound.  
(V.A.C.N.A. 2149B/9 to Admty., C. in C. Med.)

MOONSHINE, MOONSHINE and FLYING KESTREL arrived 9/6,  
FLYING bunkering.  
KESTREL. (R.O. Fayal 2225/9 to Admty. (R) F.O.C.N.A.  
N.C.S.O. Ponta Delgada.)

South Atlantic.

Navigation Pass to N.C.S.Os. Ref. C.A.M.S.I. 32/42 para 11.  
Lights. In future, merchant ships in B.A.M.S. areas 2B  
and 4 when southward of 4° N. are normally to  
burn dimmed navigation lights:- (a) When in coastal  
lanes (i.e. normal tracks followed by ships proceeding coastwise).  
(b) When within 5 miles of harbour entrances or in approaches  
to inland waters. C.A.M.S.I. will be amended. 2. Masters of  
merchant ships are to be informed accordingly.  
(D.T.D. 0013B/9 to C. in C. W.A. N.S.H.Q., S.O.(I) Gibraltar,  
S.O.(I) Freetown, S.O.(I) Jamaica, S.O.(I) Capetown, (R) C. in C.  
A.W.I.  
/MAHRONDA ...



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War Diary.9.6.1942  
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic. Oontd

MAHRONDA (British) "S" Report. Following has been read. SSSS MAHRONDA 23° 22' S. 35° 47' E. Wake of periscope or torpedo sighted one violent explosion each side of ship 1 mile distant.

(Freetown W/T, Bombay Fort W/T 0427 G.M.T./9.)

Following has been read. My SSSS 0427/9. Nothing further to report.

(MAHRONDA 0524/9 to B.A.M.S.)

At 0444Z/9 following read (Begins) SSSS from MAHRONDA 23° 22' S. 35° 47' E. Wake of periscope or torpedo sighted one violent explosion each side of ship 1 mile distant 0427 9th (ends).

At 0506Z unknown station using call sign G Y K called MAHRONDA.

No answer made. Transmission too short for bearing. G Y K endeavoured to bring station up again by using call sign (G L T J) without result.

(C. in C. S.A. 1032B/9 to Admty., C. in C. E.F. R.A.W.A.F., Dep. C. in C. E.F.)

W.S.19  
SHROPSHIRE.

SHROPSHIRE arrived with Durban portion of W.S.19. SHROPSHIRE\* returned to Capetown in accordance with C. in C. S.A. 1221B/8 (N.T. in W.R.) (N.O.I.C. Durban 0451Z/9 to Admty. etc.)

\* ? in Durban

Water  
Supplies,  
Freetown.

Your 0226/6/6., after consultation it is considered (a) A convoy of 20 vessels with average requirements of 600 tons total 12,000 could possibly be watered in 72 hours provided ROLF proves capable of delivering 600 tons daily.

R.N.O. Lagos reports new pump unsatisfactory and if not capable of improvement another carrier of EMPIRE CADET type would be required and ROLF could be utilised at Bathurst, (b) Accumulation of mobile supplies afloat is necessary owing to offtake from shore insufficient to provide quantity required in three days and the supply furthermore erratic. Present floating storage sufficient.

(c) In order to provide for withdrawal of a distilling vessel for dry docking a mobile tanker of 3,000 tons Inverrosa type would be required. If Convoy of more than 20 ships the 3000 tons Tanker would be necessary for extra storage and distribution in addition to distilling vessels. Your para (4) the above estimate is based on retention of BASSETHOUND and not supply of a smaller unit except the unit required to replace ROLF if necessary.

(3) Your para (5) consider that provided CHARLOTTE falls capable producing 2,000 tons daily during dry season and adequate berthing facilities arranged one and possibly both distilling ships could be withdrawn if the 3000 tons mobile tanker is provided para (c) refers.

(4) Fuelling facilities are now under consideration and will be subject of further communications.

(S.S.T.O. Freetown 0455Z/9 to C. in C. S.A. Admty.)

/A/C to Mombasa ...



War Diary.

9.6.1942  
Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic - contd.

A/C to Mombasa for Aircraft Carriers. OX.5981. 9/6. My OX.6494 18/5 to M.E. only. Am sending 20 Tropicalised Hurricane 11B Bombers to Mombasa to equip an Aircraft Carrier. 14 aircraft are I.E.6 reserve. Aircraft will be shipped ex U.K. to Takoradi. They are to be erected there and flown to Mombasa via Malakal Juba and Eastleigh under arrangements to be made by H.Q. R.A.F. M.E. Expect to despatch aircraft towards end of June. Aircraft on arrival at Mombasa are to be handed over to C. in C. E.F. (Air Min. 0845/9 to Takoradi, 207 Group (R) H.Q. R.A.F., M.E. C. in C. E.F.)

O.S.31. Your 0033B/8 (Proposal to resail CROCUS with O.S.31) concur. (R.A.W.A. 0857Z/9 to C. in C. W.A.)

Movements. Arrived RAMILLIES, DUNCAN, DECOY, ACTIVE, tugs THAMES, GREYSTOKE CASTLE. (N.O.I.C. Durban 1101Z/9 to Admty. etc.)

JOHNSTOWN (torpedoed 5/6) Hospital ship MANHANUI arrived this morning with 39 survivors ex Panamanian JOHNSTOWN torpedoed by S/M 5/6 in 13° S. 42° E. 3 of crew missing, 2 dead. Master states all C.Bs were thrown overboard in steel box and were seen to sink. (N.C.S.O. Durban 1205Z/9 to Admty. S.O.I. Capetown.)

A/C support S. Africa coast. I am very concerned about the lack of air support to cover shipping off the coast of S. Africa especially since the recent raider and submarine attacks.

2. All S.A.A.F. long-range coastal aircraft were withdrawn from Union for operation "Ironclad" and following only remain 14 Ansons and 3 JU.86. These are now being reinforced by two flights of 8 Ansons each from R.A.F. Training School at George and 1 Maryland from Pretoria. There are 14 Mohawks at Durban but none at Capetown.

3. Intend to use pool pilots and available aircraft at Wingfield to provide (a) additional R/C in Walrus and Albacores and (b) A fighter force in Sea Hurricanes and Fulmars.

4. I understand from C.G.S. Pretoria that S.A.A.F. would take over 7 Baltimores being erected for mid-east at Brooklyn if preferred. Strongly recommend that, if these can possibly be spared, they should be so offered to S.A.A.F. thereby greatly strengthening the seaward patrols which are urgently required.

5. Request every effort may be made to obtain utmost priority for delivery of Ventura aircraft from U.S.A. to S.A.A.F. (C. in C. S.A. 1310B/9 to Admty. (R) C.C.S. Pretoria Comms Kilindini C. in C. Med.)



War Diary.

9.6.1942  
Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic - contd.

Weekly  
State 6/6

Following is repetition of my 1623Z/6<sup>/h.137</sup>, all after FOWEY, Pointe Noire Area, PANTHER, 2 corvettes. H.34 C and D. PRETORIA CASTLE. I 34B. CARNARVON CASTLE. Azores Area (?to) Freetown. WIVERN, U.K. VANSITTART, BRILLIANT, VIMY, 4 corvettes. On passage U.K. WILD SWAN. U.K. to Freetown 1 corvette. Simonstown VINDICTIVE. (R.A. West Africa 1313Z/9 to Admty. etc.)

RODNEY.

My 2013/5 is not intended to over-ride my 1559/3. (D.O.D.(F) 1329B/9 to R.A. West Africa, (R) C. in C. S.A.)

ASTURIAS.

ASTURIAS patrolling H.34 (d) from 10/6 to 13/6. (R.A. West Africa 1336Z/9 to T.F.No.23 (R) C. in C. S.A., C. in C. U.S. Fleet, Admty., CARNARVON CASTLE, ASTURIAS.)

? MAHRONDA  
U-boat  
report.

Following received by Durban Aeradio from Lourenco Marques. SSSS De K.T.X.S. (Ship unknown) S/M attack 023° 25' S. 035° 40' E. at 1430 G.M.T. still attacking at time of receipt 1458 9th. (C. in C. S.A. 1745B/9 to Admty., C. in C. E.I. C. in C. E.F.)

DECOY  
docking.

Your 1311/4 not received until destroyer entered harbour. (1) DECOY being taken in hand completion date will be signalled later. (2) As dock not available for several weeks am sailing DUNCAN with ACTIVE a.m. 11/6 for Kilindini. (3) Capt. (D) 2 concur. (N.O.I.C. Durban 1624Z/9 to Dep. C. in C. E.F. (R) C. in C. S.A., Admty., S.O. Force F., C. in C. E.F., Capt. (D) 2.) As amended 1016Z/10.

GEORGE  
CLYMER  
torpedoed.

Your 1000B/9<sup>INT. h. W. 2</sup> not understood in view of ALCANTARA's 2000Z/8 and my 1620B/8. (D.T.D. Approved A.C.N.S.(T) 1725B/9 to C. in C. S.A. (R) R.A. West Africa, ALCANTARA.) Your 1050/9 (?1000/9 intended) Have complied with your 1704/8. Ship now holed in all compartments and on fire forward and aft, further report will be made. (ALCANTARA 1915Z/9 to C. in C. S.A. (R) Admty. R.A. West Africa, T.F. No.23)

/Movements ...



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War Diary.

9.6.1942  
Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic - contd.

Movements.

Departure 9/6 PRETORIA CASTLE escort duty.  
HYDRANGEA, TAMARISK R/V O.S.29.  
(S.O.(I.) Freetown 1743Z/9 to Admty.)

CHRISTOS  
MARKETTOS.

Survivors report. Ship CHRISTOS MARKETOS was  
torpedoed and sunk in 005° 05' S. 040° 53' E.  
bound North at 0800Z/8 presumably by S/M as no  
attacking ship was seen.  
(F.O.I.C. East Africa & Zanzibar 1800/9 to  
Admty. (R) C. in C. E.F., C. in C. S.A.)

Escort for  
BATORY.

Your 1910/8/6. Escort can be provided.  
(R.A.W.A. 1805Z/9 to Admty. (R) G.O.C. in C. W.A.  
C. in C. S.A.)

PANTHER.

Proceed at 1200Z/10 to Gibraltar (route).  
E.T.A. Gibraltar dawn 16/6. F.O.C.N.A. is  
requested to sail ship to U.K.  
(R.A. West Africa 1855Z/9 to PANTHER (R)  
F.O.C.N.A., Admty.)

Situation  
Report.

Area Q position 2000Z/9 CHESHIRE from the south  
E.T.A. Simonstown 0600Z/10. CILICIA off Tristan da  
Cunha. ALCANTARA about 015° 30' S. (?017°) 00' W.  
to area J I C, K I A. BUSHWOOD, HATSUSE, AIGLON,  
ESTRELLA DO MAR from Lagos E.T.A. Walvis Bay 11/6. ARCHER 031°  
00' S. 004° 55' E. 328° 13 knots. ENGADINE 35° 00' S. 025°  
40' E. to Capetown 15 knots.  
(C. in C. S.A. 1904B/9 to S.A. Sqdn. (R) Admty., C.N.S. New  
Zealand.)

Mediterranean.

Operation  
"Salient".

First flight landed second in touch.  
(V.A. Malta 1033C/9 to EAGLE (R) F.O.C.N.A.,  
C. in C. Med., Admty.)  
My 1033. 3rd Flight landed. 4th landing now.  
Numbers later.  
(V.A. Malta 1201C/9.)

/TAKU ...



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War Diary.9.6.1942  
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean - contd.

TAKU At 0030C/9 aircraft on passage sighted signalling  
PROTEUS, light in 034° 52' 017° 33'.  
information. (Capt. S.1 1041C/9 to TAKU, PROTEUS (R) THORN.)

Malta Air I.352 9/6. C.S.R. Malta. Part 1 8th. 1321  
Report. hours, 12 ME.109s, Macchi 202s (no report of  
damage) Night 8/9th. 2 Alerts. Luqa, no  
damage, elsewhere 1 Civilian wounded 1 house  
damaged. 0125 hours, 6 Raiders, Coast not crossed. 9th. 4  
Spitfires dawn shipping search found nothing. 2 Alerts, 0811  
hours, 20 ME.109s, 1 ME.109 damaged by 36 Spitfires, escorting  
delivery Spitfires. 0945 hours, 3 ME.109s, 8 Spitfires up, no  
combats. Pt. 2. Wellington 8 shipping search Cape Bon Marettimo  
Kuriat found 0300 hours 3 D/Rs, 1 M.T.B., 360° Cape San Clito, *Vito*  
1 mile, course 040° 15 knots. Near miss on D/R. 8 mark 2  
Wellingtons target shipping Taranto 2120 to 2218 hours.  
Effective smoke screen Harbour. (A? Corrupt) Mare Grande  
obscured results, most bombs including 4,000 lb. fell vicinity  
target. 1 explosion, 2 fires 1 visible 20 miles.  
(H.Q. R.A.F. Malta 1510/9)

Damaged Minister of Marine informs me 2 German engineers  
U/B, arrived Cartagena inspected damaged submarine.  
Cartagena. No work has been done yet. Confirmed  
U.573. independently.  
(N.A. Madrid 1551/9 to D.N.I.)

Malta. Military situation report for week ending 6/6.  
Enemy day bombing limited to 6 fighter bombers  
and 7 Cant 1007, in two attacks directed against  
aerodromes. Fighter effort also small except on 6/6 when  
escorting rescue parties in vicinity island. Enemy suffered  
majority casualties that day. Night raids, 1/2, 15 bombers,  
6/7 25 bombers. Damage slight.  
(2) Reinforcements. 27 Spitfires arrived 4/6 (? Operation "Style"  
3/6 intended) Malta based Wellingtons continue attack targets  
Italy Sicily.  
(3) Coast watching patrols have been increased and measures taken  
to counter raids and saboteurs in view interrogation and other  
naval reports.  
(Govr. Malta, 1740/9 to C. in C. M.E. (R) W.O.)



War Diary.9.6.1942.  
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies.

Burma Report. Sitrep 6. Single enemy A/C reconnoitred Chittagong 7/6. Air R/C Chindwin 7/6 saw raider steamer Samanthi. 1 steamer Sittaung and 3 Kalewa bombed and machine-gunned. Bombs all near misses. M/V Akyab (? again) bombed and machine gunned 7/6. Near misses. Photographs show ship to be armed motor vessel approx. 900 tons. Jetty damaged but repaired to permit unloading ships up to 200 feet. (C. in C. India, 0105/9.)

Catalina R/C. Catalinas request detailed instructions for sweep and intelligence report of surface craft in area covered. 1 flying boat has petrol leakage and 1 10 hours overdue for overhauling, both unserviceable on 10th. (N.O.I.C. Seychelles, 0635Z/9 to C. in C. E.I., (R) D. C. in C. E.F.)

Aircraft Ferry Traffic. Ferrying traffic between Ceylon, Coimbatore and Cochin for warships of fleet spare A/C will in the near future assume considerable proportions. Although it is intended to keep a small pool of each type at Puttulam, urgent supply from the main storage at Coimbatore may be required from time to time. Rail journey takes approx. 36 hours and is uncertain and very exhausting. Unless A/C can be provided for ferrying pilots the wastage of (? service) A/C flying hours will be excessive and additional to the risk to A/C (? due) to inexperienced pilots carrying out a first cross country flight of this nature. R.A.F. are unable to supply air transport for this purpose. Request early arrangements be made for 2 plus 1 spare civil or suitably converted obsolete R.A.F. A/C capable of carrying 4 or more passengers to be flown out by experienced second line pilots for the above purpose. Air ferry service (? to be based) on Coimbatore. (C. in C. E.I., 0719Z/9 to Admty., (R) C. in C. E.F., S.O.(A). E.F., Com. N.A.S., Coimbatore.)

Convoy C.M. 28 arrived. C.M. 28. (N.C.S.O. Kilindini, 0729Z/9 to Admty.)

Liaison with U.S.N. Your 2358/1/5. As a result of visit of my U.S.N. Liaison Officer to Australia I have established contact with Adm. Leery and am arranging to communicate with him via A.C.N.B. by one way pad. 2. So far my only request to him has been for information of strategical and tactical aspects of Coral Sea Battle. This was not successful, reply being a string of generalities and no information of any value. Possible that as our relations become closer I may obtain useful information. I await with interest result of my 1149/8 addressed to Admty. for C. in C. Pacific Fleet. (C. in C. E.F., 0933Z/9 to Admty., (R) C. in C. E.I., B.A.D.) Reply from B.A.D., 2121/11.

/TRUSTY ....



War Diary.9.6.1942.  
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies - Contd.

TRUSTY.

My 1141/8. On return passage reconnoitre approach to Sabang Bay at your discretion. You should not cross 100 fathom line unless an attack on a good target can be made. Late afternoon suggested as best time.  
(S.O.(S) Colombo, 0957Z/9 to TRUSTY, (R) C. in C. E.F.)  
Cancelled by 1203/10, q.v.

Dispositions. C. in C. E.F. 1125/8 (W.R. Note: QUEEN MARY ready to leave Simonstown - N.T. in W.D.) On the W.S. 19 assumption that MAURITIUS escorts W.S. 19 (C. in Escort. C. S.A. 1141B/8 part 2 only received) and that both sections of W.S. 19 are to R/V off Durban on 14/6, propose following.

- A. CHITRAL and CANTON leave patrol 11/6 EMERALD leaves patrol 12/6 and proceeds to Durban.
- B. CHITRAL and EMERALD leave Durban with W.S. 19 14/6 route outside Madagascar and inside Seychelles.
- C. CANTON proceed to Capetown and U.K.
- D. Battleship escorted by ACTIVE leaves Kilindini 19/6 and R/V with W.S. 19 north of Seychelles 21/6 to relieve EMERALD.
- E. EMERALD and ACTIVE fuel Seychelles and return to Kilindini.
- F. BELVOIR and HURSLEY fuel at Diego Suarez and proceed to Kilindini.
- G. On arrival at about 10° N. CHITRAL proceed with W.S. 19A to Aden and battleship with W.S. 19B to Bombay.  
(D. C. in C. E.F., 0959Z/9 to C. in C. E.I., C. in C. E.F., C. in C. S.A., (R) Admty., B.S.3.)  
Reply: C. in C. E.F., 1801Z/10.

Raiders.

Your 1146/8 part 3 received very corrupt.  
Dispositions. INDOMITABLE now ready for sea. Propose to employ her as in my 1742/7 para. (D) sailing p.m./10 with FROBISHER until DEVONSHIRE is available unless otherwise ordered.  
(D. C. in C. E.F., 1015Z/9 to C. in C. E.F., (R) F.O. 3 B.S., INDOMITABLE, FROBISHER.)

Shipping,  
Africa  
Coast.

All merchant ships between 020° S. and 026° S. are to keep not less than 100 miles from the coast of Africa.  
(Adm. Mombasa, 1040 G.M.T./9 to B.A.M.S. 3C.)  
(D. C. in C. E.F., 1945Z/9 to C. in C. E.I., (R) C. in C. S.A., F.O. E.A., C. in C. E.F., Admty.)

All merchant ships in Mozambique Channel between 020° S. and 30° S. are to steer to (CKHF) (corrupt group) East of 040° E. NWMP (corrupt group).  
(Adm. Mombasa, 1905Z/9 to B.A.M.S. 3C.)

/REVENGE ...



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War Diary.9.6.1942.  
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies - Contd.

- REVENGE. My 0623/8 (N.T. in W.R.) and D/C. in C. E.F.'s 1742/7. Sailing of REVENGE deferred for present in view of shortage of destroyers, there being only 2 in area, and uncertainty of Durban's ability to receive her by 15/6.  
(V.A. 2 E.F., 1101Z/9 to C. in C. E.F., C. in C. S.A., (R) Cdre. Durban etc.)
- Navigation Lights. Attention is called to C.A.M.S.I. 463 which states that dimmed navigation lights are to be exhibited by Merchant Ships when south of 4° S. and W. of a line joining 004° S. 045° E. and 010° 40', 043° 20' E.  
(D/C. in C. E.F., 1202C/9 to E.I. Stn.)
- SPRINGTIDE. SPRINGTIDE's 0700/30 and A.M. 2240/5/5. Request SPRINGTIDE may be sent to Kilindini.  
(D/C. in C. E.F., 1202Z/9 to C. in C. E.I.)
- Navigation Lights. In view of existing U-Boat campaign E. Coast of Africa, suggest that C.A.M.S.I. concerning exhibition of dim navigation lights by merchant ships southward of 004° S. should be amended.  
(D/C. in C. E.F., 1204Z/9 to C. in C. E.I., (R) B.S.3, C. in C. E.F.)  
Reply: C. in C. E.I., 0701Z/10.
- Raider Intelligence. My 1440/6 (1430 intended). Description of raiders amended as follows. Size as previously stated but larger, has 5 decks counting from waterline. Rake steam, squat rake funnel, cruiser stern. 2 goalpost masts, 1 set in fore well deck the other fitted after end of amidships superstructure. 2 pole masts, 1 on forecastle and 1 well aft. Further attacks have been made on shipping in Mozambique Channel probably by submarines of which at least 3 are considered to be operating. No information to show location of surface raider.  
(C.O.I.S. Colombo, 1239Z/9 to E.I. Stn., (R) Admty.)
- ENTERPRISE. ENTERPRISE 0005/7. ENTERPRISE should be sailed Colombo where the Rotor for her main circulator will be ready. Time required for fitting 3 days. (II) She should complete fitting the Oerlikon gun platform before sailing but not draw the 2 additional guns referred to in her 1150/8.  
(C. in C. E.F., 1248Z/9 to D/C. in C. E.F., (R) Cdre. R.I.N., D.S.R. (Cdre. R.I.N. please pass), C.S.4, C. in C. E.I., ENTERPRISE.)

/Navigation ...



War Diary.9.6.1942.  
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies - Contd.

- Navigation. Mombasa. Ras Serani light is normally extinguished but will be lit by request. Cancel para. B of Q.C.A. 261.  
(S.O.I. Colombo, 1413Z/9 to All concerned Q.C.A. 498.)
- ?MAHRONDA U-Boat report. Following has been read. SSSS (Part missed) 23° 35' S. 35° 40' E. still attacking at 1430 G.M.T. (Colombo W/T, T.O.R. 1506Z/9.)
- DEVONSHIRE. Diego Suarez departure 1300 G.M.T./9 DEVONSHIRE. (N.O.I.C. Diego Suarez, 1601C/9 to Admty., etc.)
- DRAGON. In present circumstances DRAGON is being retained in Kilindini. She will be sent to Capetown to dock as soon as possible.  
(D/C. in C. E.F., 1615Z/9 to C. in C. S.A, (R) C. in C. E.F, Admty.)
- N.A.D., Mombasa. Ref. S. of S. for Colonies Telegram No. 103 to Governor of Nairobi (N.T. in W.R.)  
(ii) Naval Armament Depot Mombasa. Suitable site selected is on mainland West of Mombasa Island in area Mtongwe, chart 666. Lighterage wharf must be built and 3 ton crane provided. Roadway for motor lorries transport between wharf and depot easily improvised.  
(iii) Anticipate ready to accommodate 1,000 tons end of September, 3000 tons end of 1942.  
(F.O. E. Africa, 1720Z/9 to Admty., (R) C. in C. E.F., Govr. of Kenya.)
- Madagascar. Ref. 93512 of 7/6. Not yet possible to give decision on final policy in Madagascar. You should therefore go to Madagascar at once and after reviewing situation there, go on with Gen. Sturges to discuss position with Field Marshal Smuts.  
(W.O., 1825/9 to G.O.C. in C. E. Africa.)



War Diary.9.6.1942.  
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies.

M.A.R.I. A.M. 2223B/6. Amendment No. 22 to M.A.R.I. is to be annotated. "These instructions apply to British Managed Ships only".  
(2) Amendment No. 21 to M.A.R.I. is to be deleted from M.A.R.I. and regarded as an instruction to N.C.S.O.'s with ref: AM. 1925B/4/6.  
(D.T.D. 0035B/9 to C. in A.W.I., N.S.H.Q. etc.).

ANNISTON CITY S.S. ANNISTON CITY reports attacked by enemy U/B. submarine 29° - 50' N. 64° - 45' W. at about 2339Z/08. No subsequent transmission received. (Cominch, 0104Z/9, to Admty, C. in C.A.W.I.).

PENNYWORT Task Unit 24.1.17 and 24.1.18 arrived Argentina. damaged. PENNYWORT grounded entering harbour. Estimate 10 days in dry dock to repair damage. Arrangements being made with C.O.A.C. for repairs. (C.T.F. 24 0131/9, to C. in C.W.A., (R) F.O.N.F., C.O.A.C. N.S.H.Q.).

Shipping Your 1023/8.  
Diversions. Name of Ship Bunkering Port Final Destination  
PADEREWSKI (Pol.) Trinidad Buenos Aires  
ERENAS (? Nor.) Natal Brazil. Bahia.  
Suggest any diversion signals contain option to disregard if bunkers insufficient.  
(N.S.H.Q., 0307/9 to C. in C.A.W.I. (R) Admty etc.).

DURBAN New York departure 1000Z/8 DURBAN.  
(N.S.H.Q. 0621Z/9 to Admty (R) F.O.C.N.A. etc.).  
Route DURBAN as follows:  
1. Departs Chesapeake Bay 12/6 S. of A. 20.5 through  
a. 032° 30' N. 064° 35' W. b. 032° 26' N.  
064° 33' W. to Bermuda, E.T.A. 13/6. 2. Departs  
Bermuda 14/6 S. of A. 20.5, through c. 042° 00' N. 063° 20' W.  
to Halifax, E.T.A. 16/6 3. Departs Halifax S. of A. 18 through  
d. 046° 20' N. 053° 00' W. e. 055° 00', 043° 00'. f. 060°  
00', 035° 00'. g. 064° 00', 024° 00' to Iceland E.T.A. 21/6.  
(Connav, 1528/9, to Com.5 (R) Admty etc.).

BUXTON. <sup>/N.T.A.W.D.</sup> Your 0037B/9 P.C.S. 0700Z/9 (?039°) 31' N. (? 032°)  
00' W, 294° 15.  
(BUXTON 0655Z/9).

COAST TRADER S.S. COAST TRADER torpedoed in 125° 40' W, 48° 15' (torpedoed N. at 1410/7. 7/6). (C.O.A.C. 0705Z/9 to N.S.H.Q.).  
W.D. Note - Position given is off Vancouver.

/Sugar .....



War Diary.9.6.1942.  
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies. con 15.Sugar  
Ships,  
Caribbean.

Your 1834/7. Confirm maximum draught safe berth to be 14 feet. Last two ships here loading to this draught.  
(R.N.O. San Pedro de Macoris 0927R/9 to Fairmiss, Admty C.in C.A.W.I.).

U-boat  
attack on  
O.N.S100  
MIMOSA  
torpedoed by  
U.124. (G.3.443)

MIMOSA torpedoed at 0230Z. 4 survivors.  
(C.T.U. 24.1.11. 0945Z/9, to C.T.F. 24 (R) Admty etc.).  
A.M. 2334/B/8. D/F bearings at 0621Z/9 and 0629Z/9 indicate that 2 U-Boats are still in contact with O.N.S.100.  
(D.D.I.C. 1014B/9 to Escorts O.N.S.100 Cominch (R) C.in C. W.A. N.S.H.Q.).  
U-Boat estimated by D/F in your vicinity at 0621 G.C.T. 9/6 may have made sighting report on convoy.  
(Connav, 1032/9, to C.T.U. No. 24.1.11 (R) C.T.F. No. 24 Admty N.S.H.Q. C.O.A.C.).

C.T.U. 24.1.11's 0945Z/9 and Admty 2334B/8. Intend sailing "Butchery" group consisting of CHAMBLY, S.O. ORILLIA, and PRIMROSE p.m. to-day 9th to reinforce escort and practice anti-shadowing tactics with O.N.S.100.  
(F.O.N.F. 1156Z/9, to C.T.24 (R) Cominch, N.S.H.Q., etc.).  
My 1156Z/9. CHAMBLY and ORILLIA sailed St. John's N.F. to strengthen T.U. 24.1.11. Should join approx. noon/11, when CHAMBLY will assume duties of S.O. PRIMROSE not available today. Intend to sail BITTERSWEET and PRIMROSE when ready about a.m./12.  
(F.O.N.F. 2110Z/9 to C.T.U. 24.1.11 (R) C.T.F. 24, C.O.A.C. N.S.H.Q. Admty. C.in C. U.S. Fleet, PRIMROSE, BITTERSWEET).  
Shadowing reports continue.  
(C.in C. U.S. Fleet, 1450/9, to C.T.U. No.24.1.11, C.T.U. 24.1.4. (R) C.T.F. 24, Admty, etc.).  
D/F Bearings between 0820Z/9 and 1406Z/9 and indicate 2 U-Boats still in contact.  
(D.D.I.C. 1652B/9 to escorts O.N.S.100, Cominch).

NORSEMAN  
Trinidad.

Request use of Cable Ship NORSEMAN at present Port of Spain to relay No. 1 loop. Work to be begun immediately, estimated time 4 days. With local resources only, time 12 to 14 days which is most inadvisable in view of shortage of A/S vessels.  
(F.O.I.C. Trinidad, 1012Q/9, to Admty). Approved (Admty 2302B/11).

U/B attack  
on B.X. 23 A.

Convoy attacked, 2 ships torpedoed, P.C. and S. 042° 53', 067° 11', 000° 10½ knots.  
(WANDERER, 1109Z/9, to C.T.F. 24 (R) Connav, Admty etc.).  
My 1109Z/9. Only 1 torpedo MALAYAN PRINCE. All ships hunting. Hope to tow back MALAYAN PRINCE. Which port shall I take her to?  
(C.T.U. 24.18.3, 1201Z/9, to C.T.F. 24 (for action) (R) Connav, Admty C.in C. W.A. etc.).

/ROXBOROUGH ....



War Diary.9.6.1942.  
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies. con 15:-U/B attack  
on B.X. 23 A.  
Contd.

? VERITY

ROXBOROUGH, BARPITIE, returning to convoy  
WANDERER and SUMMERSIDE still searching. Intend  
WANDERER return to convoy by dark, SUMMERSIDE  
screen MALAYAN PRINCE.  
(C.T.U. 24.18.3. 1303Z/9 to C.T.F. 24 (R)Admty etc).

Trinidad  
Tankers.Your 1032Q/8, concur.  
(D.T.D. 1339B/9, to B.R.O. Trinidad).

L. 27.

Your 2039Z/8. 3 serviceable torpedoes in  
GREENWICH, 2 under repair at Halifax.  
(C.C.N.F., 1423Z/9, to B.A.R.M. (R) F.O.S. etc.).*Cancelled 10/6 - See p. 266*Latin  
AmericaChiefs of Staff No.(W) 198. Re security co-  
ordination and intelligence. (Air Min. 1507Z/9  
to Washington) See Lion Copy.Independent  
Ships,  
Routes,Your 1142B/8. Such ships may be routed through  
Florida Strait or by any passage between Cuba  
and Trinidad. Route selected must depend largely  
on port of departure and latest intelligence as  
to U/B situation. B.A.D. pass C.in C.A.W.I's  
1142B/8 to Connav.  
(D.T.D., 1511B/9, to C.in C. A.W.I. (R) B.R.O. Colon,  
N.S.H.Q., etc.).

U/B.

Enemy S/M sighted in 051° 32' N. 033° 47' W.  
(ASSINIBOINE, 1515Z/9, to C.T.F. 24 (R)Admty etc.).M.A.C.R.I.  
Amendments.(1) Your 1944/8. Apart from addressees mentioned  
in my 1943/2 there are the following holders in  
U.K. who have active and operational interest in  
Macri; C.in C. W.A. 9 N.C.S.O.'s and various  
departments in Admty. (2) If you prefer to send  
one copy only to Admty or to signal amendments,  
we will arrange to copy and distribute to  
authorities in (1) above.  
(D.T.D. 1545Z/9, to Connav) Reply 1552/10

O. 15.

Route O - 15 New London to St. Johns N.F. through  
(?Cape Cod) Canal to point. (A) 043° 00' N.  
060° 00' W. (B) 046° 00' N. 053° 00' W. thence  
to destination.  
(Connav 1549/9 to Com. Liaison Atlantic, New  
London, (R) Admty, C.O.A.C. F.O.N.F., C.T.F. 24,  
C.in C. Lant). Cancelled see 1413/10.Convoy  
Escorts,  
Policy.Following resulting from meeting in Washington  
8/6 of representatives C.in C. U.S. Fleet, B.A.D.,  
N.S.H.Q. Cinclant, C.E.S.F. are proposals as to  
changes in convoy arrangements. A. Mid-ocean  
escorts to be reduced to not less than 6 ships  
operating strength at any time. B. Ships thus  
released (approx. 10) to be used by Canadians to

/strengthen .....



**MOST SECRET**

233A

MOST SECRET

MESSAGE

1507z/9th June

OUT

Date 9.6.42

To Britman Washington

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From Air Ministry

OZ 415 9.6.42

Following for Joint Staff Mission from Chiefs  
of Staff No.(W) 198.

1. We are anxious to see an end of Axis machinations in Latin America, which constitute serious potential threat to Allied supplies and are a dangerous fount of espionage and general fifth column work.
2. United States policy has been to rely on normal relations and economic hold over Latin American Governments to keep such activities in check. Donovan has been prevented from operating there and only activity has been limited security control by Federal Bureau of Investigation.
3. Our policy in regard to secret anti-Axis activity has been one of laissez faire, to avoid risk of upsetting Latin American States or acting against wishes of State Department, although overt security messages to prevent sabotage to ships and cargoes have been organised in all major ports by British Security Co-ordination.
4. Except for above security organisation in Para.3, Axis have virtually had a free run. It is therefore highly important that secret work should start quickly before Axis increase their lead.
5. It would obviously be preferable for U.S.A. to initiate this work and that it should be controlled in Washington but if they are reluctant to act we must try to obtain permission to act alone.
6. To enable work to start quickly and efficiently we have recommended to Ministers concerned that resources of both S.I.S. and S.O.E. should be made available, making clear that our help would be directed solely against enemy or enemy-controlled nationals and organisations.
7. We have also recommended that British Security Co-ordination should extend their overt security measures in collaboration with U.S. Authorities. This would be entirely separate from secret organisations although intelligence would be contributed to common pool.

8./.....



B  
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8. We understand Marshall intended to discuss whole subject with President on return but we do not know whether he has yet done so.

9. Above is for your information only. We are asking for necessary ministerial authority.

1507z/9

Received from Air Ministry 0925/10

- 1st Lord
- 1st S.L. (2)
- 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. (2)
- I.P. (2)
- W.D. ✓

Air Ministry Circulation:-  
 Col. Jacob  
 Foreign Secretary  
 War Reg. Admiralty  
 C.6. Tels, War Office.  
 C.A.S.

AFP

Admiral Bellairs.  
 Admiral Cunningham (64 O.B.I.)



War Diary.9.6.1942.  
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies. con'td.

Convoy Escorts, Policy. Contd. strengthen convoys now known as H.T/T.H. but with southern terminal shifted from Trinidad to Aruba - Curacao and convoys to be known as H.A. A.H. C. Escorts for these convoys under orders C.O.A.C. with same operational relationship as now exists between Cinclant, C.T.F. 24 and C.O.A.C. as to local escorts. D. With increased escorts thus available for these convoys, Canadians undertake to accept shipping minimum speed 10 between Aruba - Curacao and Halifax to limit of escort capacity as soon as may be. A.H. convoys to be assembled and routed by U.S. authorities at Aruba. Details as to diversions later. E. About 1/7 convoy system to be inaugurated between Key West and Trinidad via Aruba with local convoy for bauxite ships between Trinidad and Surinam. F. Shipping Key West - Canal Zone to break off from and join Key West-Trinidad convoys in vicinity of Jamaica or other agreed upon locality. G. Understood that Key West-Trinidad system only expedient for several months until more extensive system outlined in C.in C. U.S. Fleet's 00253 of 3/4 can be inaugurated with adequate escorts. (?H). Your concurrence requested. (C.in C. U.S. Fleet, 1610Z/9 to Admty, N.S.H.Q.(R) Cinclant etc.). Reply Admty 2016B/10. N.S.H.Q. 1519Z/11.

M.A.C.R.I. Experience with working of M.A.C.R.I. and M.A.R.I. shows that some confusion has arisen with regard to routeing due to fact that M.A.C.R.I. covers only coastal voyages and does not deal with shipping entering and leaving coastal areas from or to ports overseas. At present instructions in M.A.R.I. endeavour to cover these ships but have of necessity to include passage through coastal areas with consequent duplication of instructions in M.A.C.R.I. e.g. a ship proceeding independently from Colon to U.K. 2. It is considered that present difficulties could be overcome if M.A.C.R.I. were expanded to include general routeing policy, west of a line from Cape Race to Cape Orange. 3. Request your remarks. (A.C.N.S.(T) 1713B/9 to Connav (R) N.S.H.Q., B.A.D.C.in C.A.W.I.).

Pacific Action. Personal for Adm. King from 1st S.L. Congratulations on successes achieved by U.S. Naval Forces in the Pacific. I feel sure that the results must have a profound bearing on the naval war. (Admty, 1729Z/9, to Cominch).

BRUXELLES, FRANKLIN K. LANE, (sunk 8/6). BRUXELLES and FRANKLIN K. LANE from T O 5 convoy sunk by S/M at 2030QR/8 in approx. 011° 00' N. 066° 43' W. CHURCHILL bringing in survivors from both vessels. (N.C.S.O. Curacao, 1745QR/9, to S.O.(I) Kingston (Jam)).

EDITH U.S.A. EDITH overdue Mayaguez. (S.O.(I) Kingston, 1754R/9, to Admty etc.).

/Casablanca .....



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War Diary.9.6.1942.  
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies. Contd.

Casablanca. B.A.D. 1811Z/9. See North Atlantic.

WESTERN HEAD. My 1416R/7. Ship torpedoed 1925 Eastern standard time 28/5, 20 miles South region of Cape Maysi. (S.O.I. Kingston, 1816R/9, to Admty etc.).

U/B. U-Boat estimated in your vicinity by D/F has made sighting on a convoy or important unit. (C.in C. U.S. Fleet, 1818/9, to C.T.U. 24.1.4, C.T.U. 24.1.11.).

Shipping Signals. A.M. 2149B/29/5. Request you will ascertain from Navy Dept. if receipt of Vescas from E.I. and Med. Stations is now satisfactory. 2. If not request you will report specific instances direct to C.in C. concerned at intervals and repeat to Admty. (D.T.D. 1855B/9, to B.A.D. N.S.H.Q.C.in C. E.I. C.in C. Med.). Reply B.A.D. 2315/11.

Raiders, bluffing H.M.Ships. Your 1704/6. In view of the small number of H.M.Ships under British Operational Control in Jamaica Intelligence area, the alternative mentioned in para. 8, (reliance on an Encounter Signal), appears to be applicable. This is the method at <sup>Present in use.</sup> ~~(corrupt Group)~~. (2) It is assumed that H.M.Ships under U.S. Operational Control will receive all necessary shipping information from U.S. sources. (3) Ref. Para. 9. (A) Vesca and Murco signals supplemented by route signals give all information required. (B) Yes. (C) Ref. para. 6 (A) and (B) concur but in order to reduce signalling suggest stations should be divided into areas for this purpose. (C) and (D) Concur. (4). The Gridded Chart should be a valuable aid in transmitting positions of Merchant Ships to H.M.Ships. (C.in C. A.W.I. 1902P/9, to Admty (R) N.S.H.Q., etc.).

U/B Positions. 9/6 Sub estimate. (Cominch 1903/9 to Admty).

U.S. Dispositions. A.M. 1252B/5. Further dispositions U.S. Forces in Atlantic:- Battleships NORTH CAROLINA left Norfolk 5/6. Aircraft Carriers WASP at Sea. RANGER at Argentia. 8" Cruisers QUINCY en route to Panama, AUGUSTA at Argentia. 6" Cruisers SAN JUAN left Norfolk 5/6 JUNEAU left Newport 7/6, SAVANNAH due Boston 9/6, MEMPHIS at Trinidad, OMAHA on patrol. (D.O.D. (F) 1914B/9 to C.in C. H.F., C.in C. A.W.I. N.S.H.Q.).

/CARIBSTAR ...



War Diary.9.6.1942.  
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies. Contd.CARIBSTAR.  
(overdue.)

Your 1826R/6 U.S. Authorities report CARIBSTAR arrived at Jacksonville for repairs. (C.S.A. Norfolk, Virginia. 1927Z/9, to S.O.I. Jamaica. (R) Admty etc).

O.N. 101.

Your 1548/9. O.N. 101. As convoy has already been diverted in accordance with C.in C. W.A. 0932/9 and my 1203/9 on the assumption that U-Boats will be following O.N. 100 to Southward, suggest no further action desirable. (D.T.D. 2012Z/9 to Connav (R) C.in C. W.A.).

DAVY  
CROCKETT  
escort.

Your 1813/6. (1) M S M states no fast vessels now available in that area but that apparently 3 vessels of between 14 and 16 knots will probably be available by end of June on Eastern seaboard. (2) Since U.S. authorities state no escorts can be made available before approx. 1st week in July, loading of DAVY CROCKETT has been cancelled. (3) Hope to arrange 3 fast vessels mentioned above to proceed in convoy New Orleans to Trinidad early July. Assume you will arrange escort thence Freetown for inclusion in W.S. Convoy. (B.A.D., 2045Z/9, to Admty (R) C.in C.A.W.I., C.in C.S.A, N.O.i/c. Trinidad, C.in C.E.F. S.N.O. P.G.)

TARAZZ  
Request to  
sail  
independently.

U.S.S. TARAZZ with about 318 service and civilian personnel arrived Sydney 9/6 for S C 87 12/6. In view of her speed of 18 knots and her minimum speed of  $7\frac{1}{2}$  knots can she be sailed independently to Iceland or instructed to break off and proceed independently from about 050° West as routed by N.C.S.O. Sydney. (N.S.H.Q., 2050Z/9 to ? Connav (R) Admty etc.). Not approved, see C.in C. U.S. Fleet 1630Z/10.

Ships  
attacked by  
U/Bs.

Serial 9. GEORGE CLYMER U.S. broken shaft 30/3 015° 15' S. 017° 08' W. Later torpedoed twice by submarine. Sunk by ALCANTARA while awash 9/6. Entire crew on ALCANTARA. BUSHRANGER Panamanian, torpedoed sunk 31/5 018° 15' N. 081° 25' W. 7 survivors. C.O. STILLMAN, Panamanian tanker, torpedoed sunk 6/6 017° 33' N. 067° 55' W. SUWIED U.S. torpedoed sunk 7/6 020° 05' N. 085° 35' W. DORSET, British attacked by submarine 9/6 011° 40' N. 081° 30' W. ANNISTON CITY U.S.? attacked by submarine 8/6. 029° 50' N. 064° 56' W. PARAGUAY Brazilian torpedoed 5/6. 017° 30' N. 068° 34' W. MALAYAN PRINCE British torpedoed in (?convoy) B.X. 23A 9/6. COAST TRADER torpedoed sunk 7/6. 048° 15' N. 125° 40' W. FRANKLIN K. LANE U.S. tanker and BRUXELLES torpedoed sunk 0130Z/9 011° 00' N. 066° (?39') W. in convoy T.O. 5. (Connav, 2103/9 to Comnav (R) N.S.H.Q. etc.).

\* See p. 224

S/M ...



War Diary.9.6.1942.  
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies. Contd.

S/M attack and sighting summary. (?COAST VILLE) torpedoed presumed sunk 17-33 N. 67.55 W. 0100Z/6. SUWIED torpedoed and sunk 20° N. 84.48 W. 1830Z/7. Unidentified vessel attacked 19.45 N. 69.55 W. approx. 2330Z/8. More than one submarine reported engaged. ROSENBERG shelled 18.54 N. 84.56 W. 1609Z/8. ANNISTON CITY attacked 29.50 N. 64.45 W. 2339Z/8. DORSET attacked 11.40 N. 81.26 W. 0415Z/9. FRANKLIN K. LANE and BRUXELLES Convoy T.O. 5 torpedoed and presumed sunk 11° N. 66.39 W. 0130Z/9. Unidentified vessel attacked 42.44 N. 68.56 W. 1200Z/9. POLYPHEMUS crew in lifeboat made fast alongside submarine 38° N. 63.55 W. 2300Z/29/5. White bear insignia on C/T. Apparently U-45 type. Second submarine encountered 38.08 N. 64.50 W. 0800Z/30. White bird painted on C/T. Army plane attacks submarine contact 40° N. 70.18 W. 2305Z/7. M/V attacks submarine 11.48 N. 81.30 W. 0431Z/9. Army plane sights two periscopes 43.07 N. 69.14 W. 1525Z/9. Plane attacks surfaced submarine 8.52 N. 59.18 W. approx. 0500Z/9. Patrol craft sights submarine 43.51 N. 68.04 W. 2015Z/8. Submarine sighted 46.40 N. 51.49 W. approx. 1140Z/9. Submarines reported 17.45 N. 76.27 W. 1850Z/8. 12° N. 79.28 W. 1400Z/9. Opanav and B.A.D. informed. (Cominch 2107/9, to Admty for O.I.C.).

U/B, St. Kitts. St. Kitts reports (A.1.) S/M on surface reported midway between Saba and St. Eustatius proceeding N.W. 0230/8. (S.O.I. Jamaica, 2122R/9, to Admty etc.).

Washops 88. Aleutian Islands. Present position and intention of enemy force unknown. Midway Islands. Contact enemy has been lost. Enemy force believed to be under protection of shore based aircraft at Wake. These aircraft have been reinforced recently. Some stragglers may remain within striking distance of U.S. Forces. (J.S.M. Washington, 2151Z/9, to Admty etc.).

Floating Dock towage. Admiralty Floating Dock XXIV of 18000 tons will probably be ready for delivery 15/8. 2. Consider it most unlikely that any tugs will be available from American sources. Request authority to earmark BAT. 8 completes 1/7 BAT. 4 completes 5/7. BAT. 5 completes 25/7 for this purpose and to steam them to Morgan City as they complete. (B.A.D. 2201Z/9, to Admty).

MENELAUS (raider 1/5). Following by Master of S.S. MENELAUS just received. Ship was attacked by Raider A.M./1/5 in 25° 19' S. 13° 21' W. M.T.B. which was operating with Raider fired 1 torpedo which missed. Second motor boat was seen hoisted on board raider. Full statement follows by Air Bag. (B.A.D., 2209Z/9, to Admty).



War Diary.9.6.1942.  
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Australia and New Zealand.

## Movements.

Arrivals: U.S. Destroyers PERKINS and MUGFORD 0503Z/8 at Sydney (N.S.W.) (A.C.N.B., 0124Z/9th., to Admty etc.).  
 Arrivals Port Phillip Bay 2136Z/8 U.S. Seaplane Tender WILLIAM B. PRESTON. (A.C.N.B., 1243Z/9, to Admty etc.).  
 Arrival Suva LEANDER, U.S.D. CUMMINGS and U.S. PRESIDENT COOLIDGE. (N.Z.N.B., 2153Z/9, to Admty, Cincpac, Comsoupac).

Convoys  
G.P. 1.  
C.O. 1.

Your 0256Z/8 (A) G.P. 1 (B) 9/6 (C) from Sydney, MIRADA Brisbane, BORINDA Brisbane. (N.C.S.O. Sydney, 0620Z/9, to Admty).  
 Your 0820/11 (originated by War Registry). Service particulars (A) convoy (B) date of departure (C) port of departure and destinations. (N.C.S.O. Sydney, 2300Z/12, to Admty).  
 Ref. A.C.N.Bs. 0256/8, not to Admty. Post sailing telegram. Designation of convoy C O 1. Sailing date 8/6. List of merchant ships and destinations. (N.O.I.C. Newcastle, N.S.W, 0200Z/9, 1115Z/9 to Admty (R) A.C.N.B.).

Post - sailing telegram. Convoy G.P. 1. Sailing date 9/6. List of merchant ships and destinations. (N.C.S.O. Newcastle, N.S.W., 0400Z/9, 1116Z/9, to Admty (R) A.C.N.B.)  
 Departures Sydney N.S.W. 1600Z/8. U.S. Destroyer SELFRIDGE (?and) H.M.A.S. ROCKHAMPTON escorting convoy G P 1 for Brisbane. 1655Z/8 (?U.S. Destroyer NICHOLAS) BINGERA and KYBRA with Sydney portion of convoy C O 1 to join convoy C O One for Melbourne. (N.Z.N.B. 1312Z/9, to Admty etc.).

## Zigzagging.

Request Admty letter message H.O. (432/29/12. Areas for zig-zagging of Merchant Ships). para 3 be amended to read "In areas 5A and 5B within 200 miles of the coast except inside Barrier Reef passage and in new approaches to port". (A.C.N.B., 0737Z/9 to Admty).

ORESTES  
attacked by  
U/B.

ORESTES (7748 tons) was shelled by submarine 1607Z/8 in 035° 57' S. 150° 57' E. Vessel later reported that she was on fire. (A.C.N.B., 0826Z/9 to Admty etc.).

Midget  
S/Ms.

A.C.N.B. 1026Z/9 to Admty. N.T. in W.D. but see C. in C. E.F. 1603Z/10. *Further details - 0800Z/13/6.*

## Situation.

Serial 138 from C.W.R. 8/6. At least 2 Enemy S/Ms located (N.S.W.) Area 8/6, 1 of which shelled S.S. ORESTES in 035° 57' S. 150° 57' E. at 1605Z/8. This vessel sighted at 2045Z/8. on normal course. (2) Sydney radio heard S.S.S.S. signal 0350Z/8. No details received. (3) D/F indication 1 enemy S/M 50 miles E. of Brisbane at 0750Z/8. (4) Schooner from Lae disembarked approx. 80 Japanese Salamoia 7/6. Report suggests enemy preparing

/concentration ...



War Diary.

9.6.1942.  
. Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Australia and New Zealand.

Situation. concentration rear Mubo (10 miles(?) S.E. of Lae).  
Contd. B.A.D. Washington pass to Opnav.  
(A.C.N.B. 1151Z/9, to Admty etc.).

Solomon Resident Commissioner reports no enemy activity  
Islands. outside Tulagi area reported since 1/6. Allied  
raids on Tulagi area 1/6 and 4/6 started large  
fires which burnt for 48 hours; and that latest  
native R/C report gives Japanese strength as 200 (many having  
been removed by last vessel in the port), that they are short  
of food and anxiously awaiting supply ship and are carrying on  
foraging by 2 steel landing barges each mounting 2 machine guns.  
2. Resident Commissioner further states he is advised that U.S.  
forces at Vila regard local reports as extremely valuable and  
are anxious to assist by sending small protective force and  
wireless operators.  
(High Commissioner, Western Pacific, 1225/9 to S. of S. for  
Colonies.).

Convoy. Convoy post sailing telegram. Designated O.C.1.  
O.C. 1. Sailing date 10/6. Nominal list of merchant  
ships and destinations.  
(D.N.O. Victoria, Australia, 2201Z/9, to Admty  
(R) A.C.N.B.).

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Submarines Reported.

Estimated U/B positions.  
(D.D.I.C. 1432B/9, 1502B/9).



10.6.1942.  
Wednesday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT.

Coal burning ships of 10 knots and over bound from U.K. to Australia and New Zealand are to proceed via the Panama Canal.

Home Commands.

U.S. battleship NEW YORK escorting convoys A.T. 16 and N.A.10 arrived at the Clyde p.m. today.

Enemy Air Operations.

Convoys W.P.169 and P.W. 169 were attacked late this evening in Lyme Bay. CAPE COMORIN, LINCOLN-SHIRE and ships of P.W.169 shot down one enemy aircraft and damaged another. No damage occurred to any of the ships.

Mining.

Mines off  
Dungeness

Enemy E-boats made another minelaying sortie, probably from Boulogne, last night. Our light forces were unable to bring the enemy to action, although their operation was probably disturbed. A dangerous area is declared off Dungeness.

48 aircraft of Bomber Command laid mines last night in N.W. German waters.



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10.6.1942.  
Wednesday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT.

North Atlantic.

Operation  
"Salient"

EAGLE, CHARYBDIS, CAIRO and destroyers returned to Gibraltar this morning from flying off Spitfires to Malta.

A U-boat was attacked and damaged by aircraft of 19 Group in the Bay of Biscay today. It is understood that the enemy later reached a Spanish port.

South Atlantic.

SS. ALIOTH (Liverpool for Table Bay and M.E. on Govt. service) was torpedoed at 2356 today in 1° 0' S., 19° 0' W. (about 500 miles N.N.W. of Ascension). The Admiralty think it likely that this ship and GEORGE CLYMER and possibly CHILE were all torpedoed by M.T.Bs. from a raider of which there is more than one at large.

Mediterranean.

Mining off  
Malta.

H.M. Trawler TRUSTY STAR was mined and sunk whilst taking part in a mine sweeping operation off the Grand Harbour today. M.L. 126 was attacked by Me. 109s whilst sweeping, and had superficial damage and slight casualties; \*M.C.B. 12 shot down one aircraft and damaged another. *See p. 255.*

*\*Not given in C.B. 1815 or in the List.*

Western  
Desert,  
Convoy A.T.  
49 attacked.

Convoy A.T. 49 was attacked by U-boats last night between Alexandria and Mersa Matruh. R.F.A. BRAMBLELEAF, petrol tanker ATHENE and cased petrol carrier HAVRE were torpedoed. HAVRE was sunk and ATHENE was abandoned, heavily on fire. BRAMBLELEAF was towed to Alexandria and anchored outside the reefs. The remaining two ships of the convoy continued to Tobruk.

An Albacore attacked 15 miles N. of Sidi Barrani a U-boat which dived leaving a large patch of oil.



10.6.1942.  
Wednesday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT.

East Indies.

Search for  
Raiders.

INDOMITABLE sailed from Mombasa today with FROBISHER for a position 5° N., 52° E., to search for raiders in the shipping concentration area in the approaches to Cape Gardafui.

Mozambique  
Channel.

Two patrols by Catalinas are to be flown daily from dawn to dusk in the northern part of the Mozambique Channel. In the southern part of the Channel Deputy C. in C. E.F. suggests that full use should be made of evasive routeing and that military convoys, monsters and semi monsters should be routed east of Madagascar, the two latter classes unescorted as there are not sufficient cruisers in the fleet to provide escorts for them.

Flag Appts.

The appointment of C. in C. East Indies will lapse at 0800F/18/6. Consequent changes in the duties and responsibilities of flag officers are outlined in C. in C. E.F.'s 0845/10.

America & West Indies.

Second attack  
on O.N.100

Convoy O.N.100 was attacked by U-boat again at 0120 today and RAMSAY and EMPIRE CLOUGH were sunk about 750 miles east of Belle Isle.

COAST TRADER.

Further investigation of sinking of COAST TRADER off Vancouver Island on 7/6 indicates an internal explosion. No one actually saw S/M or torpedo, and possibility of a floating mine is slight.

Independent  
Sailings.

In reply to a suggestion from N.S.H.Q. that U.S.S. TARAZZ (18 knots) with 300 service and civilian personnel might sail independently to Iceland, C. in C. U.S. Fleet does not approve of medium speed ships with large numbers of personnel proceeding unescorted through submarine waters.



10.6.1942.  
Wednesday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Policy.

HANTONIA A.M. 1822/16/5. On arrival at Portsmouth HANTONIA is available to be used as an accommodation ship for landing craft crew as you desire.  
(C.C.O., 0945/10 to C. in C. Portsmouth).

Faeroes. My 1140/31st and my 1242/9. Intended CONQUEROR should leave Sorvaag about 2000/11 escorting A/A Ship. SUNFLY to Kirkwall, then proceed Scapa, and thence Aberdeen for boiler cleaning. My 1240/27. Request information whether relief A.A. ship can be made available.  
(N.O.I.C. Faeroes, 1445B/10 to A.C.O.S.)  
Your 1445/10. In view of the many calls on A.A. ships I do not intend ask for a relief for CONQUEROR whilst boiler cleaning.  
(A.C.O.S., 1831B/10 to N.O.I.C. Faeroes).

Lerwick - Your 2007B/4 para. 2. These vessels are available Bressay and will fulfil requirements. During emergency Ferry. periods they will be kept at immediate notice. At other times 12 hours notice is required.  
(A.C.O.S., 1552/10 to Admty).

Movements.

LEOPARD As no A/S practice has been available since 6th and none available today request at earliest opportunity return Greenock in view requirement

F.N.F.L. London.  
(LEOPARD 0025B/10 to N.O.I.C. Londonderry).  
LEOPARD 0025B. Request ship may be sailed for Greenock on completion of D/F exercises tomorrow to complete working-up programme in Clyde Area.  
(Capt. D. Greenock, 1605B/10 to Cdre. Londonderry).

P.615 Sailed P.615 escorted by YES/TOR in accordance with S.3b. 2141B/8/6.  
(F.O.I.C. Greenock, 1048B /10).

KRAKOWIAK My 1517/9. <sup>INTREPID</sup> On completion of serial two proceed to Falmouth.  
(C. in C. Plymouth, 1104B/10 to KRAKOWIAK).

WOLVERINE. Intend sailing WOLVERINE at 1430/10 for Londonderry. E.T.A 0900/11.  
(F.O.I.C. Falmouth, 1212B/10).

INGLEFIELD, Sailed INGLEFIELD, INTREPID for Kola Inlet INTREPID. routed in accordance with C. in C. H.F. 1010B/9 and S.B.N.O. North Russia 1550B/9. E.T.A. 0500C/14.  
(R.A.D. H.F., 1248B/10 to S.B.N.O. North Russia).



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War Diary.10.6.1942.  
Wednesday.HOME COMMANDS.Movements. - Contd.

- TITANIA At 0800B/13 intend to sail TITANIA escorted by BREDA from Rothesay, West of Islay and Mull through Minches to arrive Loch Ewe at 1500B/14. (Capt. S.7., 1428B/10).
- P.222 1. Intend to sail P.222 and P.46 <sup>from Holy Loch</sup> escorted by  
P.46 JAN VAN GELDER at 1815B/12 for position (A) 270° Bishop Rock 5 miles. E.T.A. 2300B/14.  
3. Thence P.222 diving by day through (B) 049° 30', 007° 01', (C) 049° 10', 012° 29' to (D) 043° 01', 012° 29', E.T.A. 2300B/20.  
4. Thence P.46 diving by day through (E) 049° 59', 007° 01', (F) 049° 31', 013° 29' to (G) 043° 01', 013° 29', E.T.A. 0300B/22  
5. From position (D) and (G) S/Ms proceed to Gibraltar as ordered by F.O.C.N.A. (Capt. S.3., 1521B/10).
- H.28 Intend sailing H.28 and B.1. escorted by TANGO  
B.1. from Lough Foyle at 1800B/11 to Rothesay. E.T.A. 1000B/12. (Cdre. Londonderry, 1533B/10 to Capt. S.7).
- LONDON. C. in C. H.F. 1924/9. Intend to proceed in LONDON passing Hoxa Gate at 1200 tomorrow. E.T.A. Greenock 0715/12. (1st C.S., 1652B/10 to C. in C. H.F.)

Operations.

Attempt to intercept E-boats. E-boats made another minelaying sortie probably from Boulogne last night. Appreciating that the Channel between D Buoy (Dungeness) and Cone Buoy (Hastings) was a likely area, C Class M.G.Bs. 324, 328, and 330 were given this patrol as soon as eastbound convoy had passed. Unluckily they were at Cone Buoy when at 0125 E-boats were first detected 9 miles east of them and 11 miles south of Dungeness and were only able to intercept the enemy after they had entered the Channel, although their operation was probably disturbed.

At 0156 2 E-boats were sighted at 700 yards, made smoke, and retired at a superior speed of 35 knots so that M.G.Bs. were unable to bring them to action. The faster M.G.B.s. 10, 7 and 6 on patrol at N.E. Varne steered to intercept retiring E-boats and then lay close S.W. of Boulogne until dawn but did not sight them. E-boats probably made a large southerly detour and delayed their approach to Boulogne until after daylight. 3 Destroyers which passed Dungeness at 0230 followed by a C.W. Convoy and "Consular" Group were diverted inshore of the new dangerous area. (V.A. Dover, 1004B/10).

/Iceland...



10.6.1942.  
Wednesday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operations - Contd.

Iceland - C.S.10 is requested to sail NIGERIA p.m./13th  
Faeroes to proceed on patrol "Black".  
Patrol. (2) KENT is to leave patrol "Black" at 1100B/12  
and return to Scapa passing through 059° 29' N.,  
008° 19' W.  
(C. in C. H.F., 1231B/10)  
Estimated position 2000/10. KENT on patrol south  
of Iceland.  
(A.C.O.S., 1522/10).

Exercises.

"Yukon". Exercise "Yukon". Intend that 7 Infantry Assault  
Ships enter Portland harbour at about 0500B/12  
(or 0500B/13 if exercise postponed.) VIVACIOUS  
WALPOLE, ALBRIGHTON also arrive at about 0630B. Infantry Assault  
ships and destroyers will sail from Portland about 1000B.  
(R.A. C.O., 1918B/10 to (?) C. in C. Portsmouth).

British Air Activity.

Liverpool As night fighting planes now ready to operate  
Balloon from Woodvale Aerodrome, H.Q.F.C. with my  
Barrage. currence have ordered immediate withdrawal of  
17 static buoy balloons in Crosby Channel  
Liverpool which endanger planes taking off and  
landing.  
(F.O.I.C. Liverpool, 0942B/10 to Admty).

Escort for My 2212B/9. Request A/S air escort as far as  
WASHINGTON, practicable. Force will be leaving Scapa on  
WICHITA. Completion of exercises at 1800B/12.  
(C. in C. H.F., 1229B/10 to C. in C. Rosyth,  
C. in C. W.A., A.C.I.C.) See also C. in C. H.F.,  
1947B/11.

Bombing Understood that A/C taking part in operation  
restrictions. "Knocker" are under orders of No. 44 Training  
Group R.A.F. and cannot be informed of  
instructions regarding bombing restrictions  
contained in F.S.A.5. Request therefore that Air Ministry may  
be asked to direct that these A/C do not attack S/MS during opera-  
tion "Knocker".  
(F.O.S., 1446B/10).

Enemy Air Activity.

Yarmouth Gt. Yarmouth bombed 9/10. No naval casualties.  
bombed. Slight damage to Miranda Buildings, Gunnery School  
and Drill Shed. Cost of repair details.  
(F.O.I.C. Gt. Yarmouth, 0301B/10 and 1132B/10).

Convoy Help "Multiple".  
attacked. (EPINE, T.O.R., 2318/10 to Dartmouth, W/T).

/Jan...



10.6.1942.  
Wednesday.War Diary.HOME COMMANDS.Enemy Air Activity. - Contd.

Jan Mayen. Following from Jan Mayen. Condor flying low defence area 1025 from North. Opened fire. Aircraft attacked with machine gun. Disappeared to S.W.  
(A.C.I.C., 2358B/10 to Admty).

Mining.

Dangerous Area off Hastings. Owing to further suspected enemy minelaying request dangerous area may be declared enclosed by lines joining the following positions:-  
A. 50° 51' 09" N. 00° 54' 00" E. B. 50° 48' 00" N. 00° 57' 30" E. C. 50° 46' 00" N., 00° 53' 06" E.  
D. 50° 49' 12" N., 00° 49' 24" E.  
(V.A. Dover, 1028B/10).

Clearance of 324 Q. Z. X. Your 1058B/9 and Admiralty's 1720B/4. BANGOR now unable to sweep. Request BEAUMARIS may be attached to 9th M.S.F. until clearance is completed.  
(M.S.9., 1140B/10 to C. in C. Nore).

B.S. 78 Your 1040/9 and 1004/23/5. Following programme is proposed:- ROTHEsay, STORNOWAY, FELIXSTOWE of 13th M.S.F., PLOVER and GUILLEMOT sail from Harwich at 0530/11. Commence Lay 1406. Return Harwich Boom 2230 Unless essential to accompany PLOVER and GUILLEMOT to Harwich propose sweepers leave them at No. 4 Buoy and anchor off Yarmouth until return of PLOVER on 13/6. Intend sweeping ahead of PLOVER and GUILLEMOT from 55 A buoy throughout lay back to 55 A buoy. Balloons will be embarked by all ships.  
(ROTHESAY, 1220B/10 to C. in C. Nore).

S.N. 3 B. Owing to defects in CHARLESTOWN intend NEWARK should take part in S.N. 3 B.  
(R.A.M., 2338/10).

U-boats.

U-boat attacked. Attacked oilpatch 55° 24' N., 9° 1' W. Result unknown. Am returning to base.  
(A/C 0500/10 to 15 Group).

Navigational.

Lough Foyle Tuns Buoy Light off Lough Foyle extinguished. Buoy believed sunk by collision.  
(Cdre. Londonderry, 2341/10).

Ice off Jan Mayen. Jan Mayen reports pack Ice along coast from North to East.  
(A.C.I.C., 2358B/10 to Admty).



10.6.1942.  
Wednesday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Casualties & Defects.

HISTORIAN,  
PORT  
AUCKLAND.

Arrival.  
(F.O.I.C. Falmouth, 1046B/10).

P.219

P.219 1209/9. Request arrangements to dock vessel for echo-sounding gear alterations and defects. Vessel will be available 24.6.42. (Capt. S.3., 1359B/10 to F.O.I.C. Greenock).

GEORGETOWN.

Sailed GEORGETOWN for repairs, proceeding on one engine. E.T.A., 0600B/11. (Cdre. Londonderry, 2045B/10 to F.O.I.C. Greenock)

Shipping & Convoys.

S.C.85

<sup>/N.T. - W.D.</sup>  
Your 2204/9. Sailed PAUL RYKENS. (N.O.I.C. Belfast, 0330B/10).

O.S.31

Request CROCUS may remain at Falmouth and sail to join O.S.31 in approx. 051° 25' N., 018° 22' W., at 0800Z/15. (C. in C. W.A., 1234B/10 to N.O.I.C. Falmouth).

Ships for  
Australia.

Coal-burning ships of 10 knots and over bound from U.K. to Australia and New Zealand are to proceed via Panama Canal. (D.T.D., 2029B/10).

DUCHESS OF  
YORK.

Information is requested whether DUCHESS OF YORK should be convoyed as far as Bar L.V. or only to Boat Float L.1. (NIBLACK, 2208/10 to N.O.I.C. Liverpool).

D.S.28

C. in C. W.A. is requested to re-route D.S.28 through Minches.  
3. NEWARK will R/V with D.S.28 off Eilean Trodday N. Skye at 1400B/12. (R.A.M., 2338/10).



War Diary.10.6.1942.  
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Raiders.Attack  
on  
MENELAUS  
1/5.

A.M. 1724B/26/5. MENELAUS reports that raider encountered in 25° 19' S. 15° 21' W. at dawn on 1/5 carried 2 small M.T.Bs., each with 2 stern torpedo tubes. MENELAUS was attacked by one of these but torpedo missed. During approach raider endeavoured to simulate British nationality and M.T.B. wore white ensign until just before attacking. MENELAUS was also shelled by raider but escaped undamaged. (D.D.I.C. 1854B/10 to A.I.G. 13 etc. as amended 1221B/11).

North Atlantic.

U/B.

Possible periscope sighted in 205° De Gata 26 at 2045B/9. (EAGLE 0617/10 to F.O.C.N.A.S.)

BUXTON.

Your 0035B/10 my P.C. and S. at 0700Z/10 041° 51' N. 038° 50' W. 294° 14. (BUXTON 0657Z/10 to Admty. (R) C. in C. W.A.) *See 2/30 p. 263*French  
Shipping.

Passings 9/6. Eastward OUED-TIFLET, PARAMÉ, CAP-BLANC full SAINT-CYILLE light, CAPITAINE-ARMAND, KERMARIA. (V.A.C.N.A. 0859B/10 to Admty. for M.E.W.)

Operation  
"Salient".

EAGLE 0931B/10. See Mediterranean.

UTMOST.

UTMOST passing Bishop Rock at 2300B/10 and will cross lat. 045° 00' N. at 012° 30' W. at 1000B/17 proceed thence as ordered by F.O.C.N.A. Surface S. of A. 9 knots.  
3. UTMOST is painted grey with light grey figures. (Capt. (S) 9, 1019B/10 to F.O.C.N.A. (R) F.O.(S), Admty., C. in C. Plymouth, C. in C. Med., Capt. (S) 1, Capt. (S) 8, Capt. (S) 5, Capt. (S) 10.)RIO GRANDE  
(German).

RIO GRANDE 6100 gross tonnage seen at Bordeaux 7/6. May be sailing shortly. (F.O.C.N.A. 1102B/10 to S. and A's N.A. Negative S.O. Patrol, W.P.T., G.B.P.)

U/B  
sighted  
by A/C.

Am over enemy S/M in 36° 59' N. 1° 15' W. Enemy was on surface and observed to submerge. When first sighted was on course 244°. 8 knots. (A/C using Call Sign 7XMO 1200/10 to Gibraltar W/T).

/Movements.....



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War Diary.10.6.1942.  
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic-Contd.

## Movements.

Arrivals a.m. 10/6 EAGLE, CHARYBDIS, CAIRO, WESTCOTT, WISHART, WRESTLER, ITHURIEL, ANTELOPE (corrupt group presumably PATRIDGE). (F.O.C.N.A. 1248B/10 to Admty. V.A. Malta, C. in C. Med.)

## Situation report.

Area X 2000B.

1. LADY HOGARTH, LEYLAND escorting Tanker MOSLI  $033^{\circ} 30' 011^{\circ} 55' 062^{\circ} 9\frac{3}{4}$ .
2. H.G. 84.  $35^{\circ} 59' 08^{\circ} 55'$  through  $36^{\circ} 40' 15^{\circ} 02'$  thence ( $?325^{\circ}$ ) 7. S.O. STORK 10/6.
3. ROTHER, JONQUIL estimated  $36^{\circ} 45' 08^{\circ} 50' 12''$  to (? R/V)
- 2 Merchant Ships 1 Tanker off Lisbon at 0800/11 thence  $246^{\circ} 9$ .
4. BEAGLE, WILD SWAN sail 1800/10 to overtake H.G. 84.
5. ALOUETTE patrolling off Cape Roca.
6. SCOTTISH patrolling Huelva Bight.
7. LOCH OSKAIG sailing 0900/11 coastwise 10 knots to patrol off Lisbon.
8. M/L Flotilla 27th, ARMERIA sailing 2230/10 Westbound  $10\frac{1}{2}$ .
9. STELLA CARINA, MIRROR vicinity  $36^{\circ} 15' 07^{\circ} 23'$ .
10. Italian repatriating liners VULCANIA, SATURNIA estimated  $25^{\circ} 56' 16^{\circ} 28'$ . Safe passage to Las Palmas 15 knots. (F.O.C.N.A. 1330B/10 to N.A. Station.)

## Situation 2000B/10 Area Z.

- (1) S.L. 112  $22^{\circ} 03' 22^{\circ} 28' 348^{\circ} 7\frac{3}{4}$  S.O. WESTON.
- (2) Fleet unit 3 destroyers  $31^{\circ} 19' 25^{\circ} 06' 166^{\circ} 16$ . (F.O.C.N.A. 1404B/10 to N.A. Station.)

## PARTHIAN.

C. in C. A.W.I. 2122/7. Adjust speed to pass position G at 0900Z/18 thence proceed to R/V escort in H  $350^{\circ}$  Cape Spartel 5 miles at 0530Z/20. If unable to comply within 3 hours you should report. T.B.R. arranged. (F.O.C.N.A. 1436B/10 to PARTHIAN (R) Admty., F.O.S., C. in C.A.W.I.)

*See p. 254*

## SOKOL.

A.M. 1649/6 not to Capt. (S) 3. Request you will sail SOKOL for Holy Loch when ready. (F.O.S. 1448B/10 to F.O.C.N.A. (R) Capt. (S) 3, Capt. (S) 8.)

MOONSHINE,  
FLYING  
KESTREL.

MOONSHINE and FLYING KESTREL left for Freetown 1530 G.M.T. (R.O. Fayal 1553/10 to Admty., (R) F.O.C.N.A. R.A. West Africa, N.C.S.O. Ponta Delgada.)

Trawler  
Trials,  
Lisbon.

For D.S.V.P. and D. of S.T. My 1214/8 trials of PORT JACKSON and PORT MADOC proceeding satisfactorily. Hope to take over from yard 13/6 and sail night of 16/6 for Gibraltar. N.C.S.O. will arrange surface escort.  
(2) To what Port in U.K. should these vessels be routed?  
(3) Intend to ask Gibraltar fit bridge protection if time allows while awaiting convoy. (B.N.A. Lisbon 1615B/10 to Admty.)

/Portuguese.....



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10;6.1942.  
Wednesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic-Contd.

Portuguese  
Fishing.

Your 1751/6. M.E.W. concur.  
(D.E.W.D. 1838B/10 to N.A. Lisbon).

Blockade.

Following received from Tenerife addressed  
S.O. (I) Gibraltar (Begins) Is it correct that  
Admty. now require at least 72 hours notice of  
passage north of Vigo outside territorial waters  
of vessels of over 1000 tons. T.O.O. 1640/10.  
(Ends.) (S.O.I. Gib. 2250B/10 to N.A. Madrid (R)  
Admty.)

27th M.L.  
Flotilla,  
ARMERIA.

My 1730/9 sailed ARMERIA and 27th M.L. Flotilla.  
Q.G.A. 84, Q.G.B. 113.  
ARMERIA keeping watch in accordance with S.1/42  
taking guard for M.L.  
M.L. will be on patrol in accordance with  
section N.A. table 2 (i) line 8 on N.A. Station  
and section A.F. table 2 (4) line one on S.A.  
Station. (F.O.C.N.A. 2226B/10 to R.A.W.A.  
N.O.I.C. Bathurst, (R) Admty. C. in C.S.A.)

South Atlantic.

HARPASA.

Has S.S. HARPASA been lost by enemy action?  
(C. in C.S.A. 0834B/10 to Admty.) Reply: 1208/13.

PRETORIA  
CASTLE.

Your 0700/10 (N.T. in W.R.) to Admty. only.  
Return to harbour. (R.A.W.A. 1050Z/10 to  
PRETORIA CASTLE (R) Admty.)  
Ref. 0700Z/10 (N.T. in W.R.) Addressed Admty.  
from PRETORIA CASTLE. PRETORIA CASTLE has  
been ordered to return to harbour to make good  
defects before escorting ORANSAY to U.K.  
(R.A. W.A. 1101Z/10 to Admty.)

WEST  
HONAKER.

Overdue shipping, WEST HONAKER due Capetown  
4/6 from New York not arrived. (S.O.I. Capetown  
1220B/10 to Admty. etc.)

SUSAK  
(Yugoslavia)  
torpedoed  
6/6.

TAYGETOS arrived Beira with 27 survivors of  
SUSAK sunk by Japanese U-boat 015° 42' S. 040°  
58' E. at 0730 G.M.T. 6/6. Description of U-boat  
fits O.U. 6118 (4) I.5 and I.6.  
(S.O.I. Capetown 1237B/10 to Admty. C. in C.S.A.  
C. in C.E.I. C. in C.E.F. F.O.I.C. East Africa  
and Zanzibar, Cdre Durban (R) Consular Shipping  
Adviser Beira.)

/Situation....



War Diary.

10.6.1942.  
Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic-Contd.

