

War Diary.

16.7.1942.  
Thursday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

An Altmark class tanker left Nantes between 26/6 and 7/7. Subsequent R/C of Biscay ports has not located her; she may therefore have proceeded to sea to act as U-Boat or raider supply ship.

British Air Operations.

21 Stirlings of Bomber Command left to attack Lübeck submarine slipways at dusk; 8 aircraft dropped their bombs between 2222 and 2248 hours. Three hits on the submarine slipways and 13 in the dock area are claimed. Two Mosquitos bombed Ijmuiden Iron & Steel Works from 50 ft. today.

Mining.

E-Boats were off Portsmouth western entrance (Needles) last night and the entrance was closed in the early hours of this morning, owing to mining and a danger area was declared; the Needles Channel was opened to controlled traffic during the forenoon. Thirteen more mines were detonated in the eastern approach channel today. About 7 enemy long range bombers were active over the Thames Estuary in the early hours of today and were possibly engaged in minelaying.

North Atlantic.

Operation  
"Pinpoint".

The forces engaged on this operation (see 14/7) returned to Gibraltar this morning.

*(collision averted)*

At 2002B today LOWESTOFF was in tow of SALVONIA in approx. 34° 18' N. 16° 34' W. steering 80° at 6 knots.

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SITUATION REPORT.

Mediterranean.

WELSHMAN arrived at Malta at 0630B today with stores for the garrison and civil population. She reports that she was first sighted at 1320 on day 2. Twenty-eight planes in all attacked her, but she suffered no damage in spite of several near misses and a bomb which exploded under her keel.

Sixty three aircraft attacked shipping and harbour installations at Tobruk last night, and the harbour was also mined.

A permanent base for submarines is being made at Beirut and is expected to be in action in about 3 weeks. Should the Army advance S.1 proposes that the base should remain at Beirut, with small advanced bases wherever possible on the north African coast. The 10th Flotilla will move to Malta in a few days.

East Indies.

A controlled minefield had been laid at Diego Suarez.

China.

4 U.S. B.25s with fighter escort successfully attacked the docks at Hankow today.

America and West Indies.

SS. FAIRPORT was sunk by torpedo today in 27° 10' N. 64° 35' W. in convoy A.S. 4.

Australia and New Zealand.

Five Fortresses attacked Rabaul at 2357Z today and caused damage in the harbour.

U.S. Battleship NORTH CAROLINA, A/C Carrier ENTERPRISE and cruisers PORTLAND and ATLANTA left Pearl Harbour today.

465

War Diary.16.7.1942.  
Thursday.HOME COMMANDS.Policy.Flag of  
Vice-Admiral  
Svifret.

The flag of Vice-Admiral E.N.S. Svifret C.B. is to be hoisted in SIRIUS at 1400' today. (C. in C.H.F. 1001/16).

JASON.

It is anticipated that JASON can be released for refit and conversion to Fleet Minesweeper 20/8 approx. Admiralty's 1140A/23/1 and M/M.S. 0392/42 of 29/6 refer.

(Capt. D. Rosyth 1131B/16).

WASHINGTON.

Goodbye and good luck.

Greatly appreciate the help you have given us and hope we may have the pleasure of seeing you over here again some time.

(1st S.L. 1150B/16 to WASHINGTON, RHIND, ROWAN, WAINWRIGHT, MAYRANT).

Movements.

HAWKINS.

Sail<sup>(ing)</sup> HAWKINS for Scapa. E.T.A. Hoxa Boom 0900B/17.(N.O.I.C. Greenock 0908B/16). *See movements of H.M. ships.*

ZWARTE ZEE.

Your 2005Z/15. ZWARTE ZEE should be routed via Halifax by J.H. and H.A. convoy.

(C. in C.W.A. 1008B/16 to F.O. Newfoundland.)

PLOVER.

Request you will sail PLOVER to Port Z.A. as convenient.

(A.C.N.S. (H.) 1120B/16 to F.O.I.C. Humber).

O.21.

JAN VAN GELDER.

*see p. 428.*

O.21 sailed for Holy Loch.

(Capt. S.9 1419B/16).

RIVER SPEY.

RIVER SPEY is to take L.F.Us. 318, 324, 325, 342, 354 under her orders and escort them to Southampton.

2. You are to leave Methil at 0500/18th and proceed by searched channels to 62.D Buoy and thence inshore route.

3. You are to take shelter if necessary and spend first two nights at Hartlepool and Humber respectively. If any craft breaks down she is to be escorted to the nearest port and if repairs are to take more than about 6 hours left there.

4. After arrival at destination RIVER SPEY is to proceed to Dover.

(C. in C. Rosyth 1533B/16 to RIVER SPEY).

VICTORIOUS.

Intend to sail VICTORIOUS for Scapa escorted by KEPPEL and LEAMINGTON at 1700B/18, speed 20 knots. N.O.I.C. Londonderry is requested to sail H.M.S. LEAMINGTON to R/V at Bar Light Vessel at 1700B/18.

(N.O.I.C. Liverpool 1539B/16).

/O.24.....

War Diary.

16.7.1942.  
Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Movements-Contd.

- O.24. Your 1649/11. Propose sailing O.24 escorted by WHITE BEAR a.m. 19th. (Capt. S.3 1543B/16).
- STRAIDE. Sailed H.M. Cable Ship STRAIDE in accordance with my 1629/15/7. (N.O.I.C. Ardrossan 1700B/16 to WESTERN ISLES).
- CURACOA. Request you sail CURACOA to arrive Clyde a.m. 3rd August. (D.O.D. (H.) 1740B/16 to C. in C. Rosyth.)
- ROYAL SCOTSMAN. 1700 sailed ROYAL SCOTSMAN.  
ULSTER MONARCH. 1800 sailed ULSTER MONARCH in accordance with my 1224B/7. (F.O.I.C. Greenock 1804B/16).
- NORLAND. To assist in interception of E-boats in Portsmouth  
ADONIS. Command, request NORLAND and ADONIS, fitted with R.D.F. be sailed to Portsmouth to operate under the orders of C. in C. Portsmouth. (D.M.S. 1825B/16 to C. in C. Nore.)
- TRIDENT. Your 1802/16. In view of visibility intend sailing  
UREDD. TRIDENT and UREDD escorted by LORD LLOYD  
P.511. independently leaving Scapa 2230 tonight to  
P. 48. Lerwick. \*PRESIDENT NORTHEAD will R/V with you west of Swona and escort P.511 to Scapa. When P.511 parts company proceed with P.48 to Lerwick. (A.C.O.S. 2114/16 to LA CAPRICIEUSE). Departures TRIDENT and UREDD. (A.C.O.S. 2230/16).  
\*PRESTON NORTH END *at 2230*.
- A.C.O.S. in CHIDDINGFOLD. Departure A.C.O.S. in CHIDDINGFOLD. (N.O.I.C. Faroes 2302B/16 to N.O.I.C. Lerwick).

Operations.

Attempted interception of T/Bs. Four or more vessels believed to be four Torpedo Boats seen by P.R.U. in Dunkirk yesterday from 11 miles west of Dunkirk at 2359 Westbound at 30 knots. R.D.F. reported they entered Boulogne but it is thought they may have proceeded Southwestwards. Five M.T.Bs in two units supported by four M.G.Bs were waiting at South Varne with orders to intercept N.E. and S.W. of Gris Nez on receipt of R.D.F. Plots, but did not sight enemy. Enemy's high speed and darkness of night made difficult conditions for the attack. (V.A. Dover 1003B/16).

/MARIE.....

467

War Diary.16.7.1942.  
Thursday.HOME COMMANDS.Operations-Contd.

MARIE LOUISE Admty. 1900/15, Para. 3. Two trawlers are to  
MACKAY. be provided for escort as arranged direct by  
(Cable-laying) F.O.I.C. Milford Haven with F.O.I.C. Belfast.  
(C. in C.W.A. 1131B/16).

Channel CALPE and BLEASDALE will patrol longitude 001°  
Patrols. 15' W. between 050° 25' and 050° 10' N. tonight.  
They will not proceed west of line joining St.  
Alban's Head to Cherbourg.  
(C. in C. Portsmouth 1607/16).

M.G.Bs. 76 (S.O.), 78, 75, are to sail at last light today  
and patrol vicinity of line joining position R 286° Cap La  
Hague 24 miles and position S. 337° Cap La Hague 18 miles.  
Detailed orders.  
(C. in C. Plymouth 1705B/16 to N.O.I.C. Dartmouth.)  
Your 1705B/16. Operation cancelled owing to weather.  
(N.O.I.C. Dartmouth 2215/16 to C. in C. Plymouth).

Exercises.

H.43. My 1741/15. Exercises cancelled.  
(C. in C. Plymouth 1627/16).  
H.43 will be exercised off Plymouth in area D.  
from 0900 to 2115/17 and in area C from 2300/  
17th to 0500/18. (C. in C. Plymouth 2109B/16).

British Air Activity.

"Knocker". 13 C.47's took off today. Weather permitting  
39 P.38's and 10B 17's will take off tomorrow.  
E.T.D. 1000.  
(A.C.I.C. 1730B/16).

Mining.

Portsmouth. Portsmouth Western entrance (Needles) closed owing  
to mining.  
(C. in C. Portsmouth 0252B/16).

My 0252/16. An area dangerous due to mines is enclosed by the  
following positions:-  
(A) 50° 37' 42" N. 1° 39' 00" W. (B) 50° 35' 00" N. 1° 50' 12" W.  
(C) 50° 31' 00" N. 1° 50' 12" W. (D) 50° 33' 30" N. 1° 39' 00" W.  
Essential traffic will be swept through this area and Needles  
Channel will be opened to controlled traffic. Request Q.Z.X.  
(C. in C. Portsmouth 1033B/16 to Admty.)  
16 Magnetic Mines detonated by Sweepers in Eastern approaches at  
0801/15, 0806/15 (two), 0809/15, 0812/15, 0822/15, 0823/15,  
0824/15, 0827/15 (two), 1034/15, 1039/15, 1046/15, 1054/15,  
1055/15, and 1101/15 respectively. Details.  
(C. in C. Portsmouth 1130/16).  
Intend to sail LEPHRETO and OSTA for Yarmouth I.O.W. at 1300  
today, E.T.A. Needles 1900/16, sweeping Q.Z.S. 293 and 284  
between 123° Anvil Point 4 miles and N.3 buoy.  
(F.O.I.C. Portland 1205/16 to C. in C. Portsmouth.)

468

War Diary.16.7.1942.  
Thursday.HOME COMMANDS.Mining.Portsmouth  
- Contd.

10 Magnetic Mines exploded by Sweepers in Eastern approaches at 0754/16, 0758/16, 0805/16, 0808/16, 0840/16, 0846/16, 0850/16, 1205/16, 1340/16 and 1421/16. Details.  
(C. in C. Portsmouth 1900/16 and 1315B/17).

Dover Area  
(Q.Z.X. 750)

Intend to carry out 3 more days sweeping before the whole area can be considered thoroughly swept and the Q.Z.X. cancelled.  
(V.A. Dover 1004B/16).

Thames  
Estuary.

Between 0020 and 0100/16 about seven enemy A/C were active over Southern part of Thames Estuary. Only three were seen and these were engaged by M.G. fire for brief periods. Friendly fighters were also about. No positive evidence of mine-laying, but at low water this forenoon there was a spontaneous explosion on the West Shingles Shoal which may have been due to a mine laid there on the previous night.  
(S.O. T.L.D.F. 1711/16).

Peterhead  
observation  
minefield.

Groups one and four laid today. Minefield now completed and active.  
(N.O.I.C. Peterhead 2020/16).

Harwich.

One Red Mine exploded by Sweepers at 1630/16. Details.  
(F.O.I.C. Harwich 2124B/16).

Enemy Intelligence.

E-boats.

6 E/Boats plotted from mid-channel to position between 050° 33' N. 001° 48' W. and 050° 36' N. 001° 41' W. Minelaying suspected. Retired towards Cherbourg.  
(C. in C. Portsmouth 1007/16).

Possible  
Supply  
Ship.

An 'Altmark' class tanker left Nantes between 26/6 and 7/7. Subsequent R/C of Biscay ports has not located her. She may therefore have proceeded to sea to act as U-boat or Raider supply ship.  
(D.D.I.C. 1739B/16).

Casualties and Defects.

CSIKOS.

Am escorting SS. CSIKOS in 094° 62B 3 miles. She broke down and drifted Eastward during night. Have ordered her into Humber.  
(WALPOLE 0713B/16).

M.L.124.

My 1044/15. <sup>INT. W.D.</sup> Vessel was damaged in collision with T.H.V. DISCOVERY II in the Downs.  
(V.A. Dover 1801B/16).

War Diary.16.7.1942.  
Thursday.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping and Convoys.

- P.W.187. My 1233B/15. Postponed owing to mining.  
(C. in C. Portsmouth 0717B/16).
- W.S.21P. Intend sailing Liverpool portion escorted by  
BUXTON and TJERK HIDDES 1500B/17, speed 14 knots,  
to R/V with Clyde portion at 0500B/18th in  
270° Oversay 6 miles.  
(N.O.I.C. Liverpool 0944B/16).
- Coastal  
Convoy  
Route. C. in C. Portsmouth 1443/15. Under the circumstances  
the small risk in passing through Q.Z.X. 750 on  
the proposed line can be accepted although it is  
intended to carry out three more days sweeping  
before the whole area can be considered thoroughly  
swept.  
(V.A. Dover 1004B/16 to Admty.)  
My 1443B/15 and V.A. Dover's 1004B/16. Request  
reply.  
(C. in C. Portsmouth 1730B/16 to Admty.)
- Your 1443/15 para. 2.  
Observing that the distance from E.A.5. to C.1 buoy is some  
58 miles, that proposed route passes  $5\frac{1}{2}$  miles from Beachy Head  
and there are two alterations of course, suggest that it is  
desirable to mark the turning points (A) and (B) by a trawler or  
M/L if buoys cannot be laid in time.  
(C. in C. Nore 1036B/16 to C. in C. Portsmouth).  
Your 1443/15 approved. Q.Z.S. will be issued.  
(D.M.S. 1949B/16 to C. in C. Portsmouth).
- O.N.115. My 1640B/15. Correct to read C.T.U. 24.1.13 in  
SAGUENAY.  
(C.T.G. 24.7 1020/16).
- P.Q.18. Proceed passing Switha 1750 today to R/V off Hoxa  
at 1800 with BLACK RANGER and provide escort to  
Seidisfjord routed in accordance with A.C.O.S.
- S.O. 165 dated 15/6.  
(ii) On arrival complete. You will be required to provide  
additional escort for P.Q.18 acting under orders of MARTIN.  
(R.A.D. H.F. 1100B/16 to BLANKNEY).  
C. in C.W.A. 2057B/15. Intend sailing MANSFIELD,  
WOLVERINE, BLUEBELL, and CAMELLIA from Lough Foyle 0700B/17 by  
direct route, speed 12 knots, to Seidisfjord arriving 1200B/19.  
(N.O.I.C. Londonderry 1254B/16 to C. in C.H.F.)  
P.Q.18. Arrangements for fuelling escort are as  
follows.  
(ii) A.C.I.C is requested to sail Force Q consisting of DOUGLAS  
and BLUE RANGER from Hvalfjord with convoy.  
(iii) C.S.1. is requested to sail BLACK RANGER with escorts from  
Seidisfjord to join convoy. BLACK RANGER is to continue with  
convoy to Archangel.  
(iv) Force Q is to be detached before crossing meridian 005° E.  
and is to proceed to position Y 071° 50' N. 003° 05' W.,  
subsequently cruising in vicinity and passing through position Y  
at 0100B, 0700B, 1300B, and 1900B each day.

470

War Diary.16.7.1942.  
Thursday.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping and Convoys - conts:-

P.Q.18 (v) Failing further orders Force Q is to leave  
- Contd. position Y at 1900B/28 and proceed Scapa.  
(vi) If shadowed by enemy A/C position Y is to be  
altered and report made.  
(C. in C.H.F. 1728B/16 to DOUGLAS, A.C.I.C. C.S.1.,  
MARTIN.)

MARNE with MIDDLETON proceed passing Switha 1500B  
tomorrow to Seidis Fjord. Route.  
(2) On arrival complete with fuel. You will be required to  
provide additional escort P.Q.18 acting under orders of MARTIN.  
(R.A.D.H.F. 1927B/16).

T.A.17 Intend sailing MUSA independently at 1400Z/18,  
MUSA. speed 14 knots, to R/V Clyde section at 0400Z/19  
in 270° Oversay 6 miles.  
(N.O.I.C. Liverpool 1516Z/16)

P.Q.17. 15 survivors from ALCOA RANGER have been picked  
up by Russian patrol vessel off Kanin Nos. They  
are being taken to Archangel.  
(S.B.N.O. North Russia 1651B/16 to S.B.N.O.  
Archangel.)

LOTUS, POPPY and LA MALOUINE sail tonight for  
Matochkin Strait, South of Kolguev Island. They will collect  
TROUBADOUR, IRONCLAD, SILVER SWORD, BENJAMIN HARRISSON, and  
AYRSHIRE from Matochkin Strait and EMPIRE TIDE from Moller Bay.  
Survivors camped on shore will also be embarked. Three Soviet  
patrol vessels will R/V at Matochkin. Soviet patrol vessel  
MURSTOCK due to arrive Matochkin with tanker AZERBAIDJAN in  
company. 17th/18th July, an attempt by Russian craft will be  
made to refloat WINSTON SALEM but convoy will not be delayed on  
this account..

Return voyage will be made East and South of Kolguev Island  
and convoy will be met in 068° 35' N. 049° 20' E. (Russian Chart)  
by POZARICA, LEDA, BRITOMART and Russian destroyers, KUIBYSHEV  
and URITSKI, and by BRAMBLE, SEAGULL and HAZARD off Kanin Nos.  
Convoy will proceed Archangel via Cape Gorodetski and Q.Z.L.  
49 and 50. Russian fighter protection promised by P.E.2S as  
far to eastward of Kolguev Island as possible and by Hurricane  
and Chaikas in White Sea.

(S.B.N.O. Archangel 1741B/16 to S.B.N.O. North Russia.)

Your 1222B/14. No.

(C. in C.H.F. 1759B/16 to Admty.)

\* See 15/7 - p. 435. MURMANETS (contd.)

P.Q. Convoys. Your 1845/14. Experience in P.Q. convoy is that  
Stationing head of wing column is too exposed a position  
of Cam ships. for so valuable a ship. Suggest stationing be  
left to discretion of S.O. escort subject to  
instructions that Cam ships and D/F guard ships  
should be if possible at least 6 cables apart.  
(C. in C.H.F. 1836B/16 to C. in C.W.A.)

/QUEEN.....



War Diary.

16.7.1942.  
Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping and Convoys-Contd.

QUEEN  
ELIZABETH.  
QUEEN  
MARY.  
AQUITANIA.

In future orders are to be given to the Masters of the QUEENS and AQUITANIA to break W/T Silence and report 24 hours beforehand their revised E.T.A. at destination or R/V if they expect to be more than one hour different from original E.T.A.  
2. The provisions of A.M. 1608B/1 para. 4, M.A.R.I. Section II paras. 9, 12, 16, and Section IV para. 12 are not to be applied to these ships. (D.T.D. 1837B/16).

O.N.S.  
Convoys.

Now that C.N.S. convoys sail only one day after O.N. Convoys, ships of ten knots and over which miss the fast convoy may, at discretion, be included in the slow. (D.T.D. 1838B/16).

O.S.34.

Estimate you may meet SS. ANDALUCIA STAR independent Northbound during the night. (C. in C.W.A. 1852B/16 to Escorts O.S.34.)

O.N.S.112.

Estimate SS. AUSTRALIA STAR independent eastbound may be met during the night. (C. in C.W.A. 1857B/16 to C.T.U. 24.1.11.)

CLYDE  
COAST.

Your 1102B/15. Arrived. (N.C.S.O. Kirkwall 2145/16 to N.O.I.C. Faroes).

RICHARD  
BLAND.

Your 1215/15 para. 5. Intend sailing LADY MADELINE to U.K. escorting RICHARD BLAND about 19/7. Propose sailing NORTHERN GIFT after return of P. 14.  
It is understood RICHARD BLAND is to proceed to Tyne. Request confirmation. (A.C.I.C. 2230B/16).

War Diary.

16.7.1942  
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

LÉOPARD. N.C.S.O. Ponta Delgada's 1445/15, which has been passed to N.A. Lisbon, position of F.S. LÉOPARD not fully known here. Request immediate report.

- (a) What facilities she requested of Portuguese on entering.
- (b) Whether, if necessary, she can make U.K. or Gibraltar in present condition.
- (c) Whether she entered under White Ensign.
- (d) What attitude Portuguese have adopted and whether there are any signs of complications.

(D.S.O. for D.O.D.(F) 0049B/16 to Consul, Ponta Delgada (R) N.A. Lisbon F.O.C.N.A.)

Your 0049B. (A) On arrival request facilities to make ship seaworthy. (B) If necessary ship can make Gibraltar at 12 knots provided weather calm and with A/S escort. U.K. consider impossible. (C) Yes, ship represented as manned by British officers and men (from PELICAN) with French key ratings and French Canadians. (D) Portuguese local authorities have accepted this. No sign of complications.

(N.C.S.O. Ponta Delgada 1225/16 to Admty. (R) F.O.C.N.A. N.A. Lisbon.)

Admty. passed by N.C.S.O. Ponta Delgada. After temporary repairs duration 8 days ship can carry out mission previously ordered and make final destination. Complete repairs could be carried out there after brief docking. Delay of 6 days in arriving at Freetown can be made good before arrival Capetown.

(LÉOPARD 1430Z/16 to Admty. pass to F.N.F.L. London.)

Concur. F.N.F.L. agrees.

(A.C.N.S.(F) 1120B/19) 1256g

Your 0049/16, no reaction in Ministry of Marine so far. (N.A. Lisbon 1803B/16 to Admty.)

N.C.S.O.'s 1225/16. LÉOPARD should be instructed to carry out with utmost despatch minimum repairs necessary to render her seaworthy. Request detailed report of damage and earliest date ship can be made ready to sail.

2. Officers and men should not be allowed ashore more than is absolutely essential.

3. N.A. Lisbon is requested to confirm in view of his 1910/12 that Ambassador concurs in extension of stay to repair damage.

(A.C.N.S.(F) 2315B/16 to Consul, P. Delgada, N.A. Lisbon (R) F.O.C.N.A.)

PHOEBE.

My 1244/15 PHOEBE sailed. A.M. Q G A 93

A.M. Q G B 116.

(F.O.C.N.A. 0702B/16 to R.A.W.A. (R) ? Admty.

EMERALD.)

Admty. 2200B/13 and Admty. 2150B/15 (not to R.A.W.A.) My 1513B/16 gives details of personnel now in PHOEBE for (1) MALAYA.

(2) Freetown. (3) ELAND (D.E.M.S. Freetown)

(F.O.C.N.A. 1516B/16 to R.A.W.A. (R) Admty.) *See next page (3. Situation)*

PIETRO

CALVI  
sunk by  
LULWORTH.

T.L. congratulate LULWORTH on destruction of Italian U-boat CALVI on 14/7/42. They deeply regret the loss of Lieut. (E) F.W. North R.N. (D.A/S W. Approved 1st S.L. 0729B/16 to LULWORTH (R) C. in C. W.A., F.O.C.N.A. etc.)

War Diary.

16.7.1942  
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic - contd.

H.G.86. Intend sail H.G.86 20/7.  
(F.O.C.N.A. 1002B/16 to C. in C. W.A. (R) Admty.)  
Ref. N.C.S.I.120 intend sailing passenger  
Steamer ARDEOLA, speed 11 knots, with 30  
passengers in H.G.86.  
(V.A.C.N.A. 1130B/16 to Admty.)

CANTON. Unless otherwise ordered by F.O.C.N.A. alter  
course forthwith to pass through new position.  
X 31° 30' N. 29° 20' W. thence to position  
Y 39° 40' N. 32° 20' W. thence to position Z 47° 19' N. 31°  
25' W. thence to (F)  
(A.C.N.S.(F) 1101B/16 to CANTON (R) F.O.C.N.A., C. in C. W.A.)

Operation Arrivals A.M./16 CHARYBDIS, CAIRO, EAGLE,  
"Pinpoint" WESTCOTT, WRESTLER, VANSITTART, ANTELOPE,  
ITHURIEL.  
(F.O.C.N.A. 1112B/16 to Admty. etc.)

"Pinpoint" completed, 31 aircraft flown off. 1 failed to  
take off, crashed and was jettisoned. Pilot safe.  
2. Force sighted by 1 enemy aircraft at 0830/15.  
(F.O.C.N.A. 1220B/16 to Admty.)

SENNEN. (E) pass through position (F) 029° 01' N.  
013° 01' W. (G) 036° 40' N. 009° 30' W. thence  
to Gibraltar (2) Pass to D'ESTIENNE D'ORVES.  
(F.O.C.N.A. 1134B/16 to SENNEN (R) Admty., C. in  
C. W.A. ? Commandant D'ESTIENNE D'ORVES.)

JONQUIL Your 1140B/15. As speed of HARTINGTON is  
HARTINGTON. only 7½ knots arrangements will be made for  
her to join S.L. 116.  
(D.T.D. 1258B/16 to F.O.C.N.A.)  
See also South Atlantic.

Situation DIOMEDE 42.39 15.38 through 43.01 15.59 thence  
2002B/16. 000° 15.  
(2) PHOEBE 33.28 09.25 through 29.40 11.45 thence  
224° 21. *See Mission page.*

- (3)\* TICKHAM, GERANIUM 32.07 14.52 240° 12.
- (4) EMERALD 21.40 19.08 through 22.00 19.05 thence 40° 19.
- (5) LOCH OSKAIG patrolling off Lisbon.
- (6) SCOTTISH patrolling Huelva Bight.
- (7) IMPERIALIST sailed 0900/17 coastwise to patrol off Cape Roca.
- (8) LORD NUFFIELD escorting MIRROR 36.04 07.25 to Gibraltar 8½.
- (9) LOWESTOFT in tow SALVONIA with (?Hurricane) escorting  
approx. 34.18 16.34 80° 6.
- (10) ST. NECTAN sailed 2000 to R/V with LOWESTOFT 10.  
(F.O.C.N.A. 1300B/16 Sit Rep. for Area X.)

~~Situation 2002B/16 EMERALD 21.40 19.08 through 22.00  
19.05 thence 040° 19. *See (4) above.*~~  
(F.O.C.N.A. 1342B/16 to Area Z.

\*Not identified - ? SPIRAEA.

*See 1517-b-443*

/Use ...

War Diary.

16.7.1942  
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic - contd.

Use of W/T  
by Spanish  
Ships.

My 1719/9. Now appears owners can cable their ships when in foreign ports. W/T Restriction because of American (?group omitted) Ships may not use W/T at all except to report noon position to Spanish Govt. and in case S.O.S. necessary.  
(N.A. Madrid 1804/16 to Admty.)

M/V  
Explosions  
Gibraltar.

My 1814B/14 and 2236B/14.  
1. All ships anchored from 3.5 to 8 cables from Spanish shore about 3 cables apart with other ships between.  
2. SHUNA's first explosion now thought due to free Limpet mine on surface. Crew saw vivid flash and much smoke. Numerous dents outside bulwark plate apparently caused by fragments of metal. Stern discoloured by smoke.  
3. Divers examination of bottoms of all merchant ships commenced 15/7, negative result so far.  
4. Recovered mine marked Milano consists of (details)  
5. Consider they were almost certainly placed by divers in D.S.E.A. gear probably working from Spanish fishing boats.  
(F.O.C.N.A. 1912B/16 to Admty. (R) R.A.W.A., V.A. Malta.)  
My 1814B/14 and 2236B/14. SHUNA, EMPIRE SNIPE, and BARON DOUGLAS aground. SHUNA has hole 6 to 7 feet wide under No.3 Hold Port Side inside bilge keel. Bilge keel blown outwards and plates around hole inwards. Full examination impossible. EMPIRE SNIPE has circular hole approx 4½ feet diameter Port Side just inside bilge keel. BARON DOUGLAS resting on hole beneath No.1 Hold. BARON KINNAIRD not holed. Rudder slightly damaged and turning gear casting fractured.  
(2) BARON KINNAIRD sailing in Convoy H.G.86. Hope to sail BARON DOUGLAS in following Convoy.  
(F.O.C.N.A. 1922B/16 to Admty.)

South Atlantic.

?

Your 2247/15 (N.T. in W.D.) Concur. R.A. West Africa pass to S.O. Force F.  
(D.O.D.(F) 0243B/16 to R.A.W.A. (R) C. in C. S.A., C. in C. H.F. etc.)

U/B.

Liberator reported S/M in 002° 35' N. 014° 43' W. at 1003Z/15 course 315°.  
(R.A.W.A. 0901Z/16 to T.F. 22.)

/JONQUIL ...

War Diary.

16.7.1942  
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic - contd.

JONQUIL.

1. After fuelling Bathurst, JONQUIL is to escort MARY KINGSLEY and CLAN MACTAGGART from Bathurst to R/V with convoy S.L.116 in position

(Q) 014° 00' N. 019° 35' W. at 1300Z/18. Convoy routed  
(K) 013° 31' N. 019° 20' W. (J) 020° 10' N. 022° 58' W.  
(H) 030° 05' N. 024° 30' W. S. of A. 7½ knots.

2. JONQUIL to join escorts. VIMY will not join escorts.

3. JONQUIL to be detached p.m./21 to pick up SS HARTINGTON at Las Palmas and escort to Gibraltar. Route as ordered by F.O.C.N.A.

(R.A.W.A. 0947Z/16 to IBIS, JONQUIL, (R) Escorts of S.L.116, 18 D.F., N.C.S.O. Freetown, N.O.I.C. Bathurst, Admty., F.O.C.N.A.)  
See also North Atlantic.

E.T.A. 1400Z/17.

(JONQUIL 2200/16 to N.O.I.C. Bathurst, Gambia, (R) F.O.C.N.A. R.A.W.Af.)

F.F.S.

COMMANDANT DETROYAT.

*\*from Lagos*  
Departure delayed till 17/7 due to necessary engine repairs.

(B.N.L.O. W. Africa 1205/16 to Admty.)

*\*movements of H.M.S. E.L.P.*

ABBEYDALE  
Corvettes.

Oiler ABBEYDALE and 2 corvettes will be required to be away from Freetown for three weeks from about 28/7. 2. This depletion of your A/S strength is regretted but is unavoidable.

3. Oiler BULLMOUTH may be held for local work till ABBEYDALE's return.

(D.O.D.(F) Approved 4th S.L. 1217B/16 to R.A.W.A.)

Co-ordination Report of conference at Recife on 11/7/42 with of Intelligence Adm. Comeram, Comdg U.S. Naval Forces, S. Atlantic. Proposals.

(N.C.S.O. Pernambuco 1230Z/16 to Admty.)  
See Lion Copy.

Escort of  
Colliers,  
Mozambique  
Channel.

A.M. 1814/15/7. TEPE (as received ? THYME) and CYCLAMEN at present providing A/S protection at Durban in conjunction with S.D.F. vessels could be made available to convoy 5 colliers through Mozambique Channel if desired.

(C. in C. S.A. 1415B/16 to D. C. in C. E.F. (R) Admty. Cdre. Durban.)

See also 1643/16, East Indies. /p. 481

/Movements ...

SECRET

MESSAGE

1230Z/16 July

IN

From N.C.S.O. Pernambuco

Date 17.7.42.

Recd. 0835

NAVAL SHORE CODE (N2) &amp; G.T.C. BY CABLE

Recirculation at  
request of D.N.I.

Addressed. Admiralty (D.N.I). Repeated. B.A.D.  
Washington, C. in C. South Atlantic, C. in C. America and  
West Indies, R.A. West Africa, S.O.(I) Montevideo, Jamaica.

*Intelligence for U.S. Navy.*

Following from B.N.A. Rio de Janeiro.

Conference to discuss co-ordination of Naval Intelligence was held at Recife on 11th July 1942 with Admiral Cameron Commanding U.S. Naval Forces in South Atlantic. Admiral's Staff were present and also Commander Furse and the following items were agreed:

1. Admiral Cameron wants full and quick information about all Merchant Shipping in the South Atlantic.
2. He also wants very comprehensive operational Naval Intelligence reports sent by quickest route to him at sea and to the Officer Commanding U.S. Naval Air Squadron Bases at Natal.
3. Throughout most of his area he cannot receive radio messages sent by Corrito or Falkland Islands or Jamaica, under the bulge of Brazil.
4. To overcome this difficulty U.S. Naval Attache Rio de Janeiro is arranging W/T communications between Rio de Janeiro and U.S. Fleet and it is hoped to maintain constant radio communication between Rio de Janeiro and Washington and Flagship after middle of August.
5. The U.S. Seaplane tender stationed at Natal maintaining W/T communication with patrolling aircraft.
6. Admiral Ingram wishes to receive daily shipping reports and asks that S.O.(I) Montevideo and S.O.(I) Kingston and S.O.(I) Freetown and S.O.(I) Capetown should provide information as previously supplied to British Warships.
7. This will necessitate development of a shipping plot in the U.S. Naval Intelligence Centre in Rio de Janeiro and also perhaps in Natal under directions of the U.S. Naval Attache and will need temporary or permanent transfer of some of the British Staff from Montevideo to Rio de Janeiro.
8. Much of the reason for maintaining the British N.I. Centre at Montevideo in the event of future requirements no longer exists and it may finally become desirable to transfer the Chief British Centre to Rio de Janeiro, leaving Montevideo or Buenos Aires as a sub-centre. Such action would only be practicable after a prolonged transition period.
9. Admiral Ingram requests that British Officers  
commanding/ .....

commanding adjacent areas should keep him fully informed of dispositions and operational movements of Allied Warships in their areas so that he can co-ordinate his activities with theirs. He also asks for fullest possible British Intelligence and for British Officers trends of thought and forecasts of future operations, and for any suggestions as to how U.S. Forces can support or assist British.

10. The following preliminary action is submitted for approval and further proposals will be put forward in due course: -

- (A) S.O.(I) Rio de Janeiro to move into the office of U.S. Naval Attache, Rio de Janeiro in accordance with Recommendation No.II. of Jamaica Conference.
- (B) S.O.(I) Montevideo to visit Rio de Janeiro between July 24th and 30th to discuss fully all arrangements with British and U.S. Naval Attache's and Commander Furse.
- (C) S.O.(I) Montevideo to bring with him British Communications Officer Mr. Gadelayland.
- (D) Either S.O.(I) or Assistant S.O.(I) Jamaica or S.O.(I) Trinidad to visit Rio de Janeiro at same time July 24th to 30th to assist in these discussions. It would be most valuable if Colonel Sillitoe and Commander Wynn could make this visit together. Brazilian Government would raise no objection. Ends.

1230Z/16

V.C.N.S.  
 A.C.N.S. (F)  
 A.C.N.S. (T)  
 F... 1st S.L.  
 D.N.I. (5) for action  
 O.I.C. (3)  
 D.S.D. 9. (2)  
 Ops. (3)  
 C.D. (5)  
 D. of P. (3)  
 D.S.D. (2)  
 D.T.D. (4)  
 I.E. (3)  
 W.D.  
 AD. Blake

AS

476

War Diary.

16.7.1942  
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic - contd.

→ Movements  
Summary.

(?20)00Z/16 Area Q MALAYA, BRILLIANT, WIVERN, BLACKMOSE with W.S.20 about (?030°) 05' S. ?015° 00' E. 155°. VALIANT, EXPRESS (?ANTHONY) from Durban E.T.A. Cape Melville 0600Z/17. SHROPSHIRE from Simonstown to R/V with W.S.20 in 032° 35' S. 016° 22' E. at 0800Z/17. AMARANTHUS 017° 00' S. 010° 20' E. to Simonstown 12(?½) (C. in C. S.A. 1447B/16 to S.A. Sqdn. (R) Admty.)

A.S.6.

Your 1627Z/15 para 3. ALCANTARA will provide this escort in lieu of CARNARVON CASTLE. My 1433B/14 not to C. in C. E.F. refers. (C. in C. S.A. 1457B/16 to B.A.D., (R) Admty., R.A.W.A. C. in C. E.F.)

→ W.S.20.

Simonstown arrival 16<sup>th</sup> ROCKROSE. Departure 1700B/16 SHROPSHIRE for escort of Durban portion W.S.20. (C. in C. S.A. 1725B/16 to Admty., R.A.W.A., N.O.I.C. Durban, MALAYA.)

Transports  
for  
Madagascar.

Your 1743/6 para 1(C) Proposed to carry out move of 27th East African Brigade to Diego Suarez in MAURETANIA sailing Durban as soon as possible, presumably about 20/7.

2. S.T.O. Diego Suarez should confirm that personnel can be disembarked from her.
3. Fuel and water taken at Durban should be sufficient to ensure that none are required at Diego Suarez.
4. She should return immediately from Diego Suarez to Durban to be used for on-carriage of W.S.20. Personnel in accordance with my 0515/16. Request P.S.T.O. Simonstown report estimated date on which ship should be ready to lift these European troops.
5. This also answers S.T.O. Diego Suarez's 0805/13.
6. Balance of 100 Army personnel for Madagascar not accommodated in NOVA SCOTIA should also embark in MAURETANIA. Personnel for East Africa should not be embarked. NOVA SCOTIA will also return direct to Durban from Diego Suarez. (D. of S.T. 1815B/16 to P.S.T.O. Simonstown.)

→ MALAYA.

A.M. 0054/25/6. MALAYA is to return to Gibraltar on completion of this escort duty. C. in C. S.A. pass to MALAYA on arrival. (D.O.D.(F) 1821B/16 to C. in C. S.A. (R) R.A.W.A., C. in C. E.F. etc.)

/T.F.22 ...



477

War Diary.

16.7.1942  
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic - contd.

- T.F.22. Request composition of Task Force 22, probable date aircraft will be air borne and (?E.T.A) off Takoradi.  
(R.A.W.A. 1837Z/16 to B.A.D. (R) Admty., N.O.I.C. Takoradi, FORTITUDE.)  
Reply: Admty. 0126/17.
- DERWENT. Has following defects. (a) No.2 boiler (details) Time required with outside assistance 3 days.  
(b) "A" frame Cedervall gland (details) Unless excessive vibrations develops ship can continue steaming without docking. (2) Pass to V.A.Syfret. (S.O. Force F. 2015Z/16 to Admty.)
- PELICAN. Estimated P.C. and S. 0700Z/17. 14.10 N. 19.44 W. 158° 9 knots. Weather report.  
(PELICAN 2030Z/16 to HYDRANGEA, R.A.W.A.)
- "S" Report. Following has been read: SSSS Position 6° 30' S. 01° 1 X331 E.  
(Simonstown 2057 G.M.T./16 to Whitehall W/T, Colombo W/T, Freetown.)  
W.R. Note: X331 indicates positions incompletely received.  
*See also 0145/17.*

Mediterranean.

Return of Transports from E.Med. P.S.T.O. Egypt has reported to D.S.T. that PRINCE BAUDOIN is unsuitable for service in Eastern Med. and has recommended her return to U.K.  
2. PRINCESS MARGUERITE and PRINCESS KATHLEEN appear to be used only intermittently and primarily for personnel although fitted for cased petrol.  
3. As there is a very urgent requirement for vessels of this type in Home Waters request your views as to release of (a) PRINCE BAUDOIN and (b) PRINCESS MARGUERITE and PRINCESS KATHLEEN for return to U.K.  
(D.S.T. approved V.C.N.S. 0013B/16 to C. in C. Med. (R) P.S.T.O.E)  
Reply: C. in C. Med 1422/18.

WELSHMAN. Arrival 16/7.  
(V.A. Malta 0630B/16 to Admty.)

/Cositrep ...

478

War Diary.16.7.1942  
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean - contd.

Cositrep  
No.451. 5. Air. Night 14/15. 42 Wellingtons operated against Tobruk shipping and harbour installations, starting fires dock area. 5 Wellingtons mined entrance to harbour. Bad weather hampered operation. 4 Wellingtons not yet returned. A Swordfish bombed jetty in Matruh harbour.  
(C. in C. M.E. 1118/16.)

S/M Base  
Beirut. Permanent base is being made at Beirut. Should Army advance, have proposed to C. in C. Main Base remains here with small advanced bases under Commanders wherever possible on N. African Coast.  
Rest Hegel at 2000 feet, commodious barracks in Beirut Officers mess, and accommodation offices, workshops, storerooms, already in hand. Anticipate base will be in action in about 3 weeks. 10th Flotilla moving to Malta in a few days. OTUS returning shortly to U.K., calling Malta with supplies for S.10. OSIRIS will be considerably delayed.  
(S.1 1233C/16 to F.O.S.)

R/C  
Italian  
Ports. P.R.U. a.m. today 16/7. Messina, 2 8-inch cruisers, 4 destroyers, 1 torpedo boat. Palermo, 1 torpedo boat 7 E-boats, 8 F-boats afloat and 5 on stock. Augusta, 1 E-boat and Hospital ship AGUILIJA.  
(V.A. Malta 1449B/16 to C. in C. Med., F.O.C.N.A., Admty. WELSHMAN.)

THRASHER. Your 1144/15 (N.T. in W.R.) THRASHER will arrive end of searched channel Port Said about 0600C/19 passing through 032° 04' 033° 01' about 2100C/18. (Capt. S. 10 1804C/16 to C. in C. Med. (R) R.O.C.A. N.O.I.C. Port Said, A.S.L., PORPOISE, Greek S/M PROTEUS.)

Malta Air  
Report. I.473. C.S.R. Malta 16/7. Part 1. Night 15/16. 2 alerts. 2008 hrs., 1 raider, bombs sea, Beaufighter up, no combat.  
2058 hours, 2 raiders, bombs land sea, Beaufighter up from previous raid, no combats. 16th. 4 alerts. 0425 hours, 1 aircraft, coast not crossed, 4 Spitfires up, no interceptions. 0550 hours, 1 aircraft, coast not crossed, 2 Spitfires up, no interception. 0624, 6 Me.109s 10 Spitfires up including 2 from previous raid, no interceptions. 1150, (12?) Mc 202s, Me.109s, 4 Spitfires up, no claims.  
(H.Q. R.A.F. Malta 1830/16.)

War Diary16.7.1942  
ThursdayFOREIGN STATIONSEast IndiesMauritius,  
Rodriguez,  
Seychelles.

No. 51433 cipher Q(Ops). 15/7.  
 Ref: Air Ministry's OZ. 683 of 9/7. (T.O.O.1740/9).  
 Arrange mutually details assumption administrative  
 control Mauritius, Rodriguez and Seychelles by  
 East Africa and report date Troopers.  
 (W.O., 0315/16, to C.in C. India, G.O.C.in C.,  
 E. Africa).

RAMILLIES,  
QUEEN  
ELIZABETH.

Following is a check and repeat of my 1607Z/14.  
 (Previously received undecypherable), to C.in C.  
 S.A.(R) RAMILLIES, QUEEN ELIZABETH, N.O.I.C. Durban,  
 Admty (Begins). 3 destroyers will escort H.M.S.  
 QUEEN ELIZABETH to Durban arriving about 26/7.

These could be retained for escort of RAMILLIES and QUEEN  
 ELIZABETH if you concur to sailing them in company until West of  
 the Cape. 1607Z/14 (Ends).  
 (C.in C., E.F., 0600Z/16 to C.in C., S.A.).

Mauritius  
defence  
works.

For C.E. in Chief from Deputy C.E. in Chief.  
 Works requirements Mauritius proceed on basis  
 Secretary of States' telegram 103 of 21/2 1942  
 to Governor, Mauritius. Work on pierhead water  
 supply, control mine unit, camp, all at Grand Port,

90% complete. Stores and material full programme are arriving  
 and work includes that on R.N.A.S. and R.A.F. requirements,  
 armament depot, 2 boom depot and shore accommodation for personnel  
 and stores is about started.

In view of A.M. 0426/1 and particularly A.M. 1114/1, also C.in C.  
 E.F. 1915/5 my 1129/11th, my 1241/14 to D. of S.T. and Deputy  
 C.in C. E.F., request definite instructions that complete programme  
 is to proceed. Governor is sending signal to Lord Cranborne in  
 similar terms requesting clear instructions and stressing  
 important defence Island.

Answer to your 0325/15 (re raising of Diego Suarez to S.C.E. Status)  
 depends the reply this signal.

(N.O.I.C. Mauritius, 0701Z/16, to Admty (R) C.in C., E.F., etc.).  
 Ref: Mauritius telegram 3397 dated 8/7. In view  
 revised policy Indian Ocean bases contained in (?General Staff's)  
 Admty signal 1107/5/7/42 (?1107/1/7 intended (also circulated as  
 Most Secret Branch Acquaint 1403 dated 27/6)) request information  
 as to any revision in scale expected attack Mauritius.  
 (C.in C. India, 1400/16, to W.O.(R) O.C. Troops, Mauritius).

Enemy  
Unit.

By D/F at 1408Z/14 position of unknown enemy Unit  
 was 013° S. 086° E. Reliable fix. Call sign  
 MEKI.

(C.in C., E.F., 0715Z/16, to S. and A. E.I. Station  
 (R) GAMBIA, GENTIAN, A.C.N.B., Melbourne, Admty, C.in C.  
 S.A.).

/Intelligence ..

SECRET

M E S S A G E

0803z/16 July

IN

From C in C Eastern Fleet

DATE: 18.7.42  
RECD: 2255

Naval Cypher X by cable

Addressed Admiralty Repeated C in C South Atlantic, F.O.  
Ceylon, R.A.A. Com.N.A.S.

616. Concurrently with the provision of Shore accommodation for disembarked squadrons in Ceylon it will be essential to provide full repair facilities in India/Ceylon on similar lines to those now being provided in East Africa as without such backing the aircraft carriers operating from the Ceylon area would soon be reduced in striking power or forced to return to East Africa to re-equip.

2. The provision of repair facilities in India/Ceylon comes second only to the furtherance of Nairobi, which is making progress almost entirely by improvisation whilst Wingfield Limited value to us appears to enjoy an undue degree of priority as far as Eastern Fleet is concerned.

3. The position as regards repair in India/Ceylon is as follows A.R.D. Colombo - this is situated in Rowlands Garage. It is intended to develop this to maximum capacity for the overhaul of engine and fabric and stressed skin components but progress is limited by lack of plant and tools. This depot should prove a valuable asset but cannot be developed into a nary which it is proposed should be at Coimbatore. Uncertainty exists whether this place is at present intended only for storage with appropriate maintenance or whether it is intended to develop it as a full scale nary. My view is that it should become the duplicate of Nairobi that is a nary subject for confirmation from F.O. Ceylon that rail transport from both Ceylon and Cochin does not present undue difficulties. An advanced storage base is projected and well under way at Puttalam. Finally, facilities for unshipment and erection of aircraft are in existence on a small scale at Cochin and these might require extension to deal with the greater part of the reserve aircraft which would be stored at Coimbatore and Kuttalam. F.O. Ceylon please remark. These proposals for India/Ceylon provide a complete duplication of the facilities being provided in East Africa. I consider that the buildings plant etc. should be so provided together with a good

/ nucleus

nucleus of ratings. The balance of ratings would be adjusted as between East Africa and India/Ceylon depending upon the disposition of the carriers.