Situation Report. Situation 2000/10.  
W.S.19P and escort 014° 59' 026° 55' 120° 14.  
VELOX 013° 30' 022° 15' to join W.S.19P.  
*See next page* CARLISLE, ISAAC SWEERS off Bathurst to Gibraltar  
15. W.S.19 Q. 009° 55' 016° 55' to Freetown 19½. LARGS 011°  
20' 020° 40' (? 150°) 10. PANTHER 009° 50' 015° 10' to N.W.17.  
LEITH 4 escorts O.S. 29 008° 40' 015° 25' to Freetown 9.  
ROCKROSE, VIOLET with A.S.3. 008° 30' 018° 30' 090° 13.  
KELT, LAERTES 007° 30' 015° 30' to Freetown 8.  
MORRIS DANCE, COPINSAY off Freetown 245° 8.  
(R.A.W.A. 1301Z/10 to Ships in Area 'P' of S.A. Station North  
of 8° N., Admty. C. in C.S.A. N.O.I.C. Bathurst).

Overdue shipping. DORNOCH due Buenos Aires 5/6 from Durban not  
arrived. (S.O.I. Montevideo 1351Z/10 to Admty.  
(R) S.O.(I) Capetown, C. in C.S.A. N.S. Ottawa,  
S.O.(I) Freetown, B.A.D.)

HARPAGON (sunk 19/4). S.O.(I) Capetown's 0933B/30/5. U.S. sources  
report survivors from HARPAGON are aboard  
Argentine Ship RIO DIAMANTIS. Ship sunk by  
internal explosion 19/4 approx. 034° N. 066°  
W. Sabotage considered likely. (S.O.I.  
Montevideo 1449Z/10 to Admty.)

EMPIRE RIDLEY (?sabotage). Your 0952B/3. 1. Investigation by local  
Police confirms facts as reported in my 1114Z/30/5.  
2. No suspicions held against any members of  
crew which includes one Finn, one Swede and one  
Dane. All naturalised British subjects.  
3. Analysis by local laboratory shows molten  
metal found at scene of first two fires to be  
lead. No apparent source of origin for this can  
be found.  
4. Circumstances point strongly to sabotage,  
probably before ship sailed, although no direct  
proof exists. 5. Detailed report follows by  
mail. (Cdre., Durban 1602B/10 to D.N.I. (R)  
S.O.I. Capetown).

RODNEY. NELSON. QUENTIN and PENN are to continue as escort for  
RODNEY after Freetown and then as required by  
C. in C. E.F. *See 6/6 - p. 142*  
2. PATHFINDER is to join DERWENT escorting  
NELSON with W.S.19P. They may remain with NELSON  
as far to the northward in the Indian Ocean as  
will not delay their arrival in Med.  
3. R.A.W.Af. pass to NELSON and RODNEY on  
arrival. (D.O.D.(F) 1714B/10 to R.A.W.A. (R)  
C. in C.S.A., C. in C.E.F. Dep. C. in C.E.F.)

/W.S.19W.....



War Diary.10.6.1942.  
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic-Contd.W.S.19W,  
MAURITIUS.

Simonstown departure 1556Z/10 MAURITIUS escorting W.S.19W. Routed R.6. to position 3, thence G. 035° 15' S. 030° 40' E. H. 033° 00' S. 040° 00' E; J. 026° 10' S. 050° 50' E. K. 015° 00' S. 053° 00' E. thence ? MAURITIUS to Diego Suarez and W.S.19W. as ordered by C. in C.E.F. (2) C. in C.E.F. is requested to arrange escort for W.S.19W. from position K. (3) S. of A. 20½ knots. E.T.A. position K. 2330Z/15. (C. in C.S.A. 1801B/10 to Admty., C. in C.E.F., D.C. in C.E.F. C. in C.E.I., N.O.I.C. Durba F.O.R.S., N.O.I.C. Diego Suarez, DEVONSHIRE.)

O.S.28,  
BEACONSFIELD,  
light.

Escorts of O.S. 28 report that at 2326/20/5 BEACONSFIELD burnt all round white light for considerable period. At 0026/21/5 convoy was attacked by U-boat. Suggest investigation while BEACONSFIELD is in South African waters; ship did not call at Freetown. (R.A. W.A. 1847Z/10 to C. in C.S.A. (R) Admty.)

PANTHER.

Departure 10/6 PANTHER. (S.O.(I) Freetown 1849Z/10 to Admty., F.O.C.N.A. C. in C.W.A. S.O.W.P.)

Movements.

Arrival 1620Z/10 Departure 2000Z/10. CARLISLE, ISAAC SWEERS. (N.O.I.C. Bathurst 1905Z/10 to Admty. etc.)

LEITH.

E.T.A. (corrupt group) 1045Z/11. (LEITH 2013Z/10 to R.A.W.A.F. (R) (? Capt. (D) 18th D.F.)

CONDE.

Your 0305/15/5 Vichy merchant vessel CONDE was sighted by aircraft at 0712/9/6 in 14° 04' N. 18° 32' W. course 30 speed 7 knots in ballast. (R.A. West Africa 2047Z/10 to C. in C.S.A. (R) Admty. V.A.C.N.A.)



War Diary.

10.6.1942.  
Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

Operation "Salient".  
U/B surrendered. 32 Spitfires flown between 0600B and 0730B/9 in 037° 18' N., 002° 30' E.  
2. Force H shadowed from 0730B to 1345B/9. 1 shadower only sighted and that by escorting Catalian.  
3. Force H believed reported by U-boat at 1000B/9 in 037° 10' N., 001° 19' E.  
4. PARTRIDGE detached at 1240B/9 in 036° 45' N., 000° 29' E., to assist Catalina with surrendered\*U-boat in 038° 45' N., 002° 13' E. \*LE VENIERO  
(EAGLE, 0931B/10 to Admty, (R) Air Min, F.O.C.N.A., C. in C. Med., V.A. Malta).

ATHENE (Petrol tanker)  
HAVRE (cased petrol carrier)  
torpedoed.  
Following from R.A. Alexandria, begins:  
ATHENE and SS. HAVRE, torpedoed 0804/10.  
(P.S.T.O. Egypt, 0945C/10 to D.S.T.)

Bi-weekly Opsum. 28. My Opsum 27. Following additional fighter sorties 5/6 Greek Blenheim attacked submerged submarine 40 miles North Sidi Barrani with 2-250 lb. GP bombs large oil patch seen after attack  
Night 5/6. 4 Wellingtons laid 7 mines off Benghazi. Albacores bombed Derna Harbour hitting Mole. A Swordfish attacked submarine after crash dive 35 miles North of Matruh four depth charges fell 10 yards ahead of wake slightly to port. 3 enemy aircraft operated off Port Said possibly laying mines, 3 Beaufighters unable to intercept.  
(H.Q., R.A.F., M.E., 0959/10).  
Part 2. 6/6. A Blenheim attacked submarine after crash dive 30 miles North Daba with 4-250 lb A/S bombs all directly ahead of wake. Buoy seen in water after attack.  
(H.Q., R.A.F., M.E., 0949/10).  
Part 3. A Blenheim attacked submerged submarine 20 miles North Sidi Barrani with 3-250 lb. depth charges, damage unknown.  
Night 7/8. 10 Wellingtons bombed shipping and harbour installations Benghazi. Bombs bursting on harbour Moles.  
(H.Q., R.A.F., M.E., 1037/10).  
Part 4. Night 8/9. A Swordfish attacked submarine on surface 20 miles North Matruh, 4 depth charges burst 35 feet stern as submarine dived.  
(H.Q., R.A.F., M.E., 1051/10).

CLYDE. CLYDE leaves 035° 41' N., 014° 20' E., about 2100C/11 routed through position A 038° 00' N., 011° 44' E., to arrive position 038° 30' N., 009° 00' E., about 0001C/15, thence as ordered by F.O.C.N.A.  
(2) CLYDE has been ordered not to attack submarine between 009° E., and 012° E. CLYDE holds F.O.C.N.A.'s 1042B/1 and 1146Z.  
(V.A. Malta, 1235C/10 to C. in C. Med., (R) Capt. S.I. F.O.C.N.A.)



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10.6.1942.  
Wednesday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean-Contd.

PARTHIAN.  
REGENT. In view of Admty. 2130/5 propose PARTHIAN and REGENT be transferred to 8th Flotilla on arrival at Gibraltar. (F.O.S. 1447B/10 to C. in C. Med. (R) Admty. etc.) Concur. (C. in C. Med., 2009/12).

THORN. My 1851/9 If time permits proceed through 033° 32' 019° 20' and 035° 12' 020° 16' dived by day. (Capt. S.I., 1505C/10 to THORN (R) S/M's on Patrol C. in C. Med.)

Malta Air I.353 10/6. C.S.R. Part 1.  
Report. 9th. Alert 1535 hours, 3 Cant. Z.1007, 25 fighters. 1 Me. 109 destroyed, 1 Re.2001 probably destroyed, 1 Cant. Z1007 damaged by 22 Spitfires. 1 Spitfire damaged in combat, pilot uninjured. Takali, 1 un-serviceable Spitfire destroyed, craters dispersals, U.X.B's. Night 9/10. 3 alerts. 2006 hours, 3 raiders, bombs land sea; 0011 hours, 5 Raiders, 1 soldier killed, 1 wounded. Searchlight damaged. Beaufighters up, no interceptions. 0200 hours, 3 raiders, bombs land sea, Beaufighter up, no interceptions. 10th 4 alerts. 0628 hours, 9 Me. 109, 15 Spitfires up, 4 escorting minesweepers, no interceptions, 1 Me. 109 destroyed, 1 damaged by minesweeper. 0750 hours, 12 Me. 109, 18 Spitfires up, no claims but 1 probable enemy fighter in sea. 1 Spitfire destroyed landing, pilot injured. 1013 hours, 1 DO. 24, 10 fighters. 1 Me. 109 probably destroyed, 1 Do. 24 damaged by 12 Spitfires. 1058 hours, 6 unidentified aircraft rescue search. 8 Spitfires up, no interceptions. (H.Q. R.A.F. Malta 1529/10).  
Para. 2. Night 9/10. 8 Mark 2 Wellingtons target shipping Taranto 2120 to 2229 hours, effective smoke screen whole harbour and part town. 2 explosions several fires in Dockyard area, 1 visible 50 miles. Visual 2325 hours 1 possible hospital ship 095° Syracuse 25 miles apparently stationary. (H.Q. R.A.F. Malta, 1537/10).

Black Sea 1. Sevastopol. Continued German attacks  
Situation repulsed but Russians appear to have given some  
report. ground north and west of town. Enemy activity during night 8/9 mainly confined to artillery and M/G fire. (N.L.O. Black Sea 1657C/10 to Admty., Adm. Miles.)

Sighting Your 1721/8/3 (? 1721/6 intended). In  
Reports Mediterranean where Submarines and aircraft are  
by A/C. frequently operating on close co-operation, considered that great advantage of submarines being able immediately to understand enemy reports outweigh security considerations. Submitted that Air Ministry be approached to issue instructions that all enemy reports and relevant signals from aircraft would be transmitted un-recorded when submarines are operation in the vicinity. (C. in C. Med., 1716Z/10 to Admty. F.O.S. S.I.)

/TRUSTY.....



War Diary.

10.6.1942.  
Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean-Contd.

TRUSTY  
STAR  
sunk.

1. H.M. Trawler TRUSTY STAR struck a mine and sank while taking part in M/S operation off Grand Harbour today. All crew saved.
2. M.L. 126 attacked by M.E. 109's while sweeping. 2 Officers and 3 ratings ?slightly wounded. One A/C shot down and one damaged. Superficial damage to ship. (V.A. Malta 2230C/10 to C. in C. Med., Admty.)

Malta  
Minesweeping.

- Minesweeping is progressing slowly. Situation as follows. Ref. Q.B.B. 197 para 2. sub. para. para. (B) and para. 3. The last 10 miles channel to 035° 42' 51" N. 014° 26' 16" E. and channel into Marsa Scirocco, were thoroughly searched between 3/6 and 6/6 with negative results.
2. All other arears are highly suspected.
  3. Ref. Q.B.B. 197 para. 2 sub. para. (A) as amended Q.B.B. 225. This channel is being searched daily but mines are being continually cut in area previously thought to be clear. Delayed action and self-laying devices suspected.
  4. Further sweeping will be concentrated on Channel in immediately preceding para. and 2 northern searched channels referred to in Q.B.B. 197 para. (B) D.Q.B.B. 225. F.O.C.N.A. pass to WELSHMAN. (V.A. Malta 2532C/10 to C. in C. Med. S.O. Force T., (R) Admty., F.O.C.N.A., WELSHMAN.)



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10.6.1942.  
Wednesday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies.

Force A. Intend sailing with Force 'A' from Colombo on  
Cruise. 12/6, for a cruise to Southward which will  
include visit to Addu to refuel and possibly air  
R/C of Chagos Archipelago.  
(C.in C. E.F., 0410Z/10, to Admty).  
(R) D.C.in C.E.F., C.in C.E.I., R.A.(A)E.F.).  
Sailed. See 1138Z/12.

SPRINGTIDE. To be sailed to Colombo.  
(C.in C.E.I., 0451Z/10, to Com.R.I.N.(R) F.O.C.R.I.N.  
C.in C. E.F., Admty etc.).

Navigation Your 1204Z/9. In view of crossing of individual  
Lights. merchant ship tracks which will result from your  
1045Z/9, following previous diversionary signals,  
and since ships are also liable to be zig-zagged,  
it is considered preferable for C.A.M.S.I. 463 to  
remain in force.  
(C.in C.E.I., 0701Z/10, to D.C.in C.E.F.(R) C.in C.  
E.F., B.S. 3.).

Air Patrols Intend to operate following patrols for protection  
Mozambique of shipping in Mozambique Channel. L.D. 1.  
Channel. Daily from dawn till dusk commencing 12/6,  
Mombasa-Lindi-Comoro Island-Lindi-Mombasa. L.D.2.  
Daily from dawn till dusk commencing 15/6, from  
Lindi south along shipping lane to maximum depth,  
returning to Lindi. Both patrols by Catalina  
Aircraft.  
(D.C.in C. E.F., 0820Z/10 to all ships etc.on E.I.  
Station, Australian Station, and N.Z.Station  
including R.I.N. and R.N.N. (R) Admty C.in C.S.A.  
N.L.O. Durban, C.in C. Med).

DRAGON DRAGON is to sail daylight tomorrow Thursday to  
CALEDON R/V with CALEDON in position 130° 60 miles from  
Ras Mivi at 0645Z/11 and relieve her on distant  
patrol vide B.S.W.O.1. of 1 section D Para. 4 S.  
(S.O. 3. B.S., 0823Z/10, to DRAGON, CALEDON (R)  
F.O. East Africa and Zanzibar, D.C.in C. E.F.).

Flag Appts. At 0800F/18/6 appointment of C.in C. East Indies  
will lapse. (ii) As from this time C.in C. E.F.  
will assume command of all H.M. Ships, vessels and  
establishments in Indian Ocean area. (iii) C.in C.  
E.F. will be responsible for control and routing of ocean  
shipping and for the provision of (?escorts). He will operate  
all Fleet Auxiliaries. He will direct the policy to be followed  
at all bases in Indian Ocean area except those in India.  
(?Nevertheless) these duties will be carried out by Deputy C.in C.  
operating from shore H.Q. at Mombasa while C.in C. is at sea  
(iv) Flag of Rear Adm. A.D. Read will be hoisted on shore at  
Colombo at 0800F/18 when his appointment as F.O. Ceylon, will  
take effect. (v) F.O. Ceylon (~~responsible group~~) is responsible for  
(a) all Naval matters respecting Ceylon and Addu Atoll. (b) R.N.  
Establishments and R.N. Air Stations in Ceylon and India.

/(c) ...



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War Diary.

10.6.1942  
Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

Flag Appts. (c) Ceylon escort group. (d) Control and routing  
contd. of India and Ceylon Coastal Shipping.  
(e) Liaison with F.O.C.R.I.N. for matters  
(~~affecting~~) Ceylon, Addu Atoll and Coastal  
shipping. (vi) F.O.i/c East Africa and Zanzibar is responsible  
for all (?East Africa) bases and Islands in West Indian Ocean  
other than Addu Atoll. He will operate and administer local  
defence forces at Mombasa.  
(vii) S.N.O. Persian Gulf is responsible for the operation and  
administration of all H.M. Ships and Establishments in Persian  
Gulf, referring to C. in C. E.F. on matters of higher (?policy).  
Matters affecting Govt. of India hitherto referred to C. in C.  
E.I. are to be referred to Flag Liaison Officer, Delhi, see  
para 8. (viii) R.A. A. ~~E.F.~~ E. Palliser D S C will take up his  
appointment as Flag Liaison Officer, Delhi and will act as  
representative of C. in C. E.F. and Naval Adviser to the  
Viceroy and C. in C. India and member of C. in C. India's Joint  
Planning Committee. (ix) All orders and instructions issued by  
C. in C. E.I. will remain in force until superseded or amended  
by C. in C. E.F. or F.O. Ceylon. (x) As C. in C. E.F. is  
normally afloat and frequently at sea with only a small operational  
staff embarked, all administrative matters other than those of an  
immediate nature are to be referred to C. in C. E.F.'s H.Q. at  
Mombasa. (xi) A.C.N.B. Melbourne pass to Comsowespac,  
(C. in C. E.F. 0845Z/10 to E.I. Stn. etc.)

Eastern Fleet Organisation. My 0845Z/10. From same time, ships and vessels of  
Eastern Fleet are to be organised for operations,  
and C. in C. E.F. 1026/28/5 is to be cancelled.  
List.  
(C. in C. E.F. 0850Z/10 to Eastern Fleet)  
See Lion Copy.

MELVIN BAKER (torpedoed 5/6.) (1) Ship using signal letters BXTA (N.T.in W.R.)  
is proceeding to arrive Mombasa a.m./11 having  
48 survivors from American MELVIN BAKER. Latter  
due (?Capetown) 10/6 was torpedoed in 021° 44' S.  
036° 38' at 2350 G.M.T. 5/6.  
(2) Request name BXTA and confirmation of sailing.  
(C. in C. E.I. 0924Z/10 to N.O.I.C. Capetown  
(R) Admty. etc.)

Your 0924Z/10. If signal letters BXTA are recoded Vesca gives  
GNDC which is British ship TWICKENHAM. Vessel left Durban 3/6  
for Mombasa.  
(S.O.I. Capetown 1447Z/10 to C. in C. E.I. Cdre. Durban (R)  
Admty. etc.)

/CHRISTOS ...



SECRET

MESSAGE

0850Z/10 June

IN

FROM: C. in C. Eastern Fleet

Date 12.6.42

Recd. 0815

Naval Cypher C by Cable

ADDRESSED. Eastern Fleet 567 repeated C. in C. East Indies F.O.C.R.I.N. F.O.I.C. East Africa and Zanzibar C. in C. South Atlantic 98 Admiralty.

319 My 0845Z 10th (169 X). From same time ships and vessels of Eastern Fleet are to be organized for operations, and C. in C. Eastern Fleet 1026 28th May is to be cancelled.

A. Part one. Ships to be operated by C. in C. Eastern Fleet and administered by C. in C. Eastern Fleet through their respective S.O.'s. Fleet flagships will be administered by C. in C, remaining battleships by Vice Admiral 2nd in command. 1st B.S. H.M.S. WARSPITE (Flag of C. in C.) H.M.S. VALLIANT H.M.S. NELSON H.M.S. RODNEY. 3rd B.S. H.M.S. REVENGE (Flag of V.A. 2nd in command) H.M.S. RESOLUTION H.M.S. ROYAL SOVEREIGN H.M.S. RAMILLIES 1st A/C squadron H.M.S. INDOMITABLE (Flag of R.A. Aircraft carrier) H.M.S. FORMIDABLE H.M.S. ILLUSTRIOUS H.M.S. ALBATROSS. 4th C.S. H.M.S. NEWCASTLE (Flag of C.S. 4) H.M.S. BIRMINGHAM H.M.S. GAMBIA H.M.S. MAURITIUS H.M.S. GLASGOW H.M.S. DEVONSHIRE H.M.S. FROBISHER H.M.S. EMERALD H.M.S. ENTERPRISE. D.S. SUMATRA and N.S. HEEMSKERCK (see part three). 5 C.S. (Temporarily administered by C.S. 4) H.M.S. DANAE H.M.S. DRAGON H.M.S. DAUNTLESS H.M.S. CERES H.M.S. CALEDON H.M.S. CAPETOWN. H.M.S. NAPIER (S.O.(D)). Destroyer depot ship HECLA 2 D.F. H.M.S. DUNCAN (D 2) H.M.S. HOTSPUR H.M.S. GRIFFIN H.M.S. DECOY H.M.S. ARROW H.M.S. ANTHONY H.M.S. ACTIVE H.M.S. HURSLEY H.M.S. BELVOIR H.M.S. BLACKMOOR H.M.S. CATTERICK D.S. ISAAC SWEERS (see Part three). 7 D.F. H.M.S. NESTOR (Capt. (D) 7) H.M.S. NIZAM H.M.S. NORMAN GALEN (See part three). 12 D.F. H.M.S. PAKENHAM (Capt. (D) 12) H.M.S. PALADIN H.M.S. PANTHER H.M.S. PENN H.M.S. QUENTIN H.M.S. INCONSTANT ITHURIEL H.M.S. EXPRESS H.M.S. FORTUNE H.M.S. FOXHOUND. 4th S/M Flotilla H.M.S. ADAMANT (Capt. (S) 4) H.M.S. LUCIA WUCHANG H.M.S. TRUSTY TRUANT ROVER RORQUAL COLOMBIA K and O class Dutch S/M's (see part three). Minelayers H.M.S. MANXMAN (Capt. minelayers) H.M.S. TEVIOTBANK D.S. WILLEM VANDERZAAN (see part three). Corvettes H.M.S. FRITILLARY JASMINE THYME CYCLAMEN.

B. To be operated and administered by C. in C. Eastern Fleet. Netlayer H.M.S. GUARDIAN H.M.S. BRITANY. A.M.C.'s ALAUNIA CHITRAL CORFU RANCHI WORCESTERSHIRE RANPURA GANTON QUEEN OF BERMUDA CARTHAGE. Boom ship KIRRIEMOOR. A/C transport ships (COMNAS Eastern Theatre to inform C. in C. of Operational requirements). H.M.S. ENGADINE H.M.S. ATHENE. Controlled minelayers H.M.S. MANCHESTER CITY JAY SPINDRIFT ATHEUS.

C. R.F.A.'s to be operated by C. in C. Eastern Fleet and administered by Capt. Supt. Ceylon or F.O.I.C. East Africa and Zanzibar as requisite. Oilers APPLELEAF PEARLEAF CEDARDALE OLCADES BROOMDALE ECHODALE EASEDALE EAGLEDALE OLWIEN OLYNTHUS BRITISH AMBASSADOR BRITISH GENIUS BRITISH MERCHANT BRITISH HOPE BRITISH COMMODORE BRITISH ENERGY ALCIDES ARNDALE DINDALE GOLD RANGER ATHELMONARCH NORDANGER BENITA SEPJA SUNDERHOLM MARIT BADARPUR CLYDEFIELD MYHOLM OLEODORA VARDAAS BRITISH COLONEL DORYSSA ATHELMERE FORTOL.

A.S.I.S.....



A.S.I.S. BAMORA CORSICA GRQZ CARPIO COLIN CHURRUC/ HERON  
 HUPEN KHEI KVAISANG PACHECO BOREAS PHILOMEL TAMBUA  
 TINSANG. Naval Store issuing ships H.M.S. BACCHUS  
 HONG SIANG STAGPOOL. Victualling store issuing ships  
 DEMODOCUS RELIANT CHANGTE TAIPING BELTAVIA. Accommodation  
 ship GPCB CLANFORBES. Fleet Collier GSBJ WARINA MARIT  
 MAERSK.

Part two.

A. To be operated and administered  
 by F.O.I.C. East Africa and Zanzibar H.M.S. EREBUS H.M.S.  
 FREESIA H.M.S. NIGELLA KELANTAN M/Launch 1088 M/Launch  
 1099 M/Launch 1051 M/Launch 1052. (Note H.M.S. FREESIA  
 and H.M.S. NIGELLA may be required for convoy escort  
 duty from time to time). Boom vessel BARCLOSE BARFOAM  
 H.M.S. BARRIER H.M.S. BARRICADE H.M.S. BARSTOKE H.M.S.  
 BARONIA H.M.S. TEAL 171st M/S group and auxiliary M/S  
 and A/S vessels.

B. To be administered by present administrative  
 authority and operated by F.C. Ceylon. Ceylon escort  
 group. H.M.S. FALMOUTH (S.O) H.M.S. SHOREHAM H.M.S.  
 SOOCH H.M.I.S. HINDUSTAN H.M.I.S. SUTLEY H.M.I.S.  
 JUMON H.M.I.S. CLIVE SONAVATI H.M.S. ASTER H.M.S.  
 MARGUERITE H.M.S. TULIP H.M.S. VERBENA H.M.A.S. LISMORE  
 H.M.A.S. BATHURST. Anti-submarine patrol ship KEDAH.  
 Ceylon Naval volunteer force local defence vessel  
 OVERDALE WYKE OKAPI. Deperming ship SPRING TIME  
 BUSHWOOD. Base ship VPJB HAITAN. MIS GZNS PROME.  
 Water carrier SINGU ALETA. Minesweeper maintenance  
 ship BORDE. Boom vessel LUMINARY BARBOUR MOORLAKE  
 BARMILL JAN DE WAELE. Net layer LAOMEDON. Minesweeper  
 group number 91 170 and all auxiliary M/S and anti-  
 submarine vessels in Ceylon.

C. Persian Gulf division. To be operated and  
 administered by S.N.C. Persian Gulf H.M.S. COCKCHAFFER  
 H.M.S. SEAMAN H.M.S. SEA BELLE. PANGKOR MILFORD COUNTESS  
 ARTHUR CAVANAGH SOARAB SOEMBA (See part three) 121st  
 174 175 176 177 178 minesweeping group. Minesweepers  
 FLICKER FULLMOON ATMOSPHERE BILLOW New auxiliary A/S  
 and minesweeping vessels in Persian Gulf.

Part 3. Dutch ships administered by B S O  
 and operated by C. in C. Netherlands Cruiser SUMATRA  
 (4th Cruiser Squadron) Netherlands L.Cruiser HEEMSKERCK  
 (4th Cruiser Squadron) D.S. ISAAC SWEERS (2nd Dest. Flotilla)  
 WILLEM VAN DER ZAAK (minelaying flotilla) JAN VAN GALEN  
 (7th Destroyer Flotilla) SOEMBA (Persian Gulf) Columbia

(4th Submarine Flotilla)...



-3-

(4th Submarine Flotilla) K 11 K 14 K 15 O 19 O 21 O 23  
 O 24 Dutch supply ship ZUIDER KRUIS. GRAF VAN VLANDEREN  
 PRINCE DE LIEGE. AUADY.

0850Z/10

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

|                                |                 |                  |
|--------------------------------|-----------------|------------------|
| 1st S.L.                       | D.N.A.D.        |                  |
| 2nd S.L.                       | D.T.D. (4)      |                  |
| 4th S.L.                       | D.T.D. (M)      |                  |
| 5th S.L.                       | D.T.D. (C)      |                  |
| V.C.N.S.                       | Ad. Blake.      |                  |
| A.C.N.S. (T)                   | D. of V.        |                  |
| A.C.N.S. (F)                   | D. of S.        |                  |
| A.C.N.S. (H)                   | D.G.D. (2)      |                  |
| Naval Sec.                     | D.D.C.D. (C)(2) |                  |
| N.A. 1st S.L.                  | D.B.D.          |                  |
| N.A. 2nd S.L.                  | U.S.N. (3)      |                  |
| Ops. (3)                       | D.M.S.          |                  |
| O.D. 8                         | D.M.S. Citadel  |                  |
| O.D. (5)                       | D.S.V.P. (2)    |                  |
| M. (2)                         | D. of L.D. (2)  |                  |
| C.V. (2)                       | D.N.I. (5)      |                  |
| Movts.                         | D. of P. (3)    |                  |
| D.P.S. (2)                     | D.A/S.W.        |                  |
| Press Div.                     | D.D.C.D. (M)    |                  |
| D.S.D. 9                       | D.T.S.D.        |                  |
| Mails                          | D. of S. }      | Bath by courier. |
| I.P. (3)                       | D. of V. }      |                  |
| D.S.D. (2)                     | S.W.R. }        |                  |
| W.D.                           |                 |                  |
| D.N. L.C. (2)                  |                 |                  |
| B.N.L.C. (Nor. Naval Mission). |                 |                  |

DRJ.



War Diary.

10.6.1942  
Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies - contd.

CHRISTOS  
MARKETTOS  
(sunk 8/6)  
(?Sabotage)

My 1800/9. Preliminary interrogation of survivors from Greek SS CHRISTOS MARKETTOS, sunk at 1600 G.M.T. 8/6 in (?005°) 05' S. 040° 53' E. on passage Durban to Aden under M.W.T. Charter with 6039 tons coal, indicates sinking believed due to torpedo from sub. although no sub. or torpedo track seen. In my opinion possibility sabotage by internal explosion cannot be excluded. Investigation continues.  
(F.O. E. Africa 0954/10 to Admty. (R) C. in C. E.F. C. in C. E.I. etc.)

U.S. Forces. My 1316/2. Change in dispositions of U.S. Forces:-  
Aircraft Carriers. SARATOGA left Pearl Harbour 6/6. 8" Cruisers. CHICAGO at Brisbane, CHESTER at Sea, INDIANAPOLIS, LOUISVILLE North Pacific area, SAN FRANCISCO en route New Zealand. 6" Cruisers. SAN DIEGO, DETROIT, left Pearl Harbour 6/6, CONCORD at Callao, HONOLULU at Sea, RICHMOND left Borabora 5/6.  
(D. O.D(F) 1108B/10 to C. in C. E.F., N.Z.N.B., A.C.N.B., N.S.H.Q.)

Raiders, Your 1704/6. (1) Para 6. Concur generally except bluff to that it is preferable that ships should be given avoid general discretion (and not instructions) to identification. break W/T silence if essential to identify a merchant ship.  
(2) Para 7. Suitable arrangements are already in operation.  
(3) Para 8. Concur. While encounter signals are to be discouraged there may be special and unforeseeable occasions when they are necessary.  
(4) Para 9. (a) Yes, although information is often undesirably delayed.  
(5) Para 9. (b) H.M. Ships can never be in possession of all necessary information completely up to date because of (a) Inevitable delays in transit of merchant ship intelligence signals. (b) Frequent ignorance of signal letters in cases where ships are now or have recently had theirs changed. (c) The occasional arrival of merchant ships unannounced.  
(6) Consider however that ships do in fact receive as much information as is practicable, although this is not at present the case on E.I. Station where technical limitations prevent broadcast of M.S.I. signals being properly received in many areas. Advantage is being taken of suggestion put forward in A.M.2221/4 para 6 and it is hoped that a radical improvement will soon be made in Indian Ocean Area. See my 1136/10.  
(7) However ideal a system for promulgating merchant shipping intelligence may be, it is desired to stress that final confirmation of the alleged identity of any ship can only be obtained by most careful examination.  
(8) C. in C. E.I. concurs.  
(C. in C. E.F. 1138Z/10 to Admty. (R) various.)

/TRUSTY ...



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War Diary.10.6.1942  
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies - contd.

- TRUSTY. Cancel my 0957/9. Indications that Northbound and Southbound convoys may pass you in next two days. Patrol on surface at your discretion between 007° 45' N. 097° 43' E. and 006° 40' N. 098° 45' E. until after dark on 12th. (S.O.(S) Colombo 1203Z/10 to TRUSTY (R) C. in C. E.F.)
- R.D.F. Your 1959Z/5. Your para 1. Echoes obtained during calibrations were insufficient for early (? initial) warning when sweeping. My 1945/31/5 ILLUSTRIOUS. para 3 should read, ILLUSTRIOUS type 281 transmitting aerial. A higher mast is being fitted (? locally). Your paras B and C are noted. In general I F F give either good response or none at all and unreliability is probably not due therefore to this tuning of type 241 receiver to I F F response. Consider likely that unreliability is due to (? taking over) of I F F but that insufficient safety factors exist with type 241 mark Z N combination to give required reliability with average personnel. Request comments on increasing type 241 pulse power by substituting type 286 P Q or type 290 transmitters. Further signal will be made when your suggestions have been investigated. (C. in C. E.F. 1245Z/10 to Admty. (R) R.A. (A))
- Shipping C. in C. E.F. 1146/8 C. in C. E.I. 2303/5 my  
Routeing 0820Z/10. The policy of crowding the shipping in  
to avoid Mozambique Channel close inshore can only be a  
Raiders. temporary expedient. When discovered, as a  
U-boat has already discovered it, the expedient  
becomes a death trap, since we shall never have  
enough aircraft and A/S vessels to make the Tram line system effective.
2. I suggest we should make full use of evasive routeing through southern part of Mozambique Channel as far north as 017° 30' S. and from Comoro (?Island) (?northward).
  3. North and southbound lines established by C. in C. E.I. 1718/9/4 1941 should be widened as far as possible.
  4. Between 017° 30' S. and Comoro Island shipping to be routed west of Comoro Island and more than 100 miles west of Madagascar.
  5. Eastward limits for routeing established by C. in C. E.I. 1834/8/3 1942 position (a) and (b) are to be amended to 011° South 043° East and (?003°) South 050° East.
  6. All W.S. convoys, troop convoys to be routed east of Madagascar and escorted.
  7. Monsters and semi-Monsters to be routed east of Madagascar unescorted. There are insufficient cruisers in this fleet to provide escorts for them.
  8. Catalina air patrol to be concentrated in the area outlined in para 4.
  9. Ships should not burn navigation lights.
- (D. C. in C. E.F. 1325Z/10 to C. in C. E.I. (R) C. in C. E.F. Admty. etc. as amended 1506Z/11.)



War Diary.

10.6.1942  
Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies - contd.

DEVONSHIRE  
(to R/V  
QUEEN MARY)

Your 1529Z/8 and my 1329Z/9. No route or R/V received. Request repetition of all signals affecting me since V.246. Am listening out on group (?V) N U and S.L. My P.C. and S. at 1830Z will be 017° 08' S. 055° 08' E, 040°, 18 knots. If no orders received intend to alter for Diego Suarez at 0259Z/11 arriving there at 0401Z/12.  
(DEVONSHIRE 1345Z/10 to D. C. in C. E.F. (R) C. in C. S.A. QUEEN MARY etc.)

Geraldton

QCA 499. Geraldton (1) Port is closed to all shipping from sunset to sunrise (2) Moorepoint and all harbour lights are extinguished. (S.O.I. Colombo 1417Z/10 to all concerned.)

W.S.19.

My 1558/16/5 para 12 (d). Destination undecided is Middle East. (D.S.T. 1456B/10 to C. in C. E.I. (R) C. in C. S.A. etc.)

Suspicious Ship.

Funnel of a Merchant ship was sighted at extreme range at Juan Da Nova on 5/6. Vessel at anchor or a wreck. Request investigation by aircraft. (D. C. in C. E.F. 1502Z/10 to N.O.I.C. Diego Garcia (R) N.O.I.C. Durban.)

CALEDON.

You may meet INDOMITABLE, FROBISHER and 2 destroyers who will pass through your area between 1800 and 2000. Destroyers are being detached at dark to return to Mombasa. (D. C. in C. E.F. 1530Z/10 to CALEDON (R) INDOMITABLE.)

Enemy Units.

At 1308Z/10 bearing (?Mauritius) 052° (B) Frequency 7740 K/Cs Japanese unit M U A unknown. At 1311Z/10 bearing Mauritius 054°. (C) Frequency 7740 K/cs Japanese unit S I volume A probably S/M. Comment: Consider reciprocal bearing more probably. May indicate S/M withdrawing from area to contact supply ship east of Madagascar for stores and fuel. (C.O.I.S. Colombo 1548Z/10 to E.I. Stn., Admty. C. in C. S.A.)

/Enemy ...



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War Diary

10.6.1942  
Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies - contd.

Enemy Midget S/Ms. (LITTLE on 5/2/42 N.S.M. 31/5) Following is a repetition of A.C.N.B's 1026Z/9 to Admty (begins) Charts recovered from a Midget S/M show that 5 I Class S/Ms, numbers 21, 22, 24, 27 and 29, were engaged in operation and that from all these except (? number) 21 Midget S/Ms were released. I.21 was apparently S.O. and almost certainly carried an aircraft in lieu of Midget S/M. Actually on charts (which are reproduction of (?) Admty charts) there is print of excellent photograph of important military target inset opposite these targets (ends).  
(C. in C. E.F. 1603Z/10 to D. C. in C. E.F. (R) C. in C. S.A.)

W.S.19 Escort. Your 0959/9. Concur as arranged in proposals. MAURITIUS or SHROPSHIRE (if she is available) or other cruiser should provide escort in addition to EMERALD for W.S.19.  
(C. in C. E.F. 1801Z/10 to D. C. in C. E.F. (R) C. in C. E.I., C. in C. S.A. R.A.3 B.S. Admty.)

Diego Suarez indirect fire. Before his departure S.O.F. recommended arrangement be made for H.M. ships in Diego Suarez harbour to take on bombarding ships by indirect fire. This entails stationing F.O.O. at Point de Vue battery for spotting duty passing information by W/T. As required signal personnel are not available here, strongly recommend 2 leading telegraphists and 4 telegraphists from assault ships now waiting here to convey 17th Inf. Bde. to India be detailed to remain Diego Suarez for this duty.  
(121 Force, 2225/10 to W.O.)



SECRET

MESSAGE

1215C/10th June IN

261A

From: - N.O.I/C. Diego Suarez.

Date. 20/6/42.

Recd. 1120

NAVAL CYIPHER C (49old) by Cable.

Addressed: - C. in C. South Atlantic.

Passed to Admiralty for information.

Request following preliminary report from Dockyard Officials visiting Diego Suarez may be forwarded to Admiralty and other interested authorities begins.

(1) Dry dock capable of docking 8 inch cruisers but blocks probably require raising first. This can be done concurrently with repair of Caisson. At present rate of progress dock can be used with repaired Caisson in about 5 months' time by which time WARTENFELS can be undocked. This time could be shortened if one Inspector, 6 Shipwrights, 2 Welders and 2 Burner's with burning and welding gear could arrive within one month. Essential repairs to dock pumping plant could be carried out within this period. Old Caisson now in place not considered safe enough for use except in emergency.

(11). Present Yard personnel insufficient for reconditioning and maintenance of Yard plant and preservation of machinery in WARTENFELS and ILE DE BOURBON and needs immediate strengthening by one Inspector of Fitters, one Chargeman of Fitters, 6 Fitters, 3 Electrical Fitters and one Foreman of Works (?latter) preferably speaking French).

(3). Without the expense of facilities repairs must be confined to docking, cleaning and coating bottoms and small essential repairs within the capacity of one contractor who is sole possessor of plant and labour.

4. No materials whatsoever available. Request first outfit of Naval stores including good supply of hand tools sufficient to meet requirements on basis referred to above and to store locally based ships may arrive before dock is used, inspector or assistant inspecting officer and 2 Storehousemen being sent in advance of stores to arrange stowage. Immediate essential requirements of Naval stores for reconditioning dockyard being demanded from Durban as requisite.

(5). Suggest investigating possibility of obtaining Netherlands personnel for above posts. Accommodation very difficult but being investigated. All will require messing by Government.

(6). No wharfage or cramage facilities for ships available. Request immediate provision of best 5 ton mobile Caterpillar crane (corrupt group).

(7). Limited . . .



2613

(7). Limited to 100 excluding electrical supplies from Trinidad 210/124 volts 3 phases and single 50 periods available. Proposed additional and stand by plant of 400/230 self generation with 50 Kilowatts Interconnecting transformer.

8. Fuelling of H.M. Ships up to small cruisers can be undertaken at rate of 150 tons per hour using one hose but fuel not yet tested although apparently suitable.

9. Armament depot has harbour sea access and requires improvement and repair work involved before using.

10. Naval stock of foodstuffs, messtraps and clothing should be laid down at earliest possible date in charge of Base Accountant Officer. Seasoning, some green vegetables and fresh fruit obtainable locally.

11. Temporary assistance of repair ship would greatly facilitate work. Ends.

1215C/10.

- |                     |               |                 |        |
|---------------------|---------------|-----------------|--------|
| 1st Lord            |               |                 |        |
| 1st S.L.            |               |                 |        |
| 2nd S.L.            |               |                 |        |
| Controller.         | C.E.in C.     | Dep.Contr.(5).  | ) BATH |
| Vice Controller.    | D.of.L.D.(3). | Asst.Under Sec. |        |
| 4th S.L.            | D.N.I. (5).   | C.E.11.         |        |
| Contr.(MSR).        | P.N.L.O.      | L.              |        |
| V.C.N.S.            | D.T.S.D.      | D.C.L.          |        |
| A.C.N.S.(F).        | D.A.S.(L).    | P.              |        |
| Sec.to A.C.N.S.(T). | P.(L).        | M.F.            |        |
| A.C.N.S.(T).        | D.M.R.        | D.N.C.(2).      |        |
| A.C.N.S.(H).        | M.S.Bch       | E.in C.         |        |
| A.C.N.S.(W).        | D.of.S.T.(2). | D.(4).          |        |
| Civil Lord.         | Adl.Blake.    | D.E.E.(3).      |        |
| Fin. Sec.           | D.of.P.(Q)    | D.of.S.         |        |
| Sec.                | W.G.F.        | D.of.V.         |        |
| Naval Sec.          | M.F.(L).      | C.E.in C.       |        |
| P.A.S.(S).          | I.P.(3).      | D.A.S.(4).      |        |
| P.A.S.(O).          | W.D.          | D.N.E.          |        |
| P.A.S.(PR).         | D.T.D.(4)     | S.W.R.          |        |
| A.S.(MS).           | D.T.D.(M)     |                 |        |
| D.of.E.             | D.T.D.(C)     |                 |        |
| N.A.1st S.L.        |               |                 |        |
| Ops.(3).            |               |                 |        |
| O.D.(5).            |               |                 |        |
| M.(2).              |               |                 |        |
| D.of.P.(3).         |               |                 |        |
| D.N.C.              |               |                 |        |
| D.57.               |               |                 |        |
| E.in C.             |               |                 |        |
| D.of.S.             |               |                 |        |
| D.of.V.             |               |                 |        |
| C.E.1.              |               |                 |        |
| D.C.L.              |               |                 |        |



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War Diary.10.6.1942.  
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies.Mid-Ocean  
Escorts  
and U.S.  
Coastal  
Convoys.

Your 0716/2.  
Ref. Cominch 1610/9, U.S. are unable to contemplate any regular Key West - Panama convoy but agree that Panama ships should disperse from and join Aruba - Key West convoy in Caribbean and be given heavy air coverage in approaches to Panama. This junction may involve assembly at Jamaica.

2. R.C.N. feel that the escorts released from Mid-Ocean groups must be employed where they can rapidly be withdrawn to reinforce ocean groups or St. Lawrence. These ships therefore not available for Panama and U.S. not prepared to fleet southward any existing coastal escorts to a Panama subsidiary.
3. Objections to other employment in Gulf or Caribbean are lack of administrative and training facilities and difficulty of recall at short notice. U.S. feel confident of being able to take adequate measures in these areas and do not appear to think they need any surface escorts to supplement those planned.
4. Accordingly conference considered that best use of corvettes released from Mid-Ocean groups would be to bring existing H.T. - T.H. escorts up to 12 and shift southern terminal to Aruba - Curacao. This would provide 3 groups of 4 corvettes to run a 10-knot H.A. and A.H. convoy on a 10 day cycle including bauxite joiners from St. Thomas. Owing to escort being only 3 or at best 4 corvettes, numbers to be included in these convoys are for consideration and should be limited.
5. It was agreed that conference should reassemble from time to time to discuss possible improvements upon existing experience. (B.A.D., 0029Z/10 to Admty., (R) N.S.H.Q., C. in C. A.W.I.)

KRONPRINSEN  
(torpedoed  
9/6.) B.X. 23A

Tried towing with WANDERER ahead SUMMERSIDE alongside but tow parted with revolutions 6 knots and making no headway. KRONPRINSEN cannot steer and very much down in water. At least 2 ocean going tugs required. Crew taken off until morning. U.S. ship LARDNER also present screening.

My position 043° 00' N. 067° 20' W.  
(C.T.U. 24.18.3, 0119Z/10 to C.T.F. 24, (R)  
Connav, Admty., etc.) *See p. 262*

Air Report.

Sighted B.X. 23A at 0850 and gave O.A.S. patrol. Sighted U.S. blimp on patrol at 0953. At 1025 over convoy when M/V torpedoed. Stern blown off but did not sink. Signalled blimp and another Hudson to guard convoy and began A/S search. Nothing sighted. Canso "A" on patrol for U-Boat search at 2325 directed 2 Naval tugs to torpedoed M/V and escort.

(H.Q. E.A.C., 0820/10.)

1 Canso "A" 5 BR airborne Mont Jole 1225 on sweep river and Gulf St. Lawrence. At 1530 ordered to proceed to QMZH 5349 where U-Boat attacking convoy. At 2042 carried out square search from this position. No enemy units sighted. Landed Dartmouth 0028/10.

(H.Q. E.A.C., 0845/10.)

/Movement ...



War Diary.

10.6.1942.  
Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies - Contd.

Movement Summary. 1800 G.M.T. 10/6.  
 Ship Position Course Speed  
 BUXTON 43½° N. 44½° W. 294° 17  
 Convoy } 44½° N. 58° W. 272° 13  
 C.T. 17 }  
 PARTHIAN 33½° N. 53½° W. 085° 11  
 (D.O.D.(F), 0925Z/10 to Opanav, (R) Comnav.)

O.N.S. 102 C.T.U. 24.1.3 in <sup>GEORGE W.</sup> CAMPBELL plus <sup>SAMUEL D. H.M.S.</sup> INGHAM, MAYFLOWER, AGASSEZ, ROSTHERN and COLLINGWOOD with U.S. Ship ALBATROSS\* sailed O.N.S. 102. ALBATROSS to join convoy under orders to proceed to base "Roger" (Argentia). Suggest fuel permitting she be ordered to continue with convoy to Boston.  
 (C.T.G. 24.7, 1059/10 to C.T.F. 24, (R) C.T.G. 24.7, etc.)  
 \*London Telegram (Pink List)

RAMSAY, O.N. 100 attacked at 0120Z RAMSAY and EMPIRE EMPIRE CLOUGH sunk, possibly others not yet known. CLOUGH, P.C. and S. at 1000Z/10, 51° 34' N. 37° 07' W. sunk. 255°, 7 knots. Thick fog. Course will be (O.N. 100) altered when fog clears. Connav signal 1506/9 received too late to comply. ASSINIBOINE, DIANTHUS fuel remaining for 2½ days. Weather report.  
 (C.T.U. 24.1.11, 1059Z/10 to Opanav, (R) C.T. 24, Admty., etc.)  
 D/F bearings at 0711Z, 0828Z, and 1000Z indicate convoy is still being shadowed by at least one U-Boat.  
 (D.D.I.C., 1100Z/10 to Escorts of O.N. 100, Cominch, (R) C. in C. W.A., N.S.H.Q., C.T.G. 24.7.)  
 P. C. and S O.N.100 at 1400Z/10 051° 21' N 037° 32' W 235° 7. My 1059Z EMPIRE CLOUGH abandoned but still floating and may be salvagable. 2 boats of survivors adrift near hulk in abandoned position 051° 31' N 035° 25' W but unable to find them in fog. Believe no other ships sunk. (C.T.U. 24.1.11, 1653Z/10 to A.I.G. 301)  
 D/F bearings at 1816Z, 1830Z and 1843Z indicate at least 2 U-Boats still in contact with convoy. (D.D.I.C. 2138B/10 to Escorts of O.N.100. Cominch, (R) C. in C. W.A. N.S.H.Q. C.T.G. 24.7.)  
 Cannot comply with your 1628/10 (N.T. in W.D.) (C.T.U. 24.1.11 2244/10 to Connav (R) C.T.F. 24. Admty. etc.) See p. 268

VELMA VELMA LYKES overdue, B.A.D. Washington to Connav. LYKES. (S.O.I. Jamaica 1211R/10 to Admty. C. in C. A.W.I. N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, B.A.D. Connav.)

Helicopters. Your 2135/2/5. In view of U.S. Navy predilection for using light aircraft for this type of A/S work, request information whether Stinson O.49 A C 413 has been considered and whether trials could be carried out if a ship with a platform could be made available. No ship should, however, be delayed on this account. Pass to B.A.C. (Hd. of Air Branch Approved by A.C.N.S.(T) 1306B/10 to B.A.D.)

/Pacific...



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War Diary.10.6.1942.  
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies - Contd.

- Pacific Action. Personal for 1st. S.L. Your 1729Z/9 greatly appreciated. We will continue to press the enemy whenever and wherever he can be found. (C. in C. U.S. Fleet 1315/10 to Admty.)
- Portuguese Schooner, suspicions Portuguese 4 masted schooner sighted in 053° 22' 040° 56' 6/6. Headed toward Davis Strait. Has large crew. Is heavily laden. Automobile on deck under canvas. Has canvas side screens and other line drapery full length of ship. Sails were drooping when encountered presumably to conceal gear on deck. Name GROENLANDIA. Portuguese Gov. has wooden auxiliary vessel of 42 G.T. listed in that name as belonging to Cod Fishing Guild and scheduled to fish Dibai Bank. Ship considered suspicious. Please investigate if encountered. (C.T. 24 1345Z/10 to T.F.24. (R) F.O.N.F. C.O.A.C.)
- T.O.6. Sailed WARWICK and PIMPERNEL escorting T.O.6. E.T.A. Curacao 2200Z/12. (N.O.I.C. Trinidad 1402Q/10 to C.A.F.A.C. (R) Admty. etc.)
- O.15. Cancel my 1549/9. Route O.15 New London to Halifax through Cape Cod Canal to a point (D) 043° 00' N 063° 30' W thence to destination. Sailing p.m./11. (Connav 1413/10 to C.T.F. 25. (R) C.T.F. 24. F.O.N.F. C. in C. Atlantic Fleet. Admty. C.O.A.C. N.S.H.Q.)
- Netherland S/M O.15 departs New London area for Halifax unescorted 11/6. Passes 4 miles south of Point Judith 0400Z/12 proceeding on surface average speed 8 knots via Buzzard's Bay. Clearing eastern entrance Cape Cod Canal 1200Z/12. Passes 5 miles N.W. Race Point 1400Z/12. Then on surface S of A 9 knots diving at discretion to arrive position 43.00 N 63.30 W about 2400Z/13. Will patrol this position for 24 hours. Then at 9 knots as before to destination. E.T.A. Chebucto Head 1000Z/15 (S/M description) O.15 advise addressees of deviation from route or preceding limits. (C. in C. U.S. Fleet 2332/10 to Cdr. (S) Atlantic Fleet. (R) Admty. etc.)
- B.X.23A. Arrived B.X.23A minus KRONPRINSEN (Nor) plus (attacked AZRA 1430Z/10. (N.C.S.O. Halifax 1430Z/10 to by U/B 9/6) N.S.H.Q. Admty. N.C.S.O. Sydney.) My 1430Z/10 add plus THORSHOV. (N.C.S.O. Halifax 1840Z/10 to N.S.H.Q. etc.) *See No. 2. 62. 7 2 69*
- L.27. Request approx. date L.27 leaving for U.K. (F.O.S. 1449B/10 to B.A.R.M. (R) Capt. (S) 7.) Reply: 1512/12.

/T.O.5...



War Diary.10.6.1942.  
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies - Contd.

- T.O.5. FRANKLIN K. LANE and BRUXELLES in T.O.5  
(attacked torpedoes at 0030Z/9, 11° N 66° 39' W. 34  
9/6.) survivors from FRANKLIN K. LANE rescued. Search  
continuing. (N.O.I.C. Trinidad 1512Q/10 to  
Admty. (R) C. in C. A.W.I. S.O.I. Kingston.)
- H.X. Sailing Your 1952B/5. Changing H.X. sailing from  
Days. Sunday to Saturday would necessitate change of  
Q.S. S.H. R.X. and possibly U.S. Coastal  
Convoy. These convoys are all timed to provide  
best connections with H.X. convoy. Any change  
would cause considerable escort difficulties particularly in  
Western local escort group.  
(2) Another disadvantage is the further concentration of  
shipping in about 050° W which is already caused by O.N. convoy  
overtaking O.N.S. convoy.  
(3) Do not therefore recommend any change. (N.S.H.Q. 1533Z/10  
to Admty. (R) Connnav etc.)
- M.A.C.R.I. Your 1545Z/9. Will continue to forward  
amendments. amendments to M.A.C.R.I. in accordance with  
existing distribution list and in addition will  
furnish B.A.D. necessary copies for forwarding  
to C. in C. S.A. V.A.C.N.A. R.A.W.A. and A.C.I.C.  
(C. in C. U.S. Fleet 1552Z/10 to Admty.)
- A.N.D. Ships with A.N.D. Request you will amend your  
1622Z/6 to comply with A.M. 1146/6 para 5.  
(D.T.D. 1608B/10 to N.S.H.Q.)
- TARAZZ, (? N.S.H.Q.) 2050Z/9. C. in C. U.S. Fleet does  
request to not approve of medium speed ships with large  
sail numbers of personnel embarked proceeding  
independently. unescorted through submarine waters.  
(C. in C. U.S. Fleet, 1630Z/10 to Cinclant,  
(R) N.S.H.Q.)
- PENNYWORT. Ref. C.T.F. 24 to C. in C. W.A. 0131/9, repeated  
to N.S.H.Q. and serious structural damage to  
PENNYWORT reported in C.T.F. 24 to C.O.A.C.  
0245/10 not repeated to N.S.H.Q., existing docking commitments  
will not permit of docking ship and making repairs in Maritime  
Area without serious interruption and delays in other vessels.  
In view of B.A.R.M. to Admiralty 1626/4/6, can PENNYWORT be  
taken in hand in yard in New York area?  
(C.O.A.C., 1700Z/10 to N.S.H.Q., (R) Admty., etc.)

/Ammunition ...



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10.6.1942.  
Wednesday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies - Contd.

- Ammunition. Personal for V.C.N.S.  
Your 2337B/5 (N.T. in W.D.) Navy Dept. informs me as follows "Original allowances for our ships was same as the present new revised British allowances. Our revised allowances practically double those allowed British ships. In addition to above, we are setting up pools 20 m.m. and .30 calibre ammunition at Iceland, the same has previously been done for .50 calibre. In view of above it is not believed necessary to set up reserves in North Russia. Wherever ships exhaust their ammunition and have in their cargo suitable ammunition it should be taken for defence purposes. A sufficient amount should be taken to cover their return trip". (B.A.D., 1725Z/10 to Admty.)
- U/B 10/6 S/M estimate.  
Positions. (C. in C. U.S. Fleet, 1747/10, 1751/10, 1800/10, 1805/10, 1812/10 to Admty.)
- Ships Bldg. C. in C. A.W.I. has raised the question of  
in Canada. administration of ships building for R.N. in Canada. It would appear advantageous if these duties could be carried out by B.A.R.M. but before decision is made authorities addressed are requested to consider question jointly and make recommendations. (Head of M., 1749B/10 to B.A.R.M., B.A.T.M., N.S.H.Q.)
- L. 27 Cancel my 1423Z/9. My 1030/9 is correct.  
torpedoes. information regarding torpedoes of L. 27. (F.O.N.F., 1818Z/10 to B.A.R.M., (R) Admty., etc.)
- Escort for My 2045/9 para. 3. Vessels will probably load  
Fast M/Vs. at East coast ports proceed in coastal convoys to Key West and thence in convoy to Trinidad. (B.A.D., 1831Z/10 to Admty.)
- Following is C.T.F. 25 2216/9 to Connav, C. in C. U.S. Fleet C and R 1549/9. C.O. O.15 desires proceed to Halifax to await air express shipment spare main engine piston and liner from Navy Yard Philadelphia. He considers it undesirable to proceed further without this spare. B.S.O. Philadelphia now at New London concurs and requests C. in C. U.S. Fleet to inform B.A.D. Washington. (Opnav, 1849Z/10 to Admty., N.S.H.Q., C.O.A.C., F.O.N.F.)
- Working Your 2005/30.  
Up Base. Navy Dept. has taken note that none of the vessels concerned in A/S Training will be available for Operational purposes except in real emergency and that they are under purely British control unless lent for temporary operations in emergency. (For Bermuda)
2. U.S. Authorities assume no U.S. services will be required in connection with the "working up" programme. (B.A.D., 1851Z/10 to Admty., (R) C. in C. A.W.I.)

/S/M ...



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War Diary.10.6.1942.  
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies - Contd.

S/M attack and sighting summary. TRITON shelled and sunk 26° N. 59° 34' W. 2050Z/1. Unknown vessel torpedoed 19° 47' N. 85° 55' W. 0300Z/10. S/M shelled and sank 2 fishing trawlers near 42° N. 67° W. approx. 2000Z/3, 50 rounds. KNOXVILLE CITY, 2 torpedoes. BERGANGER, 5 torpedoes, ship's crew fired 6 rounds at S/M. BRUXELLES, 1 torpedo hit, 2 misses. C.O. STILLMAN, 2 torpedoes. ISABELA, 1 torpedo, 7 rounds. T.C. McCOBB, 4 torpedoes. TROISDOC, 200 rounds reported. ATHELCEMPRESS, 30 rounds. Panam. plane sights S/M 21° 40' N. 72° 20' W. 1328Z/9. M/V sights submarine 24° 03' N. 82° 48' W. 1450Z/9. S/M reported sighted 44° 22' N. 66° 47' W. 2200Z/9. Escorting craft attack possible S/M contact 43° N. 67° 06' W. 1758Z/9. Plane attacks moving oil slick 34° 05' N. 75° 50' W. approx. 1216Z/10. Opanv and B.A.D. informed. (Cominch, 1859/10 to Admty. for .O.I.C.)

Ice Bulletin 10/6. Halifax, 1940Z/10 to Opanv, etc.

? ILLINOIS. ILLAWOIS (? ILLINOIS) U.S. Capetown to Baltimore, torpedoed 0058Z/2/6 24° N. 60 W. 6 survivors out of crew of 38 landed Port of Spain by ESSO MONTPELIN. Ship sank in less than one minute. (F.O.I.C. Trinidad, 2002Q/10 to Admty., (R) C. in C. A.W.I., S.O.I. Kingston.)

Convoy Escorts, policy. Your 1610Z/9. Proposals for institution of Caribbean and Aruba - Halifax convoys are concurred in.

2. Your para. d. - Our tanker requirements from Aruba - Curacao to U.K. are estimated at 47 ships per month. Practically all are capable of 10 knots. These unable to make this speed will use coastal route via Key West. Suggest H.A. - A.H. convoys be limited to 16 ships. For convoy of this size on ocean passage beyond range of air cover strongly recommend inclusion of one destroyer in lieu of one corvette. Destroyer also more suitable as S.O. ship.

3. Your para. e. Request information as to proposed cycle of Trinidad - Key West convoys.

4. Your para. f. Intensification of U-Boat activity in Panama area appears probable and our traffic consists mainly of valuable refrigerated ships. We should be grateful therefore if Trinidad - Key West convoy could be routed as to make the passage between junction and Panama as short as possible.

5. Recommend for your consideration that cycle of O.T. - T.O. convoys be opened out to 10 days to enable stronger escort to be provided and to synchronise with A.H. - H.A. convoys. (A.C.N.S.(T), 2016B/10 to C. in C. U.S. Fleet, (R) B.A.D, N.S.H.Q.)

/N.A. 12 ...



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War Diary.10.6.1942.  
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies - Contd.

N.A. 12. Movements control estimated Army, Air Force and miscellaneous personnel ready 1/7 will total 3,000. This does not include R.C.N. and R.N. requirements estimated at 200.  
 2. Request name of ship or ships allocated and (? remaining) Halifax.  
 3. Is it intended N.A. 12 will sail with A.T. 17? B.A.D. Washington 1515/23/5 refers.  
 (N.S.H.Q., 2035Z/10 to D.S.T., (R) C.O.A.C., etc.)

Ships attacked by U/Bs. Serial 10. TRITON, Dutch, torpedoed and sunk 1/6 026° 00' N. 055° 34' W. KRONPRINSEN, Norwegian, torpedoed 9/6 042° 53' N. 067° 11' W. in convoys B.X. 23A, now under tow. NIDARNES, Norwegian, torpedoed 3/6 021° 17' N. 085° 07' W. RAMSAY and EMPIRE CLOUGH, both British, torpedoed and sunk 10/6 052° 00' N. 035° 30' W. in convoy O.N. 100. (Connav, 2055/10 to Cdr. U.S. Naval Forces in Europe, (R) N.S.H.Q., C.E.S.F., S.O.(I) Kingston, Jamaica.) *See p. 263 7264*

U/Bs at French Bases. Your 1657/8 (N.T. in W.D.) Concur request information from C. in C. U.S. Fleet be passed as operational priority. It is assumed that Admty. will provide information (? about enemy) U-Boats leaving French bases if considered that these boats are on a passage to Canadian Area. (N.S.H.Q., 2115Z/10 to Admty., (R) C. in C. U.S. Fleet.)

BUTTERCUP, COLUMBINE, HAVELOCK. Following is N.O.B. Bermuda 1645/10. BUTTERCUP, COLUMBINE, HAVELOCK. Your 0745/4. COLUMBINE arrived M. 1800P/8, BUTTERCUP 0900P/9. Report for duty. Unless otherwise instructed will depart for D via J afternoon of 11th. This pass by C. in C. U.S. Fleet to Admty., C. in C. W.A. and HAVELOCK. (Washington, 2245Z/10 to C.T.G. No. 26.3, (R) C. in C. A.W.I., Admty., C. in C. W.A., C. in C. A.F.(U.S.), C. in C. U.S. Fleet, C.T.F. No. 24.)

Wreck. Wrecked half schooner in 045° 33' N. 060° 19' W. Danger to navigation. Recent occurrence, no sign of gunfire. (HAMILTON, 2245Z/10 to C.O.A.C.)

COAST TRADER. Possible internal explosion, not U/B. (Com. 13th N.D., 2359/10 - see C.O.P.C. 1839/11.)



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War Diary.10.6.1942.  
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Australia and New Zealand.

Enemy Fleet Intelligence. Following fixings by D/F on 9th Z and all North and East. C. in C. 2nd at 29 158. C. in C. combined at 32 154 at 1430. At 1400/8 Commander S/M Force at 28 167. Bulletin 87. There is some reason to believe majority of surface forces concerned in Midway Is. and Dutch Harbour campaigns withdrawing. Increased S/M activity in Hawaii Is. approach route. Enemy aerial search continues to about (corrupt group) miles N.E. from Wake. Believe ZUIKAKU en route to join force retiring to Home Waters. Jap seaplane tender KAMIKAWA MARU indicated moving to Northern Waters.  
(C. in C. Pacific Fleet, 0331Z/10 to N.S.H.Q., C. in C. E.F.)

Port Mining at Defences. Request C. in C. U.S. Fleet's concurrence be obtained to diversion of defence material allocated by Admty. to Hobart compromising (? comprising) A/S boom, anti-torpedo baffle, H.D.As and S.D. detector type 135 to Moreton Bay.

2. Controlled mines now being laid by ATREUS have already been diverted with Admty. concurrence.
3. Proposed position of A/S boom is in main channel 2 miles southwards of Cowan Point and additional material will be required from U.S. to complete a line of fixed obstructions or net across Western and Central bank. If practicable anti boat gun will be sited on concrete support on this line. A fixed obstruction is also to be placed in South Channel between Moreton Island and Stradbroke Island.
4. Indicator loops are to be laid commencing mid June from position 3 miles northward from Skirmish Point across Spitfire Banks to Comboyura Point. H.D.As will be sited 2 miles southwards of this line.
5. Controlled mines are being laid in following positions and should be in operation about mid June - (A) In N.W. Channel 5 miles southwards of Caloundra Head. (3) In Pearl Channel between (R) and North spit. (3) In main channel between central banks and Cowan Point.
6. Fleet anchorage will be either eastward or westward of Montego Bay Island according to weather. Admty. chart 1670 A and B refers.
7. Sailing orders (? Alternative - Com. S.W. Pacific) concur. (A.C.N.B., 0605Z/10 to B.A.D., (R) Admty., etc.)

Movements. Departure Melbourne 2310Z/8 on escort duty U.S. Destroyer ~~FLUSSER~~ 0624Z/9 for Albany, U.S. Seaplane Tender ~~WILLIAMS~~ PRESTON, Sydney N.S.W. 0825Z/9 on escort duty U.S. Destroyer MUGFORD.  
(A.C.N.B., 0917Z/10 to Admty., etc.)

ORESTES (shelled by sub.) My 0826Z/9. At 2045Z/8 aircraft sighted vessel proceeding on normal course. No sign of fire observed.  
(A.C.N.B., 1131Z/10 to Admty., etc.)

/COPTIC ...



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10.6.1942.  
Wednesday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.Australia and New Zealand - Contd.

COPTIC  
"Q" report. Following intercepted by Perth Radio at 1239Z/10 (begins) - 022° 32' S. 079° (? 18') E. COPTIC followed by 2 suspicious vessels. (Ends). (A.C.N.B., 1454Z/10 to C. in C. E.F.)

"Bathurst"  
Minesweepers. A.T. 1901/20/5. Request you will confirm state of Imperial account "Bathurst's" and endurance figures given in para. 3. (A.C.N.S.(F), 1532B/10 to A.C.N.B.)

Situation. Serial No. 139 from C.W.R. 9/6.  
3 S/Ms probably still operating off East coast Australia. Also possibility 4th S/M 038° 52' S. 144° 20' E. at 1030Z/9.  
2. Lae attacked a.m./9 by 5 B.25s, 2 Fortresses, 1 Marauder in 3 waves. 20 zero fighters intercepted, accurate heavy A.A. fire was encountered. 8 Marauders attacked Salamoa and caused large fires while 8 escorting Aircobras engaged 7 zero fighters. Summary of results all operations follows. Enemy losses 2 fighters destroyed, 2 probably, 1 possible destroyed, 2 damaged. Allied losses. 1 Marauder destroyed, 1 crash landed Port Moresby, 4 damaged, 1 Aircobra missing.  
3. Air R/C 9/6 reported 28 zeros 3 bombers at Lae, 26 vessels including 3 very large in Rabaul Harbour. B.A.D. Washington pass to Opnav.  
(A.C.N.B., 1537Z/10 to Admty., etc.)

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.Submarines Reported.

Estimated U/B positions.  
(D.D.I.C., 1444B/10, 1455B/10.)



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

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

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

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

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



ADM 199 2243

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11.6.1942.  
Thursday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

A Sunderland attacked and badly damaged a U-Boat this morning in 43° 20' N. 12° 33' W. The U-Boat was apparently unable to dive and its speed was reduced to 4 knots. Further aircraft were sent to destroy it, and BEAGLE and ROTHER were ordered to leave convoy H.G. 84 (about 300 miles to the southward) and search for the U-Boat.

Mining.

The Admiralty have now received full details of the great minelaying effort made by Bomber Command during May.

Operation  
S.N. 3B.

R.A.(M) in SOUTHERN PRINCE with PORT QUEBEC, ADVENTURE, AGAMEMNON, MENESTHEUS, BRIGHTON, CASTLETON, NEWARK and WELLS carried out this operation today.

Operation  
B.S. 77.

PLOVER and GUILLEMOT completed this operation today.

Portsmouth  
mined.

Portsmouth eastern entrance was closed today at 0401B on account of suspected minelaying by enemy aircraft and was opened at 1905 for controlled traffic only. Several mines were detonated. The sailing of Convoy C.E. 89 was cancelled.

Minefield off  
Dungeness.

A large number of mines were swept in the Straits of Dover today.

2 ground mines were detonated in the Thames Estuary today.



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11.6.1942.  
Thursday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT.

South Atlantic.

COMMANDANT DROGOU at 0030Z today sighted in 8° 18' N. 19° 12' W. an unidentified vessel steering south, which altered course to north at high speed when challenged. No known British ships are in the vicinity.

SS. LYLEPARK was sunk in 12° S. 10° W. (300 miles S.W. of Ascension) this evening by a raider.

Mediterranean.

Operation  
"Vigorous".

The preliminary movements for Operation "Vigorous" have commenced in connection with Plan 'Launch'.

Taranto harbour was bombed again last night.

U-Boats are avoiding the Western Desert coast and have been attacked by aircraft with uncertain results.

East Indies.

SS. HELLENIC TRADER and SS. KOTA TJANDI reported being attacked by U-Boats at 1520 G.M.T. today north of Mozambique.

America and West Indies.

Further  
attack on  
O.N. 100.

PONTYPRIDD, a straggler from Convoy O.N. 100 was torpedoed and apparently sunk at 1310Z today.

/Aleutian ...



11.6.1942.  
Thursday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT.

America and West Indies - Contd.

Aleutian  
Is.

A Japanese force consisting of one damaged heavy cruiser, one destroyer and 2 Chidori class torpedo boats has been sighted by air patrol off Kiska, Rat Islands and may be sheltering from the stormy weather which is expected to last until 14/6. No transports were sighted, but it is thought probable that occupations have been or will be attempted in the Western Aleutian Islands. Weather conditions are seriously hampering reconnaissance. Recent reliable report estimates that RYUJO and another aircraft carrier and one auxiliary carrier are in the area.

Australia.

SS. GUATEMALA, a straggler from convoy, was sunk by a U-Boat off Sydney N.S.W. at 1920Z today.



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11.6.1942.  
Thursday.War Diary.HOME COMMANDS.Movements.

- BARCROSS, BARBOURNE. Intend sailing BARCROSS and BARBOURNE passing Clyde boom 0900/12 routed as in C. in C. W.A. 1557B/10 to Horta for fuel, thence to Freetown. (F.O.I.C. Greenock, 1114B/11.)
- JAMAICA. C. in C. W.A. 1842/8th and 1656/10th. <sup>/INT. W.D.</sup> <sup>/INT. W.D.</sup> JAMAICA will pass Western end of Abercorn searched channel 04° 00' W., at about 1430B/15 and will then proceed North to 55° 00' N. passing West of the Isle of Man. Request that A.L.T. attack may take place between 1430B/15th and 1800B/15th. Avoiding action will be taken. (JAMAICA, 1617/11 to N.O.I.C. Liverpool.)
- 112th M.M.S. Division. Request that the 112th M.M.S. Division consisting of Nos. 61, 62, 88 and 140 may be sailed for Portsmouth as soon as possible. (D.M.S., 1752/11 to F.O.I.C. Belfast.)
- B.1, H.28. Sailed TANGO submarines B.1, H.28. (Cdre. Londonderry, 1806B/11) (C. in C. W.A., 1931B/11 to LONDON, ST. MARYS, etc.)
- H.34, H.44. At 1808B/12 intend to sail H. 34 and H. 44 escorted from Rothesay to arrive Lough Foyle buoy at 0700B/13. (Capt. S.7, 1937B/11.)
- RUBIS. F.O.S. 1227/7. Intend to sail RYSA from Needles 1300/12. Routed as follows, to R/V with RUBIS in 180° Lizard 10 miles at 0600/13 returning as escort of RUBIS to Portsmouth by reciprocal route. E.T.A. Needles 2230/13. (C. in C. Portsmouth, 2343/11.)
- Operations.
- "Harpoon". Provided nothing unforeseen occurs it is estimated that Home Fleet ships lent for Operation "Harpoon" will return to Scapa about 24/6.
2. You are requested to arrange to sail P.Q. 17 as soon after the return of these ships as practicable. (A.C.N.S. H., 1833B/11 to C. in C. H.F.)
- N.P. 30A. My 1851/11. Operation N.P. 30A cancelled owing to weather. (V.A. Dover, 2147B/11.)

/Attempt ...



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11.6.1942.  
Thursday.War Diary.HOME COMMANDS.Operations - Contd.Attempt to  
intercept  
Convoy on  
Night 4/5.

Your 1802B/6.

When information of enemy convoy was received at about 2045/4 TYNEDALE was about to leave Portsmouth, BROCKLESBY and ATHERSTONE were approaching Plymouth and KRAKOWIAK was escorting a convoy near Start Point.

BROCKLESBY and ATHERSTONE were ordered to join KRAKOWIAK in 180° Start 11 miles and then R/V with TYNEDALE in 49° 52' N. 02° 30' W. at 2330/4.

2. TYNEDALE was unable to make R/V at time ordered and, for some reason at present unexplained BROCKLESBY with ATHERSTONE and KRAKOWIAK failed to sight each other. As a result, BROCKLESBY and ATHERSTONE were the only destroyers to carry out an effective sweep and they were about 50 minutes late in passing through the R/V.

3. At 0112/5 BROCKLESBY and ATHERSTONE were 2½ miles N.E. of Alderney Light. They then swept to southward until south of the line joining Alderney and Cap La Hague and then turned to eastward, passing 2 miles off Cap La Hague. At 0200/5 they were in 49° 46' N. 01° 45' W., then turned towards the land and swept westward to 01° 54' W. C.O. of BROCKLESBY states he could see the coast, distant about 2½ miles. Nothing was sighted.

4. At 0213/5 TYNEDALE ordered destroyers to withdraw as it appeared to him that there was a grave risk of engagement between our own forces.

5. Reference C. in C. Portsmouth's 1137B/5, vessels detected at 0115/5 were almost certainly BROCKLESBY and ATHERSTONE. Vessels detected at 0141 may have been enemy but if so, they should have been either sighted or detected by our destroyers.

6. Cap La Hague and Alderney Lights were burning with normal characteristics.

7. In the event the R/V ordered, which was dictated by the enemy's movements, allowed insufficient time, but the operation exemplifies the difficulty of effecting a R/V at night between scattered forces.

(C. in C. Plymouth, 2301B/11 to Admty.)

Exercises.A/S  
Exercises  
at Plymouth.

1. It is understood that your requirements for A/S training and exercises with aircraft can be met by one submarine for 3 days every fortnight.

2. I consider therefore it would be uneconomical in view of other calls for training submarines to have one permanently based at Plymouth, but every endeavour will be made to meet all your requirements.

3. In addition to arrangements already made with RORQUAL, UNIQUE, and S/Ms on passage to Gibraltar, TIGRIS and RUBIS will be made available shortly and also S/Ms on passage to and from refitting ports in the south.

(F.O.S., 1848B/11 to C. in C. Plymouth.)



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War Diary.

11.6.1942.  
Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

British Air Activity.

- "Knocker". Operation "Knocker". Request you ensure Bombing instructions given to all crews that S/Ms not restrictions. to be engaged during operation.  
(Air Ministry, 1115/11 to H.Q. 44 Group.)
- Fleet R/C. Enemy activity is developing off the Norwegian coast and special Fleet R/C must now take precedence over trade protection.  
(D.O.D. H., 1513B/11 to A.O.C. C.C.)
- North Russia. Your 2329B/6 and 2141/8. Russians would welcome British this assistance and do not foresee any Torpedo insuperable difficulties. Detailed report of A/C base. facilities at Vaenga promised tomorrow.  
(Ad. Miles, 1542C/11 to Admty.)
- Air Escort My 1229B/10. Amend to read force will R/V in for 320° Dunnet Head 7 miles at 1900B/12. WASHINGTON, (C. in C. H.F., 1947B/11, 2252B/11.) WICHITA.

Enemy Air Activity.

- Convoy At 2255/10 in 50° 25' N. 2° 46' W. six Ju.88 W.P. 169 attacked 3 returning to second attack. No damage or casualty. Shallow dive bombing attacks. attacked. One probable and one possible shot down by combined fire of convoy and escorts of W.P. 169.
- Both A/C last seen losing height and flying erratically after tracer hits and been observed. Fire was seen in water where A/C would have crashed.  
(BROCKLESBY, 1239/11.)
- Convoy CAPE COMORIN reports that in conjunction with P.W. 169 LINCOLNSHIRE she shot down one E/A and damaged attacked. another in attack on Convoy P.W. 169 at 2300/10 in 50° 20' N. 3° 4' W. Junkers 88 approached just above balloons, winged by LINCOLNSHIRE, finally brought down by CAPE COMORIN. Seen to hit sea in flames. No survivors. Fighters were in vicinity but were not seen to engage by Convoy or Escorts.  
(C. in C. Plymouth, 1726B/11.)

Mining.

- S.N. 3B. Sailed R.A.(M) in SOUTHERN PRINCE, PORT QUEBEC, ADVENTURE, AGAMEMNON, MENESTHEUS, BRIGHTON, CASTLETON, NEWARK and WELLS.  
(N.O.I.C. Port ZA, 0036/11.)  
Operation S.N. 3B completed.  
(R.A.M., 1928/11.)



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11.6.1942.  
Thursday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Mining - Contd.

A/C  
Minelaying.

We have now received full details of the great minelaying effort made by Bomber Command during May, and I should be glad if you would convey to all concerned an expression of our admiration and thanks.  
(1st S.L., 0327B/11 to Air Ministry.)

Portsmouth.

Port of Portsmouth eastern entrance closed.  
(C. in C. Portsmouth, 0401B/11.)

3 magnetic mines detonated by LL and six spontaneous explosions. Details.

(C. in C. Portsmouth, 1150B/11.)

My 0401/11. Port of Portsmouth eastern entrance open for controlled traffic only. Convoys will be swept in and out. P.S. and S.P. convoys can proceed by inshore route.

(C. in C. Portsmouth, 1905/11.)

Lowestoft.

German T mine exploded by gunfire 7 cables west 3C buoy at 0900.

(Cdr. M/S Lowestoft, 0950B/11.)

Clearance of  
324 Q.Z.X.

Cancel my 1140B/10/6. Temporary repairs effected. BEAUMARIS not now required.

(M/S 9, 1255B/11 to C. in C. Nore.)

Your 1732/11 to C. in C. Portsmouth. Flotilla is to leave Harwich as requisite and as to pass Sand Head buoy at 0131/13. Route and programme.

(C. in C. Nore, 2350B/11 to M/S 9.)

Iceland.

My 1227A/2/4. Following mines rendered safe during period 18/4 to 31/5. Details. 18 mines sunk (corrupt group) off east coast during period 31/3 to 31/5.

(A.C.I.C., 1540B/11.)

Minelaying  
by British  
A/C off  
Swedish  
Coast.

Mines laid in the Sound on night 9/10 soon exploded by Sweepers.

(N.A. Stockholm, 1551/11.)

See Enemy Intelligence.

Proposed  
extension of  
East Coast  
Mine Barrier.

My 1655B/25/4, 1645B/2/5 and your 2246B/29/4. From enemy recent air R/C it may be inferred that the new gap is already or will soon be compromised. Suggest that an extension of the mine barrier eastward of its present limit between the latitudes 055° N. and 058° N, and extension not necessarily

mined, might, if publicly declared as a dangerous area, confuse the enemy as to where the connection between gap and corridor exists.

(C. in C. Rosyth, 1627B/11 to Admty.)

/Liverpool ...



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War Diary.11.6.1942.  
Thursday.HOME COMMANDS.Mining - Contd.

- Liverpool. At 1228B/11 one magnetic mine exploded by Sweepers. Details.  
(F.O.I.C. Liverpool, 1900B/11.)  
At 1323B/11 one acoustic mine exploded by Sweepers. Details.  
(F.O.I.C. Liverpool, 1914B/11.)
- B.S. 78. Prepare to carry out B.S. 78 on 13/6.  
(C. in C. Nore, 1934B/11 to F.O. Harwich, PLOVER, ROTHESAY.)
- Bristol Channel. At 1325/11 one magnetic mine exploded by Sweeper. Details.  
(Capt. M/S Bristol Channel, 2215B/11.)
- Q.Z.X. 732. 12 Mines swept today. Details.  
(V.A. Dover, 2324B/11.)

Enemy Intelligence.

- ADMIRAL SCHEER, LÜTZOW. Russian wireless intelligence believe SCHEER and LÜTZOW to be in Alta Fiorden. Graded B.O.  
(S.B.N.O. North Russia, 1222B/11.)
- TIRPITZ, HIPPER. Report graded B.2 states that TIRPITZ and HIPPER were seen off Trondheim town at 1015B/11 steering west at slow speeds. No escort in company.  
(D.D.I.C., 1245B/11.)  
My 1245B/11. Further B.2 report states that HIPPER and TIRPITZ were seen at 1145/11 steering East.  
(D.D.I.C., 1426B/11.)
- Murmansk. My 2150/3. Channel round Mishukov regularly swept. Negative results. Doubtful whether magnetic mine was responsible for loss of STEELWORKER (U.S.) ship was not degaussed. Week without raids has enabled all except 5 of remaining 20 P.Q. 16 ships to be discharged. Enemy air activity practically nil except for inter aerodrome flights reported by Russian wireless intelligence of which 30 out of 64 identified as troop carriers. 20 fresh aircraft of which 10 Heinkel 111 reported to have arrive Bardufoss. Land front no change and no further news of fresh division reported June 3rd moving north from Rovaniemi. Concentration of 100 infantry boats including hunter craft near Vadso reported today leads Russians to expect (? that) enemy may attempt landing on Ribachi peninsula.  
Admiralty pass to C. in C. H.F.  
(S.B.N.O. North Russia, 1259B/11 to Admty., (R) Ad. Miles, S.B.N.O. Archangel, C. in C. H.F.)

/Northern ...



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11.6.1942.  
Thursday.War Diary.HOME COMMANDS.Enemy Intelligence. - Contd.Northern  
Norway.Russians report 8/6 vicinity of Nordkin one  
destroyer, Varanger Fiord one destroyer..  
9/6 Varanger Fiord one destroyer.  
(Ad. Miles, 1531C/11.)GNEISENAU,  
PRINZ EUGEN,  
DITMARSCHEN.(A) GNEISENAU. It is learnt both A and B  
turrets were completely burnt out from top to  
bottom and that all metal in vicinity has been  
destroyed. Graded A.3.(B) PRINZ EUGEN. Although limited to 20 knots  
on account of (bent?) rudder she attained a speedof 24 knots during our torpedo bombing attack May 18th.  
Graded A.3.(C) Tanker DITMARSCHEN see my 1747/1 para. A. DITMARSCHEN is  
believed to have sailed from Narvik a few days ago bound for  
destination of pocket battleships. She was not fully laden  
on account of having to lighten ship for passage inside Lofoten  
Island. Graded A.2.(D) Dutch Convoy - reference my 1711/4. Learn from survivors  
of Swedish Vessel VARMDO that of nine ships in this Convoy 5  
flying Danish and Norwegian flags were sunk. Graded C.3.(E) Admiral Raeder in company of Admiral Boehm and Captain  
Shreiber visited Narvik on 4/6. Graded A.2.(F) Magnetic mines laid of Helsingborg? night of 9/6 were  
placed almost exactly one mile S.W. of harbour entrance where  
they were located by Swedish watchers. Sweeping commenced  
following morning and continued until all mines were exploded.  
Ferry services both here and at Trelleborg were only temporarily  
suspended. Experience has shown that mines dropped close to  
Swedish coast have usually been observed and accounted for a  
few hours later. Graded A.2.

(N.A. Stockholm, 1551/11.)

N.I.D. Comment. Para. (A) Agrees with previous information  
and is confirmed by reconnaissance.

Para. (B) Believed correct.

Para. (E) Admiral Raeder visited Norway during the first week  
in June, and inspected with Admiral Boehm (C. in C. Norwegian  
Coast Defences), naval and coast defence units in Central and  
Northern Norway.Para. (C) Tanker is evidently DITMARSCHEN. Two tankers of  
this type were seen at Narvik on 27th May.Para. (F) Mines were laid by aircraft in Northern entrance to the  
Sound on night 9th/10th June.U-Boats.U-Boat  
reported.Am over enemy S/M in 46° 8' N. 7° 40' W.  
Enemy on surface and then observed to submerge.  
Course 280°, speed 8 knots.  
(A/C 1UKG, 0708/11.)

/U-Boat ...



War Diary.11.6.1942.  
Thursday.HOME COMMANDS.U-Boats.

U-Boat Am over enemy S/M in 43° 20' N. 12° 33' W. S/M  
 attacked. on surface.  
 (A/C 1MJW, 0945/11 to 15 Group.)  
 My 0945. Have attacked enemy with 4 depth  
 charges, bombs level, and estimate 1 hit. Losing oil. Appears  
 badly damaged.  
 (A/C, 1000/11 to 15 Group.)  
 Enemy course and speed are 080°, 4.  
 (A/C 1010/11 to 15 Group.)  
 U-Boat attacked by Sunderland of 19 Group in 43° 20' N. 12° 33' W.  
 at 0945B/11 and badly damaged. Last reported proceeding on  
 surface, course 080°, speed 4 knots. Request any surface force  
 even trawler within reach may be sent to attack.  
 (C. in C. Plymouth, 1050B/11 to F.O.C.N.A.)  
 My 1010. Course and speed of enemy are 080°, 2. Oil  
 increasing.  
 (A/C, 1100/11 to 15 Group.)  
 My 1050B/11. Speed of U-Boat now 2 knots. 2 Liberators from  
 15 group, 1 Sunderland, 1 long range Whitley from 19 group, are  
 proceeding to attack.  
 (C. in C. Plymouth, 1146B/11 to F.O.C.N.A.)  
 Enemy S/M previously reported is still on the surface 43° 20' N.  
 12° 25' W. course 085°, speed 4 knots.  
 (A/C, 1200/11 to 15 Group.)  
 If previous orders have not been received from F.O.C.N.A.  
 proceed at best speed to intercept U-Boat badly damaged A/C  
 P.C.S. 043° 20' N. 012° 33' W. 080°, 4 knots at 0945B/11.  
 A/C are co-operating.  
 (C. in C. W.A., 1216B/11 to BEAGLE, ROTHER.) *See p/3 2657266*

Navigational.

Shipwash Your 1536/9 and 1648/9.  
 Buoy. It is considered desirable that the North West  
 Shipwash buoy should be replaced and not the  
 West Shipwash.  
 (C. in C. Nore, 1031B/11 to F.O.I.C. Harwich.)  
 My 1536/9 and 1648/9. Concur with C. in C.  
 Nore's 1031/11.  
 (F.O.I.C. Harwich, 1158B/11 to Admty.)

Archangel Your 1030/3 and 1015/4. Positions of buoys in  
 approaches. navigable channel have been passed to C. in C.  
 H.F., C. in C. W.A., and A.C.O.S. No further  
 promulgation will be made by Admiralty.

2. Is North Dvina light vessel now being used as accommodation  
 ship for pilots or is another pilot vessel in use? If so  
 where is she stationed? Request that this information may be  
 passed to addressees of your 1015B/4.  
 (D. of N., 1033B/11 to S.B.N.O. Archangel.)  
 (D. of N., 1037B/11 to C. in C. H.F., C. in C. W.A., A.C.O.S.)



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11.6.1942.  
Thursday.War Diary.HOME COMMANDS.Technical.

A.N.D. Gear. A.M. 1156/6 para. 5. Procedure for streaming gear. Following alternative is proposed instead of existing first sentence.  
(C. in C. W.A., 1859B/11 to Admty.)

Casualties and Defects.

GEORGETOWN. GEORGETOWN arrived with defects.  
(F.O.I.C. Greenock, 0735B/11.)

CHARLESTOWN. Your 2355/10. CHARLESTOWN can be taken in hand now. Request ship be sailed to Clyde.  
(F.O.I.C. Glasgow, 1122/11 to R.A.M.)

PORT AUCKLAND, HISTORIAN. Your 1954/9. PORT AUCKLAND will be sailed for Southampton a.m./12th. HISTORIAN will be repaired at Falmouth and is being taken in hand today.  
(F.O.I.C. Falmouth, 1131B/11.)

CADUCEUS. CADUCEUS in hand for bow repairs. VALKYRIE suggests that PV clump be omitted observing that ship is unlikely be operate outside Irish Sea and Clyde area. Early instruction requested.  
(F.O.I.C. Liverpool, 1207/11 to Admty.)

WINCHESTER. WINCHESTER has blown steam joint. Repairs only by shutting off main steam. Have detached her to anchor in Humber Roads to complete repairs. Expected time to make good defect is 2 hours.  
(QUANTOCK, 1220B/11.)

Shipping and Convoys.

W.S. 20. Convoy W.S. 20 carrying military personnel and stores for the East will be ready to leave U.K. on 20/6. Composition details.

4. All ships can maintain a speed of 15 knots except ADRASTUS and BANFORA 14 knots and ABOSSO 14½ knots who should be placed as leaders of columns.

5. Ocean escort to Freetown, MALAYA who is to join convoy in position X 40° N. 22° W. at daylight 26th.

6. NARKUNDA will part company with convoy in position X and proceed to Gibraltar with A/S escort ex MALAYA. ESPERANCE BAY will proceed to Falkland Islands from Freetown.

7. Destroyer Escort. (a) BLACKMORE, VIMY, BRILLIANT and VANSITTART will provide through escort to Freetown being detached as requisite to fuel at Ponta Delgada.

(b) 6 destroyers to return to U.K. from limit of prudent endurance.

(D.O.D. (H), 0039B/11.)



War Diary.11.6.1942.  
Thursday.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping and Convoys - Contd.

- C.E. 89, My 1843B/10 and 2353B/10.  
C.W. 91. Sailing of C.E. cancelled due to mining. Escort will be sailed separately today at 1300 if progress of sweeping allows.  
(C. in C. Portsmouth, 1003B/11.)
- My 1003B/11. Minesweeping situation did not admit of sailing of escort of C.E. 89 today.  
2. Intend to sail escort 1100/12 with UNBEATEN and Consular groups 26 and 27 routed as in my 1843B/10 speed 8 knots to pass Sand Head Buoy at 0215/13.  
3. After sweeping out this group sweeper will sweep in C.W.91, which convoy should arrive at E.A3 Buoy at 1330/12.  
(C. in C. Portsmouth, 1253B/11.)
- O.G. Convoys. O.G. 86 sails 2/7. Thereafter O.G. convoys at 18 day intervals.  
(C. in C. W.A., 1052B/11.)
- O.N.S. 102. Am sailing RESTIGOUCHE to overtake O.N.S. 102.  
O.N. 103. C. in C. W.A. 1526Z/10, SAXIFRAGE designated additional escort O.N. 103.  
(C.T.G. 24.7, 1215B/11.)
- P.Q. 18. My 2128/18/5. EMPIRE MORN is now allocated to P.Q. 18 in place of PRIMROSE HILL.  
(D.T.D., 1242B/11.)
- C.T. 18. Convoy C.T. 18 composed of U.S. Transports SIBONEY, BARRY and MONARGO will be ready to leave the Clyde 16/6. They will be sailed to New York direct and will not call at Halifax. Speed of advance 12½ knots. Escort by Task Force 35.  
(D.O.D. (H), 1309B/11.)
- P.Q. 19. A.C.I.C. 1816/9. You are requested to sail an Ocean Escort Trawler from Belfast to arrive Reykjavik for P.Q. 19.  
2. An Oerlikon from Belfast stock should be fitted in addition to Twin O.5".  
(D.A/S.W., 1340B/11 to C. in C. W.A.)
- Protection of P.Q. Convoys. S.B.N.O. North Russia's 2122B/8 para. One (d). Requested D.C.N.S. today to ask for these extra fighters. He was not very hopeful about P.E.3s but promised to see People's Commissar.  
2. I hope to discuss whole question of Convoy's with People's Commissar shortly.  
3. Admty. pass to C. in C. H.F. and H.Q.C.C.  
(Ad. Miles, 1616C/11 to Admty.)



11.6.1942.  
Thursday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping and Convoys - Contd.

ORISSA. Sailed R.I.N. ORISSA in accordance with my  
1744B/9.  
(N.O.I.C. Greenock, 2045B/11.)

Eire M/Vs in Bay of Biscay. My 1938/25. To facilitate attack upon enemy vessels entering and leaving the Bay of Biscay all Eire vessels sailing between U.K. and Iberian ports are to be instructed on both outward and homeward voyages to keep west of 12° W. when between 49° and 42° 15' N. Vessels are to be warned that they disregard these instructions at their peril.  
2. All Eire vessels are also to be informed that unless they apply to N.C.S.O. Lisbon at least 24 hours in advance of sailing on the return voyage, we cannot answer for their safety.  
3. Earliest possible information of all Eire vessels is to be promulgated to C. in C. Plymouth, F.O.C.N.A. and A.O.C. in C. Coastal Command. N.C.S.O. Lisbon is to notify sailings from Lisbon immediately he is informed of them.  
4. N.A. Dublin pass to Eire Authorities and U.K. S.A. Dublin. (A.C.N.S. (H), 2251B/11.)



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11.6.1942.  
Thursday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.Raiders.

Use of M.T.Bs. Positive evidence has been received that German raiders are carrying 2 or more M.T.Bs. armed with 2 torpedoes and depth charges. These craft are about 40 feet long speed 40 knots, and are hoisted out by derrick. Usual signals are made by Raider to endeavour to persuade ships to stop and M.T.Bs. also make signals in English and may wear White Ensign in endeavour to deceive. 2. All Masters of M/Vs. are to be warned on the lookout for this form of attack, which there is reason to believe is generally delivered during dark hours. Any vessel sighted with a motor-boat slung on a derrick should be considered suspicious. (D.D.I.C., 1628B/11 "A" Message).

North Atlantic.

Operation "Harpoon". (Convoy to Malta.) Departure 0900 for operation "Harpoon" WESTCOTT, WISHART, VIDETTE, ANTELOPE, ITHURIEL, PARTRIDGE. (F.O.C.N.A., 0934B/11 to Admty. C. in C. Med., V.A. Malta, S.O. Force T).  
Departure 1250 for "Harpoon" WRESTLER. (F.O.C.N.A., 1302B/11 to Admty. C. in C. Med., V.A. Malta, S.O. Force T).  
Departure 2230 for operation "Harpoon" Tanker BROWN RANGER escorted by GERANIUM and COLTSFOOT. (F.O.C.N.A., 2358B/11 to Admty. C. in C. Med., V.A. Malta, S.O. Force T).

Casablanca Intelligence. PRIMAUGUET with squadron reported to have left Casablanca last night for gunnery practice and will return various times today. (Grade A.2.) (F.O.C.N.A., 0952B/11 to R.A. West Africa).

A/C 1 Unidentified A/C Height 3,000 feet. Course 180° my position 310 Espichel 13 miles. (ALOUETTE, 1005B/11 to Gibraltar).  
1 A/C unknown height 4,000 feet course 360° my position 300 Espichel 8 miles. (ALOUETTE, 1227B/11 to Gibraltar W/T).

A/C attack on merchant ship. Attack by German Aircraft on British Merchant Ship reported off Faroes 1530B/10. Ship not hit (B.2) (N.A. Lisbon, 1015B/11 to S.O.(I) Gibraltar (R) Admty).

PARTHIAN, REGENT. My 2130/5, not to all addressees. On arrival at Gibraltar PARTHIAN and REGENT are to join the 8th Flotilla. (D.O.D. (F) 1025B/11 to F.O.C.N.A. (R) C. in C. Med., F.O.S. Capt. S.1., Capt. S.8. Capt. S.5).



11.6.1942.

Thursday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic. - Contd.

Damaged (Begins). Submarine expected to finish repairs  
U/B at tonight 11/6.  
Santander. (Santander, 1030/11 to Admty. (R) Gibraltar and  
Madrid).

CLYDE. From 038° 30', 009° 00' E., proceed diving by day  
through WW.  
WW 038° 32', 008° 05' E. XX 039° 20', 007° 30' E.  
YY 039° 20', 004° 25' E. ZZ 180° Cape De Gata 15 miles thence to  
Gibraltar on surface at your discretion to arrive 1100B/20.  
Pass YY at 0230B/17 and ZZ at 2330B/19. Bombing restrictions  
arranged. If unable to comply within 3 hours report. Estd. S.O.A.  
125 miles per day.  
(F.O.C.N.A., 1140B/11 to CLYDE (R) 8th S/M Flot. C. in C. Med.,  
Capt. (S) 1, V.A. Malta.)  
CLYDE now leaving Malta p.m. 12/6 thence along Sicilian coast  
and through 038° 00' N., 011° 44' E., to pass through 038° 30' N.  
009° 00' E. at 0200B/15. Onward route to Gibraltar through  
WW. 038° 32' N., 008° 05' E. XX. 039° 20' N., 007° 30' E.  
YY. 039° 20' N., 004° 25' E. ZZ. 180° Cape de Gata 15 miles  
diving by day S. of A. 125 miles per day.  
(F.O.C.N.A., 1234B/11 to Force T).

PANTHER. Your 1855/9. To what ship does this route apply.  
(V.A.C.N.A., 1213B/11 to R.A. West Africa).  
Reply; PANTHER. (R.A.W.A., 1945Z/13).

CANADA. I am advised by French N.A. that hospital ship  
CANADA from Marseilles will pass Cape De Gata  
26/6 and S. of A. given forenoon 27/6.  
(B.N.A. Madrid, 1215/11 to Admty (R) F.O.C.N.A.)

Hunt for BEAGLE is to comply with C. in C. W.A. 1216B/11.  
U/B. ROTHER remain with convoy.  
(F.O.C.N.A., 1318B/11 to BEAGLE, ROTHER (R)  
Admty. H.Q.C.C., C. in C. Plymouth, C. in C. W.A.  
STORK, JONQUIL, Group 19).

At 1005B/11 enemy A/C was operating in your vicinity and probably  
reported ROTHER and JONQUIL.  
(D.D.I.C., 1349B/11 to ROTHER, JONQUIL, Escorts of H.G. 84, (R)  
C. in C. W.A., F.O.C.N.A., S.O. Force T).  
Parted company with JONQUIL at 1345B/11 in 038° 22' 010° 17' W.,  
course 259° 9 knots. My course and speed 355° 19 knots to comply  
with your 1216B/11.  
(ROTHER, 1402B/11 to C. in C. W.A. (R) F.O.C.N.A., STORK, BEAGLE)  
Your 1216 and my 1318. Have ordered ROTHER to remain with her  
section of H.G. 84 as they are being shadowed by aircraft.  
(F.O.C.N.A., 1434B/11 to C. in C. W.A. (R) Admty. C. in C.  
Plymouth).  
Your 1318/11. Request you will consider detailing WILD SWAN to  
support BEAGLE in view of probability of air attack.  
(C. in C. W.A., 1554B/11 to F.O.C.N.A. (R) Admty. C. in C.  
Plymouth, A.O.C. in C. C.C., Group 19, BEAGLE, WILD SWAN).



11.6.1942.  
Thursday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic. - cont.:-

Hunt for Am complying with your 1318/11.  
U/B. Contd. (ROTHER, 1654B/11 to F.O.C.N.A. (R) C. in C.  
W.A. BEAGLE, STORK, JONQUIL).  
In view of your 1402 cancel my 1318. BEAGLE  
will join you in search.  
(F.O.C.N.A., 1757B/11 to ROTHER (R) Admty, C. in C. Plymouth,  
C. in C. W.A., BEAGLE, STORK).  
BEAGLE P.C. and S. at 1701B/11 037° 50' N., 010° 50' W., 001°  
26 knots. E.T.A. in 043° 33' N., 010° 46' W., is 0600B/12.  
(C. in C. W.A., 2326B/11 to ROTHER (R) BEAGLE, F.O.C.N.A.,  
C. in C. Plymouth).  
My P.C. and S. at 2249B/11 040° 08' N., 010° 42' W. 003° 19 knots.  
(ROTHER, 2338B/11 to C. in C. W.A., (R) F.O.C.N.A., BEAGLE).

Situation Area Y. Situation 2001B/11.  
report. 1. Convoy 19 Z 30° 01', 21° 48' through 26° 20',  
20° 56' thence 179° 12'.  
2. O.S. 30 30° 31', 21° 15' 188° 17¼ S.O.  
PHILANTE. 3. SUNBURST, STORMCENTRE 1 Merchant Ship 28° 28',  
25° 41', 158° 8. 4. S.L. 112 25° 03', 23° 10' 348° 7¼.  
S.O. WESTON. 5. MOONSHINE, 1 Tug 35° 07', 27° 46', 168° 8.  
(F.O.C.N.A., 1328B/11 to N.A. Station) As amended 2000/11.

Trawler B.N.A. Lisbon's 1615/10 para. 2 not to V.A.C.N.A.  
Trials, PORT JACKSON and PORT MADOC to be routed to  
Lisbon. Cardiff Area.  
(Admty. 1633B/11 to B.N.A. Lisbon, (R) V.A.C.N.A.)

Italian Route for Italian repatriation liners from Gib.  
repatriations. to Italy will be as follows:-  
(a) From Gibraltar to a point 15 miles due S. of  
Cape de Gata; (b) Thence to a point 20 miles  
due S. of Cape Spartivento in Sardinia; (c) Thence by direct  
route to Naples.  
2. The two groups VULCANIA - SATURNIA and GIULIO CESARE -  
DUILIO will regulate their speeds so as to arrive at Naples in  
early hours of morning.  
3. From Naples the vessels will proceed to Leghorn and from  
Leghorn to Genoa. A stay is contemplated at Naples and Leghorn  
of 2 or 3 days, and at Genoa all 4 vessels will effect maintenance  
work.  
(D.O.D. (F) 1823B/11 to F.O.C.N.A., Capt. S.8., V.A. Malta,  
C. in C. Med., Capt. S.1., Capt. S.10).

Blockade Your 1131/31. Tonnage limit of 2,500 tons gross  
is acceptable. Spaniards should, therefore, be  
asked to provide information of all ships over  
this tonnage as in para 5. of my 1314/11/5.  
(Head of M., 1843B/11 to N.A. Madrid, (R) Air. Min. C. in C.  
Plymouth, A.O.C. in C.C.C. F.O.C.N.A., B.N.A. Lisbon).

German A/C German A/C seen off Cape Roca 1142/11 and off  
sighted. Peniche 1255/11.  
(N.A. Lisbon, 1915B/11 to S.O.(I) Gibraltar, (R)  
Admty).



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11.6.1942.  
Thursday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic.

## Routeing.

Long range Westbound ships whose endurance permit are to be routed direct from Lourenco Marques without calling at Union Ports except for special reasons.

(C. in C. S.A., 0128B/11 to N.C.S.O. Lourenco Marques (R) Admty. Cdre. Durban S.O.(I) Capetown, S.O.(I) Freetown).

ALIOTH  
(Dutch)  
torpedoed.

Received 0105 G.M.T. 8290 kc/s band de CFS 7. GZZ de BOGI (AGAPENOR). Following received at 2356 G.M.T. S O S S O S S O S de ALIOTH torpedoed posn. 10° 1' S., 17° 45' W., and later S O S torpedoed 0° 1' S., 18° 45' W., sinking.

In later message the latitude was different but according to strength of signals the first position of 10° 1' S., is most likely correct. Controlling Station CFS 7. Portishead Radio.

(Burnham Radio, T.O.D., 0316/11 to Admty).

Following received from AGAPENOR addressed Admty. Ref. my retransmitted distress message from ALIOTH position almost certainly 01° 1' S., 18° 45' W., not 10° 1' as originally given. (Portishead Radio, 0245/11 to C. in C. W.A., Admty).

Following has been read. Torpedoed position 11° 1' S., 18° 45' W. sinking.

(ALIOTH, ZSC T.O.R., 0319/11).

Following received from Lands End Radio, Intercept 0149 G.M.T. Sierra Leone Radio. S O S Walvis Bay Radio unread torpedoed II unread South 18° 44' W., sinking unread 19/11. Controlling Station Sierra Leone Radio.

(C. in C. Plymouth, 0354/11 to Admty).

Following received. Intercepted 0146 G.M.T. De VP? S O S following received S O S - JMD torpedoed position JMD South JMD 18 - 4 - JMD West sinking JMD. Reception doubtful jammed by crashing atmospherics. Niton Radio. 0350/11.

(C. in C. Portsmouth T.O.R., 0403/11 to Admty).

ABDIEL.

Simonstown departure 2300Z/10. ABDIEL for Freetown calling Pointe Noire for fuel thence through (f) 005° 00' S., 001° 00' W. (g) 001°

30' N., 009° 00' W., S. of A 22 knots to 015° S., thence 21 knots E.T.A. Pointe Noire 1700Z/14.

(C. in C. S.A., 0435/11 to Admty. R.A. West Africa, B.N.L.O. West Africa).

DUNCAN,  
ACTIVE.

Sailed DUNCAN, ACTIVE to Kilindini through following positions (A) 028° 30' S., 035° (B) 013° 20', 042° 30'. S. of A. 18 knots. E.T.A. 1415Z/15. Shift to wireless organization group V. 1000Z/13.

(Cdre. Durban, 0739Z/11 to Admty etc).

/Unidentified...



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South Atlantic. - Contd.

Unidentified Vessel. Unidentified vessel one funnel raked stern course due South sighted by COMMANDANT DROGOU at 0030Z/11 in 008° 18' N., 019° 12' W., steering south. On being challenged altered course towards North at High speed and made G F D D or G F D Z. No known British ships in the vicinity.  
(R.A. West Africa, 1010Z/11 to Ships in Area P. (R) F.O.C.N.A., Admty. C. in C. S.A., C. in C. U.S. Fleet, T.F. 23., T.F.34).

MILFORD. Your 2136/5 not to B.N.L.O. West Africa and B.N.L.O. West Africa 1634/3 to C. in C. S.A. and R.A.W.A., only. Following is intended programme for MILFORD

| Arrive. | Place.         | Leave. |
|---------|----------------|--------|
| -       | Simonstown     | 14/6   |
| 21/6    | Libreville     | 22/6   |
| 27/6    | Freetown       | 28/6   |
| 8/7     | Rio de Janeiro | -      |

(C. in C. S.A., 1159B/11 to Admty. (R) R.A.W.A.F. N.A. Rio de Janeiro, B.N.L.O., W.A.F., Adml. Supt. Simonstown, MILFORD).

Movements. BUSHWOOD, AIGLON, HATSUSE, ESTRELLA DOMAR, in company sailed 1130 E.T.A. Capetown 1600/16 S. of A. 7½ knots.

In case of dispersal route given coastal to Cape Columbine thence through (D) 034° S., 017° 15' E., (F) 034° 30', 017° 30'. Ref. R.F. Capetown.

(N.C.S.O. Walvis Bay, 1206Z/11 to Admty, C. in C. S.A. (R) R.A.W.A.F., Capetown).

~~Departures 11/6 RESOLUTION, DRAGON, CORFU, GUARDIAN, arrival 11/6 CALEDON.~~

~~(R.A. West Africa, 1826Z/11 to Admty).~~

AQUITANIA Arrival 11/6 W.S.19 Q.  
(R.A. West Africa, 1401Z/11 to Admty. F.O.C.N.A., C. in C. W.A., S.O.W.P.)

Convoy W.S.19 Q. sails 1800Z/12 and has been routed  
(A) 005° 03' N., 016° 30' W. (B) 003° 30' S., 011° 15' W.  
(C) 015° 30' S., 001° 30' E. (D) 027° 00' S., 009° 00' E.  
(E) 034° 30' S., 017° 30' E. (F) 034° 19' S., 018° 00' E.

Should route be altered to conform with your 1813B/11?  
(R.A. West Africa, 2209Z/11 to Admty (R) C. in C. S.A.)  
Reply: Admty., 1205/12.

W.S.19 Position 11/6.  
(S.S.T.O. Capetown, 1512Z/11 to D.S.T.)

PRETORIA CASTLE. Your 2124B/10. Address of PRETORIA CASTLE's 0700/10 was decyphered incorrectly. Signal reads as follows (Begins) R.A.W.A.F. from PRETORIA CASTLE. S. of A reduced to 14.5 knots owing to defects in starboard engine consider prudent for ship to return to harbour. (Ends).  
(R.A. West Africa, 1613Z/11 to Admty).



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Thursday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic. - Contd.

U/B Menace, Your 1615/7/5.  
 Situation 1. Your escort situation should improve with the  
 A/S forces. return of corvettes and destroyers from refit and  
 by the provision of through escorts for O.S. and  
 S.L. convoys.

2. If a heavy scale of U-boat attack develops in the Freetown  
 area shipping will be diverted as much as possible, but the  
 extent will depend upon the situation elsewhere at the time.

3. Our world wide need for air R/C does not now allow reinforce-  
 ment of your area but the use of advanced bases in Liberia should  
 be of assistance.

4. No further M/S vessels are available for reinforcements in  
 the near future.  
 (D.O.D. (F) 1722B/11 to R.A. West Africa (R) B.A.D., C. in C.  
 S.A. F.O.C.N.A.)

Movement 2000Z/11. CILICIA off <sup>Tribun da Cunha.</sup> (?Ponta Delgada).  
 Summary. ALCANTARA patrolling in area K.36. ARCHER 022°  
 20' S., 001° 50' W., 328° 13. knots.  
 CANTON about 037° 30' S., 023° 00' E. to Capetown  
 15 knots. CHITRAL about 035° 30' S., 026° 40' E., to Durban  
 15 knots. MAURITIUS with W.S.19 W., 036° 15' S., 026° 30' E.  
 075° 20.5 knots. SOUTHERN GEM on patrol in False Bay.  
 GZRR BACHAQUERO from Durban E.T.A. Simonstown 1000Z/12.  
 CHESHIRE with W.S.19 Capetown portion 035° 27' S., 018° 28' E.,  
 to Durban 12.5 knots.  
 SHROPSHIRE about 037° 06' S., 021° 45' E., to R/V W.S.19  
 Capetown portion at daylight 12/6. ABDIEL 029° 30' S., 015°  
 00' E., to Pointe Noire 13 knots. <sup>See 15.287</sup>  
 (C. in C. S.A., 1737B/11 to S.A. Stn. Sqdn. (R) Admty.)

Shipping Pass to N.C.S.Os. Cancel my 1524/3, (N.T. in W.D.)  
 Routes. All British managed shipping North or South bound  
 from and to South or West African ports is to be  
 routed so as to be within 600 miles of the African  
 Coast between Capetown and latitude 10° N., This includes  
 shipping between South African ports and U.K. or North American  
 ports or West Indies. Routes are to be well spread within these  
 limits.

2. Shipping from or to South American ports south of Bahia and  
 U.K. or North American or West Indies ports is to be routed to  
 pass North and East of a position Equator, 025° W.

3. Shipping affected now at sea should be diverted in conformity.

4. M.A.R.I. Sec. IV. Para. 8 will be amended.  
 (D.T.D., 1813B/11 to F.O.I.C.s etc (R) Connv, etc) See also  
 America and West Indies, 2108/11, 2125/12.

CHILE Ref. N.C.S.I. (2960) CHILE. 7/6, 2135. 4° 17'  
 torpedoed 7/6. N., 13° 48' W. G.Bs. thrown overboard in perforated  
 metal box. 2500 fathoms. Proceeding singly, sunk  
 by 2 torpedoes, 5 missing, 2 survivors landed  
 Freetown.  
 (R.A. West Africa, 1951Z/11 to Admty).

Overdue CARMONA Panama due Buenos Aires 4/6 from Miami not  
 shipping. arrived.  
 (S.O.(I) Montevideo, 2129Z/11 to Admt ).



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FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

QUEEN MARY,  
AQUITANIA,  
QUEEN  
ELIZABETH.

On completion of W.S. 19 W., W.S. 19 Q and W.S. 19 Y. QUEEN MARY, AQUITANIA and QUEEN ELIZABETH are to be sailed independently from Suez to New York via Capetown and (subject to concurrence of Cominch) Rio de Janeiro.

2. Approx. programmes:-

|                 | QUEEN MARY | AQUITANIA | QUEEN ELIZABETH. |
|-----------------|------------|-----------|------------------|
| Leave Suez      | 25/6       | 7/7       | 16/7             |
| Arrive Capetown | 4/7        | 19/7      | 25/7             |
| Leave Capetown  | 5/7        | 20/7      | 26/7             |
| Arrive Rio      | 10/7       | 27/7      | 31/7             |
| Leave Rio       | 11/7       | 28/7      | 1/8              |
| Arrive New York | 21/7       | 8/8       | 11/8.            |

3. Cominch is requested to confirm that call at Rio de Janeiro is acceptable and that he will assume control of these ships on crossing 26° W., westbound.

4. Proposed to use all 3 vessels for movement of German prisoners of war from Middle East to North America. Detailed arrangements will be notified separately.

(A.C.N.S. (F) 0001B/11 to C. in C. Med., Cominch (R) F.O.R.S.C.A. etc). See also America & West Indies.)

CLYDE

My 1235C/10. Sailing postponed 24 hours. CLYDE will cross 009° E., about 0300C/15.  
(V.A. Malta, 0745C/11 to C. in C. Mediterranean  
(R) F.O.C.N.A. P.42 etc). *See p. 285*

TURBULENT.

T.L. congratulate TURBULENT on a most successful patrol.  
(1st S.L., 1220B/11 to TURBULENT).

FRED.

A.M. 1216/8/10 1941 and Fleet Salvage Officer's 1915/31/5. FRED salvage operation completed 9/6 moored in Port Said. Pumps being moved 12th.  
(Supt. of Salvage, E. Med., 1545C/11 to Admty,  
(R) C. in C. Med).

Greece,  
Intelligence.

Following Grade D.3.,

1. Greek Destroyer KING GEORGE believed again in commission flying German ensign.

2. Night 10/11, large number of aircraft flew low over Athens direction Crete (no details).

(S.O.(I) Istanbul, 1607C/11 to S.O.(I) Med., (R) D.N.I.)

Comment. Greek Destroyer BASILEUS GIORGIOS I has previously been reported to have been salvaged, repaired and taken over by Germans.

Enemy  
Intelligence.

Estimated dispositions of effective Italian Main Units 11/6.

(C.O.I.S. Alexandria, 1618C/11 to Med., Fleet F.O.C.N.A., S.O. Force T. (R) Admty)

(V.A. Malta, 1937C/11 to C. in C. Med., (R) Admty. etc).



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FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean - Contd.

Malta I 135 11/6. C.S.R. Malta. Part 1.  
Air Report. 10th. Alert 1612 (or 1621 corrupt) hours, 4  
Cant 1007s, 15 Me. 109s, Macchi 202 Re. 2001s.  
Luqa, no damage, 1 Re. 2001, 1 Macchi 202, 1 Me.  
109 destroyed, 1 Re. 2001 damaged by 20 Spitfires. 1 Spitfire  
shot down sea, Pilot rescued, injured. Night 10-11/6. 3 Alerts  
1914 hrs. 11 Raiders, target Luqa, no damage, 1 Br. 20 destroyed  
by Beaufighters. 2158 hours 6 raiders, bombs land sea.  
Beaufighter up, no interceptions. 0024 hours, 2 raiders bombs  
sea, Beaufighter up, no interceptions. 11/6. 2 alerts. 0638  
hours 4 Me. 109s, 1 Me. 109 destroyed by 12 Spitfires. 1007  
hours, 6 Me. 109s 16 Spitfires up. No combats.  
Night 10-11/6 4 Albacores 1 special Albacore shipping sweep 0100  
hours, 3 D/Rs, 1 large 1 small M/V, 012° Cape Bon 28 miles,  
course 170° 16 knots, unable to attack, flare failed to illuminate  
target, returned with torpedoes. Wellington 8 shipping search  
0034 hours, 3 D/Rs, 3 M/Vs, 4,000 tons, 032° Cape Bon 22 miles,  
course 030° 9 knots. Bombs from 2,000 feet, M/V believed hit  
also machine gunned. 2 Wellingtons 8s shipping Sweep Central  
Ionian Sea 1 located 2100 hours 1 large unidentified vessel,  
2 cruisers 9 D/Rs, 098° (Filfla?) 205 miles course 060° 20 knots.  
Shadowed till 2325 hours when contact lost. Second aircraft  
found nothing both returned with bombs. 7 Mark 2 Wellingtons  
target shipping Taranto 2132 to 2227 hours. Bombs and  
incendiaries including 20 screamers from 7500 feet. 1 aircraft  
returned early mechanical trouble bombs jettisoned sea.  
Effective smoke screen whole harbour and part town, numerous  
explosions and fires dockyard area 1 visible 70 miles. 2152 hours  
10000 leaflets Italiani Badate from 7500 feet 360° Taranto 10  
miles.  
(H.Q., R.A.F., Malta, 1635/11, 1640/11).

Orders to S/Ms. 1. During search by A.S.V. aircraft submarines  
on V Z lines are to be diving from 0100C to  
0200C on night D.3. D.4.  
2. British M.T.Bs. may be encountered during D.4.  
(Capt. S.1., 1851C/11 to S/Ms on patrol (R)  
C. in C. Med.; C.S.15, N.O.I.C. Palestinian Ports  
(Haifa). No. 201 Co-Operation Group).  
Para 2. cancelled. (S.1., 2331C/13).

Convoy "Booty" (M.W. IIc) Codeword "Booty". SEAHAM (S.O.) and BOSTON  
sailing 0627C/12 S. of A., 12 knots, route Z  
0840, 2 miles, N., of Mersa Matruh at 1802, P  
2045, I 0045/13, 3 miles north of E. 0431, A,  
Tobruk Boom 0859/13. M/S PARKTOWN from Mersa Matruh to join  
"Booty" at 1802/12.  
(R.A. Alexandria, 1855C/11 to S.O. Force I (R) Med., Fleet (2  
corrupt groups) Alexandria COVENTRY, SEAHAM, BOSTON, R.A.(D)  
Med., R.A.15 C.S.) *See next page*



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Mediterranean. - Contd.

Situation Report 220. Operation "Vigorous". Preliminary movements have commenced in accordance with plan "Launch".  
2. Western Desert. Convoy A.T.49 was attacked by U-boats during night 9/10 between Alex. and Matruh. R.F.A. BRAMBLELEAF, petrol tanker ATHENE, and cased petrol carrier HAVRE were torpedoed, HAVRE sank. ATHENE still afloat but abandoned and heavily on fire. BRAMBLELEAF has been towed to Alex. and is anchored outside reefs. Remaining 2 ships of convoy continued to Tobruk. U-boats are avoiding coast and have been attacked by aircraft results uncertain.  
3. Levant. Further U-boat activity. Schooner sunk by gunfire night 8/9 in 33° 35' N., 35° 15' E., Schooner traffic stopped temporarily. Escorted sailings of merchant ships continue.  
4. Malta. Minesweeping tug TRUSTY STAR mined and sunk off Grand Harbour on 10th all crew saved. ~~U.C.B.12~~ shot down one Me. 109 and damaged another on 10th while sweeping off Malta. (C. in C. Med., 2057C/11 to Admty (R) V.A.M., etc).

*Should be M.L. 126 - See 10/6 - pp 24, 25*

Malta Mines. Your 2332/10 to C. in C. Med.  
On a previous convoy occasion a narrow channel was buoyed and thoroughly blasted with depth charges prior to convoys arrival.  
2. Although, theoretically, these mines may be designed to withstand such treatment, request you will consider similar action for present convoy.  
(A.C.N.S. (F), 2105B/11 to V.A. Malta, (R) C. in C. Med., S.O. Force T., F.O.C.N.A.)

COVENTRY, Convoy "Booty". (M.W.H.C) Your force was probably sighted by enemy aircraft at 1925C/11.  
(Capt. O.S. Alexandria, 2208C/11 to COVENTRY).

*See previous page*

U/B German U-boat reported in 031° 50' N., 026° 50' E. approx. at 2130C/11 possibly moving S.E.  
(C.O.I.S. Alexandria, 2258C/11 to Admty N.O.I.C. Torbuk and Mersa Matruh etc).



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Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies.

Zigzagging. For N.C.S.O.'s. (1) Merchant ships proceeding independently at 10 knots or over in daylight or moonlight are to zigzag in following areas (a) area bounded by a line from Kenya Coast along the equator to 067° E. thence 020° S. 067° E. thence 030° S. (? 067°) E. thence along 030° S. to African coast. (b) area bounded by a line from Arabic Coast along 020° N. to 067° E. thence 015° S. 067° E. thence eastward along 015° S. (2) Ships do not zigzag in Persian Gulf west of 057° E. (3) Cancel my 1057/5. (710C).  
(C.in C.E.I., 0241Z/11, to E.I. Stn. 720C).

Cocos. I endorse most strongly the view set out in  
C.S.W.S. C.in C. Ceylon's 0527/27/5 and 0553/5/6. It is  
*Ceylon Shore W/T Station* of utmost importance that this D/F Station  
should continue in full and effective operation.  
(11) Since matter is immediate I recommend that C.in C. Ceylon  
be granted special power of compulsion but it would be most  
inequitable if men selected suffer financially. Work at this  
station should preferably receive a bonus.  
(C.in C. E.F., 0416Z/11, to Admty (R) C.in C. Ceylon etc.).

W.S. 19. Your 0959/9. 1. To simplify arrangements of  
W.S. 19 W. R/V for escorts request you will issue route  
for W.S. 19 W from position K onwards and a  
new route for W.S. 19. 2. Request you will  
also issue orders to CHITRAL. 3. Further signals will be made  
in reply to your 1325/10.  
(C.in C.E.I., 0457Z/11, to D.C.in C. E.F., (R) C.in C.S.A.  
C.in C.E.F., Admty).  
Your 1715B/9. Escort for W.S. 19 from Durban EMERALD and  
(?CHITRAL). In view of A.M. 1801/10 and your 1801B/10 request  
SHROPSHIRE may remain with W.S. 19 until relieved by MAURITIUS  
to southward Madagascar after fuelling Grand Port, Mauritius.  
Intend DEVONSHIRE shall relieve MAURITIUS from W.S. 19 (?W) at  
about position J.  
(D.C.in C. E.F., 1405Z/11, to C.in C.S.A., (R) C.in C. E.F.,  
C.in C. E.I., Admty). *See p. 295*

14 M/S. Intend to sail 14th (?M/S) Group for Kilindini  
Group. and retain them until arrival of further A/S  
reinforcements. 2. Intend to retain \*GENISTA,  
\*THYME.  
(D.C.in C. E.F., 0949Z/11 to C.in C. E.F., (R)  
Admty etc.). *\* at Diego Suarez.*

Shipping Your 1325Z/10 to C.in C. E.I., concur in general.  
Routeing. 2. ~~(C.in C. E.I., 1035Z/11, to D.C.in C.E.F., (R) C.in C. E.I. etc.)~~  
Dep. C. in C. E.F. ~~(C.in C. E.I., 1035Z/11, to D.C.in C.E.F., (R) C.in C. E.I. etc.)~~ is requested to  
assume control and take over routeing of shipping  
forthwith on East African coast between  
latitude of Durban and equator.  
(C. in C. E.F., 1035Z/11, to D.C.in C.E.F., (R)  
C. in C. E.I. etc.).

/Shipping ...



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- Shipping use of Diego Suarez. My 1035Z/11/5. (Re congestion of merchant vessels at Durban and Capetown suggested Diego Suarez be used as holding port for southbound vessels). Request you will reply to A.M. 2352B/3/6.  
(C.in C. E.F., 1051Z/11, to D.C. in C. E.F., (R) C. in C. E.I., C.in C. S.A., Admty).
- Persian Gulf. My ?01618 (41) para 12. S.N.O.P.G. has represented that an examination service for the whole of the Persian Gulf should be established at Khassab Bay to be operated by an armed examination steamer. I concur and intend using TOSARI for this purpose. (C.in C. E.I., 1146Z/11, to Admty etc.).
- B.P. 46. B.P. 46 NEVASA with troops and stores for Basra sailed escorted by HINDUSTAN to position N., thence independently routed. N. 021° 15' 069° 30'. O. 023° 40', 063° 45' thence P.G.W. S.of A. 11 knots, E.T.A. Rooka 1900Z/17.  
(N.C.S.O. Bombay, 1201Z/11, to Admty).
- TRUSTY. My 1203/10. After dark on 12th, proceed by route ordered in C S P 6. Bombing restrictions in force within 20 miles either side of route as follows position E to F 1200Z/14 to 1800Z/16 position F to G 0001Z/16 to 1000Z/18, position G to Colombo 0300Z/17 to 1200Z/19. Do not break W/T silence unless these restrictions do not cover you.  
(S.O.(S) Colombo, 1233Z/11, to TRUSTY (R) C. in C. E.F., C.in C. E.I.).
- DANAE, (X Convoy escort) K.M. (E.I. War Diary 6/42) Diego Suarez departure 1200Z/11. /DANAE, KEREN, KARANJA, WINCHESTER CASTLE in accordance with 1452Z/10 from D.C.in C.,E.F. (not to Admty C.in C. S.A., C.in C. E.F.).  
(N.O.I.C., Diego Suarez, 1301Z/11, to Admty., C. in C. E.F., C.in C. E.I., C.in C. S.A., V.A.3., etc.).
- C. M. 28. C.M. 28, 1145Z/11. Sailing telegram. Escorts RESOLUTION, CORFU.  
(N.C.S.O. Kilindini, 1311Z/11, to Admty). *See next page*
- Ships attacked by U/Bs. Arr. 11th TWICKENHAM with 48 survivors of U.S. MELVIN H. BAKER. Arr. 11th BENGLOE with bunkers on fire. Arr. 11th OCEAN VIGIL attacked by submarine, called to replenish ammunition.  
(N.C.S.O. Kilindini, 1329Z/11, to S.O.I. Colombo (R) Admty).

/CAPETOWN ...



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Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies. Contd.

CAPETOWN. Your 1924/28/5, para 2. It is appreciated that CAPETOWN is low in this list because of her recent refit. 2. It is however believed that she has still many key ratings and pensioners who have been in this ship since 1939. 3. Unless you can transfer such ratings to an earlier home-coming cruiser it is requested that you will consider her return to U.K. before CERES and DAUNTLESS. (A.C.N.S.(F) 1603B/11, to C.in C. E.F.).

ENTERPRISE. My 1248/9. Completion of fitting rotors for main circulator is likely to delay ship until 24/6. (C.in C.E.F., 1641/11, to D.C.in C. E.F., (R) C.S.4, ENTERPRISE, etc.).

KOTA  
TJANDI  
U/B. Following received:- SSSS KOTA TJANDI 14.40 S. 40.38 E. submarine attacking at 15.20 de ZTV (?ZSV (Walvis W/T Station)) T.O.R., 1747/11/6. (Slangkop W/T, 1756/11).

HELLENIC  
TRADER  
U/B. Following received SSSS 14.38 S. 40.56 E. A.S.T. chased HELLENIC TRADER de ZSQ (Algoa Bay W/T Stn) 1520 G.M.T. T.O.R. 1545 G.M.T./11. (Slangkop W/T, 1809/11).

Movements. Departures 11/6. <sup>/K. Indri.</sup> RESOLUTION, \*DRAGON, CORFU, GUARDIAN. Arrival 11/6. CALEDON. (F.O.I.C., E.A., 1826Z/11, to Admty). *See previous page \* See p. 288.*

DEVONSHIRE  
MAURITIUS.  
W.S. 19 W. After fuelling at Diego Suarez proceed to R/V with W S 19 W escorted by MAURITIUS in 021° 00' S. 051° 50' E. at 0630Z/15th M L A 010° speed 20½ knots. 2. After R/V MAURITIUS proceed to Grand Port, Mauritius, to fuel. 3. Convoy to proceed through. K. 015° S. 053° E. L. 009° S. 052° 50' E. M. 006° 45' S. 051° 20' E. N. 010° 43' N. 052° 10' E. O. 012° 30' N. 051° 27' E. thence Suez. 4. On reaching latitude of 005° N. DEVONSHIRE return to Kilindini. 5. MAURITIUS pass to W S 19 W. DEVONSHIRE acknowledge. (D.C. in C. E.F., 2044Z/11, to DEVONSHIRE (R) MAURITIUS). *See p. 293*

Cocos  
Island  
mutiny. Report of F.G.C.M. held at Cocos. Proceedings of trial still under consideration before confirmation of sentences. (O.C. Troops, Ceylon, 2140/11, to W.O.).



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Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies.

QUEEN MARY,  
QUEEN  
ELIZABETH,  
AQUITANIA.      Approx. programme on completion of W.S.19  
Convoys.  
(A.C.N.S.(F) 0001B/11 to C. in C. Med., Cominch)  
See Mediterranean.  
Your 0001B/11 para 3. Confirm port of call and  
control of ship. Assume Admty. will arrange  
fuelling requirements.  
(Connav 1715/11 to Admty.)

→ PRIMROSE,  
BITTERSWEET.      My 2110Z/9. PRIMROSE sailed St. Johns, N.F.  
to join Task Unit 24.1.11. BITTERSWEET will  
sail dawn 12/6.  
(C.C.N.F. 0020Z/11 to C.T.U. 24.1.11 (R)  
Cominch etc.) *See next page.*

↳ Movements.      St. Johns N.F. 10/6. Departures PRIMROSE to  
re-inforce O.N.5100, U.S.S. BISCAYNE to Greenland.  
(F.O.N.F. 0037Z/11 to Admty.)

U/B.      Shore Watcher reports submarine at 2230Z/10 in  
047° 30' N. 056° 40' W. proceeding westerly.  
(C.O.A.C. 0150Z/11 to Admty.)

U/B.      Localities 50.00 N. 39.30 W. at 1830Z/10 and  
51.30 N. 33.30 W. at 2145Z/10, D/G Bearing  
indicates enemy S/M.  
(C. in C. U.S. Fleet 0225/11 to C.T.U. 24.1.16,  
C.T.U. 24.1.11, C.T.U. 24.1.4, N.S.H.Q.,  
C.O.A.C., F.O.N.F. Admty., C.T.F.24.)

KRONPRINSEN      After consulting with Capt. consider KRONPRINSEN  
(torpedoed      should be anchored in (?078°) 35' 065° 54' as  
9/6.)      nearest (suitable)? anchorage to discharge fuel,  
deck cargo 304 Army cars, and carbide in number  
6 hold. Danger of water getting at carbide thus  
setting whole ship on fire and ship must lighten  
as soon as possible. Ship could then be brought  
to port to discharge inboard cargo. Present  
draught 42 feet forward. Towing suspended for  
night (? close to) position 0100Z/11 43° 12'  
66° 48'. With 3 tugs approx. speed will be 3  
to 4 knots.  
(C.T.U. 24.18.3, 0310Z/11 to C.O.A.C. (R) N.S.H.Q.  
C.T.F.24, Connav, C.E.S.F., Com. 1.)

U/B      S/M contact in 045° 04' N., 061° 00' W., am  
Contact.      remaining in area to search.  
(LA MALBAIE 0310Z/11 to C.O.A.C. as amended  
0506Z/11.)

/Enemy ...



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11.6.1942  
Thursday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies - contd.

Enemy Intelligence. Bulletin 88. S/M Sqdn. 2 to operate in Northern area with S/M Sqdn. 1. Located by D/F Commander Submarines Force 010° N. 178° E. at 1300Z. C. in C. Combined Fleet at 1100Z, 037° N. 144° E. Formations of Fortresses have been attacked by zero fighters which dropped grenades. These exploded with a vivid purplish blue explosion and left white smoke streamers. 1st Class D/F cut on S/M Sqdn. 1 several at 2250Z/10 is 050° N. 176° W. ZUIKAKU indicated (?destroyers) in company with Jap. Seaplane Carrier CHITOSE. Area within a radius of Truk from Saipan Jap. Seaplane Carrier NOTORO. (C. in C. Pacific Fleet 0415Z/11 to N.S.H.Q., C. in C. E.F.)

O.N.\$100 O.N.\$100., F.O.N.F.'s 2110Z/9 Cominch's 1628Z/10. your 2244Z/10. In order to effect R/V with CHAMBLY and ORILLIA inform all information addressees your present estimate of P.C. and S. for 1200Z/11. (Connav 0440/11 to C.T.U. 24.1.11 (R) C.T.F.24, C.O.A.C., N.S.H.Q., Admty., \*PRIMROSE, \*BITTERSWEET, CHAMBLY, ORILLIA.) *\* See previous page.*

CHAMBLY and ORILLIA sailed St. John's 2110Z/9 to join T.U. 24.1.11 about noon today vide my 1110Z/9. PRIMROSE sailed 0020Z/11 to join after dawn 12th. These ships should be included in address of your signals. (F.O.N.F. 1223Z/11 to C.T. 24.1.11.)

U-Boat estimated in your vicinity by D/F has made sighting report of a convoy or important unit at 1042Z. (Cominch 1505/11 to C.T.U. 24.1.11 (R) C.T.U. 24.1.4, C.T.F. 24, C.T.U. 24.1.16, U.S.C.G. SEACLOUD, N.S.H.Q., C.O.A.C. Admty.)

Enemy radio activities continue in your vicinity. (C. in C. U.S. Fleet 1940/11 to C.T.U. 24.1.11 (R) C.T.U. 24.1.15, C.T.U. 24.1.4, C.T.U. 24.1.16, N.S.H.Q., C.O.A.C., Admty., C.T.F. 24., U.S.C.G. SEACLOUD.)

O.N.\$100 will be in 049° 56' N. 042° 25' W. at 0130Z/12 course 230° speed 7 knots. Stragglers TOREJARL, HOPESTAR, HOBEBEMA, EMPIRE MOUFLON, overtook PONTYPRIDD ex straggler torpedoed 1310Z/11, 45 survivors. CHAMBLY and ORILLIA met. DIANTHUS rejoined after carrying out 2 attacks. (?Weather report) (C.T.U. 24.1.11, 2303B/11 to Connav (R) C.T.F.24, Admty., C. in C. W.A., N.S.H.Q., F.O.N.F., C.O.A.C., C.T.G. 24.7, PRIMROSE, BITTERSWEET.)

HERMIS. HERMIS, Panamanian, torpedoed 1515 G.M.T./6 (torpedoed 023° 08' N. 084° 42' W. abandoned. 47 crew 6/6) 4 Gun crew here, only casualty (1) coal passer. (S.O.I. Kingston 0844R/11 to Admty., C. in C. A.W.I., N.S.H.Q., B.A.D. Connav.) *See #2997301*

/Movement ...



War Diary.

11.6.1942  
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies - contd.

Movement  
Summary.

1800 G.M.T.  
Ship Position Course Speed  
PARTHIAN 34° N. 48° W. 085° 11  
BUXTON 45° N. 49° W. 294° 14  
Convoy C.T.17 44° N. 58° W. 273° 13  
(D.O.D.(F) 0854Z/11 to Opanav (R) Comnavu.)

U/B.

U-Boat estimated in your vicinity by D/F has made sighting report of a convoy or important unit at 0742Z/11.  
(Cominch 1033/11 to C.T.U.24.1.4, C.T.U.24.1.11, C.T.U. 24.1.16, (R) C.T.F.24, Admty., N.S.H.Q., C.O.A.C.)

→ PENNYWORT.

Modifying previous notices, PENNYWORT under tow and escorted by SPRY departed Argentina 1000Z/11, E.T.A. Halifax 1300Z/14.  
(C.T.F. 24 1059/11 to C.O.A.C., F.O.N.F.)

Diversion  
of U.S.  
Ships.

Instance of diverting OHIO (U.S.) by both Cominch and Admiralty shows desirability of arriving at early ruling regarding cases where U.S. and other Allied Flag Ships are British managed and vice versa. Cominch 1505/10, not to Admty. and Admty. 1625/10 refer.  
(N.S.H.Q. 1507Z/11 to Admty., B.A.D.)

Convoy  
Escorts,  
policy.

Concur generally with your 1610Z/9. Ref. para B number of escorts released will be only 8 due to recent loss of MIMOSA and to allocation of one additional corvette for escort of shipping to Hamilton Inlet (Labrador) and other air bases further North.  
(2) 2 corvettes have already been allocated from F.O.N.F.'s force to this task. The additional corvette is essential in order to take full advantage of summer months to transport men and material to these important air bases.  
(N.S.H.Q. 1519Z/11 to C. in C. U.S. Fleet (R) Admty. etc.)

→ HOWARD,  
→ BUXTON,  
→ PENNYWORT.

(? Section) East.  
2 Merchant ships U.S. Destroyer HOWARD 043° 50' 056° 05' 020° 15. BUXTON 045° 20' 049° 30' to U.S. N.O. Base Argentina 14. PENNYWORT in tow tug FRISKY, U.S.S.124, SPRY 046° 40' 055° 00' 250° 6, alter in 058° W. to 245°.  
(C.O.A.C. 1535Z/11 to N. Atlantic Escort Force.)

/M.A.C.R.I. ...



CONFIDENTIAL.

MESSAGE

1318P/11th June.

298 A.

IN

From. C. in C. America and West Indies.

Date. 16.6.42.

Time. 1850.

Naval Code X. by W/T & T/P.

Addressed. S.O.I. Jamaica B.A.D.

Following is a repetition of my 0138/9 begins. It is apparent that messages from S.O.I. Jamaica giving Merchant Shipping intelligence to H.M. Ships under U.S. Operational control are usually valueless owing to time lag consequent on the necessity of routeing through Washington. Until some means is evolved of communicating direct to such ships from (CND/P) Jamaica, these messages should be discontinued. B.A.D. is requested to confirm that this information is or will be passed by U.S. Authorities from the shipping plot in Washington.

1318P/11.

V.C.N.S.  
A.C.N.S. (H)  
A.C.N.S. (F)  
A.C.N.S. (T)  
N. 1st S.L.  
D.T.D. (4)  
D.T.D. (M)  
D.T.D. (C)  
D.N.I. (5)

As received.

D.S.D. (2) Adml Bellairs.  
M. (2) Adml Blake,  
O.D. (5) D. of P. (3)  
O.I.C. (3) I.P. (3)  
Ops. (3) W.D.  
File (TOO 0138/9)



11.6.1942  
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War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies - contd.

M.A.C.R.I. Present arrangement of having M.A.C.R.I. for  
M.A.R.I. routeing of vessels in U.S. Frontier waters and  
M.A.R.I. for ocean voyages is considered best  
arrangement. Enough routeing officers have  
both publications to prevent confusions. A vessel proceeds from  
Colon to U.K. via M.A.C.R.I. until clear of Caribbean frontier  
or Gulf frontier thence in accordance with M.A.R.I. Any  
extended duplication can be avoided and is considered unnecessary  
M.A.C.R.I. can be extended to cover Canadian waters if  
considered desirable. Consider no more need for extended  
dissemination of local U.S. coastal routeing in U.K. than there  
is for local U.K. coastal routeing in United States.  
(C. in C. U.S. Fleet C. & R. 1540Z/11 to Admty. (R) N.S.H.Q.,  
C. in C. A.W.I.)

Minimum Request consideration to revision of your  
Speed for 1339/1/12/41 in order to permit numbers of  
Atlantic passengers to exceed 12 in ships below 12 knots  
Passenger sailing in convoy.  
Ships. 2. Ministry has accumulation in Canada and U.S.  
of over 600 merchant seamen due for repatriation.  
3. Also over 100 Chinese merchant seamen at Halifax awaiting  
passage.  
4. SOURABAYA, SOUTHERN PRINCESS, SOUTHERN EMPRESS and SUDEROY  
all with substantial accommodation will be ready to sail in  
near future.  
(N.S.H.Q. 1541Z/11 to Admty. (R) C.O.A.C.) *Reply: Admty (235/21).*

Overdue Colon, ARDENVOHR (Br) SURREY (Br) BETHORE (U.S.A)  
Ships. Balboa, CITY OF ATHENS (Br). Aruba, G.HARRISON  
SMITH (U.S.A), F.H. BEDORD JR. (Pan). B.A.D.  
pass to Connav.  
(S.O.I. Jamaica 1542R/11 to Admty., C. in C.  
A.W.I. N.S.H.Q., B.A.D., Connav.)

S/Ms for Opnav's 1849/10. Request confirmation that  
A/S Trng. O.15 and L.77 will remain available for A/S  
training at Halifax and in Newfoundland  
respectively. 2. The need for adequate A/S  
training facilities at Halifax is particularly important due  
A. To increased A/S forces operating under the command of  
C.O.A.C. B. To large number of British and Canadian new  
construction A/S vessels which will be working up at Halifax.  
C. To very large expansion of A/S personnel of R.C.N. who  
are trained at Halifax.  
3. In view of above urgently request at least two submarines  
may be continuously allotted to C.O.A.C. and if possible a  
third to allow for refits and repairs. If it is intended to  
base O.15 in U.K. it is requested that she remain in Halifax  
until a relief is available.  
(N.S.H.Q. 1701Z/11 to Admty. (R) F.O.N.F., Opnav, B.A.D. etc.)

HERMIS U.S.A.T. TOLOA landed today 51 survivors ex  
(torpedoed Panamanian HERMIS torpedoed 0140 G.M.T./6  
6/6) *See Hq. 2977*  
*301* approx. 023° N. 085° W. B.A.D. pass to Connav.  
(S.O.I. Jamaica 1721R/11 to Admty. etc.)

/U/Bs ...



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U/Bs. Panair Pilot at 11000 feet sighted 1645 G.M.T./11  
014° 50' N. 075° 15' W. 3 submarines completely  
surfaced course 160° 15 knots Dark Grey,  
estimated under 3000 tons.  
(S.O.I. Jamaica 1721R/11 to Admty., C. in C.  
A.W.I., B.A.D. Connav.)

NEW JERSEY. Have you any news of NEW JERSEY (U.S) due  
Aruba 30/5 from K.S. 502?  
(D.T.D. 1748B/11 to N.C.S.O. Aruba (R) S.O.I.  
Jamaica.)  
Reply. 1242/12.

U/B 11/6 Submarine estimate.  
Positions. (C. in C. U.S. Fleet, 1752/11 to Admty.)

COAST TRADER Following received from Com 13th N.D. Seattle  
(? internal (begins) Information given on sinking of  
explosion.) COAST TRADER was relayed by telephone conver-  
sation from Neah Bay based on early and  
hurried interview of survivors. Later through  
investigation reveals no one actually saw submarine or torpedo  
and nature of explosion indicates an internal explosion.  
Possibility of floating mine slight. 2359/10 (ends).  
(C.O.P.C. 1839/11 to N.S.H.Q.)

Shipping Your 1512/6. Difficulty of knowing with  
Diversions. accuracy position of independently-routed  
ships is one which we are always trying to  
overcome. One principle cause of discrepancy  
is Masters not adhering to S. of A. declared to N.C.S.O.  
BERGANGER is probably case in point. She was 16 knot ship  
but Master declared only 13 knots, and probably made good  
allowing for zigzag 14 or 14½ knots.  
2. No objection to ships fitted with H/F transmitters breaking  
W/T silence to report on crossing a certain latitude or  
longitude, but we are not in favour of ships with M/F trans-  
mitters only doing this.  
3. There are also objections to giving Masters a definite date  
and time at which to pass through a given position as experience  
has shown they are apt to hang about in the vicinity of this  
position if ahead of time.  
4. Intended, therefore, to reintroduce M.A.R.I. Sec. IV para 12,  
pending further examination of whole question.  
(A.C.N.S.(T) 1841B/11 to N.S.H.Q. (R) C. in C. A.W.I.)

/COLUMBINE ...



301

War Diary.11.6.1942  
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies - contd.

COLUMBINE. This is N.O.B. Bermuda's 1435/11 addressed COLUMBINE C.T.G. No. 26.3, C.T.24, C. in C. U.S. Atlantic Fleet, BUTTERCUP (R) HAVELOCK Admty. C. in C. W.A. Comtask 24 1745/4, when in all respects ready for sea permission granted proceed about 1600P/11 accordance with my 1645/10 if practicable desirable you pass through and search area vicinity 029° 50' N. 064° 45' W. where ANNISTON CITY reported (Word omitted by Originator ?torpedoed) by submarine 2339Z/8. Report of contact and survivors requested passed by C. in C. U.S. Fleet to HAVELOCK Admty., C. in C. W.A. (C. in C. U.S. Fleet 1932/11 to Admty. etc.)

CORNISH CITY Following intercepted from CORNISH CITY. U/B. Sighted S/M in 14.24 N. 77.17 W. at 2200 G.M.T./11. B.A.D. pass to Cominch and Opnav. (Bermuda 1937P/11 to Admty.)

Sub attack and sighting summary. MAGAN torpedoed 22° N. 77° 30' W. 0111Z/11. Unknown ship attacked 10° 20' N. 80° 10' W. 0250Z/11. F.W. ABRANAMS attacked 35° 01' N. 75° 45' W. 1045Z/11 still afloat. CRIJNSSEN torpedoed near 17° 28' N. 84° 18' W. 1240Z/11. NIDARNES torpedoed and sunk 21° 22' N. 85° 02' W. 0119Z/4. ALLISTER torpedoed and presumed sunk 18° 23' N. 80° 49' W. 29/5. Sub sighted on surface 22° 40' N. 78° 25' W. 1030Z/11. Planes sight sub under surface 38° 37' N. 74° 42' W. about 1545Z/11. Plane attacks moving oil slick 34° 05' N. 75° 50' W. about 1216Z/10. Subs reported 11° 56' N. 80° 52' W. 2320Z/10. 17° 20' N. 69° 36' W. 2055Z/9. Sub sighted 18° 09' N. 17° 31' W. 1610Z/10. (C. in C. U.S. Fleet 2019Z/11 to Admty. for O.I.C.)

Ships torpedoed. Connav Serial 11. ALLISTER torpedoed sunk 29/5 18.23 N. 80.49 W. 8 Survivors all others believed lost. HERMIS, Pan., torpedoed sunk 6/6 24.36 N. 83.32 W. position given being questioned. MERRIMAC\*U.S.A. T. Torpedoed 10/6 19.45 N. 85.55 W. COAST TRADER now believed Internal Explosion. F.W. ABRANAMS sent SSS followed by request for towage 11/6 35.01 N. 75.45 W. HAGAN, American Tanker, torpedoed 11/6 22.00 N. 77.30 W. (Connav 2028/11 to Comnav (R) N.S.H.Q.)

Oil for Portuguese fishing. Admty. 1952/1. Oil Controller has agreed to apply essential oil to ARGUS and CREOULA but drums very difficult to supply and amount lubricating oil as well as gas oil appears excessive. Oil controller's representative is being asked to decide amount of oil necessary which will be supplied. (N.S.H.Q. 2036Z/11 to C.O.A.C. (R) Admty., N.O.I.C. Sydney.)

/Shipping ...



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Thursday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies - contd.

- Shipping Routes. My 1813/11 (see South Atlantic) This routing is considered to be desirable in view of the attacks on SS GEORGE CLYMER, ALIOTH and CHILE which may have been carried out by a raider. Request you will say if you wish U.S.A. managed ships to be routed in conformity, in which case it is proposed to amend M.A.R.I. as necessary, (D.T.D. 2108B/11 to Connav (R) B.A.D.) Concur. Connav 2125/12.
- Liaison with U.S.N. Coral Sea Battle. Ref. 0933Z/9 from C. in C. E.F. I discussed this question with Adm. King today who said that he had held up the C. in C. questionnaire owing to Nimitz preoccupation at moment. Message has now been forwarded to Nimitz and the reply in which Navy Dept. were equally interested, would be communicated to C. in C. E.F. (B.A.D. 2121Z/11 to C. in C. E.F. Admty. (R) C. in C. E.I.)
- Ships Bldg. in Canada Ref. A.M. 1749/10. Request I may be informed of the duties and work involved (A) at present (B) anticipated. (B.A.R.M. 2132Z/11 to B.A.T.M., N.S.H.Q. (R) C. in C. A.W.I. Admty.)
- Washops 89. Aleutian Islands. Japanese force consisting of one damaged heavy cruiser, one destroyer and 2 Chidori class torpedo boats sighted by air patrol off Kiska, Rat Islands. May be sheltering owing to stormy weather which is expected to last until 14/6. No transport sighted but considered probably that occupations have been or will be attempted in Western Aleutians. R/C seriously hampered by weather conditions. Recent reliable report estimates 2 carriers (one of which is Jap aircraft carrier RYUJO) and one auxiliary carrier in this area. (J.S.M. Washington 2155Z/11 to Admty. etc.)
- Auxiliary Carrier Aircraft. Lorsa 2988. Your 2207/5/12/42 (as received) and 1636/18/5. Do you require any of the A.V.Gs to be outfitted with American torpedo tools and stores, as order for this equipment needs to be placed now if required. (B.A.D. 2231Z/11 to Admty.)
- NORSEMAN, Trinidad. Your 1012/9 approved. (D.A/S.W. 2302B/11 to F.O.I.C. Trinidad.)
- U/B attacked Aircraft attacked submarine 046° 15' N. 049° 50' W. at 1815Z/11. (C.O.A.C. 2305Z/11 to Admty.)

/M.A.R.I. ...



War Diary.

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Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies - contd.

M.A.R.I.

Pass to F.Os i/c and N.C.S.Os Amendment No. 25 to M.A.R.I. Sec. IV, para 12, cancel the words "N.B. The above instructions are temporarily suspended". 2. Masters of ships concerned are henceforth to be instructed to carry out these instructions. (D.T.D. 2308B/11 to C. in C. A.W.I., N.S.H.Q. C.O.A.C., F.O.C.N.A., C. in C. S.A., R.A. W.A. A.C.I.C., S.O.(I) Jamaica, (R) Connav, B.A.D.)

Shipping  
Signals,  
U.S.A.

A.M. 1855/9. Navy Dept. state that situation from East Indies and Mediterranean now is generally satisfactory, except for instances given below. U.S. Naval Observers have discontinued passing shipping movements reports with the exception of Colombo and Basra, who have been ordered to discontinue such reports except in the case of U.S. or U.S. controlled shipping, which reports will also be ordered to cease at a later date. 2. Vesca messages from Aden, Cochin, Jenner, Madras, Massawa, Port Sudan and Suez are still being sent to Opnav instead of Connav. 3. Karachi is also sending route signals to Connav which are not required. 4. Navy Dept. have asked for a copy of any standing instructions to routing Officers and temporary orders in force referring to these areas. (B.A.D. 2315Z/11 to C. in C. E.I., C. in C. Med., (R) Admty. N.S.H.Q.)

MILENA  
intercepted.

Your 1345Z/10th. Intercepted Portuguese 4 masted schooner MILENA of Aveiro in 053° 59' N. 038° 51' W. steering 315° bound Greenland. Unable to board owing to weather. Only deck cargo 56 fishing dories. About 750 men on deck. Vessel appeared innocent and allowed to proceed. Weather report. (C.T.U. 24.1.16 2345Z/11 to C.T.F. 24 (R) ? F.O.N.F., C.O.A.C., C.T.U. 24.1.15.)



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Fleet  
Intelligence.C. in C. Pacific Fleet, 0415Z/11 to N.S.H.Q.,  
C. in C. E.F., see America and West Indies.

## THEMISTOCLES

Intend embarking approx. 300 released internees  
in THEMISTOCLES from Sydney to U.K. via the Cape  
about 30/6. Improbable vessel can maintain 12  
knots. Your 1339A/1/12 1941 refers.  
(A.C.N.B., 1254Z/11 to Admty (R) C.in C. S.A.  
N.O.I.C. Simonstown).Pago Pago  
Navigation.Q.M.A. 51. Amend Q.M.A. 42. Naval vessels  
entering Pago Pago harbour, Tutuila, without pilot  
should proceed from A, position 14° 21' S. 170°  
41' 30" W. on a course 26° through Swept Channel  
to harbour entrance.  
(S.O.I. Wellington, 1336M/11, to Q.M.A. Adelaide  
(R) Admty).

Movements.

U.S. Destroyer MUGFORD arrived Sydney (N.S.W.)  
2206Z/10th.  
(A.C.N.B., 1447Z/11, to Admty etc.).

Situation.