0803z/16

1st Lord  
 1st S.L. (2)  
 2nd S.L.  
 3rd S.L.  
 4th S.L.  
 A.C.N.S. (F)  
 A.C.N.S. (W)  
 Civil Lord  
 C.N.A.S.  
 N.A. 1st S.L.  
 A.S. (C)  
 D of P. (3)  
 O.D. (5)  
 D.N.A.D.  
 Ops (3)  
 D.A.M. (2)  
 D.A.M.R.  
 Air Branch for action  
 O.I.C.  
 M (2)  
 E in C  
 D of S  
 C.E. in C  
 N.A. 2nd S.L. Air  
 C.W. (2)  
 N.  
 D.P.S. (2)  
 D.T.S.D.  
 P. (L)  
 W.G.F.  
 D of S Air  
 D 57  
 I.P. (3)  
 W.D.

Deputy Controller (3))	
D (4)	)
D of S	) Bath
P.	)
E in C	)
C.E. in C	)
S.W.R.	)

BM

479 RC E1

# MOST SECRET

M E S S A G E 1255Z/16th July

MOST SECRET

IN

From F.O.I.C. Ceylon

Date 16/7/42  
Time 2202

NAVAL CYPHER (D) BY CABLE

Addressed Admiralty Repeated C. in C. Eastern Fleet,  
Deputy C. in C. Eastern Fleet.

IMPORTANT

255. Your 1810B 11th. Reference paragraph 2. Ships berthed at Colombo ~~lie~~ either with one anchor down secured to head and stern buoy or with 2 anchors down and stern secured to buoy. Head buoy of berths 9 10, 11 and 12 have been removed so as not to block channel and ships in these berths lie to 2 anchors. Large ships in these berths have held successfully in squalls up to 50 to 60 knots.

2. Reference paragraph 1(ono).

(a) North East Monsoon. Number 3 and 4 berth were specially selected as having their broadside clear and being virtually immune from torpedo attack. Numbers 3 4 8 and 9 berth have greatest depth and are most suitable for Battleship. Number 13 and 14 will be lengthened for carrier. Owing to Rock 19 berth has been lengthened and is now suitable for carrier.

(b) South West Monsoon. Battleships as in Admiralty signal. Carrier should be berthed in 9 12 and 20 A. Carriers Berth in both 3 and 9 will block Inner Berths. Carrier berthed in 12 and 20 A can use northern entrance which will facilitate rapid berthing.

3. Owing to Rock it is possible that number 5 berth cannot be made long enough for H.M.S. HECLA. Alternatively she could be berthed in line with H.M.S. ADAMANT at expense of 2 destroyer berths.

4. Your paragraph (4) is not understood. It is confirmed that method of berthing H.M. Ships in Colombo is suitable observing that all ships have at least 1(one) anchor down.

5. Plan has been prepared on basis that all measurements given in C.B. 01815(B) are correct except that it is known that H.M.S. WARSPITE's draught is nearly 4 feet more than that given in C.B. and that draught of carriers may be as much as 30 feet.

1255/16  
Advance Copy D.C. D.O.D.(F) D.D.I.C.

\* 1910/11 intended re: berthing of ships to stand against Monsoons.

- 1st S.L.(2)
- Controller
- Vice Contr.
- V.C.N.S.
- A.C.N.S.(F)(2)
- D.O.D.(F)(2)
- D.D.I.C.(2)
- D.C.(2)
- D. of P.(2)
- D.A/S.W.

- D. of N.
- Hydrog.(2)
- D. of L.D.
- Hd. of M.(6)(M 07970/42)
- D. of D.
- D. of S.
- I.P.(2)
- W.D.
- Dep. Contr.
- D. of D.
- Hd. of S.W.R.

Bath

War Diary16.7.1942  
ThursdayFOREIGN STATIONSEast Indies Contd:

Intelligence Eastern Fleet. (1) Proposed that Head of Intelligence Organisation of Eastern Fleet shall in future be known as Chief of Intelligence Staff, Eastern Fleet, short title C.O.I.S.E.F. Telegraphic address Ambition, Kilindini. C.O.I.S.E.F. will be in charge of all intelligence matters in Eastern Fleet Area including special intelligence and "Y" Organisations at Kilindini.

(2) S.Os (1) Colombo, Kilindini, Bombay and Basra, will be responsible to C.in C. E.F. through C.O.I.S. but will continue to communicate direct with Admty D.N.I. as heretofore.

(3) Titles C.O.I.S. Colombo and Captain on Staff, Colombo, Kilindini and Delhi to lapse and necessary correction to S.Ps promulgated.

(4) If proposed change of title is concurred with, request all Naval and other authorities in P.N.I.O. Area may be informed.

(5) Ref: my 0543Z/26 not to F.L.O. Delhi, proposed that Cdr. S. Barry should take over duties of C.O.I.S. Eastern Fleet, with rank of Act. Capt. to date 15/7 and that Capt. Harkness be appointed temporary to staff of F.L.O. Delhi pending arrival of new staff. (C.in C. E.F., 0727Z/16, to Admty (R) F.L.O., Delhi).

F.A.A. Accommodation Re provision for disembarked air squadrons in Ceylon. (C.in C. E.F., 0803Z/16 to Admty). See Lion Copy.

Attack on TRUANT Night 5/7 a small patrol craft located TRUANT on surface illuminated searchlights and attacked with depth charges when TRUANT dived. Probable RD/F used to locate. TRUANT was not hunted subsequently. (S.O.S., Colombo, 0841Z/16, to TRUSTY, (R) F.O.i/c Ceylon).

ATHENE Propose to send ATHENE to U.S.A. to embark Martlet aircraft for Eastern Fleet. Request early reply stating port of embarkation. (C.in C.E.F., 0905Z/16, to Admty (R) C.in C. S.A., B.A.D., Com. N.A.S.).

Diego Suarez minefield. (?Controlled) mine-field Diego Suarez laid and generally satisfactory. (MANCHESTER CITY, 1010Z/16, to C.in C. E.F., (R) Admty etc.).

Colombo Reply to Admty 1910/11 re berthing of ships to stand against monsoons (F.O.I.C., Ceylon, 1255Z/16) See Lion Copy.

/HEEMSKERCK ...

War Diary16.7.1942  
ThursdayFOREIGN STATIONSEast Indies Contd:

- HEEMSKERCK** In view of your 1925/13 and the fact that I am now very short of escorts, transfer of HEEMSKERCK to Red Sea will be deferred.  
(C.in C., E.F., 1328Z/16, to C.in C. Med. (R) Admty, F.O.R.S.C.A.).
- Manza Bay.** Details of defences laid.  
(D.C.in C. E.F.1433/16). See Lion Copy.
- Escort of Colliers Mozambique Channel.** Admty 1841/15 to C.in C. S.A. only. (1814/15 intended re provision of escort for Colliers from Durban to Middle East.) N.O. i/c East London 0809/8. (Departure SIMBRA, SIGFRA).  
(1) Request you will sail A/S Trawlers SIMBRA and SIGFRA as escort for Colliers now loading at Durban and Lourenco Marques for Kilindini. Route direct through Mozambique Channel.  
(2) When will Colliers be ready to leave?  
(D.C. in C., E.F., 1643Z/16, to Com. i/c Durban).  
*p. 473*
- Minesweepers, Persian Gulf.** A.M. 2304/25/11/41 addressed C.in C. E.I. Request that KARMOY ex GLOBE V and OKSOY ex POL VI of 177th M/S Group may be sailed for Persian Gulf as soon as ready. 2. STORMWRACK ex BUSEN IV is allocated to 178th M/S Group in place of SEMLA.  
(D.M.S., 1722B/16, to F.O.C.R.I.N., (R) C.in C.E.F. etc.).
- Kilindini development.** Assuming that reports of Yngs and Neknham re development of Kilindini as repair base and machinery depot 2 dated 6/6, 1942, have now received consideration, request guidance on Admty policy re construction of dockyard on Simonstown scale on mainland.  
(2)(?"If" omitted) Construction of this self-contained Dockyard is definite policy a full commission of experts in all dockyard departments is essential for even preliminary investigation, selection of site and survey. Staff at Kilindini is quite inadequate for work involved.  
(3) Current and proposed works programmes of three services and harbour and new wharfs construction are estimated to absorb resources of Dolopy for two years.  
(F.O.E.A. & Z., 1732C/16, to Admty C.in C. E.F.).



481A

~~MOST SECRET~~

**MOST SECRET**

1433/16 July,  
IN.

FROM: Deputy C. in C.  
Eastern Fleet.

DATE: 18.7.42.

RECD. 0956.

NAVAL CYPHER X PLUG BY W/T.

ADDRESSED. Admiralty, reported F.O. East Africa and Zanzibar.

Following defences have been laid at Manza Bay bearings and distances from South End of Muo Rocks chart 663.

- A. Entrance is covered by B I indicator net. Centre of gate 147 degs. 5.3 cables.
- B. A/T baffle 264 degs. 7.2 cables in a direction 046 degs. to the shore.
- C. One in number 6 inch CD gun covers the entrance. Army propose to increase this to two in number 6 inch guns and two in number case's.

2. Proposed controlled mining lay out for Manza has not yet been received. My 1303/30/6 para. 2 and A.M. 1705/3/7 para. 6 refers.

1433/16.

Controller.  
 Vice Controller.  
 V.C.N.S.  
 A.C.N.S. (F)(2)  
 A.C.N.S. (W)  
 A.C.N. (T)  
 N.A. to A.C.N.S. (T)  
 N. 1st S.L.  
 D.C.D. (F)(2)  
 D.D.I.C. (2)  
 D.C. (2)  
 D.N.I. (4)  
 D. of L.D. (2)  
 D. /S.W. for action.  
 I.P. (2)  
 W.D.  
 Hd. of M.  
 D.T.S.D.  
 D.B.D.  
 D.T.M.  
 D. of P. (Q)  
 D. of P. (2)  
 Hydrog. (2)  
 D. of N.

Re 3 legged indicator loops.

D.T.D. (3)  
 D.T.D. (M)  
 D.T.D. (C)  
 D.S.D.

War Diary.

16.7.1942.  
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies.

- U/B P/S of S/M sighted by M/V at 2200Z. My P.C. and S. are 041° N., 065° 18' W., ? 188 ° 10 knots, no further contact.  
(SUDBURY, 0010Z/16 to C.O.A.C.)  
*see p.484. (Dispositions.)*
- Task Force 22. Unknown originator's 1931/7 retransmitted by C. in C. Lant, informs as follows.  
AUGUSTA, ELLYSON, FORREST, FITCH, CORRY, HOBSON, HOUSATONIC and Commander, Task Force 22 in RANGER departed Trinidad 0800Q/8 for destination given in C. in C. Lant's 2300/5. S. of A 14.5 knots.  
(Comnaveu, 0836/16 to Admty).
- Navigation Bermuda. For Hydrographer from King's Harbour Master. My No. 4/42 of 27/4/1942. U.S. Authorities are considering the dredging of a 38 foot Channel between Grassy Bay and Murrey's Anchorage. Passing through 32° 23½° N., 64° 48' E. Request photostatic copy of area between this position and Island may be forwarded as soon as possible.  
(Cdre. I/C Bermuda, 0931P/16 to Admty).
- U/B A/C sighted S/M 43° 05' N., 61° 15' W., at 0927Z/16.  
(Halifax, 0950Z/16 to Admty).
- CAPE VERDE (Sunk 9/7). CAPE VERDE, British, Port Sudan to New York via Capetown, diverted to Trinidad 25/6 by S.N.O. Freetown by radio, torpedoed and sunk 2100Z/9 in 11° 32' N., 60° 17' W. 38 survivors landed Port of Spain today, 2 injured in hospital St. Vincent and 2 killed, total crew 42. CAPE VERDE passed Spanish Tanker\* at 1715Z/9 in 11° 40' N., 59° 32' W.  
(F.O.I.C. Trinidad, 1002Q/16 to Admty (R) C. in C. A.W.I., S.O.(I) Kingston) (S.O.(I) Jamaica, 1537R/16 to Admty etc).  
\* Probably ZORROZA see 1611/18.
- Tanker Routes. Your 1228/13 is not clear in view of your 1953/18 /6.  
(C. in C. A.W.I., 1003P/16 to Admty).
- Movement Summary. 1800 G.M.T./16.
- | Ship     | Position       | Course | Speed |
|----------|----------------|--------|-------|
| CANTON   | 29½° N. 27° W. | 314°   | 14½   |
| CROCUS ) | 11° N., 26° W. | 270°   | 11    |
| COWSLIP) |                |        |       |
- (D.O.D., (F) 1033Z/16 to Opnav(R) Comnaveu).

/Orders...

War Diary.16. 7. 1942.  
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America & West Indies - Contd.Orders to  
CHAMBLY.

Tug AMERICA EAST reported in vicinity of 047° 38' N., 051° 52' W., at approx. 0330Z/15 proceeding St. Johns N.F. Tug has no W/T. Carry out search while proceeding to St. Johns N.F. Aircraft will assist if possible.  
(F.O.N.F., 1132Z/16 to CHAMBLY).

BEACONLIGHT  
torpedoed.

Sailed tug ROODE ZEE escorted by M.T.Bs. 339, 343, to salvage or if necessary destroy steamship BEACONLIGHT derelict in 011° 03' N., 147° 10' W. (sic).

(N.O.I.C. Trinidad 1242Q/16 to C. in C. A.W.I.,  
(R) Admty. S.O.(I) Kingston, Jamaica).

BEACONLIGHT (Panamanian) torpedoed 0713Z/16 in 010° 58' N., 061° 10' W., and subsequently sunk. Total crew 39. 1 man killed remainder landed Port of Spain.

(N.O.I.C. Trinidad, 1802Q/16 to Admty (R) C. in C. A.W.I., etc)  
My 1242/16. ROODE ZEE and escort returned. SS. BEACONLIGHT not salvageable and sunk to avoid danger to navigation.  
(N.O.I.C. Trinidad, 2142Q/16).

T.W. Convoys.

Owing to short distance involved request information whether Convoy Sailing Telegram extract reaches you before arrival of ships from Convoy. C.B.04024 (41) Art. 91 refers.  
(D.T.D., 1245<sup>B</sup>/16 to B.R.O. Curacao, B.R.O. Aruba,  
(R) S.O.(I) Jamaica).  
Your 1245/16. No convoy sailing telegram extracts have been received here.  
(Aruba, 1632/16 to Admty).

M.A.R.I.

Amendment No. 40.  
(D.T.D., 1248B/16 to C. in C. A.W.I., etc).

B.5. Escort  
Group.

Admty. 1709/24/6. Request report by signal of last docking dates and refit of ships in B.5 Group.  
(Cdre. I/C Bermuda, 1347P/16 to Capt. (D)  
Liverpool (R) Admty, C. in C. A.W.I.)

NORSEMAN

Your 1102/15. In view of her great value NORSEMAN should not proceed without escort. Request appropriate U.S. Naval Authorities be advised in this sense stressing that they are equally concerned in maintenance of these vital strategic communications.  
(D.S.D. 1358B/16 to F.O.I.C. Trinidad (R)  
C. in C. A.W.I., B.A.D.)

War Diary.

16.7.1942.  
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies - Contd.

- N.A.13 *See next page* A.M.1845/26 and 2349/2. Destination of DOMINION MONARCH is Liverpool. F.O.N.F. pass to AMAZON and BOADICEA. (D.O.D. (H) 1404B/16 to C.O.A.C., C. in C. W.A., F.O.I.C. Liverpool, F.O.N.F.)
- K.S.520 ships torpedoed. My 1343/14 (merely gives names of ships in Convoy K.S.520) BLUEFIELD, CHILORE and J.A. MOWINCKEL torpedoed. First named ship found, others subsequently struck mines approaching Cape Hatteras anchorage under escort. (C.S.A., Norfolk Va. 1420Z/16 to Admty (R) N.S.H.Q. etc).
- U/Bs Grenada. My 0956/11 Longitude should be 61.35 W. Grenada further reports S/M sighted (a) daylight 13, 12° 19' N., 61° 34' W. (b) 1400Q/13, 12° 37' N., 61° 19' W. Aeroplane investigation negative Trinidad informed. (S.O.(I) Jamaica, 1534R/16 to Admty etc).
- BARFLEUR Your 0952/15 (presume BARFLEUR not reported <sup>\* 15</sup> by you) No. (S.O.(I) Jamaica, 1607R/16 to C. in C. A.W.I.) *\* See p. 454*
- Dispositions Section S.W. P.554 escorted by AMHERST 040° 00', 069° 10', 083° 9 altering in 065° 20' W., to 040° 0.N.108 Task Unit No. 24.18.3 042° 15' 065° 25' 224° 7, altering in 040° 45' N. to 253°. B.X. 29 Task Unit No. 24.18.4 041° 05', 067° 30', 044° 7.5 altering in 042° 17' N., to 027° and in 043° 10' N., to Halifax. B.X.29 F., HEPATICA 043° 25', 065° 05' 7.5.T.H.4., \*SUDBURY, THE PAS, due Portland (Maine) 2200Z/16 escort to Halifax. MONCTON vicinity of 041° 40', 066° 20' southbound. NORANDA vicinity of 045° 00' 060° 50' en route Halifax. 3 Fairmiles vicinity of 043° 50' 064° 10' coastwise to Bay of Fundy. (C.O.A.C., 1636Z/16 to Admty). *\* See p. 482*
- Boom Defence Depots. D.B.D., 1637B/16. See Australia.
- Local Defence Schemes. J.S.M.304. Ref. C.O.S.(W) 216. Cannot see any objection to acceptance by us of proposed delegation of authority from Colonial Office. (J.S.M., 1641Z/16 to Chiefs of Staff London).

/ARCOLA...

War Diary.16.7.1942.  
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America & West Indies - Contd.ARCOLA,  
TAIGETE.

Italian tankers ARCOLA and TAIGETE have reported important to call at Las Palmas after Freetown owing to previous orders having been placed for following essential repairs. (details)  
(S.B.N.O. Curacao, 1645QR/16 to Admty (R)  
C. in C. A.W.I.)

A.V.Gs.  
BATTLER,  
ATTACKER.

Request destination and route of A.V.Gs. may be signalled 6 weeks before completion date. That for BATTLER and ATTACKER is required now.  
(B.A.D., 1701Z/16 to Admty).

Communications  
by R.Os.

C. in C. U.S. Fleet's 1927/8. (Giro amendments) Amendment No.4 to Giro. Enquiries made reveal following reports not transferred to Ottawa Intelligence Area. At Manzanillo No. R.O. at Mazatlan R.O. unable use codes. Communication at present via Tampico to Jamaica. Tampico Mazatlan communicate by paraphrased G.T.C. registered Air Mail. U.S. Reporting Officers are stationed at both ports. From this it appears that any information other than shipping movements through the Merco system, which British R.Os. at these ports desire to transmit had best be sent to or through S.O.(I) Jamaica. Probable however that information will usually be sent through U.S. channels to Washington direct.  
(N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 1705Z/16 to Admty)

"QUEENS" etc. Your 1741Z/11. Para. (1) Concur. Admiralty will Use of W/T. instruct C. in C. W.A. F.O.I.C. Greenock, and N.C.S.O. Clyde accordingly.  
Para. (2) concur. It is presumed that it is desired that A.M.1608B/1 para. 4 should also not apply to the "QUEENS".  
Para. (3). Concur in similar arrangements for AQUITANIA. All 3 ships are already supplied with Naval codes and Naval communication ratings.  
(D.T.D., 1712B/16 to B.A.D.)

U/B Positions. Cominch, 1741/16, 1746/16, 1747/16, 1752/16 1759/16).

N.A.13

Your 1845/26. Pre sailing telegram. Halifax Gate 1100Z/21 advance 13 knots through  
*in previous page*  
Z. 044° 30' N., 062° 01' W. Y. 046° 20' N., 052° 59' W., to X 048° 00' N., 051° 00' W., arriving position X 0900Z/23. Please pass onward route.  
(C.O.A.C., 1750Z/16 to Admty (R) N.S.H.Q., etc).

ACONIT.

A.M.1759/10 and N.S.H.Q's 1650/14. We are grateful for your help. On completion of refit ACONIT will join Western Approaches command.  
(D.O.D. (H), 1835B/16 to N.S.H.Q., (R) C. in C. W.A. etc).

/Convoy...

War Diary.16.7.1942.  
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America & West Indies - Contd.

Convoy C.O.A.C. pass to C. in C. W.A. and T.F.24.  
 Position Present command that escorts report errors in  
 Reports. convoy position reports if over 40 miles between  
 (corrupt groups) 20 and 0200 G.M.T. only is modified as follows: Subject of report shall be made as soon as practicable after receipt of convoy position report. Commands concerned requested disseminate all convoys in their respective forces.  
 (C.T.24., 1901Z/16 to F.O.N.F., C.O.A.C. (R) C. in C. W.A., Connav, from C.T.24).

Floating Dock My 2227/15. (1) Admiralty floating dock leaves  
 NIDAREID New York for St. Thomas 19/7 escorted by 2 A/S  
*See p. 490* trawlers.  
 (2) NIDAREID is being sailed for New York to join this convoy to break off at nearest point on route to Bermuda.  
 (B.A.D., 1901Z/16 to C. in C. A.W.I., (R) B.R.O. Norfolk etc).

Oil for N.A. Lisbon reports Cod Fishing Guild request 3  
 Portuguese trawlers MARTINS HOMEM, SANTA JOANA, SANTA  
 Trawlers. PRINCES, may be supplied with 50 tons of gas oil each at St. Johns N.F. or Halifax. Vessels have apparently been forced to return to Newfoundland

Bank from Greenland through lack of fish and now require to proceed again to Greenland.  
 2. In view of Admiralty interest in assisting Cod Fishing Fleet request you will give every assistance to facilitate early supply at Halifax.  
 (M. Branch, 1912B/16 to N.S.H.Q. (R) Opnav etc).

Leakage of Your 1318/15th. Subject matter of signal has  
 information been thoroughly investigated by me during past 9  
 of sailings. days, Commander Eastern Sea Frontier having passed statement of survivors to me on 7/7.  
 Careful enquiry produced no evidence that there is any leakage in B.R.Os. Office, New York all officers and civilian staff employed being absolutely trustworthy.  
 The following points have however developed from investigation:  
 (1) reconstruction of subject vessel routes shows that courses were Beified from points of departure commencing from 60 miles to maximum spread of 275 miles in lat. 037° 20' N. Spread was then gradually reduced to 220 miles in lat. 020° N., and then was converged to spread of 50 miles toward position 013° 50' N., 052° 20' W. This was done in accordance with Admty 0008/28/4/42. Thus focal point was established within (? 50) miles on the 52 Meridian in which vicinity vessels concerned were torpedoed. If this focal point became known to the enemy U-boats need only patrol small area with disastrous results. It is observed that Admty. 0008/28 received wide distribution, being addressed to all authorities concerned routeing in this particular area.  
 (2) In accordance with instructions then received from U.S. Naval Authorities one copy each route was supplied to port director office as soon as each ship was routed by B.R.O. New York.

War Diary.16.7.1942.  
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America & West Indies - Contd.

Leakage of information of sailings. Contd.

(3) It is extremely probable that enemy is receiving reports of ships leaving U.S.A. together with their port of destination and expected route but it would appear doubtful there has been any leakage giving away exact route.

(4) It appears impossible to disguise ship's destination when all cargo loaded has port of discharge clearly stencilled on same. Majority of stevedores loading ships are of German or Italian birth or extract thus have full knowledge of ships forthcoming voyage.

(5) It is though possible as all these ships employ ship chandlers of doubtful character and in all probability Masters visit their offices after having routed for New York settling account there may have been some indiscreet conversation particularly between allied Masters. This matter is being investigated by U.S. Naval Intelligence authorities New York.

(6) There has been continuous reports in American press of statements survivors that submarine commanders have stated they were aware of ship's name, destination, route and cargo. Today New York papers state from Gulf coast ports source that survivors from Norwegian ships report submarine commander recited to Master port from which ship sailed and its destination and asked if this was correct. This ship was not routed by British authorities.

(7) Survey of ships sunk discloses majority vessels lost were those delayed in U.S. Ports through crew trouble. In case of KUPA ship arrived New York 4/1/42 and finally sailed 5/5. Most delay was due difficulty in obtaining crew who when finally assembled were of all nationalities and thoroughly unreliable. This office is fully aware serious nature subject under investigation and full report follows by quickest air route via Canada.

(C.S.A. New York, 1940Z/16 to Admty).

M.A.R.I. Instructions.

Your 2113Z/7 concur. Reference to vessels proceeding along Meridian of 26° consider no difficulty will be encountered if vessel is shopped only once from U.S. to British Control even though again crossing the Meridian temporarily.  
(Connav, 2024/16 to Admty).

Escort Vessels Allocation.

Your 2121Z/4. Para. 2 confirmed but see Admty. 1837B/28 para. 6 We must again emphasise that we have only accepted the allocation of escort vessels by strategic necessity on the understanding that the U.S.A. agree that distribution of existing vessels should be varied from time to time as the situation demands. In fact, problem of allocation of new construction and distribution of existing ships to U.S.A. or British areas must always be regarded as a whole.

2. In view of exceptional circumstances we have already departed from understanding set out in Salor 3050 over some of the Canadian-built corvettes. Now that full operation of the agreement in Salor 3050 is coming into effect we would prefer not to depart from agreed procedure any further. We are not aware of any unforeseen circumstances affecting allocation of 6 Twin Screw Corvettes building in U.K. by November.

War Diary.16.7.1942.  
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America & West Indies - Contd.Escort  
Vessels,  
Allocation  
Contd.

3. As regards B.D.Es. and D.Es. the following arguments may help in negotiating:-

(a) Because U.S. have smaller percentage of total number required than British it does not follow that their immediate need for escort vessels is greater. Target figures were based

on world-wide eventual need. Except on Eastern seaboard and in Caribbean, U.S.A. have at present no serious U-boat menace with which to compete.

(b) A given number of U-boats can operate about 3 times as effectively against convoys in Eastern Atlantic as they can in the Western Atlantic and against any particular convoy some 5 times the scale of U-boat attack can probably be brought to bear.

(c) North Atlantic escort requirements given in Combined Staff Planners review (C.P.S.33/3) were based on the sailings of merchant tonnage for the first 3 months of 1942. These were abnormally low owing to the large amount of shipping being used for military transport to the East and Middle East. During the next 6 months, however, we must expect sailings to be abnormally high including as they will the store ships for Bolero.

At present our escorts on N. Atlantic route have been reduced to barest figure to help the U.S.A. temporarily in accordance with the principle in para. 1 above.

(d) Under existing U-boat threat in Atlantic a much higher proportion of long-endurance escorts is required in British areas than in American areas.

4. We agree that we must have at least 2 of the earliest B.D.Es for experience.

5. Whilst we consider it desirable to keep Algerine minesweepers out of discussion, it is understood that this question has been taken up on a higher plane.

6. Your para. 8. We do not understand why you believe that there is additional capacity for building twin screw corvettes in Canada as our information is that there is none.

7. Your para. 6 (b). We agree that the longer term policy should be discussed with you on the Planners level and that M.A.B. procedure should be used to confirm ultimate decision. (Head of M.A.S., Approved by 1st Lord, 2029B/16 to B.A.D.)

Troop  
Transport  
from Bermuda.

D. of S.T's 0420/15.

1. U.S. Authorities will not agree to this vessel proceeding unescorted with personnel embarked, and no special escort is available.

2. They are hoping to arrange an escorted convoy to deal with their own reliefs in the Islands and to include British personnel movements. This, however, may not take place for some time.

(B.A.D., 2045Z/16 to C. in C. A.W.I., D.S.T.)

/Sub...



War Diary.

16.7.1942.  
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies - Contd.

Sub. attack and sighting summary. ONEIDA torpedoed and sunk 20.17 N., 74.06 W., 1610Z/13. J.A.M. WINCKEL and CHILORE torpedoed in convoy 34.42 N., 75.27 W., 2021Z/15. Unidentified vessel attacked in convoy 27.10 N., 64.35 W. 1350Z/16. HARWICKE GRANGE 2 torpedo hits approx. 15 shells. LEBORE possible 2 subs. U.45 and U.88 types at scene of attack. BENNESTVET U.88 type. BUSHRANGER 1 torpedo hit 2 misses. BAYOU U.45 type FRANK SEAMANS 1 torpedo hit 1 miss 1 shell U.88 type. In daily estimate request that all subs west of 26° W., rather than west of 30° W. be included. Your 151237 para. D. Sub. not considered damaged by attacks W.040638 and 080005 surface attacks, sound contact 28.56 N., 90.08 (sic) W. 1628Z/31/5. Aircraft attacks sub. on surface 20.31 N., 72.56 W., 1054Z/27/5. Aircraft attack magnetic contact 39.30 N., 73.56 W., 1020Z/8/6. 41.52 N., 70.30 W., 1700Z/13/6. Surface craft attacks sub. 35.56 N., 75.24 W., 1900Z/14. Sound contact 1900Z/15 reported my 152229 now cancelled. M/V sights sub. on surface 28.06 N., 61.28 W., 1330Z/16. Sub. contact reported 33.41 N., 75.53 W., about 1445Z/16. Surface craft attacks sound contact 39.52 N., 73.13 W., 1735Z/16. Plane attacks subs. 19.50 N., 73.35 W., 1440Z/16. (Cominch, 2059/16 to Admty for O.I.C.)

U/B Campaign. Connav Serial 16. U.S. JACKSON serial 14 sunk. J.A. MOFFETT J.R. serial 8 sunk. ONEIDA U.S. 2309 G.T. torpedoed and sunk 13/7 020° 17' N., 074° 06' W. CHILORE U.S. and J.A. MOWINCKEL Panama tanker torpedoed 2021Z/15 034° 42' N., 075° 27' W., convoy K.S.520. Both ships still afloat. (Connav, 2128/16 to Comnav.)

A.S.5 PASTEUR designated A.S.5 sailed New York (?) 123/16 for Freetown. (N.S.H.Q., 2233Z/16 to Admty (R) C. in C. A.W.I., R.A.W.A., D. of S.T.)

O.N.63 Direct one ship of your unit to escort to St. Johns N.F. any East Newfoundland Shipping. Detach such shipping in the vicinity of lat. 48° 6 Western (?Coastal) joining proceed with remaining ships of your Unit to Argentina. (Comtask 24., 2305/16 to C.T.U., 24.1.4).

N.A. Convoys. 1. All N.A. Convoys after N.A.13 will sail in company with A.T. Convoys. Following are approx. sailing dates from Halifax.

N.A.14 (A.T.18)	7 August.	N.A.15 (A.T.20)	22 August.
N.A.16 (A.T.23)	20 Sept.	N.A.17 (A.T.25)	7 Oct.
N.A.18 (A.T.28)	5 Nov.	N.A.19 (A.T.30)	18 Nov.
N.A.20 (A.T.33)	17 Dec.	N.A.21 (A.T.35)	3 Jan.
N.A.22 (A.T.38)	1 Feb.		

2. Shipping will be allocated to meet your requirements independent of that allotted to A.T. Convoys.

War Diary.

16.7.1942.  
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies.

N.A. Convoys  
Contd.

3. To spread despatches of trained Air Force personnel accommodation for such personnel available to embark New York will be reserved through Britman Washington whom you should consult on following intermediate sailings  
A.T.22 5 Sept. A.T.27 29 Oct. A.T.32 3 Dec. A.T.37 25 Jan.  
Additional capacity to carry U.S. troops so displaced will be provided in next A.T. Convoy in each case.  
4. Request forecast and firm bids for capacity required for both N.A. and A.T. sailings as far in advance as possible.  
5. Would like as many as possible brought forward from N.A.16 to N.A.15 to reduce size former.  
6. Request information allotment to convoys Armoured Div.  
7. Agreed. N.D.H.Q. pass to N.S.H.Q., as from D. of S.T. (Troopers, 2330/16 to N.D.H.Q., Ottawa).

Delay in  
Shipping  
Reports.

Ref. Freetown route message 1725Z/15, EMPIRE PINTAIL, request more prompt transmission of route messages from Freetown. Subject vessel 2 days outside New York before C. in C. U.S Fleet (Convoys and Routeing) aware of its position and destination. Route message TALISMAN Nor. and STRINDAS Nor. departing Freetown 13th for Trinidad not yet received.  
(Connav, No T.O.O./16 to Admty Received 0217/7).

NIDAREID.

C. in C. U.S. Fleet (Convoys and Routeing) 1931/13 and my 2048/1 (Floating dock for Freetown)  
SS. NIDAREID speed 7 cargo only destination Bermuda will accompany convoy New York to point on route nearest Bermuda.  
(Connav, No T.O.O./16 to Admty Recd. 0217/17).  
*See 17.486*

Australia & New Zealand.

Movements

Departure Sydney N.S.W. 0715Z/15 U.S. Destroyers SELFRIDGE (?MUGFORD) HENLEY.  
(A.C.N.B., 0651Z/16 to Admty. F.O. Ceylon, N.O. Wellington, C. in C. E.F.)  
Arrivals Auckland H.M.N.Z.S. MONOWAI and U.S. Destroyer TUCKER.  
(N.Z.N.B., 2116Z/16 to Admty (R) A.C.N.B.)

ACHILLES,  
LEANDER.

Following received (begins) ACHILLES, LEANDER (R) C. in C. U.S. Fleet Comsopac from Cincpac. On the passing of operational control of ACHILLES and LEANDER to Comsopac, desire to express my appreciation for splendid manner in which every task assigned while you were under my direct command has been carried through to a successful conclusion. Well done. Adm. Nimitz. 2235Z/13 Ends  
(N.Z.N.B., 1134M/16 to Admty).

/Situation...

War Diary.

16.7.1942  
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Australia & New Zealand. - Contd.

Situation. Series No. 175 from G.H.Q. S.W. Pacific Area 15/7.  
3 Hudsons attacked Kalabahi (Alor Island)  
0855Z/14. 1 50 ton ship sunk, direct hits on jetty  
large fires started. No activity observed.  
(2) Indication of dive bomber air R/C Darwin area 0300Z/15.  
(3) Unidentified aircraft reported flying high over Broome  
0225Z/15 and Derby 0250Z/15.  
(4) 1 enemy destroyer sighted by air R/C at 0041Z/15 in 4° 18' S.  
153° 27' E. course 190°.  
(5) Native reports enemy strength Fak Fak (Dutch New Guinea)  
66 Troops 2 patrol vessels. Same source reports enemy  
contemplating expedition to Toeal (Kai Islands) by end of the  
month.  
(A.C.N.B., 1141Z/16 to Admty etc).

Transport of Netherlands authorities request movement from  
Dutch Airmen. Australia of about 100 Dutch officers and men for  
Catalina squadrons in Ceylon.  
2. As these trained crews cannot be replaced,  
they must be carried in a warship or escorted transport.  
3. Date of availability and details of personnel not known here  
but can be obtained from Rear Adm. Coster R.N.N.  
4. Request your proposals.  
(A.C.N.S. (F), 1214B/16 to A.C.N.B., (R) F.O. Ceylon, etc).  
Reply: A.C.N.B., 1610/18.

Boom Defence Central storage boom defence depots (details)  
Depots. are being established at Aden, Ceylon and in  
South Africa to provide for additional defence  
commitments envisaged for future commitments in  
those areas.  
2. It was the intention to establish a similar depot in  
Australia to provide defences for future operational bases in  
S.W. Pacific. Request whether this requirement is now being  
met by the Americans.  
(D.B.D., 1637B/16 to B.A.D, (R) A.C.N.B.,)

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Submarines Reported.

Estimated U-boat positions.  
(D.D.I.C, 1415B/16, 1423B/16).

17.7.1942.  
Friday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

Convoy P.Q.18 is cancelled.

MARTIN, MARNE, BLANKNEY, and MIDDLETON are to sail for Kola Inlet to bring back Q.P.14. They will be fuelled at 71° 50' N., 3° 5' W., by Force Q. (BLACK RANGER, escorted by destroyer WILTON)

In the Narvik area, TIRPITZ, HIPPER and one destroyer were seen by air R/C in Bogenfiord (Ofotfjorden 68° 28' N., 16° 55' E) at 1107 today. SCHEER and 7 500 ton U-boats are in Sorskjomen (68° 12' N., 17° 21' E).

In the Trondheim area, KÖLN in Foettenfiord, and LÜTZOW in Lofjord. There is believed to have been an increasing tendency to concentrate units of the German Fleet further north for offensive operations against the Arctic convoys.

Convoy  
P.Q. 17

*only 20 hrs +  
November  
no 1503*

The result of P.Q.17 is as follows:-

Sunk. RIVER AFTON, PAULUS POTTER, BOLTON CASTLE, EARLSTON, HARTLEBURY, EMPIRE BYRON, CHRISTOPHER NEWPORT, ALCOA RANGER, WASHINGTON, WILLIAM HOOPER, FAIRFIELD CITY, DANIEL MORGAN, EL CAPITAN, HONOMU HOOSIER, JOHN WITHERSPOON, OLOPANA, PAN ATLANTIC, PAN KRAFT, PETER KERR. Total 21 ships: \*  
Also sunk Rescue Ship ZAAFARAN. R.F.A. tanker ALDERSDALE.

In Dvina ports. BELLINGHAM, OCEAN FREEDOM, DON BASS, SAMUEL CHASE. Total 4 ships.

In Novaya Zemlya harbours. AZERBAIDJAN (damaged), BENJAMIN HARRISON, IRONCLAD, SILVER SWORD, TROUBADOUR, EMPIRE TIDE, total 6 ships.

Ashore off Novaya Zemlya. WINSTON SALEM.

Returned. EXFORD (Damaged by ice). RICHARD BLAND (went ashore off Iceland)

Unaccounted for. CARLTON.

British Air Operations.

U-boat  
destroyed.

*U.751 sunk*

A Lancaster bomber attached to Coastal Command destroyed a German U-boat at 1420 today in the Western Approaches, about 190 miles N.W. of Finisterre. At 1235 a Whitley aircraft of Coastal Command had attacked a German U/B on the surface in approximately the same position, and apparently damaged or sank it! It is probable that both attacks were on the same U-boat.

*(page 681, 22/7)*

17.7.1942.  
Friday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT.

Enemy Air Operations.

At 1245 today 4 F.W.190s attacked with cannon and bombs the tanker DAXHOUND and M.Ls. 118 and 157 escorting her 1 miles S.E. of Berry Head. M.L.118 shot to pieces the aircraft which attacked her. The tanker suffered only minor damage from near misses, but M.L.157 was hit and extensively damaged. Both M.Ls. had casualties wounded, including the C.O. of M.L.157 (Lieut. E.W.J. Davies R.N.V.R.)

The German long range bomber force in France has been increased during the past month, though the new units are not yet operating. The frequency of night R/C over the English Channel and off the S.W. Coasts has been most marked during the last two weeks.

Mining.

Several magnetic mines were detonated today about 10 miles S.W. of the Needles. Part of Portsmouth western entrance is now open to controlled traffic during daylight only. Mines were also swept S.W. of Dungeness.

South Atlantic.

NELSON, RODNEY and 3 destroyers left Freetown for Scapa this morning. *p. 498*

Mediterranean.

Mideast today represents the necessity for landing craft and paratroops. The latter would be valuable in the Western Desert and more special craft are needed, not only for the eventual capture of Sicily, for a further operation in southern Italy and for the capture of Crete, but also to assist in the maintenance of the army in the Western Desert. (c.f.19/1/42).

2 Beauforts were damaged by air attack at Luqa at 1230 today; 4 of the enemy aircraft were destroyed.

Owing to SS. HOOGERK being routed to Karachi instead of Aden, serious delay has been caused in the arrival in Egypt of the M/T of 8th Armoured Division.

/Last...

War Diary.

17.7.1942.  
Friday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Mediterranean - Contd.

Last night, 4 Halifaxes and 36 Wellingtons, bombed shipping and harbour installations at Tobruk. A ship was set on fire with explosions and fires were started in the dock area. Five Wellingtons mined the harbour and approaches. This afternoon, 6 Liberators bombed Tobruk, hit and set on fire a tanker and hit a 10,000 ton ship. A large fire was started at petrol stores. Two Liberators bombed 4 small vessels at Bomba, hitting one of them. Two Fortresses bombed ships at Bardia at dusk, but did not see the results. At dawn, 2 Beauforts attacked a 6,000 ton merchantman in Sollum Bay; 5 Beauforts subsequently attacked the ship off Matruh at dusk; results were not seen. The ship was again bombed and was reported hit during the night (see 18/7).

America & West Indies.

Russian SS. FELIX DZERJINSKY reported being gunned at 1545Z today in 53° 21' N., 161° 10' W.

There are indications that enemy submarines in the Western Atlantic are shifting their attentions to convoys.

495

War Diary.

17.7.1942  
Friday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Policy.

North Atlantic dispositions. My 1058/15. Area Iceland - Add KENYA, LONDON, 4 destroyers. Area Scapa - Delete KENYA, LONDON, 4 destroyers. Passage to S. Atlantic - ORION, 2 destroyers.  
(D.O.D.(H.) 0949Z/17 to C. in C. U.S. Fleet)

Harwich. Proposed Landing-Craft Base. Request you will prepare detailed proposals for landing craft base on the lines of para 4 of Nore 4145/0320/5 of 15th June 1942 and forward report as soon as possible. Report should include remarks on extent to which local training for crew is likely to prove practicable.  
(C. in C. Nore 1008B/17 to N.O.I.C. Harwich.)

S.N.O.C.O.N. On V.A.C.T. transferring his office to London on 24/7, you will carry out the duties of S.N.O.C.O.N.  
(R.A.L.B. 1801B/17 to Commodore, LOUISBURG.)

Movements.

P.511 Scapa arrival P.511 at 0547/17. JAN VAN  
O.21. *See p. 498* GELDER escorting O.21 sheltering Scapa until weather improves.  
(A.C.O.S. 0550/17.)

BLANKNEY. My number S.O.165 is cancelled. Return with  
BLACK RANGER. BLACK RANGER by reverse route to Scapa.  
(A.C.O.S. 0607B/17 to BLANKNEY.)

DOUGLAS. Proceed Scapa with BLUE RANGER fuelling Hvalfiord  
BLUE RANGER. if necessary.  
MALCOLM. (C. in C. H.F. 0818B/17 to DOUGLAS.) *See p. 497*

O.24. (1) Intend sailing D.S.O.24 escorted by WHITE BEAR  
*See also p 497* at 1000B/19 for position (A) 270° Bishops Rock 3 miles. E.T.A. 2359/20.  
(2) Thence WHITE BEAR proceed Plymouth for escort duty with TIGRIS. E.T.A. 0800B/21.  
(3) Thence D.S.O.24 proceeds submerged through B. 049° 24' 011° 59'. C. 049° 01' 013° 01'. D. 046° 01' 013° 01' to E. 042° 59' 013° 01'. E.T.A. at E 0200B/26th.  
(4) N.O.I.C. Greenock is requested to arrange fighter co-operation S. of A. 12 knots. Help messages on 385 k/cs.  
(5) Wireless Watch.  
(6) H.Q.C.C. is requested to arrange submerged bombing restrictions 20 miles either side of lines joining positions (A) (B) (C) (D) and (E) as follows A.61 (A) and (B) from 2300B/20th until 1600B/22nd, B between (B) and (D) from 1200B/22nd until 1200B/24th, C between (D) and (E) from 0600B/24th until 0800B/26th  
(Capt. (S) 3 1529B/17 to C. in C. W.A., F.O.I.C. Liverpool, F.O.I.C. Greenock, Admty., H.Q.F.C., H.Q.C.C., F.O.S., C. in C. Plymouth, N.O.I.C. Falmouth, (S) 7, (S) 9, B.D.Z., S.O.D.S.)

/VICTORIOUS ...

War Diary.

17.7.1942  
Friday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Movements - contd.

VICTORIOUS. Cancel my 2332/10. VICTORIOUS is to sail for Scapa as ordered by F.O.C. Aircraft Carriers Home Fleet. (C. in C. H.F. 0827B/17.)

MARNE MIDDLETON. Cancel my 1927B/16. (R.A.D. H.F. 0902B/17.)

Z.5. My 2315/15. Sailing of Z5 postponed. (Capt. S.7 0911B/17 to F.O.I.C. Greenock.)  
*See p. 498.*

CATTERICK. On completion of practices p.m. today proceed to Greenock for boiler cleaning. 2. You will be required to leave Clyde in accordance with Admiralty's 1719B/14. *N.T. W.D.* (R.A.D. 1041B/17 to CATTERICK.)

L.27. B.A.M.R. Washington's 1754/15. (1) Request B.A.M.R. Washington may be directed to sail L.27 for Rothesay via St. Johns N.F. for fuel. (2) C. in C. W.A. is requested to indicate suitable route for passage of L.27 to R/V with escort in vicinity of Barra Head. (F.O.S. 1124B/17 to Admt.)

Orders for S/Ms consequent on cancellation of P.Q.18. (A) P.Q.18 is cancelled. Following movements are to take place as soon as practicable. (1) P.212 to return to Holy Loch. *See next page* (2) P.54 to return to Dundee. (B) When ready UREDD is to be sailed for an A/S patrol in an area bounded by parallels of 63° 30' N. 64° 20' N. and meridians of 1° W. and 4° W. 5 days are to be spent in the patrol area. (C) P.45 is to be retained at Lerwick for camouflage trial and air exercises and is then to relieve UREDD. (D) P.48 is to be sailed as soon as practicable for an A/S patrol in an area bounded by parallels of 63° 30' N. and 64° 20' N. and meridians of 1° E. and 5° E. (E) TRIBUNE, TRIDENT and STURGEON are to be retained at Lerwick for the time being. (F) Routes and bombing restrictions are to be arranged by S.9. (F.O.S. 1128B/17 to S.O. S/Ms Lerwick.) *See p. 499*

TRIDENT UREDD. Arrived TRIDENT, UREDD, and LORD LLOYD. (S.O. S/M Lerwick 1216B/17.)



War Diary.