Serial 140 from C.W.R. 10/6. Reports 10/6  
indicate at least 1 enemy S/M operating off  
Newcastle, 1 off Lakes Entrance, Victoria, and  
probably 1 off Cape Moreton, Queensland. (2) Enemy shipping  
reported active at Faisi (Shortlands) but no enemy activity  
Choiseul Island. (3) 5 Fortresses attacked Vunakanau 2040Z/9.  
Bombs on buildings and parked aircraft. 7 Zero intercepted.  
30 fighters 5 bombers observed on aerodrome. Approx. 26 vessels  
observed Rabaul Harbour including 6 large 12 medium sized  
vessels, 1 very large 2-funnel merchant liner. (4) 50-ton  
Schooner sunk by air attack on Salamoia 9/6. (5) One 4000 ton  
cargo vessel and 2 small destroyers sighted Amboina 10/6.  
(6) Ref. my number 139 9/6 for enemy losses 2 fighters destroyed  
read 8 fighters destroyed. B.A.D. Washington pass to Opnav.  
(A.C.N.B., 1516Z/11, to Admty etc.).

New Hebrides.

Defence, and occupation by U.S. Forces. (High  
Commr., 1700/11 to S.of S. for Colonies).  
See Lion Copy.Raider  
description.Your 2128B/19/5, photograph DORTMUND held here  
differs as follows from silhouette in Talbot  
Booth, Foremast is aft of well deck.  
(A.C.N.B., 2108Z/11, to Admty).



**MOST SECRET**~~MESSAGE~~ 1700/11th June

IN

MOST SECRET

From High Commissioner  
(Sir H. Luke) (Western Pacific)Date 11.6.42  
Recd. 1450CYPHER

Addressed: Secretary of State for the Colonies.

No. 236 MOST SECRET

My Most Secret telegram No. 1514.

Following telegram has been received from Blandy.  
Begins.

No. 145.

Defence of New Hebrides.

Estate now occupied by United States forces amounting to approximately 9,000 including Army, Navy, Marines, Air Service, equipped with a considerable quantity of heavy material including a number of guns of all types from 6" coastal downwards and 700 vehicles and is rapidly being transformed into a strongly defended base. Whole commanded by Brigadier General Chamberlain.

2. One airfield has almost been completed and a few fighters (Grumman) have arrived, with more expected. Increase in airfield accommodation is planned up to big bomber capacity. A number of small amphibian reconnaissance craft are operating and heavy flying boats expected. Latest type of long range radiolocation apparatus installed.

3. Santo has now been occupied by 500 of the United States Army, lightly equipped, under General Rose, and a number of permanent watch teleralink listening posts manned by United States in Northern Island including some of our coast watching stations. Reinforcements from overseas expected.

4. Australian Imperial Forces and Royal Australian Air Force have departed and operation for command of local forces has devolved on G.O.C. United States Forces, who have taken over a number of houses and buildings including the President's house, Headquarters of New Hebrides Defence Force, for General Staff.

5. Local forces are being taken in hand and fitted into local military plan apparently satisfactorily. Role of Volunteer Defence Corps is now primarily

(1) passive defence in air raids

(2) concentration of native and Tongkingnese labour in camps in the rear and evacuation of non-native civilians to previously mentioned bush camps in case of invasion.

6. Role of the New Hebrides Defence Force embraces that of a pioneer unit working in collaboration with United States engineers under American Command of the whole. At the particular request of G.O.C., I have agreed to expansion by another 100 natives, for whom training will

/be....



2.

be excellent education, as it will include anti-malarial as well as other engineering. Funds and other extra equipment and instruction to be supplied by United States Command. G.O.C. considers that the unit can be most useful to provide officers and N.C.O.s who can handle local labour employed on defence works and also act as local guides and liaison officers throughout the group.

7. Secondary role of the New Hebrides Defence Force is the clearing of all natives on Efate to the rear into special camps in case of imminent invasion with dual object of protecting natives and of preventing Fifth Columnism and disguised infiltration as in Malaya and Burma. Guerilla fighting idea has been dropped.

8. Blackwell is working whole time on defence liaison and has proved most valuable and time saving to the Americans and the Administration in countless ways including organization of large labour force required for urgent defence works and of local forces. Ends.

1700/11

Received from Col. Office PM/13th.

Col. Office Circulation:-

|                              |                    |
|------------------------------|--------------------|
| Dominions Office:            | Mr. Holmes.        |
| War Cabinet Offices:         | Brigadier Hollis.  |
|                              | Lt. Col. Stirling. |
|                              | Lt. Col. Spurling. |
| M.O. 2:                      | Mr. S. Gilmour.    |
| Admiralty (Military Branch): | A.S.P. 3.          |
| Air Ministry:                | Mr. F.E. Evans.    |
| Foreign Office:              |                    |

NMB

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)  
A.C.N.S. (T)  
A.C.N.S. (W)  
Sec.  
Nav. Sec.  
N.A. 1st S.L.  
D.O.D. (F) (2)  
D.D.I.C. (2)  
D.N.I. (5)  
D. of L.D.  
N.A. to A.C.N.S. (T)  
Hd. of H.  
D.T.S.D.  
E.P.S.  
D.N.A.D.  
D. of P. (2)  
U.S.N. (3)

\* 1625/17/4  
re defence of New Hebrides.

W.D.  
Ad. Bellairs  
Hd. of Air  
I.P. (2)  
D.C. (2)  
Ad. Blake



War Diary.

11.6.1942.  
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Submarines Reported.

Estimated U/B positions.  
(D.D.I.C., 1429B/11, 1433B/11).

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306

War Diary.

12.6.1942.  
Friday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

C. in C. Plymouth reports that owing to his destroyers being diverted to other duties which would appear to be increasing, ocean and other important ships are having to be delayed to await escort as the air menace is also increasing.

Mining.

80 aircraft of Bomber Command laid mines last night off N.W. Germany.

More mines were detonated today in the eastern approaches to Portsmouth. Mines were also detonated off the Humber. Further mines were swept today off Dungeness and one in the minefield off Cromer.

North Atlantic.

Operation  
"Harpoon".

WESTCOTT, WISHART, VIDETTE, ANTELOPE, ITHURIEL and PARTRIDGE left Gibraltar at 0900/11, WRESTLER at 1250/11, tanker BROWN RANGER escorted by GERANIUM and COLTSFOOT at 2350/11; tanker KENTUCKY escorted by SPEEDY, HEBE, HYTHE, RYE and M.L.'s 121, 134\* (135), 168, 459 and 462 at 0120 today, BEDOUIN and KUJAWIAK at 0215, Force W (the covering force) consisting of MALAYA, EAGLE, ARGUS, CAIRO and WELSHMAN at 0350, together with CHARYBDIS, LIVERPOOL, ONSLOW, BADSWORTH, MATCHLESS, MARNE, BLANKNEY, MIDDLETON, ICARUS and ESCAPADE at 0400. Provided nothing unforeseen occurs it is estimated that Home Fleet ships lent for the operation will return to Scapa about 24/6.

\* confirmed by Battle Summary No 32.



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12.6.1942.  
Friday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT.

South Atlantic.

The survivors of tanker DINSDALE which was torpedoed 120 miles S.S.W. of Paul's Rocks at 0130 G.M.T./31/5 arrived at Las Palmas today.

Mediterranean.

Destroyer GROVE was sunk by a U-boat at 0647 today off Sollum. (U. 47)

15 Wellingtons bombed Piraeus harbour last night and 5 Liberators attacked Taranto harbour for the fourth night in succession.

Convoy M.W.11 was bombed at 2100 while proceeding westward. No ships were hit, but CITY OF CALCUTTA had her speed reduced to 11 knots by a near miss and was sent into Tobruk escorted by EXMOOR and CROOME, to arrive about 1030/13 and await orders.

East Indies.

S.S. LOSITIGEN reported being attacked by a submarine at 0950 G.M.T. today in 21° 49' S. 35° 50' E. (in Mozambique Channel).



12.6.1942.

Friday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT.

America & West Indies.

Further  
attack on  
O.N.100

SS. DARTFORD in Convoy O.N.100 was torpedoed this morning about 380 miles W.N.W. of St. Johns N.F.

Aleutian  
Is.

The occupation of Attu Kiska by a Japanese force is now confirmed. U.S. aircraft sighted and bombed at Kiska 3 cruisers and 4 transports; one transport was damaged, the remainder of the force scattered. It is believed that Cardiv 3 consisting of 2 carriers and an auxiliary carrier are covering the landing operations. 16 ships including 2 badly damaged cruisers, were sighted p.m. today at Kiska, where the enemy landing continued despite bombing attacks.

A U.S. patrol plane claims to have torpedoed a heavy cruiser at 2215Z today, but no details are given. The summary of casualties inflicted by U.S. aircraft during bombing attacks at Kiska yesterday and today is 3 large cruisers, one destroyer, one gunboat and one transport damaged, and one submarine sunk.

Australia.

Convoy P.G.1 (Coastal Brisbane to Sydney N.S.W.) left Brisbane at 0515Z today.

Four Fortresses attacked the aerodrome and dock area at Rabaul at 1900Z today; results were not seen.

Replying to the request of C. in C. E.F. for information, C. in C. Pacific Fleet says that the Japanese fear torpedo plane attacks more than any other type and concentrate fighters against them. Torpedo planes are also their most effective weapon. They press home attacks, and our fighters must meet them well outside the surface screen.

Sec p. 365



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12.6.1942  
Friday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Policy.

Shortage of destroyers at Plymouth. Your 1706A/15/2, 1914B/12/5 and 2107/12/5 and my 1718/13/5 and R.A.(D) H.F's 1159/11. Owing to destroyers of the 15th D.F. being diverted to other duties which would appear to be increasing ocean and other important ships are having to be delayed to await escort as the air menace is also increasing. To meet these extra duties and to maintain the turn round of the shipping suggest that Hunts to be surrendered be retained in my command.  
(C. in C. Plymouth 1220B/12 to Admty.)

Liverpool Trawler Force. My 2319A/21/3. BIRDLIP, BODO, BUTSER, KIRKELLA, MAN-O-WAR, MOLDE, NARVIK are to form Liverpool trawler force. They are to remain based on Liverpool and are to be operated by F.O.I.C. Liverpool as escorts for Liverpool portions of O.N. convoys.  
(C. in C. W.A. 2155B/12.)

Movements.

C.S.1. C.S.1 in LONDON arrived Clyde.  
(N.O.I.C. Greenock 0815B/12.)

BARCROSS BARBOURNE. Sailed for Freetown calling at Horta for coal. Code word "Eager".  
(N.O.I.C. Greenock 0914B/12, 0916B/12.)

RUBIS. My 1105/8 Escort will be trawler RYSA. (Capt. (S) 5 0921B/12 to RUBIS.)  
My 2343B/11. Amend E.T.A. Needles to 0500/14. RYSA has been ordered to adjust speed after taking over escort at R/V to arrive at this time.  
(C. in C. Portsmouth 1013/12 to C. in C. Plymouth, F.O.I.C. Falmouth.)

NIGERIA. C. in C. H.F. 1231B/10. Intend proceeding in NIGERIA passing Hoxa at 2130B/13 through 00° Butt of Lewis 12 miles thence patrol "Black" S. of A. 17 knots. A.C.O.S. acknowledge.  
(C.S.10 1045B/21 to C. in C. H.F., A.C.O.S.)

Position 2000/12. KENT vicinity 60.00 N. 12.00 W. to Scapa. Fleet Unit U.S. Cruiser WICHITA, U.S. Destroyers WAINWRIGHT, ROWAN, RHIND, MAYRANT 58.47 N. 04.07 to westward. SLAZAK leaving Scapa 2100 to Minches. Tug ADHERENT and H.M.S. HAMLET escorting 8 drifters Skopen Fjord to Reykjavik.  
(A.C.O.S. 1502B/12.)



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12.6.1942  
Friday.War Diary.HOME COMMANDS.Movements.H.34.  
H.44.

*/p.274. /Rothway to Long. Frigate.*  
My 1937B/11. Sailed H.34, H.44 escorted by  
TANGO. Codeword "Shilling".  
(S.7. 1801B/12.)

P.222  
P.46.

Sailed P.222, P.46 and JAN VAN GELDER in  
accordance with S.3's 1521/10. Codeword  
"Keeper".  
(F.O.I.C. Greenock 1816B/12.)

INGLEFIELD  
INTREPID.

My 1137B/8 para one. Items embarked as follows.  
(C.in C. H.F. 2236B/12 to Admty.)

Operations.Operation  
K.C.9.

A. K.C.9 M.T.Bs 53, 49.  
B. 12th/13th June.  
C. St. Helens.

En Bessin and Port-Au-Prince De Ver.

E. Coastal shipping.

F. 050° 15' N. G. Match. H. 3 E N C. I. D north of 080°  
20' N. J. Carrying out operation arriving on patrol 0200  
and leaving 0300. Course for proceeding and returning is to  
pass E A 3 and C.4 Buoys.

(C. in C. Portsmouth 1537/12 to S.O. M.T.B. Flot. 11.)

Patrols.

Patrol tonight Friday 2 M.L patrol N with trawler.

(C. in C. Nore 1759B/12 to S.E.E.C.C.)

Tonight Friday. 2 M.Ls between N.E. Spit and Dumpton Buoy.  
2 M.Ls between Dungeness and C.1 Buoy. 3 M.G.Bs at N.E.  
Varne Buoy and 3 at Bullock Buoy.  
(F.O.C. Dover 1919B/12 to SIDMOUTH.)

TRIDENT.

TRIDENT sailed 1700C/12 from Kola Inlet to patrol  
in area bounded by latitudes 070° 40' and 071°  
10' and longitudes 037° 48' and 039° 20'

returning Friday 19th. She will remain in eastern half of area  
until 0500C/14. Wireless watch 3790 Kc/s shifting to read H S  
routine.

(S.B.N.O. North Russia 1827B/12 to INGLEFIELD, INTREPID.)



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War Diary.

12.6.1942  
Friday.

HOME COMMANDS.

British Air Activity.

Vaenga and C.S.9190/F.O.6. The following routing and  
Grasnaya Air recognition information for British aircraft has  
Approaches. been received. Repeats S.B.N.O. North Russia  
1157B/9.

2. Request these instructions may be passed to  
any Units responsible for briefing pilots for flights in the  
area concerned.

(Air Ministry 0915/12 to Fighter, Bomber, Coastal Commands.)

Air escort Expect air escort by sorties of single Hudsons  
for WASHINGTON, followed by Sunderlands S from first light 13th.  
WICHITA. (C. in C. W.A. 1147Z/12 to U.S.S. WASHINGTON,  
U.S.S. WICHITA.)

Special Cancel A.M. 1513B/11.  
Fleet R/C. (D.O.D.(H) 1221B/12 to A.O.C.in C. C.C.)

Bombing (A) From 0400/13 to 1600/15 institute submerged  
restrictions. bombing restrictions 30 miles either side of a  
line joining 49° 10' - 12° 30' and 46° 01' - 12°  
29'.

(B) From 0400/13 to 0900/13 institute total submarine bombing  
restrictions within a radius of 40 miles of Lizard Head.  
(H.Q.C.C. 1224B/12 to R.A.F. Gibraltar.)

Mining. Day 11th June. No operations.  
Night 11/12 June. 26 Wellingtons of 1 Group,  
20 Wellingtons and 17 Stirlings of 3 Group, 4  
Hampdens and 13 Lancasters of 5 Group laid mines successfully  
in their allotted areas.  
(H.Q.B.C. 1552/12.)

Vaenga Admiralty 2329B/6. Following facilities available  
facilities. at Vaenga. (A) Maximum dimensions of aerodrome  
1500 X 800 yards. No runway and aerodrome  
believed to be soft in patches. Russians use this  
for their own bombers and it is presumably suitable for Beauforts.  
(B) 100 octane petrol can be supplied.  
(C) Accommodation for approximately 500 can be made available.  
(D) Adequate room for dispersing aircraft around perimeter of  
aerodrome.  
(E) Torpedo workshop at Polyarnoe and mobile main maintenance  
vehicle and reserve supplies compressed air Vaenga.  
(F) Cased A/C of the size of a Beaufort can be offloaded at  
either Murmansk or Vaenga.  
(30 Mission 1746/12 to Air Ministry and Admty.)



312

War Diary.12.6.1942  
Friday.HOME COMMANDS.Enemy Air Operations.

Attack on My 1726B/11 and BROCKLESBY's 1239B/11.  
P.W.169 and Admiralty communique in the Times of June 12th  
W.P.169 gives a wrong impression. Attacks were made  
10/6. on both P.W. and W.P. convoys. Aircraft which  
was shot down and seen to enter sea in flames  
in middle of convoy P.W.169 was almost certainly  
accounted for by CAPE COMORIN (S.O. of escorts), LINCOLNSHIRE  
and ships of P.W.169 (Commodore Commander R.L. Barber Rd.  
R.N.R.)  
(C. in C. Plymouth 1228B/12 to Admty.)  
Master of Dutch M.V. JAN BRONS reports successfully engaging  
JU.88 during attack on P.W.169 at approx. 2330B/10 between  
Portland Bill and Start Point. Aircraft approached from port  
quarter at 200 feet, flew over stern, and crashed in flames  
2 cables on starboard bow after being subjected to close range  
machine gun-fire.  
(N.O.I.C. Newport 1502B/12.)  
Your 1228/12. Communique was based on BROCKLESBY's 1239/11  
which was the only information available in Admty. at the time  
of issue, and there was no indication that any further information  
was likely to be received. Your 1726/11 was unfortunately  
received after the Communique had been issued and it was then  
too late to amend it.  
(V.C.N.S. 2004B/12 to C. in C. Plymouth.)

H.G.84. You were probably reported by enemy aircraft  
before 1150 today.  
(D.D.I.C. 1331B/12 to STORK and Escorts of  
H.G.84.)

Convoy Enemy A/C bombing convoy "Banker" in 53° 33' N.  
"Banker" 0° 46' E.  
bombed. (Rosyth W/T 1728/12)

Convoy There are indicators you may have been reported  
W.P.170. by enemy aircraft.  
(C. in C. Plymouth 2240B/12 to Escort W.P.170,  
Gunner, ATHERSTONE, P.W.170.)

Mining.

B.S.78. Your 1934/11. Proposed programme. Sail Harwich  
to pass Boom 0530 S. of A. 11 knots. Arrive  
55A buoy 1127. Depart No.two buoy 1200.  
Commence laying 1400. Arrive "Q" buoy 1656.  
Arrive three B buoy 1856. Harwich Boom at 2235.  
(PLOVER 1045B/12 to C. in C. Nore.)  
Your 1045/12 approved. Fighter protection arranged. Codeword  
"Smilax". Sweepers to R/V with PLOVER at 55A buoy.  
(C. in C. Nore 1346B/12 to PLOVER.)

/Sweeping ...



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12.6.1942  
Friday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Mining - contd.

Sweeping by  
9th and 13th  
M/S.Fs.

On your leaving, I wish to express my appreciation of the large amount of sweeping work done by the 9th and 13th M.S.Fs in the Nore Command in the last two months, including the clearing of three enemy minefields and two of our own. This work, often hazardous, has been done without casualties and is a very creditable record.  
(C. in C. Nore 1106B/12 to M/S 9.)

Thames  
Estuary.

Two ground mines detonated 11/6 as follows.  
(Capt. M.S. Sheerness 1105/12, 1110/12.)

Approaches  
to  
Portsmouth.

My 1150B/11 and A.M. 1829A/13/1/42. Details of 3 mines detonated 11/6.  
(C. in C. Portsmouth 1203B/12.)  
Three Magnetic mines detonated by LL.12/6.  
Also two spontaneous explosions on 11/6 (positions)  
(C. in C. Portsmouth 1733B/12, N.O.I.C. Newhaven 2035/12, 2043/12.)

S.N.3 B.

Arrived R.A.(M) in SOUTHERN PRINCE, ADVENTURE, AGAMEMNON, MENESTHEUS, BRIGHTON.  
(N.O.I.C. Port Z.A. 1636/12.)

Off Cromer.

LL Sweepers detonated 1 Red Magnetic Mine in 326° 55B buoy 1.25 miles.  
(F.O.I.C. Gt. Yarmouth 1707B/12 and 1356B/15.)

Humber.

Following 2 mines exploded 12/6.  
(F.O. Humber 1940B/12.)

Off  
Dungeness.

Details of 5 Mines swept today Friday.  
(V.A. Dover 2254B/12.)

Enemy Intelligence.

Enemy Units.

Photographic R/C Narvik 1600B/11. LÜTZOW and SCHEER in usual berths in Bogen 68° 30' N. 17° 00' E. 4 destroyers also present. Trondheim visual at 1630B/11. Large unit probably TIRPITZ stationary in 63° 28' N. 10° 28' E. Large unit probably HIPPER stationary in 63° 36' N. 10° 54' E.  
(D.D.I.C. 0357B/12.)

/Enemy ...



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War Diary.

12.6.1942  
Friday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Enemy Intelligence - contd.

Enemy  
Movements.

Russians report 10/6 convoy of unknown size left Kirkenes for Southern Norway. 11/6 in 60.9.40, 13.40 1 submarine. Tana Fiord one destroyer. In 70.0.4, 30.40.2 1 destroyer. (Ad. Miles 1707Z/12.)

Ship west  
of Iceland.

American aircraft report a vessel of about 4000 tons in 064° 55' 030° 15' West course northerly speed 10 knots at 1635. Air R/C is being sent. (A.C.I.C. 1916B/12 to CUMBERLAND (R) RENOWN.)

U-Boats.

Search for  
damaged U/B.

My 1142/12. If no sign of U-Boat by darkness tonight Friday proceed in company to bases through: (A) 45.01 N. 14 W. (B) 53.00 N. 14 W. (C) 55.01 N. 09.59 W. unless otherwise ordered by C. in C. Plymouth. (C. IN C. W.A. 1144B/12, 1447B/12 to BEAGLE, ROTHER, C. in C. Plymouth.)

Search abandoned in accordance with your 1144B/12. My P.C. and S. are 043° 55' N. 011° 38' W. 302° 15 knots. ROTHER in company. 6572 1562. (BEAGLE 2359B/12 to C. in C. W.A.)

Technical.

W/T stations  
for jamming  
enemy A/C  
signals.

C. in C. H.F. 1551B/8. Stores and personnel could be conveyed in Royal Norwegian Naval trawlers the personnel of whom are well acquainted with the Island. Special adaptations to allow of hoisting out heavy gear could be undertaken locally. Nissen huts for living quarters would have to be specially fitted with extra insulation material and double floors. These cannot be provided from here. Their erection will require a part of approx. 30 R.M.Es., who must be sent from U.K. if completion of naval works at Hvitanes is not to be delayed. Six months allowance of provisions stores and coal will be required as initial supply. Men of special temperament needed as experience shows that only individuals of quiet and solid type can stand the winter there. They should all be capable of carrying arms. Stores and personnel should be sent to Reykjavik if possible. (A.C.I.C. 1211B/12 to Admty. (R) C. in C. H.F.)

Casualties and Defects.

ANSON  
suspected  
sabotage.

J.4019 1547/9. Dockyard workmen have not been working in this turret. (A/S Rosyth 0926/12 to D.N.I.)

/PERIER ...



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12.6.1942  
Friday.War Diary.HOME COMMANDS.Casualties and Defects - contd.

- PERIER. PERIER in tow. \* RETRIEVER 062° 15' N. 018° 30' W.  
to S.E.  
*See 9/6 - p. 218.* (A.C.I.C. 1446B/12.) \* *See next page (P.Q. 19)*
- PORT AUCKLAND. Damaged and drawing 32 feet escorted by  
ATHERSTONE due Needles 2200/12th. Please keep  
your force clear.  
(C. in C. Portsmouth 1747B/12 to R.A. Combined  
Operations, CALPE.)
- ROCKINGHAM. Your 1701/11. ROCKINGHAM can be taken in hand  
for refit on 23/6 by London Graving Dock, Poplar.  
(D.O.D.(H) 1811B/12 to Cdre. Londonderry.)
- BEN TORC. H.M. Trawler BEN TORC has been in collision with  
both Dredger and Hopper belonging to Hartlepool  
Port and Harbour Commission. Damage to BEN TORC.  
Re repairs. Damage to Hopper and Dredger necessitates docking  
of former. Grays have arranged to take repairs in hand forth-  
with, so as not to delay dredging operations. Estimated time for  
completion probably two days. Joint surveys have been held.  
Full written report is being sent.  
(N.O.I.C. Tees and Hartlepool 1813/12.)
- RAJPUTANA. */N.T. 243.*  
Notwithstanding my 1545/12/6. RAJPUTANA entered  
Peterhead with T.L.Cs owing to engine defects  
in T.L.Cs.  
(N.O.I.C. Peterhead 1909/12.)
- WOOLSTON damaged by LUDLOW. WOOLSTON damaged by LUDLOW when latter was  
berthing alongside her at 1330/12, in Rosyth  
Dockyard. LUDLOW is considered to be at fault.  
WOOLSTON has sustained considerable damage both  
above and below waterline, necessitating docking  
and repair, estimated to take about three weeks. LUDLOW minor  
damage only and is seaworthy.  
(Capt. D. Rosyth 1910B/12.)
- NEW WESTMINSTER CITY. NEW WESTMINSTER CITY is a total loss. May I  
hand D G cable to Russians for use in destroyer.  
(S.B.N.O. North Russia 2031B/12 to Admty.)



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12.6.1942  
Friday.War Diary.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping and Convoys.Mid-ocean  
groups and  
Russian  
Convoys.

1. C. in C. U.S. Fleet's 1610Z/9 to Admty. Para A. While six escorts should normally be available for Mid-Ocean groups, I strongly urge there should be no attempt to insist on this number as a minimum. This point has already caused trouble, and is probably the chief reason for the breakdown of the group system in R.C.N. We have to work to a close margin, and if when the available number in one group drops below six, it is expected that the quota will be made up from another group a vicious circle is started and the group system breaks down. It should be emphasised that five, or even four, escorts which have worked together in a group may be expected to be far more efficient than a scratch team of six.

2. I still consider that in the summer 10 Mid-Ocean groups could maintain the present cycle, thus releasing one group for other service.

3 (A) The whole matter is bound up with the provision of escorts for Russian convoys, which I assume to be a permanent commitment and which is at present on an unsatisfactory footing. These escorts more than any other would appear to require the teamwork which can only be obtained by group training, but so far it has not been possible to provide anything but scratch teams.

(B) It is proposed however to build up three groups whose main employment would be Russian convoys. These groups would be based at Liverpool, Greenock and Londonderry respectively and destroyers for the groups would be drawn from the special escort divisions at these bases. To provide corvettes for these groups it is proposed to reduce paper strength of corvettes on mid-ocean and Gibraltar convoys from 7 to 6 apiece. This with MEADOWSWEET (unallocated) would provide a nucleus of 10 corvettes for the three Russian groups when all have come into service. A minimum of 15 is desirable and it is urged that if any corvettes can be spared from other stations e.g. South Atlantic they should be allocated for this duty.

(C) It might seem more logical to transfer the Russian groups to C. in C. Home Fleet but it is considered that the facilities for group training are better in this Command. Moreover with possible irregularity of sailing of these convoys Russian groups might be available between turns for the many odd escort commitments liable to occur in Western Approaches.

(D) Allocation of definite escorts for Russian Convoys would allow priority being given for fitting for Arctic service.  
(C. in C. W.A. 1216B/12 to Admty. (D) C. in C. H.F.)

P.Q.19.

Your 1340B/11th ST. KENAN detailed and will be sailed for P.Q.19. Oerlikon will be fitted. Request RETRIEVER may be reallocated to Belfast Trawler Force unless smaller trawler is provided as relief for ST. KENAN.  
(F.O.I.C. Belfast 1241B/12 to Admty.)

O.S.31.

Intend sailing H.M.S. CROCUS at 1200/13 to R/V as in your 1234/10.  
(F.O.I.C. Falmouth 1456B/12 to C. in C. W.A.)

/W.S.19 y ...



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12.6.1942

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

W.S.19 Y.

Ref. A.M. 1522B/11.

- (1) AA. escort and S.O. of escort DELHI.
- (2) A/S escort KEPPEL. S.O. LEAMINGTON,

BOADICEA, SALISBURY, ST. ALBANS.

- (3) (A) All escort is to assemble Merville not later 0800B/17th.
- (B) Destroyers are to have steam by 1200B/17th.
- (4) (A) DELHI is to join QUEEN ELIZABETH at Oversay rendezvous at time arranged by N.O.I.C. Greenock.
- (B) If weather allows close escort destroyers are also to join Oversay rendezvous.
- (C) Signal will be made if weather is considered unfavourable in which case destroyers are to sail to sweep route ahead of convoy till dusk 18th or passing of convoy whichever is earlier.
- (5) No risk of weather damage is to be taken. DELHI is to use discretion as to reducing speed of convoy on detaching escort should weather demand.
- (6) On completion of escort destroyers are to proceed to bases. Destination of H.M.S. DELHI will be signalled.
- (7) Codeword "Sheik".
- (C. in C. W.A. 1606B/12.)

O.N.Convoys.

Signals reporting ships joining O.N. Convoys should be addressed to Connav, N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, C.O.A.C. Halifax, N.C.S.O. St. Johns N.F. Admty., repeated C. in C. W.A. (D.T.D. 1618B/12 to N.C.S.O. Iceland.)

Bunker  
Coal at  
Archangel.

My 1530B/7. Up to 2,000 tons coal available here from Soviet stock. (? Presume) M/V bunker will have to be depended upon. (S.B.N.O. Archangel 1627B/12 to S.B.N.O. North Russia. Reptd. Admty. C. in C. H.F., Ad. Miles.)

A.N.D.ships

My 1156/6 add the following to para 5 (b) "but in any event every endeavour should be made to complete the operation inside the A/S screen". (D.T.D. 1703B/12.)

Coal burners  
to Antipodes.

Pass to N.C.S.Os. M.O.W.T. have instructed owners that coal burning ships of 10 knots and over bound from U.K. to Australia and New Zealand should normally proceed via Panama Canal. There will be exceptions to these general instructions and they should not be regarded as binding for all ships.

2. As a rough guide Masters should be informed that the nearest bunkering ports on existing Pacific routes after leaving the canal are Wellington, N.Z. distance about 7,500 miles or Sydney, distance about 9000 miles.

3. Cancel A.M. 2029B/10.  
(D.T.D. 1718B/12 to F.O.I.Cs Home.)

/Requirements ...



War Diary.

12.6.1942  
Friday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping and Convoys - contd.

- Requirements for North Russia Convoys.
- A. Your 2223/1 para J.  
(1) None available yet.  
(2) Will be included in P.Q.17.  
(3) Sets carried in C.A.M. ships and in both A/A ships for P.Q.17.  
(4) See A.M.2003/3.  
(5) Under consideration.  
(6) Arranged commencing with P.Q.17.
- B. Your 0951/4.  
(1) Increase of ammunition to 1200 rounds should reduce the likelihood of this being necessary.  
(2) No spare barrels available. Jamming is caused by non-greasing of ammunition. D.E.M.S. crews are being instructed accordingly.  
(3) Two will sail with P.Q.17.  
(4) Action is being taken.  
(A.C.N.S.(H) 1901B/12 to S.B.N.O. North Russia.)

P.Q.17. It is intended that 35 ships should be included in P.Q.17 sailing from Reykjavik on about 26/6.  
2. C. in C. W.A. is requested to provide 2 A/A ships, 3 destroyers and 4 corvettes for escort and to sail one rescue craft from Greenock for inclusion in convoy.  
(A.C.N.S.(H) 2056B/12 to C. in C. H.F., C. in C. W.A.)



War Diary.12.6.1942.  
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic.

Operation "Harpoon". Departure 0120 for Operation "Harpoon" tanker KENTUCKY escorted by SPEEDY, HEBE, HYTHE, RYE and M.L. Nos. 121, 134, (~~135~~), 168, 459, 462. (F.O.C.N.A., 0202B/12 to Admty., C. in C. Med., V.A. Malta, S.O. Force T.)  
(Convoy to Malta)

Arrival 2320/11 ONSLOW, BADSWORTH, MARNE, MATCHLESS.  
2330/11 BLANKNEY, ICARUS, ESCAPADE, MIDDLETON.  
Departure for Operation "Harpoon" 0215/12 BEDOUIN, KUJAWIAK.  
0350/12 MALAYA, EAGLE, ARGUS, CAIRO, WELSHMAN.  
0400/12 CHARYBDIS, LIVERPOOL, ONSLOW, BADSWORTH, MATCHLESS, MARNE, BLANKNEY, MIDDLETON, ICARUS, ESCAPADE.  
(F.O.C.N.A., 0800B/12 to Admty., C. in C. Med., V.A. Malta, S.O. Force T.)  
*\* Confirmed by Battle Summary No 32*

Hudsons V9RC, V9R(?D), V9RF, V9RY estimated time of (corrupt group) 1130 on A/S sweep to 002° E. today Friday. (2) Transit aircraft pass you East (3 corrupt groups) E.T.D. 1230. 3 unknown Beaufighters E.T.D. 1330. Identified (corrupt group) E.T.D. 1430. 1 Spitfire E.T.D. 1530.  
(F.O.C.N.A., 1113B/12 to Force T, (R) C. in C. Med., F.O.C.N.A., V.A. Malta, S.O. Force H, Admty.)  
One Catalina 7XMZ airborne 1255 for A/S sweep between 002° E. 202° 004° 30' E. either side of your track from 1700 until 2115.  
(F.O.C.N.A., 1314B/12 to S.O. Force T.)  
Gib. Ops. 26. Resume for 12/6. 3 Hudsons A/S sweep covering tracks force T, 0530 - 1230. 4 Hudsons A/S sweep covering force T 1730 - 2345. 1 Catalina creeping line ahead A/S patrol force T 1245 - 0230/13. 1 Maryland R/C.Casablanca 1700 - 1945.  
(A.H.Q. Gib., 1810/12.)

ISAAC SWEERS. Request supply on arrival (details). Also any naval stores or Bofors ammunition consigned to D.S. ISAAC SWEERS which may have been discharged at Gibraltar since last visit. Request quayside berth as motor boat out of action.  
(ISAAC SWEERS, 0910Z/12 to F.O.C.N.A.)

Blockade. Instructions in my 2251/11 apply also to any neutral vessels (e.g. Panamanian INAKI) running between Iberian Peninsula and Eire.  
(D.E.W.D. 1150B/12 to C. in C. W.A., C. in C. Plymouth, N.A. Dublin, N.C.S.O. Lisbon, (R) F.O.C.N.A., A.O.C. in C. Coastal Command, Air Min.)

Bombing restrictions. Request total bombing restrictions in following areas G.26 and G.27 0700/17 - 1100/18. G.16 0500/18 - 0800/19. G.15 0200/19 - 1200/19. G.14 0600/19 - 0200/20. All times Zone minus 2.  
(F.O.C.N.A., 1308B/2 to Admty., H.Q.C.C., (R) F.O.S.)

/UTMOST ...



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War Diary.12.6.1942.  
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic. contd.:

UTMOST,  
PARTHIAN. From 043° 00' 012° 30' proceed on surface at discretion through A. 038° 51' 011° 28' at 1600B/18. B. 225° Cape St. Vincent 20 miles at 1130B/19 to R/V escort in H. 350° Cape Spartel 5 miles at 0730B/20. Bombing restrictions arranged. If unable to comply within 3 hours you should report. PARTHIAN from westward on course 83° will R/V escort in position (H) at the same time.  
(F.O.C.N.A., 1330B/12 to UTMOST, (R) F.O.S., Admty., etc.)

Destroyers. 2 Destroyers in position 35.48 N. 00.39 W. steering 000° 10 knots.  
(A/C V9R7, 1543/12 to Gib. W/T.)  
My N.R.1. Enemy previously reported is accompanied by 1 Tug towing target.  
(A/C, 1610/12 to Gib. W/T.)

Axis shipping. Vessels 53 (LESSEE) and 54 (DREPANUM) full load ready for sea.  
(Consul Bilbao, 1737/12 to Admty.)

Air A/S Sweep. 4 Hudson V9RV, V9RT, V99W, V9RY airborne 1730 on anti-sub sweep to 002° East, 1 eastbound transit Hudson airborne 1730.  
(F.O.C.N.A., 1740B/12 to Force T.)

Blockade. Your 1843D/11. I have informed Spaniards accordingly and will make daily signal en clair starting tomorrow 13/6. Meantime I shall make signal only to Admty. as it will be en clair.  
(Madrid, 1756/12 to Admty., (R) F.O.C.N.A. etc.)

DINSDALE (torpedoed 31/5.) Tanker DINSDALE torpedoed 120 miles S.S.W. St. Paul's Rock 0130 G.M.T./31. Captain and 44 survivors arrived Las Palmas 12/6 per MONTE ORDUNA. Part 2 giving names of survivors follows.  
(Las Palmas, 1830/12 to Admty.)

French shipping. Gibraltar 1415 French Armed Trawler LA TOULONNAISE Armed Tug TOURTERELLE Ships IMERETHIE II, BONIFACIO, LORRAIN, all laden, latter two deck cargo cork, westbound.  
(S.O.I. Gib., 1833B/12 to Admty., etc.)

U/Bs. There are several Italian submarines between Cape Bon and Cagliari.  
(F.O.C.N.A., 2236B/12 to 8 S/M Flot.)



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War Diary.12.6.1942.  
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic.

- W.S. 20. Your 0455/9. Preliminary estimates indicate W.S. 20 due 4/7 will require 11,000 tons water. OCTANE due 1/7.  
(D.S.T., 0105B/12 to S.S.T.O. Freetown.)
- DUSK. Trawler ESTRELLA DO MAR now on passage is to be renamed DUSK at earliest opportunity. Report when change has been made.  
(Head of P. Branch, 0208B/12 to C. in C. S.A., C. in C. E.I., etc.)
- Vichy Convoy. At 0832/11/6 aircraft sighted Vichy convoy comprising MONTAIGNE, ST. HUBERT, ST. BRIDGETT and escort vessel 72 gunboat type of 550 tons in 12° 36' N. 17° 10' W. course 322°. Speed 8 knots, photos taken.  
(S.O.I. Freetown, 1014Z/12 to Admty.)
- CHILE (sunk 7/6) My 1315Z/8. SS. CHILE survivors report. 2135/7 track of 2 torpedoes fired from Red 140° sighted both missed ahead, ship altered course to put enemy astern, increased to full speed (9 knots), and commenced 20° zigzag. 2150/7, track of 2 torpedoes fired from Red 90° sighted, both hit ship which sank in 13 minutes with (10 or 2?) casualties. Master states night was very dark and enemy not seen. Attack could have been from U-Boat or possibly M.T.B. as in your 1628B/11.  
(R.A.W.A., 1111Z/12 to Admty., (R) C. in C. S.A.)
- ORONSAY escort. My 2123/7 (2127/7 re escort for ORONSAY intended?) (? ORONSAY) and escort will be delayed at Freetown until about 17/6 in order that repairs to PRETORIA CASTLE may be effected.  
(R.A.W.A., 1121Z/12 to Admty., (R) F.O.C.N.A.)
- AQUITANIA. W.S. 19Q. Your 2209Z/11. Route should not be altered.  
(D.T.D., 1205B/12 to R.A.W.A., (R) C. in C. S.A.)  
Convoy W.S. 19Q sailed 12th. Fuel, etc. 2. Vessel has endurance Capetown - Suez but Master considers essential to fuel and water on route for stability reasons.  
(S.S.T.O. Freetown, 2009Z/12 to C. in C. S.A.)
- RODNEY, destroyers. A.M. 1343B/2/6 para. 3 and A.M. 1813/11/6. Intend to route RODNEY and destroyers through vicinity of Pointe Noire where destroyers can fuel from oilers ELAX or BULLMOUTH thereby obviating necessity of sending BULLMOUTH unescorted to St. Helena.  
(R.A.W.A.F., 1245/12 to Admty.)

/SCYTHIA ...



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12.6.1942.  
Friday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic - Contd.

SCYTHIA, Owing to urgent defects SCYTHIA with H.Q. 8th  
CILICIA. Army Div. could not accompany W.S. 19. Ship  
will be ready for sea about Sunday 14th and C.  
in C. S.A. is arranging CILICIA to escort her  
to Durban, D.S.T.O. Durban has been requested to arrange an  
interim C.M. convoy as ships become available to accompany  
transshipment personnel ex W.S. 18 and 19 to Mid East and India  
and in absence of other arrangements SCYTHIA will have to  
accompany this convoy.  
(P.S.T.O. Simonstown, 1253B/12 to D.S.T.)  
P.S.T.O. Simonstown's 1253/12.  
Suggest you offer Impeon as much accommodation as possible in  
CHITRAL so that high priority personnel ex SCYTHIA can be  
railed to Durban to continue with W.S. 19. 2. C. in C. E.F.  
is requested to allow CHITRAL to continue to Suez so that these  
personnel may not be delayed.  
(D.O.D. (F), 2309B/12 to C. in C. S.A., (R) C. in C. E.F, etc.)

GEORGE GEORGE CLYMER awash bottom up in 014° 32' S.  
CLYMER. 020° 31' W. dangerous to navigation. Drifting  
last 24 hours 285° 20 miles, all safe, am  
proceeding in accordance with your 1221/10,  
course 103° 13.5 knots. Fuel remaining 45.8%. Intend shifting  
to Group S.L. at 2200 G.M.T.  
(ALCANTARA, 1300Z/12 to C. in C. S.A., (R) Admty., R.A. West  
Africa, Task Force No. 23.)  
A.M. 1725/9 GEORGE CLYMER and ALCANTARA had been making W/T  
signal from same position for several days and at least one  
enemy submarine was known to be in the vicinity. I therefore  
decided that ALCANTARA should not tow but just leave area as  
soon as possible.  
Alternatives open were either to sink ship or to leave her  
drifting westward in mid ocean at rate of 30 miles a day a  
menace to shipping with the possibility of her remaining afloat  
long enough for tugs and escort to be collected and after  
finding her to tow her back to Freetown.  
Neither tugs nor escort were available from West Africa without  
special arrangements for fuelling and weakening of convoy escorts.  
I fully realise the necessity for keeping afloat every possible  
ship but consider that eventual salvage of GEORGE CLYMER was a  
highly speculative proposition and might in the end have  
involved a big operation. A decision was required and I made  
it.  
(C. in C. S.A., 1325B/12 to Admty.)

Shipping A.Ms 1813/11 and 0035/9 routeing of British  
Routes. managed shipping in South Atlantic. Request  
instructions for U.S. ships.  
(C. in C. S.A., 1458B/12 to Admty.)

W.S. 19. Sailed 11th. Details.  
(S.S.T.O. Capetown, 1501Z/12 to D.S.T., N.O.I.C.  
Aden.)



12.6.1942.  
Friday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic - Contd.

Movements 2000Z/12. Area Q.  
summary. CILICIA from Tristan da Cunha E.T.A. Capetown  
1615Z/13.  
ALCANTARA patrolling in area K. 36.  
ARCHER 018° 00' S. 005° 00' W. 318°, 13 knots.  
CANTON off Capetown from South, E.T.A. 13/6.  
CHITRAL off Durban from South, E.T.A. 13/6.  
SOUTHERN PRIDE on patrol in False Bay.  
SHROPSHIRE, CHESHIRE with W.S. 19 036° 25' S. 023° 20' E. to  
Durban 12½ knots.  
ABDIEL 018° 00' S. 010° 30' E. to Pointe Noire 22 knots.  
ETHIOPIAN 016° 45' S. 010° 45' E.  
(C. in C. S.A., 1615B/12 to S.A. Sqdn., (R) Admty.)

SUTLEJ SS. SUTLEJ Master reports at noon/8, 15 feet of  
U/B. periscope seen bearing red 130° for about 30  
seconds. Distant 7 cables. 1 minute later  
5 feet of same periscope seen for 30 seconds.  
Ship altered course away. Sea calm, visibility good.  
Sightings by 2nd Officer (considered reliable) and 1 lookout.  
(R.A.W.A., 1758Z/12 to Admty., (R) C. in C. S.A.)  
Position see Fretown W/T 1257Z/8.

PHYLLISIA. Departure 1500/12 PHYLLISIA. E.T.A. Gibraltar  
27/6. Holds recognition signals to 30/6.  
(N.O.I.C. Bathurst, 1832Z/12 to R.A.W.A.F.,  
F.O.C.N.A.)

CUYABA. Brazilian CUYABA left Rio de Janeiro 11/6 direct  
for Lisbon with 38 German and 9 Italian diplomats  
repatriated from Paraguay.  
(S.O.I. Montevideo, 2159Z/12 to Admty., (R)  
C. in C. S.A., etc.)

Mediterranean.

COVENTRY Following received (begins). COVENTRY (R)  
Convoy C. in C. Med. from 201 N.C. Group. A/S Air  
"Booty". Patrol 12/6. One Albacore 0545 to 1745/12.  
(M.W.H.C.) One Blenheim 1745 to 2045/12.  
(C. in C. Med., 0009C/12 to COVENTRY.)

Sum pp 324-325

/GROVE ...



War Diary.12.6.1942.  
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean - Contd.

GROVE sunk by U.77. GROVE torpedoed and sunk 032° 05' N. 025° 30' E. Request immediate air assistance. (TETCOTT, 0647C/12, 0710/12 to Alexandria W/T.)  
 Regret GROVE sunk by U-Boat in 032° 05' N. 025° 30' E. at 0647/12. 80 including C.O. picked up by TETCOTT. (C. in C. Med., 1944C/12 to Admty., (R) R.A.(D) Med., R.A.Alex.)

Convoys. Aircraft report <sup>w</sup> M.11C 3 hours late. You must ensure that M.11A and B are sailed in good time to comply with my 0145/11 (N.T. in W.D.)  
 M.W. 11A, B, C. (C. in C. Med., 0916C/12, to N.O.I.C. Port Said, N.O.I.C. Palestinian Ports Haifa, (R) Capt. (D) 7, Capt. (D) 12.) *pp 323 & 325*

F.A.A. attacks on U/Bs. A.S.V. aircraft of F.A.A. frequently sight and attack U-Boats, but results are usually inconclusive. Request recent home experience on best weapon to use at night, and whether 40 mm. cannon or Bofors has been considered for T.B.R. aircraft from aspect (A) penetration (B) fitting. Gun would also be useful against small craft. (C. in C. Med., 1236C/12 to Admty., (R) 201 Group, C.O.N.A.S.)

CELENO, ALBARO. My 1137C/5. Vessels now reported running in Black Sea. No indication arrival date Istanbul. B.3. (S.O.I. Istanbul, 1515C/12 to S.O.I. Med., S.1., (R) D.N.I.)

Enemy Intelligence. Photographs at 0925/12. Taranto. No change to my 1937/11 except total destroyers now 19. Italian Cruiser TRENTO located in inner harbour. No other ports photographed. (N.O.I.C. Malta, 1550C/12 to C. in C. Med., (R) S.O. Force T, C.S. 15, etc.)

Malta Air Report. I. 358, 12/6. C.S.R. Night 11/12. Alert 2232 hours 2 raiders. No damage. Beaufighters up. No interceptions. 12th. 2 alerts. 0346 hours, 2 Ju.88s, 12 Me.109s, Re.200s, 3 Me.109s damaged by 12 Spitfires. Luqa, no damage. U.X.Bs. 0726 hours, 8 Me.109s, 2 Me.109s damaged by 16 Spitfires. 1 Spitfire damaged in combat, another landing. Pilots uninjured. (H.Q. R.A.F. Malta, 1550/12.)

U/Bs. From D/F bearing there are at least 5 Italian U-Boats on patrol within triangle Cagliari, Cape Bougaroni, Cape Bon. (C.O.I.S. Alexandria, 1612C/12 to Med. Fleet, etc.) (V.A. Malta, 1830C/12 to Med. Fleet etc.)



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War Diary.12.6.1942.  
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean - Contd.

- Black Sea. Situation report. Sevastopol front.  
1. During 9/6 Russians repulsed heavy attack along whole front but in evening were forced to withdraw in N. and N.E. sectors. New line runs roughly as follows: through open country 6 km. E. of Sevastopol to Belbek (10 km. N.N.E. of Sevastopol) and from there to the sea.  
2. Little change on S.E. sector but enemy tank concentrations indicate a more violent attack there.  
(N.L.O. Black Sea, 1717/12 to Admty., Adm. Miles.)  
Situation report. Sevastopol 10/6.  
(1) N. and N.E. sectors. Enemy has brought up reinforcements. Russians repulsed attacks made by infantry and tanks supported by aircraft and artillery. Enemy suffered heavy losses including 12 aircraft and 16 tanks destroyed, 7 aircraft and 10 tanks damaged.  
(2) Enemy ground activity on other sectors confined to R/C. Germans' 50th Army Corps is in Balaclava area; 170th Infantry division has (word missed ? moved) S.E. towards Willyssawtka.  
(3) Groups of 20 to 25 German bombers with strong fighter protection continually bombed Russian positions.  
(N.L.O. Black Sea, 1827C/12 to Admty., Adm. Miles.)
- U/B. At 1801 today U-Boat sighted in approx. 035° 01' 022° 01'.  
(Capt. S.1, 1941C/12, 1951C/12 to S/Ms on Patrol.)
- PARTHIAN, Your 1447/10. <sup>p. 254.</sup> Concur. (Transfer to the Fleet) REGENT. (C. in C. Med., 2009C/12 to F.O.S., (R) Admty. etc.)
- Convoy R.A. Alexandria's 1855/11 "Booty" 2 hours late "Booty". on E.T.A.  
(M.W. 112) (SEAHAM, 2014C/12 to Naval & Air Authorities Western Desert, (R) S. and A. Western Desert, COVENTRY, F.O.C. 15 C.S., S.O. Destroyers.)  
*See pp 323 & 324*
- Libya (a) Military situation is obscure but General Situation. informed me that chances of operating A/C from Convoy Gambut airfield are hopeful but not certain. "Vigorous". (b) Should we be forced back to Sidi Barrani airfield effect on convoy "Vigorous" would be as follows -  
(i) Short range fighter protection on D.3 would cease at 1330 instead of 1600. This would be in one of the most dangerous areas. (ii) Beaufighter protection would be reduced from 6 to 4 from 1900 to dark D.3. (iii) No fighter protection would be available at all for the first five hours from dawn on D.4 i.e. until Malta comes in from 019° 15' E.  
(c) Should the above conditions eventuate I intend to turn convoy back after dark D.2 and wait until the situation improves. It will have had its effect in assisting "Harpoon".  
(d) If this action is not approved request I may be informed but if the convoy is to proceed without proper fighter protection very heavy losses must be expected. (e) A.O.C. in C. M.E. agrees.  
(C. in C. Med., 2246C/12 to Admty.)



12.6.1942.  
Friday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

SPRINGTIDE Your 1202/9 SPRINGTIDE has been ordered to Colombo by direction of C. in C. E.F. (C. in C. E.I., 0444D/12 to D.C. in C. E.F. (R) Admty. Cdre. R.I.N. F.O.C.R.I.N., C. in C. E.F., SPRINGTIDE).

B.M. 21 B.M. 21 EKNA with Troops and stores for Colombo sailed 0535Z/12 escorted by LISMORE. Route etc. Pass Cochin 1730Z/14 E.T.A. Colombo 0200Z/16. (N.C.S.O. Bombay, 0545Z/12 to Admty (R) C. in C. E.I., etc).

Force A Cruise. Colombo departures 12/6. 0430Z, WARSPITE, ILLUSTRIOUS, FORMIDABLE, GAMBIA, LAFOREY, LIGHTNING, LOOKOUT, SCOUT, VAN GALEN. (S.O.(I) Colombo, 1138Z/12 to Admty etc).

Defence of Bombay. 15 4" 50 Cal. U.S. guns received in Bombay ex SS. TAWALI. Request arrangements may be made for supply of ammunition as none has yet been received on E.I. station. (F.O.C.R.I.N., 1146Z/12 to Admty).

Movements. Summary 46, 11/6. Ref. summary 45.  
(1) RANCHI due Colombo 15th .  
\* Sailed 12.6.1942 p. 328 (6)\*CORFU now leaving Mombasa 11th for Aden with convoy. (7) DANAE left Diego Suarez 11th with convoy to R/V CORFU escort and proceed to Kilindini. (8) DEVONSHIRE proceeding Diego Suarez for docking thence S.E. (9) EMERALD left Durban 9th for patrol. (10) CHITRAL leaves patrol S.W. Madagascar p.m./11 for Durban. (11) CANTON leaves patrol S.W. Madagascar for Capetown.

| Ship                                  | From                      | To                          | Remarks.   |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------|--|
| SHOREHAM                              | Addu 11th                 | Colombo 14th.               | Escorting MARIT MAERSK to be relieved by ROSALIND S. of Ceylon 14th. |
| FALMOUTH                              | Addu 11th                 | Diego Garcia 13th.          | Escorting SINGU.   |
| BARONIA                               | Seychelles 10th.          | Kilindini.                  |  |
| BARSTOKE                              | Seychelles 11th.          | Kilindini.                  |  |
| K.15 MAURITIUS                        | Colombo 8th Capetown 10th | Bombay 13th. Maurátús. 16th | Escort duty.   |
| RESOLUTION                            | Mombasa 11th              | Bombay                      | Escorting C.M.28 and K.N.1.  |
| ROMNEY, )<br>CROMARTY, )<br>CROMER. ) | Diego Suarez 11th.        | Mombasa                     |  |
| { ANTHONY,<br>REVENGE                 | Mombasa 10th.             | Durban 15th.                |  |
| DUNCAN.                               | Durban 10th               | On patrol off Durban.       |  |
| ACTIVE.                               | Durban 11th               | Mombasa 16th                |  |

See 13/6 p. 340



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12.6.1942.  
Friday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies. contd:-

| Movements.<br>Contd.              | Ship   | From               | To | Remarks.                    |
|-----------------------------------|--|--------------------|----|-----------------------------|
|                                   | DRAGON   | Kilindini<br>11th. |    | on patrol off<br>Durban.    |
|                                   | { INDOMITABLE,<br>FROBISHER.   | Kilindini<br>10th. |    | North East from<br>Mombasa. |
|                                   | (C. in C. E.I., 1228Z/12 to E.I. Stn).   |                    |    |                             |
| F.O.<br>Ceylon.                   | Request when it is expected that Rear-Adm. Read will take over duties of Flag Officer, Ceylon. (Naval Sec. 1229B/12 to C. in C. E.I.)  |                    |    |                             |
| Bombay<br>S/Ms                    | Total bombing restrictions are in force Bombay Submarine Sanctuary from 0001Z/13 until further notice. (C. in C. E.I., 1247Z/12 to E.I. Stn).  |                    |    |                             |
| Raiders,<br>Fleet<br>Disposition. | Your 1146/8. Concur that you should continue to work up your whole carrier Force as soon as practicable.<br>2. Should an opportunity occur you should endeavour to combine this with destruction of Japanese surface raiders. (1st S.L., 1256B/12 to C. in C. E.F. (R) D. C. in C. E.F. etc).  |                    |    |                             |
| Manza,<br>Tanga.                  | In order that Coast and A/A defences may be provided as early as possible, request report whether you intend to use Manza or Tanga Bays or both as an overflow from Kilindini.<br>2. From defence point of view the following points are important:<br>(1) Tanga already has a landing ground for fighter protection<br>(2) Installation of A/A and Coast Defences at Tanga would be an easier and more practicable proposition than at Manza. (A.C.N.S. (F) 1305B/12 to D. C. in C. E.F. (R) C. in C. E.F. F.O.I.C. E.A.) |                    |    |                             |
| Air Report.                       | A. 905, 12/6. Intelligence Summary No. 89 on information received up to 1800 hours 12/6.<br>Burma - 2 Blenheims made low level bombing attack on Akyab Harbour 11/6 - Bombs in jetty area - results unobserved. (A.H.Q., India, 1430/12).  |                    |    |                             |
| LOSITIGEN<br>U/B.                 | Following received.<br>Z S D GRMU SSSS LOSITIGEN 21° 49' S., 35° 50' E. submarine attacking at 0950 G.M.T./12. (? 1530/12 to Admty).   |                    |    |                             |

/M.T...



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Friday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies. - Contd.

M.T. Ships

Essential that M.T. ships of 8th Armoured Div. should reach Suez as soon as possible.  
2. Highest priority should be given in fuelling, repairing and routeing.  
3. Ships concerned are (list)  
(D.O.D. (F), 1555B/12 to C. in C. E.F., C. in C. S.A., (R) D. C. in C. E.F. etc).

Trincomalee Moorings.

My 1208B/16/5 and 1455B/22/5 and your 0555Z/25/5. Request early report. 2. Your 1119Z/5/5 paras. 4 and 5. In view of priority of Trincomalee vis-a-vis Salaya are these vessels suitable for laying moorings at Trincomalee?  
(A.C.N.S. (F) 1558B/12 to F.O.C.R.I.N. (R) C. in C. E.F. etc).



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Friday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies.KRONPRINSEN  
(torpedoed  
9/6).

Relieved by MELVILLE. Capt. Featherston on board KRONPRINSEN (?which) is anchored for night in position 198° Seal Island 11 miles. Visibility 50 yards. No other tug yet joined. Proceeding Halifax. (WANDERER, 0015Z/12, to C.O.A.C. (R) C.T. 24, C.E.S.F., etc.).

O.15

S/M Notice. Departure O.15 delayed by fog. Will be 12 hours behind schedule in my 2332/10, until arrives 43.00 N. 63.30 W. at 1200Z/14 but will patrol that position for 12 hours only. Remainder of schedule and E.T.A. destination unchanged. (Connav, 0431/12, to Admty).

Air Report.

A.119 12/6 Z.806. All times G.M.T. Operations for 11/6. Argentia. At 18.15 U.S. Navy PB5A depth charged submarine at 46.15 N., 49.50 W. no apparent results. (H.Q. E.A.C., 0516/12).

U/B.

U-Boat estimated in your vicinity by D/F has made sighting report of a convoy or important unit, at 0411Z/12. (C.in C. U.S. Fleet, 0611/12 to C.T.U. 24.1.15, C.T.U. 24.1.11. (R) C.T.U. 24.1.4, Admty C.T.U. 24.1.16, C.T.U. 24. N.S.H.Q., C.O.A.C. C.in C. Lant).

New Zealand  
Sweepers.

Following received from Port Director, San Pedro: "TUI, INCHKEITH, SANDA, KILLEGRAY and SCARBA departed San Pedro 1808/11 for Honolulu with San Pedro detachment of convoy 2091". (Connaveu, 0751/12, to Admty). *See also p. 337.*

O.N.S.100  
DARTFORD  
torpedoed.

Convoy O.N.S.100 attacked in 049° 43' N. 042° 48' W. at 0419Z/12. DARTFORD torpedoed. (C.T.U. 24.1.11, 1029Z/12, to Connav (R) C.T.F. 24 Admty etc.).

DELFINA

Connav's 2110/6. Survivors U.S. DELFINA arrived Monte Cristi no details yet, B.A.D. pass to Connav. (S.O.(I) Jamaica, 1152R/12).

/O.N. 101 ...



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Friday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies. Contd.

O.N. 101. O.N. 101. Intend to sail T.U. 24.18.7, to join in 045° 57' N. 050° 14' W. at 1500Z/14. (C.C.N.F., 1159Z/12, to C.T.U. 24.1.4, (R) C.in C. U.S. Fleet, N.S.H.Q., C.T.F. 24., C.O.A.C. Admty WALKER).

ALLISTER My 1606/10. (N.T.in W.D.). ALLISTER sunk 29/5, (sunk 29/5). 7.40 p.m. G.M.T. 018° 23' N. 078° 50' W. 15 casualties, 8 survivors, 4 here in hospital but ready to travel and may leave on board ARMINDA today. Survivors report ship left Port Antonia with wireless out of action which was known by Owners. S/M reported to be about 200 feet in length, colour pea green, condition quite new, headed N.W. after sinking. (Port au Prince Haiti, 1207/12, to Admty).

Corvettes Personal for C.N.S. Ottawa from 1st S.L.  
Convoy Your 2136/7 para 1. Figure given in my 2305/ of  
Escorts. 21/5 for corvettes based on Canada and Newfoundland was 78. This included Western local escorts and thus accounts for the apparent discrepancy. Your para. 6. I note that this had been allowed for in proposals worked out in conference at Washington and experience will doubtless indicate whether adjustments are desirable. (1st S.L. 1216B/12, to N.S.H.Q.).

NEW JERSEY. Your 1748/11. Ship sunk 29/5, 55 miles S.W. of Grand Cayman. (S.O.I. Jamaica, 1242R/12, to Admty (R) B.R.O.).

STEEL S.S. STEEL ENGINEER, Army Charter cargo only  
ENGINEER, ready sail Charleston for Ascension Island about  
for 13/6. On arrival at destination will require  
Ascension. 3 or 4 weeks for unloading during which time A/S screen of 2 picket boats will provide coverage. Boats being transported on ship to destination. (C.in C. U.S. Fleet, 1350/12, to C.T.F. 23, C.in C., S.A., C.in C.Lant, C.E. S.F. Com. 6, C. C. S.F., R.A. West Africa).

Italian Ships MONTE ALMANZOR (Span.) Barbados to Spain reports  
at Bilbao. 22/5, two Italian Freighters painted grey about 7000 tons at Bilbao one undergoing repairs. Both arrived in ballast from Ferrel where had lain considerable time. (B.2). Both arming and destined for iron ore trade. Crew well paid morale fairly good (B.O). (F.O.I.C. Trinidad, 1352Q/12, to D.N.I.).

/NORLAND ...



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Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies. Contd.

NORLAND (sunk 20/5.) Attack by submarine. (1) NORLAND, Norwegian. (2) Nortraship. (3) 1257 local Atlantic time 20/5 in 031° 29' N. 055° 37' W. (4) About 6 miles distant. (5) Circling ship and shelling at 1630. (6) Surface. (7) Ship left in sinking condition. (8) Unknown. (9) Large type, details not observed due to distance away. (10) Torpedo first, then gunfire. (11) Thrown overboard in weighted bag. 1414/12 with list of survivors from 1 boat landed at Morehead City N.C. 7/6 follows. 2 other boats were launched but became separated. (C.S.A. Norfolk, Virginia, 1413Z/12, to Admty).

FORT GOOD HOPE (torpedoed 11/6). FORT GOOD HOPE (cargo wheat timber, lead and zinc for U.K.) torpedoed at 0250 G.M.T. 11/6 010° 19' N. 080° 16' W. sank 8 hours later. 46 survivors landed here by escort\* and \*USS ERIE accommodated in quarantine station Balboa. Second Engineer missing. Chief Engineer injured condition not serious. (B.R.O. Colon, 1414R/12, to Admty).  
W.D. Note:- Connav 2124Z/12 gives torpedoed at 2150Z/10 and sunk at 1056Z/11, also different position.

*From log of USS ERIE  
time of 0250Z/11  
correct.*

ROSENBORG (sunk 8/6). ROSENBORG (British, ex Danish, cargo bauxite for Mobile) 1997 tons, operated by Elders and Fyffes, sunk by gunfire from S/M at approx. 1600 G.M.T./8 in approx. 019° 30' N. 085° 00' W. Believed no distress message sent. S/M did not close owing to arrival of U.S. aircraft. Casualties 4 killed 4 wounded now in hospital here. Remaining 19 survivors taken to Balboa quarantine station. Above preliminary details from Master of GEISHA Norwegian who picked up survivors. Names of casualties. (B.R.O. Colon, 1422R/12, to Admty):

C.T. 18. Your 1309B/11. Has convoy C.T. 18 scheduled sail 23/6 been cancelled?  
(C.in C. Atlantic Fleet, 1425Z/12, to Admty (R) Opnav).  
Reply: Admty, 1630Z/13.

Shipping Routes. Admty 1813/11. As STANVAC PALEMBANG is assumed to be U.S. managed, ship will not be diverted by C. in C. A.W.I.  
(C.in C.A.W.I., 1449P/12, to Admty, C.in C.S.A., R.A.W.A.).

BERGANGER (torpedoed ? 2/6). Attack by submarine (1) BERGANGER, Norwegian (2) Nortraship (3) 1438 and 1448 Atlantic Standard time 4/6\* in 039° 25' 069° 50'. (4) 3500 yards off Port Beam (5) 1500 Atlantic Standard time headed N.W. (6) Submerged. (7) Ship sank. (8) Unknown. (9) German 517 tons class S/M 3-inch gun forward and 2 A/A guns aft. (10) Torpedo. (11) Unknown. My 1452/12 with list survivors landed at Norfolk (Virg. 6/6 follows.)  
\*W.D.Note:- Formers said torpedoed 2/6.  
(B.R.O.Norfolk, Vir, 1451Z/12, to Admty (R) N.S.H.Q.).



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Friday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies. Contd.

- L. 27. Ref: F.O.S. 1449/10. Approx. date of leaving New London dependent satisfactory trials and practices is Saturday 25/7 after two weeks working up.  
(B.A.R.M., 1512Z/12, to F.O.S.(R) S. 7. Admty).
- N.A. 11. Your 2133B/8. N.A. 11 Intend sailing 1200Z/16 to arrive position X 048° N. 050° W. at 1200Z/18. S. of A. 13.5 knots, request onward route.  
(C.O.A.C. Halifax, 1535Z/12, to Admty).  
Reply: Admty, 1744/13.
- PENNYWORT Section East. PENNYWORT in tow tug FRISKY U.S.S. SPRY 045° 50', 058° 10', 245° 6.  
(C.O.A.C., 1540Z/12, to N.A.E.F., Admty).
- U/B U-Boat estimated in your vicinity by D/F has made sighting report on convoy or important unit at 1258Z/12.  
(Cominch, 1550/12, to C.T.U. 24.1.11., C.T.U. 24.1.4., (R) C.T.U. 24.1.15., U.S.C.G. SEACLOUD, N.S.H.Q., C.O.A.C. Admty C.T.F. 24).
- Atlantic Troop Convoys. Following from Chiefs of Staff No. C.O.S.(W) 202. Bolero London has received telegram Black No. 8. 2. As we understand it, the U.S. view is for two convoys in each period of 6 weeks, preferably at intervals of 3 weeks, or if this is unacceptable, at intervals of 2 and 4 weeks; further, that this cycle is governed by the inability of U.S. to provide escort at more frequent intervals on the scale they consider necessary. 3. From our point of view a 3 weekly cycle is unacceptable for following reasons:- (a) A periodic clash with the "Queens" is inevitable and this will extend the time required to unload Clyde section of convoy to as much as seven days. (b) W.S. Convoys will have to be sailed at irregular intervals to avoid clashing with A.T. Convoys. This is bound to cause some dislocation of W.S. Convoys. 4. The alternative U.S. proposal for convoys at intervals of 2 weeks and 4 weeks overcomes the clashing with "Queens" and W.S. convoys, but the A.T. convoys will be the same size as in the 3 weekly cycle, and every 3 months we shall be faced with the disembarkation and/or embarkation of 2 "Queens", 2 very large A.T. and N.A. convoys combined and one large W.S. convoy, all of which will have to be dealt with in a period of 1 lunar month (29 days). 5. Estimated times required for unloading personnel only are:- (a) 3 weekly cycle - 4½ days and up to 7 days when they clash with the "Queens". (b) Alternate 2 and 4 week cycle - 4½ days. (c) Fortnightly cycle - 3 days, from which it will be seen that the time required for the unloading of a large convoy will entail the exposure of the troops on board to enhance risk of air attack. 6. Further disadvantages of larger convoys are:- (a) The larger the convoy, the greater the risk of not being able to clear before arrival or embarkation of succeeding convoy, due to delays by enemy action and weather. (b) More congestion at the ports, resulting in fuelling and water difficulties for the ships. (c) The load on the ports is not /evenly ...



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Friday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies. conts:-

Atlantic Troop Convoys. Contd. evenly distributed over the period. 7. For the above reasons you will see that there are serious disadvantages to any scheme except a regular fortnightly cycle, accepting a reduced scale of escort, and we much hope that U.S. authorities will be able to meet us over this. (Air Min., 1630Z/12, to J.S.M. Washington).

BETHORE (overdue). My 1542/11 U.S. BETHORE arrived. (S.O.I. Kingston, 1711R/12, to Admty etc.).

U.S. Dispositions. Atlantic Fleet Location Sheet 26 <sup>12</sup>13/6, contained in C.in C. Lant's 2103/12 reads as follows: AUGUSTA, RANGER, JUNEAU and 4 destroyers at Argentia. PHILADELPHIA and BROOKLYN at Hampton Roads. Task Force 34 due New York 19/6. Task Force 35 due to depart from U.K. 16/6. (Comnavu No. T.O.O./12, to Admty, Recd. 1715/13).

U/B Positions. 12/6 submarine estimate. (C.in C. U.S. Fleet, 1738/12).

AORANGI Your 1727/5. Should AORANGI be diverted in accordance with your 1211/3 or is present route to New York to stand? (C.in C. A.W. I., 1913P/12, to Admty).

Reporting Merchant Shipping. Your 1704/6 para. 9. (A) Yes although during present transition period a few omissions appear to be likely although every endeavour being made to avoid. (B) Majority of shipping off Canadian coasts is now in convoy and daily situation report is broadcast by C.O.A.C. covering area between 4700 and 7000 west and north of 4200 north. There is however possibility of a warship meeting a straggler from convoy. Only remedy for this would be to give complete lists of ships in convoy but this obviously impracticable. Names of merchant ships passing through any specific area can always be supplied from N.S.H.Q.'s plot. Arrangements being made for independent merchant ships on ocean routes to be included in C.O.A.C's daily situation report when in the area covered by that report. Reply regarding Pacific Coast will be made later. (N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 1914Z/12, to Admty).

WEDGEPORT PARRSBORO. WEDGEPORT sails <sup>/Halifax</sup> as additional escort to H.S. 12, 12/6. Ship will be available to escort an L.C. convoy from Sydney to St. Johns N.F. Request WEDGEPORT be retained at St. Johns N.F. carrying out any practices possible until arrival of PARRSBORO. Subsequently ships to be sailed in accordance with Admty 1714/6/10/1941. (C.O.A.C., 1928Z/12, to F.O.N.F.)



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Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies. Contd.

O.N.5.100. Enemy radio activity your vicinity continues. A.S. frequency series. (C.in C. U.S. Fleet, 1958/12, to C.T. 24.1.11, C.T. 24.1.4. (R) C.T. 24.1.15, N.S.H.Q. Admty, C.T. 24, C.O.A.C., U.S.C.G. SEA CLOUD).

Atlantic Troop Convoys designations. It has been represented here that some confusion may arise in the naming of transatlantic troop convoys, suggest therefore following procedure in which U.S. authorities concur. Starting from about 1/7. 1. From West to East. (a) Convoys of American troops leaving American ports for U.K. be known as A.T. (b) Queens to be given same number as the preceding A.T. convoy with the suffix Y or Z, the first to sail being Y. (c) N.A. convoys to be numbered in sequence as at present but if they sail with an A.T. convoy the A.T. number should be used only when referring to the whole convoy after sailing from Halifax. (d) Iceland portion of A.T. convoys to bear the suffix (I) after splitting., e.g. Ships split off from A.T. 14 for Iceland become A.T. 14 (I) (e) American convoys (?to) Freetown Ascension or any other African port to be known as A.S. convoys. (f) AQUITANIA to bear an A.S. number when employed on New York to Capetown voyage. 2. From East to West. (a) returning A.T. convoys to be known as T.A. and to bear the same number., e.g. A.T.14 becomes T.A. 14 on return passage. (b) C.T. convoys to be numbered in sequence as at present but if they sail with a T.A. convoy the T.A. number only should be used when referring to the whole convoy after sailing. (B.A.D., 2051Z/12, to Admty (R) C.in C. W.A., N.S.H.Q., C.O.A.C.).

FRANCES PARSONS (overdue). Schooner FRANCES PARSONS (norllreless) ?no wireless from Parrsboro, (N.S.) 27/5, due Boston 30/5, has not arrived. (N.S.H.Q., 2059Z/12, to Admty etc.).

Sub attack and sighting summary. FORT GOOD HOPE torpedoed and sunk 10.20 N. 80.10 W. 0250Z/11. Reported attack on unidentified vessels approximately 2330Z/8 now considered erroneous. POLYPHEMUS possibly BOSHART. KOENJIT one torpedo. PLOW CITY two torpedo hits, one miss. Possibly U.45 Type. Two fighting cocks in rainbow colors. ALCOA SHIPPER one torpedo hit, one miss, possibly U 45 Type. LISE shelled DDS attacked 1 conclusive contacts. (1) 01.25 N. 41.13 W. 2200Z/10. (1) 43.26 N. 69.42 W. approx. 1600Z/11. Patrol plane attacked sub 18.17 N. 84.16 W. 2220Z/11, plane attacks sub on surface 35.08 N. 74.36 W. 1550Z/12. M/V sights sub 14.24 N. 77.17 W. 2247Z/11. SHEHERAZADE torpedoed, shelled and sunk 28.41 N. 91.20 W. 1114Z/11. (C.in C. US. Fleet, 2101/12, to Admty for O.I.C.). See 1815/13.

Ships attacked by U/Bs. Serial number 12. SHEHERAZADE Pan. Tanker torpedoed sunk 028.30 N. 091.20 W. 11/6 confidential documents destroyed. GBXT torpedoed sunk approximate 050 N. 040 W. 1310Z/11 45 Survivors. CTOX torpedoed 049.43 N. 042.48 W. 12/6. Both in convoy O.N. 100 (?FORT) GOOD HOPE British torpedoed 2150Z/10 sunk 1056Z/11. 010.20 N. 080.10 W. 46 /Survivors ...



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America and West Indies. conts:-

Ships  
attacked by  
U/Bs.  
Contd.

Survivors 1 killed, confidential documents destroyed. ILLINOIS, U.S. torpedoed sunk 2/6 024.00 N. 060.00 W. 6 Survivors, 32 missing, confidential documents destroyed. CRIJNSSSENS, Dutch, torpedoed 11/6, approx. 017.00 N. 082.00 W. DENTONLOVE 197 Survivors West not U.S. reply our despatch 2100 and reference 2117 reference MONTENOL and SHAFTESBURY. (Connav, 2124Z/12, to Comnav (R) N.S.H.Q., etc.). W.R. Note: Underlined calls believed garbled - not listed in shop index.

COMMANDANTE  
SWORRA.

COMMANDANTE SWORRA (Brazil) sailed Pernambuco 17/5 due New Orleans 4/6 has not arrived. (N.S.H.Q., 2134Z/12, to Admty, Connav etc.).

WAT &  
TAW  
Convoys.

Convoy plan my 1610/9 effective 1/7 with these amplifications. Comcaribseafron initiate and control Key West Aruba - Trinidad convoys initially via Windward Passage with sailings every three days first sailing from Key West 1/7 from Trinidad 2/7. Eastbound convoys designated WAT westbound TAW facilities and agencies Key West under Comgulfseafron available for these convoys in same manner as now used connection KINKS. Comcaribseafron authorised to shift personnel and material for terminal facilities now Guanaanamo as necessary. Desirable escort strength six minimum five except if reduction traffic between Aruba and Trinidad warrants 110 footers can be relieved of this leg. Present B5 group to be relieved of O.T. T.O. duties which convoys abolished when WAT TAW started and these escorts then become available for latter convoys. Surinam - Trinidad shuttle cycle to be determined by Comcaribseafron based on traffic. Surinam - Trinidad northbound designated BN southbound BS. This shuttle is to include all buxite ships between Dutch and British Guianas and Trinidad. N.S.H.Q. advise dates initiation A.H. H.A. convoys which dates hereby established as those when Cominch convoys and roueing assumes responsibility for diversions outside Canadian Coastal waters. Concur in Admiralty 2016B/10 para. two not to all addressees, as to destroyer in each group and request Admiralty and N.S.H.Q. take appropriate action. (C.in C. U.S. Fleet, 2135/12, to Coms. Carib East and Gulf Sea Frontiers).

Convoy  
T.H. 3.

My 2205/5. Request estimated sailing date T.H.3 and names of six ships which will be included. 2. Unless for special reasons ships under ten knots should not be included in T.H. and H.T. Convoys. (N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 2208Z/12, to F.O.I.C. Trinidad).

U.S.  
Shipping.

Your 2108/11. Concur. Desire U.S. managed ships to route according your 1813/11. (Connav 21252/12 to Admty)

/B.5 ...

COMMANDANTE LYRA? see page 479.

21252/12



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B. 5 Escort Group. Your 1925/7/5 and subsequent signals re B.5 Group. Commander U.S. forces at Curacao is enquiring when remainder of B. 5 Group may be expected as present sailings of O.T. convoys cannot be maintained with existing number of ships owing to boiler cleaning and defects. BUTTERCUP and COLUMBINE left Bermuda 11/6 for Caribbean. Request information re POPPY, CAMELLIA and SAXIFRAGE.  
(C.in C. A.W.I., 2212P/12, to Admty).

U.S. Navy at Trinidad. Subject of your 1721B/25/5 has been raised by letter with Adm. King whose reply shows that there is agreement between British and U.S. on all points except retention of British N.C.S. Organisation at Trinidad and Bermuda acting as agents for U.S.N., vide para. 7 of Admty message quoted above and my 1641Z/7, para. 3 (H) and (I). This latter point has been pursued with Adm. King but he still insists on requiring that at the two key points of Trinidad and Bermuda, the control and routing of shipping should be in U.S. hands. Full copy of correspondence is being forwarded to Admty by air mail, copy to C.in C. A.W.I., and suggest Admty decision be communicated by signal after this has been examined. 2. Meanwhile it is proposed that the turning over of the command of the local naval defence force at Trinidad should be implemented. I understand that either Rear Adm. Oldendorf or Capt. Thomas Moran, U.S.N. will take up appointment as U.S. Naval Officer, Trinidad, very shortly.  
(B.A.D., 2221Z/12, to Admty (R) C.in C. A.W.I.).

DIOMEDE. Defect still undiscovered consider use of port engine inadvisable. (3) Propose Alternative B be now adopted and DIOMEDE sailed for U.K. when ready via (?Simonstown), Freetown and Gibraltar. (4) DIOMEDE signal proposed programme.  
(C.in C. A.W.I., 2222P/12, to Admty).

Washops 90. Aleutian Islands. The occupation of Attu, Kiska, by Japanese force is now confirmed. At Attu a U.S. patrol aircraft reported a large landing force under good concealment. There are indications of shore based aircraft and signs of construction activities. At Kiska 3 cruisers and 4 transports were sighted and bombed. 1 transport was damaged remainder scattered. This force was believed to be the same as 1 sighted North of Kanaga, Andreanof Island steered east, probably for Atka, a.m. 12/6. It is believed Cardiv 3 consisting of 2 carriers and 1 auxiliary carrier are covering landing operations.  
(J.S.M. Washington, 2223Z/12, to Admty etc.).

/New Zealand ...



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New Zealand Trawlers. San Pedro departed 1600Z/11 H.M.N.Z. Trawlers TUI, SANDA, SCARBA, KILLIEGRAY, INCHKEITH for Honolulu as escort for U.S. Convoy Number 2091. (N.S.H.Q. 2226Z/12, to Admty (R) B.A.D. etc.)  
*See p 334.*

L.A. CHRISTENSEN (torpedoed 10/6). Norwegian DILL arrived Bermuda 12/6 with 31 survivors being entire crew of Norwegian L.A. CHRISTENSEN torpedoed 10/6. Position will be reported later. (C.in C. A.W.I., 2243P/12, to Admty (R) B.A.D.etc).

WAT & TAW Convoys. Washington, 2352/12. See 2137/12.

PLEASANTVILLE sunk. NQB. Bermuda reports receiving information from Patrol Aircraft that 35 survivors from PLEASANTVILLE are on board PADEREWSKI and one boatload including two Army Officers on board CHICKASAW CITY. Position of sinking of PLEASANTVILLE given as 20 miles west of Bermuda. (C.in C.A.W.I., 2353P/12, to Admiralty (R) B.A.D., N.S.H.Q., S.O.I. Jamaica).

*Spies Landed from U/B. night of 12/6, on Long Island. See G. C. S. Feb. 2032/27/42.*

Australia and New Zealand.

Movements Arrival Auckland, U.S. Cruiser SAN FRANCISCO and U.S. Destroyer FARRAGUT escorting U.S.\*Tasker \*A.H. BLISS, \*SUMMER, MONROE, SANTA CLARA, URUGUAY, and \*GASPAR RICO. JAMES PARKER. (N.Z.N.B., 0450Z/12). \* Not identified

Convoy (A) P.G. 1. (B) 0515Z/12. (C) ORMISTON, Sydney, MONTORO, Sydney. (D.N.O. Queensland, 0533Z/12, to Admty).

Escape from Philippines, Enemy Intelligence. On 7/6, 2 U.S. Navy Officers and 16 ratings who had escaped from Fort Hughe's (Philippine Is) 6/5 reached Darwin in a naval launch. Route followed was after daybreak Aly Island passage - via Digos to Bondoe Peninsula - through Sabuyan Sea to N.E. tip of Siboham - Layte Island - through Suriago Straits down eastern coast of Mindanao to Port Lamou - from there to Morotai and Sajafi - thence to Tiior - Kur Island - Fado Island and Taam - Molu Island - eastward between Vordat and Larat - Melville Is - Darwin. Foregoing indicates that considerable portion of  
/Philippine ...



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

Escape from Philippine Is. and N.E.I. eastern waters  
Philippines, ineffectively patrolled by Japanese either by  
Enemy surface patrols or aircraft. At number of  
Intelligence. places visited no aircraft had been sighted by  
Contd: natives for 6 weeks. Minesweepers observed in  
Philippine Is. were of about 1500 tons usually  
operating in 3's. Patrol craft sighted were  
Diesel-driven boats of about 150 tons flying Japanese merchant  
flag and carrying practically no armament. Philippine Is.  
natives very helpful to party but those in N.E. I. non-co-operative  
(A.C.N.B., 0917Z/12, to Admty etc.).

Movements. Arrivals Townsville 0622Z/10 CESSNOCK. Departures  
Townsville 1835Z/10 for Port Moresby U.S.S. BARKER  
escorting JOHN JAY. Departures Newcastle  
0616Z/11 for Melbourne U.S.S. PERKINS and H.M.A.S. WHYALLA  
escorting convoy C.O. 2. Arrivals Darwin 0613Z/11, DELORADNE.  
Arrivals Port Phillip 1331Z/11 H.M.A.S. STUART.  
(A.C.N.B., 0941Z/12, to Admty etc.).

Port My 0605, 10. Original plans envisaged provision  
Mining by Admty of boom working vessels. A.M. 2219/17/4  
and Defences. not to B.A.D., advises vessels not available  
owing to urgent local commitments. It will not be  
possible to commence laying of A/S booms unless 2  
B.W.Vs. can be provided. A further 2 vessels will be required  
for maintenance. These vessels cannot be built in Australia in  
less than 12 months nor even then without interfering with  
building programme of corvettes and minesweepers. Desire  
representations be made to U.S. authorities for the provision of  
these vessels.  
(A.C.N.B., 1048Z/12, to B.A.D. (R) Admty).

Wellington N.Z.N.B.'s. 1517/4 para. 3. If Indicator Loops  
defences. prove unreliable owing to weather two H.D.As. one  
each side of channel keeping watch on fixed  
bearings across the channel might be more  
satisfactory. 2. A second H.D.A. could be  
supplied in the Autumn.  
(Head of M., 1248B/12, to B.A.D. (R) N.Z.N.B.).

Situation. No. 141 from C.W.R. 11/6. Enemy S/M disposition,  
no change since my No. 140. (2) Panamanian  
vessel GUATEMALA (straggler from convoy) sunk by  
enemy S/M approx. 033° 52' S. 151° 58' E. at 1920Z/11 no  
casualties. (3). 3 Fortresses attacked Vanakanau Aerodrome  
Rabaul 0740Z/11. Results not observed. (4) Photographic R/C  
9/6 reveals no enemy activity Guadalcanal Island, Solomon Islands.  
(5). B.17 on photographic R/C 11/6 ineffectively attacked by 3  
Zero fighters between Rabaul and Kavieng. Later encountered 4  
Zero over Lae and shot one down. (6). Hudson on R/C shot down  
one T.97 Kawanisi Flying Boat south of New Britain 11/6. (7).  
Unidentified A/C reported 0300Z/11 over Prince of Wales Island  
(Torres Strait). (8). Hudson on R/C attacked without results  
enemy merchant ship believed carrying motor transport and troops  
in 009° 03' S. 124° 22' E. at 0910Z/11.  
(A.C.N.B., 1326Z/12, to Admty etc.).

/Landing ...



12.6.1942.  
Friday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Australia and New Zealand.      Contd.

Landing  
Craft.

Your 0816Z/5. Regretted no A.L.Cs. or M.L.Cs. can be spared. All available now are urgently required for training in India and operations and training in U.K. Future production can only provide operational requirements in these theatres. Suggest application is made through Supreme Commander S.W. Pacific for American types of landing craft.  
(E.P.S. 1519B/12, to A.C.N.B.).

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Submarines Reported.

Estimated U/B positions.  
(D.D.I.C. 1418B/12, 1419/12).



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13.6.1942.  
Saturday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

A considerable increase in enemy naval units was seen by air R/C at Trondheim today. These now include 3 T.Bs, 4 U-Boats (500 tons) 2 M Class Minesweepers, 12 E/R Boats, one auxiliary, a depot ship and WESTFALEN (catapult ship)

Enemy Air Activity.

Convoy P.W.176 is stated to have been attacked late tonight Trevoese Head by 6 JU.88s. The convoy appears to have suffered no damage, but one enemy aircraft was shot down and another damaged.

Mining.

The minefield CMO 9 off Aberdeen is now completed and in action; and the minelaying operation B.S.78 was also completed today.

4 Magnetic mines were detonated off Selsea Bill and further enemy minelaying has taken place off Dungeness.

Foreign Stations.

Blockade  
Runners.

A list of ships which may attempt to run cargoes between Japan and Biscay ports in the near future was circulated by Admty. today.



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Saturday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT.

North Atlantic.

An aircraft attacked a U-Boat at 0837 today with depth charges in 39.05 N 5.58 E and estimates 1 hit.

Mediterranean.

Operation  
"Harpoon."

Force T was reported by enemy aircraft at 0745 G.M.T. today, again in detail at 0951 G.M.T. and at 1105 G.M.T. as "a naval force in Western Mediterranean."

Operation  
"Vigorous"  
(Convoy M.W. II.  
to Malta.)

The following forces under C.S.15 sailed from Alexandria today:- TETCOTT, HERO, JAVELIN, SIKH, ZULU, HASTY, JERVIS, KELVIN, CENTURION, DIDO, EURYALUS, HERMIONE, NEWCASTLE (C.S.4) BIRMINGHAM, ARETHUSA, NAPIER, NORMAN, NESTOR, NIZAM, FORTUNE, GRIFFIN, AIREDALE, ALDENHAM, DELPHINIUM, PRIMULA, ERICA, SNAPDRAGON, MALINES, ANTWERP, M.T.Bs. 62, 73, 265, 266, 268, 269.

Enemy  
Cruiser *destroyer*  
Torpedoed

S/M P.43 encountered this afternoon 2 Italian cruisers of the Eugenio di Savoia Class, with 4 destroyers, in 38.56 N 09.41 E and claims 1 hit on a cruiser. *(Destroyer damaged - torpedoed. 12. 17. 42)*

Wellingtons laid mines off Benghazi last night under cover of bombing of objectives in vicinity.

East Indies.

C. in C. Eastern Fleet proposes that the Durban Zanzibar cable should be diverted to Diego Suarez.

The Deputy C. in C. Eastern Fleet has assumed control of routeing of all merchant shipping on the coast of East Africa and Madagascar between the latitude of Durban and the Equator. Fresh arrangements have been made for the routeing of shipping.



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Saturday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT.

Australia.

27 heavy bombers escorted by approximately 12 Zero fighters attacked Darwin at 0415Z today, causing some damage.



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13.6.1942.  
Saturday.War Diary.HOME COMMANDS.Policy.

DELHI. Admiralty's 2135B/26/5. As I have to provide two A/A ships for P.Q.17 request DELHI may remain in my command till return of CAIRO, A/A trials at Rosyth being postponed.  
(C. in C. W.A., 1552B/13 to Admty).  
Your 1552B/13. Approved for DELHI to be retained until relieved by CAIRO or CURAÇOA.  
(D.O.D. (H.), 1838B/13 to C. in C. W.A.)

Movements.

BEAGLE My position 045° 06' N. 014° 00' W.  
(BEAGLE, 0900B/13).

UNBEATEN. Sheerness for Chatham UNBEATEN escorted by M.L. 113 at 0925.  
(C. in C. Nore, 1036B/13).

CURAÇOA. After adjustment of compasses a.m./15 proceed to Scapa, adjusting speed so as to arrive in daylight.  
(C. in C. Rosyth, 1625B/13 to CURAÇOA).

0.9. At 1400B/14 intend to sail 0.9 escorted by Z.5. from Rothesay through Sounds of Islay and Mull and through Minches to arrive Dundee 2000B/17. S.9 is requested to sail Z.5 to Rothesay and to arrange onward passage of 0.9 in accordance with my 2330/12.  
(Capt. S.7., 1651B/13 and 1217B/14).

UTMOST UTMOST in 049° 05' N., 12° 30' W., at 0800/13 diving by day, due at 042° 59' N., 012° 29' W., about 1000/17.  
(C. in C. Plymouth, 2216B/13 to WILD SWAN).

Operations.

Denmark Straits Patrol. Situation 2201 tonight. CUMBERLAND on patrol "White".  
(A.C.I.C., 1449B/13).

TRIDENT Patrol. TRIDENT sailed 1700/12 from Kola Inlet to patrol in area between 70° 40', and 71° 10' N. and 37° 48' and 39° 20' E., returning 19/6. She will remain Eastern half of her area until 0500C/14.  
(S.B.N.O. North Russia, 1825B/12 to INGLEFIELD, INTREPID).

/Ship...



13.6.1942.  
Saturday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operations - Contd.

Ship reported West of Iceland on 12/6.

A.C.I.C., 1916B/12. Report action taken. (C. in C. H.F., 2312B/13 to RENOWN).

British Air Activity.

Unknown Vessel.

My 1916B/12. A/C search has revealed nothing. Whitley A/C is being sent to patrol Denmark Straits from 0515B/13. (A.C.I.C., 0410B/13 to CUMBERLAND (R) RENOWN).

Vaenga and Grasnaya Air Approaches.

Your Air 665 4/6. Assume instructions in para. 2. superseded by S.B.N.O. North Russia's 1157B/9. Paras 1 to 4 of latter signal promulgated to all concerned. Silhouettes being forwarded by quickest means available as soon as possible. Despatch of Mosquito silhouettes delayed but following. (Air Ministry, 1254/13 to 30 Mission).

TORNI.

Request fighter protection in accordance with F.O.I.C. Cardiff's 1704B/12. (F.O.I.C. Milford Haven, 1329B/13 to 10 Group)

Exercises.

A/S Exercises at Plymouth.

Your 1848B/11. Consider arrangements for practice with submarines quite satisfactory. (C. in C. Plymouth, 1526B/13 to F.O.S.)

Enemy Air Activity.

King's Lynn attacked.

King's Lynn attacked by single enemy A/C 2200/12. A. to D. nil. (F.O.I.C. Yarmouth, 1232B/13).

Attack on P.W. 169 and W.P. 169 on 10/6.

Your 2004B/12 and my 1228B/12. Owing to the Friendly rivalry that exists amongst Convoys and Escort Groups it is suggested that another enemy A/C be given to CAPE COMORIN, LINCOLNSHIRE, and P.W. 169, particularly as the enemy A/C came down in flames in the middle of the convoy and it is understood 3 enemy machines did not return. (C. in C. Plymouth, 1306B/13 to Admty).

Holton Heath attacked.

Air attack was made on Holton Heath night of 12th and 13th June. No damage, casualties or interference with output. Three H.E. bombs dropped on Admiralty land to South of Factory. (Supt. R.N.C.F. Holton, 1955B/13 to Admty).



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13.6.1942.  
Saturday.War Diary.HOME COMMANDS.Enemy Air Activity. - Contd.Convoy  
P.W.176  
attacked.Following received from Convoy "Nation". Am  
being shadowed by one enemy A/C 270°, 51° 5' N., 4°  
37' W.,  
(Plymouth, 2225/13).  
Help "Nation". 51° 13' N., 4° 30' W.  
(Convoy Escort, 2350/13).Mining.Minefield  
C.M.O.9Laying of Minefield C.M.(O) 9 now completed.  
Tests satisfactory and station in action.  
(F.O.I.C. Aberdeen, 1530/13).Mines in  
Q.Z.X. 158,  
Q.Z.X., 406  
Q.Z.X. 621.Your 2050/5. 1. Admiralty opinion is that  
density of mines in Q.Z.X. 158 and Q.Z.X. 406  
is such as to justify crossing in emergency.  
Consideration is being given to cancellation of  
former area.  
2. Q.Z.X. 621 is continually being mined and  
enemy casualties therein indicate that only the gravest emergency  
would warrant entry by H.M. Ships.  
(A.C.N.S. (H.), 1725B/13 to C. in C. Nore).

Yarmouth.

Two Mines exploded by Sweepers at 1101/8 and  
1102/8 respectively. Details.  
(F.O.I.C. Gt. Yarmouth, Recd. 1730/13)  
S/A Sweepers detonated one Acoustic mine at 1724/13 in 098°  
54D buoy 2 miles one cable.  
(F.O.I.C. Gt. Yarmouth, 2249B/13, 1356B/15).

Portsmouth.

4 Magnetic Mines detonated by LL. Details.  
(C. in C. Portsmouth, 1750/13).

Q.Z.Y. 337

Q.Z.Y. 337 revised area now completed. No further  
result. Submit area be cancelled.  
(N.O.I.C. Dartmouth, 1831/13).Clearance of  
Q.Z.X. 324Three laps completed, no mines swept. About  
1.2 miles cleared. East-going tide gave poor  
spread, west-going tide about 5 cables. Intend  
sailing 0930/14, commencing at Western End and  
sweeping from 1030 to 2030 returning to Newhaven  
2130.  
(M.S.9., 1950B/13 to C. in C. Portsmouth).

B.S.78

Your 1346/12. Operation B.S.78 completed.  
Force returning to Harwich.  
(ROTHESAY, 2006B/13).



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War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Enemy Intelligence.

Invasion craft. (a) North Norway. My 1201/5 para. (H) 2. 20 invasion craft passed Rorvik June 1/2 proceeding North. Graded B.3.  
(b) Rotterdam - June 6th. Only 6 invasion craft T.L.C. type were observed in Ternalhaven. Graded C.3.  
(N.A. Stockholm, 1311/13).  
Report graded B.2. states 10 invasion barges loaded with artillery left Tromso northbound on 10/6.  
Comment. These barges are presumed to be T.L.Cs.  
(D.D.I.C., 2109B/13 to Ad. Miles)

Ship West of Iceland on 12/6. My 1916B/12. Ship is believed to be U.S. Coastguard Cutter doing A/S rescue duty.  
(A.C.I.C., 1501B/13 to CUMBERLAND).

TIRPITZ, HIPPER. Photographic R/C Trondheim 1230B/13. TIRPITZ returned to Foetten Fiord. HIPPER at her usual moorings in Lofjord. 2 Maas class destroyers at Trondheim.  
(D.D.I.C., 2030B/13).

U-boats.

Oil patch. Am investigating suspicious object, oil patch in 55° 25' N., 8° 50' W.  
(A/C 1350/13 to 15 Group)  
Am investigating suspicious object as indicated oil streak, in 55° 25' N., 8° 50' W., course, 045° 2.  
(A/C, 1427/13 to 15 Group).

U-boat attacked on 10/6. Understand U-boat damaged by aircraft of 19 Group on Wednesday. has arrived in harbour damaged.  
Request B.N.A. Madrid be asked early information of her probable date of sailing or whether she will be interned.  
(C. in C. Plymouth, 1655B/13 to Admty).

U-boat reported. Following received. Have obtained A.S.V. contact in 050° CC.12. Probably a S/M.  
(Nore, W/T, 2315/13).

Navigational.

Ice in Denmark Straits. Denmark Strait air ice R/C on 12/6. Edge of fast ice runs from 65° 29', 29° 43' through 66° 28', 28° 28', 66° 42', 26° 25', 66° 55', 25° 20', 67° 15', 24° 50', to 67° 09', 23° 30'. Closely packed brash ice considered impassable extends thence to 67° 01', 22° 20' and then in a direction 340°  
(A.C.I.C., 0320B/13).



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War Diary.13.6.1942.  
Saturday.HOME COMMANDS.Technical.14 inch  
Practice  
Ammunition.

In order to develop reliability of new mountings as rapidly as possible ships of K.G.V. class have in general exceeded their first years allowance of 14 inch practice ammunition. Estimate aggregate allowance for K.G.V. and D. of Y. up to date has been exceeded by about 50 practice projectiles and reduced charges.

2. Commitments in next six months are likely to be heavy with two new ships working up and K.G.V. requiring extra practices after refit. Request confirmation that present stocks in U.K. are adequate and will not necessitate any curtailment of practices during this period.  
(C. in C. H.F., 0936B/13 to Admty).

Coastal  
Command  
Codes.

Request you will send a representative to attend a meeting to discuss codes used by Coastal Command.

2. Meeting will be presided over by D.S.D. at Admiralty at 1500/16.  
(A.C.N.S. H., 1931B/13 to C.in C.C.C.)

Casualties & Defects.

STAKESBY.

STAKESBY in tow of RESTIVE arrived Port Bannatyne. (F.O.I.C. Greenock, 0015B/13 to N.O.I.C. Stornoway).

CEOL-MARA, II.

<sup>/N.T. in H.D.</sup>  
My 1555/12. Sailed FAIRWEATHER with <sup>C</sup>CEOL-MARA II in tow.  
(N.O.I.C. Oban, 1025B/13).

SPERANZA.

<sup>/N.T. in H.D.</sup>  
Your 1743/6. SPERANZA held Thorshavn for slipping and repairing hull defect.  
(N.O.I.C. Faroes, 1221B/13 to A.C.O.S.)

MAILLE-BREZE.

By 20/6 TEDWORTH will have removed from MAILLE-BREZE all useful articles and everything remaining can be considered as scrap. Propose to cease work on vessel 20/6. Request information as to future of MAILLE-BREZE.  
(F.O.I.C. Greenock, 1539B/13 to D. of Salvage).

PERSIAR

<sup>See 9/6 - p.218</sup>  
PERSIAR in tow of EMPIRE LARCH and EMPIRE BASCOBEL escorted by RETRIEVER are to proceed to Scrabster not Loch Ewe for onward routing to Newcastle on Tyne.  
(C. in C. W.A., 1819B/13).



13.6.1942.  
Saturday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping & Convoys.

- D.S.29. D.S.29 will comprise LEINSTER sailing Clyde 24/6. She will embark to full capacity. (D.S.T., 0756B/13).
- W.S.20. W.S. 20. Propose sailing DURBAN CASTLE, STRATHMORE, EMPRESS OF AUSTRALIA to Tail O' the Bank 17/6. Request escort. (N.O.I.C. Liverpool, 0955B/13 to C. in C. W.A.)  
W.S.20 intend sailing Bristol Channel portion from Barry Roads 0300B/19. E.T.A. Greenock, 0900B/20. (N.O.I.C. Cardiff, 1128B/13).  
Capt. (D) Greenock, 1846/10 and N.O.I.C. Liverpool 0955/13. BLACKMORE is to proceed Moville to R/V with DURBAN CASTLE, STRATHMORE, EMPRESS OF AUSTRALIA at Bar light vessel 1500B/17 and escort to Clyde. (C. in C. W.A., 1716B/13 to N.O.I.C. Londonderry).  
A.M. 0039B/11 para. 4. Add ESPERANCE BAY. Speed 14½ knots.  
2. NIGERSTROOM speed 14 knots carrying stores for Australia is to be sailed in the convoy from Liverpool to the Cape. (D.O.D. (H), 1828B/13).
- C.T.18. Your 1309B/11. Speed of slowest ship MUNARGO is 15 knots. Request you change S. of A 12.5 knots to 13.5 knots for convoy C.T.18. (C.T.F.35, 1000B/13 to Admty).
- O.G.86 Two rescue tugs are being sent to Gibraltar in O.G.86 to tow SS. DURHAM to U.K. leaving Gibraltar about 22/7. C. in C. W.A. and F.O.C.N.A. are each requested to provide one corvette for through escort to U.K. (D.O.D. (F), 1612B/13).
- North Dvina Light Vessel. Your 1033/11. North Dvina light vessel is still used as accommodation for ships for pilots when convoy or escort movements are taking place. (S.B.N.O. Archangel, 1734B/13).
- P.Q.17. My 2056/12. To expedite repatriation of survivors Rescue Craft. three Rescue craft instead of one should if possible be sailed with P.Q.17.  
The two additional vessels selected should be provided with additional equipment similar to ZAAFARAN so far as time permits. Request you will consider in conjunction with C. in C. H.F. sailing these two vessels with special escort as convenient to enable them to join P.Q.17 at sea east of Iceland (C). (D.T.D., 1807B/13 to C. in C. W.A.)
- Tankers in O.N. and O.N.S. Convoys. Tankers for ports Halifax to Trinidad inclusive of Gulf Ports are included in O.N. and O.N.S. convoy. Cancel my 1902/7. (D.T.D., 1933B/13 to A.C.I.C.)  
Tankers for ports Halifax to Trinidad inclusive of Gulf ports should be sailed in O.N. or O.N.S. convoy according to speed. C. in C. W.A. 0739/4 refers. Cancel my 2053/14/4. (D.T.D., 1934B/13 to C. in C. Rosyth, etc).



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13.6.1942.  
Saturday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.General.

Japanese Bombs.

Japanese Zero fighters use pear-shaped bombs for attacking formations of aircraft. Bombs are released from a position 1000 feet above and ahead of formation and are timed to explode in its path. Bombs burst with a vivid purplish blue explosion, leaving white smoke streamers. (D.N.A.D. Approved A.C.N.S.(W) 1333B/13 to Admty. R Message 373R.)

Midget S/MS.

Japanese Midget Submarines which attacked Sydney N.S.W. on 31/5 were detected on an Indicator Loop laid in 6 fathoms but not on an Indicator Loop laid in 15 fathoms. (A.C.N.S.(W) 1639B/13 to "A" Message 817A.)

Blockade Runners.

Some of the following ships may attempt to run cargoes between Japan and Biscay ports in the near future:- From France German ANNALIESE ESSBERGER, ELSA ESSBERGER, BURGENLAND, RIO GRANDE, OSSORNO, PORTLAND, MUNSTERLAND, URSULA RICKMERS. Italian HIMALAYA, FUJIYAMA, PIETRO ORSEOLO. Ex French ALABAMA. From Japan German REGENSBURG, DRESDEN, TENNENFELS, HAVELLAND, MOSEL, RAMSES, RHAKOTIS, KULMERLAND. Italian RAMB II. Ex French PERSÉE (ex PIERRE L.D.) 2. KOTA NOPAN (ex Dutch) and SILVAPLANA (ex Norwegian) prizes of German raiders, present whereabouts unknown, may also be employed in this service. (D.D.I.D. 1758B/13 to A.I.G.13 etc.)

North Atlantic.

CANADA.

Your 1215/11. You should try to obtain full details of future movements of CANADA and may represent that this is necessary to avoid any difficulty.

For your personal information, we are anxious to know because - (a) French at one time asked for safe conduct for CANADA to Jibuti which we made conditional upon agreement by Vichy to repatriate British personnel detained by them. We cannot absolutely rule out possibility that CANADA's ultimate destination is Jibuti.

(b) We may shortly need vessel to repatriate from Freetown Senegalese captured in Madagascar and CANADA might come in handy for the purpose. (A.C.N.S.(F) 0004B/13 to N.A. Madrid.)

A/C attack on U/B.

Am over enemy S/M in 39.05 N 5.58 E. Enemy previously reported was on surface when first sighted was on course 290° estimated speed 12 knots. (A/C Call Sign 7XMO 0835/13 as amended 1030/13 to Gibraltar W/T.) My 0835, have attacked enemy with depth charges and estimate 1 hit. (A/C Call Sign 7XMO, 0837/13 to Gibraltar W/T.)

/Following...



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13.6.1942.  
Saturday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic. conts.

A/C Attack on U/B. Contd. Following has been read. My 0837. Enemy previously reported is still on surface. (A/C Call Sign 7XMO 0922/13 to Gibraltar W/T.) Following has been received. My 0922 (? have lost touch with enemy S/M last seen in) 39° 05' N 5° 58' E 0950. (A/C Call Sign 7XMO 1055/13 to Gibraltar W/T.)

Operation "Harpoon" Operation "Harpoon" 0915 sailed SALVONIA escorted by LADY HOGARTH to vicinity of Cape de Gata constant watch Gibraltar broadcast. (F.O.C.N.A. 0952B/13 to Admty. V.A. Malta. C. in C. Med. S.O. Force T.)

At 0745 G.M.T. 13/6 enemy A/C reported sighted 1 battleship, 2 aircraft carriers probably 4 cruisers probably 13 destroyers 5 destroyers (Query), course approx. East in Western Med. (F.O.C.N.A. 1114B/13 to Force T. (R) Admty. C.O.I.C. Alexandria, V.A. Malta.)

Enemy A/C have reported a naval force in the Western Med. at 1105 G.M.T. You were also reported in detail at 0951 G.M.T. (F.O.C.N.A. 1534B/13 to Force T (R) Admty. C.O.I.S. Alexandria, V.A. Malta.)

Casablanca R/C. Casablanca R/C 12/6. 3 main units still present. Increase of 4 S/Ms since my 2230/8 otherwise no important change in minor units. (F.O.C.N.A. 1042B/13 to Admty. (R) C. in C. Med. C. in C. S.A. C. in C. Plymouth, R.A.W.A.F. Opnav)

Damaged U/B at Santander L<sup>u</sup> TORELLI. Considered now that temporary repairs to S/M will be completed 14/6. (Santander 1045/13 to Admty. (R) Gibraltar, Madrid.) Italy S/M Santander, reliable source L<sup>u</sup> TORELLI M. of M. maintain (a) she is interned. (b) she cannot go to sea anyway. (c) ship's company are to be handed over to Military authorities and sent inland. We have still received no confirmation from M F A of internment. (B.N.A. Madrid 1703/13 to Admty. (For D.N.I.) (R) F.O.C.N.A.)

MIRROR. Cable repairs. My 1242/4. Following received from MIRROR (Begins) Completed operation (A) proceeding O operation (B) T.O.O. 1355/12. (Ends) (V.A.C.N.A. 1241B/13 to Admty.)

Situation Report. Area X at 1958B/13. (1) H.G.84 (E) 40° 12' 16" 29' through 41° 10' 17" 25' thence 000° 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ . S.O. of escort STORK. (2) ARMERIA 27th M.L. Flotilla 27° 12' 14" 30' through 26° 07' 15" 45' thence 209° 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ . (3) CARLISLE 1 destroyer 26° 24' 15" 06' through 27° 50' 13" 42' thence 030° 14. (4) STELLA CARINA escorting cable ship MIRROR vicinity 36° 51' 10" 36'.

/(5) ...



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FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic. contd.

- Situation (5) SCOTTISH patrolling Huelva Bight.  
Report (6) LOCH OSKAIG patrolling off Lisbon.  
(Contd.) (7) ALOUETTE escorting 1 merchant ship 39° 38' 09° 10' coast wise to Gibraltar 8 knots. (F.O.C.N.A. 1242B/13 to N.A. Station.) Area Z 1958B/13.
1. ~~ARMERIA 27th M.L. Flotilla 27° 18' 14" 30' through 26° 07' 15" 45' thence 26° 10' 10". See previous page~~
  2. Convoy 19.Z. 20° 25' 20° 53' 180° 12.
  3. O.S.30. 23° 18' 21° 51' 171° 8 $\frac{3}{4}$  S.O. of Escort PHILANTE.
  4. ~~GARLISLE. 1 destroyer 26° 24' 15" 06' through 27° 50' 15" 42' thence 030° 14. See previous page~~
  5. SUNBURST, STORMCENTRE. 1 Merchant ship 22° 30' 23° 02' through 19° 50' 21° 50' 154° 8.
  6. MOONSHINE, 1 Tug 28° 54' 25° 56' 158° 8.
  7. PARTHIAN estimated 34° 23' 10° 30' through 34° 10' 35° 00' Durazzo 088° 11.
  8. Italian tankers ARCOLA, TAIGETE estimated 25° 50' 23° 14' 253° 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ . Safe passage to Curacao. (F.O.C.N.A. 1314B/13 to N.A. Station.)
- DINSDALE My 1830/12 regarding 45 survivors of tanker (torpedoed 31/5.) DINSDALE I am repatriating today by (?) Spanish ship CIUDAD DE VALENCIA due Cadiz 15th please instruct Consul Cadiz. (Las Palmas 1430/13 to Admty. (R) S.O.I. Gibraltar, N.A. Madrid, B.C. Cadiz.)
- German A/C German A/C passed Cape Roca 1600B/13 steering South. (B.N.A. Lisbon 1830B/13 to D.N.I. S.O.I. Gibraltar. (R) Admty.)
- Damaged U/B Ferrol. U. 105. (N.I.D. 24/T.1.) German Sub. painted grey with four pointed star painted blue entered Ferrol 12/6 and dry docked. Landed 7 men wounded and 2 or 4 dead. Has large hole at bow and are removing several damaged plates. Wishes to repair in 48 hours but this is doubtful. Great secrecy kept. Watching position. (Coruna 1930/13 to Admty (R) Gibraltar, B.N.A. Madrid.)
- Unidentified A/C. One unidentified A/C distance 7 miles course 260 my position 316 (signification unknown) 40. (SCOTTISH 2107/13 to Gibraltar W/T.)
- Submerged Bombing restrictions. Ops/253 13/6 serial G 113. Institute submerged bombing restrictions (A) 30 miles either side of line joining 046° N 012° 30' W and 043° N 012° 30' W from 0800/15 until 2000/17 (B) 40 miles either side of line joining 270° Bishops Rock 5 miles and 049° 24' N 012° W from 2200/14 until 0200/17. (H.Q.C.C. 2119B/13 to R.A.F. Gibraltar, (R) F.O.C.N.A. S.8.)



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Situation Report. Area 'P' 1959/13. 3 Destroyer Fleet Units 013° 01' 019° 30' to Freetown (?through) 010° 04' 018° 15' 16.  
BRIDGEWATER 009° 40' 023° 50' 276° 12.  
CORINTHIAN about 008° 59' 027° 30'.  
CANNA about 008° 30' 014° 15'. (R.A. West Africa 1045Z/13 to S.A. Station etc.)  
1958/13 Situation. 29th (?U.S.A.) <sup>LOPINSAY</sup> COSHOESAY patrolling sector T  
ROCKROSE 008° 02' 017° 30' to 007° 59' 018° 01' thence 016° 12.  
BOREAS 006° 15' 014° 55' to Freetown 16.  
WOODRUFF, AMARANTHUS 004° 15' 013° 10' to Freetown 12½.  
LARGS 001° 15' 014° (?50') 148 15.  
W.S.19Q. 001° 50' 014° 30' to 003° 30' S 011° 15' thence 134° 19½.  
HYDRANGEA, TAMARISK 2 motor launches with (?S) T 25 003° 01' 008° 03' to Takoradi 9.  
ASTURIAS 001° 50' S 015° 05' to 003° 38' S 011° 38' thence 134° 16  
CARNARVON CASTLE 006° 40' S 013° 05' 114° 16.  
ARCHER 014° 15' S 008° 50' 318° 13.  
ABDIEL 009° 10' S 011° 05' E to Pointe Noire 21.  
BELLWORT in tow 3 tugs 013° 30' S 011° 05' E to Walvis Bay (?5)½.  
(R.A. West Africa 1121Z/13 to S.A. Station Area P, Admty. C. in C. S.A. N.O.I.C. Takoradi, R.N.O. Lagos.)

VIOLET. Intend sailing VIOLET with S.L.113 for refit in U.K. (R.A. West Africa 1111Z/13 to Admty.)  
VIOLET expected St. Vincent 1600Z/19 with mail for British Consul.. Request you will obtain permission for her to enter. (R.A. West Africa. 1207Z/13 to B.N.A. Lisbon (R) N.C.S.O. St. Vincent, Admty.)

Raiders Use of M.T.Bs. Your 1951Z/11 not to C. in C. S.A. It is likely that ALIOTH and GEORGE CLYMER were torpedoed by M.T.Bs from a raider. As there is more than one raider at large it is possible that CHILE was sunk in the same way. A.M. 1854B/10 refers. Request survivors may be questioned accordingly. (D.D.I.C. 1151B/13 to R.A. West Africa. (R) C. in C. S.A.)  
Your 1151/13 and my 1111Z/12. No further evidence pointing to M.T.B. attack. Sea at time of attack was Force 4. No shipping sighted in preceding daylight. (R.A. West Africa 1825Z/13 to Admty. (R) C. in C. S.A.)

HARPASA bombed 5/4. Your 0834B/10. HARPASA bombed 5/4 19° 19' N 85° 46' E abandoned presumed sunk. (D.T.D. 1208B/13 to C. in C. S.A.)

DUCHESS OF BEDFORD. Ref. D of S.T. 1913B/11 to N.O.I.C. Freetown, Sierra Leone only. DUCHESS OF BEDFORD was sailed 9/6 for New York in accordance with D of S.T. 1307B/20/5 and B.A.D. 1515Z/23/5. Request you will direct as necessary. (R.A. West Africa 1217Z/13 to Admty. (R) D of S.T)

/Overdue...



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South Atlantic. - Contd.

Overdue ships. STANFORD sailed Capetown (? on) 27/5 due Freetown 10/6. Not arrived. (S.O.I. Freetown 1230Z/13 to Admty. (R) C. in C. S.A.)

RAMILLIES defects. S.O. Force F 0950Z/12. (N.T. in W.R.) Diver report (details) If permanent repairs are to be carried out at Durban not only the Graving Dock but also practically the whole resources of the port as regards structure and electrical work will be absorbed for 3 months. (C.S. Durban 1240/13 to Admty. (R) C. in C. S.A. C. in C. E.F. N.O.I.C. Durban, RAMILLIES, F.O. 3rd. B.S. D.C. in C.E.F.)

SCYTHIA. Your 2309/12. Priority personnel minimum 18  
CILICIA. officers 400 O.R. cannot reach Durban by train until 16/6. W.S.19 leaves Durban a.m. 15/6 and cannot be delayed. Following alternatives suggested (a) sail SCYTHIA for Durban escorted by CANTON, CILICIA 15/6. CHITRAL to meet off Durban and escort to Suez (b) sail PASTEUR from Durban for Capetown as soon as possible to embark all SCYTHIA personnel and proceed Suez unescorted at best possible speed. SCYTHIA then to return to U.K. (ii) Brigadier favours (b) to accelerate arrival of all SCYTHIA personnel. (iii) Sailing of CHITRAL with priority personnel only leaving balance liable to (?prolonged) delay not recommended. (C. in C. S.A. 1245B/13 to Admty. (R) C. in C. E.F. C. in C. Med. (and for Mid-east) F.O.R.S.F. N.O.I.C. Durban. CHITRAL.)

REAVELEY REAVELEY reports S/M attack at 1400/5 in 15° 7' S  
(British) 41° 36' E. Saw on starboard bow 1 mile distant  
U/B attack. huge explosion high column of water and in centre black smoke surrounded by dark yellow smoke. On outer edges of explosion were dark objects scattered outwards. Torpedo track then observed approaching from direction of explosion but missed through alteration of course. Explosion left large area smooth water with object nearby at which 8 rounds 4" were fired but result not observed. (S.O.I. Capetown 1250B/13 to Admty. (R) C. in C. S.A. S.O.I. Colombo. S.O.I. Kilindini.)

Derelict. Navigational warning. Position 014° 32' S  
020° 31' W. Derelict awash. Dangerous to navigation drifting 285° 20 miles per day. (N.O.I.C. Simonstown 1442 G.M.T./13 to B.A.M.S. in Area 3 A.)

U.S. Shipping Routes. Your 1458B/12. U.S. managed ships should be routed in accordance with A.M. 1813/11 but not in accordance with Amendment No.22 to M.A.R.I. (D.T.D. 1522B/13 to C. in C. S.A.)



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South Atlantic - Contd.

PANTHER  
route.

Your 1213B/11 (Request name of ship to which  
route given in R.A.W.Af's 1855/9 refers.)  
PANTHER. (R.A. West Africa 1945Z/13 to F.O.C.N.A.)

W.S.19.P

Arrivals 13/6 NELSON, DERWENT, VELOX, WIVERN  
with W.S.19 P. (S.O.I. Freetown 2011Z/13 to  
Admty. F.O.C.N.A. C. in C. W.A. S.O.W.P.)

CARMONA.

Overdue shipping cancel my 2129/11 CARMONA  
arrived Buenos Aires 13/6.  
(S.O.I. Montevideo 2143Z/13 to Admty.)



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- U/B. Have obtained A.S.V. contact in 32.17 N., 31.45 E. probably a submarine.  
(A/C N.O. 8Y 0150/13, to 201 Group H.Q.).
- A/C. BYY2 flare 1 twin engine aircraft 32.17 N., 31.15 E.  
(A/C N.J.8Y, 0200/13, to 201 Group H.Q.).
- U/B. German U-Boat in approx. 032° N. 027° 40' E. at 0415C/13.  
(C.O.I.S. Alexandria, 0602C/13, to S. & A., Western Desert etc.).
- M.W.11.C. M.W. 11 C. attacked by low level bombing and shallow bombing 2100/12 whilst proceeding westward. Illumination by flares for half hour. No hits. Merchant ship CITY OF CALCUTTA speed reduced to 11 knots and damaged No. 5 hold by near miss, sent to Tobruk escorted by EXMOOR and CROOME. E.T.A. about 1030/13 and await orders.  
(COVENTRY, 0755C/13, to C.in C. Med.(R) F.O. 15 C.S., Capt. D.14).  
"Launch" para. 12. M.W. 11.C is to join M.W. 11.  
(C.in C. Med., 0921C/13, to COVENTRY (R). All concerned "Vigorous").  
COVENTRY 2320(?)/12. (N.T. in W.D.). If repairs can be effected to give CITY OF CALCUTTA 14 knots she is to sail to R/V with M.W. 11 at 0630 tomorrow Sunday.  
(C.in C. Med., 1013C/13, to N.O.I.C. Tobruk (R) S.O. Force I, F.O. or Comdre C. 15. C.S. 201 N.C. Group, COVENTRY, EXMOOR).  
My 1013/13. EXMOOR and CROOME are to join M.W. 11 at 0630/14, with or without CITY OF CALCUTTA.  
(C.in C. Med., 1609C/13, to S.O. Force I. (R) Capt. (D) 14. F.O.C./15. C.S., F.O.C. 4 C.S., EXMOOR).  
Your 1013/13. After examination consider CITY OF CALCUTTA not likely to maintain 14 knots and not sea worthy for passage intended. She will remain Tobruk till further orders. Naval personnel transferred to EXMOOR and CROOME.  
(Tobruk C.C.O., 1836C/13, to C.in C. Med.(R) F.O.15 C.S. COVENTRY S.O. Force I).  
Intend to sail EXMOOR, CROOME 0200/14 in accordance with C.in C. 1609/13, (N.T. in W.R.).  
(C.C.O. Tobruk, 1901C/13, to C.in C. Med. (R) F.O.C. 15, C.S. F.O. 4th C.S. Capt. (D) 14. S.O. Force I., Capt.(D) 12).  
SEAHAM, BOSTON sailed 2301/13.  
(Tobruk C.C.O., 2303C/13, to F.O.C., C.S.(15), Capt.(D) 14.(R) C.in C. Med. F.O.C., C.S. (4).).

- Air Night 9/10. 2 Liberators unable to locate naval Bi-weekly (?units) Taranto owing to smoke screen bombed naval Opsum No.29. dock area. Damage unobserved. 10/6  
An Albacore attacked submarine 15 miles N. Sidi Barrani, submarine dived leaving large patch of oil.
- Night 10/11. Swordfish on continuous A/S patrols round Tobruk convoy made 3 attacks with D/Cs on submarines off Sidi Barrani, 1 on submarine Sollum Bay, no hits claimed and damage unknown.
- Night 11/12, 3 Liberators bombed Taranto Harbour, damaged unobserved. 15 Wellingtons bombed Piraeus Harbour as diversion to?

/special? ...



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Bi-weekly  
Opsum No.29.  
Contd.

special? operation? damage unobserved owing to searchlight dazzle 2 Wellingtons unable to locate objective bombed searchlights S.E. Athens.  
12/6. Single enemy aircraft, possibly He. 177 reconnoitred Alex and approached to Port Said at great height. 1 Hurricane climbed to 35,000 feet and fired all ammunition at extreme range without visible effect.  
(H.Q., R.A.F., M.E., 0946/13, 1004/13, 1021/13, 1057/13).

YORKSTOWN  
(sunk  
5/6).

3 survivors of YORKSTOWN (Panamanian) landed from TASMANIA. YORKSTOWN reported torpedoed and sunk in 13° 12' S. 42° 06' E. at 0330Z/5/6. Survivors recovered from raft report 2 lifeboats seen to get away.  
(N.C.S.O. Aden, 1004Z/13, to Admty (R) C.in C. E.F. etc.).

Libya  
Situation,  
Convoy  
"Vigorous".

Your 2246/12. A. Disadvantage of reduced fighter protection is realised but it is in any case weak. B. In view of the state of the land battle enemy air forces must be involved in it to some considerable extent, whereas, if convoy is turned back it may not only suffer loss without anything having been achieved but we may have to run the convoy under considerably worse conditions than those you postulate. C. We cannot keep the Eastern Fleet ships away from their station indefinitely. D. Convoy should therefore proceed unless the situation as regards aerodromes is likely to improve in the next few days.  
(1st S.L., 1139B/13, to C.in C. Med.).  
Your 1139/13. Convoy will only be turned back if a small delay is involved. Whole force has sailed except CITY OF CALCUTTA bombed last night and now in Tobruk and ELISABETH BAKKE who cannot be made to steam at more than 13 knots.  
(C.in C. Med., 1831C/13, to Admty).  
Code Word given in my 1605/13 will be signalled should it become necessary to postpone "Vigorous". On receipt of this signal Forces are to return to Alexandria by reverse of outward route.  
(C.in C. Med., 1601C/13, to all concerned "Vigorous").  
My 1601/13, code word "League".  
(C.in C. Med., 1605C/13, to all concerned "Vigorous").

U/B.

Following has been read:- One Submarine position  
34.19 35 33.  
(Beirut W/T, 1153C/13).

R/C of  
Cagliari.

Visual a.m./13. 2 Cruisers, 4 destroyers.  
(V.A. Malta, 1314C/13 to S.O. Force T., repeated  
C.S. 15, C.in C. Med. Admty).

U/Bs.

U-Boat dispositions at 1500C/13.  
(C.O.I.S. Alexandria, 1503C/13, to A.I.G. 71).

/Malta ...



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Malta Air I.359 13/6. C.S.R. Malta. 12th. 1638, 3  
Report. Spitfires escorted delivery Beauforts and  
Beaufighters, 2 Spitfires Dusk E boat search  
found nothing. Night 12/13 Alert 1925, 7 raiders.  
Ta Kali craters Aerodrome UXBS Luqa, no damage, elsewhere  
(civilian damage) Beaufighters up no interception, 1 unidentified  
bomber destroyed 1 JU.88 damaged by A/A. 13th. (0634 or 0624  
corrupt) 2 Me. 109s, 8 Spitfires up, no combat.  
(H.Q., R.A.F. Malta, 1535/13).

Intelligence Photographs a.m./13. Cagliari. 2 6 inch  
Enemy cruisers, 4 destroyers and 1 S/M. Elmas. 20  
Bases. torpedo bomber planes. Palermo 3 E. Boats.  
Catania. 66 JU.88. Comiso. 8 JU 88 and 20 SE  
fighters. Gela. 20 JU.87 and 30 SE fighters.  
Gerbini. 20 SM 79.  
(V.A. Malta, 1547C/13, to C.in C. Med. (R) F.O.C.  
N.A. S.O. Force T. C.S. 15. S.O. (I) Alexandria,  
Admty).

Taranto photograph taken at 1515C/13. No change from my 1550/12  
(Hush N.T. in W.D.) except 4 destroyers have left and battleship  
in inner harbour has moved from jetty to anchor berth exchanging  
berth with 6 inch cruisers. 2. Torpedo net in place.  
(V.A. Malta, 1855C/13, to C.in C. Med. (R) Admty, F.O.C. 15th C.S.  
F.O.C.N.A. S.O. Force T, S.O.(I) Alexandria).

Movements. Arrivals 12/6 ROMEO, CUMBRAE, TETCOTT. Departures  
12/6 SOUTHERN SEA, ST. ISSEY. M/destroyers 348, 353,  
354. Arrivals 13/6. CENTURION, KELVIN, ZULU.  
(S.O.I. Alexandria, 1553C/13, to Admty. C.in C. Med)

Black Sea. Situation report. (1) A (considerable?) number  
small craft and pontoons observed in occupied  
ports on N. coast of Sea of Azov. (2) Sevastopol  
11/6. Attacks along whole front repulsed including attempt by  
Cavalry and massed tank formations to break through Russian  
defences in area of Mackenzie Hills. Successful counter attacks  
here later drove enemy about  $\frac{1}{4}$  mile northward. (3) German and  
Russian Aircraft active throughout the day.  
(N.L.O. Black Sea, 1616C/13 to Admty, Adm.Miles).

"Vigorous" Reinforcements for "Vigorous" include the following  
information. classes. DUKE OF YORK, BIRMINGHAM, ARETHUSA,  
for S/Ms. BANGOR.  
(S.1, 1645C/13, to 1st S/M Flot).

Sinking of While visiting Turkish General Staff today I was  
Turkish informed that pieces of shell, fuses and torpedoes  
Caiques. found on the occasion of sinking of Turkish  
Caiques DUATEPE and SHAFAK on 19th and 23/5  
respectively were of Russian manufacture.  
(N.A. Ankara, 1649C/13, to Admty (R) C.in C. Med.  
S.O.I. Istanbul).



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- P. 43  
Italian  
Cruiser Hit. 2 Italian Cruisers EUGENIO DI SAVOIA Class, 4  
destroyers, course 135° speed (720) in 038° 56'  
009° 41'. One hit on one cruiser.  
*Destroyer damaged* (S/M P.43, 1831B/13, to C.in C. Med).  
*(Torpedo attack Register)*
- Raiders 9. Your 1704/6. Para.6 (A) and (B) concur.  
bluffing of (6) concur with C.in C. E.F. (2) Concur. Para.  
H.M. Ships. 9 concur in remarks of C.in C. E.F. Some  
improvement in merchant ship plots could be  
effected if H.M. Ships checked up positions of  
merchant ships passed at sea and reported them on arrival in  
harbour. In S.W. Monsoon ships frequently arrive Aden anything  
from two to five days late.  
(F.O.R.S.C.A., 1905/13, to Admty (R) C.in C. Med. C.in C. E.F.).
- U/Bs. At least 5 Italian U-boats believed to be on  
patrol in triangle Cagliari, Cape Bougaroni, Cape  
Bon.  
(N.O.I.C. Malta, 1945C/13, to CLYDE).
- P. 211 2 cruisers, 3 destroyers, bearing 170° distance  
Enemy Units. 5 miles, course 130°, 20 knots, from 38.45 N.,  
10.27 E. based on a fix obtained within  $\frac{1}{2}$  an  
hour of 0500.  
(P.211, 2045/13, to Malta W/T).
- BULKOIL BULKOIL must initially enter M.X. to discharge  
aviation spirit. (2) Route. From position M.  
(or if not using route Y from any position in S.E.  
Channel (as given Q.B.B. 197 as amended Q.B.B. 225)) to position  
(corrupt Group) given direction 4 miles from Delimara Light and  
thence in 321 direction into Marsa Scirocco. (3) Berth with  
both anchors down and stern to buoy in position 280° 1.2 miles  
from Delimara Light. Tug will not be available. Pilot if possible  
(4) Large wreck Northward of Number 1 Buoy, Marsa Scirocco.  
(N.O.I.C. Malta, 2328C/13, to C.S. 15. COVENTRY (R) C.in C. Med.  
Admty).  
My 1345/11 not to Admty. Unloading of this amount of bulk  
aviation spirit will be very difficult, but can be done. Intend  
BULKOIL shall proceed first to MX and discharge about 4000 tons  
of which only 750 can go underground. Remaining thousand to M  
Manoel Island. Discharging of fuel oil although more urgently  
required must await completion of these 2 operations as risk of  
bulk spirit in Grand Harbour cannot be accepted. Risk of fire  
to Shell installations at M X will be great over long period but  
consider it justified.  
(V.A. Malta, 2336C/13, to C.in C. Med.(R) Admty).
- Orders to My 1851/11. Cancel para. 2 (British M.T.B. may be  
S/Ms. encountered during D.4.).  
(Capt. S.I., 2331C/13, to 1 S/M F., 10 S/M F).

U/B ...



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Mediterranean. Contd.

U/B.

German U-Boat reported in approx. 032° 40' N.  
027° 15' E. at 2100C/13.  
(Capt.O.S. Alexandria, 2338C/13 to A.I.G. 71,  
A.I.G. 72).



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Aircraft Facilities. My 1726B/9/5. Following action has been taken with regard to (b) and (c) of para. 1. (b) torpedo equipment originally earmarked to Addu Atoll is now being shipped to Tanga. (c) M.T.M.U. No. 2. has been diverted to Mombasa. 2. Air Min. are being consulted about (a) provision of equipment for China Bay, and a further signal will be made on receipt of their reply. (Hd. of Air Branch, 0149B/13 to C. in C. E.I., (R) C. in C. E.F., etc.)

REVENGE, DRAGON. My 1101/9. Intend REVENGE, DRAGON, FOXHOUND, ANTHONY leave Kilindini a.m./14 for Durban. (R.A.3, 0219/13 to C. in C. E.F., C. in C. S.A., (R) D.C. in C. E.F., Admty., N.O.I.C. Durban.)

Australian Troop Movement. Convoy "Schooner". To provide for urgent movement from Ceylon to Australia of two Australian brigades total strength about 10,500 and ready about 25/6 following are shipping proposals. (Details.) (D.S.T., 0755B/13 to P.S.T.O. India.) Decided to move the two Australian Brigade Groups, about 10,500 strong now in Ceylon to Australia. 2. Intended to assemble shipping at Colombo to sail about 4/7, possibly with 3 M.T. ships loaded at Bombay and Karachi. Code name for convoy is "Schooner". Expected S. of A. 13 knots. Escort will be required. 3. D. of S.T. is trying to arrange for 1067 personnel from Egypt to reach Colombo in time for this convoy. Ship bringing them would require escort from Aden about 21/6. (D.O.D.(F), 1037B/13 to C. in C. E.F., (R) C. in C. E.I., C. in C. Med., etc.)

Shipping Control by D.C. in C. E.F. N.O.I.Cs pass to N.C.S.Os and R.Os. 1. Deputy C. in C. E.F. has assumed control and taken over routing of all merchant shipping on coast of East Africa and Madagascar between latitude of Durban and the Equator. 2. All Vesca signals relating to sailing to and from ports in this area and ships passing through the area are in future to be repeated to S.O.(I) Kilindini. 3. The following are hereby cancelled. (A) Existing shipping lane running north from 029° 21' S. (C. in C. E.I. 1718Z/9/4/1941.) (B) Diversion of shipping between 020° S. and 026° S. (My 1945Z/9/6/1942.) (C) Recent orders to hug the coast of East Africa north of Durban. 4. A centre line is established dividing North and Southbound traffic as follows - Q 011° 14' S. 041° 57' E. R. 015° 30' (S?) 042° 00' E. S. 026° 18' S. 037° 32' E. thence to Durban.



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East Indies. contd.:-

Shipping  
Control by  
D/C. in C.  
E.F.  
(Contd.)

5. Southbound merchant traffic is to be routed diversely to westward of centre line limited only by east coast of Africa.
6. Northbound traffic is to be routed diversely to eastward of centre line subject to following eastern limit (a) Comoro Island. (b) Juan de Nova 017° 02' S. 042° 43' E. (c) 50 miles from coast Madagascar.
7. Friendly aircraft may be expected between Point Q and R.
8. C. in C. E.I. 1834Z/8/3 para. 3. is amended as follows - delete W and X and substitute new position W. 011° 26' S. 043° 00' E. X. 003° 00' S. 050° 00' E.
9. The exhibition of navigation lights as laid down in C.A.M.S.I. 463, within area detailed in para. 1 above is to cease forthwith.
10. All ships speed 10 knots and over within area are to zigzag during daylight hours and moonlight nights.
11. These instructions are to be brought into force now but no diversion of ships at sea is to be attempted.  
(D.C. in C. E.F., 0901Z/13 to E.I. Stn., (R) Admty., etc.)

Troop  
Convoys,  
Route and  
Escort.

My 0901Z/13. It is intended that all W.S. convoys and other troop convoys be routed east of Madagascar and escorted.  
(2) Monsters and semi-monsters will be routed east of Madagascar unescorted.  
(D.C. in C. E.F., 0903/13 to Admty., C. in C. E.F. C. in C. E.I., C. in C. S.A., C. in C. Med., N.O.I.C. Durban, N.O.I.C. Aden, S.N.O. P.G., Cdre. R.I.N., F.O.C.R.I.N., A.C.N.B., N.Z.N.B.)

Cocos.

Your 1731B/7. Volunteers are forthcoming on following terms (details). Request early approval.  
(C. in C. Ceylon, 0933Z/13 to Admty., (R) C. in C. E.I., C.S. Colombo.)

DEVONSHIRE.

Diego Suarez departure 13/6 at 1500Z, DEVONSHIRE. (N.O.I.C. Diego Suarez, 1001C/13 to Admty., etc.)

Situation,  
Appreciation.

G.S. I views on situation arising from recent naval battles.  
(C. in C. India, 1010/13 to W.O.)  
See Lion Copy.

Madagascar  
Communications.

The strategical importance of Madagascar together with the development of Diego Suarez as (1) Fleet fuelling base (2) Convoy assembly port (3) Fleet repair base (4) centre of army and R.A.F. H.Qs., warrant provision of first class L/T communications. Suggest that present cable Durban - Zanzibar be diverted to Diego Suarez. If this diversion can be arranged very considerable improvement will be made in the L/T traffic between East Africa, Madagascar and the Union of S. Africa. Mr. Bennett



**MOST SECRET**

MOST SECRET MESSAGE IN 1010/13/June.

From C. in C. India. Date 13.6.42.

Recd. 1130.

CIPHER.

Addressed War Office.

IMMEDIATE.

055331 14196/1 cipher 12/6.

Following for D.M.I. represents G.S.I. views on situation arising from recent Naval battles.

1. Japans policy basically designed to secure her conquests. Recent operations undertaken to isolate Australia and or Russia from American aid. Cannot believe Japanese regard threat of air attack sufficiently seriously to make removal of this sole reason. Aleutians attack not early enough for diversion and indication landing may have been made suggest isolation of Russia chief objective.
2. Important point in results destruction and immobilisation Japanese aircraft carriers. Admittedly without certain knowledge of position regarding converted carriers we appreciate effect to be
  - (A) Japan cannot support expedition against India or Ceylon before 1st October.
  - (B) She cannot try again in Australasia on big scale or against Midway for some time but perhaps could before October as fighting on only one naval front involved. She must however regard hope of success problematical.
  - (C) She can probably exploit any success gained in Western Aleutians.
3. Conclusions on first and second. If operations were designed to improve Japans present strong position as an insurance against German defeat she has failed and failure is probably irretrievable. Only alternative therefore is to ensure German victory. If operations were designed to isolate Russia Japanese mean to attack Russia and think it essential to do so because it cannot be attractive proposition. Results of naval battle do not remove necessity rather increase it. We think Japan will attack Russia.
4. India Ceylon. You know our views. Cannot believe Japan would attempt face saving or gamble on facile success westward which would not further main

policy/.....



policy. Ceylon as limited objective to be held temporarily would promise substantial advantages also face saver but Japanese must appreciate effect of delay until October. Results of naval battles do not rule out coastwise advance on Bengal but Monsoon and aerodrome situation would make operation hazardous while on long term view it would not further present policy. Attack on Chittagong however always possible.

5. Above appreciation reinforced by indications of Eastward and Northward moves Japanese air forces.

1010/13.

Recd. from War Office. 0120/14.

|                     |  |
|---------------------|--|
| 1st Lord.           | War Office distribution.               |
| 1st S.L. (2)        |  |
| 5th S.L.            | C.I.G.S.                               |
| V.C.N.S.            | V.C.I.G.S.                             |
| A.C.N.S. (W)        | D.M.O. & P.                            |
| A.C.N.S. (F)(2)     | D.D.M.O. (0)                           |
| N.A. 1st S.L.       | D.M.I.                                 |
| D.O.D. (F)(2)       | D.D.M.I. (I)                           |
| D. of P. (2)        | M.O.I. 2.8. 12.                        |
| D.N.I. (4)          | M.I. 2. 2a. 2c. 3. 3c. 6. 14. (J.I.C.) |
| E.P.S.              | R.L.G.                                 |
| Hd. of M. (2)       | A.M.L.O. (C/O M.C. 2.)                 |
| I.P. (2)            | Sec. J.I.C. (2)                        |
| W.D.                | Admiralty (Head of Watch W.R.)         |
| D.C. (2)            | Air Min. (Mr. Draper Head of           |
| D.D.I.C. (2)        | A.M.C.S.)                              |
| Admiral Blake.      | India Office (War Staff)               |
| Admiral Cunningham. | Col. Office (War Staff)                |
| D.N.A.D.            | Col. Office (Col. Rolleston)(4)        |
| D. of L.D.          | For. Off. (Mr. Cavendish - Bentinck)   |



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Madagascar of Cable and Wireless concurs and states diversion  
Communications. of cables to Port T has been abandoned and  
(Contd.) considers this diversion utmost assistance and  
should be arranged if possible. Please inform  
Wilshaw through combined W/T board.  
(? D.C. in C. E.F., 1101Z/13 to Admty., (R) H.Q.  
M.E., C. in C. S.A., etc.)

Intended My 1742<sup>2</sup>/7 para. 4.  
dispositions, (a) EMERALD ordered to Durban preparatory to  
D.C. in C. W.S. 19.  
E.F. (b) CHITRAL ditto. CANTON ordered to Cape for  
passage to U.K. for refit.  
(c) DAUNTLESS to Diego Suarez. DANAE after  
escorting K.M.1 to R/V return to Mombasa.  
(d) INDOMITABLE and FROBISHER expected to return to Mombasa  
p.m./16.  
(e) REVENGE and DRAGON sail for Durban (~~14~~ 18/6.) See p. 360  
(f) Cruisers patrol off Kilindini being maintained.  
(g) (i) Expected to start Catalina patrol in Mozambique Channel  
14/6.  
(ii) DUNCAN and ACTIVE from Durban to Mombasa, destroyers via  
Mozambique Channel due 16th June.  
(iii) HURSLEY and BELVOIR will return through Mozambique Channel  
after seeing W.S. 19 clear 100 miles.  
(D.C. in C. E.F., 1253Z/13 to Admty., (R) C. in C. E.F., C. in C.  
S.A., C. in C. E.I., R.A.3.)

KOSCIUSZKO. Your 0430/13 (N.T. in W.R.) and my 0733/6 and  
0709/9 (Ref. embarking of 350 Indian troops to  
Seychelles.) KOSCIUSZKO will not now embark  
troops for Seychelles. Ship will proceed  
empty direct for Durban sailing 18/6.  
(P.S.T.O. India, 1412Z/13 to C. in C. E.I., (R)  
WORCESTERSHIRE, etc.)

D.C. in C. 1. Request all signals involving troop movements  
and Troop for which Ocean Escort may be required may now  
Movements. and in future be addressed Deputy C. in C. E.F.  
and routed to Mombasa. 2. These signals should  
also be repeated to C. in C. E.I. until 18/6 when

D.C. in C. E.F. will take over operation of escorts.  
3. D.C. in C. E.F. has already taken over escorts on the east  
African coast between Durban and the equator.  
(C. in C. E.I., 1414Z/13 to P.S.T.O. India, etc.)

ILLUSTRIOUS Following is a repetition of 1045/13 (N.T. in W.R.)  
crane from C. in C. E.F. (begins) - Admiralty (R)  
accidents. INDOMITABLE, V.A.A. from C. in C. E.F. Two  
American Crane accidents, one fatal, have  
occurred in ILLUSTRIOUS due to strips parting.  
Holback breaking rings of British manufacture in use for first  
time suspected too strong. (Ends.)  
(C. in C. E.I., 1446Z/13 to Admty., (R) INDOMITABLE.)

/Diego ...



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FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies - Contd.

Diego Your 93556 (M.O. 11) of 8/6 (1500/8). No time  
Suarez, limit was given for ultimatum issued exactly in  
eventson accordance with Admty. message to S.O.F. No. 54  
5/5. T.O.O. 1958B/1/5/42 with added paragraphs as  
follows (begins).

Your reply to this communication should be to  
me immediate in plain language by radio on 500 Kcs. (600 metres)  
using call sign GBXZ. Alternatively it should be sent by hand  
of officer under flag of truce of O.C. occupying troops. (Ends.)  
This was given to first French Officer met at 0815. W/T message  
declaring intention to fight had previously been broadcast by  
Commander Diego Suarez defences, at 0719. (? Events) as follows

- A. 0400 hours, diversionary bombardment of unoccupied area by  
HERMIONE.
- B. 0500 hours. Leaflets on town and 0600 hours leaflets and  
bombs on aerodrome. Retaliation by French.
- C. 0420 hours, first flights landed unopposed green white and  
red beaches.
- D. 5 Commando officer wounded at Windsor Castle O.P. after  
battery had surrendered without firing either side.
- E. 0700 hours, first "R" boat approaching blue beach fired at.  
Retaliation by following A.L.Cs.
- F. 1000 hours, French fired on our motor cycle patrols east  
of Adamakia. After this battle became general. Undoubtedly  
French coast and beach defences would have opened fire during  
approaches had entire garrison not been asleep.  
(121 Force, 1849/13 to W.O.)

Naval Submit DAUNTLESS is your naval representative in  
representation Diego Suarez and questions affecting naval and  
in Diego air policy be passed through me.  
Suarez. 2. Have today represented above to G.O.C. but  
address of signals as your 0750<sup>Z</sup>/11th and 1004Z/13  
weakens my position. Regarding former have  
persuaded G.O.C. to reverse decision not to investigate island  
and reconnaissance now arranged 14th June.  
3. Army attitude here parochial and defensive as usual but  
have emphasized importance of Diego Suarez as naval and air  
base particularly if shipping diverted eastward. S.A.A.F. co-  
operation good.  
4. While lack of air reinforcement realized suggest occupation  
of Charterotta Island which has a landing ground would improve  
air position if diversion (? locally) contemplated. Suspicious  
merchant ship there already reported could be dealt with by  
destroyer or corvette plus (? relief).  
(DAUNTLESS, 2031Z/13 to D.C. in C. E.F.)

S.S.  
DUQUESNE. Following from 121 Force: Ref. S.O. Force F to  
D.C. in C. E.F. 1409C/1/6 (re A/C report of  
DUQUESNE in Baie Soulon Mayotte Islands.)

Anxious to pull in DUQUESNE from (corrupt group) (? pulley).  
Ideal for this purpose is destroyer but am prepared to take on  
job with Corvette and Cmdre. If destroyer not available request  
your agreement to use of Corvette from local defence force  
(Ends.)  
(N.O.I.C. Diego Suarez, 2200C/13 to C. in C. E.F.)



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America & West Indies.

- U/B U/B estimated in your vicinity by D/F has made sighting report on a convoy or important unit at 0650Z/13.  
(Washington, 0831/13 to C.T.U. 24.1.4. C.T.U. 24.1.11. (R) C.T.U. 24., Admty. N.S.H.Q., C.O.A.C)
- O.15 Neth. S/M O.15 advises fog bound. Anchored in 41.31 N., 70. 48W., until further notice. Refer to my 0431Z/12. Originator Cdr. Subs Atlantic Fleet.  
(Navcom, Washington, 0927/13 to C. in C. U.S. Fleet, (R) C. in C. Atlantic Fleet (U.S.) C.E.S.F. Cdr. 1 and 3 N.O.B. Newport, C.T.F. 21,22,24, 28, 29, 30 C.T.G. 27.4, 26.1, 27.1).
- Submarine Notice. O.15 departed Eastern entrance Cape Cod canal 1732Z/13 following route my 2343/10. Cominch requested pass this to Admty, C.O.A.C., F.O.N.F., N.S.H.Q., B.A.D., C. in C. A.W. ., and obtain and disseminate information of intended movement after arrival position 43.00 N., 63.30 W.  
(Cdr. S/MS Atlantic Fleet, 2033/13 to Cominch (R) C.T.Fs. etc).
- Movement Summary. 1800 G.M.T. 13/6.  
PARTHIAN 34 $\frac{1}{2}$ ° N., 37 $\frac{1}{2}$ ° W., 085°, 11 knots.  
(D.O.D. (F) 0951Z/13 to Opnav (R) Comnav).
- L.A. CHRISTENSEN. My 2243/12. L.A. CHRISTENSEN torpedoed 1350R/10 in 27° 34' N., 63° 54' W.  
(C. in C. A.W.I., 1033P/13).
- Disposition. Operational Units in North Atlantic.  
Area Scapa. DUKE OF YORK, KENT, MANCHESTER, NIGERIA, NORFOLK, 1 destroyer.  
Area N. Russia 2 destroyers. Area Iceland (C). RENOWN, WASHINGTON, VICTORIOUS, TUSCALOOSA, WICHITA, CUMBERLAND 4 destroyers, 4 destroyers (U.S.) Area Clyde. DELHI, LONDON. Area Gibraltar. EAGLE, ARGUS, CHARYBDIS, CAIRO, KENYA, LIVERPOOL, 8 destroyers.  
(D.O.D. (H) 1100Z/13 to C. in C. U.S. Fleet (R) Opnav, Cinclant).
- U.S. owned Ships, Control. Your 1500/2. Request you will say whether you wish U.S. managed shipping sailing from South and West African ports and South American ports to be routed in conformity.  
(D.T.D., 1247B/13 to Connv, (R) B.A.D., etc).
- LUNENBURG. <sup>/N.T. W.D.</sup> My 0352/13. H.M.C.S. LUNENBURG returned Boston for steering gear repairs. Completed repair.  
(N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 1312Z/13).



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R.9. Following is re-encipherment of my 2302/11.  
U.S. S/M Notice. R.9. leaves Bermuda 2400Z/11  
course 020° takes patrol station in circle 40  
mile radius centered 400 miles from Bermuda bearing 020° from  
Mount Hill Light surface in darkness submerged in daylight,  
speed 90 miles daily, total bombing restrictions.  
(Cominch, 1320/13 to Admty, N.S.H.Q. etc).

ROSENBERG Ref. N.C.S. instruction 296. (A) ROSENBERG,  
(sunk 8/6). British Merchant ship (Ex FLOTSAM)  
(B) 1100R/8 018° 47' N., 085° 05' W.  
(C) Apparently went down in ship (D) Burnt in  
galley by wireless Opr. (E) Not known (F) No one seen on board  
vessel - submarine disappeared immediately vessel sank  
(G) 2nd Officer T.G. Selley (H) At beginning of action Master  
killed, Chief Officer unconscious, badly mutilated, died few  
hours later. 2nd and only other Deck Officer unaware what  
C.Bs. held or where kept.  
(B.R.O. Panama, 1427/13 to Admty).

U.S. Pacific Admty pass to C. in C. E.F. This is C. in C.  
Operations, Pac. 2147/12 to C. in C. U.S. Fleet. "Many  
information. thanks for the gracious expression in your  
1149Z/8. Hope that our Combined Forces may  
operate together for the complete destruction of  
our common enemy. Reports available do not furnish complete  
answers your questions. Indications are that Japanese fear  
torpedo plane attacks more than any other type and concentrate  
fighters against them as defence. Torpedo planes also their  
most effective weapon. They press home attacks and our fighters  
must meet them well outside the surface screen. Most effective  
use of screen of surface ships with automatic AA weapons as close  
in and interposed between attacking planes and target.  
(C. in C. U.S. Fleet, 1450/13 to Admty).

PENNYWORT. C.O.A.C's. 1900/10. (1700/10 intended re  
structural damage to PENNYWORT). Is it desired  
arrangements be made to take PENNYWORT in U.S.A.  
and if so when would she be available?  
(B.A.R.M., 1500Z/13 to N.S.H.Q. (R) Admty etc).

LILLIAN Priority SSSS 1700Z/13 LILLIAN LUCKENBACH reports  
LUCKENBACH. torpedo attack 30.25 N., 63.38 W.  
(C. in C. A.W.I., 1503P/13 to Admty).

ALLISTER My 1746R/12. (8 survivors British ALLISTER  
(sunk 29/5). arrived Port Au Prince N.T. in W.D.) Ship sunk  
29th May 018° 23' N., 078° 50' W., fifteen casual-  
ties B.A.D. pass to Connav.  
(S.O.(I) Jamaica, 1606R/13 to Admty etc).

/C.T.18...



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FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies - Contd.

- C.T.18, C.T.19. Your 1425/12. C.T.18 will sail on 16/6 in accordance with A.M. 1309/11. C.T.19 consisting of two ships is expected to leave U.K. 3/7. (D.O.D. (H) 1630Z/13 to Cinclant (R) Connav).
- N.A.11 Your 1535/12. N.A. 11 Route . From position X at 1200Z/18 through position Y. 51.58 N., 38.15 W. Z. 54.45 N., 28.20 W. A. 55.50 N., 19 .30 W. B. 56.00 N., 09.35 W. thence to Clyde. S. of A. 13.5 knots. (D.O.D. (H), 1744B/13 to C.O.A.C. Halifax (R) N.S.H.Q. etc).
- U/B positions. 13/6 Submarine Estimates. (C. in C. U.S. Fleet, 1757/13, 1754/13, 1803/13, 1807/13, 1810/13 to Admty).
- Sub. attack and sighting summary. Your 2101/12. Request repetition of two words after POLYPHEMUS and positions of D.D.S. attacks 2200Z/10 and 1600Z/11. (D.D.I.C., 1815Z/13 to Cominch).
- Ice bulletin 13/6. Navcom Washington, 1837/13.
- A/S Training. <sup>? 1851/10</sup> B.A.D. 1841/10 part (2). Confirmed that no operational assistance from U.S. will be required. Local U.S. authorities have been asked to cooperate by permitting submarines to berth at U.S. submarine base at Ordnance Island, St. Georges, but no reply yet received. Understand matter has been referred to Navy Department Request is for berthing only and any assistance B.A.D. can give in furthering this would be appreciated. (C. in C. A.W.I., 1852P/13 to Admty (R) B.A.D.)
- U/B Reports of Convoys. This is re-incypherment of 2124/12. When a U-boat makes a sighting report in proximity of two or more convoys C. in C. U.S. Fleet is uncertain which convoy is being reported but will warn all concerned. If escort of one of these convoys has obtained a D/F on a U-boat which indicates which convoy is being reported the escort shall advise C. in C. U.S. Fleet of this fact making C.T.F. 24 and other convoys concerned information addressees. Opnav and B.A.D. informed. (C. in C. U.S. Fleet, 1907/13 to C.T.F., 24., (R) Admty etc).



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America & West Indies. - Contd.

Observers, This is Alusnob Victoria's 1248/13  
Routeing "British Vice-Consul Leonard Maynes refuses to  
Instruction. instruct Naval Observers in British routeing  
methods stating that he has not been instructed  
to do so by British Authorities".  
(Navcom, Washington, 2040Z/13 to Admty).