17.7.1942  
Friday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Movements - contd.

- P.54. *See previous page.* Intend sailing P.54 escorted by LOCH MONTEITH for Dundee 0200B/18 July routed as follows  
(a) 090° Sumburgh Head 5 miles.  
(b) 090° Fair Island 5 miles.  
(c) 058° 28' N. 002° 43' W. thence by ?Searched Channel. E.T.A. 0600B/19.  
(S.O. S/M Lerwick 1251B/17.)
- P.247 (A) P.247 and P.51 will be required for A/S  
P.51 patrols in Northern Waters leaving Holy Loch  
TALISMAN about 26/7.  
P.212. (B) TALISMAN and P.212 are to be sailed for 1st and 8th Flotillas respectively when ready.  
(F.O.S. 1254B/17, 1001B/18.) \* *See previous page. 9 p. 498*
- O.24. Your 1543/16 approved.  
(F.O.S. 1258B/17 to Capt. S.3.)  
*See pp 466 & 495.*
- DELHI. *N.T. in W.D.* Your 2356/16. Approved to leave harbour at 1630/17. After practices anchor Methil. Subsequently proceed to Scapa passing May Island at 0015/18 and adjusting your speed so as to arrive 0745/18.  
(C. in C. Rosyth 1451B/17 to DELHI.)
- ULSTER My 1715/11 and your 1927/15. Both ULSTER  
MONARCH, MONARCH and ROYAL SCOTSMAN should be sailed so  
ROYAL as to arrive at Portsmouth on 31/7.  
SCOTSMAN. 2. On arrival they will be supplied with six L.C.A. each from Northney. My 1329/15th refers.  
4. On arrival these ships will come under the orders of C. in C. Portsmouth.  
(C.C.O. 1533B/17 to S.O. A.S.C.)
- LONDON. Hvalfiord arrival C.S.One in LONDON, KENYA,  
KENYA. MARTIN, ICARUS, OFFA, FORESIGHT, \*MALCOLM,  
\*DOUGLAS, \*BLUE RANGER. \* *See p. 495*  
(A.C.I.C. 1635B/17.)
- QUIBERON. My 1603B/15. Carry out postponed preliminary sea trial tomorrow leaving Cowes to join convoy P.W.188 at 0830/18 off Yarmouth.  
2. After clearing QZX 766 carry out trial as arranged in QZS 293 proceeding to Portland by QZS 294 or 295 on completion.  
3. QUIBERON will be sailed from Portland to join convoy W.P.189 on 19/7 for Cowes.  
4. Ship will be swept through danger area in company with convoy on 20/7 to carry out 4 hours full-power acceptance trial on passage to Plymouth in company with BLYSKAWICA.  
(C. in C. Portsmouth 1653B/17 to QUIBERON.)

498

War Diary.

17.7.1942  
Friday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Movements - contd.

JAUNTY. Rescue tug JAUNTY is to be ready to proceed to Gibraltar on 26/7 - after dry docking and boiler cleaning.  
(C.C.R.T. 1656B/17 to F.O.I.C. Greenock.)

P.212. *See p. 496-7.* Capt. (S) 3 1127/17.  
O.21. *See p. 495.* (1) Intend sailing P.212 escorted by LA CAPRICIEUSE at 0400B/18th routed (a) 089° Sumburgh Head 5 miles. (b) 359° Fair Isle 12 miles. (c) 001° Noup Head 10 miles. (d) 179° Sule Skerry 5 miles. (e) 360° Cape Wrath 7 miles.  
(ii) A.C.O.S. is requested to sail O.21 and JAN VAN GELDER so as to R/V with LA CAPRICIEUSE in position (e) at 1800B/18.  
(iii) Ships will then proceed as in para (iii) of reference signal proceed via Minches to Holy Loch. E.T.A. 2300B/19.  
(S.O. S/M Lerwick 1713B/17.)

H.43. Sailed my 2315/15. For Z5 read BREDA. E.T.A. 1100B/19.  
(Capt. S.7 1851B/17 to F.O.I.C. Greenock.)

SHEFFIELD. Your 0945/17. *See p. 503* As Tilt Test cannot be undertaken at Rosyth on 20/7 or succeeding days, SHEFFIELD is to be sailed when ready direct to Scapa.  
(C. in C. Rosyth 1933B/17 to F.O.I.C. Tyne.)

NELSON. My 1915/15, R.A.W.A.F. 2247/15, and my 0243/16.  
RODNEY. Request you will arrange to strengthen the  
DERWENT. destroyer escort of NELSON and RODNEY from as far South as possible to Scapa. *See p. 493.*  
2. DERWENT reports urgent defects necessitating quick docking and repairs. It is intended that she should leave convoy as requisite to return to U.K. port South of Ireland.  
(D.O.D. (H.) 1949B/17 to C. in C. H.F.) *See p. 516*

ASHANTI Request you will sail ASHANTI, ICARUS, ECLIPSE  
ICARUS and FORESIGHT for Scapa.  
ECLIPSE (C. in C. H.F. 2247B/17 to C.S.1.)  
FORESIGHT.

499

War Diary.17.7.1942  
Friday.HOME COMMANDS.Operations.

Enemy Vessel. Plot shows one small craft position 183° Saint Catherines 21 at 0128, course 90° 12 knots. 2 Beaufighters ordered to investigate. (C. in C. Portsmouth 0145B/17 to CALPE, BLEASDALE)

My 0145B/17. In position 165° Saint Catherines 21.5. (C. in C. Portsmouth 0208B/17 to CALPE, BLEASDALE.)  
Proceed into Portland and await further instructions.

(C. in C. Portsmouth 0217B/17 to GLAISDALE (? BLEASDALE)  
My 0145. 144° St. Catherines Point - 23.

(? C. in C. Portsmouth 0238B/17 to BLEASDALE, CALPE.)  
My 0238. Same position at 0333.

(? C. in C. Portsmouth 0340B/17 to CALPE, BLEASDALE.)

P.219. (A) Cancel previous orders. Proceed forthwith (A/S to establish an A/S Patrol in an area bounded Patrol.) by parallels 64° 50' and 65° 30' and longitudes 3° and 6° E. (B) Estimate your position at 1200B/17 is 65° N. 10° W. (F.O.S. 1043B/17 to P.219)

UREDD. When ready UREDD is to be sailed for an A/S P.48 Patrol in area bounded by parallels 63° 30' (A/S and 64° 20' N. and meridians 1° and 4° W. Patrols) 5 days are to be spent in the patrol area. P.48 is to be sailed as soon as practicable for an A/S Patrol in area bounded by parallels 63° 30' and 64° 20' N. and meridians 1° and 5° E. (F.O.S. 1128B/17 to S.O. S/M Lerwick.)

F.O.C. Sub's 1128/17. 1. S/Ms should be routed as follows:-  
UREDD through A. 089° Out Skerries 6 miles. B. 091° Muckle Flugga 10 miles thence through 63° 22' N. 2° 19' W. to patrol.  
2. P.48 through 090° Out Skerries 5 miles, thence through 63° 21' N. 1° 59' E. to patrol.  
3. Request you will inform me times you propose sailing submarines in order that bombing restrictions may be arranged. (Capt. S.9 1429B/17 and 2205B/17 to S.O. S/M Lerwick.)

*See p. 496.*

Patrols. FERNIE, ALBRIGHTON on patrol south of St. Catherines. 2 Chasseurs on patrol between St. Helens and Beachy Head. 2 M.Ls on patrol 10 miles south of Portland.

(C. in C. Portsmouth 1557B/17.)

FERNIE and ALBRIGHTON will patrol vicinity 050° 15' N. 001° 10' West tonight.

(C. in C. Portsmouth 1647B/17.)

M.Ls 197 and 202 from Ramsgate patrolling between Dumpton and North East Spit buoys. E.T.D. 2300. E.T. R/V 0510/18. Trawlers SARPEDON and YASHIMA at D Buoy. M.Ls 137 and 142 near C One buoy.

(V.A. Dover 1823B/17.)

Departure at 1955 MALLARD to take up patrol 1.

(F.O. Humber 2028/17.)

500

War Diary.17.7.1942  
FridayHOME COMMANDS.British Air Activity.

Operation "Knocker" My 1730B/16. Postponed until 1400/17 on account weather.  
(A.C.I.C. 1042B/17 to C. in C. W.A.)  
My 2351B/17. Operation cancelled today.  
(A.C.I.C. 1112B/18.)  
My 1042B/17. Operation abandoned for today.  
(A.C.I.C. 1640B/17.)  
My 1640/17. Operation commencing 1200/18, weather permitting.  
(A.C.I.C. 2351B/17.)

Bombing restrictions. Following is a repetition of my 2215B/17 addressed A.O.C. in C.C.C. repeated F.O.(S) A.C.O.S. S.O. S/Ms Harwich begins, cancel my 2205B/19 (N.T. in W.R.) Request total bombing restrictions as follows. (1) For 15 miles either side of a line joining following positions between times indicated (a) 060° 05' N. 001° 05' W. and 060° 48' N. 000° 30' W. from 0800B/18 until 1800B/18. (b) 060° 48' N. 000° 30' W. and 063° 22' N. 002° 19' W. from 1400B/18 until 2200B/19. (c) 060° 48' N. 000° 30' W. and 063° 21' N. 001° 59' E. from 1600B/18 until 2359B/19. (2) In area enclosed by latitudes 063° 22' N. and 064° 30' N. and longitudes 005° 30' E. and 004° 25' W. from 0600B/19 until further notice. Ends.  
(Capt. (S) 9 2223B/17 to C. in C. H.F.)  
H.Q.C.C. is requested to institute total bombing restrictions 30 miles either side of line joining (1) 65° N. 10° W. and 65° N. 3° W. forthwith until 1200B/18. (2) Between 65° N. 3° W. and 65° N. 3° E. from 0600B/18 to 1800B/19. (3) In area bounded by parallels 64° 50' and 65° 30' N. and meridians 3° and 6° E. from 1200/19 until further notice.  
(F.O.S. 1043B/17 to P.219, Reptd H.Q.C.C.)  
Cancel my 1058/15.  
(A.C.O.S. 1348B/17 to A.O.C. in C. C.C.)  
My 1429B/17. Request total bombing restrictions  
(1) In area enclosed by lines joining position (A) 060° 05' N. 001° 06' W. (b) 063° 10' N. 003° 45' W. (C) 063° 10' N. 004° 20' E. from 0800B/18 until 2200B/19.  
(2) In area enclosed by latitude 063° 10' N. and 064° 40' N. and longitude 005° 01' W. and 005° 30' E. 0400B/19 until further notice.  
(Capt. S.9 1619B/17 and 1835B/17 to H.Q.C.C.)

Operation "Orator". Operation postponed until further orders except paras 2, 7, 9A and 13 of Coastal Command operation order No. 1/42. P.R.U. detachment not to leave Sumburgh and Sullom until receipt of orders to move. Remaining equipment is not to be dispersed.  
(H.Q.C.C. 1229/17 to 18 and 15 Groups, Benson.)

/Bomber ...

War Diary.17.7.1942  
Friday.HOME COMMANDS.British Air Activity - contd.Bomber  
Command  
operations.

On days 14/7 and 15/7 and nights 15/16 and 16/17 no operations. On night 14/15, 47 A/C laid Mines. On day 16/7, 2 A/C attacked Ijmuiden and 8 A/C bombed the S/M slipways at Lubeck.  
(H.Q.B.C. 1430/17.)

Enemy Air Activity.Convoy  
attacked.

Am being attacked 2 A/C bearing 268°. Convoy "Loiter". My position 268° Beachy Head 31 miles.  
(Call sign G.S.R.R. 1155/17.)

DAXHOUND  
attacked.  
M.L.157  
damaged.

At 1245/17 4 F.W.190s attacked tanker DAXHOUND escorted by M.Ls 118 and 157, course S.E. 1 mile S.E. of Berry Head. Planes dived from 500 feet from Port bow with cannon fire, rounded Berry Head, and attacked again with bombs. From 50 feet two planes attacking tanker and one plane each M.L. M.L.118 undoubtedly shot down her attacker the plane disintegrating in the air. Tanker had two near misses on the port quarter but suffered only minor damage and is ready for sea. M.L.157 was hit by a bomb which landed on the bridge, wrecking it, the bomb made a large hole in the armour plating, went into the sea bursting close alongside. She will require extensive repairs. Both M.Ls put up a determined fire with their Lewis guns. M.L.157 had two casualties, the C.O. seriously wounded and the Coxswain less serious. M.L.118 had one man slightly wounded. DAXHOUND one D.E.M.S. Gunner seriously wounded.  
(N.O.I.C. Dartmouth 1635/17.)

VALE OF  
CLYDE.

Fishing Trawler VALE OF CLYDE attacked with bombs and machine guns by unidentified enemy A/C nine miles West Grimsby Island p.m. 16th July. No casualties. Superficial damage only and vessel proceeding.  
(Iceland 1934B/17 to Whitehall W/T.)

Mining.

S.N.82.

(A) Propose to sail for S.N.82 at 1300/30 and lay from 062° 32' 12" N. 008° 46' 48" W. to 063° 09' 30" N. 009° 49' 18" W. on 31/7.  
(B) Request cruiser escort.  
(R.A.M. 1110/17 to Admty.)

502

War Diary.

17.7.1942  
Friday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Mining - contd.

HERON  
sunk. Skipper and crew of Steam Trawler HERON G Y 1230 report their vessel while returning from Iceland (C) damaged by underwater explosion (suspect mine) at 1100B/12 and sank after 3 hours. Approx position Faeroes Bank. No casualties. Skipper admits being routed by Grimsby, East of Faeroe Island, but decided to return westward of Faeroe Islands on his own initiative.  
(N.O.I.C. Faeroes 1701B/17 to A.C.O.S.)

M.M.S.19 M.M.S.19 has today detonated her 100th mine.  
(Capt. M/S Sheerness 1759/17.)

Portsmouth 11 Mag. Mines detonated by L L 10 in QZX 766,  
Needles 1 in QZS 169.  
Approach (C. in C. Portsmouth 1820B/17.)  
Channel. My 0251 and 0252/16. Part of Portsmouth Western Entrance is now open to controlled traffic during daylight only.  
2. Traffic entering or leaving Needles Channel will be swept on Q.Z.S. 284 and 293 till West of Q.Z.X.766 and traffic for Poole on Q.Z.S. 364.  
3. Orders for restricted use of the North Channel will be issued locally.  
(C. in C. Portsmouth 1913/17.)

Enemy Intelligence.

ADMIRAL TIRPITZ, W/T report from P.R.U. A/C at 1100/17 says  
HIPPER, one battleship, one cruiser, one destroyer in  
SCHEER, Bogenfjord.  
KÖLN, LÜTZOW. (D.D.I.C. 1348B/17.)  
P.R.U. today. Narvik. TIRPITZ and HIPPER in  
Bogenfiord. SCHEER in Sorskjomen/Trondheim.  
KÖLN in Foettenfiord. LÜTZOW in Lofjord.  
(D.D.I.C. 1951B/17 to A.I.G.21, F.O.S., H.Q.C.C.)

U-Boats.

U-Boat. U-62 Q 0025 - 0505. (19 plots) between 155°  
Anvil Pointe 26' and 185° Selsey Bill 34'.  
Varying speeds, average 11 knots. Our destroyers  
converged with plot at 0256 but saw nothing. A/C investigating  
saw nothing. Other A/C report heavy patch of oil between U-62  
Q and U-12 K in approx position 24 miles south of Anvil Pointe.  
(C. in C. Portsmouth 0958/17.)

U-Boats Am over enemy S/M in 45° 19' N. 12° 14' W.  
attacked. S/M observed to submerge on a course 250°,  
speed 10 knots.  
(A/C 1 QU Duty H. 1235/17.)

/Have ...

503

War Diary.17.7.1942  
Friday.HOME COMMANDS.U-Boats.

U-Boats  
 attacked.  
 contd.  
*p. 492* U-751 sunk. Have attacked enemy with (??) depth charges.  
 Est 2 hits. Last seen on course 090°, 2 knots.  
 (A/C 1 QU Duty H. 1315/17.)  
 Am over enemy submarine in 44° 56' N. 13° 3' W.  
 Enemy was on surface when first sighted, course 090°, estimated  
 speed 5 knots.  
 (A/C H9X Duty F 1422/17 to 19 Group.)  
 Have attacked enemy with depth charges. Hits unknown.  
 (A/C H9X Duty F 1430/17 to 19 Group.)

Navigational.

Ice. July 16th Denmark Strait ice R/C. Details.  
 (A.C.I.C. 0221B/17.)  
 Ice R/C by Catalina 16/7. Details.  
 (S.B.N.O. Archangel 1218B/17.)  
 Cancel Ice R/C until further orders.  
 (H.Q.C.C. 1445B/17 to R.A.F. Iceland.)

Technical.

Jamming  
 of R.D.F. At 2205 R.D.F. interference by enemy jamming  
 reported from all M. Stations and R.A.F. C.H.L.  
 Stations.  
 (V.A. Dover 2235B/17.)

Casualties and Defects.

SHEFFIELD. My 1000/14. While alongside SHEFFIELD has  
 received slight damage to ship's plating above  
 armour amidships port side from merchant vessel  
 manoeuvring in river. Estimated 48 hours for repair. Hope  
 to sail ship for Rosyth 20/7.  
 (F.O.I.C. Tyne 0945/17.) *p. 498.*

GREENFLY. */N.T. in R.D.*  
 A.M. 1310/16. Intend sailing GREENFLY with  
 F.N. 763.  
 (F.O.I.C. Harwich 1102B/17.)

Shipping and Convoys.

P.Q.17. Arrived DIANELLA. Sailed LOTUS, POPPY, LA  
 MALOUINE.  
 (S.B.N.O. Archangel 0837B/17.)  
 P.Q.17. Final result. Sunk: Rescue ship ZAAFARAN. Admiralty  
 tanker ALDERSDALE. RIVER AFTON, NAVARINO, PAULUS POTTER,  
 BOLTON CASTLE, EARLSTON, HARTLEBURY, EMPIRE BYRON, CHRISTOPHER  
 NEWPORT, ALCOA RANGER, WASHINGTON, WILLIAM HOOPER, FAIRFIELD  
 CITY, DANIEL MORGAN, EL CAPITAN, HONOMU, HOOSIER, JOHN WITHER-  
 SPOON, OLOPANA, PAN ATLANTIC, PAN KRAFT, PETER KERR. Total 23  
 ships. Dvina Ports. BELLINGHAM, OCEAN FREEDOM, DON BASS,  
 SAMUEL CHASE. Total 4 ships. Novaya Zemlya Harbour.  
 AZERBAIDJAN, BENJAMIN HARRISON, IRONCLAD, SILVER SWORD,

/TROUBADOUR ...

504

War Diary.17.7.1942  
Friday.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping and Convoys - contd.

- P.Q.17 - TROUBADOUR, EMPIRE TIDE. Total 6 ships.  
contd. Ashore off Novaya Zemlya. WINSTON SALEM.  
Unaccounted for CARLTON. Operations as (corrupt  
group).  
(S.B.N.O. Archangel 0939B/17.)
- Commander Frankel U.S.A. Navy and Surgeon Lieutenant Wilkins  
leave Archangel tonight by Catalina for Zemlya. Frankel will  
take (Group omitted, probably "survivors of") ex WINSTON SALEM  
in hand as they showed marked disinclination to assist in  
getting their ship afloat (?after completion of) quarantine  
camp on shore. Wilkins will attend frost bite cases which  
should be embarked. EMPIRE TIDE has 230 survivors and food  
situation may be critical. You should redistribute survivors  
and give what provisions you can spare. Tea, coffee, sugar,  
blankets, cigarettes being flown. Do not delay sailing  
convoy for more than 48 hours after your arrival.  
(S.B.N.O. Archangel 2036B/17 to LOTUS.)
- O.N.114. Convoy O.N.114 delayed 24 hours.  
(C. in C. W.A. 0906Z/17.) *See next page*
- P.Q.18. Cancel my 1602/15. P.Q.18 is cancelled.  
(C. in C. H.F. 0908B/17.)
- Q.P.14. A.C.O.S. is requested to sail BLACK RANGER with  
one destroyer detailed by R.A.D. Home Fleet  
P.M. 18th for position Y. 071° 50' N. 003° 05' W.  
and to report E.T.A. Force will be known as Force Q.  
2. R.A.D. H.F. is requested to sail MARTIN, MARNE, BLANKNEY,  
and MIDDLETON for Kola Inlet, ships to fuel Seidisfiord and  
again from Force Q.  
3. C.S.1 sail MARTIN for Seidisfiord as required by R.A.D.H.F.  
4. Force Q is to return to Scapa after destroyers have refuelled.  
5. C.S.1 pass to MARTIN.  
(C. in C. H.F. 2353/17.)
- O.G.87. Intend sailing O.G.87 to Belfast. E.T.A.  
1830B/20. Leave Belfast 0300B/21 to R/V with  
Liverpool Section at B (1) as in N.C.S.O.  
Mersey's 1635B/14.  
(N.C.S.O. Milford Haven 1002B/17.)
- C.W. C. in C. Nore's 1720B/16. Time Table of  
Convoys. C.W. sailings. Details.  
(N.C.S.O. Thames 1034B/17.)
- C.E.106 In order to button ships of C.E.106 to F.N.763  
F.N.763. intend sailing F.N. to pass Thames Gate at  
0700/18.  
(C. in C. Nore 1208B/17.)



505

War Diary.17.7.1942  
Friday.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping and Convoys - contd.

O.N.5114. To enable more ships to join, sailing has been postponed to 19/7.  
(D.T.D. 1256B/17 to Connav.) *see previous page.*

"Chop" Time. It is considered preferable, specially during the winter months when a convoy's progress is difficult to estimate in advance, that "Chop" time for eastbound and westbound convoys should not be promulgated by Admiralty until 48 hours before convoy is estimated to cross 026° W. Request your remarks.  
(C. in C. W.A. 1459Z/17 to C.T. 24.)

W.S.21 P. My 0944/16. Sailed 1545B.  
(N.O.I.C. Liverpool 1548B/17.)  
W.S.21 P. sailed at 2040. Code work "Tarnish".  
(D.S.T.O. Greenock 2045/17, N.O.I.C. Greenock 2046B/17, 2048B/17.)

W.P.188. Detail CAMBRIDGESHIRE to escort BERTHA for Dartmouth joining W.P.188 at R/V at 1000/18 approx. 2. CAMBRIDGESHIRE then to escort into Plymouth 7 Merchant ships and EMPIRE BAIRN.  
(C. in C. Plymouth 1747B/17 to Cdr. Auxiliary Patrol.)

U.R. and R.U. Convoys. No destroyers are required for U.R. and R.U. convoys till further notice, probably one month.  
(2) Destroyers of 21st group will be required to meet fast portions of H.X. and S.L. convoys.  
(C. in C. W.A. 1850B/17 to Cdre. Londonderry.)

War Diary.

17.7.1942.  
Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

→ ROYAL ULSTERMAN. Left Ponta Delgada 2000 G.M.T./16. E.T.A. position (E) 1500Z/19. S. of A. 12½ knots S.Ps. held.  
(N.C.S.O. Ponta Delgada 0902/17 to S.O.I. Gib. Admty.) See 1127/17.

Visitors under Red Ensign.  
(N.C.S.O. P. Delgada 1127/17).  
Request you will pass Ponta Delgada's 0902/17 to C. in C.W.A. (V.A.C.N.A. 1933B/17 to Admty.)  
Is unable to work cable, capstan broken down. On arrival will require to go alongside.  
(N.C.S.O. Ponta Delgada 0955/17 to Admty.)

HARTINGTON. Following is a repetition of Admty. 1258B/16. (quoted).  
(V.A.C.N.A. 0949B/17 to R.A.W.A.)

Portuguese Rescue Work. Have very good reason to believe if offer is made to pay for Fuel expended by Portuguese Destroyer LIMA to rescue and search for British survivors, great offence will be caused. A.I. P;U.F.  
(N.C.S.O. Ponta Delgada, 1020/17 to D.N.I. (R) N.A. Lisbon.)

→ AVILA STAR survivors. ROYAL ULSTERMAN's visit Ponta Delgada was under Red Ensign thus enabling 102 survivors AVILA STAR to embark.  
(N.C.S.O., Ponta Delgada, 1127/17 to Admty. etc.)  
5 Portuguese Naval A/C left harbour 0800B today 17th to search for survivors AVILA STAR. So far nothing found.  
(B.N.A. Lisbon 1525B/17 to S.O.(I) Gibraltar).

Situation report. Area Z.  
(i) CANTON 34.07 30.16 343° 14½. Situation 2001B/17.  
(ii) DANAE 17.20 19.22 through 22.00 18.05 thence 034° 15.  
(F.O.C.N.A. 1316B/17 to N.A. Stn.)

P.211. My 1336/14. From position F, P.211 is to pass through new position Z., 039° 54' 002° 55' E. at 2300B/20 thence through G and H arriving Gibraltar 0830B/24 shifting normal watch to Gibraltar broadcast at 2200/22.  
(F.O.C.N.A. 1406B/17 to 8 S.F.)

CLYDE. Intend to sail CLYDE for <sup>Malta</sup> Malta p.m. 20th with cargo as in my 1440/15 to V. A. Malta only. Will pass position 038° 07', 008° 59' E. at 0330B/26 S. of A. 120 a day. V.A. Malta is requested to signal onward route. Route through Q.B.B. 255 and V.A. Malta 1246/21/6 held.  
(F.O.C.N.A. 1438B/17 to V.A. Malta, (R) Admty. C. in C. Med., Capt. S.10, F.O.S.)

/Rescue.....

War Diary.17.7.1942.  
Friday:FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic-Contd.

Rescue  
Tug Azor's. My 1201/19/4 Portuguese Govt. have now furnished written reply refusing facilities for rescue tug on grounds (1) Although apparently under Portuguese flag, her activities would be only unilateral.  
(2) Other belligerents would claim similar privilege under Portuguese flag. Portuguese Govt. would be ready to examine any suggestions by International Red Cross for assistance of survivors. (N.A. Lisbon 1549B/17 to Admty.)

Italian  
M/V. Signal intercepted indicates Italian Merchant Ship may arrive Lisbon shortly. (F.O.C.N.A. 1601B/17 to LOCH ASKAIG (R) Admty., SCOTTISH).

MIRROR. My 1242B/4/6. Repairs (B) not completed. MIRROR returned at limit of endurance. (F.O.C.N.A. 1632B/17 to Admty.)

U/B. Italian S/M believed to be in 038° 15' N. 008° 30' E. at 1120B/17. (F.O.C.N.A. 1906B/17 to 8 S.F.)

Repairs to  
LEOPARD. Your 2315/16. H.M. Ambassador concurs. (N.A. Lisbon 1929B/17 to Admty. (R) F.O.C.N.A. N.C.S.O., P. Delgada). *See p. 509*

SCOTTISH. (1) Your 1829B/16 (N.T. in W.D.) Searched area 70 square miles centre 328 36° N. 7° W. 35 from 2130 to 2350/16 and 300 square miles centre 358 36° N. 7° W. 15 from 0200 to 1100/17, thence proceeding Santa Maria. No aircraft.  
(2) B.B.C. news. ARGENTINO making from Lisbon to Rio Janeiro 2200/15. Colours all alongside brilliantly lighted. 6180. (SCOTTISH 1951B/17 to F.O.C.N.A.)

Casablanca. Photo R/C Casablanca today shows 1 Galissonniere class cruiser not present. Last R/C 2/7. (F.O.C.N.A. 2012B/17 to Admty. etc.)

U/B.  
O.S.34. D/F at 2009/17 G.M.T. suggests that O.S.34 has been reported by a U-boat. (D.D.I.C. 2303B/17, as amended 0123B/8, to Escorts O.S.34 (R) F.O.C.N.A. R.A.W.A., C. in C. W.A. H.Q.C.C.)

War Diary.

17;7.1942.  
Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic.

- T.F.22. Your 1837/16. Following information received from Comnavu. U.S.S. AGUSTA, ELLYSON, FORREST, FITCH, CORRY, HOBSON, HOUSATONIC and C.T.F.22 in U.S.S. RANGER departed Trinidad 0800/8 for destination given in Cinclant's 2300/5. S. of A. 14.5 knots. (D.S.O. for Duty Capt. 0126B/17 to R.A.W.A.F.)
- "S" Report. Following received from Lands End Radio to Admiral Plymouth. 2337 G.M.T. From Falklands W/T Addressed G.B.3. begins P. unread SSSS (portion missing) position 6.30 S. 01.1 X331 E. unread 57 G.M.T. SS. will (portion missing) from Simonstown W/T C. 2128/16 (ends). (C. in C. Plymouth, T.O.R. 0145/17 to Admty.)
- Movements. Arrivals Capetown 0900/17 INDOMITABLE, LAFOREY, LIGHTNING, LOCKOUT. (C. in C.S.A. 1020B/17 to Admty. (R) R.A.W.A.)
- Transports for Madagascar and M.E. Your 1815/16 para. 6 (a). Request earliest possible advice of destinations of these vessels and if they will be available for Italian prisoners of war and invalids. (P.S.T.O. Simonstown, 1216B/17 to D.S.T.) Reply: D.S.T. 0533/19.
- Your 1815/16. Anticipated repairs to MAURETANIA will only be completed 6/8 and with this in view following alternative arrangement had been made.
2. C.M.30 to sail from Durban 20/7 comprising for India EMPIRE TROOPER and YOMA with 4200 military. For Madagascar SONTAY with 1200 army and EMPIRE WOODLARK with 1400 of 27th East Africa Brigade.
  3. NOVA SCOTIA with 1100 (?military) for Middle East will join W.S.20 at Durban.
  4. ILE DE (?FRANCE) with 5100 military for M.E. sails 17/7 (see my 1743/6).
  5. NIEUW AMSTERDAM due Durban 22/7 after disembarking to proceed Capetown to embark 2000 R.A.F. ex W.S.19Y and 800 military ex. W.S.20 for M.E. Vessel will return to Durban and fill to capacity for Middle East.
  6. MAURETANIA when (?ready) to lift transshipments ex W.S.20 for M.E.
  7. C.M.31 ready early in August to lift remainder of 27th (?Brigade) i.e. 3500 for Diego Suarez and W.S.20 transshipments.
  8. As all above arrangements including escorts for same have been made an agreed it is intended to adhere to them. (P.S.T.O. Simonstown 1526B/17 to D.S.T.)

- LARGS. Decided that LARGS shall return to U.K. as soon as possible for conversion at Green & Silley Weir, Albert Dock, London.
2. R.A.W.A. is requested to sail ship at earliest opportunity after completion of present operation.
  3. Request anticipated date of arrival in U.K. may be signalled. (D.O.D.(F) 1229B/17 to C. in C.S.A. (R) R.A.W.A., C. in C.W.A. F.O.C.N.A.) Reply: Late September. (R.A.W.A. 0904Z/19).

Dispositions.

War Diary.17.7.1942.  
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic.-Contd.

Dispositions. CORINTHIAN with cable ship about 008° 10' 013° 35'. PICT, LAERTES, patrolling sector T. CANNA about 005° 55' 011° 05' to Marshall 8. VELOX about 004° 55' 010° 10' to Freetown 15 at 2000/17. Friendly naval unit about 002° 40' 007° 35' 075° 14½. ASTURIAS, LARGS, 001° 45' 024° 050° to 002° 50' S. 025° 20' thence 188° 13. CILICIA 008° 50' S. 020° 50' 235° 13. STAMBURST, STORMCENTRE 011° 15' S. 009° 20' E. to Walvis Bay  
 → 7½. ^ (?DE) TROYAT about 014° 55' S. 010° 30' E. to Simonstown 12½.  
 (R.A.W.A. 1239Z/17 to Ships in area "P" of S.A. Station S. of 8° N., Admty., C. in C.S.A., N.O.I.C. Takoradi, R.N.O. Lagos.)  
 MALAYA, BLACKMOSE with Capetown portion of W.S.20 E.T.A. Capetown a.m./18. SHROPSHIRE with Durban portion of W.S.20 034° 40' S. 017° 30' E. to Durban 14 knots. AMARANTHUS (corrupt group) 10' S. 011° 30' E. to Simonstown 12½ knots. CARADOC about 027° 30' S. 013° 30' E. to Simonstown 16 knots. (C. in C. S.A. 1513B/17 to S.A. Stn., (R) Admty.)

Transports  
from Belgian  
and Free  
French Ports.

Your 1034/5/7. I will pass approx date of sailing and escort arrangements at Belgian and Free French Ports. Here details of embarkation and times of sailing are arranged by B.N.L.O. West Africa. (R.A.W.A.F. 1355Z/17 to B.N.L.O.W.A.).

COMMANDANT  
DETROYAT.

<sup>/Lagos.</sup>  
Departure 17/7. E.T.A. Simonstown 24/7  
(B.N.L.O.W.Africa 1545/17 to Admty.).

BUSHWOOD.

Sail BUSHWOOD for Kilindini forthwith (C. in C.S.A. 1551B/17 to Codre. Durban (R) Admty, N.O.I.C. Freetown F.O.E.A. and Zanzibar, BUSHWOOD).

Overdue  
Shipping

My 0948/14, cancel ATHINA, LIVANOS, ships arrived at Capetown. (S.O.(I) Capetown 1605B/17 to Admty, C. in C.S.A. D.C. in C. Eastern Fleet. S.O.(I) Colombo, N.C.S.O. Bombay, Karachi.).

LÉOPARD.

Your 1254/15 and N.C.S.O. Ponta Delgada 1445/15. Docking and repairs cannot be undertaken at Freetown. (R.A.W.A. 1709Z/17 to F.O.C.N.A. (R) Admty. N.C.S.O. Ponta Delgada.). *10.507.*

NIGERSTROOM.

A.M. 1834/10/7. (see East Indies) Intend NIGERSTROOM should sail independently and direct tomorrow instead of waiting 3 days for W.S. 20 and consequent routeing via Durban Approaches. (C. in C.S.A. 1710B/17 to Admty. (R) D.C. in C.E.F. A.C.N.B. N.L.O. Capetown).

/VLADIMIR....

510

War Diary.17.7.1942.  
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic. - Contd.VLADIMIR  
MAYAKOUSKY.My 2121Z/12. Arrived Buenos Aires 15th.  
(S.O.(I) Montevideo 1711Z/17 to Admty.).

HOOGKERK.

Ref. Admty's 1519/11/6 and 1555/12/6. Request full enquiry regarding responsibility for HOOGKERK being routed to Karachi instead of to Aden involving serious delay arrival M/T 8th. Armoured Div. in Egypt.  
(P.S.T.O.(E) 1715/17 to C. in C.S.A.). *p.517.*S/Ms for  
A/S  
Training.My 1627/23/3; 2130/28/3 and 1019/1/6 and C. in.C. E.F's 1346,/15.  
2.P.554 is not now available for allocation to Freetown and Simonstown.  
3. As object of allocation of P.555 and P.556 to Simonstown is to provide training submarines in two monthly spells at Freetown, request every endeavour be made to provide depot ship facilities at latter port at an early date.  
4. Further signal will be made regarding training submarines for Eastern Fleet for which P.555 and \*P.556 cannot be made available.  
(D.A./S.W. Approved by A.C.N.S.(F). 1743B/17 to C. in C.S.A. CinC. E.F.). *\* p.522*QUEEN  
ELIZABETH  
RAMILLIES.Request your early intentions for movement of H.M.S. QUEEN ELIZABETH and RAMILLIES so that American co-operation can be arranged.  
(A.C.N.S.(F) 1745B/17 to C. in C. S. A. (R) R.A.W.A.)

AUBRETIA.

E.T.A. St.Vincent (C.V.Is) p.m./24 with mail for British Consulate. Request you obtain permission for her to enter. Will not require fuel, water, or stores.  
(R.A.W.A. 1751Z/17 to B.N.A.Lisbon).

S.L.116.

Departure 1900Z/17 MARY KINGSLEY and CLAN MACTAGGART escorted by M.L. 1066 and 1044 to R/V with convoy S.L.116 in position (Q). Hudson A/C escorting from dawn 18th to R/V Arrival 1400/17 and departure 1830/17. JONQUIL to join vessels mentioned.  
(N.O.I.C. Bathurst 1837Z/17 to R.A.W.A. IBIS.(R) C. in C.S.A. F.O.C.N.A. Admty.).

Movements.

Arrival and departure 17th VIMY, departure ARMERIA escorting and R/V O.S.33.  
(S.O.(I) Freetown. 1931/17 to Admty.).ROXBURGH  
CASTLE.My 1827/15. Routed independently at 15½ knots. vessel. At 1235/16. received mutilated signal from ship reporting engine trouble which impossible repair arrived U.K. Speed reduce 13½ knots. Master requests route instructions.  
(N.C.S.O. Montevideo 1935 /17 to Admty.).

/W.S.21.P.

511

War Diary.17.7.1942.  
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic - Contd.

W.S.21P. Speed of SANTA CRUZ is  $13\frac{1}{2}$  knots, destination Middle East. 2. To avoid delay to W.S.21P. after Capetown suggest she should then continue with ships carrying oil cracking plant for escort until to Eastward of Socotra. See para 5 my 0025/3., substance of which together with final composition of A.S.4. has been passed to D. C. in C.E.F.  
(A.C.N.S.(F) 2104B/17 to C.in C.S.A.(R) D.C. in C.E.F., etc).

U/B. At 2144Z/17 a German U-Boat made a first sighting report of a convoy of large unit bearing  $320^{\circ}/3$  from Anafarta. Frequency used 12260 K/Cs.  
(R.A.W. A. 2215Z/17 to Force F. Escorts of O.S.33 S.L.116, DANAE (R) Admty.  
My 2215Z/17. Further sighting report at 2213/17th bearing  $325^{\circ}/3$  from Freetown. Frequency used 7640 K/Cs.  
(R.A.W.A. 2231Z/17 to Force F. Escorts O.S.33. S.L.116, DANAE, (R) Admty.).

T.F.22. A.M.19/7 E.T.A.Accra area.Will launch aircraft (p.m.) Accra same date. R.A.West Africa pass to Admty and Cominch.  
(C.T.F.22 2351Z/17 to R.A.West Africa (R) Admty. Cominch).  
Note:- R.A.W.A.F. 1837/16 refers.

Mediterranean.

Black Sea. Situation report.Enemy air activity in this theatre continues to be considerable.  
(2) Peti raided 15th for first time 26 A/C taking part.  
(N.L.O.Black Sea. 1227C/17 to Admty. Admiral Miles).

PORPOISE S.10's 1046/16 and my 1556/15 not to THRASHER.  
PROTEUS. (a) PORPOISE has engine defects and will be delayed at least 24 hours. (b) PROTEUS to Beirut sailing 1900C/17 passing  $032^{\circ} 30' N.$   $032^{\circ} 35' E.$  to arrive 0700C/19. Request safety air escort may be established.  
(N.O.I.C.Port Said 1236C/17 to S.1., S.10.(R) 815. Sqdrn. 250 Wing N.O.I.C.Beirut, THRASHER R.A.(D)Med. R.A.Alexandria. PROTEUS, PORPOISE C. in C.Med. 201 N.C.Group. N.O.I.C.Palestinian Ports, Haifa, C.S.15). *p. 514.*

/ALBARO.....

War Diary.

17.7.1942.

Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean - Contd.

ALBARO. Arrived from Aegean a.m./17th. Bunkers in  
CELENO transit but taking provisions today. Roumanian  
ALBA JULIA. ship discharging here.  
(S.O.(I) Istanbul 1248C/17 to S.O.(I) Med).  
ALBARO, CELENO now both carrying Orange Yellow "X"  
port and Star Board full depth free board. Position approx. under  
bridge, in each case.  
(S.O.(I) Istanbul 1532C/17 to N.L.O.Black Sea).

Naples P.R.U. a.m./17. Naples 3 6" cruisers of which one  
R/C. is in dry dock, 5 destroyers, 2 torpedo boats,  
9.N. and 8 F.boats.  
(V.A.Malta 1431B/17 to C. in C.Med, F.O.C.N.A.  
Admty. WELSHMAN).

M.E.Air 15th. At dusk 8 Liberators bombed shipping and  
Report harbour installations Benghazi starting fire on  
(Cositrep base of central mole. Night 15/16, 5 Halifaxes,  
453). 4 Fortresses, 54 Wellingtons bombed shipping and  
harbour installations Tobruk, starting large fires  
in Dock area. 1 Wellington attacked ship East of  
Tobruk scoring near misses. 4 Wellingtons mined harbour. 2  
Wellingtons missing.  
(C. in C.M.E. 1437/17 to W.O.).

Landing Craft Mideast 1445/17 to Chiefs of Staff.  
and Paratroops. See Lion Copy.

Demolition Following for Deputy P.M. from Minister of State  
at Abadan. Your OZ.718 of 13/7 received and understood. The  
necessary instructions have been issued.  
(Mideast 1450Z/17 to Air Min).

Movements. Port Said. 16th. Arrivals DELPHINIUM, ERICA, JERVIS  
PALADIN, PAKENHAM, EXMOOR, BELVOIR. Departures  
ALDENHAM, EXMOOR.  
(N.O.I.C.Port Said 1453C/17 to Admty.C. in C.Med).

WELSHMAN. Your 0630/16. (WELSHMAN arrival). *See also 12.514.*  
Request future signals of such operational interest  
may be marked as Immediate and sent by quickest  
route.  
(A.C.N.S.(F) 1559B/17 to V.A.Malta)..

NEBOJSCA. Minister of State reports that all Yugoslav  
Dissidents have elected to join British Forces.  
Obviously Yugoslav Govt are likely to object to  
crew of S/M NEBOJSCA being returned to S/M at any rate whilst  
she still flies Yugoslav flag. Crew must not therefore be returned  
to NEBOJSCA without agreement of Yugoslav Government in London.

/Desired.....



**MOST SECRET**

MOST SECRET MESSAGE 1445/17 July IN  
 FROM: Mideast DATE: 17.7.42  
 CYPHER RECD: 2110

ADDRESSED: Air Ministry.  
 IMMEDIATE  
 IZ 889 CC/82 17/7/42.

*Landing Craft and Paratroops,  
 Middle East.*

Following for Chiefs of Staff from Commanders in Chief.

1. We would like to draw your attention once more to the situation in this theatre regarding special craft and paratroops.
2. Apart from 26 T L C which are unreliable we have at present 48 A L C, 2 S L C, 16 M L C and 15 R craft. We have no infantry assault ships or tank landing ships and only about 150 trained paratroops.
3. At present all the above landing craft except the T L C's are being used at Suez to help unload ships or in doing duties between ships and shore for the authorities in Suez. This is due not only to the fact that there is now more traffic in the port of Suez owing to our temporary inability to use ~~Port Said and~~ Alexandria but also to the fundamental deficiency of small craft at that port.
 

*amended  
 08202/23*
4. There is a real need for more special craft. We need not elaborate the reasons in detail but broadly these are as follows:-
  - (a) We need them so that we can take advantage of any favourable situation which might well develop. We are preparing plans for the capture of Sicily for a further operation in Southern Italy and for the capture of Crete and although these may seem far off at the moment a landslide if it does come might come quickly. It would be a bitter disappointment if we lacked equipment to take advantage of it.
  - (b) We have needed them in the past and we shall need them in the future to assist in the maintenance of the army in the Western Desert, particularly as the facilities of the ports we shall use will have been virtually destroyed.
  - (c) There is clearly a need for small motor boats or steamboats for use in our ports and to enable us to release to their proper role the small number of landing craft we already have.

512<sup>B</sup>

5. We are of course aware from your telegrams Nos. COS. (D) 1+ and 4+ that the major concentration of special ships and landing craft will be required elsewhere than in the Middle East. Nevertheless, we feel that there is a strong case for the assembly in this theatre of a number of these craft as soon as possible. Would you therefore consider sending us the following:-

- (a) One infantry assault ship complete with landing craft.
- (b) Two 17 knot tank landing ships.
- (c) Four S L C
- (d) Twenty M L C
- (e) Nine R craft
- (f) Sixteen motor boats or steamboats for our ports.

6. Finally paratroops. You can imagine how valuable some paratroops would be in the Western Desert at the moment. Could you spare a trained paratroop battalion? By the end of August we expect to have sufficient aircraft to enable us to use them.

1445/17

+ Restricted circulation.

Received from Air Ministry at 0115/18.

- 1st Lord
- 1st S.L.(2)
- 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. of P.(Q) (2)
- Hd. of M.(2)
- I.P.(2)
- W.D.
- D.N.I.(4)
- Duty Captain (2)
- D.D.I.C.(2)
- Admiral Blake

Air Ministry circulation:-

- Col. Jacob
- Foreign Secretary
- First Sea Lord
- C.6 Tels. W/O
- C.A.S.
- C.C.O.

JH

513

War Diary.17.7.1942.  
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean.NEBOJSCA.  
Contd.

2. Desired ultimately to employ NEBOJSCA on A/S training at Kilindini. Assuming Yugoslav Govt. refuses to permit crew to serve in Yugoslav ship the most practical solution appears to be to obtain their concurrence to temporary loan of NEBOJSCA to us and to send her to Port Sudan with British crew for any necessary repairs. This crew would be returned to Mediterranean upon being relieved by crew sent to Port Sudan from U.K.
3. Crew of NEBOJSCA would be at your disposal.
4. Alternatively it is just conceivable that Yugoslav Govt. might agree to rebel crew serving in NEBOJSCA under White Ensign.
5. Request your views.

(M. Branch, Approved By 1st Lord. 1657B/17 to C. in C. Med (R) F.O.S.)

DEVONSHIRE

Arrival 0730Z/, departure, 1724Z/17.  
(Commndre Aden. 1724Z/17 to Admiralty, C. in C. Med.  
F.O.R.S.C.A. S.O.(I) Kilindini, S.O.(I) Colombo.  
S.O.(I) Bombay).Ex French  
Danube Barges  
at Istanbul.

- (a) Turkish court arrest of ex French ((?non) British Flag) Danube barges at Istanbul is being raised.
  - (b) There is a minimum of 15 dumb grain barges of 13 tons d.w. tons total capacity. (c) Essential to remove these from Turkish waters immediately and before arrest is reimposed, which may occur. As passage to south is impracticable these craft have been offered to the Russians provided they can tow them away.
  - (d) Turkish tugs not available; there are 2 British river paddle tugs but neither suitable.
  - (e) Russian N.A. understands from Moscow that Soviet Authorities need barges but tugs unlikely to be available.
  - (f) As alternative for us is to break up the barges if we cannot move them, request you ascertain whether Russians finally unable to accept our offer and tow barges away from Istanbul.
- (B.N.A. Ankara. 1730C/17 to Admlty please pass to Admiral Miles  
(R) C. in C. Med. S.O.(I) Istanbul);  
(Reply from Adm. Miles 1224C/20.).

Malta C.S.R.

WX 8629. 1.478.

Night 16/17 2 alerts 2022 hours 5 raiders no damage  
no interceptions 2130 hours 5 raiders 1 crossed  
coast. Bombs sea. No interception. One illumination.  
17th 3 alerts. 1230 hours 20 ME 109s 5 JU 88s Luqa. 4 Airmen  
wounded by DA 2 Beauforts damaged. UXBs dispersals 4 ME 109s  
Destroyed 3 ME 109s damaged by 24 Spitfires which intercepted enemy  
raid 15 miles before reaching their target effecting complete  
surprise. 1 Spitfire crash landed due to engine trouble pilot  
unhurt.

(H.Q.R.A.F. Malta. 1815/17).

/Assab.....

514

17.7.1942.  
Friday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean - Contd.

Assab. Your 1515/14. <sup>/N.T. H.D.</sup> Following is a repetition of My Italian <sup>N.T. H.D.</sup> 1846/3 (Begins) Your 2153/23/6. (Admiralty (R) Complaint. C. in C.E.F. from F.O.R.S.C.A.) Neither threats nor force were needed. Information was given on request. All prisoners were evacuated in H.M. Ships. 2 Generals in DIDO, Capt. Bolla in INDUS. The latter was subsequently transferred to DIDO when accommodation became available. (Ends). (F.O.R.S.C.A. 1817/17 to Admty.).

→ PORPOISE Proceed through 32° 51' 34° 29' adjusting speed  
TRITON. to enter Searched Channel well astern of Sweeper about 0645 and proceed submerged to surface in position 030° Carmel 2½ miles at about 1000C  
PORPOISE on 19/7 Greek S/M TRITON follow (?by night).  
(Capt. S.10. 1901C/17 to PORPOISE., Greek S/M TRITON (R) THRASHER Capt. (S) 1, Capt (S) (Corrupt Group). N.O.I.C. Palestinian Ports (Haifa), S.N.O. Levant Area 235 Wing, 300 Sqdrn.).

Malta. Situation report 236.  
Evening 13/7 (?4) F Boats attacked by Beaufighters and Wellington south of Lampedusa. One may have been sunk and one probably damaged. \*WELSHMAN arrived Malta 16/7. BELVOIR and HURSLEY have arrived Port Said, being lent from Eastern Fleet.  
(C. in C. Med. 1927C/17 to Admty.). \* *p. 512.*

P. 31 Approx. surfacing positions and course about  
P. 34. 2100/18. P. 31. 033° (06' or 02') 033° (22' or 32')  
→ PROTEUS. 280° P. 34 033° 21' 033° 26' 290° anticipate  
yours at the same time 032° 47' 032° 56' 047°  
(S.10. 2004C/17 to PROTEUS (R) S/MS on Patrol C. in C. Med. S.1.).

→ PROTEUS PROTEUS now proceeding Beirut through same 1st  
→ PORPOISE. position E.T.A. 0700C/19. PORPOISE did not sail.  
(S.O. 1.S.F. 2209C/17 to Greek S/M TRITON, (R) PROTEUS Capt. (S) 10). *p. 511.*

War Diary.

17.7.1942.

Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies.

Naval Air Co-operation, Indian Coast. Subject of naval air co-operation on coast of India has been under consideration. I favour division of responsibility on basis of 4 areas (a) W. Coast of India (b) Ceylon area (c) as far north as 19° N., E. coast of India (d) Calcutta area, which will later extend down Burmese coast.

C. in C. India sees no objection subject to your concurring.

(2) Combined H.Q. existing at Bombay Madras re-inforced in addition to that already existing at Colombo (to which from a naval point of view, they would be subordinated).

(3) I propose that appointments of Cdre. I/C West Coast, Cdre. I/C East Coast, and Cdre. Bengal should be instituted. The title of Cdre. R.I.N. would then lapse.

(4) R.A.F. would operate under A.O.C. Bengal for area (D) and under A.O.C. 225 Group at Bangalore as regards other areas. Senior R.A.F. Officer in Bombay and Madras areas would ensure full co-operation at these places, and a N.L.O. at Bangalore would enable C. H.Q. Bangalore to keep in the naval picture.

(5) Under this arrangement propose Ceylon area should terminate at 8° N., on west coast and 10° N., on east coast as area between 8° N., and 10° N., on West Coast is best covered from Indian aerodromes.

(6) Request your concurrence on remarks.

(7) F.O.I.C. Ceylon pass to C. in C. Ceylon.

(F.O.C.R.I.N., 0413Z/17 to C. in C. E.F., (R) Admty etc).

B.M. 25 A. Departure MARGUERITE with LUCIA and B.(?M) 25 A. (S.O.(I) Bombay, 0402Z/17 to Admty etc).  
3. E.T.A. Colombo, 0100Z/22. Route.  
(N.C.S.O. Bombay, 0440Z/17).

Ammunition. Your 0505/11. Reply will be made on receipt of further signal referred to in Admty. 2044/3 (Scales of ammunition for India Station).

2. Ref. para. 2 of above A.M. Admty, is requested to include Cocos and Diego Garcia defences in investigation.  
(F.O. Ceylon, 0508Z/17 to Arminia (R) Admty etc).

CITY OF PARIS. Your 1815/12. (i) Propose CITY OF PARIS with Japanese repatriates be routed from Bombay through Mozambique Channel West of line Q.R.S. (my 2007 12/7 (744 C) para. 3 (a) refers), to Lourenco Marques. (ii) Request information whether navigation lights should be burnt and ship be undarkened or any distinguishing marks carried.  
(D.C. in C. E.F., 0604Z/17 to Admty (R) C. in C. S.A., F.O.C.R.I.N., F.O. Ceylon).

Navigation Q.C.A.511. Durban. Ref. Q.C.A.408, ships should not approach within 10 miles of the Bluff during dark hours.  
(S.O.(I) Colombo, 0635Z/17).  
Q.C.A.512. Bombay cancel Q.C.A. 501, S.C. 1 buoy is now 1 mile South of charted position.  
(S.O.(I) Colombo, 0637Z/17).

War Diary.17.7.1942.  
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies. - conts. -

DERWENTDALE. R.F.A. DERWENTDALE ready for sea since 13/7  
Intend sailing via Capetown on 18/7 escorted  
through local area by PUNJAB. C. in C. E.Is.  
0728/28/5 to Comdre. R.I.N., my 1059/3 and my 0640/9 all refer.  
(Cdre. R.I.N., 0635Z/17 to D.C. in C. E.F.)

DERWENT. <sup>/N.T.N.W.3.</sup>  
Your 1822/12 not to Admiralty. I have no  
information regarding whereabouts.  
(C. in C. E.F., 0735Z/17 to C. in C. Med).  
12.498.

Troop Movements. Following is a revised and up to date programme of  
proposed troop movements.  
B.P.49 Karachi to Basra, 1 personnel ship SANTHIA  
sailing 18/7.

Bombay Karachi, 1 personnel ship ROHNA sailing 22/7.  
B.M.26 3 personnel ships EGRA, VARELA, and DILWARA, and 2 M.T.  
ships EMPIRE RANI, JALARASHMI, sailing 25/7.  
B.A.29 2 personnel ships from Bombay EL MADINA, ISLAMI, sailing  
28/7 and 2 personnel ships from Karachi ELLENGER, KUTSANG, sailing  
29/7. B.P.50 2 personnel ships from Bombay ETHIOPIA, ERINPURA,  
sailing 30/7 and 2 personnel ships from Karachi KAROA, and  
SANTHIA sailing 31/7.  
(P.S.T.O. India, 0926Z/17 to Dep. C. in C. E.F.)  
Amended by 0805/19 q.v.

ATHENE, Admty. 1401P/17, B.A.D., 2215Z/17. See  
Martlets. America & West Indies.

CALEDON <sup>/Kilindini</sup>  
Departure 17/7 CALEDON for Diego Suarez.  
(F.O.I.C. E.A.&Z. 1515Z/17 to Admty).

GAMBIA Deputy C. in C. E.F. ?1442Z/7. Owing to  
"Schooner". (?strong) head wind estimate "Schooner" will be  
24 hours late at R/V. P.C. and S. made good at  
1500Z/17 010° 32' S., 081° 35' E., 171° 10 knots  
CITY OF LILLE could not maintain speed of convoy  
and was detached at 1200Z/16 to proceed independ-  
ently to destination.  
(GAMBIA, 1535Z/17 to F.O.I.C. Ceylon (R) N.B.  
Melbourne, (Corrupt Addressee), Deputy C. in C.  
E.F., Commodore, Western Australia, KANIMBLA).

W.S.21 P. Following is substance of my 0025/3 (begins)-  
A.S.4. W.S.21 P. will R/V with U.S. convoy A.S.4 from  
Pernambuco in 08° 45' S., 11° 20' W., at 1842/2/8  
when British escort will relieve U.S. escort.  
2. Gives original composition of convoy A.S.4 S. of A. 12.3  
knots.  
3. R.A.W.A. is requested to sail W.S.21 P from Freetown as  
requisite to R/V and to route combined convoys onward to  
Capetown.  
4. C. in C. S.A. and C. in C. E.F. are requested to arrange  
onward escorted passage to destination(s) as expeditiously as  
possible.

/5...

War Diary.

17.7.1942.  
Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies - conts:-

W.S. 21 P. 5. Speed of U.S. ships bound for Suez is 16  
A.S. 4 knots. It is suggested they should remain with  
Contd. W.S. 21 P., separate escort being provided for  
Persian Gulf ships". Ends.

Final composition of convoy A.S. 4:-  
Ships and Speeds: EXHIBITOR 16.5, TARN 15.5, ZAANDAM 16,  
FAIRPORT 16, HAWAIIAN SHIPPER 18, SANTA CRUZ 13.5, EMPIRE  
ORIOLE 16, all with Tanks, guns and explosives, destination Suez;  
MORMACDALE 13.5 and AMERICAN MANUFACTURER 13 both oil cracking  
plant, destination Persian Gulf.  
All these cargoes are of great importance. Separate signal  
being sent regarding SANTA CRUZ.  
(A.C.N.S. F., 2105B/17 to D.C. in C. E.F.)

HOOGKERK. HOOGKERK reported arrived Karachi 5/7. Request  
confirmation that you acted on my 1038/30 asking  
for diversion to Suez via Aden.  
(D.T.D., 2153B/17 to D.C. in C. E.F.)  
Confirmed, see 0742/19.  
1959/7 from P.S.T.O. Egypt not to Karachi. Where  
is HOOGKERK?  
(D.T.D., 2154B/17 to N.C.S.O. Karachi).

*See 10510.*

CROMARTY, A.M. 1806/18/6 para. 2 (c).  
ROMNEY, In view of the S/M menace in Madagascar area  
CROMER. CROMARTY, ROMNEY and CROMER are to remain on the  
Eastern Station till further orders.  
(Admty, 2230B/17 to C. in C., E.F., C. in C. Med).

War Diary

17.7.1942  
Friday

FOREIGN STATIONS

America and West Indies

Panama Canal Slow Ships.

All British managed ships east bound through the Canal who cannot definitely declare a speed of 8 knots or more should be held and reported to Admty for instructions. Such ships should not proceed through the Canal unless permission is received from Admty.  
(D.T.D., 0005B/17, to B.R.O. Panama, (R) B.R.O. Cristobal B.A.D. Connnav).

Secrecy of Messages.

A.M. 1204/15. Navy Dept. consider that restricted is too low a category for blue messages and wish them to be U.S. Confidential. They will therefore have to be U.S. Confidential and also British Confidential. Realised this is not in accordance with normal existing secrecy equivalents but it will have to be accepted. Request correction to C.B. 01618L/42 to cover this point and para. 5 of A.M. 1204/15 may be issued. (B.A.D., 0411Z/17, to Admty (R) N.S.H.Q., S.B.N.O., W.A.).

Movement Summary

1800 G.M.T./17.

Ship	Position	Course	Speed
<i>San p. 506</i> CANTON	33 $\frac{1}{2}$ ° N. 30° W.	344°	14 $\frac{1}{2}$
Convoy O.S. 34	45° N.	209°	8
FOLKESTONE	26 $\frac{1}{2}$ ° W.		
CROCUS )	11° N.	270°	11
COWSLIP )	30 $\frac{1}{2}$ ° W.		
<i>San p. 509</i> ASTURIAS )	Equator	Patrol	Blank
LARGS )	25° W.		

(D.O.D.(F), 0857Z/17, to Opnav (R) Comnav).

Convoy Sailing Telegrams.

Your 1245/16th. No sailing telegrams for T.A.W. or W.A.T. convoys are (?received) from B.R.O. at Trinidad or Key West. A form sailing telegram is sent between U.S. authorities concerned copies of which are not passed to this office. Signals appear to be received in sufficient time for necessary action.  
(B.S.N.O., Curacao, 1023QR/17, to Admty).

Submarine Menace

Indications are enemy S/Ms are shifting their attention to convoys.  
(Cin C. U.S. Fleet, 1220/17 to All Commands Atlantic Area interested in S/M position reports).

Route signals

My 1502/27th May para. 3B. Route signal and Vescas are not now required by C.in C. A. and W.I., or S.B.N.O. Western Atlantic.  
(S.B.N.O. W. Atlantic., 1233P/17, to A.I.G.129 and 126. B.R.O. San Pedro de Macoris).

/Reports ...



War Diary17.7.1942  
FridayFOREIGN STATIONSAmerica and West Indies Contd:

Reports of Sinkings Your 1636/15. These reports are not required by Admty. (D.T.D., 1252B/17, to S.O.I. Jamaica). Your 1636/15th. These reports are passed to me by N.S.H.Q. (C.in C. A.& W.I., 1509/17, to S.O.I. Jamaica).

S.C. 92. T.U. 24.1.15 will join S.C. 92 in 46.58 N. 52.02 W. at 1500Z/19. (Comtask 24, 1254Z/17, to C.in C. U.S. Fleet C.& R.).

ATHENE Martlets C.in E.Fs. 0905/16. Request your remarks. (D.N.A.D., 1401P/17 to B.A.D.). Your 1401/17. 1. Martlet situation of Eastern Fleet as seen here is: 2. Martlet 2's. 11 already delivered Bombay. 15 transhipped at Capetown should be arriving at Kilindini about now. No more Martlet 2's in U.S. 3. Martlet 4's 9 at Seaboard in U.S. awaiting shipment now. Estimated that further 25 of Eastern Fleet quota will be at seaboard by end of July. Normally some 1 to 2 weeks delay in shipping. 4. Am investigating possibility of loading ATHENE at Santos, Brazil. This will depend inter alia on ability of ATHENE to hoist aircraft in from lighters. 5. Request immediate information (A) How many folding Martlets ATHENE could carry. (B) Whether she can hoist them in from lighters with her own gear. N.O.I.C. Colombo pass to Com. N.A.S. (B.A.D., 2215Z/17, to Admty (R) C.in C. E.F., etc.) Reply: Admty 1312/18. Further message from B.A.D. 2137/18.

U/B Coast Watcher reports possible S/M sighted p.m./16. 6 miles east of Cape Fogo 049° 38' N. 053° 55' W. (C.O.A.C. Halifax, 1510Z/17, to Admty).

WILLIMANTIC survivors 1 Lifeboat with 15 survivors from WILLIMANTIC arrived St. Martins, Dutch West Indies on 5/7. Ship sunk by S/M. No action details, date, position of sinking, or of submarine. Master taken prisoner on submarine. 17 other survivors unaccounted for. 6 of crew dead including 2 wireless operators and third seaman gunner. Survivors remaining at St. Martins until further instructions. Names follow. (R.O., St.Kitts & Nevis, 1521/17, to Admty).

"s" Report by FELIX DZERJINSKY Following has been read by Ottawa W/T SSS XE USCH. (Undecypherable in War Registry). Lat. 53.21 long. 161.10 - FELIX DZERJINSKY gunned. (T.O.R., 1545Z/17).

Portuguese Trawlers. Your 1912/16. Oil Controller states that 50 tons gas oil for each of 3 trawlers can be supplied at Halifax. (N.S. Ottawa, 1605Z/17, to Admty).

/ATTACKER ...

War Diary

17.7.1942  
Friday

FOREIGN STATIONS

America and West Indies Contd:

ATTACKER  
BATTLER

When ATTACKER and BATTLER are ready for sea and after embarking 838 Sqdn. & 840 Sqdn. respectively request you will sail them in convoy for the Clyde.  
Further orders will be given after ships have arrived.  
(D.O.D. (H) 1634B/17, to B.A.M.R. (R) Cominch etc.).

Convoy  
Position  
Reports.

Ref: C.T. 24 1901/16th. Instructions that corrections to ? C.O.A.Cs and Connavs situation reports should only be transmitted 2000 and 0200 G.M.T. are hereby cancelled. Such corrections are to be made as soon as possible after receipt of situation reports.  
(C.O.A.C. Halifax, 1752Z/17, to Western Local Escort Force).

U/B Positions. C.in C. U.S. Fleet, 1756/17, to Admty.

Sub attack  
and sighting  
summary.

B.A.D. F. - 37, O.P. 16 GUNDERSEN first portion of a word painted on C.T. appears to be "Mall".  
ARRIAGA U.88 type ship fired at sub. Black ace of clubs starboard side C.T. yellow letter V.  
forward part C.T. WARRIOR 2 torpedoes ship fired 4 rounds. SAM HOUSTON red crab or turtle port side C.T. also blue metal shield with former German Imperial double eagle on front C.T. Sighting reported 1710Z/29/5 in my 2026/29/5. Sub was attacked by aircraft and in turn attacked a patrol craft at position previously reported. Surface craft attacks approx. 32 - 30 N. 79 - 30 W. 1950Z/14/6. 33 - 15 N. 77 - 24 W. 1330Z/19/6  
Plane sights Sub 21 - 09 N. 71 W. 1405Z/15. Surface craft attacks sound contact 39 - 14 N. 72 - 11 W. 2111Z/16. Sub reported submerging 41 - 54 N. 70 - 22 W. 0057Z/17. Attacked with 2 depth charges.  
(Cominch, 1812/17, to Admty for O.I.C.).

P.C. 467  
renamed.

P.C. 467 to be renamed KING HAAKON 7th and manned by Norwegians. Under that flag will be directed report C.T. F. 24 about 1/9 for duty in a Western local escort group.  
(Cominch, 1850/17, to C.in C. Lant repeated Comtask Force 24 N.S.H.Q. C.O.A.C., Admty, Norwegian Naval H.Q.)

CAPE VERDE  
Sunk 9/7  
by U/B.

Request you enquire from Master CAPE VERDE British and inform Connav whether vessel (?received) diversion message sent 4/7 requiring approach destination through point 010° N. 060° W.  
Also request other pertinent information such as frequencies guarded and times.  
(Connav, 1923/17 to N.O.B., Trinidad).

/Floating ...

War Diary

17.7.1942  
Friday

FOREIGN STATIONS

America and West Indies Contd:

Floating  
Dock  
NIDAREID

My 1901/16. SS. PRIMO may also join this convoy.  
(B.A.D. Washington, 1951Z/17, to S.B.N.O. W.  
Atlantic Min. of War Transport New York, (R)  
Admty, N.S.H.Q., Ottawa).

Tanker  
Escort.

Your 1421Z/15 para.3: 8 tankers.  
(Cominch, 1959/17, to N.S.H.Q.).

Tanker  
Routes

Your 1003/16. Instructions in last sentence of  
A.M./1953/18/6 remain in force. Instructions in  
1228/13 were framed to cover tankers which though  
bound for U.K. might be required to call at  
Freetown for some special purpose.  
(Admty, 2010B/17, to S.B.N.O. W. Atlantic.).

Shipping  
Routed to  
Cape.

C.in C. S.A., has drawn attention of N.S.H.Q. to  
the fact that many ships routed from U.S. Ports to  
Capetown are sent through the dangerous area to  
N.W. and W. of Cape Peninsula. It is felt that  
ships are running into unnecessary danger by not  
complying with route instructions laid down in Q.G.A. message 77,  
and 78. Request instructions may be issued to U.S.R.Os to  
comply with the purport of these messages when routeing to  
Capetown and beyond.  
(N.S.H.Q., 2018Z/17, to Connav (R) C.in C. A.W. I. S.O.(I) Jamaica,  
C.in C. S.A.).

U/B  
attacks.

Connav serial 17X CAPE VERDE British torpedoed  
sunk 9th. 11.32 N. 60.17 W. Crew enroute  
Trinidad from St. Vincent. BEACON LIGHT Panama  
Tanker torpedoed sunk 16th July 10.59 N. 61.05 W.  
PENNSYLVANIA SUN Serial 15 not sunk now in tow for  
Key West.  
(Connav, 2046/17, to Connaveau).

A.S. 6.

B.A.D. Washingtons 1627/15 para. 4 and C.in C.  
S.As 1433/14 para. 3.  
2. In view of length of time to be taken to unload  
JAMES PARKER at Ascension Island and to avoid delay to W.S. 21,  
it is intended that ALCANTARA shall escort CHINA MAIL and  
AMERICAN PRESS to M.O.M.P. with W.S. 21 returning thence to  
Ascension to take JAMES PARKER to Pointe Noire. 3. R.A. West  
Africa is requested to make arrangements accordingly.  
My 1834/13, para. 2, refers.  
(A.C.N.S.(F) 2102B/17, to B.A.D., R.A.W.A. (R) C.in C. S.A.,  
Cominch).

JURKO  
TOPIC

Your 1354/13. JURKO TOPIC(S) arrived Boston 16/7.  
(N.S.H.Q., Ottawa, 2132Z/17, to S.O.(I) Jamaica).

/Cable ...

522

War Diary17.7.1942  
FridayFOREIGN STATIONSAmerica and West Indies Contd:

- Cable Repairs LORD KELVIN now ready sail Halifax to repair cable break 49.44 N. 29.22 W. Estimated time on station to repair break 7 days, then return Halifax. Provide escort for entire movement when practicable.  
(Cominch, 2202/17, to Cinclant).
- U-Boat U-Boat estimated your vicinity by D/F has made sighting report of convoy or important unit at 2144Z and 2147Z on (1207?) k/cs.  
(Cominch, 2235/17, to C.T.U., 24.1.17, C.T.U., 24.1.4.(R) C.O.A.C. Halifax, N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, Admty, Com. Task Force. 24).
- P. 556 My 1143/15. Further defects. Anticipate complete P.M. 20th ex trials, conduct trials 21st and sail 22nd.  
(Cdre, i/c Bermuda, ?137P/17 to Admty). *See p. 510*
- A.T. 18 (1) Sailing date is likely to be delayed until 6/8. (2) In view of every effort will be made to include (A) QUEEN OF BERMUDA (see B.A.M.Rs 2154/13 not to all addressees (B) DASHER. (3) Iceland portion probably will consist of ANCON and H.F. ALEXANDER for Akureyri and BATORY for Reykjavik.  
(B.A.D. Washington, 2303Z/17, to Admty).

Australia and New Zealand

- Navigation Q.F.A. 109. Dimmed navigation lights are to be burned in Bass Strait between 142° 30' E. and 147° 30' E. when N. of 039° 30' S. Q.F.A. 108 is a basegram.  
(A.C.N.B., 0649Z/17, to all concerned Q.F.A. Message).
- Situation Serial No. 176 from G.H.Q., S.W.P.A. 2 Hudson on R/C attacked and slightly damaged small vessel at Boela, 003° 06' S. 130° 30' E. at 0220Z/16.  
Unidentified A/C reported 017° 21' S. 117° E. at 0330Z/16.  
Supply dump at Salamoia bombed by B.17 at 0020Z/16., damage unknown. Reliable report states 2 cruisers 2 destroyers were off Kukum Guadal Canal 13/7 and 2 transports unloaded. Air patrol maintained by 2 float planes from cruiser.  
(A.C.N.B., 1021Z/17, to Admty etc., as amended 1536Z/18).

/Coral ...

523

War Diary17.7.1942  
FridayFOREIGN STATIONSAustralia and New Zealand Contd:

Coral Sea Battle. Lessons RYUKAKU ZUIKAKU. My 1528/26/6. Ref. para. 9 (i). Recommendation to empty petrol tanks in vicinity of damage is not concurred in. It would be dangerous owing to probable damage to petrol system. 2. Para. 9 (ii) and (iii) are concurred in. A gas-tight boundary should be established. Isolation of electric circuits should be carried out by opening branch breakers outside the boundary. Subject is referred to in C.B. 4168A, page 17, para 2, and is dealt with fully in new Damage Control Handbook, which will be issued shortly. 3. Except for RYUKAKU which was certainly sunk, Admty has no evidence regarding loss of other Japanese vessels at Coral Sea action at Tulagi. Reports of hits on ZUIKAKU cannot be correct, as ship has continued in service. (D.T.S.D., 1209B/17 to All Cs. in C. at Home and Abroad, F.O.C. N.A. R.A. W.A., A.C.N.B., N.Z.N.B., C.N.S. Ottawa, F.O.C.R.I.N., B.A.D.). \*Should be SHONO - S. 22.16 - p. 661.

M.T.Bs. Your 1205B/30/6. Para. (2) confirmed. (A.C.N.B., Melbourne, 1309Z/17, to Admty).

CAP DES PALMES. Encyphered by N.O.I.C. Sydney. Your 1313Z/17 and my 0053/18 (N.T. of either in W.R.). (A) To my knowledge the future employment of ship is definitely settled. (B) B.N.L.Os request for complement of signal publication was in accordance with my orders. (C) As there is no time for confirmation from Admty, shall sail Thursday 23rd without the required W.P. Shall not consider myself responsible in case of mishap due to the lack of these publications on board. (C.O. CAP DES PALMES, 1359Z/17, to A.C.N.B. (R) Admty, etc.).

Construction of aerodrome. My 1100Z 11th. Following information required. (1) Desirable length of runway. (2) Minimum length of runway. (A.C.N.B., 1518Z/17, to Admty etc.).

U-BOAT CAMPAIGNSubmarines Reported

Estimated approximate U-Boat positions. (D.D.I.C. 1451B/17, 1452B/17).

War Diary.

18.7.1942.  
Saturday.

SITUATION REPORT.

H.M. Government have no intention at present of departing from their existing policy of not publishing shipping losses either severally or collectively. They have asked the U.S. Government to reconsider their own policy of allowing losses to become known, but they consider it is unlikely that any substantial change will result.

British Air Operations.

10 aircraft of Fighter Command made a successful attack on enemy shipping off Cap de la Hague today.

Enemy Air Operations.

At 0600 3 F.Ws. made a low level attack on BLENCATHRA escorting 9th M/S. Flotilla off Selsey Bill. BLENCATHRA sustained slight damage.

S.B.N.O. North Russia reports that after 3 days overcast weather enemy bombing was resumed today when attacks were made on Rosta shipyard and Murmashy Aerodrome.

Mining.

Further mines were detonated off the Needles Channel today.

South Atlantic.

There are signs of enemy submarines moving towards the West African area where attack on trade has not lately been pressed.

War Diary.

18.7.1942.  
Saturday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Mediterranean.

WELSHMAN sailed from Malta at 1955B today for Gibraltar.

Two Halifaxes and 50 Wellingtons bombed shipping and harbour installations at Tobruk last night and report one ship hit and large fires and explosions started along the water front.

Some enemy shipping has crossed the Mediterranean to Libya by a more easterly route than usual, sailing via the southern Aegean and Crete. The enemy are making some use of Tobruk and Mersa Matruh, as well as Benghazi, in spite of demolitions and heavy bombing.

America and West Indies.

There is some indication that a Japanese naval force is moving south from the Aleutian Islands, as though the enemy may consider their position in the western Aleutians is sufficiently established. The enemy continues to improve his position and facilities; several large buildings have been erected and an aircraft landing strip is said to be under construction. Evacuees state that from 3000 to 4000 Japanese troops were landed on the island in the original attack.

The extension of the U.S. convoy system seems to be showing good results. Up to date 26 ships have been reported sunk during the present month and the fate of 7 others which were attacked is not known. Sinkings so far reported during June were 130 ships.

New Zealand.

The change of command of the military forces in Fiji from New Zealand to United States military authorities was effected today.

War Diary.

18.7.1942.  
Saturday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Policy.

Taking over A.M.1024/27/6. All Norwegian drifters on charter are operated for use of R.N. and will not be available to be turned over to the U.S. authorities. Authorities.

2. On final evacuation of the British Army the number of Icelandic drifters on hire can be reduced. These drifters becoming available for hire to the U.S. Authorities.

3. KORALEN, GAAPAA, and BRATHOLM cannot be turned over until the American Army takes over the North East Sector. JOKUL was turned over to the U.S. Authorities on 16/6. (A.C.I.C., 1155B/18 to Admty).

H.D.M.Ls. To replace H.D.M.Ls. sent to Liverpool for shipment abroad request 2 H.D.M.Ls. may be sent to Sandbank for patrol duties. Submit that two of the four H.D.M.Ls. awaiting shipment at ST. CHRISTOPHER might be allocated. (F.O.I.C. Greenock, 1504B/18 to Admty).

A/S trawlers, Your 2230B/16. A/S T. LADY MADELINE can be Arctic taken for refit and Arctic fitting by J.S. Doigs, fitting. Grimsby. Confirm RICHARD BLAND to Tyne. *N.T. & W.D.*

*N.T. & W.D.* 2. Your 1731/17. A/S Trawlers can be taken for refit and Arctic fitting as follows:-

VIZALMA at W. Gray, West Hartlepool, CAPE PALLISER at Beeley and Sleight, Grimsby. NORTHERN SPRAY and NORTHERN PRIDE at Aberdeen. (D.A/S.W., 1903B/18 to A.C.I.C.)

Movements.

BLENCATHRA *N.T. & W.D.* My 1903/16 C.E.106. M.B.B. PINTADE did not sail. 9th M/S. BLENCATHRA ordered to return as escort of 9th M/S Codeword "Kettle". *P. 530* (C. in C. Portsmouth, 0017B/18). My 0017/18. BLENCATHRA arrived with 9th M/S 0825/18. (C. in C. Portsmouth, 0857B/18).

ASHANTI, C. in C. H.F., 2247B/17. Take ICARUS, ECLIPSE, FORESIGHT, under your orders and proceed to Scapa. ECLIPSE, Signal E.T.D. and E.T.A. to A.C.I.C. and me. FORESIGHT, (C.S.l., 0117B/18 to ASHANTI). SOMALI. Your 2247/17 sailed. E.T.A. 1900/19. (A.C.I.C., 0900B/18 to C. in C. H.F.) My 2247/17. Not to N.O.I.C. Londonderry ICARUS and FORESIGHT are to be detached to Londonderry. (C. in C. H.F., 0938B/18 to ASHANTI). My 0938/18th not to ICARUS. Request you will detail a third destroyer to arrive Londonderry a.m./20. (C. in C. H.F., 1401B/18 to B.A.(D) H.F.) 2201 tonight Saturday estimated position ASHANTI, ICARUS, ECLIPSE, FORESIGHT 62° 28', 18° 20' to South eastward. (A.C.I.C., 1440B/18 to A.I.G.54). Your 1401B/18th SOMALI detailed. (R.A.D. (H.F.) 2256B/18 to C. in C. H.F.)



War Diary.

18.7.1942.  
Saturday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Movements. - Contd.

- P.54  
LOLM MONTEITH. My 1251/17 sailed.  
(S.O. S/Ms Lerwick, 0214B/18).
- LEAMINGTON Your 1539B/16 sailed LEAMINGTON.  
(N.O.I.C. Londonderry, 0300B/18 to N.O.I.C. Liverpool).
- P.212,  
LA CAPRIEUSE. My 1713/17 sailed.  
(S.O. S/Ms Lerwick, 0402B/18 to A.C.S., F.O.I.C. Greenock).
- DOUGLAS,  
BLUE RANGER. Your 1207/17 and my 2105/17. MALCOLM sailing to  
overtake at 0350/18.  
(A.C.I.C., 0415B/18 to C. in C. W.A.)
- ROYAL  
ULSTERMAN. R.A.W.A. 1113/8. Onward route from (E) 050° 03'  
N., 018° 04' W., to (F) 54.56 N., 12.22W.  
(G) 360° Inishtrahull 8 miles thence Penarth.  
(C. in C. W.A., 0752B/18 to ROYAL ULSTERMAN).
- UREDD. Left Lerwick unescorted and on surface at discre-  
tion of C.O. routed as follows:  
(a) 089° Out Kerries 6 miles. (b) 091° Muckle  
Flugga 10 miles. (c) 063° 21' N., 002° 19' W., thence to carry  
out sub patrol in Area bound by parallel 063° 30' N., and 064° 20'  
N., and Meridian 001° W., and 004° W.  
(S.O. Subs Lerwick 0803B/18 to Subs. Lat. 51° N).
- BLANKNEY,  
BLACK RANGER. My 1936/16 returned 0229/18.  
(A.C.O.S., 0902/18 to Admty C. in C. H.F.,  
C. in C. Rosyth, C. in C. W.A., A.C.I.C., R.N.O.  
Seidisfjord.)
- O.10 R.N.T.F. 1825/17, propose to sail to arrive Arro-  
char a.m./25.  
(S.7., 1018B/18 to VERNON W).
- WILTON. Proceed passing Siwtha 1850 today to R/V off  
Hoxa with BLACK RANGER and provide escort in  
accordance with C. in C. H.F. 2353/17 para.1  
and A.C.O.S., S.O.166 18th.  
(2) Inform A.C.O.S., RA.D. H.F., and MARTIN if  
E.T.A. at R/V is altered.  
(R.A.D., H.F., 1230B/18 to WILTON) *See next page*
- DAFFODIL Cancel my 1218B/17. *H.T. in H.D.*  
(F.O.I.C. Greenock, 1307B/18).

War Diary.

18.7.1942.  
Saturday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Movements - Contd.

MARTIN, MARNE, BLANKNEY, MIDDLETON. MARNE, with BLANKNEY, MIDDLETON proceed to pass Switha 0700B/19 to Seidisfiord routed through 058° 50' N., 007° 04', 063° 05' N., 013° 58' W., 064° 01' N., 014° 50' W. Report E.T.A. to me before sailing.

(2) On arrival complete and transfer stores to MARTIN as necessary.

(3) MARTIN, MARNE, BLANKNEY, MIDDLETON are to proceed as necessary to arrive position Y at 1300B/21 thence to Kola Inlet routed as ordered by C. in C. H.F.

(4) Destroyers are to fuel from BLACK RANGER escorted by WILTON in position Y.

(R.A.D. (H.F.) 1420B/18 to MARTIN, MARNE, BLANKNEY, MIDDLETON, (R) Capt. (D) 16th C. in C. Rosyth, WILTON, F.O.S. Admty, C. in C. H.F., F.O.C. 1st C.S., S.B.N.O. Archangel, S.B.N.O. North Russia, A.C.O.S.)

My 2353/17th. Route from Seidisfiord through position: Y. 071° 50' N., 003° 05' W. X. 075° 01' N., 010° 15' E. W. 075° 29' N., 021° 02' E. V. 075° 29' N., 035° 01' E. and thence as instructed by S.B.N.O. North Russia.

(C. in C. H.F., 1437B/18 to MARTIN, S.B.N.O. North Russia, (R) A.C.O.S., A.C.I.C., C.S.l., R.A.D., H.F., S.B.N.O. Archangel, F.O.S., C. in C. Rosyth, V.A.2., MARNE, Admty).

C. in C. H.Fs. 2353/17 para. 3. Request you will sail MARTIN to arrive Seidisfiord 1000B/20. MARTIN is to complete at Seidisfiord and await arrival MARNE, BLANKNEY, MIDDLETON. (F.O.C., D.F., H.F., 1300B/18 to F.O.C. 1st C.S.)

R.A.D. H.F., 1300B/18. Sail at 1200B /19 and proceed Seidisfiord arriving 1000B/20. (C.S.l., 2112B/18 to MARTIN).

DESPATCH

Admty 1405/15. Intend sailing DESPATCH for Rosyth at 0930 /23. Escort of one Hunt Class Destroyer will be provided as far as May Island. 2. Request ship may be instructed to carry out partial repair trials according to A.F.O.3177/39 whilst on passage to Scapa. (C. in C. Nore, 1526B/18 to C. in C. Rosyth).

HAWKINS.

HAWKINS will be required to leave Clyde on 28/7 escorting W.S.21 and to join the Eastern Fleet. 2. Request you will sail her for Clyde as convenient. (D.O.D. (H) 1835B/18 to C. in C. H.F.)

*See P. 535*

BLACK RANGER  
WILTON.

Scapa departures R.F.A. BLACK RANGER and WILTON expected time of arrival position Y for Yorker 1300B/21. (A.C.O.S., 1859B/18). *See Mission Page.*

LANDGUARD.

*INT. W.D.*  
Your 1235/17. LANDGUARD is required to arrive Londonderry 4/8. Every effort should be made to meet this date. (D.O.D. (H), 1916B/18 to F.O. Humber).

529

War Diary.18.7.1942.  
Saturday.HOME COMMANDS.Movements. - Contd.BROCKLESBY,  
KRAKOWIAK.

BROCKLESBY is to proceed into Dartmouth for to-night Saturday. N.O.I.C. Dartmouth is to sail ~~BROCKLESBY~~ independently to R/V KRAKOWIAK at 1245/19 in 119° Eddystone 4 miles for serial R of my\*1142/18th. Codeword until R/V "Scent". (C. in C. Plymouth, 1619B/18 to BROCKLESBY N.O.I.C. Dartmouth, (R) Shore Authorities in U.K. concerned.) \*N.T.W.D.

30th M.L.F.

It is proposed to sail the 8 ships of the 30th M.L. Flotilla under their own power to Trinidad routed via Reykjavik, Julienshaab, St. Johns

N.F. thence by Canadian and American coastal routes.

2. M.Ls. have endurance of 1000 miles at 10 to 11 knots in moderate weather and it is inadvisable that they proceed at slower speeds.

3. It will be necessary to accommodate 11 ratings in the escort.

4. Fuel required is 87 Octane Petrol.

5. Flotilla will be ready to leave Stornoway on 16/8.

6. A.C.I.C., is requested to state - (a) Whether suitable fuel can be obtained at Reykjavik and (b) whether escort of one trawler can be provided for passage from Stornoway to St. Johns N.F.

7. N.S.H.Q., Ottawa is requested to (a) confirm that suitable fuel can be obtained at Julienshaab or other Greenland port, St. Johns N.F. and Halifax.

(b) arrange for onward passage from St. Johns N.F. to New York.

8. B.A.D. is requested to arrange with Connav for onward passage from New York to Trinidad.

(D.O.D. (H) 2321B/18 to A.C.I.C, N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, B.A.D.,

(R) C. in C. W.A., Connav, Cominch).

Operations.

Patrols

OFFA is to raise steam forthwith and relieve ICARUS in patrol B.

INTREPID is to relieve MARTIN at 1100B/18 in

Patrol A.

ICARUS on relief to fuel and report expected time of readiness at sailing. *See P. 526*

(INGLEFIELD, 0035Z/18 to OFFA, INTREPID, MARTIN, ICARUS.)

FERNIE and BLEASDALE will patrol in vicinity of 050° 15' N., 001° 10' W., tonight 18/19 July. Books landed in accordance with S.149/41.

(C. in C. Portsmouth, 1237B/18 to Admty N.O.I.C. Portland C. in C. Plymouth).

My 1237/18. Destroyers will remain at Yarmouth at immediate notice until ordered to proceed.

(C. in C. Portsmouth, 1837/18 to Admty, C.O.I.C. Portland, C. in C. Plymouth).

Portsmouth night movements 18/19 July.

1. FERNIE and BLEASDALE on patrol South of St. Catherines.

2. 2 Chasseurs on patrol within 10 miles of E.A.5 Buoy. returning St. Helens at daylight.

3. 2 M.Ls. on patrol 10 miles south of Portland.

(C. in C. Portsmouth, 1527/18).

War Diary.

18.7.1942.  
Saturday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operations - Contd.

P.48

H.M. S/M P.38 left Lerwick on the surface at C. Officer's discretion routed (a) 090° Out Skerries, 5 miles (b) 063° 21' N., 001° 59' E. thence to carry out A/S patrol in Area bounded by parallels 063° 30' N., 064° 20' N., and Meridian of 001° E., and 005° E.  
(S.O. S/Ms Lerwick 1101B/18 to S/Ms operating N. of lat. 51° N.)

British Air Operations.

Operation  
Knocker.

To Synchronise time in operation "Knocker" with R.A.F. suggest all times in messages be given in G.M.T. using appropriate suffix "Z".  
2. Request time of departure of first and last airplane for the day be signalled when they occur.  
(C. in C. W.A., 1226B/18 to A.C.I.C.)

Party at  
Barentsburg.

Visit by A/C N/210 (Sullom Voe 1545/18) see Lion Copy.  
There has been no movements of U.S. aircraft during past 24 hours. Anticipate movement 10 B.17s and 39 P.38s to U.K. 19/7.  
(Air Min. 1720/18 to 44 Group).

Destruction  
of a U/B

(17/7)

Their Lordships request that Their congratulations may be conveyed to all concerned in the destruction of a German U-boat on 17/7 by aircraft H. of 502 Squadron and F. of 61 Squadron.  
(D.A/S.W., 1823B/18 to Air Min).

Enemy Air Operations.

BLENCATHRA  
& 9th M/S.F.

*see p.526*

Enemy aircraft attacking in position 50° 41' N., 0° 45' W.  
M.S.9., 0616/18).  
At 0600/18. 3 Focke Wulfe made low level attack on BLENCATHRA. Slight damage sustained from near misses by bombs and cannon fire. No casualties. Ship will be operationally available in 2 or 3 days  
(C.in C. Portsmouth, 1537/18).

A/C over  
Jan Mayen.

Following from Jan Mayen 1825/15 aircraft over North Coast. Jan Mayen free of ice. 0650/17. Aircraft heard south to north. Weather foggy.  
(A.C.I.C., 0003B/18)

Littlehampton

At 0620/18 one A/C believed to be Me. 109 attacked Littlehampton dropping one bomb and machine gunning. Civil damage and casualties, 1 naval casualty.  
(N.O.I.C. Newhaven, 1745B/18).

530A

# MOST SECRET

MOST SECRET MESSAGE 1545/18 July IN

From Sullom Voe.

Date 18/7/42.  
Recd. 1740

INT. GEN. X BY T/F

Addressed 18 Group. Repeated H.O.C.C., O.I.C. Admiralty.

## IMMEDIATE

MOST SECRET. Special report from Captain N/210 reference to RO/G3/12/18. 1359/13 Airborne Sullom Voe S/C Spitzbergen 2005 E/A sighted believed D016. N/210 gained height for tactical reasons and continued northerly course. Enemy aircraft closed slowly but after 25 mins. abandoned pursuit. 0025/14 Barentsburg. Endeavouring establish identification ground party opened fire obtaining hits on N/210 in wings and tail. Captain convinced ground party friendly redoubled recognition methods i.e. cartridges Aldis and code word FRITHAM. Two green stars fired by ground party who also flashed "Safe to land". Two boats put out to N/210. 0050 N/210 Waterborne Barentsburg and packages delivered 0100 cloud now 200 feet, N/210 Airborne and proceeded Sea Horse Island 0310 Seahorse Is. commenced ice recce. to ELI 0622 position 74 degs. 32' North 37 degs. 40' East 74 degs. 32' North 17 degs. 40' East sighted five lifeboats estimated in all BRP men. Captain N/210 considered the swell made successful landing too hazardous - food and cigarettes dropped in camera covers and Mae West. Collected by survivors. Captain signalled "Will send help". S/C Archangel where S.B.N.O. was immediately notified. Copy ice report sent through S.B.N.O. Archangel 18/7/42. Ice free water E tends south of a line drawn through the following positions commencing at 7608 2620 7806 7433 7640 3922 7703 4341 7747 7649 7736 4850 7720 4921 7727 5016 and thence to Cape Nassau notes from 7727 N. 5016 E. go Cape Nassau the fog was down to sea level giving nil visibility but on such occasions as it was possible to see the surface clear water was observed.

2. There were several occasions on which the ice appeared to recede many miles to the north of the line stated above but owing to shortage of fuel the Captain N/210 deemed it inadvisable to follow ice edge to its furthest extent.
3. Isolated icebergs seen floating in open water well to the south of line stated.
4. Up to CD9X 15 miles inside of ice edge the ice was merely loose drift ice up to 6/10th in extent, with individual floes anything up to 500 ft. estimated across.

1545/18

1st Lord.  
1st S.L. (2)  
C.N.A.S.  
V.C.N.S.  
A.C.N.S. (H)  
A.C.N.S. (W)  
N.A. 1st S.L.  
D.C. (2)  
D.O.D. (H) (2)  
D.D.I.C. (2)

D.N.I. (4)  
Hd. of M. (7)  
D. of F. (2)  
D.N.A.D.  
Hd. of Air.  
D.S.D.  
D.N.E.S.  
D. of P. (1) (2) (& for Admiral Hamilton)  
C.C.L.S.  
I.P. (2)

W.D.  
D.T.M.  
D.S.D. 9.  
Admiral Blake.  
C.C.O. (2)

W. D. Note For Part II of  
*This signal for Shipping*

War Diary.18.7.1942.  
Saturday.HOME COMMANDS.Enemy Air Operations - Contd.R/C of  
Flamborough  
Spurn Point.  
area.

An aircraft of bomber/minelaying unit carried out a detailed weather reconnaissance of Flamborough-Spurn Point area this afternoon. Unusualness of recco. suggests possibility of minelaying by aircraft off east coast tonight.  
(D.D.I.C., 1842B/18 to C. in C. Nore, F.O.I.C. Harwich, F.O.I.C. Humber, C. in C. Rosyth).

Mining.Thames  
Approaches.

Details of two Ground mines detonated (17/7).  
(Capt. M/S Sheerness, 1005/18, 1007/18).  
One Ground Mine detonated 18/7 as follows:-  
(Capt. M/S Sheerness 1009/18).

S.N.82

R.A.M. 1110/17 concur.  
(C. in C. H.F., 1130/18 to Admty).

Q.K.12,  
Q.K.13

Add to minelaying operations Q.K. series Q.K. 12 in Oostgat Channel to Flushing Roads in approx. 3.5 miles 329° from West Kapelle Light.  
Q.K.13 between Noordsteen Bank and West Banjaard Buoy.  
(C. in C. Nore, 1154B/18 to BEEHIVE, (R) N.O.I.C. Harwich, F.O.C. Dover, Admiralty.)

Portsmouth.

Ref. my 1820B/17/7 and correction to it. Details of 12 mines detonated 17/7 off Needles Approach Channel.  
(C. in C. Portsmouth, 1725B/18).  
5 mines detonated today by LL in Q.Z.X. 766 advance signal.  
(C. in C. Portsmouth, 1812/18).

S.W.of  
Dungeness.

Mines swept 17/7 in Q.Z.X. 750 67 red 50° 46' N., 00° 54' E., approx.  
(V.A. Dover, 1847B/18).

Enemy Intelligence.

TIRPITZ

P.R.U. aircraft 17/7 reported TIRPITZ camouflaged by two broad black diagonal bands on port side at bow and stern.  
(D.D.I.C., 1212B/18 to "A" Mge. Home).

U-boats.Convoy  
O.S.34

Submarine sighted on the surface bearing and distance 357° 10 miles course 200° my position is 044° 08' N., 026° 32' W.  
(GORLESTON, 1201Z/18 to C. in C. W.A.)  
My 1201Z. U-boat chased 15 miles 355°  
(GORLESTON No T.O.O./18 to C. in C. W.A.)

War Diary.

18.7.1942.  
Saturday.

HOME COMMANDS.

U-boats - Contd.

2 U/Bs Am over enemy S/M in 47° 30' N., 18° 0' W.,  
Enemy S/M periscope only sighted when first  
sighted was on course 090 Estimated speed 7 knots.  
(A/C., 1855/18).  
My 1855 sighted 2 periscopes (?no) attack.  
(A.O.C.15 Group C.C., 1915/18).

Navigational.

Iokanka S.B.N.O. Archangel 1225B/15 following is  
repetition of S.B.N.O. North Russia 1023A/8th  
Feb. Begins 432 Iokanka. Shipping channel exists  
2 and half cables either side line joining the  
following positions 68° 04' N., 039° 37' 30" E.  
068° 11' N., 039° 46' 30" E. 68° 11' N., 040° 00'  
E. Admty. Chart 2269. This channel will be  
swept periodically. Admiralty pass to C. in C.  
H.F. Ends.  
(D.T.D., 1902B/18 to A.C.I.C.)

Casualties & Defects.

LUDLOW Anchored off 20 B buoy all lubricating oil lost  
on accumulators. HUNDA standing by. VANITY  
taken over S.O. of convoy moderate gale.  
(LUDLOW, 0448B/18 to C. in C. Nore).  
Departure Tugs CHAMPION and SEAMAN to assist.  
LUDLOW.  
(F.O.I.C. Harwich, 0658B/18).  
Arrival SEAMAN. No assistance rendered.  
(F.O.I.C. Harwich, 1426B/18).