CITIES SERVICE Serial 13. CITIES SERVICE TOLEDO, U.S. Tanker,  
TOLEDO, torpedoed sunk 13/6, 29.02 N., 91.59 W.  
SICILIEN U.S. A.T., torpedoed sunk 7/6, 17.30 N.  
(sunk). 71. 20 W., 30 survivors 50 missing.  
(Connav, 2042Z/13 to Comnav (R) N.S.H.Q., etc)

Sub. attack JULIUS H. BARNES one torpedo miss 30° 18' N., 80°  
and sighting 09' W., 0715Z/1. CASTILLA torpedoed presumed  
summary. sunk 21° 03' N., 83° 30' W., 2041Z/6. LILLIAN  
LUCKENBACH torpedoed 30° 25' N., 63° 38' W.,  
approx. 1705Z/13. OSCILLA U.88 type. ROSENBERG  
possibly U.45 type. SAN RAFAEL possibly U.32 on bow. Belief  
of first navigating officer ALEGRETE that vessel was boarded from  
sub and confidential papers obtained. One hour after abandonment  
all lights turned on for thirty minutes until commencement of  
shelling. Plane attacks sub 28° 58' N., 92° 10' W., 1500Z/12.  
Sub. contact reported 1545Z/11 resumed after four hours  
interruption. Subsequent sightings at 23° 56' N., 81° 58' W.,  
0902Z/13 and 24° 08' N., 81° 48' W., 1750Z/13 M/V sights sub.  
35° 33' N., 75° 02' W., approx. 2357Z/12. Sub. reported 04° 47'  
S., 37° 04' W., 0940Z/12. Opnav and B.A.D. informed.  
(C. in C. U.S. Fleet, 2103/13 to Admty for O.I.C.)

Washops 90. Situation at Attu is not clear. Enemy appears  
to be building an advance base at Kiska.  
16 ships were sighted in this harbour including  
2 badly damaged cruisers p.m. on 12/6. Enemy landing operation  
continuing despite bombing attacks by army and navy patrol planes  
U.S. patrol plane reports having torpedoed heavy cruiser at  
2215Z/12. No details.  
(J.S.M. Washington, 2105Z/13 to Admty etc).

Zigzagging Pass to N.C.S.Os. (Repetition of Admty 2028Z/13  
off Australia. see Australia)  
2. Masters are to be informed. C.A.M.S.I., 132/42  
in course of distribution, will be amended.  
(D.T.D., 2255B/13 to N.S.H.Q., S.O.Is. etc).

Shipping In view of B.A.D. 2315/11 indicating that  
Signals receipt of Vesca signals by Connav from Mediterran-  
U.S.A. ean and East Indies Stations is now generally  
satisfactory, are you agreeable that repetition of  
Vesca signals to Ottawa from these stations should  
be discontinued at end of June.  
2. If above agreed would it be convenient for Connav to  
commence receiving Vesca signals direct from Australian and  
New Zealand Stations as from 1/7?  
(A.C.N.S. (T) 2339B/13 to Connav, N.S.H.Q., (R) B.A.D., etc).



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FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies. - Contd.

T.F.35 Cancel previous arrangement regarding return T.F.35. Instead escort MUNARGO, SIBONEY, BARRY, sailing from U.K. on 16/6. Destination of transports New York. At appropriate place after crossing 40th Meridian on return voyage direct 13th Des. Div. to continue on with transports and battleship, LIVERMORE, KEARNY, proceed Argentina to transport Comcarlant and his personnel gear to base H (Hampton Roads). Inform C.T.G. 21.6.1. that unit hereby dissolved. Admty. will route. Refer to this as my 2558/13. (C. in C. Atlantic Fleet, 2359Z/13 to C.T.F.35 (R) C. in C. U.S. Fleet Admty. C.T.G.22.2).

Australia & New Zealand.

Air R/C. My 0846Z/14/4 (N.T. in W.D.) has been modified as follows. 6 aircraft based Perth and Geraldton search daily an area whose limits are 025° 20' S. 111° 50' E. 025° 20' S., 106° 10' E., 036° 20' S., 106° 10' E., 036° 20' (?S) 113° 30' E. (Cdre. W. Australia, 0128Z/13 to A.C.N.B., (R) C. in C. E.F. etc).

Movements Arrival Townsville 1101Z/11 GOULBURN, Port Adelaide P.G.1. 0420Z/12 WOOLLONGONG, Williamstown 0450Z/12 C.O.1. KALGOORLIE and ARUNTA. Departure Townsville 0235Z/12 GOULBURN for Brisbane escort oiler KURUMBA, Brisbane 0515Z/12 U.S. destroyer SELFRIDGE and ROCKHAMPTON escort convoy P.G.1. for Sydney, N.S.W. Convoy C.O.1 arrived Melbourne 0251Z/12 less South Australia portion detached. (A.C.N.B., 0317Z/13 to Admty etc).

GUATEMALA Panamanian Vessel GUATEMALA molested without warning (?result) sunk 1515Z/11 when straggling from convoy in position 033° 40' S., 152° 04' E. Torpedo struck ship abreast of No. 1 hatch. 2 reports to starboard were heard by Master and 2nd Off. 1500Z/11. Weather fine and clear and bright starlight. Explosion very heavy. Entire crew (in lifeboats) picked up by DOOMBA. No casualties. (A.C.N.B., 0659Z/13 to Admty etc).

Midget My 1026/9. Following details. S/Ms. (A.C.N.B., 0800Z/13 to Admty etc). See Lion Copy.

/Situation...



# MOST SECRET

M E S S A G E 0800Z/13th June

MOST SECRET

IN

From A.C.N.B.

Date 14/6/42  
Time 0803

NAVAL CYPHER (XD) BY CABLE

Extended Circulation

Addressed Admiralty, C.O.I.S. Colombo, N.Z.N.B. C. in C. Eastern Fleet, B.A.D. Washington (for OPNAV).

665. My 1026/9 following details.

(a) Charts ex Midget number 21 marked in Japanese characters 'General staff confidential February 1942'. Five pencilled positions on charts Admiralty numbers 1020 and 1021 marked Japanese characters 'picking up dispositions'. These positions on lines of bearing 110 degrees from prominent lighted and unlighted headlands

- (1) 37 miles.
- (2) Nineteen miles to Northwards
- (3) Twenty miles
- (4) Thirty three miles
- (5) 50.5 miles to Southwards outer North Head Sydney. Four EYE Class submarines spaced four kilometres apart on lines of bearing average offing inshore submarine four miles. Fifth EYE Class submarine probably the leader and carrying one aircraft stationed six kilometres Northwards or Southwards line of bearing in each. Course lines from outer North Head to position (2) indicate this rendezvous chosen for night of attack.

(b) Midget submarines. Fabricated three sections jointed by internal flanges bolted together with insertion between. Overall length 80.5 feet forward section 17 feet Midship section 34 feet 11 inches after section 22 feet 4 inches balance nose guard three feet propellers and guard 3 feet 3 inches. Midships diameter 6 feet. Height conning tower 4 feet 6 inches with additional 15 inches guard structure. Midget apparently secured above parent by

- (1) Chocks under and holding down bands over after part and
- (2) by four substantial lugs welded in wake of hatch on underside. Apparently

(1) Supplementary for ocean voyage discarded before final release which attained by letting go

(2) From within parent submarine. Power and telephone when joined by two substantial T.R.S. cables single core and two braided twin core cables of small size. These located after end Middle Section approximately four thirty and seven thirty o'clock looking from aft.

Substantially glanded inside. Trailing ends outside had been cut off. All rudders vertical and horizontal drilled with holes matching holes in vertical and horizontal 'drilled' fins allowing securing by steel strap during passage. Eyehole in each side conning tower trunk probably to assist locating position leaving joining parent. Lower hatch had been on water sealing insertion.

/ (c)



(c) Torpedoes. Weight of explosive approximately 700 lbs. Type not yet ascertained yellow in colour. Propulsion by compressed air with heater. Air vessel short and propellers small evidently short range and slow running. Cutter on head in form of cross centre portion being knife-edged pyramidal device comprising four cutters at ninety degrees. This removable from additional saw-like cutters extending back to full diameter of torpedo. Inertma type pistol fitted to side of head.

(d) Alterations to Pearl Harbour design.

- (1) Self demolition charge found forward as well as aft.
- (2) Hatch below submarine in middle section with four heavy welded lugs.
- (3) At Pearl Harbour communicating leads were at approximately ten thirty and one thirty o'clock indicating communication with something above submarine.
- (4) Steel structure welded forward of nose reported different. No evidence net cutting apparatus this structure but usual vertical fin cutters with tensioning wire to conning tower which faired over with steel guards and tensioning wire to tail fins. Apparently counted on nosing under boom net defences.
- (5) Water sealing caps to each of tubes released by hydraulic pressure acting on holding down clamps with push rod operating on upper cap. Number 21 had collided with underwater obstruction and bent steel structure. 4 Socaps failed fall clear although released. (This last fact published in local press).
- (6) Additional steel strengthening rods welded to cage-like structure around propellers and to tail structure apparently further to prevent nets fouling reverse turning propellers (apparently result press statements subsequent Pearl Harbour).

(?e) Grease on propellers upholds belief Midgets released at Sydney Harbours.

(f) Parent securing arrangements common to both Midgets examined.

(g) Sydney defences at time of attack.

- (1) Both inner loops covering whole front in action. Outer of these in fourteen fathoms gave four inward crossings.
- (2) A/T boom incomplete. Total length 4800 feet centre portion 2940 feet completed leaving gaps 960 feet. Western end (Georges Head) and 900 feet Eastern end (Green Point). Fixed beam oscillator at heads was operating but gave no indication of the passage of the Midget submarines. The boom net was floodlight by three searchlights from 2200 local time 31st May.

(h) Discovery of Midget 21 of metal air purifier and bottles of mineral water identical with similar equipment found washed ashore at Wilson's Promontory in March 1942 suggests submarine reconnaissance along South East and East coasts not later than mid February.

- (1) Enemy aerial reconnaissances by Curtis type float plane

/ were



# MOST SECRET

-3-

were carried out as follows -  
1820 28th May over Sydney Harbour. Between  
1332 and 1427 30th May in Sydney area, at  
0200 2nd June over Sydney.

0800Z/13

- 1st Lord
- 1st S.L.(2)
- Controller
- Vice Controller
- 5th S.L.
- V.C.N.S.
- A.C.N.S.(F)(2)
- A.C.N.S.(W)
- N.A. 1st S.L.
- D.O.D.(F)(2)
- D. of P.(2)
- D.N.I.(4)
- D.D.I.C.(2)
- D.C.(2)
- Hd. of M.
- D.A/S.W.
- Ad. Osborne
- I.P.(3)
- W.D.
- D.T.M.
- D.D.T.M.
- D.G.D.
- D.N.C.
- E. in C.
- D. of L.D.(2)
- D.B.D.
- D.T.S.D.
- D.N.A.D.
- D.S.R.
- D.E.E.
- D.M.W.D.
- Dep. Contr.
- D.T.M.
- D.N.C.
- E. in C.
- D.E.E.
- S.W.R.

Bath



War Diary.

13.6.1942.  
Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Australia & New Zealand - Contd.

Situation. Serial 142 from C.W.R. 12/6.  
3 Fortresses attacked aerodromes at Rabaul 12/6  
result not observed.  
(2) Tanker 4,000 tons sighted by R/C aircraft in 005° 29' S.,  
(?008°) 40' (?E) at 2343Z/11 course 130°  
(3) Photographs taken Rabaul harbour 11/6 show 5 medium sized  
merchant ships 1 large merchant ship at wharf 1 tanker 1  
destroyer, 4 small vessels 13 launches, 7 float planes 12  
flying boats. 7 heavy bombers 1 fighter on Lakunai aerodrome  
26 bombers, 4 fighters Vunakanau. My serial 140 refers.  
(4) Report indicates at least 1 enemy S/M operating Newcastle  
Port Kembla area 1 (?at) entrance Cabo Island area and 1  
possibly 2 Cape Byron Cape Moreton area.  
(5) 500 to 1,000 Japanese troops reported arrived Ermera area  
Timor (16 miles S.W. Dilli).  
(A.C.N.B., 1132Z/13 to Admty etc).

Zigzagging When in open waters within 200 miles of the coast  
of Australia, merchant ships of a speed of 10  
knots or over proceeding independently or after  
dispersal from convoy are to zig-zag by day and  
on moonlight nights with the following exceptions:-  
(a) In Heavy weather or fog. (b) When inside Barrier Reef  
passage. (c) When in near approaches to port.  
2. C.A.M.S.Is. will be amended.  
(D.T.D., 2028Z/13 to B.A.M.S., 3B., 3C, 5A, and 7 (R) Connv).

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Submarines Reported.

Estimated U-boat positions.  
(D.D. I.C., 1437B/13, 1442B/13).



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War Diary.

14.6.1942.  
Sunday.

SITUATION REPORT.

British Air Operations.

A Hudson aircraft attacked a U-Boat at 0400, 100 miles N.W. of Muckle Flugga and from the evidence it is claimed that the U-Boat was sunk.

Enemy Air Operations.

Murmansk was bombed several times today. Discharging of P.Q.16 was badly interrupted and considerable damage was caused to the railway. There were heavy civilian casualties.

Mining.

A large number of mines were swept today in the enemy minefield off Dungeness.

Mediterranean.

Operation  
"Harpoon"

\*Gibraltar

Force T was probably sighted by an Italian U/B at 0142B bearing 82° from Gibraltar. LIVERPOOL was torpedoed by an aircraft this morning 70 miles N.E. of Philippeville and at 1135C S.O. Force T reported she was proceeding to Gibraltar escorted by ANTELOPE. Her position at 1206C was 37.56 N 07.36 E. Later, ANTELOPE took her in tow with WESTCOTT in company, and vessels were sent out from ~~Malta~~\*Gibraltar to escort her in. 2 high level and 2 torpedo bombing attacks were made on Force T this morning. At least 6 enemy aircraft were destroyed. SS. TANIMBAR, (Dutch 8169 tons) was sunk. Force T was attacked again by dive bombers at 1830 and by torpedo bombers, dive bombers and high level bombers from 2000 to 2030, though no further losses were incurred.

/Force T...



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14.6.1942.  
Sunday.War Diary.SITUATION REPORT.Mediterranean. contd.:-Operation  
"Harpoon"*Not confirmed by  
Cmd. 6843 on Adv:  
Rowbotham.*

Force X was attacked by aircraft at 2210. At 2125 2 cruisers and 4 destroyers were reported leaving Palermo. Force W, the covering force parted company with Force X at 2130 in 37° 36' N, 10° 11' E. SPEEDY reports having sunk a U-Boat p.m today about 25 miles N.W. of Bizerta. SO Force T reports the following air attacks today:- 1030 to 1201 50 h.l.b. and t. 1815 to 1830 30 h.l.b. and t., 2002 to 2030 5 h.l.b. 15 t., 20 dive bombers and fighters. Preliminary estimate of losses caused to the enemy by Forces T and W:- 19 destroyed (13 by fighters, 6 by A/A fire), 4 probably destroyed, 6 possibly destroyed. Our own air casualties were 2 Hurricanes and 4 Fulmars, some of whose crews are safe.

Operation  
"Vigorous"

At 2155 C V.A. Malta reported 2 Cavour battle-ships 4 destroyers in 39° 50' N 18° 0' E steering south, and 4 cruisers and 4 destroyers in 39° 36' N 17° 58' E steering south-west at full speed at 1845C.

Convoy  
M.W.11.

TETCOTT one of the escort of Convoy M.W.11 reported enemy aircraft bombing at 1232. Position given was corrupt, but presumably off the Western Desert. The convoy was bombed again during the evening. LLANDOVERY CASTLE, TETCOTT, PRIMULA, ST.MONANCE, A.13. A.19 and M.Ls. 1039, 1046 arrived at Tobruk at 1942. LLANDOVERY CASTLE sailed again with escort at 2359C.

A Liberator bombed the naval dock area and battleships at Taranto last night. A smoke screen obscured the results.

Australia.

18 to 25 Zero fighters attacked Darwin at 0309Z today.



14.6.1942.  
Sunday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Policy.

A.C.I.C.  
Request  
for  
information  
of Movements.

Transit A/C on passage Greenland to Iceland reported sighting unidentified ship in 64° 55' N. 30° 15' W. at 1635/12. As nothing was known of any vessel in this area by Comnob special air patrols were flown to locate and shadow in case ship was enemy raider attempting to use Denmark Straits, and H.F. ships were warned. Later through U.S. Navy ship was identified after 20 hours as coastguard cutter on air-sea rescue duties at Point Baker. Request I may be given prior information of movements of U.S. ships in these waters. (A.C.I.C. 1430B/14 to Adty.)

Shortage of  
Destroyers  
at Plymouth.

Your 1220/12. Requirements for Hunts are increasing in other Commands as in your own. The decisions promulgated in my 1706/15/2 and my 1857/24/5 must therefore be adhered to for the present. (D.O.D.(H.) 1809B/14 to C. in C. Plymouth.)

Movements.

P. 46.  
P.222.

Position JAN VAN GELDER Escorting 2 S/M.'s at 0100/14 051° 29' N. 004° 57' W., southbound, 9 knots. (C. in C. Plymouth 0118B/14 to ATHERSTONE).

*See next page.*

TITANIA.

My 1428B/10. Sailed TITANIA escorted by BREDA. (Capt. S.7 1032B/14 to F.O.I.C. Greenock).

DELHI.

W.S.19Y. My 1606B/12. DELHI is to return to Clyde on completion of escort. (C. in C. W.A. 1037B/14.)

HANTONIA.

C.C.O. 0945/10. Request HANTONIA may be sailed when ready to Portland, where she will be used as necessary as accommodation ship for landing craft crews. (C. in C. Portsmouth 1147B/14 to C. in C. Plymouth.)

ALBRIGHTON.

C. in C. Portsmouth's 0953. ALBRIGHTON is to leave Southend at 2200 today and proceed to Portsmouth, so as to pass Dover at 0130/15 and thence to arrive E.A.3. buoy at 0600/15. Eastbound Consular Group is due at Sand Head Buoy at 0230/15. Speed 9 knots. N.C.S.O. Thames is to arrange for routes to be passed to ALBRIGHTON before sailing. Fighter protection arranged. (C. in C. Nore 1226B/14.)

0.9.

My 1651B/13. Sailed 0.9 escorted by Z.5. (Capt. S.7 1411B/14).

/RENOWN.....



War Diary.

14.6.1942.  
Sunday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Movements. cont.

RENOWN.  
VICTORIOUS.  
CUMBERLAND.

Request you will (1) sail RENOWN, VICTORIOUS, screened by 5 British Destroyers for Scapa as soon as convenient. (2) Relieve CUMBERLAND on patrol "White" by U.S. Cruiser as convenient and sail CUMBERLAND for Scapa after fuelling. (C. in C. H.F. 1725B/14 to C.T.F. 99).  
Your 1725B/14. Ships except CUMBERLAND directed to sail for Scapa 2230Z/14. WICHITA will relieve CUMBERLAND Tuesday morning. (C.T.F. 99 1841Z/14 to C. in C.H.F.) *See next page*  
When in all respects ready for sea request you sail with VICTORIOUS and the 5 destroyers present Hvalfjord as early as convenient for Scapa to arrive about 1700B/16. (C.T.F. 99 2230B/14 to RENOWN.)

P.46.  
P.222.

On leaving JAN VAN GELDER in 270° Bishop Rock 5 miles at 2300/14 P.222 thence through 049° 30' N. 007° 01' W. P. 46° through 049° 59' N. 007° 01' W. (C. in C. Plymouth 2048B/14 to WILD SWAN.)

*See previous page.  
9 p. 380*

Operations.

Ship reported West of Iceland on 12/6.

Your 2312B/13. Ships in company H.F. and TUSCALOOSA were kept at one hour's notice for steam pending aircraft R/C. A.C.I.C. informed ship believed to be U.S. N.G.S. coast-guard cutter doing A/S rescue duty. Ships are now at normal notice. (RENOWN 0035B/14 to C. in C. H.F.)

Northern Patrol Trawlers.

Northern Patrol Trawlers have been withdrawn from T.R.30 lines and are being disposed of on T.R. one to 5 lines with effect from 0800/15. (A.C.O.S. 1040/14 to C. in C.H.F.)

A/S Patrol. ASHANTI. WILTON. NEPAL.

Request you will sail ASHANTI, WILTON, and NEPAL with all convenient despatch to establish A/S patrol from 060° 40' N. 005° W. in direction 150° to the 100-fathom line. Object to destroy one or more U-Boats proceeding to westward from North of Shetlands. A/C from 18 Group are co-operating. Northern patrol trawlers will arrive on patrol lines N.P.5.4 and 3 at about 0800 tomorrow. (C. in C.H.F. 1209B/14 to R.A.D.)

K.C.10.

A. K.C.10. M.T.Bs.  
B. 14/15th June.  
C. St. Helens.  
D. 050° Marcouf Islands 7 miles where enemy traffic route runs in a 330° - 150° direction.  
E. 2 merchant vessels expected from Havre to Cherbourg.  
I. D. north of 50° 20' N.  
J. Carry out operation, arriving patrol 0145 leaving 0315. (C. in C. Portsmouth 1237B/14 to 11th M.T.B. Flotilla).

/Denmark.....



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14.6.1942.  
Sunday.War Diary.HOME COMMANDS.Operations-Contd.Denmark  
Straits  
Patrol.

Depart Hvalfiord as necessary to R/V with CUMBERLAND in 065° 30' N. 024° 40' W. at 0500Z/16 and relieve CUMBERLAND on patrol "White". (C.T.F. 99 1402Z/14 to WICHITA) *See previous page*

SEAWOLF  
Patrol.

*/Murmansk.*  
SEAWOLF sailed 1815C (?escort) torpedo boat routed through position M.Y. 069° 23' N. 035° 02' E. and 069° 30' N. 039° 40' E. to patrol area bounded by latitudes 069° 50' and 070° 20' and longitudes 038° 56' and 040° 24' E.  
(2) Russian (?fighter) may be recalled South of 70°.  
(3) Group P beacon will operate from 0200C during first 10 minutes of each hour if visibility is bad. (S.B.N.O. North Russia 1756B/13 to INGLEFIELD, INTREPID.)

Ice conditions impossible in present area. Propose moving to area bound 070° 20' (?069°) 50', 038° 58', 037° 29'. (SEAWOLF 2031B/14 to S.B.N.O. North Russia).

My 1756/13. On account of ice conditions limits of patrol area for SEAWOLF have been altered to 070° 20', 069° 50', 038° 058' 037° 29' from 2300B/14. (S.B.N.O. North Russia 2139B/14 to SEAWOLF, TRIDENT).

Exercises.

UREDD.

My 1516/14. UREDD escorted by SLEIPNER exercising in Forth Sanctuary, anchoring Methil on completion. (F.O.S. 1729B/14).

British Air Activity.Use of  
dummy  
R.D.F.  
Target.

It is desired to make use of dummy R.D.F. target attached to balloon flown from 1 or 2 coastal craft with the object of distracting attention of 80 centimetre German stations. Request you will inform me whether Commander Dove could be ready to undertake such an exercise in 6 days time using M.L. based on Newhaven. (V.A. Dover 0024B/14 to Adty.)

GNEISENAU.

I am very glad to see that the reported damage to GNEISENAU has now been confirmed by photographic R/C and is of such an extensive nature that she will undoubtedly be out of action for a long time. I shall be grateful if you will convey my sincere thanks and congratulations to C. in C. Bomber Command on the success the Bomber Command have achieved. (1st S.L. 0452B/14 to C.A.S.)

/JAMAICA.....



War Diary.

14.6.1942.  
Sunday.

HOME COMMANDS.

British Air Activity.-Contd.

JAMAICA.  
Proposed  
practice  
attacks.

Your A567 14/6, C. in C.W.A. 1842B/8. I should appreciate carrying out attacks with probably 3 torpedo Squadrons on both 17th and 18th/6. In view of R.A.N.A.S. 1557B/13 will JAMAICA inform me of times she will be available for my attack. (H.G. 18 Group 1402/14 to C. in C.W.A.)  
Your 1402/14. Times during which JAMAICA will be available for your attacks will be signalled as soon as JAMAICA's detailed programme is arranged. (JAMAICA 2245/14 to 18 Group).

A/C S.O.S.  
Crew  
rescued.

Your escort A/C made S.O.S. in 054° 22' N. 015° 50' W. at 1620 and will probably have to land in sea. (C. in C.W.A. 1546B/14 to LONDONDERRY). Your 1546B/14 and 1826B/14. Entire crew of Lancaster G 5858 picked up uninjured at 2021B in 053° 55' N. 015° 35' W. Rescue was result of accurate extra direction finding bearing of S.O.S. message by LONDONDERRY. Am rejoicing, LULWORTH in company. (BIDEFORD 2035B/14 to C. in C.W.A.)

Vaenga and  
Grasnaya  
Air  
Approaches.

Following received from Air Ministry. Repeats S.B.N.O. North Russia 1157B/9. (D.N.A.D. 1744B/14 to H.F. Ships carrying A/C: R Message Home 376)

North  
Russia  
C.C.  
Officers.

S.B.N.O. North Russia 2122B/8 para. 2. Coastal Command Officers should not leave Russia without further reference to Air Ministry as other projects for which their services might be required are now under consideration. (Air Ministry 1820 G.M.T./14 to 30 Mission).

Russian A/C  
communications.

H.F. Document H.Y.3. appendix one, dated 4th April, para. 3. Is this communication organization for Soviet aircraft reporting U-boats still in force please? (C. in C.H.F. 1944B/14 to S.B.N.O. Archangel).

Convoy  
H.G.84.

My 1716B/14. Expect additional air escort by two Catalinas from about 0630B/15 to 1030B/15. (C. in C. W.A. 2252B/14 to Escorts H.G. 84)

Russian  
Convoys.  
Proposed  
allocation  
of Mosquito  
A/C to C.C.

It is understood that R/C of the German bases in Northern Norway by Catalina and Liberator A/C may be unduly hazardous. Further weather conditions frequently prevent photographic R/C. Knowledge of the dispositions and movements of the German heavy units is vital to the conduct of naval operations in general and the passage of P.Q.17 and Q.P.13 convoys in particular. It is considered essential that a minimum of 6 Mosquito aircraft (Bomber type) should be allocated to Coastal Command for long range R/C duties as soon as practicable. (A.C.N.S.H. 2256B/14 to Air Min.)



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War Diary.14.6.1942.  
Sunday.HOME COMMANDS.Enemy Air Activity.M.L. 182  
attacked.

Free French M.L. 182 attacked by 2 low-flying A/C at 2231/13 with gunfire in 221° Lulworth 1 mile whilst on patrol. C.O. killed, 9 ratings wounded, 4 seriously. (F.O.I.C. Portland 0045/14) My 0045B/14. The following casualties occurred in M.L. 182. Names. (F.O.I.C. Portland 1401B/14)

BRABANT  
(Dutch,  
345 tons)  
sunk.

Entire crew of Dutch M.S. BRABANT landed Clovelly. Ship sunk by enemy A/C at 2330/13 approx. 10 miles 220° from Hartland. (N.O.I.C. Appledore 0700/14).

Convoy  
H.G.84.

At 1327/14 enemy A/C was homing U-boats on to a Convoy, probably H.G.84. (D.D.I.C. 1357B/14 to Escorts H.G.84.)

Mining.

Portsmouth.

3 Ground Mines exploded by Sweepers at 0819/13, 0822/13, and 1342/13 respectively. Details. (C. in C. Portsmouth 1023/14).

B.S.79.

Carry out B.S.79 tomorrow Monday. Departure to be taken from Q Buoy returning to 2 Buoy. (C. in C. Nore 1050B/14 to N.O.I.C. Harwich, PLOVER, ROTHESAY). My 1050/14. B.S.79 postponed for 24 hours. (C. in C. Nore 1204B/14).

Beachy  
Head.

Detonated 2 mines in 113° Beachy Head Light 6 point 4 miles. Details. (N.O.I.C. Newhaven 153/14 and 1944/14).

Clearance of  
Q.Z.X. 324.

Total area cleared extends about 2.5 miles, from Northern Edge. No mines swept. Intend proceeding 0930/15 returning to harbour 2130. (9th M/S 2103B/14 to C. in C. Portsmouth).

Enemy Intelligence.

2 Destroyers.

2 enemy destroyers sighted 342° Unitsip Navalsk 20 miles at 0044C/14. Course unknown. (S.B.N.O. North Russia 0025B/14 to INTREPID, INGLEFIELD).

Two Spanish  
Trawlers.

2 enemy auxiliary vessels bearing 050°, 8 miles, course 100°. My position 187° 5 miles from 47° N. 11° W., based on a fix obtained within half an hour of 0600. (WILD SWAN 0736B/14). My 0736. Vessels are Spanish trawlers. Am boarding. (WILD SWAN 0813B/14).



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14.6.1942.  
Sunday.War Diary.HOME COMMANDS.U-Boats.

Two U-Boats reported. NIGERIA attacked. H.M.S. NIGERIA has had 2 firm contacts on S/M in 058° 44', 003° 54' W. and 058° 46', 004° 45' W. In latter case torpedo was heard on bearing contact. Trace clearly confirmed this. (C.S.10 0136B/14 to A.C.O.S., C. in C. H.F.) (A.C.O.S. 0355/14 to Admty.)

U-Boat attacked by A/C. U-Boat sighted and attacked by Hudson A/C H/608 at 0407/14 with depth-charges in 62° 36' N. 1° 32' W. U-Boat claimed destroyed. Details. (Sumburgh 0845B/14 to 18 Group) See Lion Copy.

U/B, sighting of H.G.84. German S/M made 1st sighting report of a convoy probably H.G.84 bearing 312° given at 1305Z. (F.O.C.N.A. 1514B/14 to Escorts of H.G.84 (R) Admty. C. in C.W.A.) S/M sighted on surface bearing 080° distance 10 miles from 042° 36' N. 017° 18' W. (STORK 1800B/14). At 1624 G.M.T. German U-boat bearing 308° from Gibraltar made first sighting report. (F.O.C.N.A. 1835B/14 to S.E.C. H.G.84 (R) Admty., C. in C.W.A.) I have no long range aircraft available for H.G. 84. (F.O.C.N.A. 1902B/14 to C. in C. W.A. (R) Admty., C. in C. Plymouth.) One submarine 002° Convoy 15 miles. (STORK 2125B/14 to Admty., F.O.C.N.A. (R) C. in C.W.A.)

U-Boat reported. Following from Liberator FK226. S/M sighted 56.30 N. 09.03 W. heading 300° reference to our own. Liberator heading 150° Mag. at 1840 G.M.T. (T.A.C. Prestwick 1905 G.M.T./14 to D.O.N.C.)

Casualties and Defects.

FAIRWEATHER. CEOL-MARA. Sailed Tug ROMSEY to take FAIRWEATHER and Yacht CEOL-MARA in tow for Aultbea. E.T. A. 1630B/14. No W/T or R/T. (N.O.I.C. Aultbea 1045B/14). Your 1045B/14. Arrived and sailed. E.T.A. Aultbea 2100. (N.O.I.C. Port Z.A. 1527B/14).

NEW WESTMINSTER CITY. Your 2031/12. Approved. (S.D.G. 1520B/14 to S.B.N.O. North Russia).

ARDROSSAN. Your 1255Z/13. ARDROSSAN sustained damage in collision before arrival at Tobermory, requires dockyard repairs. On completion of working up boiler hours will be approx. 600. Ship completes working up 23/6. Request instructions. (Cdre. WESTERN ISLES 1845B/14).

GREAT OUSE. Following received from R.N.O. Workington. Master of Tug EBRO reports his tow Dredger GREAT OUSE sank at 1000B/14 in 14 fathoms in 54° 39' N. 4° 36' W. (F.O.I.C. Liverpool 2021B/14 to Admty.)



From Sumburgh.

DATE 14.6.42.

REC'D 1053

P/L by T/P

Addressed 18 Group Repeated Admiralty(O.I.C), H.Q. Coastal Command, Wick.

FORM ORANGE

A. 1. SUM/04/14/6.

2. Telephone instructions.

3. Hudson H/608 P/O Cundy Sgt. Davidson.

4. 4 X 250 lbs. Torpez D.C.

B. Extended N. UNST A/B Patrol.

2242 A/B Wick 13/6 S/C Sumburgh to refuel.

2327 landed Sumburgh 13/6.

0057 A/B Sumburgh 14/6 S/C via N. Unst Light for L Z T U 4000.

0150 reached L Z T U 4000 Began X- over patrol using Vis. 5 miles at average height 2000 feet between L Z T U 4000 L Z T U 4020 H S T U 1000 and H S T U 1020. Patrol completed once and then one and a half legs.

0219 investigated oil patch 60 yds. wide tapering for 1000 yards. to a point. Oil running E/W. probably left by a stationary submarine which on sighting an aircraft had submerged on westerly course. Pilot says he had impression of seeing an indefinite object other than this oil when aircraft was still 15/20 miles distant. Oil in P C T U 3401. Aircraft circled thrice and oil trail extended westward presumed by submarine leaving trail. Pilot decided complete first circuit of patrol and investigate further on second circuit.

0230 Resumed patrol

0353 over oil patch again P C T U 3401. Oil patch had spread having altered direction true north 1500 yards from easterly and then true west 1000 yards from southerly end. Hudson flying at 2700 feet course 270 when pilot saw through binoculars the wake of coming tower 18/20 miles distant dead ahead. Course of U/Boat due west. Hudson shadowed using cloud cover. Sighting visual although South East serviceable and watched but range poor. Speed of wake 8 to 10 knots.

0404 Hudson broke cloud at 2700 feet four miles from U/Boat closing to 2 miles before being seen by U/Boat.

0406 U/Boat in PCDS 3631/270/8 to 10 knots. Crash-dived on same course. U/Boat had large conning tower high in water with two presumed periscope standards the forward one being thick and the other to rear but not directly behind the forward one. Colour very dark green or black. Hudson approached to attack diving to 100 feet from dead astern and at

0407 released stick of 4 D.C's from 100 feet in PCDS 3628 navigator busy with camera saw 30 seconds after release of charges and while aircraft making steep turn away to starboard spray from D.C's falling from 100 feet then in turbulence of water conning tower momentarily lifted out of water then sank. Rear Gunner saw eruption in water from D.C's

then.....



then hump of water breaking into column at least 150 feet high after conning tower had come up and sunk again and D.C. turbulence subsided a large amount of air bubbles boiled to surface followed by large elliptical patch of oil which spread rapidly and on leaving 45 minutes later measured about 1000 yards long 400 wide elliptical. Oil thick and was very black on first appearance later becoming iridescent in early light. Unidentifiable small pieces of debris showed in oil. Direction of patch indicated U/Boat attempted turn starboard not more than 10 degrees.

0455 From P C D S 3628 S/C Sumburgh via N. Unst

Light.

0607 Landed Sumburgh 14/6 S.E. carried used and serviceable but range only 20 miles. 70 per cent patrol flown in cloud of average base 2000 feet navigator certain of U/Boat position on attack. Estimate 1st, 2nd and 3rd D.C. hit and 4th overshoot slightly. Claimed U/Boat destroyed.

- C.
1. Conning tower awash 0353 P C D S 3633, 8 to 10 knots.
  2. 18 Miles 270 Degrees A/C at 2700 feet S.E. short range homing. Sighting visual and S.E. range poor.
  3. Large conning tower with one thick periscope standard forward and one thinner aft on conning tower but not directly behind the thick one.
  4. Much heavy black oil eventually extending to patch elliptical 1000 yards by 400 yards.
  6. N/A.
  7. From 2700 feet throttled back to gliding speed to avoid noise attacked releasing charges at 100 feet from starboard quarter to port bow.
  8. Four D.C's terpeX. Mark 8 - tail pistol - Mark 13. Pistol - Mark 13 released from 100 feet setting 25 feet spacing 40 feet at 175 M.P.H.
  9. None.
  10. 45 Seconds.
  11. Centre of stick about 60 to 80 yards in front of swirl.
  12. Both oil and bubbles seen 30 seconds after burst.
  13. 48 Minutes not due for relief.
  14. After stick dropped conning tower reappeared momentarily in centre of bursts.
- H.
1. P.C D S 3628.
  2. 0407.



- 3 -

3. Extreme below cloud.
4. 10/10 - 2500 feet CU and 10/10 - 3500 - SC.
5. 12/030 - 2700.
6. Very calm.
7. Nil.
8. Fair.

B  
0845/14

1st Lord  
 1st S.L.  
 4th S.L.  
 5th S.L.  
 V.C.N.S.  
 A.C.N.S. (H)  
 A.C.N.S. (T)  
 A.C.N.S. (W)  
 N.A. to 1st S.L.  
 Capt. Pim, Admiralty Hse.  
 Ops (3)  
 O.D. (5)  
 D.N.I. (4)  
 D.T.D. (4)  
 D.T.D. (M)  
 D.T.D. (C)  
 O.I.G. (4)  
 D. of P. (3)  
 D.A/S.W. (2)  
 I.P. (3)  
 W.D.  
 D.P.D.  
 D.S.D. (2)  
 M (7)  
 U.S.N. (3)  
 D.N.A.D.  
 C.C.L.S.  
 Admiral Usborne.



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14.6.1942.  
Sunday.War Diary.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping and Convoys.S/M Escorts  
of Russian  
Convoys.  
Precaution.

Now the enemy is aware that submarines form part of escort of north Russian convoys it seems possible that proportion of bombers in each (? attack) may carry depth charges with special object of (?destroying) submarines. Suggested that submarines should be warned to take no undue risks on the surface when attack imminent. (S.B.N.O. North Russia 0628B/14 to F.O.S.)

C.T.18.

C.T.18. Intend sailing convoy and escort as in Admiralty 1309B/11, passing Clyde Boom 2130B/16, passing through position (P) at 0800B/17, thence as in Admty. 1831B/12. (N.O.I.C. Greenock 1006B/14).

C.T.18. My 1309/11. Amend para. 3. S. of A. 13½ knots. (D.O.D. (H.) 1055B/14).

P.Q.17.

Admty. 2056B/12, 1807B/13.

1. A. A/A escort. PALOMARES, POZARICA.  
B. A/S escort. KEPPEL, S.O. DOUGLAS, LEAMINGTON, SAMPHIRE, LOTUS, LA MALOUINE, DIANELLA.

2. Rescue craft are to be detailed by F.O.I.C. Greenock.

3. Ships are to sail from Londonderry to Seidisfjord to arrive 26/6 as follows.

A. A/A ships, corvettes, and rescue craft in company 25/6.

B. Destroyers 24/6.

4. F.O.S. I.C. Belfast and Greenock are requested to sail A/A ships and rescue craft respectively to Londonderry as requisite.

5. All ships are to come under orders of C. in C. H.F. on arrival at Seidisfjord. (C. in C. W.A. 1014B/14).

S.C.85.

S.C.85. Average speed 6.9. knots. Good weather and no stragglers. All ships now reported. (D.T.D. 1240Z/14 to Connav.)

Adty.  
instructions.

A tanker whose declared speed for several previous voyages had been under ten knots was recently ordered by Admiralty to be included in O.N.S. 102. Although the master declared 10½ knots for this voyage, no suggestion was made to Admiralty that the ship should be held for fast convoy, and the ship was sailed in O.N.S. 102.

If an instruction received from Admiralty seems to be contrary to established practice this must be pointed out and confirmation asked for. (D.T.D. 1441B/14 to C. in C.W.A.)

A/A Escort  
positions.

My 1014B/14. From experience in this Command I consider that when two A.A. Vessels are included in convoy escort they should be stationed on opposite sides of the convoy close to wing columns and working in Echelon. It is not considered that they should be stationed inside the the convoy. It is most desirable that A.A. Ships C.O.S. should attend the convoy conference. (C. in C. W.A. 1803B/14 to C. in C.H.F.)



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War Diary.

14.6.1942.  
Sunday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping and Convoys-Contd.

TEGELBERG.

Request you will instruct Captain of Dutch TEGELBERG in the sense of my 1849/4/5 para. 5. Ship reported position on two occasions in terms of latitude and longitude. (D.T.D. 1912B/14 to N.C.S.O. Mersey.)

B.5.  
Escort  
Group.

Following received from C. in C.A. & W.I. Begins. Commander U.S. Forces at Curacao is enquiring when remainder of B.5. group may be expected as present sailings of O.T. Convoys cannot be maintained with existing number of ships owing to boiler cleaning and defects. BUTTERCUP and COLUMBINE left Bermuda 11/6 for Caribbean. Request information re POPPY, CAMELIA and SAXIFRAGE. 2212P/12. Ends. Request your remarks. (D.T.D. 2138B/14 to C. in C.W.A.)

H.G. 84.

Sighted by U-Boat. (See U-Boats.)



14.6.1942.  
Sunday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

Force T,  
Force Y. Signals from F.O.C.N.A. to Force T and Force Y are precised in Mediterranean.

LIVERPOOL (Op. "Harpoon"). Torpedoed. See Mediterranean, <sup>1135c/14</sup> 1258B/14, 1302B/14, 2116C/14, 2242B/14. ^

Op. "Harpoon". See Mediterranean, 2252B/14.

U/B, Bearings at 0128Z of Italian U-boat 56D. (D.D.I.C., 0402B/14 to F.O.C.N.A.)

UTMOST, PARTHIAN. UTMOST from 225° St. Vincent 20 miles proceeding on surface at 8½ knots also R/V your escort in position H at 0730B/20. (F.O.C.N.A., 0940B/14 to PARTHIAN).

P.222  
P.46. 1. P.222 and P.46 pass Bishop Rock at 2300B/14 and will cross 043° 00' N., as follows. P.222 at 012° 30' W., at 2300B/20. P.46 at 013° 30' W., at 0300B/22 both submarines proceed thence as ordered by F.O.C.N.A. Surface S. of A. P.222 11 knots P.46 9 knots.  
3. Both submarines are painted grey with light grey figures. (Capt. (S) 3., 1005B/14 to F.O.C.N.A. (R) F.O.S. Admty. C. in C. Plymouth, C. in C. Med., Capt. (S) 1, Capt. (S) 8, Capt. (S) 10, Capt. (S) 5). *See p 273*

GERANIUM,  
BROWN  
RANGER. Message 0758B/14 (N.T. in W.D.) - P. Tables not carried. BROWN RANGER has 830 tons fuel available. Enemy A/C shadowing. My P.C. and S. 160 D.D.O.H., 19 260 13. (GERANIUM, 1032C/14 to F.O.C.N.A. (R) S.O. Force X., S.O. Force T).

GEORGE H.  
JONES. Your 1121B/10. British Tanker GEORGE H. JONES has not arrived Ponta Delgada. (N.C.S.O. Ponta Delgada, 1203/14 to Admty (R) F.O.C.N.A.)

Situation Report. Area X. Situation 2001B/14.  
1. H.G.84 042°43', 017° 26', 359° 6¾ S.O. STORK.  
2. CARLISLE, 1 destroyer 31° 02', 11° 38' through 32° 27' 10° 40' thence 046° 14.  
3. ALOUETTE, 1 Merchant Ship off Cape St. Vincent coastwise to Gibraltar 8.  
4. *Not identified* SELSEY patrol Huelva Bight. R/V 1 Merchant Ship off Huelva 1800/15 and escort coastwise to Lisbon.  
5. LOCH OSKAIG patrol off Lisbon.  
6. STELLA CARINA escorting Cable ship MIRROR vicinity 36°51' 10° (236').  
7. PANTHER 34° 08' 09° 25' to Gibraltar 14.  
8. IMPERIALIST sailed 0900/15 coastwise to patrol off Cape Roca. (F.O.C.N.A., 1328B/14 to N.A. Stn).

/Area...



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14.6.1942.  
Sunday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic - Contd.

Situation report. Area Z at 2001B/14. ARMERIA left 27th 023° 50', 017° 08' through 21° 09' 18° 40' thence 180° 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ .  
Contd. 2. SUNBURST, STORMCENTRE, 1 merchant ship 19° 30', 21° 40' 154° 8.  
3. MOONSHINE 1 tug 2° 57', 24° 33' 158° 8.  
4. O.S.30. 19° 50', 21° 15', 171° 8 $\frac{3}{4}$  S.O. PHILANTE.  
5. PARTHIAN 34° 42' 32° 22', 88° 11'.  
6. Italian tankers ARCOLA, TAIGETE 24° 50', 58° 253° 9.  
(F.O.C.N.A., 1348B/14 to N.A. Station).

U/B sighting of Convoy H.G.84. See Home Commands 1514B/14, 1835B/14, 1902B/14 2125B/14.

French Shipping. Gibraltar 0805 destroyer L'ALCYON, minesweeper ENGAGEANTE S.S. BELLE ISLE light, KITA, laden, BRESTOIS, full deck cargo motor transport. ALGERIE, STE. MAXIME both laden deck cargoes timber and 12 motor buses respectively, trawlers BRITTIA, TATIANA, AUGUSTE DENISE, westbound.  
(S.O.(I) Gibraltar, 1757B/14 to Admty etc).

AFRICAN OCCIDENTAL, (Portuguese) Blockade. H.M. Consul St. Vincent (C.V.) will report to you departure of AFRICAN OCCIDENTAL for Lisbon. Desirable to send ship in for examination. Ship Navicert has been granted merely to avoid arousing suspicions of Master who is believed to be smuggling gold and other contraband. Instructions to C.C.S.O. follows.  
(D.E.W.D., 1914B/14 to F.O.C.N.A. (R) C.C.S.O. Gibraltar).

South Atlantic.

SCYTHIA, NIEUW AMSTERDAM. Your 1245/13. Proposal (A) not acceptable. Proposal (B) PASTEUR cannot be made available. All personnel from SCYTHIA are to be embarked in NIEUW AMSTERDAM and ship sailed independently for Suez providing she will be ready by 20/6.  
2. Personnel displaced from NIEUW AMSTERDAM are to be on-carried in SCYTHIA in convoy C.M.29.  
3. If repairs to NIEUW AMSTERDAM are likely to delay her beyond 20/6 CHITRAL is to be held and priority passengers are to be embarked in her as in your para. 3 and ship sailed to overtake W.S.19.  
(D.O.D. (F) 0040B/14 to C. in C. S.A., (R) C. in C. E.F., C. in C. Med., (and for Mideast) F.O.R.S.C.A., N.O.I.C. Durban, CHITRAL, P.S.T.O. Simonstown.)

/On...



14.6.1942.  
Sunday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic.

SCYTHIA, On arrival NIEUW AMSTERDAM today inform master  
NIEUW ship is required for urgent service by 21/6.  
AMSTERDAM, All available repair resource of port should be  
Contd. placed at dispersal to ensure this. Remainder of  
refit will have to be deferred until return to  
Union.

(ii) SCYTHIA with 4,000 personnel of 8th Armoured Division will be sailed from Capetown for Port Elizabeth as convenient during the week. Most troops will embark in NIEUW AMSTERDAM and latter sails independently to Durban as soon as ready. On arrival Durban ship should be fuelled and stored without delay and sailed independently for Suez at best speed. Additional troops to capacity may be embarked Durban. A.M. 0040/14 not to N.O.I.C. Port Elizabeth refers.

(iii) After discharging SCYTHIA should return to Capetown to embark troops for Mideast. SCYTHIA will then proceed Durban to complete to capacity and accompany C.M.29 about 1/7.

(C. in C. S.A., 1155B /14 to N.O.I.C. Port Elizabeth, N.O.I.C. Durban, (R) C. in C. E.F., F.O.C. Red Sea Force CHITRAL, C. in C. Med., and Mideast D. of S.T.)

O.15 Submarine notice. Ref. my 2033/13 (N.T. in W.D.) following additional information from Netherlands Sub. Q15 S. of A. 10 knots, E.T.A. (?Halifax) 2000/15.  
(Commander S/Ms Atlantic Fleet, 0750/14 to C. in C. U.S. Fleet).

Dispositions. Weekly state 13/6. Freetown PHILOCTETES, EDINBURGH CASTLE, NELSON, VELOX, DERWENT, WIVERN three corvettes PRETORIA CASTLE. Freetown Area. RODNEY, QUENTIN, PENN, PATHFINDER, CORINTHIAN, LARGS, BRIDGEWATER, 5 corvettes BOREAS. Takoradi Area 2 corvettes. Lagos 1 corvette. Simonstown \*VINDICTIVE. Ascension Area. xx CARNARVON CASTLE, ASTURIAS, \*ARCHER. U.K. VANSITTART, WILD SWAN BRILLIANT, VIMY 4 corvettes. On passage to Freetown 1 corvette. On passage to Capetown 1 corvette.  
(R.A. West Africa, 1010Z/14 to Admty. C. in C. S.A. etc).

xx See p.384

\* See next page.

RAMILLIES. In view of change in REVENGE's programme intend docking RAMILLIES p.m./15/6. She can be temporarily undocked to dock REVENGE later if necessary.  
(C.S. Durban, 1110/14 to Admty. (R) N.O.I.C. Durban, RAMILLIES, C. in C. S.A., C. in C. E.F. R.A. 3.)

Shipping information to H.M. Ships. Your 1912/9. Ships dispersing from convoy all ships sailing from U.S. and West Indies Area to African ports are plotted from port of departure. Action most desired is prompt notification of expected time of sailing and expected date and position of dispersal.  
(C. in C. S.A., 1155B/14 to C. in C. A.W.I., (R) S.O.(I) Jamaica, N.S.H.Q. Ottawa).

/Air....



14.6.1942.  
Sunday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic. - Contd.

Air R/C of Dakar at 1220/13/6 Pilot states no change in position of RICHELIEU and Cruisers. Following covered by photographs 2 Fantasque class Destroyers 1 mile E.S.E. point De Beloir heading N. Since 1/6 Destroyer L'AUDACIEUX in Dock. JULES VERNE in usual berth with 7 submarines present. (R.A. West Africa, 1203Z/14 to Admty).

STANFORD My 1230Z/5. STANFORD arrived. (S.O.(I) Freetown, 1300Z/14 to Admty (R) C. in C. S.A.)

Movements Summary. (?20)00Z/14/6. (?ALCANTARA) about 016° 00' S., 007° (?40') 103° (?13).5 knots. SOUTHERN PRIDE on patrol in False Bay. (?SHROPSHIRE) CHESHIRE, BELVOIR, HURSLEY with Capetown portion W.S. R/V Durban portion 0800Z/15 at outer end of Durban searched channel. CHILTERN 024° 00' S., 013° 15' E., to Simonstown. BUSHWOOD, ESTRELLA DO MAR 030° 20' S., 011° 00' E., to Capetown. BELLWORT in tow of STEYLER, EMPIRE BIRCH, EMPIRE LINDEN 018° 00' S., 010° 30' E., to Walvis Bay. → VINDICTIVE 033° 30' S., 017° (?00') East to Freetown 15.3 knots. W.S.19 Q 004° 00' S., 010° 30' W., to Cape 19.5 knots. (C. in C. S.A., 1406B/14 to S.A. Station Sqdn. (R) Admty).

LYLEPARK (British) sunk by Raider 11/6. Captain and 1 survivor from LYLEPARK rescued in 011° 47' S., 010° 48' (corrupt group). States ship sunk by raider at 1930/11/6 in 012° S., 010° W., Description indicates raider H. Raider last seen 2000/11 course 180. (ARCHER, 1514Z/14 to R.A. West Africa (R) Admty). ARCHER has picked up 2 survivors from LYLEPARK sunk in 012° S., 010° W., 1930/11 by raider. Description corresponds with raider H raider was last seen on course 180°. (R.A. West Africa, 1839Z/14 to Ships in Area P. (R) C. in C. S.A., C. in C. U.S. Atlantic Fleet, T.F.23 C. in C.U.S. Fleet W.S.19 Q).

→ VINDICTIVE. Left Simonstown 0900Z/14 for Freetown routed A. 15° 00' S., 03° 00' E. B. 02.00 N., 10.00 S. of A 15.3 knots to 20 S., thence 14 knots. E.T.A. Freetown 1300Z/23. Requires to D/G range before passing Boom. Shifts to W/T organisation for Area P. at 1600Z/18. (C. in C. S.A., 1615B/14 to Admty, R.A.W.A.F.)

WICHITA R.A.F. claim A one priority for WICHITA request confirmation from you. (S.T.O. Bathurst, 1650Z/14 to D. of S.T.)

Vichy A/C. Intercepted W/T from Vichy to Gov. Gen. Antananarivo indicates aeroplane left Vichy for Madagascar on or about 10/6. (S.O.(I) Capetown, 1652B/14 to Admty (for D.N.I.) etc).

/CARNARVON...



14.6.1942.  
Sunday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic. - Contd.

CARNARVON  
CASTLE.

My position at 2000Z/14. 008° 40' S., 008° 20' W.  
course and speed 114° 15 knots. Fuel remaining  
(758%) (Alternative signification 78%)  
(CARNARVON CASTLE, 2004Z/14 to R.A. West Africa).

BARON  
BELHAVEN  
(British).

Following from MOONCREST T.O.O. 1600Z/14 (Begins)  
S.T.O. Mombasa require tug assistance immediately  
BARON BELHAVEN attempted but tow rope broke.  
Acknowledge if any assistance coming by any craft  
capable of towing (ends).  
(C. in C. S.A., 2341B/14 to Dep. C. in C. E.F.)

Mediterranean.

Operation  
"Harpoon".

1 Sunderland 7 X.M.X. air borne searching  
outside 45 patrol to 004° E., relieved by  
Catalina (?) 7 X M B at 1100 examining on patrol  
until 2145.

(F.O.C.N.A., 0042B/14 to Force T).

Following received. P.C. and S. of 2 enemy cruisers and 3  
destroyers 38.30 N., 12.32 E., 085° 22 knots.

(Nore W/T, 0255/14).

You were probably sighted by an Italian S/M at 0142B bearing 082°  
from Gibraltar.

(F.O.C.N.A. 0258B/14 to Force T. (R) Admty. C. in C. Med.,)

You were reported by enemy aircraft at 0550B and 0605B/14

Force Y was probably reported at 0710.

(F.O.C.N.A., 0756A/14 to Force T (R) Admty, C. in C. Med.,  
V.A. Malta).

You were probably reported by enemy aircraft at 0710B today 14/6.

(F.O.C.N.A., 0758B/14 to Force Y (R) S.O. Force T).

Situation at 1135C/14. LIVERPOOL hit by 1 torpedo proceeding

to Gibraltar escorted by ANTELOPE. TANIMBAR sunk. 2 high  
level bombing attacks and two torpedo bombing attacks. Six enemy  
A/C known destroyed. My P.C. and S. are 037° 58' N., 007° 44'  
E., 100° 12½ knots.

(S.O. Force T., 1135C/14 to Admty (R) F.O.C.N.A. V.A. Malta).

Torpedoed proceeding to Gibraltar. My P.C. and S. 037° 56' N.  
007° 36' E., 270° 4 knots.

(?ONSLOW) in company. Request maximum air cover.

(LIVERPOOL, 1206C/14 to F.O.C.N.A.).

Proceed (?forthwith) to position 000° Cape Casane (?Caxine) 30  
miles. Acknowledge forthwith.

(F.O.C.N.A., 1258B/14 to LADY HOGARTH, SALVONIA, (R) Admty,  
LIVERPOOL, S.O. Force T).

Ref. summary of stores. Number of M.L.C. loaded in TANIMBAR  
2, CHANT 2, BURDWAN, 2, TROILUS 1.

(Admty, 1320B/14 to V.A. Malta).

Your 1206/14 Catalina call sign 7 X M B should join you about  
1630B as escort..

(F.O.C.N.A., 1302B/14 to LIVERPOOL (R) Admty, S.O. Force T).

/Expect...

LIVERPOOL  
hit.



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FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

Operation "Harpoon".  
 Contd. Expect A/S escort of one Sunderland seven X M N from 1630 to 2030.  
 One Maryland expected time of departure 1700 simultaneously.  
 (F.O.C.N.A., 1426B/14 to Force Y repeated Force T.)

LADY HOGARTH.

My 0940/14 and 1309/14 para. 2., cruiser not in Messina or Straits. Baltimore leaving now to search towards Taranto. (V.A. Malta, 1610C/14 to S.O. Force T., F.O.C. 15th C.S. (R) C. in C. Med., Admiralty, F.O.C.N.A.)  
 Enemy A/C reported sighted 1 cruiser and 2 destroyers at about 1300 G.M.T. Force T sighted again at 1305 G.M.T. by another enemy A/C.  
 (F.O.C.N.A.S., 1644B/14 to Force T. (R) Admty. C. in C. Med., N.O.I.C. Malta).  
 Enemy A/C reports sighting one cruiser given by D.R. at 1450 G.M.T.  
 (F.O.C.N.A., 1742B/14 to S.O. Force T).  
 My 1610/14. Two cruisers in Palermo at 1800C, three destroyers steering S., from Ustica.  
 (V.A. Malta, 2004C/14 to S.O. 15th C.S., S.O. Force T., (R) C. in C. Med., F.O.C.N.A. Admty).  
 My position and speed are 037° 48' N., 006° 36' E., 9 knots altering to 272° at 2300. In tow of ANTELOPE. WESTCOTT in company. Have been frequently attacked by A/C and am still being shadowed. Everything in garden lovely.  
 (LIVERPOOL, 2116C/14 to F.O.C.N.A., (R) S.O. Force T., Admty).  
 2 Cruisers 4 Destroyers leaving Palermo at 2125.  
 (V.A. Malta, 2215C/14 to S.O. Force T., Med., Fleet, (R) Admty. C. in C. Med).  
 SALVONIA should pass through position 359° Cape Gaxine 30 miles at about 1440B/15 steering 080° making good about 11 knots.  
 (F.O.C.N.A., 2242B/14 to LIVERPOOL, SALVONIA, (R) Admty, LADY HOGARTH, WESTCOTT, S.O. Force T).  
 4 Destroyers and 2 cruisers reported leaving Palermo at 2125.  
 (F.O.C.N.A., 2252B/14 to 8th S.F.)  
 My. 1135. Force T and convoy attacked by dive bombers at 1830. Attacked by torpedo bombers, dive bombers and high level bombers from 2000 to 2030. Force W parted company with Force X at 2130 in 037° 36' N., 10° 11' E.  
 MALAYA, EAGLE, ARGUS, CHARYBDIS, ONSLOW, ICARUS, WISHART, ESCAPADE, WRESTLER and VIDETTE in company. No further casualties to Force T or convoy up to 2130, but Force X was attacked by A/C at 2210. A/C claimed and casualties up to 2130 will be reported later.  
 (S.O. Force T., 2300C/14 to Admty (R) F.O.C.N.A., V.A. Malta).  
 Two S/Ms in straits of Messina course S. at 1400/14.  
 (V.A. Malta, 2301C/14 to WELSHMAN (R) Med., Fleet, Force T., C. in C. Med., Admty).

Convoy M.W.11. (Operation "Vigorous") At 2315 A.S.V. aircraft reported have had contact with Italian Cruiser GORIZIA (?12) miles from convoy M.W.11.  
 (C. in C. Med., 0112C/14 to Med., Fleet).  
 If unable to overtake at daylight proceed to Mersa Matruh and await orders. Report when engine repairs are completed.  
 (Capt. D.14, 0140C/14 to ERICA (R) C. in C. Med., (corrupt group) R.A.D. Med., R.A. Alexandria, N.O.I.C. Mersa Matruh).



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M.W.11.  
Contd.Bottom end gone, max. speed 4 knots, intend proceeding Mersa Matruh to affect repairs by ship ~~is still~~, my position ~~021~~ 30 N., 027° 08' 30" E.

ERICA, 0203C/14 to C. in C. Med., F.O.C. 15th C.S. (R) SIKH, R.A.D., Med., R.A. Alexandria, DELPHINIUM, N.O.I.C. Mersa Matruh).

EXMOOR, CROOME sailed 0230/14.  
(Tobruk, 0233B/14 to C.S.15, Capt. (D) 14 (R) C. in C. Med., N.O.I.C. Haifa, C.S.4).

(ERICA's) 0203/14, keep PRIMULA and SNAPDRAGON.  
(C. in C. Med., 0517C/14 to C.S.15 (R) C.S.4 Capt. D. (14) R.A.D. Med., R.A. Alexandria S.O. Force I).

Following has been read:- Am over enemy submarine in 37.20 N. 7.55 E.  
(Med. A/C call sign 7XMS 0410/14 to Call sign C.F.G.6).  
Request fighter protection for one merchant ship TETCOTT, PRIMULA detached to Tobruk from M.W. 11 in 032° 37' 024° 50' at 0850. Codeword "Ocean".  
(C. in C. Med., 1127C/14 to Naval and Air Authorities Western Desert (R) TETCOTT, F.O.C. 15th C.S.)  
Sail CITY OF CALCUTTA, AAGTEKERK, TETCOTT, PRIMULA, HYACINTH for Alexandria after dark today.  
(C. in C. Med., Fleet, 1152C/14 to S.O. Force I). *See next page*  
Enemy A/C bombing 055° ACI D.7.  
(TETCOTT, 1232/14 to Authority call sign MSB.)  
Proceeding to Tobruk with 140 survivors. E.T.A. 0500C/15.  
(ANTWERP, 1940/14 to R.A. 15th C.S.)  
Proceed Tobruk.  
(C.S.15 1949C/14 to ANTWERP, MALINES).  
Eleven A/Cs (type unknown) in position W VKER 5734.  
(ANTWERP, 2026/14)  
STOKER being attacked by enemy A/C in position 32° 50' N., 23° 42' E.  
(FAIRY 2035/14).

→ Arrival ERICA. Departure M.Ls. 348, and 353.  
(Mersa Matruh 2105C/14 to N.C.S.O. Alexandria).  
Convoy is being shadowed by enemy A/C from Derna (corrupt group ?2330).  
(2117C/14 to C. in C. Med).  
Enemy A/C bombing STOKER in 33° 45' N., 23° 56' E. 4556.  
(ANTWERP. 2146/14).  
If you are delayed and require fighter protection daylight tomorrow signal P.C. and S. to fighter H.Q. Tobruk area.  
(S.O. Force I., 2157C/14 to ANTWERP, MALINES, (R) Fighter H.Q. Tobruk Area).  
ANTWERP and MALINES expected to arrive Tobruk first light tomorrow through 032° 15' N., 024° 30' E., speed 17 knots.  
Request fighter protection.  
(C. in C. Med., Fleet, 2237C/14 to Fighter Headquarters Tobruk Area (R) ANTWERP, N.O.I.C. Tobruk 201 Naval Co-operation Group)

/Operation...



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Operation "Vigorous". Cagliari force last sighted by Wellington at 0425B/14 in 038° 17' N., 013° 33' E., course 110. high speed. If (?Taranto) R/C due back about 1230 shows no material change intend to discontinue Sardinia Sicily line patrol (?and) establish patrol east of Messina to re(?locate).  
(V.A. Malta, 0940C/14 to S.O. Force T., (R) C. in C. Med., Admty. C.S.15 F.O.C.N.A.)  
"Vigorous" app. 4, part-1, para. 2.  
A. Add "F.O.C. 4th C.S. and Forces if detached codeword "Novel" call sign B C A". App. 6 para. 13, add note "Air striking forces from Malta should be homed on 295 k/cs using same procedure".  
(C. in C. Med., 1016C/14 to Med., Fleet, (R) A.O.C. Egypt).  
Arrivals 13/6. PALADIN, INCONSTANT, NAPIER, PAKENHAM, NESTOR, NIZAM, FORTUNE, NORMAN, HOTSPUR, DULVERTON, HURWORTH, ERIDGE, BEAUFORT, AIREDALE, ALDENHAM. Departures 13/6. TETCOTT, HERO, JAVELIN, SIKH, ZULU, HASTY, JERVIS, KELVIN, CENTURION, DIDO, EURYALUS, HERMIONE, NEWCASTLE, BIRMINGHAM, ARETHUSA, NAPIER NORMAN, NESTOR, NIZAM, FORTUNE, GRIFFIN, AIREDALE, ALDENHAM, DELPHINIUM, PRIMULA, ERICA, SNAPDRAGON, MALINES, ANTWERP M.T.Bs. 62, 73, 265, 266, 268, 269. Arrivals 14/6. M.T.Bs. 73, 266. (S.O.(I) Alexandria, 1840C/14).  
Sighting from A/C, 2 BS CAVOUR, 4 DR 39.45 N., 18.05 E., course S., 4 CR, 4 DR, 39.30 N., 17.50 E., course S.W. (A/C GSW, 1845C/14).  
Two CAVOUR battleships four destroyers 039° 50' 018° 00' course S. Four Cruisers four destroyers 039° 36', 017° 58' course S.W. full speed at 1845C/1.  
(V.A. Malta, 2155C/14 to Med., Fleet (R)S.O. Force T., C. in C. Med., Admty).  
Do you wish me to retire. Request immediate reply.  
(C.S.15, 2315C/14 to C. in C. Med). *Reply: not yet. (C.C.O. 0001C/15)*  
Return forthwith to line A - D and V - Z. Carry out operation "Vigorous" (?re) paragraph 6 (ii) and (iii) on 16th.  
(Capt. S.L., 2356C/14 to 1st S/M F. 10th S/M F. C.S.15).  
14/6. Arrivals LLANDOVERY CASTLE "A" 13 "A" 19. M.L. 1039, M.L. 1046, ST. MONANCE, TETCOTT, PRIMULA.  
Departures LLANDOVERY CASTLE, \*EXMOOR, \*CROOME, TETCOTT, PRIMULA, HYACINTH "A" 113, 117.  
(Tobruk (C.C.O.) 2359C/14). \* *See previous page.*

U/B German U-boat reported in approx. 033° 35' N., 024° 30' E., at 2329C/13.  
(C.O.I.S. Alexandria, 0122C/14 to S. and A. Western Desert).

U/B One submarine DJG 26.37.  
(N.L.O. Advance 201 Naval Co-op. Group W/T 0745/14 to Local Authorities Call Signs BYM & DYX).

QUEEN ELIZABETH. QUEEN ELIZABETH will be able to fire her main armament in emergency on passage to refitting port. In order to conserve stocks of ammunition in the East it is proposed that only one third outfit of 15 inch ammunition with 5/10 CRM shell and 5,000 rounds 4.5 inch ammunition is embarked for passage. She could be used to ship ammunition from Med., to E.I.  
(C. in C. Med., 0936Z/14 to Admty (R) QUEEN ELIZABETH, A.S.L., C. in C. E.F., D.C. in C. E.F., C. in C. E.I.) /Attack...



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Sunday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean - Contd.Attack  
on U-boat.Small oil patch position 3113 F 2824 E.N. no  
other wreckage commencing other search.  
(Med., A/C call sign OBPZ 1230/14 to 201 Group).MAURO CROCE  
(Italian)Entered 13th.  
(Barcelona, 1246/14 to Fairmiss, London).

R/C Taranto.

Visual Taranto at 1100C/14th no change. Net  
still in place.  
Intend P.R.U. Messina 1400/14 and Taranto  
2000.(B) Baltimores standing by to cover Messina. 3. Further R/C  
as previously. 4. C. in C. Med.,  
(V.A. Malta, 1309C/14 to S.O. Force T., F.O. C.S.15, (R)  
C.in C. Med., Admiralty, F.O.C.N.A.S., No. 201 Naval co-operation  
Group).

ATHENE

Position ~~ATHENE~~ unknown to this A/C await instruc-  
tions.  
(A/C (9B.P.Z) 1339/14 to 201 Group H.C.)

Sevastopol.

12/6. 1. North and North East sector. The  
enemy's 5 day offensive has ended and their units  
are re-grouping on a line from the Finnshle  
(?9 kilometres North East of Sevastopol) area due West to sea.  
Enemy has made little territorial gain considering scale of  
offensive.  
(N.L.O. Black Sea, 1417C/14).

E-boats.

6 E-boats 34° 31' N., 22° 19' E., to 320 20 knots  
at 1844C.  
(N.L.O. Advance 201 N. Co-op Group 2010C/14 to  
C. in C. Med).  
(?Position and speed of) 6 E-boats at 1844 034° 13', 022° 19',  
320° 20 knots.  
(C. in C. Med., 2029/14 to Med Fleet).

E-boat.

One E-boat bearing 320° course 275°  
(FORTUNE, 2149/14 to C.S.15).Enemy  
Shipping.Soviet (Group Mut) reports ? arrival 1630 ?G.M.T.  
Flotilla ALBARO and CELENO load( (ED) in transit  
for Aegean.  
(S.O.(I) Istanbul, 200?2 ??C/14 to D.N.I.)R/C of  
Taranto.My 2155 visual Taranto 1935 three battleships  
in harbour.  
(V.A. Malta, 2220C/14 to ?F.O.C.N.A. S.O. H.,  
Med., Fleet (R) C. in C. Med., Admty).  
My 2155/14. Photographed Taranto at 2000C/14. 3 CAVOUR  
battleships in their nets 6 destroyers. 2 Italian battleship  
LITTORIO 4 cruisers and 11 destroyers not present.  
( V.A. Malta, 2346C/14 to Me. Fleet S.O. Force T. (R)  
C. in C. Med., Admty. F.O.C.N.A.) /U/B ...



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FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean - Contd.

U/B U-boat suspected in 032° 30' N., 024° 45' E.,  
approx. at 1840C/14 probably moving slowly W. of  
S.  
(C.O.I.S. Alexandria, 2248C/14 to Med., Fleet,  
N.O.I.C. Tobruk, N.O.I.C. Mersa Matruh S.O. Force T., S.N.O.  
Red Sea, R.A. Alexandria, C. in C. Med., Capt. (S) 1 No. 201  
Group, (Naval Co-operation Advanced H.Q. Western Desert)  
Fighter H.Q. Western Desert 262 Wing, N. and A. Western Desert  
Ships and Authorities Western Desert.)



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Sunday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies.

Situation Report. Refugees report our bombing Kalewa early June effective against personnel and shipping. (C. in C. India 0045/14 to W.O. C.G.S. N.Z. British Army Staff Washington, M.A. Chungking, C. in C. M.E. C.G.S. Australia, Army Bangalore, Concentric Colombo.)

Bombing restrictions. Cancel my 1247 12th (8730) (C. in C. E.I. 0500Z/14 to E.I. Station 732C.)

Minelaying by TEVIOTBANK. A.M. 1334B/28/5. With exception of minelaying operations P I no details of minelaying operations by TEVIOTBANK are held by C. in C. E.F. TEVIOTBANK is to render report of all minelaying operations since leaving U.K. issued in O.U. No. 5302/38 para. 78 (1) Direct to Admty. repeated C. in C. E.F. and C. in C. E.I. (D. C. in C. E.F. 0533Z/14 to TEVIOTBANK.)

Movements of F.O. 2 i/c E.F. <sup>1714/6 - See p. 360</sup> Intend to keep my flag in REVENGE when she leaves Kilindini about 10/6 for Durban and proceed overland from there to Simonstown to discuss Eastern Fleet problems with C. in C. S.A. Then to Pretoria to see Prime Minister, to Durban to examine situation there, and (?thence) back to Kilindini by air or first sea opportunity. (F.O. 2nd in Command E.F. 0700Z/14 to C. in C. E.F.)

M.S. Messages. Propose present arrangements of issuing M.S. messages from Colombo should continue until last flight has arrived Mombasa and shipping (?pool) there is fully manned. If you concur request you will inform F.O. Ceylon earliest date when Mombasa will be ready to take over. (C. in C. E.I. 0714Z/14 to D. C. in C. E.F.)

B.M.22. Departure (?SUTLEJ) escorting B.M.22. (S.O.(I). Bombay 0739Z/14 to Admty. F.O.C.R.I.N. S.O.(I). Colombo. S.O.(I). Kilindini. BRIDLINGTON.)

B.D.Vs. BARRICADE, BARRIER, BARSTOKE left. (N.O.I.C. Seychelles 1115Z/14 to Admty. etc.)

Command in Diego Suarez Area. Suggest action on 0630/28/5 be held in abeyance. (121 Force 1750/14 to W.O.)

/Dispositions...



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Sunday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies. - Contd.

Dispositions of enemy Forces. A.C.N.B. 1150Z/13 and D.C. in C. E.F.'s 0921Z/13  
As submarine I.20 appears to be in Madagascar area and attacks on Sydney and Diego Suarez synchronised, it is possible that "Advanced Detachment" consisted of two separate forces, one for Australia and one for Indian Ocean.

Also, as three sub-divisions are mentioned, and only one midget appears to have attacked Diego Suarez, Indian Ocean force may be divided and third attack intended on another place in Indian Ocean.

AIKOKU MARU approx. answers description of one of Japanese raiders in Indian Ocean. This ship and ITOKOKU MARU (not identified) may thus be included in Indian Ocean force, Seaplane carriers NISSHIN and CHIYODA with Australian force.  
(Admty. 1756B/14 to C. in C. E.F.)

INDOMITABLE. E.T.A. 1415Z/16. Intend to pass through position 003° 50' S 042° 00' E at 0515Z/16 thence Kilindini. (INDOMITABLE 2002Z/14 to D.C. in C. E.F.)

Enemy Unit. Japanese Unit\* SINA probably S/M on frequency 5450 Kc/s Aden 188° (B) at 1821Z/14 Trincomalee (?272°)+ (B) at 1930Z/14. Approx. position 039° S 036° E. Alternatives 099° and 218°. (C.O.I.S. Colombo 2213Z/14 to Admty. C.O.I.S. Kilindini.)

\*Not identified. - ? SINA NO. Battleship.



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Sunday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies.

Convoy O.N.S.100. In 046° 22' N. 049° 27' W. at 0430Z/14 course 240°, 7 knots. ?Enemy S/M reported.  
(Com. T.U. (?24).1.11, 0056Z/14 to A.I.G. 301.)

*See p. 396*

O.15. Refer my 2033/13. Additional information from O.15 S. of A. 10 knots E.T.A. Halifax 2000/15.  
(Cmdr. Subs. Atlantic Fleet, 0159/14 to C. in C. U.S. Fleet.)

|                   |                                  |                 |        |       |
|-------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------|--------|-------|
| Movement Summary. | 1800 G.M.T./14.                  |                 |        |       |
|                   | Ship                             | Position        | Course | Speed |
|                   | PARTHIAN                         | 34½° N. 32½° W. | 089°   | 11    |
|                   | *DURBAN                          | Leaving Bermuda | 007°   | 10½.  |
|                   | (D.O.D.(F), 0820Z/14 to Connav.) |                 |        |       |

*\* See p. 396*

Suspected U/B crew. R.O. St. Kitts report B.2. Native Nevis spoke 3 white men on beach 0500 local time 13th. They asked questions re shipping and food supplies then disappeared seaward in collapsible boat. Comment by R.O. Description men speech, clothes, boat suggests Germans.  
(S.O.(I) Jamaica, 0942R/14 to Admty., C. in C. A.W.I., N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, B.A.D. Washington, Connav Washington, N.O.I.C. Trinidad.)  
Note by O.I.C. There was a German U/B in this vicinity at the time mentioned and it is not improbable that a landing may have been made in search of Fresh Fruit and vegetables.  
Graded B.1.

SOUTH AFRICA. TRECE DE DICIEMBRE reported lifeboat with 23 survivors from Norwegian tanker SOUTH AFRICA 0630Z/14 011° N. 058° 16' W. all fit.  
(N.O.I.C. Trinidad, 1042Q/14 to Admty.)

L.A. CHRISTENSEN (Norwegian 4362 tons) Sunk by S/M 10/6 27.44 N. 63.54 W. Books went down in ship which sank in twenty minutes and was not boarded by enemy. Information from Master and W/T Operator.  
(Commodore i/c Bermuda, 1111P/14 to Admty.)

S.C. 87 B. 0900Z/14 junction 047° 07' N. 051° 36' W. at 1730Z/14th. All ships have (18) (19) S.P. 2405 S.P. 2406 (125) and search certificates.  
(N.C.S.O. St. Johns N.F., 1242Z/14 to Admty.)  
Sailing (? on arrival of ) part 2. Details.  
(N.C.S.O. St. Johns N.F., 1243Z/14 to Admty.)