Shipping & Convoys.

E.N.12 N. Gales. Convoy considerable scattered. Vicinity  
of 27 Buoy 0700 S. of A. 4.- 5 knots.  
(COVERLEY, 0700B/18 to A.C.O.S. C. in C. Rosyth).

W.S. 21 P. ~~TARNISH~~  
TJERK TARNISH in 270° Oversay 6 at 0800B/18 Proceed  
HIDDES. forthwith to overtake.  
(C. in C. W.A., 1259B/18 to TJERK HIDDES, (R)  
ORION)  
Waiting to R/V with ~~TARNISH~~. My position  
at 1100 055° 34', 007° 27'. Is convoy delayed?  
(TJERK HIDDES, 1120B/18 to C. in C. W.A.)

Positions of C. in C. H.F. 1836B/16. Concur.  
C.A.M. ships (C. in C. W.A., 1218B/18 to Admty).  
and D/F guards  
in P.Q. convoys.

SS. TJALDUR Reference A.M. 1946B/18/6 TJALDUR sailing  
Tuesday with troops for Faeroes. Can escort be  
arranged.  
(F.O.I.C. Aberdeen, 1255/18 to A.C.O.S.)

War Diary.

18.7.1942.  
Saturday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping & Convoys. - Contd.

P.Q.17                    Second part of special report from Captain N/210. 1340/14 Waterborne Archangel to continue ice recon-0530/16 Landfall off Novaya Zemlya. On instructions S.B.N.O. Captain coasted down Novaya Zemlya searching for any ships of dispersed convoy P.Q. or survivors stratus from sea level to 2,700 feet prevented observations until Cape Britvin reached 0730 one Cam ship at anchor in Moller Bay off Mali Karmakul settlement. N/210 landed taxied to ship and obtained following information. Cam ship EMPIRE TIDE seaworthy. 42 survivors from ALCOA RANGER and OPANA 107 further survivors expected from unknown ships. 0855 Airborne Moller Bay. 0810 SS. WINSTON SALEM sighted Southern end of Moller Bay. Exchanged signals and ascertained ship hard aground. No knowledge whether repairs possible. Aircraft flew Channel from S. Gusini Nos. to Cape Kanin to confirm ice free passage existed for S.B.N.O. 1355/16 Waterborne Archangel 1857/17 Airborne Archangel 1236/18 Waterborne Sullom Voe with nothing to report. S/E carried and used most efficiently. Note. It was found impossible to obtain any contact from ice edge or icebergs using short range S/E.  
(Sullom Voe, 1545/18 to 18 Group)  
W.D. Note. For Part I of this signal see British Air Operations.

O.N., O.N.S.            A.M.1820B/22/5 para. 3. In future the convoy sailing designation is to be omitted from Part II of the telegrams.            post-sailing telegrams of O.N. and O.N.S. convoys and the T.O.O. of part I is to be used instead as the reference.  
2. Declared speeds are to be omitted from (b) of Part II.  
(D.T.D., 1808B/18 to N.C.S.O. Mersey).

P.Q. Convoys.            M.S.1's 2214B/15 was drawn up and passed to my office for transmission. (?While) I consider it right that he should express his opinion based on his operations in North Russia, the (?signal) covers ground on which action has and still is being taken by you, S.B.N.O. North Russia and myself.  
2. Paras. G. and H. The unfortunate result of the scattering of P.Q.17 placed a heavy burden on my staff who, though they may be "only reserve officers" have an intimate knowledge of local conditions. They have exerted themselves to utmost and have ably coped with difficult situation which was hampered by bad W/T communications and the usual failure of Russians to keep promises.  
3. An example of ineffective W/T wave on 3790 k/cs in this area which I have repeatedly pointed out, is that of 9 signals sent by DIANELLA and 8 by him to me when in Barent Sea and Gorlo, none has been received.  
4. Additional assistance has already been requested. Meantime in given circumstances operations, casualties, survivors difficulties (etc?) have been efficiently dealt with here.  
5. Advice is always acceptable but complicated administration of this Port is not simplified by intervention of visiting C.O. who cannot possibly be cognisant of its intricacies.  
(S.B.N.O. Archangel, 1812B/18).



War Diary.

18.7.1942.  
Saturday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping & Convoys - Contd.

H.X., S.C., S.L., H.G., Convoys. Coal burning ships in H.X., S.C., S.L., H.G. convoys arriving Belfast with destination Milford Haven for orders are for discharge at Southampton or the South Coast.  
2. Bunkers remaining and daily consumption are always to be ascertained on arrival and telephoned to Admty. 370.  
3. These ships are to be sailed onwards and are not to be held in expectation of further instructions based on state of bunkers. (D.T.D., 1834B/18 to N.C.S.O. Belfast).

T.A.17. Sailed. Composed and escorted as in A.M.2025B/12 less\*LIGHTNING plus MUSA. Commodore is Captain London U.S.N., in MONTEREY. Latest message Q.J.A. 628, Q.J.B.61. (N.O.I.C. Greenock, 2156B/18 to Cominch).  
\*Not detached.

Chop time for eastbound and westbound convoys. Your 1459/17 satisfactory. (C.T.F.24., 2233Z/18 to C. in C. W.A.)

W.S.21 S. Convoy W.S.21 S. carrying military stores loading at the following ports will be ready to leave U.K. on 2/8. Avonmouth EMPIRE HOPE. Mersey. DORSET, WAIMARAMA, BRISBANE STAR, PORT CHALMERS, Clyde ALMERIA LYKES, SANTA ELISA, WAIKANGI, ROCHESTER CASTLE, OHIO, CLAN FERGUSON, GLENORCHY, MELBOURNE STAR, DEUCALION.  
2. EMPIRE HOPE will be ready to sail p.m./31, and ships from Mersey p.m./1/8. F.O.I.C. Cardiff and F.O.I.C. Liverpool are requested to sail all ships as reqte. to arrive Clyde to attend Convoy Conference a.m./2/8.  
3. Speed of slowest ship 15 knots.  
4. Destroyer escort will be provided by (a) WISHART and DERWENT (b) Five destroyers to be provided by C. in C. W.A.  
5. Detailed orders for ocean escort and destroyers will be signalled in due course.  
6. Admty will promulgate route.  
7. C. in C. W.A. is requested to detail destroyers mentioned in para. 4 (b) and to arrange sailing of all ships to R/V. (D.O.D.(H), 2319B/18).

W.S.21 Convoy W.S.21 carrying military personnel and stores for the East will be ready to leave U.K. on 28/7.

2. Ships will embark at the following ports:-

Avonmouth	Personnel	SS. TAMAROA	Speed	14½	knots
Swansea	Stores	SS. CURACOA	"	14	"
		SS. DELFTDIJK	"	14	"
Newport	Stores	SS. JAMES LYKES	"	14	"
Mersey	Personnel	SS. RANGITIKI	"	14	"
		SS. VOLENDAM	"	14	"
		SS. SIBAJAK	"	15¾	"
		SS. MALOJA	"	15	"
		SS. ANTENOR	"	14½	"
	Stores	SS. SAMARIA	"	15¼	"

/SS...

War Diary.

18.7.1942.  
Saturday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping & Convoys.

W.S. 21.  
(Contd.)

Mersey	Stores	SS. KARAMEA	Speed 14 Knots.
Clyde	Personnel	SS. CIRCASSIA	" 15 "
		SS. LARGS BAY	" 14 "
		SS. NARKUNDA	" 15 $\frac{1}{2}$ "
		SS. AORANGI	" 15 $\frac{1}{2}$ "
		SS. ALMANZORA	" 14 $\frac{1}{2}$ "

3. Ships from British Channel ports will complete loading and be ready to sail on p.m. tide/26 and F.O.I.C. Cardiff is requested to sail them as reqte. to Clyde to attend the convoy conference.

4. Ocean Escort to Cape will be provided by \*HAWKINS and RANPURA from Clyde. \*See p. 528.

5. Destroyer Escort (a) PETARD and CATTERICK are to provide through escort to Freetown being detached as requisite to fuel at Ponta Delgada.

(b) 2 destroyers who are to remain with convoy until PETARD and CATTERICK rejoin subsequently proceeding to Ponta Delgada for fuel and acting as ordered by C. in C. Western Approaches.

(c) 5 destroyers who are to be detached from convoy and to proceed to Gibraltar at prudent limit of endurance.

6. Main convoy conference will be held at Greenock a.m./28.

7. Admiralty will promulgate route.

8. C. in C. W.A. is requested (1) To provide destroyers mentioned in para 5 (b) (2) To detail 2 Hunt class destroyers as mentioned in para 5 (c).

(3) To arrange for sailing of all portions of convoy to R/V and for fuelling of destroyers at Ponta Delgada.

9. C. in C. H.F. is requested to provide 3 Hunt class destroyers in accordance with para. 5 (c) and to sail them to the Clyde to attend conference.

(D.O.D. (H), 2324B/18).

War Diary.

18.7.1942.  
Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

General.

M/V Explosions, Gibraltar. Damage has been sustained by ships anchored in commercial anchorage at Gibraltar due to underwater explosions, thought to be caused by small free limpet type mines, charge about 5 pounds.  
2. Explosions accompanied by vivid flash and much smoke.  
3. Recovered mine marked Milano consists of (details).  
4. Considered mines almost certainly placed by divers in D.S.E.A. gear probably working from fishing boats.  
(D.L.D. Approved by A.C.N.S.(W), 1206B/18, "A" Message.)

Passengers in Slow M/Vs. Cancel my 1339/1/12/41.  
2. Merchant ships who are unable to maintain a speed of 12 knots under normal weather conditions and who will be in convoy throughout the entire voyage are permitted to carry a maximum of 50 passengers.  
3. Merchant ships of the above category when not in convoy are only permitted to carry a maximum of 12 passengers.  
4. If a relaxation of the above rules is required to cover any special cases, prior Admty. approval is to be obtained.  
5. Masters of ships carrying passengers whose speeds fall below 12 knots on passage are to report the fact to N.C.S.O. at their next port of call.  
(D.O.D.(H), 2320B/18 to A.I.G. 19 and 26.)

North Atlantic.

U/Bs. O.S. 34. A.M. 2303B/17. D/F at 2145Z/17 and 2215Z suggest probability that two further U-Boats are in neighbourhood of convoy. Time in 2303B was G.M.T.  
(D.D.I.C., 0123B/18 to Escorts O.S. 34, (R) F.O.C.N.A., R.A. W.A., C. in C. W.A., H.Q.C.C.)  
A.M. 2303B/17. D/F on series A at 0032Z/18 and at 0255Z/18 suggests that O.S. 34 is being shadowed by a U-Boat.  
(D.D.I.C., 0609B/18 to Escorts O.S.34, (R) F.O.C.N.A., R.A.W.A., C. in C. W.A., H.Q.C.C.)  
At 0608Z/18. O.S. 34 was probably reported by a U-Boat.  
(D.D.I.C., 0837B/18 to Escorts O.S.34, (R) F.O.C.N.A., R.A. W.A., C. in C. W.A., H.Q.C.C.)  
Enemy S/M made sighting report at 0610 G.M.T. bearing 310° from Gibraltar.  
(F.O.C.N.A., 0832B/18 to Escorts O.S.34, (R) Admty.)  
A.M. 0837B/18. Further bearings at 0954Z/18 and at 1021Z/18 indicate that O.S.34 is being shadowed by at least one U-Boat.  
(D.D.I.C., 1301B/18 to Escorts O.S.34, (R) F.O.C.N.A., R.A.W.Af., C. in C. W.A., H.Q.C.C.)  
A.M. 1301B/18. D/F bearings between 0954Z/18 and 1758Z/18 indicate that O.S.34 is being shadowed by at least two U-Boats.  
(D.D.I.C., 2106B/18 to Escorts O.S.34, (R) F.O.C.N.A., R.A. W.A., C. in C. W.A., H.Q.C.C.)

/LEOPARD ...

537

War Diary.18.7.1942.  
Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic - Contd.

LÉOPARD.

Admty. 2315B/16 to Consul, Ponta Delgada.  
Details of damage.  
(F.S LÉOPARD, 0745Z/18 to Admty., (R) F.O.C.N.A.)LOWESTOFT  
(collision  
damage)Following is message from LOWESTOFT. Passing  
through (034°?) 26' N. 014° 24' W. 075°, 5 knots.  
Am in tow of (? SALVONIA), RAJPUTANA and THYRA  
in company. Have detached KONKAN R.I.N. to  
Gibraltar to fuel, intend detaching RAJPUTANA  
on contacting ST. NECTAN. T.O.O. of message  
2045Z/17.  
(KONKAN, 1000Z/18 to F.O.C.N.A., (R) 200 Group  
R.A.F., ST. NECTAN.)

S/M O.24.

- (1) D.S. O.24 passes Blade at 2359B/20 and will  
cross 043° 01' N. at 013° 01' at 0200B/26, shift  
wireless watch at that time. Surface S. of A.  
15 knots.
- (2) Wireless watch (details).
- (3) D.S. O.24 is painted (details).
- (4) Only S.P. 02373/74 and S.P. 02319 (27) and (28) are carried.  
(Capt. S.3, 1051B/18 to F.O.C.N.A., (R) F.O.S., Admty., etc.)

P. 222.

P.222 sailing p.m./18 diving by day through  
position (m) 036° 31', 002° 05' W. at 2300B/19.  
(n) 037° 56', 000° 08' E. at 0200B/21.  
(o) 039° 18', 001° 03' E. at 2300B/21 thence North of Balearic  
Islands to West Coast Sardinia.  
(F.O.C.N.A., 1106B/18 to 8 S/M. F.) Sailed. (F.O.C.N.A. 1930B/18)

DREPANUM.

Left Bilbao passed breakwater 1035 G.M.T./18  
fully loaded iron ore.  
(Consul, Bilbao, 1245/18 to Admty., (R) M.E.W. etc.)S.L. 115,  
O.S. 34.Situation 2002B/18.  
S.L. 115, 38.52 21.20 357°, 7½ S.O. LONDONDERRY.  
O.S.34, 043° 38' 025° 48' through 042° 20'  
023° 57' thence 146°, 7 S.O. FOLKESTONE.  
(F.O.C.N.A., 1258B/18 to A.I.G.64 as amended  
1626B/18.)U/B  
Cartagena.  
u.573.Work is being done on German S/M at Cartagena.  
Estimated she cannot be half repaired by 3/8  
but will be able to navigate on surface on one  
engine at 8 knots before that date.  
(N.A. Madrid, 1303/18 to D.N.I., (R) S.O.(I)  
Gibraltar.)

/ U/B ...

War Diary.18.7.1942.  
Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic - Contd.U/B  
Santander.  
LUIGI TORELLI.

Italian S/M Santander. Observer on spot (who saw what happened but could not get news through to Madrid till following morning) reports no fuel had been removed tank. (B.2.)  
Port Commandant must therefore have been party to escape and this will be pressed with Minister Marine.  
(N.A. Madrid, 1344/18 to Admty.)

CLYDE,  
P. 211.

CLYDE sailing 1900B/20 through J 036° 32' 002° 12' W. at 2000B/21, K 038° 07' 001° 08' E. at 0300/23 thence 090°. S. of A. 120 miles a day.  
P. 211 and CLYDE are not to attack S/Ms on 22/7 unless definitely identified as hostile. N.O.I.C. Malta pass to PARTHIAN on arrival.  
(F.O.C.N.A., 1408B/18 to 8 S/M F, (R) N.O.I.C. Malta.)

HAARLEM  
escort of  
DURHAM.

Your 1612/13/6 (2 rescue tugs being sent to tow SS. DURHAM to U.K. C. in C. W.A. and F.O.C.N.A. each requested to supply one corvette for escort).  
As AZALEA has not returned from U.K. causing shortage of corvettes at Gibraltar intend sending HAARLEM instead of corvette.  
(2) HAARLEM to remain in U.K. for refit and conversion to ocean escort including W/T and H/F transmission. Request refitting port.  
(V.A.C.N.A., 1432B/18 to Admty.)

SENNEN  
O.S. 34.

Request you will sail one corvette to relieve SENNEN as escort of EMPIRE SPEY. On relief SENNEN is to proceed with dispatch to reinforce escort of O.S.34, as directed by F.O.C.N.A.  
(D.T.D., 1811B/18 to F.O.C.N.A., SENNEN.)

Interned  
F.A.A.  
Personnel.

Your 1933/2/4 to F.O.C.N.A. Refuelling and release of Italian aircraft by local authorities in Balearics, about which protest has been made in Ambassador's Note Verbal No. 616, seems to provide excellent opportunity for obtaining release of F.A.A. personnel interned in Morocco.  
(M. Branch, 1822B/18 to N.A. Madrid.)  
Reply: N.A. Madrid, 1538/20.

French  
Shipping.

Gibraltar 18/7 2125 armed trawler LA SETOISE, ships ROUENNAIS full, OUERGHA full, MONTESQUIEU light deck cargo barrels, PARAME laden, trawlers MERMARIA, POITOU, KEROMAN, eastbound.  
(V.A.C.N.A., 2123B/18 to Admty.)

WILD SWAN,  
Spanish  
Trawlers.

Your 1529/13. Spanish Embassy are looking after survivors and are trying to obtain passages for them. It is believed that they have already secured two.  
(M. Branch, 2144B/18 to N.A. Madrid.)

539

War Diary.18.7.1942.  
Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic - Contd.

RIO FRANCOLI. My 1315/15. Chief Engineer and Barman of Spanish RIO FRANCOLI believed carrying German mail. Stowaways believed to be Captain of German Tug LIKOMBA name possibly Svechd and Captain of Italian SS. DUCHESSE D'AOSTA.  
(F.O.C.N.A., 2239B/18 to S. and A. N.A.S., Area X and Z.)

South Atlantic.

Belgian Your 1611/28/5 (N.T. in W.D.) Four Trawlers Minesweepers. ROI LEOPOLD, MARIE JOSE ROSETTE, IRIS II and HEILIGE FAMILIE are being fitted out in U.K. as Oropesa M/S for service on Congo. Vessels will be manned with Belgian personnel. Armament and equipment. Provision of guns for coastal defence being settled in conjunction with W.O. (Head of M, 0037B/18 to B.N.L.O. W.Africa (R) C. in C.S.A, R.A.W.A)

W.S. 20. WIVERN, BRILLIANT arrived Simonstown 17th departed 0830B/18 to rejoin W.S. 20.

(C. in C. S.A., 0854B/18 to Admty., Com. Durban, P.S.T.O. Egypt.)

Arrivals MALAYA and BLACKMOSE with Capetown portion of W.S.20. (S.O.I. Capetown, 0921B/18 to Admty., C. in C. S.A., (R) C. in C. E.F., R.A.W.A.)

Dispositions. PHOEBE 018° 15' 019° 01' to Freetown through 012° 59' 019° 01' and 010° 16' 017° 30' 21. Force 'F' 014° 26' 020° 14' to 020° 08' 022° (? 42') thence 001° 16. IBIS with S.L.116, 014° 45' 020° 00' 332° 7.5 at 2000Z/18. AUBRETIA, 2 M.Ls, 011° 10' 017° 05' to Bathurst 11. → PELICAN with O.S.33, 009° 13' 017° 30' to 006° 56' 015° 39' thence to Freetown, 150° 9. BURDOCK, 3 M.Ls off Freetown to join O.S.33 at 0700/19 thence 150°. (R.A.W.A.F., 1007Z/18 to Ships in Area P etc.)

INDOMITABLE. Departure Capetown INDOMITABLE screened by LIGHTNING, LAFOREY, LOOKOUT. E.T.A. Freetown 0800Z/28. Shift to W/T (? organisation) P at 0600Z/22.  
(C. in C. S.A., 1016B/18 to Admty., R.A.W.A.F., (R) Dep. C. in C. E.F.)

→ O.S. 33. Pass to Commodore. My 1752/11. All ships for Capetown and beyond are to be held to dispersal point.

(D.T.D., 1109B/18 to Escorts O.S.33, (R) R.A.W.A., C. in C. S.A., C. in C. W.A.)

O.S.33. Cape ships remaining with convoy are being re-routed to proceed by first two positions of Blue Route and third positions of Red Route. Kapruts in Admty. 1707B/5 were those in force prior to amendment by Admty. 1955B/9. First and second positions of Blue Route are being amended in re-routeing signal which will be repeated to you. Request you will amend route of MARSDALE which is only fast ship dispersed which infringes demarcation line.

(D.T.D., 1643B/18 to R.A.W.A., (R) C. in C. S.A.)

/ATHELKNIGHT ...

War Diary.18.7.1942.  
Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic - conts.

**ATHELKNIGHT** EMPIRE AUSTEN arrived with Chief Officer and 23 torpedoes 26/5). other ex British Tanker ATHELKNIGHT sunk by German U-boat 26/5 in 026° 50' N., 045° 50' E. (?W. intended). Master's boat with 24 persons unaccounted for.

(2) U-boat fired 2 torpedoes and about 150 shells, killing 3 members of crew. Shooting very erratic. Master boarded U-boat and was given bread by the Captain.

(3) No S S S distress message made as both main and emergency wireless set were destroyed first explosion.

(4) Chief Officer's boat rescued 21/6 in 023° 50' N., 052° 30' W. (S.O.(I) Capetown, 1140B/18 to Admty C. in C. S.A., R.A.W.A).

Dispositions. Weekly (?state) South Atlantic Station, area Q 18/7. *\* See previous page.* Pointe Noire to Simonstown, AMARANTHUS, CARADOC. Cape area, \*MALAYA, \*BLACKMOSE. Cape to Durban, SHROPSHIRE, \*WIVERN, \*BRILLIANT. Kilindini to East London ENGADINE. Simonstown, HECLA, CARNARVON CASTLE, VALIANT, ANTHONY, EXPRESS, ROCKROSE, ALCANTARA, MEAD, CECILE MAPLESON. Capetown, EMILE BAUDOT, EMPIRE BIRCH, EMPIRE LINDEN, HATSUSE, AIGLON, DUSK, SOUTHERN GEM, SOUTHERN PRIDE, ATHENE, CHESHIRE. Durban, RAMILLIES, REVENGE, JASMINE, GENISTA, CYCLAMEN, THYME, BUSHWOOD, BARRYMORE, BRITTANY, BARFOUNT, BELLWORT, KELANTAN. Port Elizabeth, KHETI, PHILOMEL. *\* See next page.*  
(C. in C. S.A., 1145B/18 to C. in C. E.F., R.A.W.A. etc).

Weekly state 18/7. Freetown - PHILOCTETES, EDINBURGH CASTLE, VINDICTIVE, 4 corvettes. Freetown Area \*PELICAN, SPEY, ROTHER, *COMMANDANT* DUBOC, VELOX, CORINTHIAN, 4 corvettes. Bathurst Area - 2 fleet units, PATHFINDER, DERWENT, PENN, QUENTIN, \*VIMY, \*IBIS, WALNEY, ENCHANTRESS, ABERDEEN, BACHAQUERO, 1 corvette. *\* See next page.*  
St. Pauls Rock Area - ASTURIAS, LARGS. On passage to Trinidad - 2 corvettes. J.34 to Freetown CILICIA. Pointe Noire - BOREAS. Cape Area \*WIVERN, \*BRILLIANT, 3 corvettes. Rio de Janeiro - MILFORD. U.K. - BRIDGEWATER, 3 corvettes. Gibraltar - VANSITTART. Pointe Noire Area - 1 corvette.  
(R.A.W.A., 1335Z/18 to Admty etc).

Co-ordination N.A. Rio de Janeiro's 1230Z/16 from Pernambuco of Intelligence Para 10. Sub para. (A) (B) and (C) approved. with U.S.N. Sub. para. (D). Approved Col. Sillitoe and Cdr. Wynne to attend Conference Rio de Janeiro subject to concurrence S.B.N.O. West Atlantic. (D.N.I., 1251B/18 to B.A.D. etc). Concur, B.A.D., 1945/20, S.B.N.O. W.A., 2103/20.

ORCADES Ref. D. of S.T's 0520/17. ORCADES E.T.A. Freetown 22nd, E.T.A. New York 1/8. (S.S.T.O. Freetown 1329Z/18 to B.A.D.)

Dakar. Air R/C of Dakar 17/7 shows RICHELIEU present at usual berth but cloud haze precluded any statement on remaining Naval Units. (R.A.W.A., 1331Z/18 to Admty).

/Vichy...

541

War Diary.18.7.1942.  
Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic - Contd.

- Vichy Convoy 16/7. VIMY sighted Vichy Convoy 2045Z/16 escort vessel AIR FRANCE III and 1 trawler escorting large merchant ship, in 10° N. 16° 20' W. approx. course 320° 8 knots. 4 aircraft sighted 3 M/Vs and 1 E/V Vichy 12° 48' N. 17° 18' W. at 0640/18/7. 1 M/V ARCTURUS (2532 G.T.) was identified. (S.O.I. Freetown, 1405Z/18 to Admty., (R) S.O.I. Gib.)
- Escort of Colliers, Mozambique Channel. Your 1642/16 (1643/16 intended). SIMBRA and SIGFRA not yet ready for service. JASMINE and SORSRA available 21/7, SOBKRA, SOLVRA by 29/7 ALICE MOLLER ready to leave Durban. Await report from Lourenco Marques as to position of colliers there. (Com. i/c Durban, 1547B/18 to Dep. C. in C. E.F., (R) C. in C. S.A., Admty.)
- Oilers. FORTOL. Your 1335/17. As Admiralty tankers will be required for fuelling escorts of W.S. 21P in vicinity of Ascension Island and also about 28/7 to comply with A.M. 1217B/16/7, request FORTOL may be sailed Freetown as early as possible. Until arrival of FORTOL, BULLMOUTH will be only local Admiralty tanker after meeting above commitments. (R.A.W.A.F., 1610Z/18 to C. in C. S.A., (R) Admty.) Reply: C. in C. S.A., 1103/20.
- CHESHIRE. Departure Capetown 18th CHESHIRE E.T.A. Freetown 0700/29. (S.O.I. Capetown, 1615Z/18 to Admty., C. in C. S.A., R.A.W.A.F.)
- Vichy Units. Vichy S/M and escort vessel in 014° 17' N. 019° 59' W. at 1505Z/18 course 227° speed 7. (R.A.W.A.F., 1615Z/18 to Escorts S.L.116, PHOEBE, Force F.)  
If vessels referred to in my 1615Z/18 are sighted, at your discretion detach destroyers to confirm submarine (? is) Vichy. (R.A.W.A., 1650Z/18 to S.O. Force F.)  
My 1615/18. A/C sighted S/M believed (? ARIANE) 1 Gr. missing, and vessel resembling JULES VERNE. First seen at 1403 course 275° 7 knots; at 1505 vessels altered course to 227°. (R.A.W.A., 1945Z/18 to Admty.)
- REGGESTROOM (Dutch) Monrovia reports rumour that REGGESTROOM was sunk on passage to U.K. with S.L.113. Request if confirmed you will state whether passengers are safe. (R.A.W.A., 1710Z/18 to Admty.)
- S.A.Command H.Q. To transfer to Capetown on 3/8. Details. (C. in C. S.A., 2051B/18 to Admty.)



War Diary18.7.1942  
SaturdayFOREIGN STATIONSMediterraneanA/C shot  
down,  
Jibuti

No. 293. I have received 18/7 wireless message from Governor of French Somaliland reporting that on 15/7 a Blenheim A/C was shot down in flames near Jibuti and that 5 members of the crew who were killed outright were buried with full military honours. I am acknowledging receipt of message. A/C was one of Aden Command. (Govt., Aden, No. T.O.O./18 to S.of S.for Colonies).

SS. QUEEN  
ELIZABETH.

QUEEN ELIZABETH arrived G.M.T. 0400/18/7. (N.C.S.O., Suez, 0847C/18, to Admty etc.).

NESTOR  
(sunk 16/6).

It is not intended to hold Board of Enquiry into loss of NESTOR. (C.in C. Med., 1034C/18, to Admty).

WELSHMAN

*See also  
b 545.*

WELSHMAN sails at about 1800B/18 via S.E. Channel and position  
(a) 035° 32' N. 013° 51' E.  
(b) 035° 56' N. 013° 13' E. thence via Tunisian Waters. 2. Sweepers, one M.L. and BERYL with lighter in tow may be met in vicinity of Marsamxett. (V.A., Malta, 1055B/18, to PARTHIAN (R) P.42., P.44).

Sailed WELSHMAN at 1955B/18. She expects to proceed at 34 knots from end of searched channel until 0600/19, then at 28 knots till noon 19th and 25 knots until dark 19th, thereafter at 17 knots to Gibraltar.

2. Route. Reverse of Outward route.

3. Request you will signal direct to WELSHMAN movements of all surface and S/M units likely to be met West of 009° E. (N.O.I.C. Malta, 2013B/18, to F.O.C.N.A. (R) C.in C. Med., Admty).

WELSHMAN reports first sight 1320 on day 2. Attacked by 28 planes in all including high level pattern bombing by S.79, dive bombing by Junkers 88 and Junkers 87. Several near misses and one bomb exploded under keel. No damage. Shadower left soon after dark and no attack developed. Ship arrived at end of searched channel at first light. 2. During period in Malta ship was berthed in No. 5 dock and given a list to simulate damage but enemy made no bombing attack, presume even R/C was sketchy. 3. Plot over Sicily which eventually faded delayed sailing today by 1½ hours. Every reason to believe departure was undetected. (V.A. Malta, 2159B/18, to Admty (R) C.in C. Med. etc.).

Eritrea  
policy.

From Chiefpol North. Re policy in regard to evacuation from Eritrea. No question of male evacuation and repatriation from Eritrea now arises in view of development of Eritrea as Middle East and American base largely dependent on Italian labour. 3 main considerations. (A) To relieve demands on accommodation, food and water, hitherto causes of anxiety. (B) To reduce demands on shipping and accommodation in other British territories. (C) To create as little disturbance as possible among working Italian population which is now tranquil. We consider general principle should be to evacuate or repatriate a large proportion of these Italians who are useless, that is destitutes on relief and

/unemployables

War Diary18.7.1942  
SaturdayFOREIGN STATIONSMediterranean-Contd:-

Eritrea unemployables. Minister of State agrees.  
policy (2). If above policy approved my proposals are as  
Contd: follows.  
(C.in C. M.E., 1005/18 to W.O.).

Cositrep Air. Night 16/17. 4 Halifaxes 36 Wellingtons  
No. 454. bombed shipping and harbour installations Tobruk.  
1 ship set on fire with explosions. Very large  
fires started in dock area. Large fire and  
explosions started near M.T. concentration N.W. of harbour. 5  
Wellingtons mined harbour and approaches.  
(8) 17/7. In afternoon 6 Liberators bombed shipping Tobruk.  
1 medium tanker 1 ship 10,000 tons hit. Tanker set on fire.  
Large fire started at petrol stores. Two Liberators bombed four  
small vessels at Bomba. One hit.  
(9) 2 Fortresses bombed 2 medium, 2 small ships at Bardia at  
dusk but results unobserved.  
(10) Two Beauforts attacked M.V. 6,000 tons in Sollum Bay at  
dawn. Results unobserved. Ship subsequently attacked at dusk  
off Matruh by 5 Beauforts. Details awaited \*.  
(C.in C., M.E., 1145/18)  
\* See 1240/19.

BASARABIA Report B. 3 about 100 men arriving from Roumania  
TRANSILVANIA 22/7 or 23/7 to make up crews of BASARABIA,  
TRANSILVANIA to full strength; these vessels  
expected to sail for Black Sea near future.  
(S.O.I., Istanbul, 1146C/18, to S.O.I. Med. (R)  
D.N.I., N.A. Ankara, N.L.O. Black Sea).

M.E. Air Part 2 bi-weekly Opsum No. 39.  
Report. Night 15/16. 5 Halifaxes 4 Fortresses 5 (Note  
C.in C. M.E., 1437/17 said 54) Wellingtons bombed  
shipping and harbour installations Tobruk starting  
large fires in dock area. 1 Wellington attacked ship east of  
Tobruk 2 250 lb bombs falling near vessel. 4 Wellingtons laid  
8 mines in Tobruk Harbour. 3 Wellingtons unable to reach Tobruk  
1 bombed Sollum starting fire, 2 bombed L.Gs Daba area, 2  
Wellingtons missing, 1 Wellington burned out at base.  
(H.Q., R.A.F., M.E., 1221/18).

RORQUAL Request C.in C. Med. may be asked whether RORQUAL  
should rejoin 1st Flotilla or join 8th Flotilla  
and operate as Store Carrier from Gibraltar.  
(F.O.S., 1112B/18, to Admty).

Return of Your 0013/16. 1. PRINCE BAUDOIN has been  
Transports continuously broken down since arrival in  
from E. Med. Mediterranean. She is now being repaired as far  
as Station resources will allow to undertake  
passage to Freetown in the autumn. Consider she  
is unsuitable to make a passage either through the Monsoon or in  
North Atlantic in winter. 2. PRINCESS MARGUERITE and PRINCESS  
KATHLEEN are used primarily for Troop movements. P.S.T.O.(E)  
2332/17/2 to D.S.T. refers to TAEIA (As received) cargo and cased  
/petrol ...

War Diary18.7.1942  
SaturdayFOREIGN STATIONSMediterranean

Return of Transports from E. Med. Contd: petrol carrying capacity which is extremely limited. 3. These are the only fast ships suitable for transport of personnel in difficult waters of Eastern Med. My only alternative is the employment of ? escort ships ANTWERP and MALINES whose speed is less than the PRINCESS ships and whose personnel carrying capacity is only one quarter. 4. I consider that retention of PRINCESS ships in Middle East is very necessary particularly under conditions which prevail at present.  
(C.in C. Med., 1422C/18, to Admty).

Malta Air Report. I. 483 18/7. C.S.R. Malta. 17th. Alert 1552 hrs., 1 unidentified aircraft turned back 8 miles North of Valetta, 4 spitfires up did not sight.  
Night 17/18, 2 alerts. (1904 or 1954(?) hrs) 3 raiders crossed coast, bombs land sea, 2 civilians wounded several houses demolished, 1 returning JU. 88 destroyed by Beaufighter near Sicily. 2140, 3 raiders 1 crossed coast, bombs sea, Beaufighter up, no interception.  
18th. 3 alerts, 0620 hrs, 3 ME. 109s crossed coast, 3 Spitfires up, no interceptions insufficient height. 0938 hrs, 12 plus aircraft, only 4 ME. 109, left Sicily and crossed island, 24 spitfires up, unable to catch up enemy who returned high speed, 1 Spitfire damaged landing, pilot unhurt. 1213 hrs, 14 ME. 109, 1 JU.88, Luqa no damage (?UXBS). 16 Spitfires intercepted enemy raid 10 miles before reaching target, 1 JU.88 probably destroyed, 1 ME. 109 damaged on way out, 1 Spitfire shot down sea, wounded pilot rescued, 1 Spitfire damaged in combat crash landed, pilot wounded.  
(H.Q., R.A.F. Malta, 1745/18).

R/C of Italian Ports. P.R.U. a.m. today 18/7. Naples. 2 6 inch Cruisers afloat and one in Dry Dock, 8 F boats, 6 Destroyers, 8 S/MS. Castellamare, GIULIO GERMANICO: considerable progress towards completion. After turret not yet in place. Messina. 2 8 inch Cruisers, 4 Destroyers, 2 Torpedo boats.  
(V.A. Malta, 1803B/18, to C.in C. Med., F.O.C.N.A., Admty).

French Fleet Alexandria (a) Minister of State directed that Middle East version of American statement re French fleet in Alexandria should leave out threat about our being justified in sinking ships.  
(b) Effect of this modified statement was reported as satisfactory and there was some talk of abuse of Vichy and Laval.  
(c) French have now heard full statement rebroadcast by B.B.C. and now realize that agreement gives them no guarantee of safety.  
(d) Reported that in consequence Adm. Godfrøy has published orders that his ships are to be defended against any British attack and that Vichy will not tolerate another Oran or Dakar without immediate counter measures, giving impression that France might enter war against us if such were attempted.

/(e) ...

War Diary

18.7.1942

SaturdayFOREIGN STATIONSMediterranean-contin.

French Fleet Alexandria Contd: (e) These reactions both ways are natural and it remains to be seen how seriously situation has deteriorated.  
(C.in C. Med., 1804/18, to Admty).

PROTEUS. (1) N.O.I.C. Port Said 1236/17. Adjust speed to pass boom at 0801/19 diving as requisite. Do not overtake M/S. (2) U-Boat active off Levant coast. (3) Escorted convoy may be encountered between Haifa and Famagusta.  
(Capt. S.1., 1901C/18, to PROTEUS).

N.O.I.C. Port Said 1235/17 proceed through 033° 51'N 034° 59' E. thence as ordered by Capt. (S) 1. 3 destroyers escorting 15 knots convoy left Haifa about 1800C/18 on course 325°. (Capt. S. 10, 2031C/18, to PROTEUS (R) S.N.O., Levant Area, Capt. (S) 1, N.O.I.C. Palestinian Ports Haifa, C.S. 15, 235 Wing, 700 Sqdn. ST. JEAN).

Italian Tanker, WELSHMAN *See p. 542.* Reported that large Italian tanker was off Tunis P.M. today. 2 Destination probably Tripoli. 3. If met she should be sunk.  
(N.O.I.C. Malta, 2140B/18 to WELSHMAN (R) F.O.C.N.A.S., C.in C., Med. Admty).

Operation "Insect". It will not be possible to cover Cagliari tomorrow Sunday. Intend R/C. 1. Sunday - Palermo, Trapani, and West Sicilian Aerodrome. 2. Monday - Cagliari, Messina, and East Sicilian (?Aerodrome). F.O.C. N.A., pass to EAGLE.  
(V.A. Malta, 2231B/18, to F.O.C.N.A., (R) EAGLE etc).

War Diary18.7.1942  
SaturdayFOREIGN STATIONSEast Indies

Oil Tanks Trincomalee Ref. A.M. 0119B/17/6/42. Splinterproofing of fuel tanks at Trincomalee. It has not been possible for Contractors to do any work since air raid on account of lack of labour. Local labour generally refuse to work in Tank Area. Contractors now state probably 100 men only can be brought from India and possibly 100 recruited in Ceylon. Progress to date (details). Proposals. (F.O. Ceylon, 0813Z/18, to Admty).

Shipping Indian Ports. Your 1432/30/6. Para 3. Suggest amendment as follows: ships bound for Madras for trade purposes need not also call at Vizagapatam for permission to proceed to Calcutta.  
2. All Tankers bound for Calcutta should call at Madras only for permission to proceed as facilities for adjusting drafts are not always available at Vizagapatam.  
(N.C.S.O., Calcutta, 1001Z/18, to N.O.I.C. Colombo, (R) F.O.C. R.I.N., S.N.O. P.G., N.O.I.C. Trincomalee, N.O.I.C. Addu Atoll, Deputy C.in C. E.F., Admty).

Boom Defences Your 0506Z/10. Concur. Request you will report proposed position of boom at Cochin.  
(D.of L.D., 1620B/18, to F.O.C.R.I.N., (R) D.C.in C. E.F., N.O.I.C., Colombo).

Madagascar Policy Continuation my 34013/ of 26/6. Request an early decision on future operational policy Madagascar. (?Owing) (?rains) in October offensive operation must start August if Tananarive to be reached.  
27th Bdge. group due to arrive shortly all necessary forces for these operations will be available. Should all 4 Brigade groups have to remain in limited area Diego Suarez-Antisrane after starting difficulty of accommodation will be acute and building must be started at once.  
(G.O.C.in C. East Africa, 1630/18, to W.O.(R) 121 Force).

547

War Diary.

18.7.1942  
Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies.

U/B attacked  
by ELLIS,  
MCCORMICK.

Following is U.S.S. ELLIS's dispatch 1723/40  
action Com. 6 Info C.E.S.F. and Cominch,  
passed to you for info. Periscope sighted  
31.29 N. 79.16 W. at 1537Q by MCCORMICK.  
ELLIS, MCCORMICK delivered 8 attacks. No  
visible results. Lost contact, searched area.  
MCCORMICK continuing search until dark.  
(C. in C. U.S. Fleet 0105/18 to Cinclant,  
Admty., C.O.A.C., N.S.H.Q.)

ALBACORE.

U.S. S/M ALBACORE enters Carribean via  
Windward 23/7 passing through 18° 25' N. 75°  
03' W. at 0830Z/23 and 17° 01' N. 15° 10' W. at  
1600Z/23. E.T.A. Colon 1600Z/25.  
(F.O.I.C. Trinidad 0952Q/18 to S.B.N.O., W.A.  
(R) Admty., S.O.(I) Jamaica.)

U/Bs.

2 U-Boats operating in area 010° 55' N. 061°  
25' W.  
(N.O.I.C. Trinidad 1132Q/18 to S.B.N.O. West  
Atlantic, (R) Admty. S.O.(I) Kingston.)

My 1132/18. Subsequent reports indicate one S/M only.  
(N.O.I.C. Trinidad 1822Q/18.)

PENNSYLVANIA  
SUN  
diversion.

My 1609/3 repeated Connav gave destination  
PENNSYLVANIA SUN Clyde. B.R.O. Port Arthur  
has been asked why ship was sailed Belfast  
and reports that my 1609/3 was passed to Port  
Director who insisted on Belfast in accordance  
with message 1845/6 addressed to him by Cominch C and R.  
May instructions be given please to ensure that action is  
allowed to be taken on changes of destination communicated  
by Admiralty.  
(D.T.D. 1204B/18 to Connav (R) B.R.O. Port Arthur, Texas.)  
Reply: Connav 1434/20.

ATHENE  
Martlets.

Your 2215Z/17. Para. 5 (A) 51 below, 11 on  
deck. (B) Yes.  
(D.N.A.D. 1312B/18 to B.A.D. (R) C. in C.E.F.etc)  
Cancelled see 1630/20.

Your 1401/17. 1. Possibilities of Santos are still being  
investigated including diplomatic angle. Airfields there are  
very small and probably can only handle about 12 aircraft at  
a time. This would necessitate ship remaining over 24 hours  
even if only 25 were embarked.  
2. If ship proceeds to Norfolk (Vir) no difficulty is antici-  
pated in giving her a full load and we are also investigating  
possibility of flying Martlets to San Juan Puerto Rico, thus  
shortening voyage.  
3. If ATHENE takes full load it will mean that more than 50%  
of fighter reinforcements to last the Eastern Fleet until about  
April 1943, will be in one ship. To provide special escort  
for her will be difficult. In view of this it is for con-  
sideration whether ATHENE should only take half load.

War Diary

18.7.1942  
Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies - contd.

ATHENE  
Martlets -  
contd. 4. Intend continuing crating and shipping  
Martlets until final decision is reached.  
N.O.I.C. Colombo pass to C.N.A.S.  
(B.A.D. 2137Z/18 to Admty. (R) C. in C. E.F.,  
C. in C. S.A., C.N.A.S. Eastern Theatre.)

GLASGOW. Propose GLASGOW should call at Bermuda en  
route to U.K. after completion of refit at New  
York about 5/8 to collect service passengers and  
stores.  
(S.B.N.O. W.A. 1326P/18 to Admty. (R) B.A.M.R.  
? N.S.H.Q.)  
Approved (A.C.N.S.(F) 1850B/20)

Routeing  
Trinidad. N.O.B. Trinidad assume full control of routeing  
and reporting all United Nations Merchant ships  
as of 0001 G.M.T. 1/8.  
(Connav 1500Z/18 to N.O.B. Trinidad (R) Admty.,  
N.S.H.Q., S.B.N.O. W.A., S.O.(I) Kingston.)

U/B. U-Boat estimated in your vicinity by D/F has  
made a sighting report of a convoy or important  
unit at 1344Z/18, k/cs 11068.  
(Cominch 1516/18 to C.T.U. 24.18.2 (R) C.T.U.  
24.18.3. U.S.S. R - 1, TRILLIUM, U.S.C.G.  
General Greene, C.E.S.F., C.T.F.24 Admty.,  
N.S.H.Q., C.O.A.C., Cinciant.)

NORSEMAN,  
escort. Your 1358/16. C.C.S.F. has now been instructed  
to provide escort from completion of present  
work about 21/7 for repairs to St. Thomas-St.  
Croix Cable and to Jamaica-Ponce Cable.  
(B.A.D. 1529Z/18 to Admty. (R) F.O. Trinidad,  
S.B.N.O.W.A.)

Your 1358/16th. U.S.S. OPAL will escort NORSEMAN to vicinity  
of St. Thomas. (corrupt group) Comcarib will provide onward  
escort.  
(N.O.I.C. Trinidad 1802Q/18 to Admty. (R) S.B.N.O.W.A., B.A.D.)

A.H.1. My 1626/13 (re sailing of A.H.1 from Curacao)  
para 3. For 12 Tankers read 8. B.A.D.  
Washington pass to C.N.A. Washington.  
(N.S.H.Q. 1544Z/18 to C.A.F.A.C., (R) F.O. in C.  
Trinidad, Connav, Admty., S.B.N.O. W.A., C.C.S.F.,  
C.O.A.C., B.A.D.)

Spanish  
Tanker. Trinidad 1002/16, last sentence, probably Spanish  
ZORROZA sailed Aruba 4/7 Lisbon.  
(S.O.I. Jamaica 1611R/18 to Admty. (R) S.B.N.O.  
W.A., F.O.C. Trinidad.)

/Passengers ...

549

War Diary.18.7.1942  
Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies - contd.

- Passengers in Independent M/Vs. Re amendment 5 to G.I.R.O. Revised para 7 section (a) chapter 3, reference independents with 60 passengers and more, not applicable to sailings in Pacific and Alaskan Waters. Ref my 2132/14.  
(Connav 1622Z/18 to C.W.S.F., C.N.W.S.F., C.H.S.F., C.P.S.F., Admty. N.S.H.Q.)
- Oil Slick. A/C sighted moving oily disturbance at 1455Z/18 in 047° 11' N. 063° 04' W. A/C remaining over position.  
(C.O.A.C. 1640Z/18 to Admty.)
- Dispositions. Section S.W. P.554 escorted by AMHERST 043° 35' 061° 40' 040° 9 altering in 044° 20' N. to (?064°) B.X.29 P, Task Unit No.24.18.2, 042° 45' 065° 40' 027° 10' altering in 043° 10' N. to Halifax.  
H.S.30, NIPIGON, NORANDA, 045° 40' 059° 55' 7.  
H.S.31, HEPATICA, UNGAVA, sailed 1900Z/18, 7. (Halifax)  
T.U.27.1.2, 044° 45', 061° 55' to Sydney (C.B.) 8.  
ANNAPOLIS, LACHINE, due Halifax A.M./19 from Pictou.  
5.5. QUEBEC, PORT ARTHUR, vicinity 043° 40' 064° 30' en route for Bay of Fundy. TRILLIUM due Halifax 1100Z/19 from Southward.  
(C.O.A.C. 1642Z/18 to Admty.)
- EVERALDA, B.R.O. Norfolk reports survivors from Latvian C.Bs probably EVERALDA shelled by enemy S/M from 1145 Q to compromised. 1400 Q in 31° N. 70° W. on 29/6. Report Captain taken prisoner and certainty that ship was boarded before sinking. No report that books were thrown overboard. Following probably compromised. AMSI (Guard Book) No.16727, CAMSI (Guard Book) No.511, Mersig Vol 1 No.11053, Mersig Vol 2 No.9536, S.P. 02272 (18) No.5852, S.P. 02272 (19) No.5661, zigzag diagrams OU 5526 D.M.S. No.1875. (N.S.H.Q. 1713Z/18 to Admty. (R) Connav, B.A.D.)
- Defence against Shore Based Aircraft. Following from C. in C. Pacific Fleet to Task Force Cdrs. is of interest as showing American experience has brought them to same tactical conclusions as ourselves (begins). Repeated engagements in Pacific prove that even when air support is absent a resolute well organized and well handled naval force can successfully operate within range of shore base aircraft except against heavy close-in attack. Small numbers of dive bombers and torpedo planes can usually be repelled without serious loss to force by effective screening, gunfire and high speed manoeuvring. High altitude bombers seldom hit manoeuvring ship. (Ends)  
(B.A.D. 1735Z/18 to Admty.)

/U/B ...



War Diary.

18.7.1942  
Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies - contd.

U/B  
Positions.

Cominch 1828/18 to Admty.

KATHLEEN C.  
CREASER.

Sailed St. Johns N.F. 4/7 due Halifax 8/7  
has not arrived.  
(N.S.H.Q. 1832Z/18 to Admty. Connav, C.O.A.C.,  
F.O.N.F.)

Shipping  
Diversions.

My 1953/2 not to Key West ordered BRITISH  
DILIGENCE to Curacao, BRITISH INTEGRITY to  
Trinidad. 2. Key West 0104/17 shows BRITISH  
DILIGENCE destination Aruba. Key West 0516/14  
showed BRITISH INTEGRITY correctly for Trinidad but 0211/16  
altered this to Curacao. 3. In both cases Admty. had to  
request diversions. 4. Request you will investigate jointly.  
(D.T.D. 1847B/18 to B.R.O. Norfolk, (R) B.R.O. Key West)  
Reply: B.R.O. Key West 1631/19. C.S.A. Norfolk 0525/20.

U/B  
Campaign.

FAIRPORT U.S. sunk by torpedo 16/7 027° 10' N.  
064° 35' W. in convoy A S-4. All aboard saved.  
SANTA RITA U.S. sunk by torpedo 9/7 026° 11'  
055° 40'. ARCATA U.S. sunk by gunfire 14/7 by  
Japanese S/M 053° 35' N. 157° 30' W.  
(Connav 2010Z/18 to Cdr. U.S. Naval Forces in  
Europe. (R) N.S.H.Q., S.O.(I) Kingston Jamaica etc)

S/M attack  
& sighting  
summary.

Naval Auxiliary craft attacked 1 torpedo miss 18.25  
N. 67.36 W. 0535Z/9. SANTA RITA torpedoed  
shelled and sunk 26.11 N. 55.40 W. 1525Z/9.  
SEA THRUSH subsequent information indicates  
attack and sinking 22.38 N. 60.59 W. about  
1800Z/20/6. JAGERSFONTEIN, 3 playing cards C/T. M.V. attacks  
periscope 20.10 N. 63.20 W. 1205Z/16/6. Surface craft attacks  
33.15 N. 77.24 W. 1330Z/19/6, Panair plane sights submerged  
S/M 00.45 S. 46° W. 1930Z/16. Planes attack submarine, 1,  
25.42 N. 79.42 W. 1405Z/17, 1 28.28 N. 80.08 W. 1010Z/18, 1  
on surface 36° 14 N. 72.33 W. 1604Z/18, possible damage.  
Plane sights S/M 20.59 N. 71.11 W. 1210Z/18, patrol craft  
sights definitely 1 possibly 3 submarines 28.06 N. 80.10 W.  
0645Z/18. S/Ms reported 14.52 N. 80.32 W. about 0400Z/18,  
20.09 N. 70.02 W. 1434Z/18. Plane attacks S/M on surface 22.20  
N. 85.35 W. 1722Z/18 course 150° speed 20.  
(Cominch 2031/18 to Admty. for O.I.C.)

CARMONA  
sunk.

Panama SS CARMONA sunk by torpedo 1527/18 G.M.T.  
010° 58' N. 061° 20' W. crew 35. Survivors  
landed at Port of Spain 31.  
(N.O.I.C. Trinidad 2042Q/18 to Admty.)

/Shipping ...

551

War Diary.18.7.1942  
Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies - conts. -Shipping  
Losses,  
publication.

Your 2138/24/6. H.M.G. have no intention at present of departing from their existing policy of not publishing shipping losses either severally or collectively. 2. Representations have been made to U.S. Govt. on highest plane urging them to reconsider their own policy. The result of these approaches is not yet known but it seems unlikely that any substantial change will result. (D.T.D. Approved A.C.N.S.(T) 2051B/18 to N.S.H.Q.)

U/B.

S/M sighted in approx. 044° 51' N. 066° 29' W. at 1710Z/18 heading N.E. Aircraft investigating. (C.O.A.C. 2138Z/18 to Admty.)

ROSSALL.  
(Dr. J. G. C.)

Your 2236/15 addressed C. in C. A.W.I. U.S. Authorities have revised their dredging programme at Bermuda and stated that if proposals contained in Commodore I.C. Bermuda's 1930/16 to Hydrographer are agreed to ROSSALL can complete her work at Bermuda without necessity for refit. In any event all assistance will be given to keep vessel operating for as long as possible. (S.N.O. W.A. 2151P/17 to Admty. (R) Commodore I.C. Bermuda.)

Shipping,  
Cape Cod,  
Hampton Roads.

Your 1817B/15. Understood U.K. and Canadian oil requirements probably cannot be met by present tanker fleets using coastal routes. 2. Retention of A.H. H.A. convoys is considered acceptable expedient pending inauguration of Guantanamo - New York convoy latter part of this year. 3. Your para 3. While concurring with second sentence, greater frequency of sailings by coastal route does not compensate for increase in voyage times. Coastal route with 1½ days assembly wait in N.W.I. takes about 24 days northbound compared with 9 days at sea and 7 days average wait. 4. Your proposal Key West - Buzzards Bay direct convoy not possible with present available escorts. 5. It is however hoped K.N. and K.S. convoys will be extended to New York within a few months. 6. Further extension to Buzzards Bay is not recommended as New York onwards is in safe inland waters thereby saving escorts. Composition of last 10 K.N. convoys averaging 17 ships per convoy has been: south of New York - 30 per cent: to New York - 26 per cent: north of New York - 44 per cent. Only the last 2 K.N. convoys have been preceded by T.A.W. convoys so that above may not be representative of future performance, but there will continue to be considerable numbers of ships in coastal convoys bound for U.S. eastern seaboard. 8. All above agreed by C. in C. U.S. Fleet. (B.A.D. 2245Z/18 to Admty.)

War Diary.18.7.1942.  
Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Australia and New Zealand.

Movements. Departure Brisbane 0151Z/17 U.S. Dest. BAGLEY, Port Phillip 1006Z/17 U.S. Dest. HELM for Auckland. (A.C.N.B. 0421Z/18 to Admty. etc.)

RAJULA. My 0856Z/15. Delete DEVONSHIRE substitute RAJULA. (A.C.N.B. 0611Z/18 to Admty. (R) D.C. in C. E.F. etc.)

STIRLING CASTLE. Your 0656Z/12 (Re sailing of STIRLING CASTLE A.C.N.B. to state whether relief escort is available.) para 2 Neth. Flotilla leader Neth. TROMP. Cruiser TROMP can R/V in longitude 90° E. (A.C.N.B. 0741Z/18 to D.C. in C. E.F. (R) Admty.)

Fiji, U.S. Command. No. 268. Repeated to Prime Minister of New Zealand No. 124. Your telegram No. 210. Change of command from New Zealand to United States Military authorities effected today. (Govr. Fiji 1400/18 to S of S for Colonies.)

Situation. Serial No. 177 from G.H.Q. S.W.P.A. 17/7.

1. Timor. At 1500Z/17 3000 to 4000 tons merchant ship at pierhead at Koepang. 1000 ton merchant ship in Straits south Hansisi. Hudson on R/C intercepted by 2 Zeros of which 1 shot down.
2. Ceram. R/C Boela (N.E. coast Ceram) 16/7 report (A) 15 to 30 derricks probably oil camp besides jetty. (B) Landing ground S.W. of town with large barracks near by.
3. Solomon Islands. Wharves under construction Kukum Guadal (canal) 13/7. R/C Tulagi area 17th by 1 Fortress reports 3 four engine flying boats moored at Tanambogo Island (9° 06 S 160° 12 E) Interception by 3 float planes of which 2 destroyed. South Island, modern transport aground Maringe Oon (8° 07 S 159° 35 E) on 11/7.
4. New Britain. Rabaul attacked by 5 Fortresses 2357Z/16. 35 - 300 pound bombs (wrecked?) area. 1 hit on coaling jetty or ship near jetty. No interception. Observed (A) 4 or 5 fighters at Vifakantu (B) 3 possibly bombers Lakunei (C) 19 cargo vessels Simpson Harbour (D) 5 cargo vessels at wharves (E) 3 warships possible cruisers off Malaguna (F) 4 float planes near ?Schedule Creek.
5. New Ireland. Fast unidentified ship observed 3° 10 S 150° 45 E at 2327Z/16 course 70°.

New Guinea. Enemy S/M reported position 10° 28 S 149° 43 E at 2345Z/17.  
(A.C.N.B. 1536Z/18 to Admty. etc.)

Transport of Dutch Airmen. Your 1214B/16. My 0529Z/16 to D of S.T. (N.T. in W.D.) refers.  
(A.C.N.B. 1610Z/18 to Admty.)

War Diary.

18.7.1942.  
Saturday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Submarines Reported.

Estimated U/B positions, approx.  
(D.D.I.C. 1432B/18, 1433B/18.)

554

War Diary.

19.7.1942  
Sunday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

In view of the lengthy postponement date of sailing P.Q.18 A.C.I.C. proposes that the 50 ~~or 80~~ ships concerned should be sailed for British ports since there are no recreational facilities in Hvalfiord. *1-10.566.*

Enemy Air Operations.

Convoy F.N.63 reported being bombed 20 miles East of Spurn Point this afternoon. No damage has been reported.

North Atlantic.

U-boat  
attack on  
O.S.34 300  
miles north  
of Azores.

After being shadowed during most of yesterday FOLKESTONE reported an attack by U/B on Convoy O.S.34 at 0029 Z. in 42° 29' N. 25° 26' W. (about 300 miles north of the Azores) One ship was torpedoed. Apparently this was EMPIRE HAWKSBILL and there were no survivors. At 0559Z today WELLINGTON reported that LAVINGTON COURT had been torpedoed at 0025 G.M.T. in 42° 38' N. 25° 28' W. and could not steam; WELLINGTON was rejoining the convoy with survivors, in view of lack of escorts. A second U/B had been sighted at 0230Z. About 1301Z a S/M was sighted on the surface 8 miles 52° by GORLESTON who was in 41° 23' N. 23° 27' W. GORLESTON chased and about 1520Z GORLESTON and WELLINGTON attacked the submerged U/B in 41° 47' N. 23° 22' W., without result other than 3 unexplained explosions 4 minutes after the attack. At 1640Z GORLESTON attacked the U/B at periscope depth with depth charges, but again without visible result. Whilst returning to the convoy GORLESTON investigated a suspicious merchant ship (apparently ETRICK BANK) which must have been close to the U/B whilst the latter was on the surface during the early stage of the chase. At 1932B C. in C. W.A. ordered GEORGETOWN to be detached from Convoy W.S.21 P and later MANSFIELD was sent, to search for survivors of LAVINGTON COURT and tugs were sent from Gibraltar to try to bring the vessel in.

/The ...

War Diary.

19.7.1942  
Sunday.

SITUATION REPORT.

North Atlantic - contd.

The Spanish Naval Transport CONTRAMAESTRE CASADO, which is reported to be carrying contraband to Italy was intercepted at 1400 today in 160° Europa Point 7 miles, but refused to stop when signalled, claiming that she was a warship. She was allowed to proceed.

WELSHMAN proceeding to Gibraltar was shadowed from 0915B to 1700. At 1415 she was attacked by 5 Ju.88 and 15 SM.79 T.B.O. and sustained 2 very near misses from one bomber and one miss very close ahead by one torpedo; she had no casualties and no damage affecting her steaming.

South Atlantic.

The South African Seaward Defence Force and the R.N.V.R. (S.Africa) were combined today under the designation South African Naval Forces.

Mediterranean.

Last night, 46 aircraft bombed shipping and harbour installations at Tobruk, starting large fires at the petrol depot and elsewhere. Five Wellingtons mined the entrance. 13 Heavy bombers made a dusk attack on Tobruk today, causing fires in the dock area. Five Albatrosses bombed a merchant vessel in Matruh last night, obtaining near misses. Blenheims sent to locate the vessel later today failed to locate it and bombed the jetties. The return of the 10th S/M Flotilla to Malta is now taking place.

East Indies.

Reports of  
U-Boat  
activities

C. in C. E.F. on 5/7, remarking that valuable reports of enemy U/B activities originating from Consul-General Lourenco Marques were received too late to be of value owing to L/T delay, asked C. in C. S.A. to investigate possibilities of providing Consul-General with W/T.

/Reply ...

556

War Diary.

19.7.1942  
Sunday.

SITUATION REPORT.

East Indies - contd.

Reply on 11/7 was that political repercussions might be unwelcome. Quickest route suggested was L/T to Simonstown and thence direct W/T Simonstown to Kilindini.

C. in C. E.F. remarks (0936Z/19) that this involves delay of at least 48 hours. He considers it vital to obtain earliest possible information of Japanese movements in Mozambique Channel, and requests Foreign Office be urged to allow H/F transmitter in Consulate General, Lourenco Marques. He understands enemy consulates have wireless sets.

6 Blenheims bombed Akyab today.

China.

The Military Attache, Chungking reports that nearly 100 vessels sailed from Wenchow on 16/7 in an unspecified direction, carrying 20,000 men. Twenty thousand men are reported to have been withdrawn through Hangchow (W.O. is trying to obtain confirmation from other sources.)

America and West Indies.

*Net Tender ex tug.  
(L.B. 1815)*

U.S. Tug KESHENA was sunk on a U.S. mine today off Cape Hatteras in 35° 0' N. 75° 45' W. whilst engaged on a salvage operation. This is the fourth vessel to be mined in this minefield.

557

19.7.1942.  
Sunday.War Diary.HOME COMMANDS.Policy.

KEPPEL Work up of capital ships is being seriously  
LEAMINGTON delayed due to shortage of destroyers.  
MALCOLM (ii) I should be very grateful if you could let  
DOUGLAS. me retain 2 ships from KEPPEL, LEAMINGTON,  
MALCOLM and DOUGLAS until 23/7.  
(C. in C.H.F. 1026B/19 to C. in C.W.A.)  
Your 1026/19. Request you will retain KEPPEL and DOUGLAS until  
23/7 and sail them to Londonderry to arrive 24/7.  
(C. in C.W.A. 1125B/19 to C. in C.H.F.).

5th M.L. I would be glad to give 5th M.L. Flotilla a change  
Flotilla. of environment for a short period after the many  
attacks they have recently suffered from enemy  
aircraft resulting in damage and considerable  
casualties. Their A.S.R. duties could for a short period under  
summer conditions be covered by rescue craft from Dover and  
Newhaven which have recently been reinforced and their anti E-Boat  
patrol by the S.G.Bs. Propose that Flotilla should on return of  
S.G.Bs to Dover about 25/7 be sailed to Weymouth or elsewhere  
for a period of 3 weeks. During this period boats should if  
possible rearm in accordance with arrangements which are understood  
to be approved. Should carry out Flotilla exercises including  
A/S and should bring their maintenance up to date.  
(V.A. Dover 1141B/19 for Admty.).

Yarmouth Request you will prepare (?detailed) proposals  
L.C.Base for establishment of landing craft base on lines  
of your number (?630) 6311 of 12/6 eliminating  
LUDHAM and ST OLAVES as proposed in para.6. Request  
report may be forwarded as early as practicable. Remarks on  
training facilities for crew in vicinity should be included.  
(C. in C.Nore 1446B/19 to N.O.I.C. Yarmouth).

Additional C. in C.W.A. 2237B/10. Para One concur.  
guns for As regards para.2 (A) Additional Oerlikons  
W.A. on Column type mountings are to be fitted in  
destroyers. Western Approaches ships as follows:-  
(D.G.D. 1823B/19).

Movements.

→ WICHITA. 1st C.S. 1434/18. If convenient, request you will  
TUSCALOOSA. sail in WICHITA with TUSCALOOSA to arrive Scapa  
on 21/7.  
(C. in C.H.F. 0031B/19 to C.T.F. 99).

Home Fleet Following are future intentions.  
Ships. Capital Ships (A) Flag of C. in C. to be transferred  
KING GEORGE V on 25/7. (B) DUKE OF YORK proceed to  
Hvalfiord with Desdiv 19, after transfer of flag. (C) RENOWN  
return to Scapa on relief by DUKE OF YORK. (3) Cruisers (A) Flag of  
C.S.18 to be transferred to \*SHEFFIELD about 30/7. (B)\*CUMBERLAND  
sails for Hvalfiord on 20/7. (C)\*NORFOLK and \*KENYA sail for Scapa on  
21/7. (D) Comtask 99 in U.S.S. WICHITA with U.S.S. TUSCALOOSA sails  
→ from Hvalfiord to arrive Scapa on 21/7.  
(C. in C.H.F. 0037B/19 to Comtask 99, H.F. Ships.) \*See next page.  
x See to file /MARTIN.....



War Diary.19.7.1942.  
Sunday.HOME COMMANDS.Movements - Contd.

MARTIN, C. in C. H.F. 1437/18 onward route through  
 MARNE, positions: (u) 74.41, 41.09. (t) 72.46, 45.06.  
 BLANKNEY, (mu) 04.1, Teriberski (? 34).5 miles thence to  
 MIDDLETON. Kola Inlet. If weather is thick group (R)  
 beacons will be operating during approach first  
 ten minutes every hour.

(S.B.N.O. North Russia, 0925B/19 to MARTIN, C. in C. H.F.,  
 C.S.1, (R) A.C.O.S., A.C.I.C., F.O.(S), R.A.D.H.F., C. in C.  
 Rosyth, V.A.2, S.B.N.O. Archangel, Admty.)

NELSON, A.M. 1949/17th request you will sail Captain  
 RODNEY, (D) 6 in SOMALI with ICARUS and FORESIGHT to R/V  
 SOMALI, with NELSON and RODNEY p.m. on 23/7 and provide  
 ICARUS, additional screen to Scapa.  
 FORESIGHT. 2. Request you will route NELSON and RODNEY  
 (corrupt group) Hebrides to Scapa and arrange  
 for A/S air escorts.

3. A.M. 0801/17 and A.M. 1949/17 have been passed to Captain  
 (D) 6.  
 (C. in C. H.F., 1016B/19 to C. in C. W.A., (R) R.A.(D) H.F.,  
 F.O.C.N.A., A.C.O.S., Admty., Captain (D) 6.)

CANTON. R.A.W.A. 1221/11.  
 Onward route from position (F) (G) 055° 25' N.  
 009° 59' W. (H) 055° 35' 007° 00' thence Clyde.  
 (C. in C. W.A., 1032B/19 to CANTON.) *See p.578*

RORQUAL. (1) Intend to sail RORQUAL escorted by CUTTY  
 SARK at 0930B/21 for Plymouth E.T.A. 0600B/23.  
 (2) Thence CUTTY SARK return to Holy Loch  
 1600B/24. (3) N.O.I.C. Greenock is requested arrange fighter  
 co-operation (A) Passage South S. of A. 12 knots.  
 (B) CUTTY SARK passage North S. of A. 15 knots.  
 (C) Help message on 1740 K/cs or 2300 K/cs as applicable to  
 area. (4) W/T watch.  
 (Capt. (S) 3, 1051B/19 to C. in C. W.A., F.O.I.C. Liverpool,  
 F.O.I.C. Greenock, Admty., H.Q.F.C., H.Q.C.C., F.O.(S), C. in C.  
 Plymouth, N.O.I.C. Falmouth, Capt. (S) 5, Capt. (S) 7.)

CUMBERLAND, CUMBERLAND is to proceed to pass Hoxa at 1900B/20  
 NORFOLK, to Hvalfjord through 058° 50' N. 006° 50' W. and  
 KENYA. Reykjanes Passage. E.T.A. is to be reported  
 before sailing.

2. C.S.1 is requested to sail NORFOLK and KENYA  
 for Scapa on 21/7.

(C. in C. H.F., 1103B/19 to CUMBERLAND, C.S.1, (R) C. in C.  
 Rosyth, A.C.I.C., A.C.O.S., C.S.10, V.A.2, C. in C. W.A., C.S.18,  
 Admty., Comtask 99.) *See previous page (H.F. Ships.) next page*

/Your ...

559

War Diary.

19.7.1942.

Sunday.HOME COMMANDS.Movements - conts. -

→ CUMBERLAND  
NORFOLK  
KENYA.  
Contd.

Your 1103B/19th. <sup>N.T. in H.D.</sup> If circumstances permit request CUMBERLAND may be sailed to R/V with me 000° Skagi 3 miles at 1400B/21, with steam for full speed for tactical exercises. 2. NORFOLK and KENYA will be sailed for Scapa on completion of above exercises. (C.S.1.1350B/19 to C. in C.H.F.).

P.614.  
P.615.

Intend to recall P.614 and P.615 from North Russia now, C. in C.H.F. concurs. (F.O.S. 1138B/19 to Admty.).

DIOMEDE.

My Position 1500B. 057° 15' 006° 57' speed 15½ knots. Proceeding direct Rosyth E.T.A. 1330 20th. 1530 at hoom. Request 3 ammunition lighters first thing, Tuesday for disembarkation of all explosives. (DIOMEDE 1515Z/19 to C. in C.Rosyth).

30th M.L.  
Flotilla.

Your 2321B/18th. Reply - para.6 (a) Yes (b) No. (A.C.I.C. 1535B/19 to Admty. N.S.H.Q. B.A.D. Washington (R) C. in C.W.A. Connav, Cominch). Request you will arrange for the 30th M.L. Flotilla to be ready in all respects to sail for foreign service from Stornoway by 16/8. Officers and 16 ratings of spare crew and maintenance staff will be required to take passage in M.Ls themselves. Remaining ratings taking passage in escort. (D.D.O.D.(C) 1617B/19 to R.A.C.F.).

TRIBUNE.

1. Intend sailing TRIBUNE escorted by LORD LLOYD 1800B/19 routed as follows:- (a) 087° Sumburgh Head 5 miles. (b) 091° Fair Isle 5 miles. (c) 058° 28' N. 002° 43' thence by Searched Chamel to 23 buoy. 2. Capt.(S) 9 is requested to arrange an escort R/V at 23 buoy at 2100B/20 to escort TRIBUNE to Blyth E.T.A. 0600B/21. 3. From 23 buoy LORD LLOYD returns to Scapa. 4. A.C.O.S. is requested to arrange fighter protection to cover whole passage help messages on 385 K/Cs S.O.A. 10 knots. (S.O.(S) Lerwick 1613B/19 to A.C.O.S. C. in C.Rosyth (R) F.O.(S) Capt.(S) 9 Capt.(S) 3. Capt.(S) 6. H.Q.C.C. Admty.). My 1613/19 sailed. Communications. (S.O.(S) Lerwick. 1801B/19). Your 1613. Codeword "Market." (A.C.O.S. 1806/19. to S.O.(S) Lerwick).

LA CAPRICIEUSE.

Proceed with despatch to Lerwick reporting E.T.A. for escort duty with TRIDENT and STURGEON. N.O.I.C. Greenock is requested to arrange fighter co-operation from Barrahead, S. of A. 16 knots. (Capt.(S) 3. 1617B/19 to LA CAPRICIEUSE). <sup>See next page</sup> My 1103/19. para 1. For 1900B read 0800B. 2. CUMBERLAND is to R/V in accordance with C.S. 1 1350/19 not to all addressees. (C. in C.H.F. 1739B/19 to CUMBERLAND C.S.1. A.C.I.C. A.C.O.S. C. in C.W.A. Admty. C.S.18, C.T.F. 99, C. in C.Rosyth, C.S.10. R.A.D. H.F.).

/A.C.O.S...

War Diary.19.7.1942.  
Sunday.HOME COMMANDS.Movements - Contd.

A.C.O.S.

Scapa arrival A.C.O.S. in CHIDDINGFOLD  
(A.C.O.S. 1831/19).

MARTIN

/p.528  
{Your 1300B/18th sailed 1312B/19th. for *Sumburgh*.  
(A.C.I.C. 2035B/19 to R.A.(D) H.F.).TRIDENT  
STURGEON.1. Intend sailing TRIDENT and STURGEON escorted  
by \*LA CAPRICIEUSE for Holy Loch 1500B/20th,  
routed as follows: - \* *See Mission page.*(a) 87° Sumburgh Head 6 miles (b) 03° Fair Island,  
11 miles. (c) 03° Noup Head 9 miles (d) 181° Sule Skerry 5  
miles (e) 58° 41' N. 05° 06' W. (f) 58° 38' N. 05° 36' W. thence  
via Minches E.T.A. 1600B/22.2. A.C.O.S. is requested to arrange fighter protection to cover  
passage S. of A 10 knots. Help messages on 385 K/Cs.  
Communication with escort.(S.O.(S) Lerwick 2357B/19 and 1010B/20 to F.O.I.C. Greenock A.C.O.S.  
(R) F.O.S. Admty. H.Q.C.C. Capt.(S) 9. Capt.(S) 3, C. in C.W.A.).Operations.

Patrols.

CATTISTOCK and ALBRIGHTON will patrol in the  
vicinity of 050° 15' N. 001° 10' W. tonight  
19th/20th July if weather is suitable for E-Boat  
activity. Books landed in accordance with S.149/41.  
(C. in C. Portsmouth 1247B/19).→ p.467. My 1705B/16. M.G.Bs are to carry out this operation  
tonight Sunday with the same orders; amend dates in paras.6 and  
8 accordingly. 2. Para 1 CATTISTOCK and ALBRIGHTON will patrol  
near 50° 15' N. 01° 10' W.

(C. in C. Plymouth 1509B/19 to N.O.I.C. Dartmouth).

Portsmouth night movements 19/20. July. (1) 2 Chasseurs  
on patrol south E.A.5 buoy (2) 2 M.Ls on patrol 10 miles south  
of Portland.

(C. in C. Portsmouth 1547B/19).

→ Your 1509B/19. Intend sailing M.G.Bs 76 (S.O) 78, 75  
at 2245 to comply with your 1705B/16. p.467.  
Code word "Obstacle."

(N.O.I.C. Dartmouth 1745/19 to C. in C. Plymouth).

British Air Operations.Air  
Escort.C. in C. Home Fleet 927/Home Fleet 1230/112 of  
13/7 paras.3,4, and 5 air escort was withdrawn  
owing to weather conditions which also prevented  
R/C. Para.4 suggest A.C.I.C. could in future  
order local alteration of course if conditions make it necessary  
and C. in C.H.F. concurs with this proposal.  
Para.7 arrangements will be made accordingly.  
(A.C.I.C. 0125B/19 to Admty. C. in C.H.F.).

/Training...

War Diary.

19.7.1942.  
Sunday.

HOME COMMANDS.

British Air Operations. - Contd.

Training  
Bomber.

Training Wellington Bomber from 91 Group crashed in Milford Docks at 0250B/19 followed by explosions and fire. 6 bodies recovered. Small amount of damage confined to private property. In docks. Work of port unaffected. (F.O.I.C. Milford Haven 0957B/19)

Operation  
"Knocker."

My 1931B/18th. Delayed 2 hours on account of weather. Operation may be postponed further signal will be made. (A.C.I.C. 1106B/19).  
My 1106B/19. Operation cancelled today Sunday. (A.C.I.C. 1452B/19).  
My 1931B/18th W.P. operation will commence 0900Z/20. (A.C.I.C. 2045B/19).

Bomber  
Command.

Day 18th July. One Lancaster attacked a ship of 900-1200 tons in Ooster Schelde bombs being seen to overshoot. (H.Q.B.C. 1300/19).

ARGUS  
804 Sqn.

Admty. 1901/18. Propose ARGUS embarks aircraft of 804 Squadron from Machrihanish and ground party with stores from Greenock or Ardrossan. Request instructions and dates of embarkation for 804 Squadron and the six reserve Hurricanes if required. (R.A.N.A.S. 1303B/19 to R.A.A.).

Admiralty 1901/18. Six Sea Hurricanes one B are to be prepared as possible early requirements for embarkation in ARGUS. (R.A.N.A.S. 1305B/19 to C.D.B.).

My 1722/17. Please cancel proposed arrangements for 804 Squadron which is now required to embark in near future. (R.A.N.A.S. 1312B/19 to H.Q.F.C.).

Bombing  
Restrictions.

Request surface bombing restriction from 2300/19 to 0500/20 in area between Start Point, Alderney, Cape Barfleur, St. Catherines and from 0500/20 to 0700/20 10 miles either side of line joining Dartmouth and position 49°55'N 02° 15' W. (C. in C. Plymouth 1341B/19 to H.Q.C.C.).

North Russia.

5 enemy aircraft shot down. Claimed that 10,000 ton enemy ship possibly tanker hit when attacked by D B-3 torpedo bombers on 15/7. Honhyasvaag and Kirkenes again attacked by 3 and 2 bombers respectively on 19/7 and hits scored on shipping in both ports. (S.B.N.O. North Russia 1951B/19).

562

War Diary.19.7.1942.  
Sunday.HOME COMMANDS.Enemy Air Operations. Contd.

- Convoy F.N. 63. One A/C shadowing bearing 350° distant one mile from Convoy "Casing." My position 53° 0' N. 1° 46' E.  
(Escort 1225B/19).
- Convoy "Casing" being attacked by enemy aircraft. My position MBZG 1592 (corrupt.).  
(Guard 1608/19).  
Enemy aircraft are bombing Convoy "Casing" My position 53° 20' N. 1° 1' E.  
(Escort 1615/19).
- North Russia. After 3 days overcast weather enemy bombing resumed 18/7 when two-wave attack made on Rosta shipyard and Murmashy aerodrome bombed later.  
Damage not reported.  
(S.B.N.O. North Russia 1957B/19).

Mining.

- Thames Approaches. One ground mine detonated 18/7 as follows.  
(Capt.M/S Sheerness 0935/19).
- D.S. 30.A. Admty. 1738/16. \*NEWARK and ST MARYS detailed for D.S. 30.A.  
(Under convoy.) (R.A.(M) 0944/19). *Should be under Sheerness 7 Convoys - \* See 17.591*
- Q.Z.X. 750. My 1004/16 (N.T. in W.D.). Request Q Z X 750 may now be cancelled.  
(V.A.Dover 0954B/19 to Admty.).
- N.W. of Varne Shoal. My 0954B/9. It is intended to explore area to the Northwestward of Varne Shoal where spontaneous explosion has been seen and an action with E-Boats took place on 21st/22nd June during which mines may have been jettisoned. It is proposed to retain four motor minesweepers for this purpose.  
(V.A.Dover 0957B/19 to Admty.).  
Your 0957B/19. Approved. It is intended that the 104th Division shall continue to be based at Dover for the present.  
(D.M.S. 1750B/19 to V.A.Dover).
- S.N. 82. Your 1110/17. Concur.  
(D.D.O.D.(M) 1129B/19 to R.A.(M)).
- Off Beachy Head. Detonated red magnetic mine in 113° Beachy Head Light 5.3 miles.  
(Lt.M/S Newhaven 1233/19 to C. in C. Portsmouth).
- Needles Entrance. My 1812B/18. Details of detonation of 5 ground mines on 18/7.  
(C. in C. Portsmouth 1420/19).

War Diary.19.7.1942.  
Sunday.HOME COMMANDS.Enemy Intelligence.

Trondheim. P.R.U. Trondheim 1300/19. KÖLN still in Foetten Fiord, and LÜTZOW in Lofjord. Only 1 destroyer present, at Hopleelven.  
(D.D.I.C. 2155B/19).

U-Boats.

U/B. Enemy submarine sighted in 43° 0' N. 25° 36' W. on surface and then observed to submerge. Have now lost touch.  
(A/C F.Sqn. 0020/19).

Unknown Ship. R.Z.63 torpedoed ends 0041/19.  
(Valentia Radio No.T.O.O.

Estimated positions. Outward bound U-Boats are estimated approx. as follows at 1200Z/19.  
One. 63° 01' N. 2° 59' W. westbound  
Two or three 61° 01' to 62° 29' 3' 01' to 3° 59' E. bound N. or N.W.  
(D.D.I.C. 1320B/19 to S/Ms on patrol N.of 51° N).

U/B. A/C reports possible enemy submarine in 054° 32' N 005° 18' W. course North at 1050B/19.  
(F.O.(S) 1746B/19 to WHITE BEAR).

O.S.34. C. in C.W.A. 1941B/19 see North Atlantic.

Navigational.

21 F Buoy. Commodore F.N.762 reports 21 F buoy light extinguished.  
(N.C.S.O.Methil 0908/19).

Methil 0908/19 request QZH.  
(C. in C.Rosyth 1612B/19 to Admty.).

Light Buoy. Light Buoy marking wreck in approx. 51° 13' N. 01° 27' E. extinguished. Request by Q.Z.H.  
(V.A.Dover 0952B/19 to Admty.).

Casualties and Defects.

LONDONDERRY. Request Type W.25 transformer for Type 271 may be sent via destroyer my P.C. and S. 0800N/19.  
040° 29' N. 021° 18' W. 000° 7.5 Weather.  
(LONDONDERRY 0903Z/19 to N.O.I.C.Londonderry).

/WINSTON SALEM...

War Diary.19.7.1942.  
Sunday.HOME COMMANDS.Casualties & Defects. Contd.WINSTON  
SALEM  
(P.Q.17).

The crew of WINSTON SALEM now ashore off North Gusing (?) Bornes are reported to be giving considerable trouble. She is not heavily aground and the inner bottom is not pierced. The crew have abandoned ship and are living in a lighthouse. They have thrown breech blocks of guns overboard, taken machine gun and refuse to give any assistance to Russian surveying vessel, which has succeeded in laying out bower anchors, or to raise steam. I have requested Cmdr. Frankel Assistant U.S. Naval Attache to proceed by Soviet Union CATAPINA today to take charge. Surgeon Lieutenant Wilkins R.N.V.R. also flying to attend wounded. Russian merchant ship DIKSON and 2 trawlers R.F.A. reported 17/7 to lighten WINSTON SALEM. (S.B.N.O. Archangel 1154B/19 to S.B.N.O. North Russia).

Your 1154/19. Commander Frankel reported that crew of WINSTON SALEM refused to return and navigate ship. Naval crew will be provided from survivors ex H.M.S. EDINBURGH and H.M.S. GOSSAMER to navigate ship to Archangel unless corvettes now proceeding to Matochkin Strait can spare sufficient officers and men for passage. Presume you are in communication with Frankel who will report developments. (S.B.N.O. North Russia. 2206B/19 to S.B.N.O. Archangel).

SHEFFIELD  
Tilt Test.

Your 1933/17 and SHEFFIELD's 1830/18. It is essential to carry out Tilt Test of SHEFFIELD before ship starts working up. It is understood that dock at Rosyth will be available on 24th, 25th and 29th July.

2. Delay must be accepted. 3. Request that you will arrange for the ship to be sailed for Rosyth and the Tilt Test to be carried out as early as convenient.

(D.O.D.(H) 1226B/19 to C. in C. Rosyth).

Your 1830/18. SHEFFIELD can be accepted for Tilt Test 24/7 and ship is to pass Beamer Rock at 1045/24th and will be unbasined on the following days. This is the only date that can be arranged for some considerable time. Ship may be sailed for Rosyth when convenient.

(C. in C. Rosyth 1229B/19 to N.O.I.C. Newcastle).

Your 1933B/17. As I consider tilt test to be essential what is the earliest date it can be carried out?

(C. in C.H.F. 1233B/19 to C. in C. Rosyth).

URSULA.

A.M.1908/18. URSULA can be taken in hand by Ardrossan Dockyard Co., on 24/7 for changing of main generators. S.3. is requested to arrange with N.O.I.C. Ardrossan and to sail ship as required. (F.O.I.C. Glasgow. 1237B/19 to Admty (R) F.O.S. S.3.N.O.I.C. Ardrossan).

/H.M. D. CORAL BANK....

War Diary.19.7.1942.  
Sunday.HOME COMMANDS.Casualties & Defects - Contd.

H.M.D. Gt.Yarmouth 19/7. Departure tug SUPERMAN to assist  
CORAL BANK. H.M.D.CORAL BANK at present in tow H.M.T.TURQUOISE  
vicinity 56 Light Buoy. SUPERMAN has Salvage  
Officer. and pumps aboard.  
(F.O.I.C.Yarmouth 1455B/19).

BLYSKAWICA . Intend to sail BLYSKAWICA to carry out repair  
trials en route to Plymouth where trials party  
wish to land. E.T.D. Needles 0915/20 E.T.A.  
approx. 1400/20. Codeword "Device." Air escort will be requested.  
Ref. C. in C.W.A. 1745/18. C. in C.Plymouth is requested to  
issue onward sailing orders if trials are satisfactory.  
(C. in C. Portsmouth 1603B/19 to C. in C. Plymouth).

HONOMU. Arrival Kola Inlet HALCYON, SALAMANDER, with 21  
survivors, from HONOMU. Master F.A.Strand taken  
prisoner by U-Boat. Remaining 19 survivors in  
life-boat with Chief Officer not sighted. HONOMU was sunk by  
U-Boat at 1430.G.M.T./5. 075° 66' N. 038° 00' E. Survivors  
found 1000 G.M.T./18 on rafts 073° 41' N. 037° 10' E. No serious  
casualties.  
(S.B.N.O.North Russia 1814B/19 to Admty).

RICHARD To sail for Tyne 20/7.  
BLAND (A.C.I.C. 1923B/19).  
(P.Q.17).

NEVADA. Following received from Lands End Radio via  
unknown station from NEVADA "ashore 56.41 N.(?6)  
29 W."  
(C. in C. Plymouth 2023/19 to Admty).

Shipping & Convoys.

P.Q.17. My 174<sup>B</sup>/16. As soon as convoy leaves Matochkin  
Straits, POZARICA, BRAMBLE, LEDA, BRITOMART, and  
DIANELLA will be sailed to R/V in 068° 33' N.  
049° 20' E, Soviet Union destroyers KUIBYSHEV,  
and URITSKY joining force off Cape Gorodetski.  
HAZARD and SEAGULL leave 1700B today to sweep QZL 50 and 49 and to  
carry out A/S patrol and will afterwards meet convoy off Kanin  
Nos Admiral Comd.White Sea has requested C. in C.Northern Fleet to  
provide destroyer cover against possible surface attack.  
(S.B.N.O.Archangel 1137B/19 to S.B.N.O. North Russia).

W.S.21 P. and My 1036/13. 2 If weather is sufficiently  
S.L.115. favourable for oiling at sea BUXTON and  
GEORGETOWN should be detached at prudent limit of  
endurance and proceed to join escorts of S.L.115, S.O. of escort  
LONDONDERRY, and fuel from oiler in convoy. 2. If weather is not  
sufficiently favourable destroyers are to remain till prudent  
limit of endurance and return to base independently calling at  
Moville for fuel.



War Diary.19.7.1942.  
Sunday.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping & Convoys. - conts. -

W.S.21.P. and S.L.115. 3. Destroyers are to report intentions when well clear.  
4. Estimated P.C. and S. S.L.115 at 1200/20 043° 35' N. 021° 20' W. routed through.  
A. 051° 25' 021° 20' W. U. 053° 44' 015° 32'  
V. 055° 25' 008° 20'. Speed 7½ knots.  
(C. in C.W.A. 1246B/19 to ORION, (R) Admty.  
N.O.I.C. Greenock N.O.I.C. Liverpool Capt. (D) Greenock Capt. (D)  
Liverpool F.O.C.N.A. C. in C.H.F. BUXTON, GEORGETOWN, LONDONDERRY,  
SALISBURY).

H.X.198 H.X.198. When SALADIN and SABRE have joined, convoy is to spilt, ships capable of 11½ knots proceeding as H.X.198, fast codeword Bucket.  
2. SALADIN, SABRE, and two corvettes are to escort H.X.198 fast.  
3. HESPERUS report names of ships proceeding in H.X.198 fast and corvettes detailed.  
(C. in C.W.A. 1804Z/19 to C.T.U.24.1.16. for Cdre).

Ships for P.Q.18. In view of lengthy postponement date sailing P.Q.18 I am much concerned regarding welfare and morale of the crews of some 50 ships that will be inactive in Hvalfjord for many weeks. No local facilities exist for suitable recreational entertainment and though H.M. Ships in Hvalfjord do their best more is wanted over such a period than occasional picture entertainments. Crews of these ships are not allowed to land at Reykjavik for security customs and medical reasons. Even were landing permitted there is nowhere for men to go or any form of entertainment available. The problem of victualling is also difficult. Suggest it would be preferable for these ships to be sailed for British ports rather than lie idle under such conditions here. These conditions equally apply to U.S. Flagships and Commandant N.O.B., (I) is in agreement with this signal. Request instructions.  
(A.C.I.C. 1811B/19 to Admty.)

D.S. 30A. ~~S. p. 562.~~C. in C.W.A. 1932B/19.  
See North Atlantic.

War Diary.

19.7.1942.  
Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

U/B attack on O.S. 34      Attack by U-boat in 042° 29' N., 025° 26' W., at 2329N/18. One ship torpedoed.  
(FOLKESTONE, 0050Z/19 to C.in C. W.A., (R) Admty, F.O.C.N.A.)  
My 0050Z. Second S/M sighted diving at 0230Z.  
3 depth charge attacks carried out without visible result.  
Am rejoining Convoy.  
(FOLKESTONE, 0411Z/19 to C. in C. W.A., (R) Admty, F.O.C.N.A.)  
A.M. 2106B/18. Further bearings up to 0555Z/19 indicate that one or more U-boats are still shadowing O.S. 34.  
(D.D.I.C., 0929B/19 to Escorts of O.S. 34, (R) F.O.C.N.A., R.A.W.Af. C. in C. W.A., H.Q.C.C.)

EMPIRE      Am standing by LAVINGTON COURT torpedoed in  
HAWKSBILL,      042° 38' N., 025° 28' W., at 0025 G.M.T./19  
LAVINGTON      Stem blown off and engine useless. In view of  
COURT,      lack of escort with O.S. 34 intend to rejoin  
torpedoed.      convoy. Consider salvage possible if tugs sent  
(O.S. 34).      at once. Crew on board WELLINGTON except 5  
      killed in explosion. Weather report.  
      (WELLINGTON, 0559Z/19 to F.O.C.N.A.)

Ref. W.A.C.1 part (?2) (A) 0029Z/19 042° 29' N., 025° 26' W.  
(B) 2. (C) (1) EMPIRE HAWKSBILL (2) LAVINGTON COURT. No survivors from (1) 5 killed, remainder in WELLINGTON from (2)  
(D) See WELLINGTON 0559Z/19. (E) WELLINGTON rejoining with survivors. 1st U-boat sighted and attacked with depth charges by GORLESTON position G and N.E. 4 during "Raspberry".  
2nd U-boat sighted approaching to (?attack) by FOLKESTONE regaining position J. Attacked with depth charges. Contact lost after 3rd attack. No evidence of destruction in either case. ETTRICK BANK missing believed straggler. Weather report.  
(FOLKESTONE, 1150Z/19 to C. in C. W.A., (R) Admty etc).

WELLINGTON's 0559. Can tug be sent from U.K. or should CHARON or PRUDENT be used observing I had intended sailing BURHAM on 23rd?  
(V.A.C.N.A., 1202B/19 to Admty (R) C. in C. Plymouth, C. in C. Western Approaches.)

If it would facilitate arrangements you are making to salve LAVINGTON COURT you may order COLTSFOOT to proceed to her assistance now or alternatively order SENNEN to leave EMPIRE SPEY tonight for this purpose. *See p 564*  
(A.C.N.S. (T), 1324B/19 to F.O.C.N.A. (R) C. in C. W.A.)

Reference to COLTSFOOT not understood your 1342/19.  
(V.A.C.N.A., 1800B/19 to Admty (R) C. in C. W.A.)

- Your 1202/19. 1. No tug available in U.K.  
2. As sailing of DURHAM will have to be postponed if either tug is used you should send both CHARON and PRUDENT.  
3. LAVINGTON COURT should be towed to U.K. if practicable.  
4. RHODODENDRON and HAARLEM may be used as escort.  
5. If LAVINGTON COURT cannot be salvaged tugs and escort should return to Gibraltar.  
(D.O.D., (F), 1932B/19 to F.O.C.N.A. (R) C. in C. Plymouth, C. in C. W.A.)

My 1246/19 (see Home Commands - Shipping) para.1  
Delete GEORGETOWN.

2. GEORGETOWN is to be detached as convenient to search for LAVINGTON COURT torpedoed and abandoned in 042° 38' N., 025° 25'

War Diary.

19.7.1942.  
Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic - conts.

EMPIRE W., at 0225B/19.  
HAWKSBILL, 3. GEORGETOWN is to refuel Azores.  
LAVINGTON 4. MANSFIELD is being sailed to relieve  
COURT, GEORGETOWN.  
torpedoed. (C. in C. W.A., 1932B/19 to ORION (R) SALISBURY,  
(O.S.34). Capt. (D) Liverpool, Admty, N.O.I.C. Greenock,  
N.O.I.C. Liverpool, Capt. (D) Greenock, F.O.C.N.A.  
BUXTON, GEORGETOWN, LONDONDERRY, MANSFIELD,  
N.O.I.C. Londonderry, FOLKESTONE)

My 1932/19. Sail MANSFIELD as soon as possible to attend  
GEORGETOWN.

2. MANSFIELD is to refuel at Azores.  
(C. in C. W.A., 1941B/19 to N.O.I.C. Londonderry, (R) Admty,  
F.O.C.N.A., ORION, GEORGETOWN, MANSFIELD, LONDONDERRY, SALISBURY)  
GEORGETOWN may be expected to arrive Ponta Delgada  
22/7 or 23/7 and will require approx. 300 tons fuel.  
(C. in C. W.A., 2220B/19 to B.C. Ponta Delgada (R) Admty,  
F.O.C.N.A., B.N.A. Lisbon).  
(Not to arrive before 0800/23, See Lisbon 1551/20).

U/B attacked S/M sighted on surface 052° 8 miles 052°, my  
by position 041° 23' N., 023° 27' W. Am chasing  
GORLESTON. and overtaking slowly. WELLINGTON in company  
Weather report.  
(GORLESTON 1301Z/19 to F.O.C.N.A. (R) C. in C.  
W.A., N.O.I.C. Londonderry, FOLKESTONE, R.I.N.  
ORISSA).