/Dispositions ...



392 A

0033Z/14 June

S E C R E T

M E S S A G E

I N

From: B.A.D. Washington

Date: 16.6.42.

Recd. 1940

NAVAL CYPHER (X) by W/T

Addressed: C. in C. America & West Indies, repeated  
S.O.(I) Jamaica.

Your 1318/11 last sentence.

The system for reporting merchant ship movements and for plotting such information in the Navy Dept. is in course of development. The Navy Dept. is therefore not yet in a position to pass the necessary information to warships under U.S. operational control, nor is it the present U.S. practice to do so. The U.S. believe in restricting signal traffic and leaving action to the man on the spot, reliance being placed on identification systems and boarding. Interest has however been shown in an explanation of British practice. This will be encouraged and it is hoped that a system similar to the British will be adopted in due course.

2. In the meantime H.M. ships would not appear to be greatly handicapped since -

- (A) Corvettes and trawlers engaged on escort work should obtain most of the information at assembly ports and are working in waters where identification of merchant ships is less important.
- (B) Cruisers allocated to South Atlantic are at present out of action.
- (C) H.M. ships on passage to and from refitting ports in Western Atlantic area receive some information at port of departure and thereafter receive British Merchant Shipping Intelligence on British broadcast which is not subject to the lag mentioned in your 1318/11.

0033Z/14

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

- 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.T.D. (4)
- D.T.D. (M)
- D.T.D. (C)
- D.N.I. (5)
- Ops. (3)
- O.D. (5)
- D.A./S.W.

- D.S.D. (2)
- M. (2)
- O.I.C. (3)
- D. of P. (3)
- Admiral Blake
- Admiral Bellairs
- D. of S.T. (2)
- I.P. (3)
- W.D.

Note: This signal passed to Admiralty for information.



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FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies - Contd.

My 1914/9.  
Dispositions AUGUSTA, }  
U.S. Forces RANGER, } At Argentia.  
in Atlantic. JUNEAU }  
4 Destroyers }  
PHILADELPHIA } At Hampton Roads.  
BROOKLYN }  
Task Force 34 - Due New York 19/6.  
Task Force 35 - Due depart U.K. 16/6.  
(D.O.D.(F), 1306B/14 to C. in C. H.F., C. in C.  
A.W.I., N.S.H.Q. Ottawa.)

H.X. 194. WANDERER, ROXBOROUGH, SUMMERSIDE, LA MALBAIE  
*See next page* sailed escorting H.X. 194.  
(S.O.(I) Halifax, 1340Z/14 to Admty., N.S.H.Q.  
Ottawa, Opnav, F.O.N.F., C. in C. W.A., B.A.D.  
Washington.)

HAVELOCK, Sailed escorting T.O.7. E.T.A. Curacao 2000Z/16.  
LAVENDER. (N.O.I.C. Trinidad, 1352Q/14 to C.A.F.A.C.)

EMPIRE Torpedoed twice 2346Z/9 in No. 4 hold. Abandoned  
CLOUGH at midnight, not seen to sink. No casualties  
(6147 tons) but 17 crew in two boats not yet accounted for  
C.Bs dumped by third officer and seen to sink.  
List of survivors landed at St. Johns N.F.  
follows in my 1402Z/14.  
(N.C.S.O. St. Johns N.F., 1401Z/14 to Admty.)

U.S. Owned Your 1247B/13 affirmative.  
Ships. (Connav, 1431/14 to Admty.)  
Control.

Sugar Ships Your 1902/5. This shall be done. Arrival  
Caribbean. draught will seldom exceed 14 feet.  
(Admty., 1442B/14 to C. in C. A.W.I.)

P. 556, S/Ms P.556 and P. 554 will be ready to sail from  
P. 554. New London on 17/6 and 30/6 respectively. U.S.  
Authorities intend to sail then via the U.S.  
S/M Base at St. Thomas, thence outside  
Caribbean to Freetown. Existing policy is to keep friendly  
S/Ms as far as possible outside Caribbean Sea.  
(B.A.D. Washington, 1445Z/14 to Admty.)

/Convoys ...



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14.6.1942.  
Sunday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies.

Convoys sighted by U/Bs. Following for (? R.A.) Colchester. "When a U-Boat makes sighting report in proximity of 2 or more convoys C. in C. U.S. Fleet is uncertain which convoy is being reported but will warn all concerned. If escort of 1 of these convoys has obtained a D/F on a U/B which indicates which convoy is being reported the escort shall advise C. in C. U.S. Fleet of this fact making Comtask 24 and other convoy concerned information addressees" information addressees requested disseminate above to Trade convoy escorts in their respective commands. (C.T. 24, 1515Z/14 to C.T.U. 24.1.3)

H.S. 12. Arrived, less TOVELIL.  
(N.C.S.O. Sydney (C.B.), 1600Z/14 to N.S.H.Q. Ottawa.)

FRIMAIRE  
(French  
9264 tons) Extract from a Fairmiss telegram:-  
Arrival and departure 14/6 FRIMAIRE Corunna 17/6.  
(Aruba, 1622/14 to M. of W.T.)

PENNYWORT. B.A.R.M's 1500Z/13 take necessary action.  
(N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 1637Z/14 to C.O.A.C.)

*See next page*

ARDENVOHR (5025 tons),  
SURREY (8581 tons). ARDENVOHR, from New York to Sydney and Melbourne torpedoed and sunk in 012° 25' N. 080° 25' W. at 0435 G.M.T./10. Master and 21 survivors landed here by Dutch SS. FLORA; other lifeboats with rest of crew 24 in number not yet arrived. Limited casualties, 1 deck boy drowned.

SURREY - from New York to Sydney, torpedoed in 012° 25' N. 080° 28' W. at 0425 G.M.T./10, blew up and sank at 0530 G.M.T./10. Second engineer and 15 survivors landed here by FLORA. 2 other lifeboats with master and approx. 36 others not yet arrived. Believed 12 killed by torpedo explosion.  
(B.R.O. Colon, 1710R/14 to Admty. for T.D.)

U/B Positions. 14/6 S/M estimates.  
(C. in C. U.S. Fleet, 1733/14 to All commands concerned with S/M Reports Eastseafron.)

H.X.194. C.T.U. 24.1.17 in HARVESTER, PIORUN, RENONCULE, ORCHIS, LOBELIA designated escort.  
*See previous page* (Comtask 24, 1735Z/14 to C. in C. U.S. Fleet, C.A.N.D.R.)

/S/MS. ...



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War Diary.14.6.1942.  
Sunday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies - Contd.

S/Ms for  
A/S Training. Implementation of N.S.H.Q. 1701Z/11 is urged in order your escort groups may have available S/Ms which we have previously advised we are unable to furnish. B.A.D. informed.  
(Cominch, 1740/14 to Admty.)

PENNYWORT. Your 1500/13. Yes in New York Area. Anticipate temporary repairs will complete to enable ship to sail from Halifax 17/6. Request yard allocated for PENNYWORT be communicated.  
(C.O.A.C., 1854Z/14 to B.A.R.M.) *See previous page.*

Particulars concerning O.N and B.X. Convoys. Information is requested on the following points: Do ships in O.N. Convoys proceed to Boston or to Cape Cod Bay. If to Boston, do they anchor outside and what is the subsequent procedure for continuing to Cape Cod Bay and the Canal. Is it possible to contact ships before arrival at New York, and if so through whom, in order to pass instructions such as changes of destination. Do B.X. Convoys assemble off Boston or in Cape Cod Bay. What is the convoy approach route to the final position in the Boston Bay/Cape Cod Bay vicinity.  
(Admty., 2028B/14 to N.S.H.Q. Ottawa.)

Sub attack and sighting summary. SICILIAN reported attacked and presumed sunk 17.30 N. 71.20 W. 0215Z/8. Jack possibly U.88 type. Trawler FOAM reported 1620Z/17/5 sub fired fifty rounds. ANNA twenty rounds one torpedo miss possibly U.45 type. BERGANGER U.45 type. Survivor reports indicate two rather than five torpedoes. Ferdinand the Bull on conning tower. CAPE OF GOOD HOPE one torpedo two four rounds white conning tower U.88 type. DDS attacks sub sighted on surface 44.47 N. 43.16 W. 1904Z/25 March. Surface and A/C attack sub contact 39.46 N. 73.56 W. 1945Z/25/5. Plane attacks sub 10.20 N. 80.10 W. a.m./11/6. Patrol craft sights periscope and attacks 31.39 N. 79.43 W. 2045Z/12. Results attacks uncertain. Submerging sub reported sighted 11.45 N. 69.09 W. 1810Z/13. Fishing vessel sights sub 40.57 N. 71.16 W. 0100Z/14 considered reliable. M/V sights sub 13.01 N. 80.31 W. 0710Z/14. Sub reported 28.45 N. 89.25 W. 0730Z/14. DDS attacks sound contact 08.05 N. 55.10 W. approx. 1200Z/14. C.O.A.C. and B.A.D. informed.  
(Cominch, 2041Z/14 to Admty. for O.I.C.)

U/B activity. In view of U-Boat activity between Colon and Yucatan Channel, routes for northbound and southbound shipping laid down in M.A.C.R.I. para. 9 sub-para 2 may be modified at your discretion in accordance with sub-para. 5.  
(C. in C. A.W.I., 2132P/14 to B.R.O. Colon.)

/ S/M. ...



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War Diary.14.6.1942.  
Sunday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies - Contd.

S/M. Sighted by AFRIKANDER in 011° 40' N. 062° 55' W. at 0223Z/15. (N.O.I.C. Trinidad, 2245Q/14 to C.A.F.A.C.)

DURBAN. Departure Bermuda DURBAN E.T.A. Halifax 1045Z/16. (C. in C. A.W.I., 2320Z/14 to Admty., N.S.H.Q., C.O.A.C., B.A.D.) *See p. 392*

SUDBURY, E.T.A. 1600Z/15. Boiler hours 512 on each. THE PAS. In company THE PAS, 512 hours on each and T.H.2, 5 tankers. (SUDBURY, 2331Z/14 to C.O.A.C. Halifax.)

O.N.\$100. Intend remaining in vicinity of O.N.\$100 with 658 training group until p.m./15th. Returning (corrupt group) St. Johns N.F. a.m./16th. CHAMBLY has 45 survivors. Cot cases nil. (CHAMBLY, 2355Z/14 to F.O.N.F.) *See p. 392*

Australia and New Zealand.

Situation. No. 143 from C.W.R. 13/6. 27 T.97 Masubishi (? Mitsubishi) heavy bombers (Army) escorted by approx. 12 zero fighters attacked Darwin 0415Z/13th. One oil fuel dump destroyed. Slight damage to runways water pipeline. One Kittyhawk destroyed one crash landed. One zero possibly destroyed. (2) Four Fortresses attacked aerodromes and dock area at Rabaul 1900Z/12. Result not observed. 20 A/C mostly bombers observed at V(?un)akanau. Six small vessels seriously damaged also one transport 1500 tons. (3) No activity east Salamoia Kavieng report by photographic R/C 13/6. Approx. 30 aircraft assessed at Lae. (4) No enemy S/M activity reported off East coast 13/6. (A.C.N.B. Melbourne, 0501Z/14 to F.O.C.R.I.N., Admty., C. in C. E.F., C. in C. E.I., C.O.I.S. Colombo, N.Z. Naval Board, C.Z.M., Opnav, C. in C. U.S. Pacific Fleet, C. in C. Asiatic Fleet.)

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.Submarines Reported.

Estimated positions of U-Boats.  
(D.D.I.C., 1423B/14, 1439B/14.)



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15.6.1942.  
Monday.War Diary.SITUATION REPORT.Home Commands.

RENOWN, VICTORIOUS with destroyer screen left Hvalfiord at 0100 today for Scapa.

M.G.Bs and M.T.Bs had an engagement with enemy light craft last night. M.G.B. 46 was badly damaged and M.T.B. 201 sank whilst H.S.Ls were trying to take her in tow soon after daylight, some 10 miles east of Dover.

Mining.

Further enemy minelaying has taken place in the Dover area, off the East Sussex coast.

North Atlantic.

U-Boat  
attacks on  
H.G. 84.

Convoy H.G. 84 was attacked by U-Boats at 0114 and 0430 about 350 miles W.S.W. of Cape Finisterre, and SS. PELAYO, CITY OF OXFORD, ETRIB, THURSO and Norwegian tanker SLEMDAL were sunk. STORK carried out a very promising attack on a U-Boat at 0236.

Mediterranean.

Operation  
"Harpoon".

At 0627C CAIRO reported 2 cruisers and 3 destroyers distant 15 miles, steering 150° in 36° 24' N. 11° 43' E. This force attacked the convoy at 0715 and the convoy was turned to the westward. It was driven off by CAIRO and destroyers and manoeuvred for some hours at a safe distance. During these holding off operations BEDOUIN and PARTRIDGE were hit and their speed reduced to 12 knots.

/The ...



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15.6.1942.  
Monday.War Diary.SITUATION REPORT.Mediterranean. Contd.Operation  
"Harpoon".  
(Contd.)

The first air attack developed at 0630 when SS. CHANT was sunk. An hour later German aircraft attacked and the fast U.S. Oiler KENTUCKY and SS. BURDWAN were damaged and immobilised. KENTUCKY was soon taken in tow by HEBE.

Two Malta Beauforts attacked the enemy at 0736 and report a torpedo hit on a cruiser which set the ship ablaze.

At 0932 the 2 enemy cruisers steering 128° bore 147° distant 15 miles from CAIRO who was in 36° 22' N. 12° 4' E. The convoy bore 280° 20 miles from CAIRO. A few minutes later CAIRO lost touch with the enemy for a short time.

The convoy was turned to the eastward again at 1100.

It is believed that hits were obtained about 1115 by torpedo aircraft on both cruisers attacking the force.

At 1119 CAIRO again called for help in 36° 17' N. 11° 34' E.

The convoy was heavily attacked by dive-bombers and SS. BURDWAN and KENTUCKY were sunk by our forces in order not to delay the convoy. At 1328 CAIRO reported that she was damaged and that ammunition was getting low; she was proceeding for Malta with TROILUS and ORARI, the remainder of the convoy having been sunk.

WELSHMAN arrived at Malta at 0946 and sailed at 1300 to reinforce CAIRO.

At 1327 HEBE in 36° 58' N. 11° 46' E. reported 3 cruisers and 2 destroyers (? 2 cruisers and 3 destroyers) steering 130° at 25 knots. Three Malta Albacores with Spitfire escort report attacking a similar force at 1355 10 miles south of Pantellaria and obtaining probable hits; results could not be seen though black smoke was visible 10 miles.

At 1430 BEDOUIN was reported torpedoed by aircraft and she sank about half an hour later in 36° 12' N. 11° 38' E. whilst in tow of PARTRIDGE.

At 1520 CAIRO in 36° 22' N. 11° 20' E. was once more in touch with the enemy, consisting of 2 cruisers and 2 destroyers but eventually the enemy retired and left the convoy alone, probably discouraged by air attacks.

PARTRIDGE was attacked by 6 Junkers 88 in 36° 24' N. 11° 18' E. at 1545, delayed action bombs being used and magnetic mines apparently being laid ahead of her, but without causing any damage.

By 1649 PARTRIDGE had made temporary repairs to an engine defect (possibly that resulting from the attack during the forenoon) and she was proceeding to the westward to gain shelter of the land, her maximum speed now being 18 knots. V.A. Malta ordered her to return to Gibraltar at best speed.

/3 Albacores ...



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War Diary.15.6.1942.  
Monday.SITUATION REPORT.Mediterranean. contd.:Operation  
"Harpoon".  
(Contd.)

3 Albacores left Malta at 1500 to attack the enemy cruisers with torpedoes but the results could not be seen. At 1722 aircraft reported the enemy to be 10 miles south of Pantellaria, steering 40° at 25 knots. A total of 80 Malta Spitfires was engaged over the convoy during the day. Losses were 2 shot down (one pilot saved) and 2 damaged. Force X and the convoy shot down a large number of enemy aircraft and Malta aircraft claim 13 destroyed with 18 more damaged or destroyed.

Operation  
"Vigorous".

At 0200 an enemy force consisting of 1 battleship, 2 cruisers and 2 destroyers was reported by aircraft to be in 37° 30' N. 19° 35' E. steering 190° at 20 knots. The enemy force was shortly afterwards reported to consist apparently of 2 LITTORIO battleships, 2 8-inch and 2 6-inch cruisers and a destroyer. At 0200 C. in C. Med. ordered the convoy to be turned to the eastward in order to avoid the enemy. C.S. 15 turned back at 0310, and to north-west at 0525C on C. in C. Med's orders, resuming his course when over 100 miles from Malta. At 0401C NEWCASTLE (Flag of C.S.4) reported that she had been torpedoed in 34° 9' N. 21° 52' E. but was in no danger of sinking. Torpedo bombing Wellingtons were despatched from Malta during the night but their attack was baulked by very effective smoke screen. Malta Beauforts attacked with torpedoes at 0615C in 35° 50' N. 19° 10' E. and claimed hits on one or two battleships and two or one cruisers, also in one destroyer. (Another report says that two battleships and one destroyer were hit; fire was seen in one battleship and the destroyer was left listing). Submarines of 1st and 10th Flotillas were ordered into position at 0825C. At 0828 the enemy were reported by aircraft in about 35° 40' N. 19° 7' E. and to consist of 2 CAVOUR battleships, 2 CONDOTTIERE cruisers, one TRENTO cruiser and 9 destroyers steering 140° at 18 knots. Twelve Beauforts and 8 Liberators were despatched from the Middle East, to attack the enemy. They were attacked en route by Me.109s; two Beauforts were shot down and 5 were damaged and landed in Egypt. The remainder attacked the enemy at 0943 in 35° 30' N. 19° 25' E: both battleships were claimed to have been hit with torpedoes and left listing; (a later report claimed one torpedo hit on one battleship and a possible hit on a second and one destroyer hit amidships and left sinking). The Liberators claim several with 500 lb. bombs on a LITTORIO and a CAVOUR battleship.

/The ...



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War Diary.15.6.1942.  
Monday.SITUATION REPORT.Mediterranean.com78:-Operation  
"Vigorous".  
(Contd.)HASTY sunk by E/13 S.55.  
(G.D. 443)\*VITTORIO VENETO  
[Torps Attack Register]\*\*TRENTO  
[Torps Attack Register]

The first report of the Beauforts' strike stated that both battleships had been hit, and acting on this assumption and the fact that the enemy had now retired to the northward C. in C. Med. at 1151C ordered C.S.15 to resume course for Malta, but at 1245C an amended report came in, which left it doubtful whether one or both battleships had been hit, and C. in C. Med. left to C.S.15 the decision how to act. C.S.15 held on to the eastward. He reported at 1426C that HASTY was sunk, NEWCASTLE, BIRMINGHAM, SEAHAM and SS. POTARO damaged; neither ammunition nor fuel except at economical speed would be sufficient for return on onward passage.

P.35 reported at 1151C that at 0648 she obtained one or possibly more hits on a battleship, part of a force of 2 battleships, 3 cruisers and 4 destroyers in 35° 47' N. 19° 5' E. At 1008 she sank by torpedo in approx. 35° 45' N. 19° 4' E. a cruiser of the TRENTO class which had been set on fire by aircraft attack.

In a message on 17/6, reporting on the casualties caused to the enemy by air attacks a.m./15 C. in C. Med. credits only the cruiser sunk by P.35 and a second cruiser reported retiring to the northward at slow speed. A number of bombs hit the upper deck of a battleship but no serious damage resulted.

At 1315C fresh orders were sent to the submarines to take up positions to intercept the enemy battle fleet on its return to harbour.

About 1500 the enemy battle fleet turned to the northward and at 1515 it was estimated to be in 34° 30' N. 21° 33' E. steering 330° at 20 to 25 knots, both battleships being damaged, with 3 cruisers 25 miles to the southward of the battle fleet, course 320°. This information was passed to the submarines and they were ordered to intercept the enemy.

At.1625 C in C. Med. inquired of C.S.15 whether fuel and ammunition would permit of the convoy taking advantage of the retirement of the enemy battle fleet to get through to Malta, and at 1841C he sent orders that the convoy was to proceed; but at 2053C the entire force was finally ordered to return to Alexandria.

The position of the enemy at this time was reported by aircraft to be:- 2 battleships 5 destroyers in 34° 17' N. 21° 43' E. with 3 cruisers and 4 destroyers in 34° 21' N. 21° 51' E., both forces steering 330° at 20 knots. At 2138 the battleships, who had now been joined by 2 cruisers were attacked by 5 Wellington 10 in 247° Sapienza 63 miles and one torpedo hit is claimed on a battleship; the remaining 4 Wellingtons were baffled by smoke screen and returned with their torpedoes.

/NESTOR ...



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15.6.1942.  
Monday.War Diary.SITUATION REPORT.Mediterranean. con. TS.Operation  
"Vigorous".  
(Contd.)

NESTOR had apparently been damaged during the day, for at 2306C while she was in tow of JAVELIN in 33° 42' N. 24° 57' E. the tow parted.

Wellingtons laid further mines off Benghazi last night with bombing diversion.

America and West Indies.Mines in  
Chesapeake  
Bay, and  
Florida  
Strait.

Both ships in Convoy K.N. 109 and their escort were mined off Chesapeake Bay today. H.M. Trawler KINGSTON CEYLONITE was sunk at 1800 local time in 36° 52' N. 75° 51' W. U.S. ROBERT C. TUTTLE was sunk at 2100Z in 36° 52' N. 75° 51' W. and ESSO AUGUSTA was damaged in 36° 52' N. 75° 51' W. at 2133Z. U.S. Tanker F.W. ABRAMS which made a submarine distress signal at 1045Z/11 in 35° 1' N. 75° 45' W. sank today; it is believed that she struck a U.S. mine. SS. GUNVOR was sunk in Florida Strait, by a mine or torpedo at 0345 today.

U-Boat  
campaign.

More than 60 ships of a total of some 350,000 tons were sunk by enemy S/MS or mines in the west Atlantic and American waters during the first 15 days of June. The fate of several other ships which were attacked or are overdue, is not yet known.

Australia.

Darwin was attacked at 0240Z today by 27 Japanese heavy bombers and 15 zero fighters; six of the latter were destroyed. Damage caused ashore appears to have been slight.

28 zero fighters approaching Port Moresby were intercepted at 2300Z today by 30 Aircobras with losses on both sides.



War Diary.15.6.1942.  
Monday.HOME COMMANDS.Policy.New  
Hunt  
Destroyers.Admiralty 1706/15/2 para 4. Destroyer selected  
is allocated to 16th Flotilla at Harwich.  
Request information when she is likely to join.  
(C. in C. Nore 1146B/15 to C. in C. Plymouth.)Defence of U.K.Dungeness  
A/A Guns.Your 1845B/2 and 1837B/6. Four 40 mm. guns at  
present deployed for defence of Rye Harbour will  
be moved temporarily to Dungeness Point to  
protect the two Air/Sea rescue M.Ls. lying at the  
point.2. These guns will be returned to Rye as soon as it becomes  
operationally necessary to do so and instructions for their  
return will be issued by A.A. Command in due course.3. 1st A.A. Corps has been instructed to arrange for the guns  
to be moved to Dungeness in conjunction with you.  
(D.L.D. 1954B/15 to V.A. Dover.)Movements.RENOWN  
VICTORIOUS*For Scapa*  
Hvalfiord departure 0100 RENOWN, VICTORIOUS,  
FAULKNER, ECHO, FURY, ECLIPSE, WHEATLAND.  
Speed of advance 17 knots. Request fighter and  
A/S escort. E.T.A. 1800/16.  
(A.C.I.C. 0118B/15.)

ALBRIGHTON.

Arrival ALBRIGHTON, owing to suspected enemy  
minelaying in Portsmouth Area.  
(V.A. Dover 0229B/15.) *See p 404*

CURACOA.

Sailed CURACOA for Scapa. Following received  
from CURACOA begins: expected 1930/15.  
(C. in C. Rosyth 0905B/15.)

ADVENTURE.

*INT. N.W.D. / INT. N.W.D.*  
My 0950/15 and 1434/12. E.T.A. ADVENTURE point  
of arrival 0930 from S.E. Request Hoxa Gate  
1015/19. (R.A.M. 0952/15 to A.C.O.S.)B.556. *See p. 438*  
B.554.B.A.D. Washington's 1445/14. Request these S/Ms.  
may be sailed direct for Gibraltar before  
proceeding Capetown. (F.O.S. 1026B/15 to Admty.)

ROTHER.

Proceed to Londonderry at best speed forthwith.  
(C. in C. W.A. 1033B/15 to ROTHER.) *See p. 410*

P.219.

P.219 Intend following programme. Details to 7/7.  
(Capt. S.3. 1035B/15 to F.O.S.)



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War Diary.15.6.1942.  
Monday.HOME COMMANDS.Movements - Contd.

- PETARD. If trials satisfactory, anchor Methil p.m. today and proceed by standard route to Clyde 0600/16. Keep steam at short notice whilst at Methil and assume third degrees of A/A readiness.  
(C. in C. Rosyth 1055B/15 to PETARD.)
- GARTH. Amend route to pass through following positions. Adjust speed to reach Dungeness at dusk and pass Dover at 0145.  
(V.A. Dover 1110B/15 to GARTH.)
- P.48. Intend to sail P.48 escorted by CUTTY SARK for Clyde 1430B/17. E.T.A. 0600B/18.  
(N.O.I.C. Barrow 1222B/15.)
- QUANTOCK. Sail from Methil at 2200 today by searched channels for Invergordon, speed on passage 17 knots if conditions permit.  
(2) Escort troop transports from Invergordon to Lerwick and back to Invergordon, as ordered by N.O.I.C. Invergordon.  
(3) On completion escort duty return to Rosyth.  
(C. in C. Rosyth 1237B/15 to QUANTOCK.)
- ORION When ready for sea after exercises in the Clyde area ORION should be sailed for Scapa to work up.  
(D.O.D. (H.) 1238B/15.)  
Propose following programme. (ORION 1450B/15.)
- WILD SWAN WILD SWAN left Plymouth A.M. at best speed routed through (a) 49° 10' N 08° (?) 01' W.  
(b) 49° 01' N 09° 59' W. (F.O.S. 1434B/15 to S/MS.) *See p. 410*
- DELHI. Cancel A.M. 1838/13. It has been decided that DELHI's A.A. trials should not be delayed.  
2. Temporary absence of an A.A. cruiser from W.A. Command must be accepted.  
3. C. in C. W.A. is requested to sail DELHI for Rosyth as soon as escort of W.S.19Y is completed.  
(D.O.D. (H.) 1849B/15.)
- M.G.Bs. Request you will detail and sail 3 C Type M.G.Bs. for to Dover for temporary service in the Dover Command.  
Dover. (D.D.O.D. (C.) 1911B/15 to C. in C. Nore.)
- M.T.B.77. Request you will arrange for M.T.B.77 to be sailed to arrive Newport by 24/6 for shipment to Eastern Mediterranean. (D.D.O.D. (C.) 1912B/15 to R.A.C.F.)



404

15.6.1942.  
Monday.War Diary.HOME COMMANDS.Movements - Contd.DUNNOTTAR  
CASTLE.

Arrangements have been made for DUNNOTTAR CASTLE to be converted to a troop transport at London.  
2. Request you will sail the ship northabout to that port as early as convenient.  
(D.O.D.(H.) 1914B/15 to C. in C. W.A.)

INGLEFIELD  
INTREPID

Have INGLEFIELD and INTREPID arrived.  
(D.S.O. 2002B/15 to S.B.N.O. North Russia.)  
Your 2002/15. INGLEFIELD and INTREPID arrived. 14/6  
My 0830/14 refers. *N.T. in W.D.* (Munster) (Munster)  
(S.B.N.O. North Russia 2235B/15 to Admty.)

Operations.

Attack on  
Enemy  
Convoy.  
M.T.B.201.  
sunk.  
M.G.B.46.  
damaged.

The sequence of events in Dover Command last night 14/15 was as follows:-  
0017. M.G.B.13 (S.O) 6, 46, 41, S3 on patrol near Ne Varne Buoy were sent to attack off Calais a number of vessels which had left Boulogne North-eastwards at 2230.

0020. Small craft probably two or four E-Boats were detected 20 miles south of Dungeness on Northerly course. These craft turned about 2 miles inshore of QZX 735 where mines are presumed

to have been laid.

0050. M.T.B.201, 203, 229 left harbour with orders to attack Eastbound enemy vessels after passing Calais. At this time Eastbound Consular Group was passing north Folkestone Gate Buoy and the Westbound Consular Group and ALBRIGHTON were in the Downs on Southerly course. Two trawlers and two M.Ls were patrolling in vicinity of Dungeness and 6 M/S trawlers were at anchor for night in Dungeness East Roads.

0110. R.D.F. reported part of M.G.B. Force returning and a plot afterwards considered to have been a second group of two to four E-Boats passed Ne Varne Buoy and proceeded to South West Gate Buoy. Mines were presumably laid to Southwest of this buoy before craft turned southward and later towards Boulogne.

0120. M.G.Bs. reported laying R mines close North of Calais.

0130. M.G.B. 46 requested assistance 6 miles North of Calais.

0133. Portsmouth asked that ALBRIGHTON should be stopped owing to mining of Approaches by aircraft, and at 0146 she was ordered into Dover. *See p.402.*

0214. M.T.B. 203 reported attack completed. Result unknown. Enemy's position was then between Calais and Gravelines.

0230. M.G.B.13 reported enemy as one medium sized merchant vessel and at 0245 as a vessel of 5,000 tons with several escorts. M.G.Bs. continued to shadow until 0300.

0410. ALBRIGHTON was sailed for Southend in accordance with revised instructions from Portsmouth.

0330 to 0630. Coastal Forces Craft returned to harbour except M.T.B. 201.

Preliminary reports show that M.G.Bs at first sighting were met by a superior force of trawlers and E/R Boats, which they engaged without observing results.

/They...



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15.6.1942.  
Monday.War Diary.HOME COMMANDS.Operations.

Attack on  
Enemy  
Convoy.  
M.T.B.201  
sunk.  
M.G.B.46  
damaged.  
Contd.

They encountered heavy opposition from gunfire and Star Shell. M.G.B.41 was put out of action but remainder of M.G.Bs continued to shadow and report compositions of enemy force after jettisoning R mines.

Despite strong opposition from ships and shore-fired Star Shell M.T.B.23 sighted and attacked the main target. Two ratings report observing a column of water and one of the enemy vessels may have been hit. M.T.B.229 could not reach an attacking position and it is not known whether

M.T.B. 201 fired torpedoes. M.G.B. 46 had severe engine room damage 1 rating killed and one rating wounded. No other damage or casualties have been reported. Search has as yet found no trace of M.T.B.201. (V.A. Dover 0726B/15.)

My 0726. M.T.B.201 was located by H.S.Ls. soon after daylight some 10 miles East of Dover. She had been badly damaged and sank while efforts to tow were being made. Casualties were three officers wounded, 3 ratings killed and 2 wounded.

Apparently M.T.B.201 after making an attack was heavily fired on, stopped, and set on fire. Crew were forced to abandon ship but were able to re-embark half an hour later and got clear of enemy coast under own power. (V.A. Dover 1144B/15.)

ASHANTI  
WILTON  
NEPAL  
(A/S  
Patrol)

If not in contact return with your Force to Scapa. (R.A.D. 1045B/15 to ASHANTI.)

SEAWOLF  
Patrol.

Your (group omitted) approved as from Midnight 14/15 June. (S.B.N.O. North Russia 1121B/15 to SEAWOLF (R) TRIDENT.) *See next page*

Use of  
M/L  
Flotilla.

Admty letter M/OD 2032/42 of 9/4/42. During present short nights, and owing to their slow speed, it is not practicable to employ a Motor Launch Flotilla 52 on the enemy coastal route without placing it in positions very vulnerable to air attack in daylight near enemy coast.

Suggest it might now be more profitably employed in narrower waters, and return to Portsmouth to start operations about 1st. week in August. (C. in C. Portsmouth 1127B/15 to Admty.)

Offensive  
Patrols.

Weather permitting carry out the following offensive patrols tonight.

(1) One unit M.T.Bs. each on R B 4 and R B 5.

(2) One unit M.G.Bs. vicinity T R B R 3504.

An enemy tanker has left Boulogne and may be moving eastwards tonight. (C. in C. Nore 1316B/15 to BEEHIVE.)

/N.W...



406

War Diary.15.6.1942.  
Monday.HOME COMMANDS.Operations - Contd.N.W.  
Norway  
S/M  
Patrol.

Three cases have occurred where S/Ms covering P.Q. convoys have found themselves 95 90 and 35 miles out of position. On these occasions other adjacent S/Ms obtained frequent sightings and experienced neither difficulty in maintaining position nor unusual sets.

Information to date shows that southward zones off north west coast of Norway the sets are weak probably  $\frac{1}{3}$  to  $\frac{1}{2}$  knot and are dependent upon prevailing winds except that in more northerly zones a south-east set is sometimes experienced. In order maintain accurate position it is essential to take frequent sightings daily by more than one officer and no reasonable opportunity should be missed. A record of sets experienced is to be kept. (F.O.S., 1511B/15.)

1. Additional S/Ms are now available for cover of P.Q.17. Intend to allocate zones as follows.

TRIDENT and SEAWOLF in East and West half of K.51 respectively. P.212 and URSULA in East and West half of K.50 respectively. K.44 TRIBUNE, K.43. P.54, K.42 P.45, K.41 STURGEON, K.40 MINERVE.

2. Request S.B.N.O. North Russia will sail SEAWOLF accordingly and sail TRIDENT with Q.P.13 as far as 23° E thence to Eastern half of zone K.51.

3. S/Ms. (except TRIDENT) to be in patrol zones not later than 2 days after sailing of P.Q.17 from Reykjavik. (F.O.S. 2104B/15.)

British Air Activity.North  
Norway  
Air R/C.

Your 2256/14. Fully appreciate vital importance of this R/C, but all available Mosquitoes fitted with long-range tanks are in No.1 P.R.U. and are already employed on photographic R/C of Norwegian Coast. All available tanks are being fitted into A/C for No.1. P.R.U. The only other bomber type Mosquitoes are in Bomber Command. No long-range tanks are available for these A/C. (Air Ministry 1920/15 to Admty.)

Enemy Air ActivityMurmansk  
bombed.  
YAKA  
damaged.

YAKA again hit by bombs damaged above waterline. Probably docking not necessary. No casualties. (2) Discharging badly interrupted as bombers were over 10 times Sunday. (3) Considerable damage on railway-line remainder of rolling stock burned, also some camouflage.

(4) Heavy casualties amongst civilian population.  
(5) Accommodation question, difficult, as Arctic Office where some survivors were living was hit.  
(6) So far only one British casualty reported, gunner, EMPIRE STARLIGHT. Not serious.  
(Cormack 0947B/15 to Admty.)

/Convoy...



407

15.6.1942.  
Monday.War Diary.HOME COMMANDS.Enemy Air Activity - Contd.

Convoy H.G.84. There are indications that F.W. aircraft were carrying out beacon procedure with U-Boats at 1042Z/15. (D.D.I.C. 1316B/15 to STORK.) Am being shadowed by F.W. My position is 044° 16' N 018° 20' W. (STORK 1330B/15 to C. in C. W.A.)

CAPE PORTLAND attacked. Help 61° 40' N 3° 17' W. (CAPE PORTLAND 1935B/15 to Scapa.)  
Help 61° 22' N 2° 13' W. (KINGSTON AMBER 1955B/15)

Convoy attacked. 1 A/C bearing 270°. Heights unknown shadowing convoy. My position 50° 38' N 5° 9' W. (Convoy "Multiple" 2330/15.)  
Help 50° 35' N 5° 13' W. (Convoy "Multiple" 2359/15.)

Mining.

Dover Area. QZX 732. 18 Red Mines swept yesterday. Details.  
QZX 732. QZX 735. 10 Red Mines and 2 Acoustic Mines swept  
QZX 735. yesterday. Details. (V.A. Dover 0421B/15.)  
New My 2358/14. Owing further enemy minelaying  
Dangerous request QZX 735 may now be amended as follows.  
Area. Details. Promulgation is also requested of an  
additional area dangerous due to enemy minelaying  
enclosed by lines joining the following positions.  
(A) 51° 01' 30" N 01° 11' 36" E.  
(B) 50° 59' 18" N 01° 08' 12" E. (C) 50° 57' 54" N 01° 10'  
36" E. (D) 51° 00' 06" N 01° 14' 00" E. (V.A. Dover 0433B/15.)  
Owing to further enemy minelaying request traffic may now be  
routed as follows:- Westbound through position -  
A. 51° 06' 51" N 01° 22' 15" E. B. 51° 01' 18" N 01° 09' 54" E.  
C. 50° 54' 00" N 01° 00' 00" E. D. 50° 52' 18" N 00° 49' 18" E.  
E. 50° 46' 36" N 00° 41' 03" E. thence via SC 2 route.  
Eastbound as for westbound to position (B) then to position  
F. 51° 03' 32" N 01° 14' 48" E and by QZX 208 and 190.  
Eastbound traffic should pass Dungeness before dark and westbound  
about dawn. It is essential that the two streams of traffic  
should pass off Dover adjusting their speed accordingly. Position  
(D) will be marked by an M.L. or drifter if practicable.  
(V.A. Dover 1041B/15.)  
In view of heavy minesweeping requirements request the assistance  
of four additional LL minesweepers. (V.A. Dover 1215B/15.)

Thames Estuary. At 1506/14 one Ground Mine detonated by sweepers  
Details. (Capt. S/M Sheerness 0935/15.)  
At 1113/14 One Ground Mine detonated by sweepers  
Details. (Capt. M/S Sheerness 0950/15.)

B.S.79. Carry out B.S.79 tomorrow. (C. in C. Nore  
0942B/15 to PLOVER, ROTHESAY.)

/Following...



408

War Diary.15.6.1942.  
Monday.HOME COMMANDS.Mining.

B.S.79. Following programme proposed for B.S.79.  
Contd. ROTHEsay, POLRUAN, FELIXSTOWE of 13th M.S.F.  
PLOVER and SHEARWATER sail to pass Harwich Boom  
at 0530/16. 3B buoy 0905, Q buoy 1055.  
Commence lay 1250. No. 2 buoy 1510. PLOVER and  
SHEARWATER E.T.A. Boom 2150. Sweepers part company at No. 4  
buoy and anchor Yarmouth Roads 1745. Request fighter protection  
(ROTHESAY 1105B/15 to C. in C. Nore.)  
Your 1105/15. Approved. Fighter protection arranged.  
(C. in C. Nore 1602B/15 to ROTHEsay.)

S.N.16 F. Admty 1125B/9. Intend to carry out S.N.16 F  
as follows. Details. (R.A.M. 0950B/15.)  
See Lion Copy.

Off Nab Tower. At 0808/14 one magnetic mine exploded by sweepers.  
Details. (C. in C. Portsmouth 1123/15.)

Off Beachy Head. Detonated magnetic mine in approx. 106° Beachy  
Head Light 9.5 miles. (Lt. Cdr. M/S 1606B/15 to  
C. in C. Portsmouth.)  
Detonated mine in approx. 119° Beachy Head 6 miles.  
(Lt. Cdr. M/S 1642B/15 to C. in C. Portsmouth.)  
(N.O.I.C. Newhaven, 2106/15.)

Humber. 2 mines detonated today by sweepers at 0744 and  
0759 respectively. Details. (F.O. Humber 1940B/15)

U-Boats.

Convoy H.G.84. Still in contact. All depth charges expended.  
U-Boats Engine room defective. My position 215° "Stinker"  
attacked. 40 miles. Propose remaining until dawn.  
CITY OF (GARDENIA 0119B/15 to STORK)  
OXFORD Convoy attacked at least 2 ships sunk.  
(British (STORK 0121B/15.)  
2759 tons) Have attacked enemy with depth charges, estimate  
ETRIB one hit. Enemy S/M previously reported is still  
(British on surface. (A/C MIBC 0345/16 to 19 Group)  
1943 tons) Am over enemy S/M in 43° 19' N 17° 39' W. Enemy  
SLEMDAL on the surface. (A.O.C. 15 Group 0447Z/15.)  
(Norwegian Two more ships torpedoed. (STORK 0509B/15.)  
Tanker Following ships lost in 2 attacks at 0114 and  
7374 tons) 0430. PELAYO, CITY OF OXFORD, ETRIB, SLEMDAL,  
THURSO. One very promising attack on U-Boat  
(British by STORK at 0236, but no time to collect evidence  
2436 tons) of destruction. Probably 2 U-Boats. My estimated  
PELAYO P.C.S. at 0800, 043° 45' N 018° 28' W, 032° 7.  
(British (STORK 0801B/15 to C. in C. W.A.)  
1346 tons) My 0119. Maximum speed 8½ knots. Still in  
sunk. contact. Propose remaining until U-Boat surfaces.  
(GARDENIA 0832B/15 to C. in C. W.A.)  
One U-Boat bearing 210°, 8, 032°, 044° 07' N 018° 25'  
W. (STORK 1202B/15 to C. in C. W.A.)

/One S/M...



**MOST SECRET**

408A

M E S S A G E. 0950B/15th June.

MOST SECRET.

I N.

From R.A.M.

Date. 15.6.42.

Recd. 1840.

R.A.F. Cypher by T/P

Addressed Admiralty. C. in C., Rosyth. Repeated  
A.C.C.S. F.O.S. C. in C., Home Fleet.  
ADVENTURE. Air Ministry. H.Q.C.C.  
H.Q.F.C. A.O.C. 18th Group. A.O.C. 14th  
Group.

Admiralty 1125B/9 not to all addressees intend  
to carry out operation S N 16 F as follows.

A. Surface minefield laid from North east to  
South west.

D. ADVENTURE.

E. Fighter protection is requested from 2230  
13th June until return to Pentland Firth. Initial  
R/V between STROMA and SWONA at 2230.

F. From 57 degs. 13' North 01 degs. 14' 30"  
West to 57 degs. 07' North 01 degs. 21' West.

G. 1325 18th June

J. Direct to Pentland Firth. Thence by searched  
channels to number 31 buoy. Thence direct to lay.

K. 18 knots when Westward of Pentland Firth,  
22 knots when Eastward of Pentland Firth.

L. 0330 19th June.

N. Direct from end of lay to number 28 buoy thence  
by searched channel.

O. Scapa. Hoxa Gate at 1015 19th June

W. 7 miles. 15 knots

X. Mark /XVII A/ / XVII one star set to 10 feet  
below chart datum

Y. 280.

Z. B N and H D routine throughout.

0950B/15

/ Cyphered as ordinal number.

Advance copy sent D.C., D.O.D. (H)  
& D.D.O.D. (M)

V.C.N.S.  
A.C.N.S. (H)  
A.C.N.S. (T)  
A.C.N.S. (W)  
N.A. to 1st S.L.  
D.D.O.D. (M)  
D. of P. (2)  
D.O.D. (H) (2)  
D.N.I. (4)  
Hd. of M.  
D.A/S.W.  
D.M.S.  
D.G.D. (2)

I.P. (2)  
D.C. (2)  
W.D.  
D.D.I.C. (2)  
P.T.D. (3)  
Hydrog.  
D.D.T.M.  
Admiral Blake.

MMC.



409

War Diary.15.6.1942.  
Monday.HOME COMMANDS.U-Boats.

Convoy H.G.84. One S/M bearing 000° distant one mile, course 285°. My position 44° 40' N 16° 50' W. (A.O.C. 15 Group 1242/15.)  
 U-Boats attacked. My 1242. Have attacked enemy S/M with depth charges and estimate 17 hits. (A/C 1245/15 to 15 Group.)  
 CITY OF OXFORD (British 2759 tons)  
 ETRIB (British 1943 tons)  
 SLEMDAL (Norwegian tanker 7374 tons)  
 THURSO (British 2436 tons)  
 PELAYO (British 1346 tons)  
 sunk.  
 Contd.

At 1043 G.M.T. German U-Boats were ordered to set M/F D/F watch to obtain and report bearings of an enemy A/C or other unit which is shadowing a convoy probably H.G.84. (F.O.C.N.A. 1258B/15 to Escorts of H.G.84.)  
 Have lost touch with enemy S/M last seen in 44° 40' N 16° 50' W. (A.O.C. 15 Group 1355/15.)  
 Your 0832/15. Unless otherwise instructed by STORK rejoin convoy. (C. in C. W.A. 1554B/15 to GARDENIA.)  
 D/F transmissions between 1436Z/15 and 1455Z/15 indicate 4 U/Bs in your vicinity and 2 somewhat to westward.  
 At 1541Z/15 U/B transmitted sighting report from your vicinity. (D.D.I.C. 1823R/15 to STORK.)  
 Have attacked enemy S/M with depth charges and estimate nil hits. Position of enemy is 45° 5' N 17° 10' W. (A.O.C. 15 Group 1840/15.)  
 At 1807 G.M.T. enemy S/M made a first sighting report on bearing 313° from Gibraltar. (F.O.C.N.A. 2020B/15 to Escorts H.G.84.)  
 Am over enemy S/M in 45° 3' N 17° 39' W. When last seen S/M was on surface, course 080°, speed 6 knots. (A.O.C. 15 Group 2318/15.)

2 U-Boats reported by NIGERIA.

My 0136B/14. 2 further firm contacts obtained in 060° 13' N 013° 46' W at 1946/14 & 062° 02' N 15° 54' W at 1017/15. Recorder traces are clear and operator very experienced. Former contact was attacked with depth charges. (F.O.C. 10 C.S. 1223B/15 to A.C.O.S. C. in C. H.F. RENOWN.)

Navigational.

Rosyth.

Following buoys reported through two reliable sources to be approx. at the following bearings and distances from assigned positions:-  
 18 Buoy 003° 5 cables. 18A Buoy 300° 45 cables.  
 18B Buoy 229° 6 cables. 18C Buoy 232° 5 cables.  
 (C. in C. Rosyth 1126B/15.)

Rosyth Standard Inshore Route.

The standard inshore route is in future to be from 22A buoy to 23 buoy, thence to Tay Approach SE buoy, thence to the northward as hitherto and vice versa.

2. Attention is called:- (A) to the necessity of adhering strictly to the routes laid down.  
 (B) to the provisions in QZS 319 prohibiting the flying of balloons. (C. in C. Rosyth 1529B/15.)

/Humber...



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War Diary.15.6.1942.  
Monday.HOME COMMANDS.Navigational - Contd.

Humber. PRINCESS VICTORIA wreck buoy in vicinity of Humber L/F reported missing. (F.O. Humber 2045B/15.)

Casualties and Defects.

YEWPAK. Arrival tug KROOMAN towing SS. YEWPAK. Main engines broken down. (F.O.I.C. Yarmouth 0111B/15 and 1000/15.)

STEEL WORKER. North Russia's 1251B/11 para 1. Russia Naval Staff consider loss of STEEL WORKER which they say was caused by internal explosion in No.4. hold, was due to sabotage. Ship was in swept channel with experienced pilot on board.  
2. S.B.N.O. North Russia is requested report if channel also swept with S.A. gear. (Ad. Miles 1525C/15.)

SLAZAK. SLAZAK has joined my Command with defective gun mounting and will be out of action for at least 12 days. (C. in C. Plymouth 1530B/15 to C. in C. Nore.)

WINCHESTER. WINCHESTER was in collision with SS. CORRIE at 0840/11 in 300° 62 G Buoy one mile. No apparent damage to CORRIE. Damage to WINCHESTER slight and ship still seaworthy. Ship docks tomorrow for repairs. (Capt. D. Rosyth 1651B/15.) *See 18/6-10. 525*

AZALEA. AZALEA has developed engine defects and is returning to Liverpool. (C. in C. W.A. 2034B/15.)

Shipping and Convoys.

Convoy H.G.84. 5 M/Vs sunk by U-Boats (See U-Boats.) *pp 408 1409*  
Sailed SPEY for H.G.84. (Cdre. Londonderry 0500B/15.)

*See p. 402* → Sail ROTHER when fuelled at best speed to join H.G.84 routed as in my 1243B/15. (C. in C. W.A. 1309B/15 to Cdre. Londonderry.)

*See p. 403* Arrived WILD SWAN 0745/15. Sailed 1444/15 to rejoin H.G.84. (C. in C. Plymouth 1452B/15.)

O.N.103 STANDELLA. O.N.103. STANDELLA struggling with engine trouble At 1600Z/14 was stopped 27 miles astern requiring 4 hours to complete repairs. Hopes to overtake unescorted. (C.T.U. 24.1.12 0930Z/15.)



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15.6.1942.  
Monday.War Diary.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping and Convoys.- Contd.

- P.Q.17. Admiralty's 1807B/13 and C. in C. W.A. 1014B/14. Rescue ships ZAAFARAN, ZAMELEK and RATHLIN detailed for P.Q.17.  
(2) Fitting of additional equipment in ZAAFARAN will be completed by 16th and ship sailed for Loch Ewe.  
(3) It is anticipated that other two ships will be completed with necessary equipment (with possible exception of 'A' bracket in RATHLIN) by p.m. 21st and sailed to R/V on 23/6 with A/A ships and Corvettes from Londonderry. (F.O.I.C. Greenock 0934B/15.)
- P.Q.17. In ----- Form A Jan Mayen request Murmansk Section of Convoy may be disposed so as to enable ships to part company from Archangel Section in convenient manner when Convoy splits. (S.B.N.O. North Russia 1147B/15 to A.C.I.C.)  
My 1304/20/5. For 4 read 3 (M/S to sail with P.Q.17.)  
Admiralty pass to Admiral Miles. (C. in C. H.F. 1453B/15 to S.B.N.O. North Russia.)  
My 0934B/15 para 2. Add to join U.R. and subsequently P.Q.17. (F.O.I.C. Greenock 1554B/15.)  
Admiralty 1807/13. (1) Rescue ships ZAAFARAN, ZAMELEK and RATHLIN should be sailed with P.W.17 to expedite repatriation of survivors from Northern Russia. Sailing dates from the Clyde should be arranged with F.O.I.C. Greenock and reported to D. of S.T.  
(2) Carrying capacity for survivors should be increased as much as possible by the supply of extra bedding and stores as necessary for the voyage as number of survivors to be repatriated will considerably exceed total capacity of the three rescue ships.  
(5) Efforts are being made to arrange for Admiralty to supply H.F/D.F outfit for RATHLIN but in view of altered programme it is doubtful whether this can now be arranged before sailing. (D.S.T. 2320/15.)
- E.N.98 My 1637/14. E.N.98 postponed 12 hours so as to  
F.N.733 include ships of F.N.733. (N.C.S.O. Methil 0955/15.)  
When finished with UREDD proceed to meet and act as extra escort to F.N.733 to Methil. F.N.733 at 21 A Buoy at 1030 15th. (C. in C. Rosyth 1009B/15 to SLEIPNER.)
- H.X.193. H.X.193. Detach forthwith ships of 12 knots and over except those bound Belfast. Ships are to proceed as H.X.193 fast escorted by 1 Destroyer and 1 Corvette. (C. in C. W.A. 1102Z/15 to C.T.U. 24.1.15.)
- S.D.28. S.D.28. Intend sailing LEINSTER, ST.MARY'S, NEWARK at 1400. Route C. in C. W.A. 0105/15, speed 15 knots. (A.C.I.C. 1200B/15.)



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War Diary.15.6.1942.  
Monday.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping and Convoys - Contd.

- O.G.85. From position (B) steer for (D) 050° 20' N 017° 49' W omitting (C). Amend R/V with O.G.85, 049° 01', 020° 31' at 0800B/18. You are not to zigzag until you have sufficient time in hand to ensure making R/V. (C. in C. W.A. 1215B/15 to AZALEA.)
- W.S.20. W.S.20. First 2 letters convoy W/T call signs are Q H. Outcon 243 Cdre.'s R/V noon 21st G.M.T. in 055° 29' N 009° 14' W. R/V 21. Noon 22nd in 054° 20' N 017° 18' W. R/V 22. E.T.A. Freetown 3/7. (N.C.S.O. Mersey 1300Z/15.)
- A.M. 0039/11, 1733/14. (1) (A) A/A escort and S.O. of escort DELHI who is to leave convoy at prudent limit of endurance and proceed Belfast.  
(B) S.O. of escort from position (X) MALAYA.  
(2) A/S Escort. (A) Liverpool portion ST. ALBANS, WOLVERINE who are to leave convoy when Clyde portion joins and rejoin after fuelling at Merville.  
(B) Clyde portion BEAGLE, RIPLEY.  
(C) To join from Londonderry at position (e) SALISBURY, BOADICEA, VIMY, BRILLIANT, VANSITTART, BLACKMOOR.  
(3) S.O. of A/S escort BEAGLE.  
(4) (A) RIPLEY is to be detached to Ponta Delgada at prudent limit of endurance to fuel and is to proceed thence direct to Argentia to join unit B two.  
(B) Orders for BEAGLE, BOADICEA, SALISBURY, ST. ALBANS, WOLVERINE, leaving convoy will be given subsequently.  
(5) N.O.I.C. Greenock to arrange fuelling of RIPLEY, VIMY, BRILLIANT, VANSITTART, BLACKMOOR at Ponta Delgada and inform MALAYA.  
(6) Request you will sail ships accordingly.  
(C. in C. W.A. 1604B/15) See also C. in C. W.A. 1038B/16. My 1604/15. WOLVERINE is to sail from Londonderry to meet Liverpool portion at Bar Light Vessel as arranged by N.O.I.C. Liverpool.
2. C.O.S. of Escort at Clyde are to attend convoy conference at Greenock a.m. 20th.  
SALISBURY, VIMY, BRILLIANT, BLACKMOOR<sup>ORE</sup> are then to go to Merville to fuel. (C. in C. W.A. 1607B/15.)
- P.Q. convoys Request escorts and M/Vs of P.Q. convoys may be Ammunition. instructed to report to S.B.N.O. Russia or S.B.N.O. Archangel on arrival amount of ammunition expended.  
(2) S.B.N.O. Russia and S.B.N.O. Archangel are requested to collate the reports for ships at Kola and Archangel and signal following information to C. in C. H.F.  
(A) Summary of ammunition expended for each type of gun.  
(B) Replenishment which will be made from reserve in North Russia. (C. in C. H.F. 1638B/15.)
- A.M. 1034B/29/5 and 1909B/8. Is it still the intention that 20,000 rounds of Oerlikon ammunition are to be sent. Scapa reserve at present consists of 30,000 rounds H.E. Tracer but extra issues have not yet been made to convoy escort in accordance with A.M. 2005B/5. (C. in C. H.F. 1647B/15 to Admty.)

/W.S.19Y...



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War Diary.15.6.1942.  
Monday.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping and Convoys - Contd.

- W.S.19Y. Agreed capacities QUEEN ELIZABETH 11042. Note- total accommodation is limited to 10800 owing to restricted messing facilities. BATORY total 2201. (D.S.T.O. Greenock 1800/15.)
- KATHLEEN HAWKSFIELD KATHLEEN HAWKSFIELD last seen 3 miles astern convoy at 62 E buoy at 1538. No trace can be found now, have searched back 10 miles. Presumed she has proceeded to Humber. (LUDLOW 1830B/15 to N.O.I.C. Humber.)
- U.R.28. U.R.28 arrived. (N.C.S.O. Reykjavik 1830B/15.)
- Ocean Convoy Stragglers. Merchant ships, which through inability to maintain convoy speed for any reason, straggle and lose touch with ocean convoys outward-bound from the United Kingdom:-  
(a) Before reaching 8° W if routed through the Minches, or  
(b) Before reaching 10° W if routed south of the Outer Hebrides,  
are normally to return to the Clyde, but in cases where for any reason this course is considered unsafe, they should make for the nearest safe port. ✕Ships returning are in all cases to report their intentions as soon as possible by W/T to "Admiral, Liverpool" the Commodore of the convoy (using the Commodore's Convoy Call Sign) and the Flag or Naval Officer-in-charge at the port concerned.  
2. N.C.S.I. 53 para 1 will be amended. (D.T.D. 2000B/15 to C. in C. W.A.)
- Q.P. Convoy Survivors. My 1624/14. Ministry of War Transport have agreed that to facilitate repatriation of survivors cargo vessels in Q.P. convoys may embark survivors up to the limit of available lifeboat capacity. This suspends the normal rule whereby sufficient boat accommodation must be available on each side of ship. Request you will make best arrangements possible for provision of extra buoyant apparatus as additional safeguard. Presume you will consider use of ships now at Archangel. (A.C.N.S. (T.) 2131B/15 to S.B.N.O. North Russia, Archangel.)

K all  
p.445



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15.6.1942.  
Monday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

Casablanca  
Intelligence. Warships at Casablanca 6/6: JEAN BART, GLOIRE,  
PRIMAUGUET, 15 Torpedo Craft, 15 S/MS. B.2. B.2.  
(N.C.S.O. Lisbon 1145/15 to Admty. (for D.N.I.))

Operation  
"Harpoon". See Mediterranean. (LIVERPOOL, 1030C/15,  
F.O.C.N.A. 1150B/15, 1152B/15, 1220B/15, 1312B/15  
1503/15, 1516B/15, 1541B/15, 1802B/15, 2028B/15,  
2210B/15, A.H.Q. Gib. 1900/15.)

U/B sighting  
report of  
Convoy H.G.84. See Home Commands. (F.O.C.N.A. 1258B/15, 2020B/15)

Situation  
Report. (1) PARTHIAN 34° 48' 27" 29' 88° 10 on the surface  
throughout. Situation 1959B/15.  
(2) S.L. 112 38° 28' 22" 20' 353° 8½ S.O. WESTON.  
(F.O.C.N.A. 1354B/15 to A.I.G. 64.)

XXIV MAGGIO. 15/6 repeat M.E.W. telegram 94 Madrid Commercial  
telegram 111 and S.O.(I) Gib. (Begins) Italian SS.  
XXIV MAGGIO to be called in future number 57 load-  
ing iron ore expect complete 18/6. (H.M. Consul  
Bilbao, 1703/15 to Admty.)

CANADA. Your 0004B/13. French Naval Attache informs me  
CANADA is bound for French West Africa. He  
presumes this means Dakar or Konakri.  
(B.N.A. Madrid 1845/15 to Admty. (R) F.O.C.N.A.)

Damaged U/B  
at Ferrol. H.M. Consul Corunna's 1930/13. Spaniards have  
U.105. duty to intern the 7 wounded under Article 10  
(N.I.D. 24/T.I.) of the Tenth Hague Convention. Every effort should  
be made to secure internment. (Hd. of M. 2349B/15  
to N.A. Madrid.)

South Atlantic.

NIEUW  
AMSTERDAM. Port Elizabeth arrival NIEUW AMSTERDAM 0850Z/14.  
(N.L.O. Port Elizabeth 0624Z/15 to C. in C.S.A.)  
My 1155/14. N.O.I.C. Port Elizabeth report NIEUW  
AMSTERDAM expected to sail daylight 25/6 but  
completion will be accelerated if possible.  
(C. in C.S.A. 0933B/15 to D. of S.T.)

/W.S.19.....



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15.6.1942.  
Monday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic- Contd.

- W.S.19.  
EMERALD. Sailed EMERALD with W.S. 19. routed as in D.C. in C. E.F. 1016Z/12. S. of A. 9 knots. (N.O.I.C. Durban 0701Z/15 to Admty., C. in C. S.A. C. in C.E.F., C. in C.E.I., S.O.(I) Kilindini, S.O.(I) Colombo, N.O.I.C. Diego Suarez.) HURSLEY and BELVDOR arrived fuelled and left to rejoin W.S.19. (N.O.I.C. Durban 1001Z/15).
- Re-routeing. Ships in Area 3A dispersed from INCOMATI Convoy. (R.A.W.A.F. 1000Z/15) BRITISH FIDELITY (R.A.W.A.F. 1304/15): SOUTH AFRICA (R.A.W.A.F. 1442/15.) EL GRILLO (R.A.W.A.F. 1445/15).
- CILICIA.  
SCYTHIA. SCYTHIA sailed 1430Z/15 escort CILICIA S. of A. 12.2. E.T.A. Port Elizabeth p.m. 17/6 routed on R.6. to position 3. thence to destination. (S.O.(I) Capetown 1429Z/15, N.C.S.O. Capetown 1442 Z/15 to C. in C. S.A. (R) Admty., N.O.I.C. Port Elizabeth, S.O.I. Capetown.) Your 1910B/8. Anticipate CILICIA will be available for this duty. (C. in C. S.A. 1429B/15 to Admty. (R) R. A.W.A.F., G.O.C. in C.A.F.) / Confirmation being obtained. *See p. 417.*
- MILFORD. Simonstown departure 1005Z/15 MILFORD for Libreville calling Pointe Noire for fuel. S. of A. 13½ knots. E.T.A. Pointe Noire A.M. 21/6. (2) My 1159/11 programme from Libreville will be 2 days late. (C. in C.S.A. 1532B/15 to Admty., R.A. West Africa, British N.L.O. West Africa, N.A. Rio de Janeiro.) *See p. 416*
- O.S.30,  
PHILANTE,  
unidentified  
A/C sighted. O.S.30. An unidentified A/C sighted by (?PHILANTE) at 1235Z/15 5 miles 005° from 017° 06' N. 020° 56' W. course West. E.T.A. Freetown 0830 G.M.T. 19/6. Your 1346Z/15\* 3 escorts only. (PHILANTE 1557Z/15 to R.A.W.Af. (R.) C. in C.S.A., F.O.C.N.A., Admty.) \*Note:- This message delayed owing to corrupt text.
- Movements. Departures 15/6. LEITH, SCARBOROUGH, SANDWICH, \*VIOLET with S.L.113. Arrivals RODNEY, PENN, PATHFINDER, QUENTIN. (S.O.I. Freetown 1601Z/15 to Admty. F.O.C.N.A., C. in C.W.A., S.O.W.P.) *\* See p. 416*
- GRIPSHOLM. GRIPSHOLM travelling under safe conduct to repatriate diplomats and nationals from New York about 10th June for Lourenco Marques via Rio de Janeiro returning Europe via Trinidad. Description. (C. in C.S.A. 1631B/15 to S.A. Sqdn.)

/ABDIEL.....



415A

1627/15 Juno.

SECRET

MESSAGE

IN

From G.O.C. in C West Africa.

Date 16. 6. 42.

Received 0115.

Cipher

Addressed The War Office. Repeated Air H.Q. West Africa.  
via Commander Sierra Leone Area.

IMPORTANT.

055775. G. 17990 cipher 15/6.

There has been correspondence between Air Ministry and Air H.Q., W. Africa on subject of command of R.A.F. in Freetown subsequent to move of Air H.Q. to Acora. Air Ministry telegram No. O.X. 6535 26th May to Air H.Q., W. Africa and Air H.Q. West Africa reply thereto No. A. 937 9th June refers.

Am strongly in favour of formation Group H.Q. in Freetown to control all R.A.F. units in Sierra Leone and Gambia. This will enable operational requirements Navy to be co-ordinated with minimum delay and will ensure requirements Army co-operation in those areas are met as far as possible. Am very strongly opposed to G.R. Squadrons being placed under command Rear Admiral West Africa as this would lead to complete (?lack of) Army co-operation facilities in Gambia and Sierra Leone and also to great difficulty ensuring the best use of available Air Forces in event of an outbreak hostilities in West Africa.

1627/15.

1st Lord.

1st S.L.

5th S.L.

V.C.N.S.

A.C.N.S. (H).

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

SEC.

NAV. SEC.

N.A. 1st S.L.

P.A.S. (S).

D.N.I. (5).

O.D. (5).

Ops. (3).

M. (2).

D. of P. (3).

O.I.C. (2).

I.P. (3).

W.D.

Ad. Blake.

D.N.A.D.

Air.

D. of L.D. (2).

War Office Circulation.

Copies to:-

Int. M.O. 4 (for action).

D.M.O.

D.D.M.O. (O).

M.O. 1, 4.

S.D. 4.

Ext. Air Ministry (Group Captain Long)

Air Ministry (A.M.C.S.).

Admiralty (War Rog.) (2)

Received from War Office 1745/16 Juno.

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



SECRET

MESSAGE

IN

1705/15th June.

From: Air Ministry Whitehall.

Date: 15.6.42.

Recd: 1913

CIPHER

Addressed: Air Ministry Whitehall.

AX. 749 15/6.

For A.C.C.

The Governor General of the Belgian Congo has been instructed by the Belgian Government in London to get in touch with you to complete arrangements for routing and recognition procedure for flights over Congo. Understand you have co-operated with Free French in this matter and request you co-operate similarly with Belgians information all concerned of procedure to be adopted when settled.

1705/15

Received in War Registry at  
0124/16th June.

Copies circulated by Air Ministry to:-

- U.S. of S.(C)
  - P.U.S.
  - C.A.S.
  - V.C.A.S.
  - A.C.A.S.(O)
  - A.C.A.S.(I)
  - A.C.A.S.(P)
  - D. of Plans
  - D.D.P.(O) (Orig)
  - D.O. Ops.
  - D.O.N.C.
  - D.W.O.
  - War Office (M.O.4)
  - Admiralty.
  - Colonial Office.
  - Dominions Office
  - Foreign Office (Mr. Harrison)
  - A.I.S.A.L.
  - File CS.14742 refers.
- 
- 1st Lord.
  - 1st S.L.
  - 5th S.L.
  - V.C.N.S.
  - A.C.N.S.(H)
  - A.C.N.S.(F)
  - Secretary.
  - Naval Sec.
  - N.A. 1st S.L.
  - P.A.S.(S)
  - D.N.I.(5)
  - O.D.(5)
  - Ops.(3)
  - M.(2)
  - D. of P.(3)
  - O.I.C.(2)
  - I.P.(3)
  - W.D.
  - Admiral Blake.
  - D.N.A.D.
  - Air Branch.
  - D.S.D.(2)



416

War Diary.15.6.1942.  
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic-Contd.

- ABDIEL. Arrival Pointe Noire 14/6 ABDIEL. Departure 15/6 for Freetown expect to arrive, 0630Z/19. (B.N.L.O. West Africa 1702/15 to Admty.) Am proceeding Takoradi to repair defective evaporators. E.T.A. 0500Z/17. Requirements 600 tons oil fuel. (ABDIEL 2024A/15 to R.A.W.A. N.O.I.C. Takoradi, (R) C. in C.S.A.)
- PASTEUR. Your 0711/13. PASTEUR probably leaves Durban 16/6 for Capetown. E.T.A. Halifax will be signalled later. All accommodation will be available. (P.S.T.O. Simonstown 1703B/15 to D. of S.T. (R) N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, C.O.A.C., C. in C.A.W.I., B.A.D. C. in C. U.S. Fleet, Connav, C. in C.W.A.)
- VIOLET, S.L.113. VIOLET sailed with S.L. 113 for refit in U.K. is requested to signal destination. (R.A.W.A. 1707Z/15 to Admty., C. in C.W.A.) *See p. 415*
- DRAGON. Your 1615Z/9 Capetown dock booked until 6/7 and other ships on waiting list. Request probable date of arrival of DRAGON. (C. in C.S.A. 1727B/15 to Dep. C. in C.E.F. (R) C. in C.E.F. Admty.)
- MILFORD. A.T. 2136/5. It will be necessary for about 70 men from MILFORD to be accommodated ashore in the vicinity of ship if possible while refit is being carried out. Request you arrange accordingly. (C. in C.S.A. 1753B/15 to A.N.A. Rio de Janeiro.) *See p. 415*
- Green Flare. Refer to this as U.S. Naval Observer Natal 1257 15 N.C.11 Fishlake to Natal reports what described as green flare fired to altitude of 10,000 feet at 2340Z/14 01° 23' N. 21° 30' W. C.O. R.N. Air Station Sierra Leone Freetown pass to R.A.W.A.) (Clipper 1945/15 to R.A.W.A., C. in C.S.A.)
- DINSDALE torpedoed about 30/5. (31/5 - *See* 12/6 p. 320.) R.F.A. DINSDALE. Local paper "Argus" <sup>76</sup>15/5 reports 45 survivors from DINSDALE were landed at Las Palmas by Spanish steamship MONTE ORDUNA it is presumed that torpedoing occurred on or about 30/5. Attempts to contact DINSDALE by W/T unsuccessful. (C. in C.S.A. 2044B/15 to Admty. (R) S.O.I. Capetown, N.O.I.C. Port Elizabeth, Cdre Durban.)
- Tornado Bathurst tugs sunk and damaged. Resulting from tornado early today all lighters went ashore now refloated tugs KAED slightly damaged but operating. KOMBO and THROSTLE sunk but hope to salvage and refloat soon. Port clearance will be considerably curtailed for few days. Will report again. Ref. Mast 54 earliest can accept ships is middle August. (M.W.T.R. Bathurst 2100Z/15 to M.W.T.R. London (R) M.W.T.R. Freetown.)

/DORNOCH.....



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War Diary.

15.6.1942.  
Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic-Contd.

DORNOCH.

My 1351Z/10 DORNOCH arrived Buenos Aires 15/6.  
(S.O.I. Montevideo 2211Z/15 to Admty.)

Escort for  
BATORY.

Your 1910B/8 anticipate CILICIA will be available  
for this duty. (C. in C.S.A. 1429B/15 to Admty.)



War Diary.15.6.1942.  
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean

Operation "Harpoon". Report BADSWORTH ? Position. (V.A. Malta, 0112/16 to BLANKNEY).  
Following has been read by Nore W/T. Am over enemy in 37° 30' N., 19° 35' E., 1 battleship 2 Cruisers, 2 Destroyers. Course 190°. Speed 20 knots. (A/C using call sign 60AQ 0200/15)  
Liberators arrive vicinity 035° N., 019° E., at 0900/15 thence searching towards Task. (C. in C. Med., 0221C/15 to F.O.C.S. 15)  
D/F bearings of Warship possible Cruiser 315° from Malta at 0056/15. (V.A. Malta, 0240C/15 to CAIRO (R) S.O. Force T., F.O.C.N.A. C. in C. Med).  
Nothing sighted Eastern Approaches to Messina tonight. Possible that force reported in my 2215/14 turned west from Palermo. P.R.U. Spitfire search your vicinity at dawn. (V.A. Malta, 0342C/15 to CAIRO, (R) S.O. Force T., (?C. in C. Med., F.O.C.N.A.) Admiralty).  
The following has been read. P.C. and S. of enemy battleship 2 cruisers 2 destroyers is 37° 5' N., 19° 15' E., 240°, 20 knots. P.C. and S. of 5 enemy destroyers is 37° 5' N., 19° 15' E., 190° 20 knots. (A/C using call sign 60AQ 0420/15).  
2 cruisers 3 destroyers bearing 075° 15 miles course 150° position 36° 24' N., 11° 43' E. (R.7., 0627C/15 to Gib. W/T, Malta W/T)  
The following has been read addressed Malta. Emergency. 2 cruisers 3 destroyers bearing 075° 15 miles course 150° position 36° 24' N., 11° 43' E. (CAIRO, 0627C/15).  
Following has been read originator not known. 2 cruisers 3 destroyers bearing 068° distance 15 miles. My position 36° 24' N., 11° 43' E. (Malta W/T, 0635/15)  
Help. P. 36° 23' N., 12° 12' E. C. 210, S. 12. (SPEEDY, 0715/15 to Malta).  
Help JUMBO 36° 19' N., 11° 53' E., course 121 speed 13. (CAIRO, 0720/15 to Malta).  
Escorted request ? until dark (corrupt group) ?036° 23', 011° 45'. (Med. Local 0730/15 to BEDOUIN).  
Request air striking force against 4 cruiser bearing 180° 8 miles Taku 036° 09' N., 011° 52' E. (CAIRO 0738/15 Addressed Malta W/T).  
Following has been read 1 Battleship, 1 Cruiser, Italian, engaging Convoy. P.C. and S. of enemy battlefleet 36° 15' N., 11° 39' E., C. 210, S. 15 knots. (A/C using call sign 3YVF, 0740/15).  
Enemy course and speed are 090° 35 knots. (CAIRO, 0749/15 to Malta W/T).  
My 0738 Enemy course and speed are 180° 35 knots. (CAIRO, 0745/15 Malta W/T).  
My 0715 one M/V sunk one damaged. (SPEEDY, 0748/15 to Malta).  
P.C. and S. is 36° 25' N., 11° 31' E., 040° 15 knots. (A/C 3 YVF, 0810/15).  
P.C. and S. of 1 enemy cruiser 2 destroyers is WDLK 0028 (Indecypherable) 340°. (A/C 8JB., 0810C/15).  
Your 0738. Albacore strike being sent as soon as possible. (Malta, W/T, 0811C/15 to CAIRO).

/Call signs...



15.6.1942.  
Monday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean. contd.

Operation "Harpoon".  
Contd. Call signs missed. Locate enemy 1 CR, 2 DR.  
Position KWE? (Indecypherable) 3000 C. 340  
S. 4 knots.  
(Nore W/T, 0811/15 to Whitehall W/T).  
Proceeding. KENTUCKY in tow HEBE.  
(SPEEDY, 0811C/15 to V.A. Malta).  
Enemy course is 270.  
(CAIRO, 0812/15 to Malta).  
My 0814 enemy speed is 20 knots.  
(?) 0821C/15 to Malta).  
Enemys' course 245°.  
(CAIRO, 0830/15).  
My position 36° 19', 11° 53'. Am stopped owing to damage.  
Intend proceeding westward PARTRIDGE standing by.  
(BEDOUIN, 0839C/15 to Malta).  
BEDOUIN 0839C/15 speed reduced to 12 knots.  
(PARTRIDGE, 0845C/15 to V.A. Malta).  
Position of enemy is 36° 36' N., 11° 56' E., course 000° 15 knots  
(Call 3YUF? 0850/15 to Call Sign 9 S.W.-?-).  
P.C. and S. of enemy battle fleet 36° 40' N., 11° 58' E., 010.  
15. Am returning to base.  
(Med., A/C, 0900/15 to Malta).  
4 Albacores and 3 Beauforts left to arrive at position Shilling  
(as received) Linosa 17 at about 1000.  
(N.O.I.C. Malta, 0900C/15 to CAIRO).  
Your 0810 - Shadow.  
(S.O. S/MS Force H. ? 0900C/15 to Call sign 8JB).  
My 0812. 2 cruisers bearing 150° distance 10 miles course 090°  
My position 36° 18' N., 11° 55' E.  
(CAIRO, 0910/15 Malta W/T).  
(Corrupt group) 105°  
(C. in C. Med., 0913C/15 to C.S.15).  
Report your bearing, and distance enemy from you.  
(V.A. Malta, 0917C/15 to CAIRO).  
Convoy bears 280° 20 miles from me. My position 036° 22' N.,  
012° 04' E.  
(CAIRO, 0933/15 to V.A. Malta).  
What enemy forces are there in the vicinity.  
(CAIRO, 0934/15 to V.A. Malta).  
CHANT sunk. KENTUCKY and BEDOUIN damaged and unable to steam.  
PARTRIDGE damaged speed 12 knots.  
(CAIRO, 1002/15 to V.A. Malta).  
Following has been read. 2 cruisers bearing 147 distance 15  
miles course 128, my position GSJE 2204. 36° 22' N., 12° 04' E.  
(CAIRO, 0932/15).  
2 destroyers bearing 180 distance 5. Course 180° My position  
1 V J ? 2520.  
(Nore W/T, 1005/15 to Whitehall W/T).  
My 0945 altered course 180°.  
(BLANKNEY, 1006/15 to CAIRO).  
Your 0934. Only those with which you are in touch located.  
(V.A. Malta, 1006C/15 to CAIRO).  
Have lost touch with enemy steering towards Malta position of  
convoy 036° 26' N., 011° 38' E.  
(CAIRO, 1014/15 to V.A. Malta).  
My P.C. and S. are 037° 41' N., 003° 57' E., 254° 9 knots.  
Still being shadowed.  
(LIVERPOOL, 1030C/15 to F.O.C.N.A. (R) SALVONIA, F., Admty).