My 1301Z. S/M dived and was attacked in (041) 47' N., 023° 22'  
W. by both ships before contact faded. 3 unexplained explosions  
4 minutes after WELLINGTON's attack only sign of result. While  
returning to Convoy am closing to investigate suspicious  
Merchant ship which must have been close to surface S/M during  
early stage of chase. WELLINGTON rejoining direct. Weather  
report.

(GORLESTON, 1520Z/19 to F.O.C.N.A. (R) C. in C. W.A. N.O.I.C.  
Londonderry - FOLKESTONE).

Have attacked S/M at periscope depth with D/Cs in  
41.48 N., 23.09 W., and close to merchant ship mentioned in my  
1520Z.

(GORLESTON, 1640Z/19 to WELLINGTON).

My 1640Z. No visible signs of result of 2 attacks.  
In view of urgency of rejoining am proceeding to finish  
interrogation of ETRICK BANK.

(GORLESTON, 1700Z/19 to F.O.C.N.A. (R) C. in C. W.A., N.O.I.C.  
Londonderry, FOLKESTONE).

Convoy O.S.34 has been shadowed by tow or more U-boats  
during the day. Last transmission intercepted was at 1312Z/19.  
(D.D.I.C., 1831B/19 to Escorts of O.S.34., (R) F.O.C.N.A.,  
R.A.W.A., C. in C. W.A., H.Q.C.C.)

D/F Bearings at 1759Z/19 indicate U-boat still in  
contact with Convoy O.S.34.

(D.D.I.C., 2100B /19 to Escorts of O.S.34., (R) F.O.C.N.A.,  
R.A.W.A., C. in C. W.A., H.Q.C.C.)

French Passing 18/7. Eastbound 2125 ROUENNAIS laden  
Shipping. OUERGA laden, KERMARIA, trawler MONTESQUIEU  
light deck cargo, PARAME, laden, POITOU, KEROMAN  
both trawlers.  
(V.A.C.N.A., 1007/19 to Admty for M.E.W.)

/Gib...

War Diary.19.7.1942.  
Sunday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic - con. TS:-

**French Shipping.** Contd. Gibraltar 1000. Armed trawler ESTAFETTE, trawlers MENWEN, TATIANA, AUGUST DENISE Westbound (S.O.(I) Gib. 1901B/19 to Admty. R.A.W.A.F., S.O.(I) Kingston).

**Portuguese Mails.** Your 1112B/14/7 (instructions re interception of Portuguese ships) and my 1803B/13/7. (re removal of mails from AFRICA OCIDENTAL) It appears that ships sailing between the Atlantic Islands and Portugal with Navicerts carry mails to and from Portuguese Guinea which have not been examined at Bathurst in accordance with paragraphs (a) (2) and (B) (5) of your 1321/15/12/40. (2) Is it in order for these Portuguese Guinea mails to be removed even although ship is sailing between Atlantic Islands and Portugal when intercepted? (F.O.C.N.A., 1014B/19 to Admty).

**LÉOPARD** Your 1430/16. <sup>/p. 472</sup> Concur F.N.F.L. agrees. (A.C.N.S. (F), 1120B/19 to LEOPARD)

**EMERALD.** Intend sailing EMERALD at 0615B/20 routed through. A. 36° 30' N., 09° 30' W. B. 41° 10' N., 14° 30' W., C. 43° 01' N., 14° 30' W. S. of A 20 knots. E.T.A. Wolfe Rock first light 23rd. 2. C. in C. Plymouth is requested to issue onward routing instructions to Portsmouth. (F.O.C.N.A., 1244B/19 to Admty C. in C. Plymouth (R) EMERALD, C. in C. Portsmouth) Sailed (F.O.C.N.A., 0720B/20).

**Situation** 1958B/19. (i) 2 Fleet units 5 destroyers 019° 38' 022° 27' through 020° 08' 022° 42' thence 001° 16'. (F.O.C.N.A., 1414B/19).

**SENNEN, EMPIRE SPEY.** Your 2120/19 (N.T. in W.D.) / <sup>2-1-567</sup> Ref. C. in C. W.A. 1932/19, cancel my 1324/19. SENNEN is to rejoin EMPIRE SPEY. My 1811/18. Your 1800/19. Who is relieving SENNEN and when is she expected to R/V with EMPIRE SPEY? (D.O.D. (F) 2355B/19 to F.O.C.N.A. (R) C. in C. W.A.) <sup>2-1-571</sup>

War Diary.19.7.1942.  
Sunday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic.U/B  
NELSON.

One submerged S/M 340° 1 mile course unknown position 15° 34' N., 20° 46' W. based on a fix obtained within ½ hour of 2000.  
(NELSON, 0131Z/19 to Whitehall W/T).

D/F bearings at 0150Z/19 indicate U/B to E. of Cape Verde probably that reported by NELSON in approx. 15° 34' N., 21° 00' W., at 0131Z/19.

(D.D.I.C., 1008B/19 to R.A.W.A., NELSON, PHOEBE, CORINTHIAN,  
(R) F.O.C.N.A., Cominch, C. in C. S.A.)

Transports  
for  
Madagascar  
and M.E.

Proposals in your 1526/17 are satisfactory except that a new commitment has arisen necessitating use of one of MAURETANIA, ILE DE FRANCE and NIEUW AMSTERDAM for urgent movement of U.S. air forces from New York to Middle East. Vessel is to sail New York in August.

2. Propose that MAURETANIA on completion of repairs about 6/8 should proceed to New York for this purpose.
3. This would mean inclusion of additional ships in C.M.31 to provide for W.S.20 personnel for Middle East intended by your 1526/17 para. 6 to proceed in MAURETANIA.
4. Request report of your proposals to meet para. 3 above.
5. To avoid delay to W.S.20 on account of slow speed of NOVA SCOTIA this ship should be included in C.M.31.  
(D.S.T., 0533B/19 to P.S.T.O. Simonstown).

LARGS

Your 1229B/17 (Date of arrival for conversion in U.K.) Late September.  
(R.A.W.A., 0904Z/19 to Admty).

ST. BERNARD

Overdue shipping my 0940B/14 (0948 intended) cancel ST. BERNARD, ship was diverted to Colombo and Madras now due Durban 1/8.  
(S.O.(I) Capetown, 1130B/19 to Admty etc).

CHESHIRE

My 1615/18. CHESHIRE S. of A. knots 12.5. Shifting W/T to P at 1700Z/23.  
(S.O.(I) Capetown, 1148B/19 to Admty, C. in C. S.A., R.A.W.A.)

South African  
Naval Forces.

My 0853/29/6 Name now changed to South African Naval Forces. Conference in Pretoria will work out details.

2. My 1718/19 /6 para. 2. It would be opportune for message to be sent from First Lord to F.M. Smuts welcoming creation of S.A. N.F. and suggest this message might recommend formation of South African Naval Board independently of Military Administration.

3. R.N.V.R., S.A. feel they are being swamped by S.D.F. and that their loyalty to R.N. has not been recognised. As R.N.V.R./S.A. will cease to exist as such from 1/8 an Admty. appreciation of their services would be appropriate. It would also assist current negotiations.

(C. in C. S.A., 1203B/19 to Admty).

War Diary.

19.7.1942.  
Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic - Contd.

EMPIRE  
PINTAIL.

Your 1550/2 <sup>(N.T.W.D.)</sup> and 0145/3 <sup>(N.T.W.D.)</sup> did EMPIRE PINTAIL arrive Freetown?  
(2) If so request date of sailing and route.  
(D.T.D., 1233B/19 to R.A.W.A. (R) N.S.H.Q., S.O. (I Jamaica).

Escort for  
EMPIRE SPEY.

C. in C. W.A. 0920B/8/7. Request COMMANDANT D'ESTIENNE D'ORVES may be sailed as necessary to join escorts of suitable O.S. convoy to Freetown.  
(R.A.W.A.F., 1707Z/19 to F.O.C.N.A. (R) Admty, Capt. D.18). 10.56g

War Diary19.7.1942  
SundayFOREIGN STATIONSMediterraneanEnemy Units  
WELSHMAN

Following has been read, addressed Air H.Q. Malta from A/C of No. 30 Squadron Malta Command Duty Z. 4 enemy vessels, type unknown, bearing 000° distance 2 miles course 220°. My position 3822 1150.

(Malta Port Wave, 0105/19).

Aircraft Z 0105/19. Reported on landing a very large vessel speed 35 knots believed to be warship but not certain.

(V.A. Malta, 0519B/19 to WELSHMAN).

P.R.U. sighted 2 cruisers and 2 destroyers entering Palermo at 0720B/19. Photographs later.

(V.A. Malta, 1102B/19, to Admty (R) C.in C. Med. F.O.C. N.A. WELSHMAN).

My 1102/19. Photograph shows merchant ship but no cruiser entering Palermo. Cagliari being covered p.m. today.

(2) Beaufighter on patrol off Malta at 2300B/18th sighted flak in approx. position of WELSHMAN.

(3) A.S.V. on patrol Sicilian Channel sighted at 0105B/19 in 38.24 N. 11.49 E. 4 vessels believed to be warships proceeding 220° at very high speed.

(4) Baltimore on dawn clearing search round WELSHMAN failed to locate but visibility was very low with considerable cloud.

(5) Remarks:- (A) WELSHMAN was not seen by air R/C on leaving Malta and early hour at which enemy surface force must have sailed to intercept points to intelligent anticipation based on improvement in weather or leakage from Malta which is not thought likely as few know and only indication was oiling ship.

(N.O.I.C., Malta, 1447B/19, to Admty (R) F.O.C.N.A. C. in C. Med. WELSHMAN).

P.R.U. A.M. today Sunday. The 4 ships reported in my 1102/19 as 2 cruisers and 2 destroyers are shown by photograph to be 1 tanker 5 - 6000 tons, 1 merchant ship, 4 - 5000, and 2 torpedo boats. See my 1447/19. Palermo. 3 E-Boats, 2 sloops, 5 F-Boats afloat and 5 on stock, 2 E-Boats entering. Tunis. 1 liner of Lamoricriere Class, 1 merchant ship, 4 - 5000 tons, 1 merchant ship 2000 tons, 2 merchant ships 1 - 2000 tons.

(V.A. Malta, 1630B/19, to C.in C. Med. F.O.C.N.A. Admty).

My 1447/19. Cagliari. 2 6 inch cruisers, 3 destroyers and 2 S/Ms. (2) Cruisers not definitely identified but almost certainly those last reported in Naples in my 1803/18 (3)

F.O.C.N.A. pass to EAGLE.

(V.A. Malta, 2145B/19 to Admty (R) C.in C. Med. F.O.C.N.A.):

You were probably sighted by enemy aircraft at 0920B/19, course 270°.

(Capt. O.S., Alexandria, 1651C/19 to WELSHMAN (R) V.A. Malta, F.O.C. N.A. C.in C. Med.).

M.E. Air  
Report  
(Cositrep  
455)

Night 17/18. 2 Halifaxes 50 Wellingtons bombed shipping and harbour installations Tobruk. 1 ship claimed hit. Large fires with explosions started along water front. 6 Albacores bombed M.T. central sector. Starting 3 fires.

/18/7. ...

573

War Diary19.7.1942  
SundayFOREIGN STATIONSMediterranean - contd.

M.E. Air Report (Cositrep 455) Contd: 18/7. Sandstorms restricted operations. Ref: Cositrep 454 para. 10 5 Beauforts attacked M/V 6000 tons off Matruh with torpedoes at dusk 17/7. Results unobserved. Ship bombed in Matruh harbour following night by 2 Albacres, 4 near misses. Large petrol fire started on shore.  
(C.in C. M.E., 1240/19).

A/S Vessels. C.in C. E.F. 0935/14. (Report of Japanese S/M R/C in Approaches to Persian Gulf). Regret I cannot spare any A/S Vessels from Mediterranean. Of the 4 ships of 14th M.S.F. now on passage to Mediterranean Poole and one other are required for Aden. No objection to other 2 remaining in Eastern Fleet until reinforcements can be sent from home.  
(C.in C. Med., 1305C/19, to Admty (R) C.in C. E.F.).

Torpedoes for Malta Request you will inform me of number of torpedoes (a) Submarine, (b) aircraft, that may be expected to arrive in Malta from Gibraltar in next month either by PARTHIAN, CLYDE or WELSHMAN.

Request any opportunity of sending A/C torpedoes in addition to S/M torpedoes may be taken. R.N.G.H.Q., pass to H.Q.R.A.F. M.E. (C.in C. Med., 1401C/19, to F.O.C.N.A.(R) V.A. Malta, Admty, Capt. S.1., H.Q. R.A.F. M.E. Capt. S.10.).  
Reply: F.O.C.N.A., 2252/20.

Canal Minesweeping C.in Cs. 1850/25/7/41. Weekly M/S Summary. 12-18/7  
(1) Of the 8 danger points remaining 11/7 3 which were close together were cancelled after search by divers revealed two mines were destroyed and two caps. 5 danger points remain, 2 parachute mines and 3 G type.  
(2) Diving has continued each day between Convoys and Static clearances have been carried out ahead of Convoys.  
(3) Movements between Timsah and Suez have been restricted to 1 Convoy N. and 1 S. each day.  
(F.O.R.S.C.A., 1440C/19, to Admty (R) C.in C. Med).

Malta Air Report. I.486 C.S.R. 19/7. 17th 1630 hours. 16 Spitfires up, raid did not come in. Night 18/19, no alerts. 1955 to 0015, 3 Beaufighters on individual patrol North Malta no combats. 19th, 2 alerts. 0544 4 plus ME 109s crossed coast, 4 Spitfires up, no interceptions insufficient height due to totally inadequate warning by R.D.F. system owing to serious interference. 1243, 12 plus Re.2001s. none crossed coast 8 Spitfires intercepted over island, no claims.  
(H.Q. R.A.F., Malta, 1730/19).

/GULF ...



War Diary

19.7.1942  
Sunday

FOREIGN STATIONS

Mediterranean Contd:

GULF STREAM  
sunk

Following personnel missing presumed killed when launch GULF STREAM blew up outside Alexandria boom at 0500/16/7. (List). Believed small explosion caused by mishandling of a charge (?charge) resulted in a fire which later ignited magazine.  
(C.in C. Med. 1851C/19, to Admt'y (R) Patrols, Lowestoft).

NEREUS

Leave patrol P.M./22 through 036° 28' 026° 09' and 035° 45' 027° 37' to 034° 17' 032° 11' thence as ordered by Capt. (S) 1.  
(Capt. S. 10, 2109C/19, to Greek S/M NEREUS (R) C.in C. Med. Capt. (S) 1, Capt. (S) CORINTHIA No. 201 N.C. Gp.)

Situation  
Report 237.

Western Desert. Night 17/18 July DULVERTON, HURWORTH, ERIDGE and BEAUFORT carried out bombardment of Mersa Matruh Harbour area but results not known due to failure of flare illumination and bad weather. Enemy A/A batteries opened ineffective fire on ships towards end.  
Night 18/19 July same destroyers less BEAUFORT repeated bombardment, 72 rounds fired about half in target area. Bad weather and presence of E-Boats caused bombardment to be discontinued. One E-Boat was chased but escaped. No damage or casualties to our forces in these operations.  
2. Turkey. Turkish S/M ATILAY sunk off entrance to Dardanelles during fleet exercises 14/7. Salvage impossible, details of accident unknown.  
3. Malta. PARTHIAN has arrived Malta with supplies. Move of 10th S/M Flotilla to Malta is now taking place.  
(C. in C. Med., 1949C/19.)

War Diary.

19.7.1942.  
Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

Dhows and  
Sampans in  
Combined  
Operations.

Your 0903/13. 1. 250 outboard motors mostly 22 H.P. will be shipped immediately from U.K. if required. Signal where these should be sent.  
2. Information regarding 100 H.P. engines will be sent shortly.  
(Admty., 0024B/19 to F.O.C.R.I.N., (R) B.A.D.)

AQUITANIA.

Sailed a.m./19. N.O.I.C. Diego Suarez 1713Z/18 not to first 2 addressees refers. Requirements. (S.T.O. Diego Suarez, 0450Z/19 to P.S.T.O. Simonstown, (R) D. of S.T., C. in C. S.A., C. in C. E.F.)

STEAUUA  
ROMANA.

Your 1242B/9 (re ships sunk in Mozambique Channel since 27/6.) STEAUUA ROMANA arrived Abadan 14/7.  
(S.O.I. Colombo, 0456Z/19 to S.O.I. Capetown, (R) Admty., C. in C. E.F.)

HOOBKERK.

Your 2153/17 HOOBKERK confirmed. Diversion signal was made 0635/1/7 but was apparently not received.  
(D. C. in C. E.F., 0742Z/19 to Admty.)

Troop  
Movements.

My 0926/17 para. D. B.A.29, ERINPURA replaces KUTSANG. Para. E. B.P.50, NEVASA replaces ETHIOPIA and CAP ST. JACQUES replaces ERINPURA. (P.S.T.O. India, 0805Z/19 to D. C. in C. E.F., (R) F.O. Ceylon, etc.)

Japanese  
Troop  
Movements.

Chinese D.M.I. states.  
1. Nearly 100 vessels sailed from Wenchow on 16/7 direction unspecified having embarked 20,000 men reported to be 32 Div.  
2. Lishui still occupied but airfield totally destroyed. Chinese claim recapture Tsingsien.  
3. 20,000 men have been withdrawn through Hangchow being personnel 17 and 166 Divs. and 11 Independent Bde. They are being replaced by puppet troops.  
(M.A. Chungking, 0820/19 to W.O.)  
N.I.D. Comment: War Office is trying to get confirmation from other sources of this withdrawal of 2 divisions from Central China.  
No reports to indicate destination of these troops.

/Enemy ...

War Diary.19.7.1942.  
Sunday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies - Contd.Enemy  
Reports from  
Lourenco  
Marques.

My 0924/5 and C. in C. S.A. 1410/11 both repeated to Admty. C. in C. S.A.'s proposed involves delay of at least 48 hours. Consider it is of vital importance to obtain earliest possible information of Japanese movements in Mozambique Channel. Request F.O. be urged to allow a H/F transmitter to be installed in Consulate (? General) Lourenco Marques. Understand enemy Consulates have wireless sets.  
(C. in C. E.F., 0936Z/19 to Admty., (R) C. in C. S.A.)

→ Movements.

0951Z/19. Arrived DRAGON. 1050Z/19 arrived C.S.4 in\*CALEDON, H.T.\*MONARCH OF BERMUDA. (N.O.I.C. Diego Suarez, 1115Z/19 to Admty., etc.)  
1130Z/13 sailed ACTIVE and FORTUNE for Seychelles. Knots 18 E.T.A. 0500Z/21.  
(N.O.I.C. Diego Suarez, 1410Z/19 to Admty., etc.)  
Arrival 19/7 ROYAL SOVEREIGN and Neth. Cruiser HEEMSKERCK.  
(F.O.I.C. E.A. & Z., 1546Z/19 to Admty.)

*\* See next page.*

O. 23.

Neth. Sub. O.23 left Colombo 1130(Z?)/19 routed through - G. 005° 30' 079° 45'. H. 005° 08' 082° 42'. I. 005° 14' 086° 56'. J. 005° 32' 092° 58' thence south of line joining 005° 50' 094° 08' and 006° 40' 095° 00' to patrol off Penang South of 006° 20' N. and east of (?098°) 30' E.  
(S.O.(S) Colombo, 1143/19 to TRUSTY, (R) O.23.)

Nairobi  
F.A.A.  
Station.

Nairobi Airport was taken over completely from R.A.F. on 16/7 and is now in operation with extemporised equipment. There are 9 aircraft in storage, 56 under inspection or repair, and 15 being reduced to salvage. 40 engines are under or awaiting overhaul. Personnel details. Request full complement of Technical Officers may be provided as soon as possible.  
(Com. N.A.S., 1239Z/19 to Admty., (R) C. in C. E.F.)

→ Movement  
summary  
No.7 19/7.

Ref. summary 6 (v) Neth. light cruiser HEEMSKERCK arrived Kilindini 19th.  
(ix) ROYAL SOVEREIGN arrived Kilindini 19th.  
(xi) CHITRAL due Aden 21st.  
(xiii) NEWCASTLE due Bombay 21st with C.M.29B.  
(xix) DRAGON arrived Diego Suarez 19th.

War Diary.

19.7.1942.  
Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

Movement summary No.7 19/7. (Contd.) Ref. summary 6 contd.

1.	CALEDON <i>See previous page (Movement)</i>	Kilindini 17th	Diego Suarez 19th	Escorting MONARCH OF BERMUDA.
2.	H.M.S. QUEEN } ELIZABETH } NAPIER } → FOXHOUND ✓ }	Aden 15th	Kilindini 21st	Thence to Durban and Simonstown.
3.	GUARDIAN	Kilindini 16th	Durban 22nd	To refit.
4.	ENTERPRISE	Kilindini 15th	Bombay 23rd	Escorting W.S. 19.
5.	CERES	Bombay 15th	Seychelles 22nd	Thence to Mauritius 25th Simonstown 2nd August.
6.	SUTLEJ	Colombo 17th	Addu Atoll Blank	Escorting TAIPING thence Diego Suarez and Seychelles.
7.	CAPETOWN	Bombay 14th	Khor Kuwai 17th	(corrupt group) H.M.S. CERES.
8.	GAMBIA } WORCESTERSHIRE }	Colombo 13th	Mauritius 23rd	Escorting "Schooner" to 020° 19' South 083° 00' E.
9.	DEVONSHIRE	Aden 18th	Kilindini approx. 24th	Escorting TAKLIWA.
10.	SS. QUEEN ELIZABETH	Suez 19th	Capetown approx. 4th Aug.	Blank.
11.	GRIFFIN	Kilindini 19th	Mayotte Blank	Via Dar-Es- Salaam.
12.	ALBATROSS	Kilindini 21st	Mayotte Blank	Blank.
→ 13.	FOXHOUND	Kilindini 21st	Mayotte Blank	Blank.

(C. in C. E.F., 1256Z/19 to S. & A. E.I. Stn., etc.)

India Air  
Report.

Intelligence Summary No. 126 on information received to 1800 hours 19/7. U.S.A. Air Force operations. 4 B.25s escorted by 6 P.40 bombed Docks at Hankow with good results 16/7. (Air H.Q. India, 1400/19.)

War Diary

19.7.1942  
Sunday

FOREIGN STATIONS

America and West Indies

U/B Clipper A/C report sighted what appeared to be a S/M 15 miles off Port aux Basques, Newfoundland, at 1630Z/18.  
(C.O.A.C., 0240Z/19, to Admty).

Suspicious Ship. Refer to this as 0525/19 from U.S.C.G. MONOMOY to Opnav and Com. Coast Guard, Washington. Sighted large steamer with running and deck lights heading west 48° 46' 37° 13' at 0218Z.  
(Cominch, 0822/19, to Admty (R) Cinclant).

Movement Summary 1800 G.M.T./19.

Ship	Position	Course	Speed
CANTON	44° N. 28° W.	038°	14½
CROCUS	11° N. 40° W.	270°	11
COWSLIP			
ASTURIAS			
LARGS	01½° N. 28° W.	333°	13½

(D.O.D.(F) 0855Z/19, to Opnav (R) Comnav).

U/Bs. Tampico reports A 2, submarines sighted south of Tuxpan between 16th and 17/7.  
(S.O.I., Kingston, 0911R/19, to Admty B.A.D. etc.).

U/B Campaign Connav Serial 18. FAIRPORT U.S. sunk by torpedo 16/7 27 10' N. 64 35' W. in convoy AS 4. All aboard saved. SANTA RITA U.S. sunk by torpedo 9/7 26.11' N. 55.40' W. ARCATA U.S. sunk by gunfire 14/7 by Japanese S/M 53.35' N. 157.30' W. (Connav No T.O.O. Recd. 1020/19 to Comnav).

Floating Dock Convoy. This is repetition Port Director New York 0324/19. Action Connav Info. C.in C. A.W.I. Com. 3 Cominch C.E.S.F. Cinclant, N.O.B. Bermuda, C.C.S.F. "Convoy proposal. Towing convoy  
(2) About 20/7.  
(3) 2 tugs AINWELL, KEVIN MORAN towing A.F.D. 25, 2 cargo, SS. PRIMO, SS NIDAREID, 3 Naval, BUTTERMERE, WASTWATER, U. SS. NOURMAHAL. (Not identified)  
(4) Freetown, Sierra Leone, via St. Thomas V.I. expect U.S.S. NOURMAHAL, \*SINPRIMJ, SS. NIDAREID, part convoy for Bermuda. (Connav, 1025Z/19, to N.S.H.Q., Admiralty).  
\* S.S. PRIMO not identified.

B. 5 Escort Group. Your 1347B/16.

Name	Date of last docking	Date of last refit.
HAVELOCK	Feb. 1942	Feb. 1942
WARWICK	April 1942	April 1942
CHURCHILL	Dec. 1941	Feb. 1942
PIMPERNEL	Nov. 1941	Nov. 1941
LAVENDER	April 1942 and extensive machinery and boiler repairs	May 1941
COLUMBINE	April 1942	April 1942

War Diary

19.7.1942

Sunday

FOREIGN STATIONS

America and West Indies - contd. -

B. 5 Escort Group Contd: Name Date of last docking. Date of last refit.  
 GODETIA  
 and  
 SAXIFRAGE New Feb. 1942  
 BUTTERCUP New April 1942.  
 (Capt. D., Liverpool, 1150B/19, to N.O.I.C., Bermuda  
 (R) Admty, S.B.N.O. W.A.).

N.S.H.Q.'s 1832/18.  
 KATHLEEN C. CREASER returned to Newfoundland Port due to weather, not reported to this office, finally departed 17/7 for Halifax.  
 (N.C.S.O., St. John's N.F., 1205Z/19 to Admty, Connav, C.O.A.C. N.S.H.Q.).

PARRSBORO Admty 1714A 6th/10/41.  
 WEDGEPORT (1) Intend to sail PARRSBORO and WEDGEPORT in company on 20/7 routed through  
 (A) 50.00 N. 46.40 W. (B) 53.00 N. 36.10 W.  
 (C) 54.30 N. 28.00 W. (D) 55.30 N. 19.00 W.  
 (E) 55.45 N. 11.00 W. thence Londonderry for fuel and onward routeing to Scapa. (2) Speed 11 knots.  
 (3) W/T watch. Broadcast L shifting to B N at 35° W.  
 (4) Corvettes establishment of S.Ps including current tables.  
 (5) Cmdre. Londonderry is requested to arrange onward routeing to Scapa. Admty pass to Cmdre., WESTERN ISLES, and Canadian H.C. in London.  
 (F.O.N.F., 1208Z/19 to Admiralty, N.S.H.Q., A.C.O.S., N.O.I.C. Londonderry, (R) C.in C. W.A., C.in C. Rosyth, Canadian High Com. in London, Cmdre. WESTERN ISLES, PARRSBORO, WEDGEPORT, Connav).

ZURICHMOOR Following is a repetition of my 1610Z/17. (Previously received undecypherable). (begins) Admty from N.S.H.Q. Ottawa. Request information date set by missing ships committee for KGSS KF SS. ZURICHMOOR. Sailed Halifax 21/5 due St. Thomas 30/5 not arrived. 1610Z/17. (Ends).  
 (N.S.H.Q., 1315Z/19, to Admty).  
 Reply: D.T.D., 1224/21.

S.C. 90 Average speed 7.4 knots. Fog for first 5 days afterwards fair winds with poor visibility. No stragglers, all ships now reported. Cdre. reports a very good convoy.  
 (D.T.D., 1327Z/19, to Connav, N.S.H.Q., (R) C.in C. W.A. etc.).

ARCATA Following from C.O.P.C. (begins).  
 survivors 13th Naval District reports this afternoon U.S. Destroyer unnamed picked up in 53° 35' N. 157° 00' W. 12 survivors raft from SS. ARCATA, 2700 G.T. belonging Hammond Lumber Co. Survivors reported being tracked by large Japanese S/M evening 15/7. Vessel last reported 15/7 position ? 53° 41' N. 157° 45' W., being shelled. (Ends).  
 (N.S.H.Q., 1614Z/19, to Admty, Opnav, S.B.N.O., W.A.).

/Shipping ...

War Diary19.7.1942  
SundayFOREIGN STATIONSAmerica and West Indies Contd:

Shipping Diversions Your 1847B/18. BRITISH INTEGRITY arrived with route instructions to Trinidad but Master questioned this as he had taken 3000 tons water in New York for Curacao. Telephoned Midshipman for confirmation, they instructed that ship proceed Curacao. Instructions for BRITISH DILIGENCE as given to U.S. Authorities showing destination to be Curacao. No explanation why ship sent Aruba. We shall take necessary action to prevent reoccurrence.  
(B.R.O., Key West, 1631Z/19, to Admty (R) Norfolk).

THEOLINE U.S. Schooner THEOLINE sailed New York 20/6 not yet arrived Barranquilla.  
(S.O.I., Jamaica, 1702R/19, to Admty B.A.D., Connav, N.S.H.Q., F.O.C. Trinidad, S.B.N.O. W.A.).

Carriage of Passengers U.S. Authorities have established following policy regarding numbers of passengers which may be carried in United Nations Ships when in area of U.S. Strategic Control in Atlantic:-  
U.S. Strategic Area.  
(A) Ships with a sustained speed of 15 to 20 knots inclusive proceeding unescorted may carry a maximum of 60 passengers, none of whom shall be women or children.  
(B) Number of passengers on ships with a sustained speed of above 20 knots will be specified in each case.  
(C) Unescorted ships of less than 15 knots speed shall carry no passengers.  
(D) Ships of any speed including cargo ships, proceeding in Trade Convoys may carry a maximum of 200 passengers, none of whom shall be women or children.  
(E) In case it is desired to include a ship carrying more than 200 passengers in a Trade Convoy, each case will be considered separately.  
(F) Troop Ships will not normally be included in Trade Convoys, but this may be done in special cases.  
(B.A.D., 1707Z/19, to Admty, D. of S.T., S.B.N.O., W.A., C.in C., W.A., N.S.H.Q., C.in C., S.A., R.A.W.A.F., F.O.C.N.A., N.Z.A.B., A.C.N.B.).  
Addressees as amended by 2101Z/20.

U/B Cominch 1814/19, 1910/19, 1912/19, 1914/19, 1916/19.  
Positions.

S/M attack and sighting summary. RAPHAEL SEMMES sunk, 2 torpedoes 29 - 30 N. 64 - 30 W. 0833Z/28/6. C.O. alleged to be Lieut. Lieber. Sub stated to be the HEIDELBERGN. Possibly U88 type. LEONIDAS MIKE reports abandoning ship 37° N. 52° W. about 1530Z/19. Aircraft attack sub contact 34 - 53 N. 75 - 54 W. 1520Z/17. Plane attacks oil slick 39 - 18 N. 74 - 09 W. 1504Z/17. Plane reports attacking submerged sub 29 - 13 N. 80 - 48 W. 1445Z/17. Shore watcher sights C.T. 30 - 14 N. 81 - 30 W. 1504Z/17. Surface craft attacks sub 24 - 22 N. 81 - 28 W. 1655Z/18, possible damage. Patrol craft sights sub on surface 29 - 50 N. 62 - 53 W. 0330Z/19.

/Plane ...

War Diary19.7.1942  
SundayFOREIGN STATIONSAmerica and West IndiesS/M attack  
and sighting  
summary  
Contd:Plane sights sub 35 - 06 N. 74 - 54 W., 1045Z/19.  
Surface craft report still unconfirmed.  
Attack on possible sub 26 N. 79 - 50 W. 1520Z/19.  
(C.in C., U.S. Fleet, 1933/19, to Admty for O.I.C.).MARIA DA  
GLORIA  
(sunk 5/6).U.S.C.G. SEACLOUD en route Boston has Master and 7  
survivors of Portuguese fishing vessel MARIA DA  
GLORIA shelled and sunk 5/6 in 050° 14' N. 039°  
12' W. 2 of crew killed whereabouts of remainder  
unknown. Survivors: (names).  
(C.O.A.C., 2033Z/19, to Admty (R) N.S.H.Q., etc.).LINGE  
Z.B. VANCE.LINGE (Dutch) due Halifax 15/7 from O.N. 108 has  
not arrived. 1430/2 from Mersey refers. ZEBULON  
B. VANCE (U.S.) due Halifax 15/7 from O.N. 108 has  
not arrived, 1407/10 from F.O.N.F. and 1402/12  
from C.T.U. 24.1.15 refer.  
(N.S.H.Q., 2201Z/19, to Admty, Connav, C.O.A.C.,  
F.O.N.F.).DESPATCH,  
South  
America.Your 2231 of 14/12, 1941. It appears desirable  
that 1 British Cruiser should continue to operate  
on Eastern Coast of South America.  
2. Request you will inform Navy Dept. that it is  
proposed that DESPATCH should proceed there on  
completion of refit in August and inform me of  
their reactions.  
(1st S.L. 2336B/19 to B.A.D.).Australia and New ZealandAuckland  
Operating  
Base.My 1508/10 and your 1756/1. Request information  
whether loop cable and integrators will be  
supplied from U.K. and, if so, approximate date.  
(N.Z.N.B., 1052M/19 to Admty (R) B.A.D.).

Situation.

Serial 178 from G.H.Q. S.W. Pacific Area 18/7.  
(i) Schouton Grace Air R/C 17/7 revealed  
aerodrome under construction Momi Island. Babo  
Aerodrome still unserviceable. Aircraft reports  
harbours at Seroei and Bosnek suitable for 2000 ton vessels.  
(ii) R/C A/C sighted 2207Z/16 3000 ton cargo ship on reef, 005°  
05' S. 132° 01' E. 4000 ton cargo ship sighted. Babo Harbour  
2359Z/16. 1000 ton ship sighted Manookwari Harbour 0052Z/17.  
12,000 ton cargo ship sighted 0405Z/17, 002° 35' S. 140° 15' E.  
course 125°.

/(iii) ...



War Diary

19.7.1942  
Sunday

FOREIGN STATIONS

Australia and New Zealand

Situation (iii) Reliably reported Japanese reinforcements  
Contd: arrived Salamoia from Lae 16/7 and 17/7.  
(iv) One Liberator bombed Kieta aerodrome 0130Z/18.  
Fires started among shacks East runway. Nil  
activity observed and aerodrome apparently not being used.  
(v) Unconfirmed report ship standing by on 11/7 to refloat  
transport aground Maringe Lagoon. My serial 177 Para. 3 refers.  
(vi) Reliable natives report enemy strength Florida area 1600  
stationed principally at Tulagi with some troops dispersed Gavutu  
Halavo. Small outposts at Giolo (East end of Florida) and in  
Sandfly passenger area. Guadal Canal. Reliably estimated  
enemy strength at Lunga 1200 with outposts of 30 men at Cape  
Esperance, Taivu, and Cape Hunter. Enemy Force believed to  
consist Infantry and air ground staff. No evidence mechanised  
troops. Runway at Lunga reported completed. Large quantity  
stores at Tenaru Lunga Kukum.  
Enemy (flew to) Nauru 0100Z/18.  
(A.C.N.B., 1216Z/19 to Admty etc.).

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN

Submarines Reported

Estimated U/B positions.  
(D.D.I.C. 1450B/19, 1507B/19).

War Diary.

20.7.1942.  
Monday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

The ships of P.Q.17 which were in Novaya Zemlya left Matochkin at 1800B today.

British Air Operations.

99 aircraft of Bomber Command were detailed to attack the Vulcan shipbuilding yards at Vegesack near Bremen last night, which are now engaged entirely on submarine building. 81 aircraft reached the target area.

Fighter Command aircraft attacked the Naval beam station at Cape Gris Nez today; it is believed that the station was put out of action.

Enemy Air Operations.

Convoy F.N.63 reported being bombed again today, at 0530 in 54° 20' N 0° 17' W.

Mining.

Fifteen Wellingtons laid mines last night off La Pallice, St. Nazaire and Lorient.

There was suspicious activity last night 35 miles S.S.E. of Newhaven. A danger area has been declared.

North Atlantic.

WELSHMAN arrived at Gibraltar from Malta this afternoon.

/CLYDE...

War Diary.

20.7.1942.  
Monday.

SITUATION REPORT.

North Atlantic.

CLYDE sailed from Gibraltar for Malta with cargo this evening.

LOWESTOFT, damaged in collision on 12/7, arrived at Gibraltar today in tow of SALVONIA.

Operation  
"Insect"

EAGLE, CHARYBDIS, CAIRO and 5 destroyers left Gibraltar at 0516 today to fly off aircraft to Malta.

British Consul, Lisbon reports that a submarine grounded off the coast in 41° 45' N 8° 54' W at 1400B today and was last seen steering north at 4 knots on the surface, leaking oil. A Sunderland was detailed to attack the U-Boat, but failed to find the enemy vessel.

Mediterranean.

S/M P.42 (10th Flotilla) arrived at Malta this evening.

Two Halifaxes, 3 Fortresses and 23 Wellingtons bombed the harbour and shipping at Tobruk last night causing fires and a violent explosion in the dock area, mines were also laid at Tobruk and Mersa Matruh. Long range fighters attacked and set on fire today enemy barges and damaged a small tanker, with fighter escort north east of Sidi Barrani.

R.A.D. in DIDO with EURYALUS, JERVIS, JAVELIN, PAKENHAM and PALADIN carried out last night a bombardment of shipping and harbour facilities at Mersa Matruh with aircraft spotting. DULVERTON and ALDENHAM carried out two simultaneous anti-E/Boat sweeps inshore and drove off two E/Boats. Our forces suffered no casualties or damage.

Acoustic mines were detonated on the edge of the swept channel to Famagusta this morning and the port was closed.

War Diary.

20.7.1942.  
Monday.

SITUATION REPORT.

East Indies.

The Admiralty today asked C. in C. E.F. to co-ordinate with C. in C. S.A. proposals for providing A/S escort for a portion of the shipping passing through the Mozambique Channel.

G.O.C. East Africa reports that enemy submarine refuelling bases are reported between Port Amboin and Novo Redondo (both presumably Portuguese E. Africa but not mentioned in sailing directions) Air R/C on the morning of 13/7 reported two S/Ms on the surface in Ampasindava Bay (Nosibe, east coast of Madagascar); submarines submerged and a tug towing two lighters turned back on sighting the aircraft.

On the same afternoon a conning tower was seen 15 miles west of Nosibe. This strengthens the suggestion that enemy S/Ms operating in the Mozambique Channel may be using the coast of Madagascar as well as Portuguese East Africa for refuelling.

China.

A Japanese aircraft flew over the Cocos Islands at 4000 ft for 25 minutes at 0345Z today.

America and West Indies.

Convoy Q.S.19 (Quebec to Sydney C.B) was attacked by U/B at 1810Z today in 49° 22' N 65° 12' W.

Australia and New Zealand.

SS. INDUS (?British sailed Colombo 4/7 for Fremantle) reported at 0933 G.M.T today (1433 local time) that she was being shelled by a "battleship raider" in 26° 44' S 82° 50' E (south Indian Ocean, about half way between Lourenco Marques and Perth W.A.) A.C.N.B. has checked the possibility of the report being false to lure escort of convoy "Schooner" away, but consider it authentic.

War Diary.

20.7.1942  
Monday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Australia and New Zealand. - Contd.

The High Commissioner for the Western Pacific reports that the Japanese are continuing their consolidation of Guadalcanal (Solomon Is.) whilst the defences of Tulagi are still maintained. Reports suggest that the Japanese have been bombed out of Rabaul and are establishing a base at Guadalcanal for attack on Vila (New Hebrides), for which they expect to be ready in a month if not interrupted.

U/Bs  
reappear  
off N.S.W.

SS ~~GEORGE~~<sup>S.</sup> M. LIVANOS (Adelaide 15/7 for Melbourne) was sunk by a submarine at 1300Z today in 35° 0' S. 151° 0' E. about 20 miles from Jervis Bay N.S.W. U.S. COAST FARMER was sunk by a S/M at 1600Z today 168° 25 miles from Point Perpendicular; survivors were landed at Jervis Bay.

Australia.

Air R/C reported 2 heavy cruisers and 4 destroyers in 7° 15' S. 148° 30' E. at 2220Z today, steering 260° at 12 knots.

587

War Diary.20.7.1942  
Monday.HOME COMMANDS.Policy.

North Atlantic dispositions. Disposition of operational units in North Atlantic Area Iceland (C) - RENOWN, KENYA, LONDON, NORFOLK, CUMBERLAND, 5 Destroyers. Area Scapa - DUKE OF YORK, KING GEORGE V. VICTORIOUS, TUSCALOOSA, WICHITA, DELHI, HAWKINS, MANCHESTER, 3 Destroyers, 4 Destroyers (U.S.) Area Clyde - ARGUS, FURIOUS, NIGERIA. Area Gibraltar - EAGLE, CHARYBDIS. Passage to S. Atlantic - ORION, 2 Destroyers. Passage to Scapa - NELSON, RODNEY, 3 Destroyers. (D.O.D. (H) 1020Z/20 to C. in C. U.S. Fleet.)

VICTORIOUS. VICTORIOUS, FURIOUS and AVENGER will be administered by R.A. A.C. H.F. from 20/7.  
FURIOUS  
AVENGER. (C. in C. H.F. 1522B/20.)

Movements.

SHEFFIELD. My 1402/19. Sailed.  
(F.O.I.C. Tyne 0823/20.)

MINERVE. <sup>/Dundee</sup> MINERVE sailed for Rosyth.  
(Capt. S.9. 0915B/20.)

H.43. Sailed H.43 escorted by BREDA. E.T.A. Rothesay  
2130/22.  
(C. in C. Plymouth 0931B/20.)

NIGERIA. Scapa departure C.S.10 in NIGERIA. E.T.A.  
0345/21.  
(A.C.O.S. 1109B/20 to F.O.I.C. Greenock.)

P.45. (1) Intend to sail P.45 escorted by STOKE CITY  
for Scapa 0730B/21 routed (A) 060° N. 001° 01' W.  
(B) 087° Sumburgh Head 5 miles. (C) 093° Fair  
Island 4 miles thence to Scapa. E.T.A. Swtiha Gate 2300B/21.  
(2) P.45 will carry out exercise with A/C from Sumburgh in  
vicinity of position (A) between 0900B/ and 1000B.  
(S.O. S/M Lerwick 1441B/20 to A.C.O.S.)

TRIDENT My 2357/19. Sailed.  
STURGEON. (S.O. S/M Lerwick 1514B/20.)  
LA ZAPRICIEUSE.

P.614. My 1138/19. Request you will sail P.614 and  
P.615 and route them to longitude 015° East.  
Capt. (S) 9 will arrange onward route to Lerwick.  
(F.O.S. 1642B/20 to S.B.N.O. North Russia.)

War Diary.

20.7.1942  
Monday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Movements.

- P.614 -P.615 contd. P.614 and P.615 sail 1800C/21 through A.069° 54' N. 033° 40' E. B. 071° 20' N. 033° 40' E. C. 072° 00' N. 029° 40' E. D. 072° 13' N. 033° 25' E. E. ?° 13' N. 025° 01' E. F. 070° 55' N. 015° 00' E.  
(S.B.N.O. North Russia 2350B/20)  
Cancel my 2350/20.  
(S.B.N.O. North Russia 0858B/21.)
- TIGRIS. Intend to sail TIGRIS escorted by WHITE BEAR leaving Plymouth 1300/21 to Holy Loch.  
(C. in C. Plymouth 1647B/20)
- HARRIER. Anticipate HARRIER ready to sail p.m. 24th. Request instructions where she is to be sent.  
(F.O.I.C. Humber 1711B/20)
- MARTIN. E.T.A. position Y 1600B/21. E.T.A. position  
MARNE. M U (014° Teriberski 34.5 miles) 0700B/24.  
MIDDLETON. Approach on course (59° or 226°)  
BLANKNEY. (MARTIN 1720B/20 to S.B.N.O. North Russia.)  
Seidisfiord departure MARTIN, MARNE, MIDDLETON, BLANKNEY at 1800/20 in accordance with C. in C. H.F. 2353/17 and 1437B/18.  
(A.C.I.C. 2001B/20 to S.B.N.O. Polyarno)
- EMERALD. F.O.C.N.A.'s 1244/19. Route from (C) through  
(D) 50° 2' N. 12° 25' W. (E) 180° Bishop 10.  
(F) 180° The Lizard 6, and by QZS 278 to Plymouth. Adjust speed to arrive position (E) at 0600/23.  
(C. in C. Plymouth 1747B/20 and 1605B/21 to EMERALD.)
- \* SARDONYX. Proceed to Loch Ewe at best speed and fuel.  
SHIKARI. (C. in C. W.A. 1833B/20 to SARDONYX, SHIKARI)  
Admiralty 2006B/20. N.O.I.C. Aultbea is requested to sail SARDONYX, SHIKARI, to Hvalfjord at best speed when fuelled.  
(C. in C. W.A. 2233B/20.)
- \* See p. 593
- DERWENT. On arrival in approx. 49° 02' N. 20° 20' W. request you detach DERWENT at best speed to Liverpool passing through 180° Fastnet 10 miles, thence via QZF 18. 3. On arrival DERWENT will be taken in hand at Birkenhead for defects mentioned in S.O. Force F's 2015/16.  
(D.O.D. (H.) 2222B/20 and 1300B/21 to NELSON.)

/SHARPSHOOTER ...

War Diary.

20.7.1942  
Monday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Movements - contd.

SHARPSHOOTER. Request instructions for H.M.S. SHARPSHOOTER.  
(A.C.I.C. 2249B/20 to R.A.D. H.F.)

L.C.P.(L)'s "Bedlam". Arrivals since 0001/20. 12 L.C.P.  
(L)'s unnumbered from Southampton ex EMPIRE  
MERSEY.  
(TORMENTOR 2359/20 to R.A.L.B.)

Operations.

Unknown operation. Your 2227/18. Request you will report  
(a) Names of destroyers referred to in your  
para 1A. (b) Date on which destroyers referred  
to in para 3. will be required to arrive Scapa.  
(c) Whether a Captain D. is required.  
(D.O.D. H. 1204B/20 to C. in C. H.F.)  
Your 1204B/20. Para (1) my 1101B/20 refers. (2) Para (2) 2/8.  
(3) Para. (3) Not necessary.  
(C. in C. H.F. 1718B/20 to Admty.)

Patrols. My 1509B/19. M.G.Bs are to carry out similar  
operation tonight. C. in C. Portsmouth is  
requested to signal intended movements of  
destroyers.  
(C. in C. Plymouth 1322B/20.)

Your 1322/20. 3 S.G.Bs and 4 M.G.Bs will patrol to southward  
of I. of W. They have been ordered not to proceed west of  
line joining Cherbourg and Anvil Point or South of 50° N.  
(C. in C. Portsmouth 1947B/20 to C. in C. Plymouth.)

2. 2 Chasseurs on Eastward patrol South of E.A.5  
buoy. 3. 2 M.Ls on patrol 10 miles south of Portland.  
(C. in C. Portsmouth 1617B/20)

My 1617/20. Delete Para (2) Add (4) FERNIE and  
BLEASDALE proceeding to Newhaven via inshore route then  
patrolling Q.Z.S.358 from Beachy Head to vicinity of E.A.5  
Buoy returning to Portsmouth at daylight via inshore route.  
(5) 4 M.G.Bs 3 S.G.Bs on patrol 20 miles south of Isle of Wight.  
(C. in C. Portsmouth 2207/20.)