15.6.1942.  
Monday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean. conts:-

Operation "Harpoon". 2 cruisers in 35° 55' N., 12° 23' E.  
 (Nore W/T, 1036/15 to Whitehall W/T).  
 Contd. 2 cruisers P.C. and S. 35° 50' N., 12° 10' E., C.  
 020° 20 knots.  
 (Nore W/T, 1045/15 to Whitehall W/T).

WELSHMAN arrived.  
 (V.A. Malta, 1046C/15 to S.O. Force T., (R) C. in C. Med.,  
 F.O.C.N.A., Admty).  
 (?) destroyers (?) 037° 25' (?) 012° 20' (?) course 180° at 1005.  
 (V.A. Malta, 1104C/15 to CAIRO, BEDOUIN).  
 Cancel my 0825/15 (N.T. in W.D.) and 1040/15.  
 (? Capt. (S) 1., 1110/15 to Malta, Whitehall).  
 Intend to sail WELSHMAN at 1400 to reinforce CAIRO.  
 (V.A. Malta, 1112C/15 to C. in C. Med., CAIRO, (R) Admiralty).  
 Help JUMBO 36° 17' N., 11° 34' E. 140° 10.  
 (CAIRO, 1119/15 to Malta).  
 Believed one torpedo hit at 1115 on one cruiser attacking  
 "Harpoon." See Op. "Vigorous."  
 (V.A. Malta, 1132/15 to C. in C. Med., C.S.15 Rep. Admty).  
 Report names of ships of Force X with sufficient fuel and  
 ammunition in fit state to return westward at dark tonight.  
 Decision whether they can be spared will be made later.  
 (N.O.I.C. Malta, 1150B/15 to CAIRO, (R) WELSHMAN, Admty,  
 C. in C. Med. Fleet, S.O. Force T., F.O.C.N.A.)  
 JONQUIL and SPIREA being sailed 1300B towards position 36° 52' N.  
 00° 01' W., at 14 knots to meet you daylight tomorrow and provide  
 additional escort.  
 (F.O.C.N.A., 1150B/15 to LIVERPOOL (R) Admty. S.O. Force W.,  
 LADY HOGARTH, SALVONIA, ANTELOPE, WESTCOTT).  
 Arrival PANTHER.  
 (F.O.C.N.A., 1152B/15 to Admty (R) C. in C. W.A. R.A. West Africa  
 Your 1002/15. If quick repairs or towing impossible stopped ship  
 to be sunk. Object is to get sound ships to Malta.  
 (V.A. Malta, 1159C/15 to CAIRO).  
 Both enemy cruisers probably hit by torpedo A/C. Give convoy all  
 possible A/A protection compatible with drawing off any  
 further surface attacks.  
 (V.A. Malta, 1200C/15 to CAIRO).  
 Heavily attacked by dive bombers. BURDWAN disabled. 2 enemy  
 cruisers and 3 destroyers reported by A/C still in vicinity.  
 Have decided to cut down losses. Am sinking BURDWAN and KENTUCKY  
 My position is 036° 13' N., 011° 50' E., steering towards Malta  
 at 10 knots.  
 (CAIRO, 1201C/15 to V.A. Malta).  
 (?Close nearer to Admiral).  
 (CAIRO, 1120/15 to ITHURIEL).  
 Intend sailing PANTHER on completion fuelling to join LIVERPOOL.  
 Maximum speed 21 knots on one engine.  
 (F.O.C.N.A., 1220B/15 to Admiralty (R) LIVERPOOL, S.O. Force  
 W. JONQUIL).  
 2 cruisers 2 destroyers bearing 153° distant 15 miles approx.  
 course 110° 300° from CAIRO.  
 (?1225/15 to CAIRO).  
 As soon as possible report situation and condition of enemy  
 cruiser.  
 (Malta, 1225C/15 to CAIRO).  
 3 Albacore leave 1500 to arrive 20 miles N.W. Linosa 1600 to  
 attack cruiser. Report position of enemy if known.  
 (Malta, 1258C/15 to CAIRO, (R) WELSHMAN, BEDOUIN, MONTGOMERY).

/Your...



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15.6.1942.  
Monday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean. contd.

Operation Your 1201. Concur.  
"Harpoon" (Malta, 1300C/15 to CAIRO).  
Contd. My 1150/15 JONQUIL, SPIREA sailed 1300.  
(F.O.C.N.A., 1312B/15 to LIVERPOOL (R) Admty,  
S.O. Force W., ANTELOPE, WESTCOTT, LADY HOGARTH,  
GQQL SALVONIA).  
3 cruisers 2 destroyers 130° 25 knots. 36° 58' N., 11° 46' E.  
(HEBE, 1327/15 to Malta).  
Your 1224/15 (?1225/15 intended). Proceeding with TROILUS and  
ORARI. Remainder of convoy sunk. BEDOUIN towed by PARTRIDGE  
both damaged following some miles astern at about 10 knots.  
Position of enemy force unknown. Ammunition getting low.  
Damage to CAIRO will entail entering harbour. Further details  
and E.T.A. later.  
(CAIRO, 1328/15 to Malta).  
2 cruisers, 2 destroyers, Bearing 340 distance 15 miles course  
unknown. My position 35° 58' N., 12° 11' E.  
(CAIRO, 1344/15 to Malta).  
My 1344. Enemy course is 270°  
(CAIRO, 1357/15 to Malta).  
My 1344. Request air striking force.  
(CAIRO, 1412C/15 to Malta).  
BEDOUIN torpedoed by A/C.  
(CAIRO, 1430/15 to Whitehall W/T).  
One unidentified unit bearing 182° distant 12 miles course  
unknown. My position 35° 53' N., 12° 21' E.  
(BLANKNEY, 1453C/15 to PARTRIDGE).  
My 1453 - 135°  
(BLANKNEY, 1510/6 to PARTRIDGE).  
BEDOUIN sunk in approx. 036° 12' N., 011° 38' E.  
(PARTRIDGE, 1500/15 to CAIRO (R) V.A. Malta).  
Preliminary report of action, damage and casualties, One torpedo  
hit starboard side. After engine room and boiler room flooded.  
Counter flooding of magazine and shell room. List 7° starboard.  
Steering normal. Port after shaft only available. 3 killed.  
12 missing believed drowned in engine room. 4 seriously injured.  
18 not serious.  
(LIVERPOOL, 1503/15 to F.O.C.N.A., (R) Admty).  
P.C. and S. of enemy :- 2 cruisers 36° 28' N., 11° 20' E.,  
260° 20 knots.  
(Med., A/C, 1505/15 to Air H.Q. Malta).  
My 1500/15. Have been driven off to (?N.W. ward) by 2 (?cruisers)  
and 2 destroyers. Both enemy destroyers now appear to be picking  
BEDOUIN survivors. Am endeavouring to shadow destroyers.  
(PARTRIDGE, 1510/15 to CAIRO, (R) V.A. Malta).  
My 1500 have been driven off to N. Westward by two Italian  
cruisers TRENTO class and 2 destroyers both of these now appear  
to be picking up its (?BEDOUIN's) survivors am endeavouring to  
shadow destroyers.  
(PARTRIDGE, 1515/15 to CAIRO, (R) Malta C.C.O).  
My 1220B/15. PANTHER sails to reach position 036° 52' N., 000°  
(?48') W. at daylight tomorrow.  
(2) M.L. 29 and 5 M.Ls. sailed at 1930 towards same position at  
13 knots to provide advance screen 6 miles ahead of you unless  
otherwise ordered by you.  
(F.O.C.N.A., 1516B/15 to LIVERPOOL, (R) Admty. S.O. Force W.,  
JONQUIL, ANTELOPE, WESTCOTT).  
2 cruisers, 2 destroyers 160° 15 knots 240° from 36° 22' N.,  
11° 20' E.  
(CAIRO, 1526C/15 to Malta).



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15.6.1942.  
Monday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean. contd:-

Operation "Harpoon" Contd. 2 cruisers, 2 destroyers 160° 15 250 C?YQ 3222. (PARTRIDGE, 1530/15 to Malta).  
1 cruiser, 2 destroyers. Bearing 160° distant 15 miles approx. course 250° (rest of message missed) (PARTRIDGE, 1530/15 to Malta W/T).

Enemy A/C bombing position 36° 22' N., 11° 20' E. (PARTRIDGE, 1535/15 to Malta W/T).

4 Hudsons airborne 1530 to sweep to 001° 25' E., returning to Gibraltar at 2200. (F.O.C.N.A., 1541B/15 to Force Y).

Position of convoy at 1530 was 035° 44' N., 012° 29' E. Enemy course is 090° speed 12 knots. Request R/C A/C. (CAIRO, 1545/15 to Malta).

Hostile torpedo bombers in sight astern. (ITHURIEL, 1547/15 to CAIRO).

You cannot rely Beauforts striking before 1730. (C. in C. Med., 1548C/15 to F.O.C. 15 C.S.)

Report position of enemy cruisers to V.A. Malta immediately. (CAIRO, 1551/15 to PARTRIDGE).

1 cruiser, 2 destroyers 120° 15 knots 020° 36° 22' N., 11° 20' E. (PARTRIDGE, 1602/15 to Malta).

My 1312C/15 to WELSHMAN only. It appears convoy can now arrive entrance S.E. channel about 2330C/15. Cancel ships hold off until first light. M/Vs are to be swept up channel on arrival at entrance. Will signal movements of Force X and details of lights later.

(V.A. Malta, 1618C/15 to WELSHMAN (R) CAIRO, S.O. Force T., C. in C. Med., F.O.C.N.A. Admty).

Lost touch with enemy due to bombing attack. Bearing of enemy is N.W. (from) ?last (sighted?) 115° approx. course 100°. (PARTRIDGE, 1621/15 to CAIRO, (R) Malta C.C.O.)

Temporary repair made good to engine defect am proceeding to Westward to gain shelter of land. My maximum speed 18 knots. (PARTRIDGE, 1649/15 to Malta (R) CAIRO).

Your 1621 return to Gibraltar at your best speed. (V.A. Malta, 1700C/15 to PARTRIDGE (R) S.O. Force T., F.O.C.N.A. C. in C. Med., Admty).

P.C. and S. of enemy (2 cruisers 3 destroyers) 180° Pantellaria 10 miles 030° 20 knots. (Med. A/C, 1700/15 to Air H.Qs. Malta Cmd.).

Report if you have not made R/V with convoy. (V.A. Malta, 1712C/15 to WELSHMAN).

My 1202C/15 to WELSHMAN only. It appears convoy can now arrive at entrance S.E. channel later. (corrupt groups) informed. First ships hold off until first light M/Vs departing Cape Trafalgar up channel E. at entrance. Will signal direction of (corrupt group) X and details of lights later. (N.O.I.C. Malta, 1718C/15 to WELSHMAN (R) CAIRO, S.O. Force T., C. in C. Med., F.O.C.N.A., Admty).

S/M reported in Linosa 28 (as received) (N.O.I.C. Malta, 1720C/15 to CAIRO, WELSHMAN).

Make sighting reports as frequently as possible. (101 G.H.Q., 1721/15 to Med. A/C).

Have attacked 2 enemy cruisers 3 destroyers with torpedoes and estimate unknown hits. P.C. and S. of enemy are:- 180° Pantellaria 10 miles 040° 25 knots. (Hal Far Malta, 1722/15 to Air H.Q. Malta Command).

You were reported by enemy A/C at 164CB. (F.O.C.N.A., 1802B/15 to Force W., (R) C. in C. Med., Admty. N.O.I.C. Malta).

/Was...



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15.6.1942.  
Monday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean. cont'd.

Operation "Harpoon".  
Contd. Was attacked by 6 Junkers 88 in  $036^{\circ} 24'$ ,  $011^{\circ} 18'$  at 1545. Several near misses. A/C used a delayed action bomb, 2 others attempted to lay (?4 magnetic mines) ahead of me (incomplete group) 2 of which had already exploded.

(PARTRIDGE, 1820C/15 to N.O.I.C. Malta, (R) CAIRO).  
9 A/Cs 240 distant 2 miles course  $180^{\circ}$  position (indecypherable)  
(PARTRIDGE, 1825C/15 to Malta W/T).  
My 1825 Enemy course is  $090^{\circ}$   
(CAIRO, 1832/15 to Malta W/T).  
My 1825 Enemy course is  $090^{\circ}$ .  
(PARTRIDGE, 1831/15 to Malta W/T).  
One shadowing A/C in sight in Sector "F" flying towards Sector "D". (ITHURIEL No T.O.O./15 to CAIRO)  
2 Catalinas A/S escort to LIVERPOOL 0018 - 0200/16.  
(A.H.Q. Gibraltar 1900/15 to Air Min. Whitehall H.Q. Coastal Command (R) H.Q.R.A.F.M.E., Malta).  
P.C. and S. of 2 cruisers  $36^{\circ} 28' N.$ ,  $11^{\circ} 20' E.$ ,  $261^{\circ} 21$  knots.  
(Med., A/C, 1505/15).  
Three enemy A/C overhead.  
(ITHURIEL, 1909/15 to CAIRO).  
Indication of S/Ms in vicinity.  
(V.A. Malta, 1922/15 to WELSHMAN, (R) CAIRO).  
Two cruisers two destroyers in  $038^{\circ} 05'$   $012^{\circ} 15'$  C. and S.  $000^{\circ} 30$  knots.  
(P.42, 1950B/15 to C. in C. Med., S.O. Force T).  
All ships are to enter harbour with convoy.  
(V.A. Malta, 2026C/15 to Force X. (R) S.O. Force T).  
My 1516B/15 para. 2. M.Ls. 480, 458, 469, 471, 483 sailed 2026.  
(F.O.C.N.A., 2028B/15 to LIVERPOOL, (R) Admty. S.O. Force W. ANTELOPE, WESTCOTT, JONQUIL.)  
Am endeavouring to mark the channel with auxiliaries flashing a morse letter. Details.  
(V.A. Malta, 2042C/15 to Call Sign Q.H.)  
My 2042/15 one. Small fixed white light A. DINGLI signal station B. 302 ZO(?NK)OR Beacon 0.39 miles C. PALACE TOWER Two. Unlighted Dan buoys met in (?Channel) should all be left to port.  
(V.A. Malta, 2054C/15 to Q.H.)  
Enter Harbour with other ships.  
(N.O.I.C. Malta, 2207C/15 to WELSHMAN (R) CAIRO).  
Establish patrol in vicinity  $038^{\circ} 15' N.$ ,  $012^{\circ} E.$ , Two cruisers may be returning Palermo.  
(F.O.C.N.A., 2210B/15 to P.42 (R) 8th S/M F. V.A. Malta).  
Berths as shown on chart. Read in 2 columns Ship, Berth.  
Destroyer Dolphins ORARI 5 Berth (Bow West) TROILUS 5 dock  
destroyer Hunt D Dockyard Creek Destroyer Hunt E dockyard creek  
WELSHMAN Canteen wharf destroyer Dolphins second destroyer 10  
G.H. CAIRO Boat House Wharf Destroyer Parlatorio wharf Destroyer  
11 G.H. (Corrupt Group) SPEEDY and HEBE 15 and 16 Sliema bow in  
RYE and HYTHE 10 and 13 Sliema 2 Motor Launches 9 Sliema 2  
Motor Launches 12 Sliema 2 Motor Launch 28 Alazaretto Motor  
Launches are to berth alongside lighters at these berths.  
Important TROILUS enter French creek before other ships berth there.  
(Malta, 2236C/15 to Q.H.)



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Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean.com 15.

Operation "Vigorous" 15/6. Your 2315. Not yet. Signal follows. (C. in C.Med.0001C/15 to C.S.15)  
My 0001/15 turn back along same track at 0200. Beaufighters arranged. (C. in C.Med. 0021C/15 to C.S.15 (R) C.S.4, V.A.Malta.)  
My 0021 Delay turn till 0300. (C.in C.Med. 0131C/15 to C.S.15. (R) C.S.4 V.A.Malta).

P.C.and S. of enemy of one battleship, 2 cruisers, 2 destroyers, 037° 30' N. 019° 35' E. 190° 20 knots. (V.A.Malta 0235C/15, to S/Ms on patrol).  
Torpedo bombing Wellingtons attacking during the night and Liberators and Beauforts about 0930/15. If attacks are successful intend forwarding convoy for Malta. S/Ms are remaining on line V Z and A D during the night. Beaufort protection arranged.  
Enemy appear to consist of 2 Littorio 2 8 inch cruisers 2 6 inch cruisers 1 destroyer. (C. in C.Med 0325C/15 to C.S.15 (R) C.S.4, V.A.Malta.)  
Following has been read:- Alexandria W/T from H.M.S.NEWCASTLE. Ship making this signal has been struck by torpedo on starboard side, aft, in no danger of sinking, my position 034° 09' 021° 52'. (Malta W/T 0401C/15 to Med.Broadcast).  
Turn to N.W. (C. in C.Med. 0525/15 to C.S.15 (R) V.A.Malta).  
From 0701 steer 150°, at 3 knots. Submerged 150° 3 knots. (Capt.(S) 1 0601C/15 to 1st S/M Flot. 10th S/M Flot. (R) C.S. 15, C. in C.Med.).  
ANTWERP, MALINES arrived 0545/15. (Tobruk C.C.O. 0618C/15 to C. in C.Med. F.O.(C) 15th).  
When over one hundred miles from coast resume course toward Malta. (C. in C.Med 0645C/15 to C.S.15 (R) C.S.4, V.A.Malta).  
P.C.S. 2 Battleship, 3 Cruisers, 9 destroyers 035° 50' 019° 00' 145° 20 knots. (P.34 0700C/15 to C. in C.Med. (R) Med.Fleet).  
Avoid contact until A/C have attacked which should be by 1030. If air attack fails every effort must be made to get convoy through to Malta by adopting offensive attitude. Should this fail and convoy be cornered it is to be sacrificed and you are to extricate your forces proceeding either to the E. or W. (C. in C.Med. 0705C/15 to C.S.15 (R) C.S.4 V.A.Malta, Admty).  
Wellington with strike baulked by very effective smoke screen. Beaufort with strike not yet returned. (V.A.Malta 0710C/15 to C. in C.Med. (R) C.S.15. Admty.).  
2 Battleships, 2 unknown ships bearing 221° distance 9 miles course 190°. My position 35° 41' N 19° 7' E. x 21. (S.O.41st Corvette Group 0814C/15 to Malta).  
Cancel my 2356/14. Proceed with despatch. Carry out "Vigorous" (S) as arranged with? D 4 15th. Convoy delayed 6 hours. Cancel my 0601/15. (Capt.(S) 1. 0825C/15 to 1st S/M F. 10th S/M F. (R) C.S.15, C. in C.Med).

/P.C. and S.....

Prob. Thom (S/M)  
actually  
940.



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War Diary.

15.6.1942.  
Monday.

## FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean. contd.

Operation "Vigorous" 15/6 Contd. P.C. and S of 2 battleships, 3 Cruisers, 9 destroyers is  $35^{\circ} 22'$ ,  $19^{\circ} 14'$   $140^{\circ} 18$  knots. (A/C Call Sign NV7V 0828/15)  
 My 0828. Enemy previously reported 2 battleships (CAVOUR) 2 cruisers (CONDOTTIERE) one cruiser (TRENTO) 9 destroyers. (Med.A/C 0848/15 to ?Malta).  
 My 0828. Enemy battle fleet in number of columns indicated. 2.Columns. Force A. 2 Battleships, 6 Destroyers. Force B. 3 Cruisers. 3 Destroyers. (A/C using call sign NV7V. 0857/15).  
 Return to base immediately. (Via ? Malta W/T 0900/15 to ?).  
 P.C.S. of 2 battleships, 3 cruisers, 9 destroyers are; OKBB 1818 (Portion indecipherable by W.D.)  $120^{\circ}$  - 12 knots. (Med.A/C 0905/15).  
 Have attacked enemy, 2 Battleships (? with torpedoes and estimate 3 hits). P.C. and S of enemy is  $34^{\circ} 4' N$  -  $20^{\circ} 51' E$  -  $165^{\circ} 18$  knots. (Med.A/C 0915/15 to 238 Wing H.Qs).  
 My 0828. Enemy Force A - 2 Battleships in single line ahead. Enemy Force B - 2 Cruisers in single line ahead. 1 Cruiser  $11^{\circ} 00'$  18 knots. (? A/C Call sign NV7 0930/15.)  
 Malta Beauforts claimed hit on both battleships in position  $35^{\circ} 50' N$   $19^{\circ} 10' E$  at 0615/C/15. Further details later. (V.A. Malta 0954/15 to C. in C.Med. (R) C.S.15 Admty.)  
 P.C. and S. 2 battleships 3 cruisers 9 destroyers  $035^{\circ} 50'$   $019^{\circ} 00'$  ? $145^{\circ}$  20 knots. (P.34 (T.O.O.missed) to C. in C.Med. (R) Med Fleet).  
 My 0828 enemy have changed station to bearing  $140^{\circ}$  distant 18 miles from enemy battle fleet. (Med A/C 1004/15 to Malta W/T).  
 Visual Taranto at ?0800C/15. 3 Battleships 6 Destroyers. (V.A. Malta 1011C/15 to C. in C.Med (R) C.S.15).  
 My 0954C/15 Beauforts claim definite hits on one or two battleships and two or one cruisers. Total hits on 3 large units. Also on one destroyer.  
 Believed one torpedo hit at 1115 on one cruiser attacking "Harpoon". (V.A. Malta 1132C/15 to C. in C.Med. C.S.15., (R) Admty.).  
 Resume course for Malta. My 1153C/15 follows. (C. in C.Med. 1151C/15 to C.S.15, (R) C.S.4th V.A. Malta).  
 Two Battleships three cruisers, four destroyers in  $035^{\circ} 47'$   $019^{\circ} 05'$  at 0648. One, possibly more hit on one Battleship. (VITTORIO VENE-  
 \* Torpedo Attack Register  
 Simultaneous raids by R.A.F. made accurate estimating impossible. (?)  
 It. Cr. TRENTO ~~class~~ set on fire by bombing, was sunk by torpedo 1008 in approx  $035^{\circ} 45'$   $019^{\circ} 04'$ . (P.35 1151C/15 to C. in C.Med. (R) F.O.15th C.S. Capt. (S) 10, Capt. (S) I.)  
 Resume course for Malta. Beauforts claim torpedo hits on both battleships. Comply with my 0705/15. A/C out of touch with enemy battle fleet at present. Believed one 8 inch cruiser also damaged and ships retired to northward. Further Beaufort attack may take place about 1430 if enemy is located. Beaufighter protection ceased 1230 for today owing to losses. (C. in C.Med 1153C/15 to C.S.15 (R) C.S.4 Admty. V.A. Malta).

/Cancel.....



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Monday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean. conts.

Operation "Vigorous" 15/6. Cancel my 1110; as my 0825/15 (N.T. in W.D.) has been passed to S/MS it is not to be cancelled. (Capt.(S) 1 1205C/15 to Malta W/T, Whitehall W/T). 2 or 3 Beauforts shot down between 033° 50' N. 022° 04' E and 033° 25' N 023° 00' E about 0800 today. Request good lookout. (V.A. Malta 1230C/15 to Med. Fleet). My 1153/15th was based on report of hit on both battleships but now consider hit may have been on cruiser. I do not (? group <sup>known</sup> missing) your bombing fuel ammunition position and must leave decision to you whether to comply with my 0705/15th or whether to again retire with hope of carrying out a night destroyer attack if enemy stand on. (C. in C. Med 1245C/15 to C.S.15 (R) C.S.4, V.A. Malta, Admty.).

X My 1330 Enemy previously reported are 2 Battleships 3 Cruisers, 9 destroyers NIAP 1335 (Position indecipherable by W.D.). (? Med A/C T.O.R. 1312/15 to 201 Group H.Q.). Proceed with all dispatch to form patrol line 1st S/M Flotilla 5 - 035° 32' 020° 10' - 12 miles - 10th S/M Flotilla 4 - 035° 22' 019° 01' - 10 miles - 050° with relative positions as before. Remain on surface. C.Os have discretion to move to intercept. Cancel my 0825/15). German U-Boat is operating in area 036° 10' 019° 10' - 000° - 40 - 055°. (Capt.(S). 1 1315C/15 to 1st S/M F. 10th S/M F. (R) C. in C. Med. V.A. Malta).

M.E. Beaufort claims hit on 2 battleships and 1 destroyer at 0943 in 035° 30' 019° 25'. One battleship left with moderate and 1 with slight list. (Malta 1328C/15 to Admty.).

X P.C. and S of enemy battle fleet is 34° (?S) N. 20° 55' E. 130° 25. (? Med. A/C 1330/15 to 201 Group H.Q.).

X My 1330. Enemy 3 Cruisers 4 destroyers bear 180°. 6 miles from 2 battleships 6 destroyers. (Med. A/C 1415/15 to 201 Group H.Q.). My 1330 Force A. Enemy units are stationed bearing and distance from one enemy battleship:- One battleship 180° 500 yards. One destroyer 360° 500 yards. 1 Cruiser 290° 500 yards. 1 ?destroyer or cruiser 260° 500 yards. 1 destroyer 180° 2,000 yards. 1 destroyer 080° 500 yards. One destroyer 100° 500 yards. (A/C T4 of Forward Army Co-op detachment ME 1420C/15 to 201 Group H.Q.M.E.).

X My 1330 Force B Enemy units are stationed bearing and distant from one enemy L cruiser as follows:- 1 cruiser 270° 500 yards. 1 cruiser 090° 500 yards. 1 destroyer 120° 700 yards. 1 destroyer 130° 6000 yards. (A/C T4 of Forward Army Co-operation Detachment M.E. 1425C/15 to 201 Group H.Q.M.E.).

Your 1151 and A/C Duty TS 1330. Am holding on to eastward. <sup>Sunk by E/13 →</sup> HASTY sunk, NEWCASTLE, BIRMINGHAM, SEAHAM, POTARO damaged. <sup>S.55. (G.D. 443)</sup> Neither ammunition nor fuel except at economical speed would be sufficient for return or onward passage. In any event it is necessary to delay contact until dusk today. Request approval. (C.S.15 1426C/15 to C. in C. Med. (R) C.S.4).

/My.....



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Monday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean. conts:-

Operation "Vigorous" 15/6. My 1330 Force A has altered course to port. (A/C T6 of Forward Army Co-op Detachment M.E. 1455C/15 to 201 Group H.Q.M.E.). My 1330 Force B has altered Course to 320° approx (Med.A/C 1506/16 to 201 Group H.Q.M.E.)

U.1505 - cruiser will be out of range. (Med.A/C 1510/15 to Air H.Qs Malta Command)

My 1330 Force B enemy is deploying to starboard. (A/C T7 of Forward Army Co-op Detachment ME 1510/15 to 201 Group H.Q.M.E.).

Following orders from Captain S.One are to remain in force. Cancel Capt.S.One's 2356/14 and 0501/15. Proceed with despatch. Carry out "Vigorous" (S) as arranged with D 4 15th. Convoy delayed 6 hours. (V.A.Malta 1515C/15 to S/Ms on Patrol(R) Capt.S.One, C.S.15 C. in C Med).

Your 1426 approved. (C. in C Med.1527C/15 to C.S.15 (R) C.S.4).

You cannot rely Beaufort striking before 1730. (C.in C.Med 1546C/15 to C.S.15).

Rejoin? as quickly after embarking survivors make certain she sinks. (CHANTALA 1605/15 to ERIDGE, ALDENHAM.).

My 1330 position course and speed of enemy is (?) INDP 5026 (position indecipherable by W.D.) 330° 20. (Med A/C 1605/15 to ? 201 Group H.Q.).

P.C.and S of Force F - 2 battleships 5 destroyers 34° 17' N. 21° 43' E. 330° 20 knots. Force 2 - 3 cruisers 4 destroyers 34° 21' N 21° 51'E. - 330° 20 knots. (A/C 'O' Med.1625/15 to 201 Group H.Q.).

Move patrol line 050° 20 miles. (Capt (S) 1 1625C/15 to 10th S/M F. (R) 15th C.S., C. in C.Med).

At 1515 estimated Position and course enemy battle fleet 034° 30' 021° 33' 330° both battleships damaged probable speed 20 - 25 knots. 3 cruisers 25 miles to S.of battle fleet course 320° 1st S/M Flot. move to intercept. (Capt.(S) 1 1625C/15 to 1st S/M F. 10th S/M F.(R) 15th C.S., C. in C.Med).

Move patrol line 050° 20 miles. (Capt.(S) 1 1625C/15 to 10th S/M F. (R) 15th C.S. C. in C.Med).

Now is golden opportunity to get convoy to Malta. Have Hunts. COVENTRY, M/Ss.and Corvettes enough fuel and ammunition for one way trip? If so, I would like to turn convoy now, cruisers and destroyers parting company after dark and returning to Alexandria. (C. in C.Med. 1625C/15 to C.S.15, C.S.4 V.A.Malta).

Visual Taranto at 14 (Z) no change. (V.A.Malta 1634/15 to F.O.C.S. 15, C. in C.Med (R) Admty.).

Report percentage of fuel and ammunition remaining in Hunts and COVENTRY. (C. in C.Med 1635C/15 to C.S.15 (R) C.S.4).

Cancel N.O.I.C.Malta's 1515/15. (C. in C.Med. 1701C/15 to 1st S/M F. 10th S/M F. (R) N.O.I.C.Malta)

Do square search 35° 25' N, 21° 2' E. if not out of sun. (? 1710C/15 to Med A/C).

My 1634 ? add corvettes and minesweepers. Para. 2. (?Are) W/T reception conditions on M.C.routine satisfactory. (C. in C.Med. 1714C/15 to C.S.15. C.S.4).

/At.....



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Operation "Vigorous" 15/6. Contd. At 1515 estimated P. and C. of enemy battle fleet  $034^{\circ} 30' 021^{\circ} 33'$  composed of both battleships damaged probable speed 20 - 25 knots. 3 cruisers 25 miles to S. of battle fleet course (corrupt group) degrees. 1st (S) move to intercept. (Capt (S) 1 1725C/15 to S.1 S.10, (R) 15th C.S. C. in C. Med).

✓ Enemy surface ships appear to be withdrawing. We are confident you will get "Vigorous" through if it is possible but you alone can judge.

(Admty. 1741B/15 to C. in C. Med).

Photographs Taranto P.M./15. 3 CAVOURS 6 destroyers. Large graving dock flooded up.

(V.A. Malta 1758C/15 to C. in C. Med (R) Admty, F.O.C.N.A. C.S.15)

Take no further action with M.S. 731 0825C/15 M.S. 903

1138/15\* and M.S. 777 1515/15 M.S. 778 C 1515/15.

(Malta W/T 1809C/15 to S/Ms on Patrol).

\*(Rep. of Capt. (S) 1 1110/15 (not circulated)).

Subject satisfactory report of fuel and ammunition remaining

2100/15 ARETHUSA, SIKH, ZULU D.5., DELPHINIUM, SNAPDRAGON,

are to be detached to proceed to Malta with REMBRANDT, CITY OF

LINCOLN, CITY OF EDINBURGH, CITY OF PRETORIA, Route as for

"Vigorous." Convoy to proceed at highest speed only zigzagging

if there is reason to suppose S/Ms are in vicinity. 1st and

10th S/M Flots. are to dispose as for action. ARETHUSA report

expected time to pass position. F. Air orders will be issued

separately. Codeword of Convoy is "Mariner."

(C. in C. Med 1841C/15 to C.S.15, (R) ARETHUSA Capt. (D) 22.

ZULU D.5. V.A. Malta, Capt. S.1. Capt. S.10. DELPHINIUM, SNAPDRAGON,

Admty, No. 201. Naval Co-Operation Gp.).

Owing to great weight of air attack cannot get in <sup>"Vigorous"</sup> figures yet nor can I turn. Estimate fuel just sufficient ammunition under

30 and being used fast. \*AIREDALE sunk. Other ships damaged

consider this ammunition insufficient. Request your decision.

(C.S.15. 1842C/15 to C. in C. Med). \*Pos:  $33^{\circ} 50' N. 33^{\circ} 23' E.$  (Dist. to Malta East

Good. You should be able to tow at 14 knots.

!(dash)) speed of convoy 10 knots.

(C.S.15. 1943/15 to JAVELIN.). See next page.

Cancel my 1823 and 1841C/15.

(C. in C. Med 2004/15 to Med. F. (R) Admty.).

My 1625 and 1634 and 1714 are cancelled.

(C. in C. Med 2006/15 to S.O. Cruisers Med. (R) Malta, C.S.4).

Return to Alexandria with your whole force. Report route and

position at daylight for anti-sub patrols and Fighter protection.

(C. in C. Med F. 2053C/15 to F.O.C. 15th C.S. (R) Naval & Air

Authorities Western Desert, N.O.I.C. Malta. F.O.C. 4th C.S.).

P.C. and S. (?3) cruisers several destroyers  $036^{\circ} 02' 020^{\circ} 40'$

$330^{\circ} 18$  knots.

(THRASHER 2120C/15 to C. in C. Med (R) 15th C.S. S/Ms on patrol).

Following searches being carried out 2330 at  $0315/16. 034^{\circ} 50'$

N,  $021^{\circ} 25' E. 037^{\circ} 30' N. 019^{\circ} 35' E. 037^{\circ} 12' N. 019^{\circ} 02' E.$

$034^{\circ} 37' N. 020^{\circ} 48' E. A/C B 034^{\circ} 50' N 021^{\circ} 25' E. 037^{\circ} 30' N.$

$019^{\circ} 35' E. 037^{\circ} 40' N. 020^{\circ} 05' E. 035^{\circ} 05' N. 021^{\circ} 55' E.$

(N.L.O. 235 Wing 2135C/15 to C. in C. Med (R) F.O.C. 15th C.S. No. 201

Naval Co-operation Gp. N.O.I.C. Malta.).

P.C. and S. of enemy 2 battleships, 2 cruisers, 4 destroyers



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Operation "Vigorous" 15/6. Contd. 36° 22' N. 20° 31' E. 330° 20.  
(A/C 14. Sqdn. Malta Command, 2255/15 to Air H.Q. Malta Command.).  
P.C. and S. of enemy 2 Battleships, 5 Cruisers, 2 Destroyers 36° 35' N. 20° 25' E. 330° 20'.  
A/C 14 Sqdn. Malta Command 2300/15 to Air H.Q. Malta Command.).

No change to my 1758/15th from photographs taken at 2000/15th. (N.O.I.C. Malta 2321C/15 to C. in C. Med (R) Admty, F.O.C.N.A. C.S.15).

JAVELIN towing NESTOR screened by ERIDGE and HURWORTH reports tow parted at 2306 in position 033° 42' 024° 57'.  
Proceeding along route of convoy, estimated S. of A 10 knots. Request priority one fighter protection day. Detaching DELPHINIUM and SNAPDRAGON at daylight as additional anti S/M escort. C. in C. pass to JAVELIN.  
(F.O.C. C.S.15. 2343C/15 to C. in C. Med (R) JAVELIN).



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War Diary.15.6.1942.  
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean. con. to:-

- U/Bs. Probable 4 U-Boats in triangle 033° 30' N. 024° East Tobruk 032° N. 027° E. at 0300C/15. (Capt. on Staff, Alexandria, 0548C/15, to A.I.G. 71, A.I.G. 72, Med. Fleet).
- 2 U/Bs. From A/C N.V. 7. Am over 2 enemy S/Ms in P.4330 2258 C. 130. S. 10 knots. (Nore W/T, 1050/15, to Whitehall W/T.).
- Italian Tankers. My 2002C/14 to D. of N.I. ALBARO and CELENO fully loaded gas-oil and benzine respectively and now anchored Istanbul expected sail from here p.m. 15/6 for Trieste. B. 3. (S.O. (I) Istanbul, 1111C/15 to S.O. (I) Med.DNI.)
- U/B Sighted. Enemy S/B previously reported was sighted on surface and observed to submerge. (A/C "Q" Med. Sqdn. 0600/15, to Malta W/T.). G. U/B between 036° 10' and 036° 50' N and 019° 10' and (?052 degrees) (?15') E. at 1030C/15. (C.O.I.S. Alex., 1238C/15, to Med Fleet). 2 S/Ms 32° 34' N. 24° 15' E. (1350/15, to P.511). G. U/B in approx. P. 033° N. 025° 20' E. at 1830C/15. (Capt. on Staff, Alexandria, 2142C/15, S. & A. Med. S. and A. Western Desert Naval and Air Authorities Western Desert).
- M.E. Air Report. Night 14/15. Wellingtons mined off Benghazi under cover of bombing objectives in vicinity which started (?fires). One Wellington missing. Reference Cositrep 405 para 4. Further 6 Beaufighters two Kittyhawks lost over shipping 14/6. (C. in C. M.E., 1903/15, to W.O.).
- BULKOIL (Tanker). My 2336/13. Request information on war experience whether above ground petrol storage tanks filled 100 octane explode or only burn if hit by bombs or incendiary bullets. (V.A. Malta, 1926C/15, to Admty).
- Malta Air Report. Following action concerning friendly convoy from West Palermo. Since 13th 2 C class Condottieri cruisers from Cagliari one E/Boat & 3 Drs., arrived 1 small M/V lost 1545 .3 Drs. 080° Ustica 12 miles course Palermo 20 knots Palermo 1925 . visual 1 cruiser north Palermo 1 mile 4 Drs. outside harbour underway 1 cruiser leaving harbour, meanwhile 4 Beaufighters despatched to protect convoy sighted 1745 020° Cape Engels 14 miles 1 Ju. 88 bombing convoy shot down sea 0343 15th continuous Beaufighter patrols despatched sighted convoy 192° Pantellaria 25 miles being attacked by 2 cruisers 4 Drs. 2 small escorts. Spitfire sorties found 2 cruisers 3 Drs. south of Pantellaria 15 miles 1 cruiser /hit ...



# MOST SECRET

430A

MOST SECRET

MESSAGE

IN

12420/15th June

From:- B.N.A. Ankara.

Date. 16.6.42.

Recd. 1300

Naval Shore code O.T.P. by cable

Recirculation

Addressed:- Admiralty, repeated C. in C. Mediterranean,  
H.M. Ambassador Ankara.

Following from Admiral Kelly. General Asim Gunduz gave me following preliminary account about American A/C landed in Turkey, aviators reports not yet received, and no interrogation has been carried out. All secret documents were immediately removed to General Staff and no one will have access to them. Following deductions:-

19 planes left Suez direct for Roumania with intention to attack Ploesti. Heavy A/A defence and machines were chased by German fighters the whole way to Turkish frontier where fighters turned back. Machines were engaged by Turkish A/A batteries at Istanbul, Izmit and Golouk area where black-out was successfully put into force. As machines were known to be friendly they were not fired on in Ankara, where they landed 8 A.M. On getting out of planes pilots (? at once) produced note book with telephone numbers of British and American Attaches which looked fishy. The machine that landed near Ada Bazaar had 2 engines out of action and 3 wounded, now in Hospital, of the 3 landed at Ankara one had one bullet through one engine. All were out of petrol. General was enchanted with their arrival and is most optimistic that Americans (corrupt group) give the planes to Turkey and the crews might remain as instructors. He assured me he was serious about this.

It is proposed to move the planes to Eskishehir where the accommodation is better, and as Americans are friends he intends they should have better treatment and (?more) freedom than other interned airmen. He hopes machines may be available for training Turkish crews under American instructors, as they would be ideal for bombing Sofia. He is anxious to know how many got back to Aleppo where he thought they were bound.

2. Marshal has accepted my suggestion for use of Farewell for evacuation of troops from Thrace in case of necessity. Exercises last year up to one division will be carried out this year up to an army corps. Admiral Husnu with a staff is in charge of all arrangements for the employment of all available craft.

3. Turks believe it certain that Japanese attack from Manchuria will be carried out at same time as German's main attack on Russian front.

4/...



430<sup>B</sup>

- 2 -

4. Army have sufficient reserves of wheat and barley until new harvest. They intend to have reserve of 500,000 tons for next year.

1242C/15

Advance copy sent O.I.C.

1st Lord  
1st S.L. (2)  
5th S.L.  
V.C.N.S.  
A.C.N.S. (F)  
A.C.N.S. (T)  
A.C.N.S. (W)  
Sec.  
P.A.S. (S)  
N.A. 1st S.L.  
D.O.D. (F) (2)  
D.N.I. (4)  
D.D.I.C. (2)  
D.C. (2)  
D.S.D.9  
Hd. of M. (12)  
D. of P. (2)  
D. of P. (2)  
I.P. (2)  
W.D.  
Adml. Blake

AMT



431

15.6.1942.  
Monday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean. conts.Malta  
Air Report.  
Contd.

hit twice fore and aft followed by large explosion amidships pouring smoke 1 probably hit 1 large Dr. other results unobserved.

(Malta, 2115/15, to Air Min., Whitehall, (R) H.Q.A.F. M.E., C.in C. Med. Bomber Command, 200 Group. 2 Group. 201 Group).

0736/15. 2 Beauforts attacked 1 torpedo hit on cruiser whole ship ablaze. R/C over friendly convoy by Baltimores, Spitfires and Beaufighters.. Following action concerning friendly convoy from East. 1110/14th Messina. Since 0510 2 S/Ms. 1 T.B. left. 1100 1 S/M reported visually my 1,361 as Dr. 210° Reggie 12 miles course 180° 15 knots. Taranto 0750/14. Since 13th 1 Dr. arrived 4 S/Ms left, further photos 1700 2 Littorio battleships, 4 cruisers, 2 six-inch 2 eight-inch, 10 Drs. left. R/C Sicily Taranto sighted 1545/14. 2 Littorio battleships, 4 cruisers 8 Drs. 270° Maria Di Leuca 15 miles course 180° 20 knots. (H.Q. R.A.F. Malta, 2130/15, to 201 Gp.). W.X. 1666 Part 2. Night 14/15th. 3 Wellingtons and Swordfish shipping searches Messina Cape Spartivento, Cape Rizzato Point Alice-Ugento 1, sighted at 2255 1 battleship 2 cruisers 2 Drs. 225° Cape Geroghambo 60 miles course 190°, 20 knots 4 torpedo carrying Wellington despatch 0045 hours 1 Wellington dropped 2 torpedoes results unobserved but shadowing Wellington saw glow in water, others could not aim owing smoke screen. 15th. 9 Beauforts despatched from Malta 0311 090° Malta 210 miles 2 enemy naval forces 12 (?2) battleships 1 cruiser 7 Des. other 2 cruisers 7 Drs. 1 Dr. hit causing list 2 battleships hit fire from 1 visible 35 miles, Beauforts damaged by flak, 1 gunner wounded 12 Beauforts despatched from Middle East 0645 2 battleships 2 cruisers 8 Drs. 100° Malta 220 miles 1 battleship hit at least once 1 Dr. hit amidships one battleship possibly hit, 5 Beauforts landed Malta of which 2 were damaged but crews unhurt 2 appeared turn back to Middle East 2 shot down sea by Me. 109s. before reaching target missing photos Taranto 0500 hours since 1700 hours 14th, no change Spitfire damaged landing pilot unhurt 2 Baltimores missing deliveries night 14/15th 1 Wellington left to Middle East.

(H.Q., R.A.F. Malta, 2145/15, to Air Min. Whitehall, H.Q. R.A.F., M.E. C.in C., Med., Bomber Command, 200 Group, 2 Group, 201 Group).

Orders to  
S/Ms.

Establish ~~(see)~~ dive patrol by dawn 16th as follows:  
10th Sub. Flot, on original A - D line. PORPOISE  
in present position. THRASHER 038° 30' 20° 18'  
THORN 036° 01' 21° 20', TAKU, 035° 24', 21° 33',  
PROTEUS 035° 01', 020° 58'.  
Capt. S. 1., 2321C/15 to 1st Sub. Flot. 10th Sub.  
Flot.(R) C.in C. Med. V.A. Malta Naval Co-op  
Group 201).



War Diary.

15.6.1942.  
Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

Enemy unit. At 1820Z/14 Japanese unit S I N A probably S/M bearing 087° (b) Simonstown, 127° (a) Bulawayo 090° (b) Durban 089° (b) Milnerton. Frequency 5450 kc/s approx. position 029° S. 049°.  
(C.O.I.S. Colombo, 0019Z/15 to E.I. Station, Admty.)  
My 2219Z/14 (2213/14 intended). Bearings from Aden appear to be approx. 10° too high. Positions in my 0019Z/15 considered more probable.  
(C.O.I.S. Colombo, 0337Z/15 to E.I. Station, Admty.)

Use of A/C for R/C. Following is a repetition of my 1106/13 (begins):  
C. in C. S.A., (R) C. in C. E.F., R.A.A.E.F., C.G. S. Pretoria, Connas, C. in C. Med., Admty.  
Your 1310B/9 not to C. in C. E.F. or D. C. in C.  
E.F. (a) Your intention to use Pool Pilots and available aircraft at Wingfield to provide (1) additional R/C in Walrus and Albacores and (2) a fighter Force in Sea Hurricanes and Fulmars necessitates the operation of reserve aircraft for Eastern Fleet ships and carriers. (b) In view of the aircraft supply position and the paucity of repair and overhaul facilities in the Eastern theatre and subject to further comment by C. in C. E.F. request these aircraft be used for operational emergencies only.  
(Dep. C. in C. E.F., 0416Z/15 to C. in C. S.A., C.G.S. Pretoria, C. in C. Med., Admty.)

S/M Depot Ship, possible transfer. Your 0023/11/6 (N.T. in W.D.) This has been investigated and ship will be moved out as quickly as possible.  
(S.S.T.O. India, 0615Z/15 to D. of S.T.)

Mining Policy. Proposals.  
(MANXMAN, 0700Z/15.)  
See Lion Copy.

Reports. N.Os i/c pass to N.C.S.Os and R.Os. (I) losses of or damage to merchant ships through enemy action or otherwise are to be reported to S.O.(I)  
Colombo. (2) (?S.O.I.) Colombo is to inform (a) Admiralty (b) S.O.(I) of intelligence area to which ship was proceeding. (c) N.C.S.O. or R.O. of port to which ship was proceeding.  
(C. in C. E.I., 0700Z/15 to E.I. Stn.)

ALAUNIA, visit of Dep. C. E. in C. of Admty. to Ports. My 0954/1 and 0933/1 (N.T. in W.R.) neither to all addressees. (i) Following is approx. programme for ALAUNIA -

| Arrive   | Place        | Leave |
|----------|--------------|-------|
| Blank    | Colombo      | 17th  |
| 19th     | Addu Atoll   | 21st  |
| 23rd     | Diego Garcia | 25th  |
| 28th     | Seychelles   | 29th  |
| 2nd July | Mombasa      | Blank |

(2) Dep. C. in C. E.F. is requested to promulgate return programme (? signal) calling also at Diego

/Suarez ...



~~MOST SECRET~~

From. MANXMAN

**MOST SECRET**

IN. 432A  
07002/1551  
DATE. 17.6.42.

RECD. 1140.

NAVAL CYPHER X BY CABLE.

ADDRESSED. C. in C. Eastern Fleet, repeated C. in C. East Indies, F.O.C.R.I.N., COMRIN, Commodore Durban, Admiralty.

AIDAC.

Policy proposals having visited Colombo, Trincomalee Bombay, TEVIOTCBANK and COMRIN concur generally.

2. Mutwal quarry, Colombo. To be primary issue and storage depot on station. Operationally Colombo has every advantage. Everything to be ashore, but one mine carrier to be retained if necessary. Loading berth at adjacent guide pier suitable for minelayers. Depot is progressing and S.A.S.O. Colombo hopes start issuing July.

3. Bombay. To be secondary issue and storage depot and normal base of mine issuing ships and mine carriers. Everything for the present to be afloat but occasional priority use of one transit shed and berth in commercial docks essential for transshipping from freight or boarding minelayers from Prome during South West monsoon. More armament supply staff with knowledge mines required ashore. Prome's difficulties are - (A) Weather. Assembly is on open well deck and present output of 15-20 units per day may be reduced by Monsoon rains.

(B) Labour.

Her technical workers are Chinese. Three have recently deserted and further desertions probable. Notwithstanding articles they are unlikely to be recovered or replaced unless mine issuing ship wages raised to local commercial levels.

4. Alternative of Hairach as the secondary depot offers better Monsoon weather conditions but outweighed by Dockyard repair facilities for minelayers and other advantages of Bombay.

5. Durban. To be tertiary issue and storage depot for Western operations only. Understood everything could be ashore. State of development of issue depot unknown.

6. Trincomalee. To be fuelling base for minelayers only. Understood mine issue depot project abandoned. If so concur. Gear for it was never offloaded, dockyard is badly damaged, and since raids labour situation acute.

7. Stock situation.

(A) Bombay. Apart from full loads now held by MANXMAN and TEVIOTCBANK, doubtful if components available today would assemble more than seventy mark seventeen, one hundred mark sixteen, three 60 L four, 51 M Mark 1

althouth /



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although there are about 1,800 mines in Prome and Stroke or Commercial docks. Listing of components proceeding and possible some still overstowed ashore.

(B) Karachi. About 800 mines but state of components unknown. Now being listed by A/S staff from Bombay and Colombo.

(C) Elsewhere. Mines understood to be at Cochin and Madras but details unknown to Bombay.

8. Proyuse. (A) Authorities throughout station be directed suspend all movements of mining material and by telegraph to C. in C. Eastern Fleet repeated Admiralty command on above policy, also summary of mining equipment and components repeat components held ashore and afloat and in transit in their areas as at a date specified by C. in C. Eastern Fleet.

(B) When Bird's eye view thus obtained equipment and components to be distributed as directed by C. in C. Eastern Fleet to Colombo Bombay Durban. A dump of bulky components ashore at Cochin as reserve for mutual might be convenient so long as Colombo knew precisely what was dumped. But mining material is such that policy of avoiding all eggs in one basket tends to having few good eggs anywhere.

0700Z/15

1st Lord  
 1st S.L.  
 Controller  
 Vice Controller  
 V.C.N.S.  
 A.C.N.S. (F)(2)  
 Civil Lord  
 N.A. 1st S.L.  
 D.O.D. (F)(2)  
 D.C. (2)  
 Hd. of M. (2)  
 D.T.M.  
 D.D.O.D. (M)  
 D.A.S.  
 D. of P. (2)  
 D.M.S.  
 Admiral Bellairs.  
 D.N.I. (4)  
 I.P. (2)+  
 W.D. —  
 Hd. of C.E.  
 D. of D.  
 D. of E.  
 D.T.S.D.  
 N.A. to A.C.N.S. (T)  
 Admiral Blake

Deputy Controller )  
 Asst. Under Sec. )  
 Hd. of L. ) Bath by  
 D. of D. ) Courier  
 Hd. of C.E. )  
 C.E. in C. )  
 D.A.S. )  
 Hd. of S.V.R. )



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15.6.1942.  
Monday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies - Contd.

ALAUNIA, visit of Dep. C.E. in C. of Admty. to Ports. (Contd.)

Suarez and Mauritius if still considered necessary.  
(3) Dep. C.E. in C. of Admty. will take passage ALAUNIA and should be afforded all facilities at Ports visited.  
(C. in C. E.I., 0744Z/15 to ALAUNIA, Admty., C. in C. E.F., Dep. C. in C. E.F., F.O.C.R.I.N., F.O.I.C. East Africa and Zanzibar, N.O.I.C. Mauritius, N.O.I.C. Diego Suarez, N.O.I.C. Addu Atoll, N.O.I.C. Seychelles, Army H.Q. India, Armindia, 222 Group, Cmdre. Naval A.S.)

RAMILLIES defects.

C.S. Durban's 1238/13 (1240/13 intended). Consider repairs should be limited to make ship seaworthy.  
(C. in C. E.F., 1004Z/15 to Admty., (R) C. in C. S.A., B.S.3, Dep. C. in C. E.F., Cmdre. i/c Durban.)

W.S. 19A, W.S. 19B, routes.

Revised route for W.S. 19A on E.I. Station. Cancel C. in C. E.I. 1333Z/5 (N.T. in W.R.) and substitute -  
(a) 028° 15' S. 047° 00' E. (b) 023° 25' S. 052° 35' E. (c) 008° 52' S. 053° 25' E.  
(d) 005° 55' S. 051° 05' E. (e) 010° 55' N. 052° 00' E.  
(f) 012° 15' N. 051° 30' E. then to Aden searched channels.  
(2) Route of W.S. 19B for Bombay as for (? A) to vicinity of 005° N. thence through (x) 013° 18' N. 060° 40' E. to Bombay searched channels.  
(Dep. C. in C. E.F., 1016Z/12 to N.C.S.O. Capetown, N.C.S.O. Durban, (R) C. in C. S.A., C. in C. E.I., F.O.I.C. E. Africa and Zanzibar.)

Movements.

Following moves have been arranged:  
(A) Bombay to Addu Atoll 1 personnel ship KUTSANG ready to sail 19/6.  
(B) B.A. 26 1 personnel ship DEVONSHIRE sailing 23/6.  
(P.S.T.O. India, 1101Z/15 to Dep. C. in C. E.F., (R) C. in C. E.I., F.O.C.R.I.N., Armindia, D. of S.T.)

Appointment of Dep. C. in C. E.F.

R.A. V.H. Danckwerts, C.M.G. (retired) is appointed Dep. C. in C. E.F. with the acting rank of V.A. (Retired) to date 27/5.  
(Naval Secretary, 1222B/15 to C. in C. E.F., C. in C. Med., C. in C. E.I., C. in C. S.A., Dep. C. in C. E.F., F.O.C.R.I.N., A.C.N.B., N.Z.N.B., (R) B.A.D.)

/DANAE ...



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15.6.1942.  
Monday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies - Contd.

- DANAE defects. Owing to defects to main air pump DANAE is out of action for 6 days and also suffering from condenser tube failures daily. Thereafter her speed will probably be not more 20 knots. Intend to sail her when possible for Capetown awaiting Admty. instructions in accordance with A.M. 2314B/31/5. (Dep. C. in C. E.F., 1509Z/15 to C. in C. E.F., (R) Admty., C. in C. S.A., S.N.O. Afloat, N.O.I.C. Durban.)
- Raider. Your 1239Z/9 Master ELYSIA confirms both ships identical about 12000 tons 4 goal posts masts with arched tie beams streamlined midships superstructure, 3 large motor boats and some Carley floats each side. (Dep. C. in C. E.F., 1604Z/15 to C/S. Colombo, (R) Admty., F.O. East Africa and Zanzibar.)
- Air R/C. My 0410/10. Air R/C of Chagos coast and area (? southward) to Archipelago and Addu. Nil report. (C. in C. E.F., 1622Z/15 to Admty. (R) Dep. C. in C. E.F., C. in C. E.I.)
- ? WILFORD survivors. Portuguese Sloop GONCALVES ZARCO picked up 2 shipwrecked men wounded ex WILFORD position 021° 09' S. 035° 36' E. p.m. 13/6. (B.N.A. Lisbon, 1625B/15 to Admty.)
- Organisation of Eastern Fleet. Your 0850/10. <sup>/b.257<sup>A</sup></sup> Para. A. last sentence. Inclusion of THYME and CYCLAMEN not understood. See my 1326/30/4. (A.C.N.S.(F), 2312/15 to C. in C. E.F.)



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15.6.1942.  
Monday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies.

KRONPRINSEN (Torpedoed 9/6). EMPIRE DABCHICK alongside KRONPRINSEN at 1730/14, transference cargo has commenced. Position KRONPRINSEN, anchored 215 Pubnico Harbour. Still seaworthy. Ref. my 1143Z/14. N.T.in W.R. DAUPHIN reported at 1600Z/14 and loaded base. MELVILLE screening operations. (MELVILLE 0054Z/15, to C.O.A.C. Halifax).

EMPIRE CLOUGH St. Johns N.F. 14/6. Arrivals - DIANTHUS ex ON RAMSAY Survivors. 100 with 32 survivors from EMPIRE CLOUGH. VERVAIN ex ON 101 with 4 survivors from\*RAMSAY. Departures - COWICHAN to W.S.C. 87. \*See p. 437 (F.O.N.F. 0126Z/15, to Admty).

Tankers loaned to British for U.K. Service. Cancel my 1948/13. (Connav No T.O.O./15).

Intelligence Japanese Units. (?Marshall Is.) radio intelligence has greatly increased. Enemy force at Kiska consists of 5 transports 4 heavy cruisers several destroyers 3 light cruisers as reported at 0145Z/14. At 2000Z/14 3 destroyers and 1 cruiser reported headed N. from Kiska. Indication that cruiser division 6 will depart for home port shortly destination believed to be probably Puerto Montt. In Truk area C.in C. 4th. Believe enemy transports used in Midway Island force in company with destroyer squadron 2 and air squadron 7 have arrived Truk. (C.in C. Pacific Fleet (U.S.), 0411Z/15 to C.in C. E.F., N.S.H.Q. Ottawa.).

Unidentified Ship S.O.S. Intercept Devpo Barbados radio (Begins) S.O.S. from HPXV (Unidentifiable in W.R.) lat. 11° 40' long 62° 55' (ends) 0355/15. At 0355 Devpo QUM with caution havn't heard HPXV since (ends). (Valentia Radio No T.O.O./ ?15 to Admty, Adm. Devonport).

Movements. Kingston arrival U.S. Destroyer GOFF. (S.O.I. Kingston, 0759R/15, to Admty (R) Connav).

SIXAOLA (U.S.A.) Sunk 13/6. SIXAOLA sunk off Boca Del Toro night 13/6 23 survivors landed Boca Del Toro further details awaited. (S.O.I. Jamaica, 1158R/15, to Admty C.in C. A.W.I., N.S.H.Q., B.A.D. Connav F.O.C. Trinidad). See p. 439

FRANCES PARSONS. Your 2059Z/12. Schooner FRANCES PARSONS local owner reports vessel now in Boston harbour. (C.O.A.C., 1212Z/15, to N.S.H.Q., (R) Admty, C.in C. W.A. F.O.N.F. Connav).



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15.6.1942.  
Monday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies. Contd.

N. A. 11. N. A. 11. Your 1744B/13 position B garbled routing position B 56° 00' N. 09° 35' W. (C.O.A.C. Halifax, 1239Z/15 to Admty (R) N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, F.O.N.F., C.in C. A.W.I.).

H.X.194 H.X. 194. KAAPAREN sunk after collision with TUNGSHA in the vicinity of Halifax East Lightship. No casualties. TUNGSHA returned for repairs. (C.O.A.C. Halifax, 1301Z/15 to Admty (R) N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, C.T.U. No. 24.18. 3 for Cdre.).

S/M Unidentified S/M sighted in 037° 14' N. 063° 52' W. at 1245. Diving when challenged. (DURBAN, 1431Z/15, to C.O.A.C., Halifax).

U.S. owned A.M. 1211/3, 1230/13, 1247/13 and Connav 1431/14 Ships, we assume Connav is diverting as necessary all control. U.S. managed ships affected now on passage. Request confirmation. (D.T.D., 1500B/15, to B.A.D.).

Norwegian S.I.O. Royal Nor. Navy Halifax and Commander Groenningsaetr have requested that the Norwegian corvettes operating with mid ocean groups be permitted to remain with O.N. convoys as far as Halifax returning to Westomp with appropriate HX or SC convoys so as to continue with their proper groups. Reasonsgiven are (A) To increase the time of ships concerned and hence the effectiveness of their services. (B) To enable personnel to take advantage of social facilities at Halifax provided by the Norwegian Government for their Nationals. Endurance permit, Halifax Dockyard facilities are sufficient and the added strength to western local groups between Westomp and Halifax would be an advantage. Scheme is therefore recommended for approval. (C.O.A.C., Halifax, 1511/15, to Comtask 24).

OHIO Your 1507Z/11. The definition of British diversion. Shipping and U.S. Shipping is given in Busra Section B (b) and (c) respectively. It is thought that the diversion of OHIO by both Admty and Navy Department was due to the latter not having realised that OHIO had been transferred to British Management before loading in the Gulf of Mexico. (D.T.D., 1527B/15, to N.S.H.Q., (R) B.A.D.).

NORLAND Your 1742/14. My 1232/6 giving details of (Torpedoed rescue of men named in my 1249/6. Add to my 20/5). 1604/13 following 3 survivors from NORLAND landed in Boston area: T. McAllen, A. Campbell and D. Campbell. (B.R.O. Boston, 1552Z/15, to Admty).

/R.C.N. ...



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War Diary.15.6.1942.  
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Americal and West Indies. Contd.

R.C.N. Corvettes, transfer to C.O.A.C. Ref: Cominch's 1710/9 (as received) and 2129/2 which have been repeated to you. 1. Eight R.C.N. corvettes are to be transferred from your Mid-ocean groups to C.O.A.C. as soon as possible. These are to be employed one for escort to Labrador air bases and seven in HA - AH convoys.

Names and dates on which these ships will be available at Halifax is to be reported. 2. C. in C. W.A., is requested to report date on which the one corvette from B Groups will be available. If desired this corvette could be transferred to C Groups and a ninth R.C.N. corvette transferred from F.O.N.F. to C.O.A.C.

(N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 1555Z/15, to F.O.N.F. (R) C.O.A.C. Admty, Cominch, C.in C. W.A., C.T.F. 24, B.A.D.).

Ref: last sentence of Cominch's 2129/12. At least 4 destroyers would be required for the 3 groups in HA - AH Convoys. These could be allotted to C.O.A.C. instead of 4 of the corvettes in my 1555Z/15 but this would have the following disadvantages.

(A) Some Mid-ocean groups would be reduced to one destroyers.  
(B) Unless destroyers allotted were longleg they would have to refuel at Bermuda. 2. Do not therefore recommend destroyers be allocated to HA - AH convoys unless any R.N. are available in addition to those allotted to Mid-ocean and Western local groups.  
(N.S.H.Q., Ottawa, 1652Z/15, to Admty (R) C.in C. U.S. Fleet, F.O.N.F., C.O.A.C., C.T.F., 24, B.A.D., C.in C. W.A.).

RAMSAY  
(British)  
torpedoed  
10/6.

Attack by S/M (1) RAMSAY. (2) Bolton Steam Shipping Co. of London. (3) 0035/10 5153 N. 34° 59' W. (4) Not seen by Master. (5) Not seen by Master. (6) Submarine on surface as gunner fired one round. (7) Ship sank in 4 minutes. (8) 4 Survivors. (9) Not seen by Master. (10) Torpedo. (11) Master reports all CBS locked in steel chest definitely sank with ship.  
(N.C.S.O. St. Johns N.F., 1601Z/15, to Admty (R) N.S.H.Q., Ottawa). *S. p. 435*

WEST  
HARDAWAY  
torpedoed.

WEST HARDAWAY torpedoed 1650Z/15 012° 11' N. 063° 48' W.  
(N.O.I.C. Trinidad, 1622Z/15 to, Admty (R) C.in C., A.W.I. S.O.(I) Kingston).

PENNYWORT.

Your 1854/14. (not to C.in C. A.W.I. Ship can be accepted at New York. Job No. S.192. Detailed list of defects should be airmailed and E.T.A. signalled when known.  
(B.A.R.M., 1644Z/15, to C.O.A.C. (R) Admty, N.S.H.Q., C.in C. A.W.I. F.O.N.F., B.M.C. Argentia, PENNYWORT).

T.H. 2.

SUDBURY, THE PAS, arrived with T.H. 2.  
(S.O.I. Halifax, 1816Z/15, to Admty etc.).

/COLD HARBOR ...



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COLD HARBOR (Pa) torpedoes 15/6. COLD HARBOR New York to Basra torpedoed and sunk 0210 G.M.T. 15/6 11° 40' N. 62° 53' W. 19 survivors landed here by EXMOUTH. One boat also with about 12 men believed picked up. Total crew 52. (F.O.I.C. Trinidad, 1902Q/15, to Admty (R) C.in C. A.W.I. S.O.(I) Kingston).

Chop dates. My 2139/7 and 1759/10 to Admty only. Propose in future new Chop dates for all north bound ships which are diverted by Admiralty. C.in C. S.A. or R.A. W.A.F., should be communicated by Admiralty to C.in C. A. and W.I., N.S.H.Q., and S.O.(I) Jamaica. (2) New Chop dates given in your 1254/9 and 1443/14 have been passed to N.S.H.Q., and S.O.(I) Jamaica. New Chop dates are required for all ships diverted since despatch of 1759/10. (C.in C. A.W.I., 1912P/15, to Admty).

P. 556. P. 556 New London to Freetown via St. Thomas through Point. A. 37° 00' N. 70° 00' W. B. 30° 00' N. 67° 30' W. C. 20° 00' N. 65° 25' W. thence to Sail Rock and St. Thomas. Leaving St. Thomas through Anegada Passage to point. E. 18° 40' N. 63° 27' W. F. 16° 00' N. 50° 00' W. G. 12° 00' N. 30° 00' W. thence to destination. (Connav, 1946/15 to Com. Sub. Atlantic (R) C.in C. Atlantic Fleet U.S. etc.). *See p. 402* *Cancelled - See 16/6-17/6/42*  
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DAVY CROCKETT escort. Your 2045/9 and 1831/10 and A.M. 1813/6, question of onward escort from Trinidad has now been fully examined and this can only be provided by seriously depleting R.A.W.Af's slender resources. 2. Your 2045/9, para. two. Request you will ascertain whether U.S. Authorities could provide escort through to Freetown after 1st week in July. We could then provide onward escort from Freetown without waiting for W.S. convoy. (A.C.N.S.(T), 2006B/15, to B.A.D.).

Zigzagging. Pass to N.C.S. Os. Except in heavy weather or fog, merchant ships of a speed of 10 knots or over proceeding independently or after dispersal from convoy are to zig zag by day and on moonlight nights when in open waters in the Gulf of Mexico and Caribbean Sea. 2. Masters are to be informed. C.A.M.S.I. 132/42, in course of distribution, will be amended. D.T.D., 2014B/15, to C.in C. W.A., N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, S.O.(I) Gibraltar, S.O.(I) Freetown, S.O.(I) Capetown, S.O.(I) Kingston, (R) Connav, C.in C. A.W.I.).

Auxiliary Carrier Aircraft. Your 1636/18/5 and pink list page 48 in which ship will 890 Squadron embark. (B.A.D. 2019Z/15, to Admty).



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Number of Request early reply to my 1641/11. 1541/11  
passengers intended.  
in ships in (N.S.H.Q., Ottawa, 2039Z/15, to Admty (R) C.O.A.C.  
Convoy. Halifax).

Dispositions. Serial 26. Changes in my 2132/8 locations.  
Atlantic. BBS SOUTH DAKOTA at Norfolk. NEW YORK at  
Greenock. TEXAS due Bermuda 17/6. WASHINGTON at  
Iceland. CV CHARGER at Norfolk. CA WICHITA at Iceland. CLS  
OMAHA due Trinidad 16/6. MILWAUKEE at Montevideo. MEMPHIS at  
Recife. JUNEAU at Argentia. PARA Pacific. BBS NORTH CAROLINA,  
TENNESSEE, PENNSYLVANIA, IDAHO, MISSISSIPPI, NEW MEXICO, COLORADO,  
MARYLAND at Sea. CVS WASP, LONG ISLAND at sea. SARATOGA in  
Pearl. CAS QUINCY at sea. PORTLAND, ASTORIA at Pearl. CHESTER  
left Pearl 14/6. CLS SAN JUAN at sea. DETROIT departed San  
Francisco 17/6. RICHMOND due Balboa 17/6. CONCORD left Callao 11/6.  
SAN DIEGO at Pearl. PARA Soupac CA SAN FRANCISCO at Auckland.  
Admty pass Commaveu.  
(Cominch, 2100/15, to Admty (R) Commaveu, B.A.D.).

Sub attack VELMA LYKES torpedoed and sunk 21° - 21' N. 86° -  
and sighting 36' W. 0235Z/5. SURREY 2 torpedo hits sunk 12° -  
summary. 25' N. 80° - 22' W. 0425Z/10. ARDENVOHR torpedoed  
and sunk 12° - 30' N. 80° - 22' W. 0435Z/10.  
AMERICAN 3 torpedo hits sunk 17° - 58' N. 84° -  
28' W. 1504Z/11. \*SIXAOLA, 2 torpedo hits shelled and sunk 09° -  
41' N. 81° - 10' W. 0215Z/13. M.V. possibly COLD HARBOR reported  
attacked by sub 11° - 40' N. 62° - 55' W. 0322Z/15. NEW JERSEY  
1 torpedo hit 12 shells M.V. attacks sub 29° - 41' N. 88° - 29'  
W. 2015Z/14/5. Air and patrol craft attack periscope and sound  
contact 12° - 02' N. 68° - 54' W. 1637Z/14. Search continuing.  
Patrol craft sights sub 41° - 52' N. 70° - 20' W. 2250Z/14. M.V.  
sights sub 21° - 51' N. 85° - 42' W. 1205Z/15. Subs reported  
sighted 44° - 43' N. 67° - 30' W. 1400Z/15. 28° - 45' N. 90° -  
10' W. 1500Z/15.  
(C. in C. U.S. Fleet, 2143/15, to Admty for O.I.C., (R) C.C.E.,  
G. and Panama Sea Frontiers Opnav B.A.D.).

\* See p. 435

Convoy Your 0015/21/5. British Ships and Authorities  
Administration. originating signals to American Naval Authorities  
in Washington have considerable difficulty in  
knowing to which of the American Authorities  
signals should be addressed. 2. It would be  
much appreciated if British Ships and authorities could address  
all signals simply to Navy Department in the same way that  
American ships and authorities address Admiralty. Would you  
take soundings about this.  
(V.C.N.S., 2145B/15, to B.A.D.).

CORNISH Due Galveston 8/6 from Durban now overdue.  
CITY. Intercept received by Bermuda ship sighted  
submarine in 014° 28' N. 077° 17' W. at 2200 G.M.T./  
11.  
(N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 2146Z/15 to Admty, C. in C.A. and  
W.I. S.O.(I) Kingston Jamaica, Comnav, S.O.(I)  
Freetown Sierra Leone, S.O.(I) Capetown.).

/MOLDOVA ...



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MOLDOVA (Pan) overdue. MOLDOVA overdue Balboa. (S.O.I.) Jamaica, 2204R/15, to Admty, C.in C. A.W.I. N.S.H.Q., B.A.D. Connav).

Washops 92. Aleutian Islands, Attu. No recent observations have been made. Kiska. 0145Z/14. 4 large and 3 small cruisers 5 transports and a number of destroyers in and around harbour. At 2200Z/14 1 large cruiser and 3 destroyers observed to leave on northerly course. Japanese movements indicate further offensive operations to eastwards. (ii) Summary of casualties inflicted by U.S. planes during bombing attacks at Kiska on 11/6 and 12/6 damaged 3 large cruisers, 1 destroyer, 1 gunboat, 1 transport, sunk 1 submarine. (J.S.M., 2221Z/15, to Admty etc.).

3 Tugs. A.M. 1740/9 para. two. If proposal in my 2201/9 is approved and unless operational area of three tugs has been decided suggest they be sent on to Australia on arrival at Freetown. (B.A.D., 2243Z/15, to Admty).

S/Ms for A/S Training. Ref: my 2155Z/28/5 and message 1740/14 from C.in C. U.S. Fleet: I have now received a letter from Admiral Willson showing that this message applies also to Argentia and that Admiral King is unable to approve of allocation of a U.S. Submarine to Argentia in spite of repeated requests which I have made. He possibly argues that as we are having our pound of flesh regarding the U.S. Submarines being made available to us, see my 2102/29/5 we can use one of these. (B.A.D., 2245Z/15, to Admty).

A/S defence equipment. A.C.N.B. 1048/12 not to C.in C. E.F. Before we approach Navy Department please confirm that you agree to use of A/S Defence equipment originally intended for Hobart at Moreton Bay and inform us probable date of arrival. A.C.N.B.'s 0605/10 and my 1721/13 refers. (B.A.D., 2251Z/15 to Admty (R) A.C.N.B. C.in C.E.F).

GUNVOR (Norwegian) sunk 15/6. GUNVOR at 0145 G.M.T. 15/6 in 028° N. 081° 45' W. sunk presumably by mines, confidential books down with ship in 42 feet, 2 lost 3 injured in hospital Key West, 17 other survivors Key West. (Key West, 2337Z/15, to Admty (R) N.S.H.Q. Ottawa).

Convoy Escorts Policy. Your 2212/12 not to C.in C. W.A. SAXIFRAGE has been allocated to B5 group in Lieu of POPPY and is due Argentia June 23rd. 2. In view of re-organisation consequent on C. in C. U.S. Fleets 1610/9 it is not now intended that CAMELLIA should proceed to Caribbean. 3. Normal working strength of these groups is 2 destroyers and 4 corvettes so that B5 group is 1 destroyer and 2 corvettes above the average. 4. When this group was originally allocated to Caribbean it was expected that

/cycle ...



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Conway  
Escorts  
Policy.  
Contd.

cycle of D.T. convoys would be 14 days. We consider less frequent sailings with stronger escort is preferable to the present short cycle and have recommended 10 days cycle to C.in C. U.S. Fleet.  
(A.C.N.S. (T) 2352/15, to C.in C. A.W.I.(R) C.in C. W.A.).



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**Arrivals.** Arrival Albany 0235Z/14 U.S. Destroyer PRESTON Port Philip 1700Z/14 and H.M.A.S. WHYALLA (see above) escorting C.O. 2. (A.C.N.B., 0106Z/15 to Admty C.in C. E.I. N.O. Wellington C.in C. E.F., C.O.I.S. Colombo),

**Rear Adml. Crutchley assumption of duty.** R.A. <sup>v.</sup> A.C. Crutchley assumed duty as R.A.C. Australian Squadron and C.T.F. 44 on 13/6. (A.C.N.B. 0201Z/15 to Admty C.in C. E.F.N.Z.N.B. N.L.O. on staff High Commissioner Australia London (R) C.T.F. 44. ? Australian Squadron).

**U.S. destroyer movements.** GOULBURN and R.A.F.A. KURUMBA arrived Brisbane 2104Z/14. U.S. Destroyer BAGLEY sailed from Brisbane 1835Z/14th. H.M.A.S. \*WHYALLA and U.S. Destroyer PERKINS arrived Melbourne 2121Z/14th. U.S. Destroyer MUGFORD and H.M.I.S. BOMBAY arrived Newcastle 0014Z/15th. (A.C.N.B., 1307Z/15). \* see above.

**Situation.** Serial No. 144 from C.W.R. 14/6. 18 to 25 Zero Fighters attacked Darwin 0309Z/14 4 destroyed. One P.40 shot down. 9 enemy bombers sighted 30 miles W. of Darwin did not attack. (2) Enemy air R/C. over south east New Guinea recommenced 14/6. (3) Air R/C 14/6 report 1 possible cruiser, 3 probable destroyers, 3 transports in Rabaul Harbour. (4) 1 Catalina attacked buildings on Sohana Island (Solomons) 14/6 results not observed. (5) No S/M activity this station since 12/6. (6) Enemy Merchant ships attacked by Hudson at 1246Z/13 in 008° 28' S. 125° 15' E. No hits scored. No activity observed on Dilli Aerodrome. (A.C.N.B., 1313Z/15, to Admty etc.).  
Maori No. 20. (1) Japanese S/M placed by DF fix at 0725Z/14 in 34° 40' S. 174° 50' E. DF fix 0935Z/6 36° S. 169° E. believed same units (2) R/C of Gilbert Islands by Japanese flying boat as follows. Abemjma Nonouti 2/6 Ocean 3/6 Maiana Beru Nonouti 7/6. (Wellington, 2326Z/14 to Admty).

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.Submarines Reported.

Estimated U/B dispositions.  
(D.D.I.C., 1339B/15. 1343B/15)