FERNIE and BLEASDALE are patrolling between E.A.5  
and Meridian of Beachy Head tonight.  
(C. in C. Portsmouth 2147/20 to Admty.)

Q.T.3. Weather permitting carrying out operation Q.T.3  
tonight Monday motor gunboat (L) may carry on  
alone if weather is unsuitable for motor gunboat  
(S).  
(C. in C. Nore 1556B/20 to N.O.I.C. Yarmouth.)

Weather permitting carry out the following offensive sweeps  
tonight Monday.  
(1) One unit M.G.Bs and one unit M.T.Bs to proceed via 54 buoy,  
W.J.G.M. 0030, to reach W.J.B.R.0000 at 2315 thence eastward  
towards W.J.A.N.0000.  
(2) One unit M.G.Bs and one unit M.T.Bs to proceed via 53 buoy,  
T.R.G.M. 3030, to centre R.B. 4 then work towards R.B.5.  
All units to be 30 miles off shore by daylight. R/C reports  
will be passed out by I method.  
(C. in C. Nore 1558B/20 to BEEHIVE.)

Departures ...



590

War Diary.20.7.1942  
Monday.HOME COMMANDS.Operations - contd.Q.T.3 -  
contd.Departures: M.T.Bs 70, 72, 232, 241.  
M.G.Bs 64, 61, 63, 65.  
(F.O.I.C. Harwich 2017B/20.)Exercises.SLAZAK  
BROCKLESBY.C. in C. Plymouth's 1718/20. <sup>/N.T.H.W.D</sup> You are to sail  
at 1230/21 to R/V in 236° Eddystone 3.2 miles  
with BROCKLESBY at 1445/21 to carry out  
practices ordered.  
(N.O.I.C. Dartmouth 2125B/20 to SLAZAK.)British Air Activity.Operation  
"Knocker".My 2045B/19. Operation delayed 4 hours today.  
(A.C.I.C. 1051B/20.)No movement of U.S. aircraft last twenty-four  
hours. Anticipated thirty-nine P.38s and ten

B.17s will move Iceland U.K. on 21/7.

(Air Ministry 1245/20 to 44 Group)

Operation cancel today.

(A.C.I.C. 1505B/20)

Operation will commence 0900Z/21.

(A.C.I.C. 2055B/20)

Iceland intends despatching 30 Lightnings, 10  
Fortresses as follows. E.T.D. 1300/21. Intention is for first  
flight to proceed Ayr same day in addition 6 Fortresses 6  
Douglases may be despatched Prestwick direct.

(T.A.C. Prestwick 2309/20 to Air Ministry.)

Bombing  
restrictions.Request similar surface bombing restrictions  
tonight to those in my 1341B/19.

(C. in C. Plymouth 1319B/20 to H.Q.C.C.)

Bombing  
Operations.On night 19/20, 81 A/C bombed shipyard at  
Vegesack near Bremen and 15 A/C laid mines.

(H.Q.B.C. 1430/20)

Enemy Air Activity.HELIOS  
attacked.Fishing Trawler HELIOS attacked by F.W. at  
2000B/18, 46 miles S.E. of Langanes. Vessel  
bombed and machine gunned. No casualties or  
damage. Fishing gear lost.  
(A.C.I.C. 2131B/20.)

591

War Diary.20.7.1942  
Monday.HOME COMMANDS.Enemy Air Activity.

Convoy F.N. 763 bombed. Enemy A/C are bombing Convoy "Casing".  
My position 54° 20' N. 0° 17' W.  
(Convoy Guard 0530/20)

Mining.

D.S. 30A. My 0944/19. <sup>/p.562</sup> For NEWARK read CHARLESTOWN.  
(~~Lowland~~ convoy) (R.A.M. 0905/20 to Admty.)

*Should be under Shipping & Convoy.*

Trial D.F. 8. VERNON's number M.C. 1396/31/0401 dated 18.6.42.  
1. Intended programme is as follows:  
A. 3/8. Embark 150 Trial units in MENESTHEUS and commence E.A.T.  
B. 4/8. Sail MENESTHEUS escorted by one Destroyer for Loch Long.  
C. 5/8. A.M. Lay 100 units on arrival.  
D. 7/8. P.M. or 8/8. A.M. Lay 50 units and sail for Port Z.A. on completion. If weather unfavourable or recovery operations delayed MENESTHEUS may be retained until p.m. 9/8. It is essential that she should arrive Port Z.A. not later than p.m. 10/8.  
(R.A.M. 0950B/20 to VERNON.)

Nore Command. Mines rendered safe in the Nore Command 12 to 18/7. Twenty two British Mark XIV.  
(R.M.S.O. Yarmouth 1015/b/20)

Portsmouth. One magnetic mine red detonated by L.L. in approx. 240° 8 miles from Needles light.  
(C. in C. Portsmouth 1810B/20 and 1218B/21.)

Enemy Intelligence.

Enemy Vessel. One small Merchant Vessel not exceeding 2000 tons in 48° 28' N. 7° 28' W, course 210°, speed 7 knots, flying French Colours 250 tons.  
(A/C FL9U 2135/20 to Plymouth W/T)

U-Boats.

U-Boats reported. Following has been received. Am over enemy S/M in 46° 44' N. 8° 51' W. Enemy was sighted on surface and observed to submerge.  
(A/C FZAH 0129/20)

My number 1 enemy S/M previously reported when first sighted was on course 090°. Not attacked.

(A/C AP9H 0212/20)

position 044° N. 21° 20' W. Enemy S/M sighted bearing 000°, 14 miles. My

(LULWORTH 1130Z/20)

On completion of escort LULWORTH is to land prisoners at Greenock then proceed to Londonderry.

(C. in C. W.A. 1413B/20 to LONDONDERRY.)

/LULWORTH ...

592

War Diary.20.7.1942  
Monday.HOME COMMANDS.U-Boats - conts:-U-Boats  
reported  
contd.

LULWORTH 1130Z/20 and your 1455B/20 (N.T.in W.D.)  
U-boat disappeared 1220Z/20, course 012°, speed  
16. Hunt round last position seen abandoned  
1530Z. No contact. S.L.115 P.C.S. at  
1600Z, 044° 21' N. 021° 42' W., 010°, 7½.  
Altered course to 041° for position (?b) at 2230.  
(LONDONDERRY 1819Z/20)

O.S. 34.

Re MANSFIELD.  
(C. in C. W.A. 1603B/20)  
see North Atlantic.

Navigational.

Nore.

56B Buoy reported missing.  
(C. in C. Nore 1059B/20)

Tyne  
(BRABO)

Should it prove impossible to remove BRABO from  
the Tyne entrance before the end of the Summer,  
the problem will have to be faced how to maintain  
the flow of coal out of the Tyne.  
2. A meeting will be held in Admiralty at 1530/  
23. Request you attend or send a representative.  
(D.T.D. 1610B/20 to N.O.I.C. Southend.)

Casualties and Defects.

NEVADA II

Request you sail NIMBLE with despatch to stand  
by SS NEVADA II reported ashore in 56° 42' N.  
06° 29' W. at 2025B/19. Tug is being  
despatched at 0700B from Rothesay and Salvage  
Officer will proceed from Oban p.m. today.  
(F.O.I.C. Greenock 0135B/20 to N.O.I.C.  
Stornoway.)

Your 0135/20.

Sailed NIMBLE.  
(N.O.I.C. Stornoway 0226B/20)  
Arrived 1307B. Awaiting salvage officer.  
(NIMBLE 1315B/20 to N.O.I.C. Greenock)

WINSTON  
SALEM.

My 2206/19. It has now been arranged that  
C. in C. Northern Fleet will provide a Russian  
crew for SS WINSTON SALEM if necessary and he  
is informing Comm. Frankel to this effect.  
(S.H.A.39, S.B.N.O. North Russia 1133B/20  
to S.B.N.O. Archangel.)

FILLA.

My 1145B/17. <sup>/N.T. in W.D.</sup> Sailed at 1450.  
(F.O. Humber 1500B/20 to F.O. Tyne.)

/PUCKERIDGE ...

593

War Diary.20.7.1942  
Monday.HOME COMMANDS.Casualties and Defects - conts. -

PUCKERIDGE.

My 1223B/19. <sup>18.7.20</sup> Sailing of PUCKERIDGE from Milford Haven postponed owing to defects. Further signal will be made.  
(F.O.I.C. Milford Haven 1519B/20)

→GEORGETOWN.

C. in C. W.A. 1937B/20. See North Atlantic.

RICHARD  
BLAND.  
(P.Q.17.)

Reykjavik departure my 1923B/19 para A. at 2000/20. Route. RICHARD BLAND degaussing gear not working.  
(A.C.I.C. 2132B/20 to N.O.I.C. Thurso.)

Shipping and Convoys.

R.U.32.

On reaching 09° W. destroyers are to proceed direct to Londonderry.  
(C. in C. W.A. 0046B/20 to SARDONYX.) *See p.588*

W.S.21 P.

F.O.I.C. Londonderry 2250B/19. My P.C.S. 054° 15' N. 010° 33' W., 212°, 20 knots. Propose to proceed direct to Azores to refuel as we cannot overtake W.S.21 P before refuelling necessity arises.  
E.T.A. B.22.  
(MANSFIELD 1015B/20) *See p.595*

Parting company with "Tarnish" at 1000B/20 at limit of endurance. Complying with C. in C. W.A. 1246B/19 para 2 as appears improbable that weather conditions favourable for oiling and have boiler water for 3½ days only. GEORGETOWN remaining with "Tarnish" for present then complying with C. in C. W.A. 1932B/19. My P.C.S. at 1400B/20 048° 55' N. 022° 40' W. Suffix B 014° 14. Alter at 2100B to 049°  
(BUXTON 1321B/20)

Cancel my 1246B/19. BUXTON is to remain with W.S.21 P to prudent limit of endurance, then proceed Liverpool, fuelling at Londonderry.  
(C. in C. W.A. 1550B/20 to ORION.)

P.W.189.  
W.P.189.  
WAIRANGI.

KRAKOWIAK is to pass the Gate at 2000/20 and proceed to relieve CALPE as S.O. escort of P.W.189. CALPE on relief to proceed to Dartmouth and to be sailed as Escort of W.P.189.  
(C. in C. Plymouth 1047/20)

Intend to sail BLYSKAWICA leaving Plymouth 1800/20 for Falmouth to join convoy P.W.189, and accompany it to Scarweather, thence escorting WAIRANGI to Clyde.  
(C. in C. Plymouth 1711B/20)

F.S. and  
F.N.  
convoys.

Forecast of Convoy Sailings (F.S.263 to 268 and F.N.269 to 274) Time Table as in my 1521/9/4 as amended by my 1745/5/5.  
(C. in C. Rosyth 1201B/20)

War Diary.

20.7.1942  
Monday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping and Convoys - contd.

- S.C.91                    On completion of escort duty CHESTERFIELD is to proceed to Greenock.  
(C. in C. W.A. 1428B/20 to C.T.U. 24.1.5)
- W.S.21 S.  
W.S.21.                    Intend to sail R 546 of W.S.21 S and Bristol Channel section of W.S.21 from Barry Roads at 0330/27. E.T.A. Greenock 0800/28. Request escort be provided.  
(N.O.I.C. Cardiff 1546B/20)
- H.X.197.                    Average speed 9.7 knots. Fog until 9/7, thereafter good weather with wind astern. One straggler, all ships now reported.  
(D.T.D. 1724B/20 to Connav)
- Speed of Convoys.            There have been several complaints by Masters recently that the signalled speed of convoys has been up to or in excess of the minimum speed required of the ships in the convoy. Normally the signalled speed should not exceed half a knot less than the required speed unless it is apparent that all ships of the convoy can maintain an increased speed without difficulty.  
(D.T.D. 1846B/20)
- Ships for P.Q.18.                Your 1811/19. Difficulties are fully appreciated and matter is under active consideration in conjunction with Ministry of War Transport.  
(A.C.N.S. T. 1902B/20 to A.C.I.C.)
- DAN-Y-BRYN  
OCEAN  
FAITH.  
EMPIRE  
BEAUMONT.                British ships DAN-Y-BRYN, OCEAN FAITH, EMPIRE BEAUMONT are required to arrive Clyde by p.m. 28th, July. C. in C. W.A. is requested to arrange special escort for these three ships from Reykjavik to the Clyde.  
(D.T.D. 2006B/20 to A.C.I.C.)
- E.N.  
Convoys.                    Propose following E.N. Programme. (E.N.18 to 30)  
(D.T.D. 2341B/20 to C. in C. Rosyth.)
- D.S.30A.                    *See p.591*

595

War Diary.

20.7.1942.

Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic.SENNEN.  
O.S. 34.

1. Your 1811/18. Received 0456/20 (re sailing of one corvette to relieve SENNEN as escort of EMPIRE SPEY). Regret no Corvette available. (F.O.C.N.A. 0600B/20 to Admty).

Route instructions to Gibraltar not yet received. My P.C. and S. 0500, 041° 37' N. 015° 11' W. 147° 9. EMPIRE SPEY and COMMANDANT DESTIENNE D'ORVRES in company. Weather report. (SENNEN 1102Z/20 to F.O.C.N.A.). *See next page. (Sit: Rep:)*

EMERALD.

My 1244/19. Sailed EMERALD. Admty. Q.Z.H. 667 L.50 S.367 X 767 Y 342. (F.O.C.N.A. 0720B/20 to Admty, C. in C. Plymouth (R) C. in C. Portsmouth). *See next page. (Sit: Rep:)*

LAVINGTON  
COURT  
(torpedoed  
19/7.)

My 1202/19. Sailed H.M. Tug CHARON and PRUDENT escorted by RHODODENDRON to assist SS LAVINGTON COURT. *See next page - (Sit: Rep:)* (F.O.C.N.A. 0728B/20 to Admty (R) C. in C. Plymouth C. in C.W.A.).

Departure HAARLEM as additional escort to B.M.S.

LAVINGTON COURT.

(F.O.C.N.A. 1124B/20 to ?Admty. (R) C. in C. Plymouth. C. in C.W.A. RHODODENDRON.)

<sup>/p. 543</sup>  
MANSFIELD's 1015/20. (Proceeding to Azores as cannot overtake W.S. 21.P. before refuelling necessity arises) -   
MANSFIELD is to proceed at economical speed to assist GEORGETOWN in search indicated para. 2 of my 1932/19. When LAVINGTON COURT is located or fuel situation requires GEORGETOWN is to refuel at Ponta Delgada. MANSFIELD will refuel at Ponta Delgada after being relieved by RHODODENDRON and tugs. F.O.C.N.A. is requested to arrange fuelling. Not less than 24 hours' notice is to be given by GEORGETOWN and MANSFIELD. (C. in C. W. A. 1603B/20 to MANSFIELD, GEORGETOWN, F.O.C.N.A. (R) ORION Admty. Care. Londonderry.).

My 1603/20. GEORGETOWN should not arrive Ponta Delgada before 0800/23rd because of 3-monthly rule. (C. in C. W. A. 1937B/20 to GEORGETOWN (R) F.O.C.N.A. ORION MANSFIELD Admty.).

F.W.A/C.

One A/C Focke Wulf one mile position CSTU 1025. (Latitude undecypherable). (MINNA. 0909/20, to Gib.W/T).

French  
Shipping.

Passing 19/7, westbound all trawlers 1000 MENWEN, TATIANA, AUGUST-DENISE. (V.A.C.N.A. 0947B/20 to Admty. for M.E.W.).

CONTRAMAESTRE  
CASADO.

Admty 2237/13 not to Madrid, Spanish Naval Transport CONTRAMAESTRE CASADO. Vessel intercepted at 1400/19. 160° Europa Point 7 miles steering 80°. Refused to stop when signalled and when hailed replied "I am a Warship I will not stop." Vessel allowed to proceed. (F.O.C.N.A. 1148B/20 to Admty (R) H.M. Ambassador, Madrid).

/P. 222.....

20.7.1942  
Monday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic - contd.

P.222 At 0100/22 P.222 is to return to Gibraltar by reverse of outward route to arrive at 0830B/25. W.M.P.16 para 7 (A) Do not shift wireless watch to Malta broadcast. Similar bombing restrictions as for outward passage arranged. Time Zone minus two.  
(F.O.C.N.A. 1308B/20 to 8 S.F.)

Situation Report. Area X 2003B/20.  
1. SPIREA, GERANIUM escorting tanker ORWELL 033° 16' 012° 33' through 33.42 11 38 thence Gibraltar, 8.  
2. DANAE 034° 33' 008° 12' through 44.40 06.40 thence Gibraltar, 15.  
3. EMERALD 037° 10' 010° 12' through 41.10 14.30 thence 000° 20. *See p. 59 - COMMANDANT*  
→ 4. SENNEN, D'ESTIENNE, D'ORVES escorting 1 merchant ship 40.29 14.12 through 39.01 13.01 thence 130°, 9 (amended see 1732/20)  
5. IMPERIALIST patrolling off Cape Roca. *See Mission page.*  
→ 6. LOCH OSKAIG patrolling off Lisbon leave patrol at 1300 21st to escort one merchant ship to R/V convoy H.G.86. (amended, see 1732/20)  
→ 7. H.G.86 sailing 1930 through 35.53 09.50 thence 298° 7½.  
8. STELLA CARINA, LEYLAND, 35.33 07.04 235° 9.  
9. RHODODENDRON and 2 tugs 36.30 07.58 294° 11. *See Mission page.*  
10. HAARLEM 36.04 06.45 294° 9½.  
(F.O.C.N.A. 1350B/20 to N.A. Stn.)  
→ My 1350B/20 (? delete) para 7. Amend para 4 position (e) 39 (? 58) 13 45. Amend para 6. For "to R/V H.G. 86" read "coastwise St. Vincent 9".  
(F.O.C.N.A. 1732B/20)

Area Y. 2003B/20th.  
1. O.S.34 (A) 38.43 20.59 175° 8. S.O. FOLKESTONE.  
2. 2 Fleet units, 5 destroyers 26.02 22.35 001° 16.  
3. Convoy 21, 46.32 23.32 through 39.04 26.(?05) and 37.50 26.48 thence 175° 15.  
(F.O.C.N.A. 1358B/20)  
Area Z, 2003B/20. 1. 2 fleet units 5 destroyers 026° 02' 022° 35' 001° 16.  
2. S.L.116, 020° 02'. 020° 58', 012°, 7½ S.O. (name missing).  
(F.O.C.N.A. 1404B/20.)

AFRICA Your 1014/19 and 1803/13. Matter is still under consideration by M.E.W.  
OCIDENTAL (D.E.W.D. 1356B/20 to F.O.C.N.A.)  
(removal of mails.)

597

War Diary.20.7.1942  
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic - contd.

- P.43. Intend to sail P.43 for Malta p.m./22 passing 038° 01' 009° 01' E. at 0800B/29. S. of A. 100 miles per day. P.43 has route through Q.B.B. 255 and V.A. Malta 1246/21/6. V.A. Malta is requested to signal onward route.  
(F.O.C.N.A. 1408B/20 to C. in C. Med. (R) Admty. etc.)
- Release of F.A.A. personnel interned in Morocco. Your 1822/18. This is one of the arguments which has persuaded Air Minister arrange "escape" (my 1717/7 and my 1808/13 to S.O.(I) Gibraltar repeated to you)  
(N.A. Madrid 1528/20 to Admty.)
- WELSHMAN. Arrived.  
(F.O.C.N.A. 1532B/20 to Admty. V.A. Malta, C. in C. Med.)
- GEORGETOWN Pontá Delgada. Admty. pass to C. in C. W.A. Your 2220/19. Portuguese Naval Authorities prefer GEORGETOWN not to arrive before 0800/23 because of 3 months rule.  
(N.A. Lisbon 1551B/20 to Admty. (R) F.O.C.N.A. B.C. Ponta Delgada.) *Sum p. 595*
- S.L.116. Request JONQUIL be detached to Las Palmas to escort HARTINGTON to join convoy. Time of sailing of HARTINGTON and R/V with escort to be arranged by F.O.C.N.A.  
(D.T.D. 1608B/20 to F.O.C.N.A. (R) C. in C. W.A. Consul, Las Palmas.)
- H.G.86. Intend delaying sailing H.G.86 for 24 hours owing to ~~Camship~~ EMPIRE SHACKLETON not having returned from Melilla.  
EMPIRE SHACKLETON. (F.O.C.N.A. 1646B/20 to Admty. (R) C. in C. W.A. C. in C. Plymouth.)
- Gib. Ops. Resume for 20/7. 1 Swordfish search for EMPIRE SHACKLETON 1330 - 1545.  
(R.A.F. Gib. 1721Z/20.)
- S/M aground. S/M grounded off the coast 041° 45' N. 008° 54' W. 1400B/20 last seen steering north 4 knots on surface leaking oil. A.l.  
(Consul, Lisbon, 1820B/20 to S.O.(I) Gibraltar (R) Admty.)
- O.S.34, air escort. AC/233 20/7. Owing to position of O.S.34 do not propose further escort by Home based aircraft. Look to you to escort up to limit of range as and when aircraft become available.  
(H.Q.C.C. 1835B/20 to Gib. (R) 15, 19 Groups, Admty. Air Min.)

/German ...



598

War Diary.20.7.1942  
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic - contd.

German A/C. German aircraft seen off Sagres 1605 G.M.T/19 flying S.E.  
(N.A. Lisbon 1859B/20 to S.O. (I) Gibraltar, (R) Admty.)

CLYDE. My 1438/17, sailed CLYDE, QB 73, QBB 272, QBC 459.  
(F.O.C.N.A. 1928B/20 to V.A. Malta (R) Admty., C. in C. Med., F.O.(S) Capt. S.10)

Torpedoes for Malta. C. in C. Med. 1401/19.  
(1) PARTHIAN and CLYDE can each deliver 11 aircraft torpedoes or 13 submarine torpedoes per trip. Decision is however required as to whether CLYDE's departure for refit is to be delayed until REGENT has arrived and been converted for Store carrying.  
(2) Admty. is requested to state availability of WELSHMAN.  
(3) C. in C. Med. pass to H.Q. R.A.F. M.E., Capt. S.1, Capt.S.10.  
(4) Admty. pass to F.O.S.  
(F.O.C.N.A. 2252B/20 to C. in C. Med. Admty. (R) V.A. Malta, Capt. S.1, Capt. S.10, H.Q. R.A.F. M.E., F.O.S.)

South Atlantic.

FROBISHER RANCHI C.M.30. Sailed FROBISHER, RANCHI escorting C.M.30.  
2. FROBISHER and RANCHI change to W/T organization N U at 1415Z/23.  
3. RANCHI changes to W/T organization V at 0215Z/29.  
(Cdre i/c Durban 0719Z/20 to Admty etc.)

STENSBY. Overdue shipping, cancel STENSBY, my 1535/13, ship arrived Capetown.  
(S.O.I. Capetown, 0840B/20.)

Dispositions. TAMARISK with cable ship about 008° 10' 013° 35'.  
PICT 2 M.Ls patrolling Sector T at (corrupt group)00 20th.

COPINSAY off Marshall to Freetown 8.  
BURDOCK with O.S.33 004° 10' 012° 55' to 003° 33' 012° 28' thence 105° 9½.

CANNA, 2 M.Ls about 003° 40' 006° 30' to Takoradi, 7.  
VELOX 002° 01' 010° 20' to 000° 20' S. 008° 39' thence to Freetown.  
Friendly Naval Unit about 001° 30' 005° 59' 270° 14½.

BARCROSS, BARBOURNE, MOONSHINE 002° 01' 005° 10' to Walvis Bay, 8.  
CILICIA 003° 10' S. 019° 50' (?245°) 13.  
(R.A.W.A. 1059Z/20 to Ships in Area P of S.A. Stn S. of 8° N. Admty. C. in C. S.A., N.O.I.C. Bathurst.)

/Oilers ...

599

War Diary.20.7.1942.  
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic.Oilers  
FORTOL.

Your 1610Z/18/7. FORTOL complete ex trials 25/7 and will be sailed for Freetown via Ascension where she may be required to fuel QUEEN ELIZABETH and RAMILLIES.  
(C. in C.S.A.1103B/20 to R.A.W.A. (R) Admty.).

STEAUA  
ROMANA.

My 1242B/9. Cancel reference to STEAUA ROMANA Vessel arrived Abadan 14/7.  
(S.O.(I) Capetown 1237B/20. to Admty etc).

M/S for  
S.D.F.

Your 1455/25. Neither ROMNEY nor ALGERINE Class vessels are available for South Atlantic Station owing to more pressing requirements elsewhere which must be met first.

2. Hoped that B.Y.M.S. Motor Minesweepers will prove to be seaworthy craft and your remarks would be welcomed on this Class after experience at Freetown.

3. A.M. 1656/19/6 to C. in C.S.A. only, proposed to allocate ten B.Y.M.S. to Durban during 1943. Would the S.D.F. be prepared to man any or all of these instead of the Fleet Minesweepers asked for in your 1455/25/6?

(D.M.S. 1307B/20 to C. in C.S.A. (R) C.G.S. Pretoria D.S.D.F. Capetown)

Movements.

Arrival 20/7 PELICAN, ARMERIA, ROTHER, SPEY, COMMANDANT DU BOUC with O.S.33, PHOEBE.  
(S.O.(I) Freetown 1313Z/20 to Admty., F.O.C.N.A. C. in C.W.A. S.O.W.P.)

EIGER  
MARPESSA.

Your 1826/16. A.M. 1712/30/6. WPPS No. 681 dealt with Swiss Ship EIGER and Greek MARPESSA and was message referred to in my 1727/15.  
(S.O.(I) Freetown 1323Z/20 to Admty. (R) C. in C.S.A.).

W.R. Note. re Convoy O.S.32 & MARPESSA & EIGER refers to 1712/30 re convoy O.S.32 & 1727/15 re intercepted message to MARPESSA from Capt. EIGER.

Colliers,  
Mozambique  
Channel.

Your 1642/16. (1643/16 intended). Para. 2. and my 1547/18 Lourenco Marques reports following colliers loading and dates expected ready, TAYGETOS 20/7. BREVIKEN 21/7 from 25/7. CAMSANIS 29/7. (2) At Durban ALICE MOLLER ready, HALVDAN p.m./20th. (?ERICA) 22nd if repairs completed. (3) Propose to sail escorted by JASMINE and SORSRA ships ready 22nd, Durban 23rd, Lourenco Marques, and to include BUSHWOOD whose speed is 7½ knots. (4) Ships ready subsequently could be escorted by SOBKRA and SOLVRA 29/7.  
(Cdre. Durban 1504/20 to Deputy C. in C.E.F. (R) C. in C.S.A. Admty.).

CECILE  
MAPLESON.

A/S cable loop-laying ship CECILE MAPLESON is complete and sailed for Durban 11/7. Request confirmation that destination is still Mediterranean A.M. 2325/8/41 refers.  
(C. in C.S.A. 1514B/10 (? 20 intended) to Admty.)

/Your. \*12/7

600

War Diary.20.7.1942.  
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic--contd:--CECILE  
MAPLESON.  
Contd.

Your 1514/10. It is now intended that CECILE MAPLESON should remain South Africa to maintain Table Bay, and Saldanha Bay systems. Request you will recall her to assist EMILE BAUDOT in laying Table Bay system.  
(D.A./S.W. 2213B/20 to C. in C.S.A., D.C. in C. E.F., Cdre. Durban).

M. A. R. I.

Pass to N.C.S.Os Cancel my 2003/17, amendment No.41 to M.A.R.I.  
(D.T.D. 1552B/20 to C. in C.S.A. S.B.N.O.W.A. R.A.W.A. N.S.H.Q. C.O.A.C. F.O.C.N.A. A.C.I.C. S.O.(I) Jamaica, F.O.I.Cs Cardiff, Belfast etc. (R) Connav, C. in C.W.A.B.A.D.).

C.M.30.

Convoy C.M.30 sailed 20/7. for Bombay. Personnel on board (YOMA, EMPIRE TROOPER). E.T.A. p.m./8/8.  
(D.S.T.O. Durban 1622B/20 to S.S.T.O. Bombay).  
Convoy C.M.30 sailed for Madagascar 20/7. Personnel on board EMPIRE WOODLARK and SONTAY. E.T.A. p.m.29/7.  
(D.S.T.Durban 1625B/20 to S.T.O. Diego Suarez).

Movements  
Summary

2000Z/20 Area Q. SHROPSHIRE about 033° 08' S. 029° 15' E. to Simonstown. AMARANTHUS from Pointe Noire E.T.A. Simonstown 0700Z/21.  
CHESHIRE 027° 23' S. 009° 50' E. 313° 12½ knots.  
SUNBURST, STORMCENTRE 020° 20' S. 011° 20' E. to Walvis Bay.  
EMPIRE BIRCH 034° 55' S. 023° 02' E. to Durban 11 knots. DETROYAT 020° 00' S. 011° 00' E. to Simonstown 12½ knots.  
(? C. in C.S.A. 1744/20 to S.A.Stn.(R) Admty).

Shipping  
Mozambique  
Channel.

Re provision of A/S Escort  
(A.C.N.S.(T) 1901B/20.  
See East Indies.

W.S.21.P.

EMPRESS OF JAPAN, DUCHESS OF ATHOLL, ORONSAY, WINDSOR CASTLE, DUCHESS OF YORK. Requirements, Freetown and Capetown.  
(D.S.T. 2121B/20 to R.A.W.A. C. in C.S.A. F.O.Ceylon).

Transport  
Movements,  
Reports.

Any messages relating to or indicating movements or prospective movements or present position of QUEEN MARY, QUEEN ELIZABETH, AQUITANIA, MAURETANIA, ILE DE FRANCE, NIEUW AMSTERDAM, PASTEUR should be sent through naval channels prefixed Most Secret.  
All other messages relating to these ships should also be prefixed Most Secret in the text and should exclude any reference to or indication of movements.  
(D.S.T. 2301B/20 to S.T.O.Freetown, P.S.T.O. South Africa, etc).

War Diary.20.7.1942.  
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean.

Mines, My 0750/20, not to Admty. Acoustic mines  
Famagusta. detonated on edge of swept channel at 0650  
today. Sweeping gear damaged but no damage to  
ship. Port closed.  
(N.O.I.C. Famagusta (Cyprus), 0925C/20 to  
Admty., (R) C. in C. Med.)

Movements. 19/7 Port Said arrivals WHITEHAVEN, SEAHAM,  
M.Ls 348, 354 departures RENNET, BURGONET,  
M.Ls 1004, 1007, FALK, H.M. Tugs C.3071,  
HENRIETTA MOLLER, JERVIS, JAVELIN, PAKENHAM, PALADIN, DIDO,  
EURYALUS, M.Ls 348, 354, SEAHAM, WHITEHAVEN.  
(N.O.I.C. Port Said, 1014C/20 to Admty., C. in C. Med.)  
Arrivals CHITRAL 1022Z, U.S.S. CHATEAU THIERRY 1044Z/20.  
(Cdre. Aden, 1044Z/20 to Admty., C. in C. Med., etc.)

M.E. Air Cositrep No. 456.  
Report. 3. Night 18/19. 3 Halifaxes 43 Wellingtons  
bombed shipping and harbour installations  
Tobruk. Large fire started at petrol depot  
and several other fires along water front. Low cloud hampered  
operation. 5 Wellingtons mined harbour and approaches. 5  
Albacores bombed M/V in Matruh scoring near misses.  
(C. in C. M.E., 1125/20.)

Trieste C.4. Officer Roumanian Steamer ALBA JULIA  
expedition arrived from Trieste, stating considerable  
report. activity and preparation at Trieste and district  
for sea borne attack on Malta and Alexandria.  
This considered to be imminent.  
(S.O.I. Istanbul, 1221C/20 to S.O.(I) Alexandria, (R) Admty.  
for D.N.I.)  
N.I.D. Comment. There has been no air R/C of Trieste whereby  
this report can be confirmed or contradicted. Air Ministry  
have been asked for R/C of North Adriatic Ports.

Ex-French Your 1730/17. Matter has been in hands of  
Danube Narkomvn Qtorg who have said they want all  
Barges at barges.  
Istanbul. (2) Soviet N.A. informed accordingly and told  
to arrange towage from foreign sources if  
necessary.  
(3) Request he may be given all help possible.  
(4) Admiralty pass all addressees.  
(Adm. Miles, 1224C/20 to B.N.A. Ankara, (R) Admty., C. in C.  
Med., S.O.I. Istanbul.)

/ R/C ...

602

War Diary.20.7.1942.  
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean - Contd.

R/C of Italian Ports, Visual Cagliari 1015/20. Difficult seeing owing to cloud but 2 cruisers and 4 destroyers believed present. Photographs later.  
(V.A. Malta, 1306B/20 to EAGLE, (R) F.O.C.N.A., C. in C. Med.)

P.R.U. a.m. today Cagliari. 2 6inch cruisers, 3 destroyers, 3 submarines. See my 1307/20, not to Admiralty. Messina. 2 8-inch cruisers, 3 destroyers. Remainder harbour hidden by cloud. Augusta. 5 E-Boats. Trapani. 2 destroyers 2 submarines  
(V.A. Malta, 1907B/20 to EAGLE, C. in C. Med., F.O.C.N.A., Admty.)

P.R.U. p.m. today. Cagliari. 2 6-inch cruisers, 3 destroyers, 6 submarines.  
Later. 1 small hospital ship, 2 merchant ships 800-1000 tons. Palermo obscured by mist.  
(V.A. Malta, 2336B/20 to EAGLE, F.O.C.N.A., C. in C. Med., Admty.)

Malta. Military Sit. Rep. for week ending 18/7.  
1. Daylight air attacks against aerodromes. considerable on 12 and 13/7 totalling 66 Ju. 88s, thereafter mainly fighter sweeps, Night activity slight. Photo R/C shows decrease of 43 Ju.88s on Sicilian aerodromes. 31 Spitfires reinforcement arrived. R.A.F. destroyed 5 bombers 12 fighters, damaged or probably destroyed 30. A.A. no claims.  
2. WELSHMAN arrived with small cargo powdered milk edible oil after rough passage. Not attacked in harbour. Army assisted in rapid unloading.  
3. Slight damage to military billets and stores. (Casualties). 25 U.X.Bs plus 773 A.P. bombs disposed of by bomb disposal section.  
(Govr. Malta, 1630/20 to C. in C. M.E., (R) W.O.)

TALISMAN and P.212 will leave U.K. 3/8 for 1st and 8th Flotillas respectively. TALISMAN is considered to be worked up, P.212 has carried out one working up patrol.  
(F.O.S., 1641B/20 to C. in C. Med., (R) Admty., etc.)

Malta Air Report. I.487 20/7. C.S.R. Malta.  
19th 1620 hours, 8 Spitfires up, raid did not approach Malta. Night 19/20, 3 raiders, none crossed coast, 1 Ju. (87 or 88?) destroyed by Beaufighter 12 miles east of Malta. Other raiders returned Sicily. Immediately after 2 German personnel rescued by H.S.L. 20th 3 alerts. (0357 or 0317?) hours, 2 enemy aircraft on possible search 15 miles North Malta, 6 Spitfires up did not sight. 0630 hours and 0845 hours, 8 Spitfires up in each case neither raid approached Malta. 0943 hours, 1 plus enemy aircraft turned back 20 miles north, 4 Spitfires up did not sight. 1156 hours, 20 plus Me.109s, ?3 2001s, 3 Ju. 88s, Luqa bombed, no damage, 1 Me.109 destroyed by 24 Spitfires, combats over and east of Island, 2 Spitfires shot down sea, both pilots rescued, 1 Spitfire crash landed another damaged

/in combat ...

War Diary.20.7.1942.  
Sunday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean. - contd.:

Malta Air Report - contd. in combat both pilots wounded. 4 Spitfires up cover to minesweepers. R.D.F. gave very poor information during both raids. (H.Q. R.A.F. Malta 1815/20)

UNA. UNA will leave Haifa 2000C/21 for 035° 17' 026° 41' making good 90 miles in 24th (As received) from 033° (?25') N. 033° 02' E. at about 2100C/22. UNA has been ordered to leave vicinity of 035° 39' 023° 10' about sunset 28/7 to arrive position A in my 1253/18 to V.A. Malta about 0800C/1/8. (Capt. S. 10 2021C/20 to V.A. Malta etc.)

P.42. S/M P.42 arrived. (V.A. Malta 2115B/20 to Admty. (R) C. in C. Med. F.O.C.N.A., Capt. (S) 1, Capt. (S) 10)

WELSHMAN. Your 1321B/20 not to Admiralty. WELSHMAN was shadowed from 0915B/19 to 1700 by 1 Junkers 88 between 007° 09' E. and 003° E., joined at 1300 by 1 Caproni 135. At 1415 combined attack by 5 Junkers 88 and 15 S.M.79 torpedo bombers O. Ship sustained 2 very near misses from 1 bomber and 1 miss very close ahead by 1 torpedo. No casualties, no damage affecting steam. In absence adequate R.D/F set, ship was helped by favourable cloud conditions about 5000 feet. Also by state of sea enabling high speed so that oil you so kindly spared could be used to advantage. Visibility 0500 until 0900 5 miles. Suggest Beaufighter sighted summer lightning prevalent in Cape Bon area. No surface craft seen. Route taken was centre of Galita Channel thence 30 miles off coast. My impression is that first sight was from routine R/C which ship has consistently sighted near Cape Bougaroni. (WELSHMAN 2310B/20 to V.A. Malta (R) F.O.C.N.A. Admty.)

War Diary.20.7.1942.  
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies.

Enemy Intelligence. 3rd Des. Sqdn. may move to Singapore. Believe Commander 1st Air Fleet changed flagship to ZUIKAKU from Jap. Battleship KIRISHIMA. Bulletin 127. Think 2 vessels of 3rd Battleship Divn. in vicinity of Inland Sea. KENJO MARU thought in Truk area. Expect FUJIKAWA MARU proceeding Aleutian soon. (C. in C. Pacific Fleet, 0155Z/20 to C. in C. E.F., N.S.H.Q., N.Z.N.B.)\*For Comment see page 608

Following from Dutch source. Information from Chungking report 1 aircraft carrier and 9 other ships left Hainan in westerly direction. 6 Ships now remain at Hainan. Type of ships unknown. Information dated 15/7.

Comment by N.I.D. This report may refer to the aircraft carrier ZUIKAKU and 3rd Dest. Sqdn. which have already been reported as going to Singapore. Signal has been repeated to B.A.D. Washington.

(S.O.(I) Colombo, 0435Z/20 to Admty, C. in C. E.F.)

Cocos, Japanese A/C. Cable and Wireless Cocos reported at 0345Z/20 as follows:- Japanese A/C similar to Navy type 96 overhead. (2) F.O.C.R.I.N. pass to Arminia. (F.O.I.C. Ceylon, 0500Z/20 to C. in C. E.F., (R) Admty, A.C.N.B., C. in C. Ceylon, F.O.C.R.I.N.)

HOOGERK. Your 1254B/17. HOOGERK sailed 18th due Aden 27th. (N.C.S.O. Karachi, 0607Z/20 to Admty).

Battery at Diego Garcia. Your 1657/7. Fire control for Diego Garcia. Confirmed. (F.O. Ceylon, 0729Z/20 to Admty (R) D.C. in C. E.F.)

Midway Island lessons. Remarks on personal message from A.C.N.B., Melbourne re chief lessons of Midway Island - mainly technical. (C. in C. E.F., 0852Z/20 to Admty) See Lion and Tiger copies.

INDUS "R" Report. Following has been read: RRRR 26° 44' S., 82° 50' E., INDUS being shelled by Battleship doubtful raider. (Kilindini W/T, 0933/20, to B.A.M.S. 7B. B.A.M.S. 7C) INDUS British 5187 tons position about 1500 miles W. of Fremantle.

DRAGON, MONARCH OF BERMUDA. 1500Z/19 sailed DRAGON, H.T. MONARCH OF BERMUDA for Durban 18. E.T.A. 0600Z/25. (N.O.I.C. Diego Suarez, 1042/20 to Admty M.W.T., Connav, C. in C. E.F., C. in C. S.A., S.O.(I) Capetown S.O.(I) Colombo, N.O.I.C. Durban).

# MOST SECRET

604A E.F.  
Lion

MOST SECRET

M E S S A G E

IN

0952Z/20/July.

From C. in C. Eastern Fleet.

Date 20.7.42.

NAVAL CYPHER 'D' BY W/T.

Recd. 2115.

CORRECTION.

Addressed Admiralty, Repeated C. in C. Mediterranean Fleet, C. in C. Home Fleet, S.O. Force H, R.A. (A)

AIDAC.

667. In personal message from A.C.N.B. Melbourne. First Naval Member stated chief lessons of Midway Island action as follows.  
(A) attacks by unescorted T/B aircraft are suicidal. 35 lost out of 41 and only 2 unconfirmed hits. T/B and D/B attacks not synchronized, former being delivered a few minutes before latter.

(B) Fighter escort unable to stay the course with T/B Extra detachable tanks essential.

(C) Close screen of destroyers valuable against T/B

(D) Proportion of fighters in carriers must be increased

(E) 1000 Armour piercing bombs recommended.

(2) (C) is contrary to our accepted practice which is that heavy ships should be given a clear range for (?4)000 (corrupt group) and that fire of these ships combined likely to be (?more) effective than destroyers, though latter give degree of defence in depth. Understand American destroyers have excellent A/A Armament in contrast to relatively weak A/A armament of cruisers and carriers. This may account for adoption of close screen, but as Italians and Germans appear to use close screen I shall be grateful for any remarks on this subject.

0852Z/20.

Advance copy sent D.C. D.O.D. (F)

1st Lord.	Hd. of M. (30)	D.P.D.
1st S.L. (2)	D.O.D. (H) (2)	Admiral Blake.
2nd S.L.	D.O.D. (F) (2)	Vice Admiral Syfret.
3rd S.L.	D.C. (2)	
4th S.L.	D.T.S.D.	
V.C.N.S.	D.N.A.D.	
A.C.N.S. (H)	D.N.I. (4)	
A.C.N.S. (T)	D.D.I.C. (2)	
A.C.N.S. (F) (2)	D. of P. (2)	
A.C.N.S. (W)	D. A/S W.	
Naval Sec.	D.G.D. (2)	
C.N.A.S.	I.P. (2)	
N.A. 1st S.L.	V.D.	



War Diary.

20.7.1942.  
Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies. - Contd.

D/G Ranges,  
Persian  
Gulf.

Your 1813/10/7. Consider it important that Shallow D/G and S/A ranges for M/S craft be laid in Persian Gulf as soon as possible. Request you will expedite sailing of BUSHWOOD to Kilindini as much as possible after laying of Durban D.G. ranges.  
(C. in C. E.F., 1056Z/20 to C. in C. S.A., (R) Admty, F.O.E.A., & Zanzibar, Com. I.C. Durban, A.S.D.G. Helensburgh).

Transport  
of Poles.

Your 1958/11. Intended that first 1500 Polish civilians should embark at Basra in returning B.P. 50 ships about 7/8 to Karachi. To await onward despatch to Kilindini in W.S.20 ships. Agreed Arminia.  
(P.S.T.O. India, 1057Z/20 to D.S.T.)

East Africa  
Situation.

Intelligence for week ending 18/7. French Somaliland. No shipping seen Jibuti during week. Most Secret source revealed aircraft left Marseilles 11/7 for Jibuti and Tananarive. Believed arrived Jibuti as Farman 223 seen on aerodrome on 15/7. One Blenheim R/C aircraft shot down 15/7 by Vichy A/A fire machine burnt out all crew killed, Axis submarine refuelling bases reported between Port Amboin and Novo Redondo.  
Portuguese East Africa. Mining of Lourenco Marques and Beira harbours projected, also establishment 12 coastal batteries. Madagascar. Source reliability unknown reports aircraft carrying Senior French Officers landed Ivato 15/7 and met by Governor General. Comment. Likely to be aircraft referred to in first para. Air R/C morning 13/7 reported 2 S/MS on surface Ampasindava Bay. S/MS submerged and tug towing 2 lighters turned back on sighting aircraft. Same afternoon one C/T observed 15 miles West of Nosi Be. Comment. This strengthens suggestion that enemy S/MS operating Mozambique Channel may be using Madagascar coast as well as P.E.A. coast for refuelling.  
(G.O.C.in C. E.A., 1215/20 to W.O.)

Andamans,  
Nicobars,  
demolitions.

Your 1836/7 (N.T. in W.D. circulated to D.N.I. only enquiry as to demolitions) para. 1  
Andamans (A) following were demolished:- (list)  
(B) Prepared for demolition and orders left with Authority quoted to take action as noted (list)  
(C) All cypher and code books were withdrawn and orders left to District Supt. of Police to destroy all documents.  
(D) All military stores were removed. Para. 2. Nicobars. All petrol 80000 gallons aviation and supplies destroyed W/T set removed. There were no other stores of military value.  
(F.L.O. India, 1235Z/20 to Admty).

/SUMATRA...

War Diary.20.7.1942.  
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies. - Contd.

SUMATRA. Request you will sail Neth. Cruiser SUMATRA to Curacao when ready.  
2. She should embark boiler tubes at Simonstown.  
These should have arrived 15/8.  
3. Future employment of this ship is under discussion.  
4. She may be used for escort duties on passage.  
(D.O.D. (F) (O.D.1129/42) 1315B/20 to C. in C. E.F. (R) B.D.Z. etc)

Burma Air Report. A. 923. Intelligence summary No. 127 on information received up to 1800 hrs. 20/7.  
Burma. Akyab bombed by 6 Blenheims 19/7 direct hits workshops of Arakan Flotilla. 1 near miss  
3 steamers in creek North of town, decks machine gunned, buildings in town machine gunned. Paletwa bombed by 1 Blenheim 19/7, place seemed deserted, no shipping. 19/7 all bombs on target 2 large fires started heavy A/A from East bank of Chindwin and South bank of Myiyyha first position machine gunned by 1 Mohawk Kalemyo Taukkyan and Htoma Myauk (Almyitttha Valley) bombed by 2 Mohawks 18/7 buildings damaged and fires. R/C Arakan coast Blenheim Taungup area 19/7, no evidence port in use 1 steamer 150 feet, Combermere Bay, Blenheim Sandowat 19/7. No Shipping, no movement seen.  
(A.H.Q., India, 1448/20).

Request for landing craft. In order that E.F. personnel may become accustomed to handling landing craft assault and that a certain reserve of these craft may be available for small operations at short notice it is requested that ten L.C.As. be sent out to Kilindini.  
(C. in C. E.F., 1601Z/20 to Admty).

Destroyers "R" class, "P" class. Destroyers of R class have been allocated to Eastern Fleet.  
First of these is ROTHERHAM due to complete end August. 2. R class will constitute 11th D.F. instead of M Class. A.M.1933/29/11/41 para. 2 and R.A. Ds (H.F.) 1130/26/5/42 para. 4 refer.  
3. If, on their arrival, Mediterranean requires more destroyers consideration will be given to the 4 P Class in Eastern Fleet joining remainder of P. class in Mediterranean.  
(A.C.N.S. (F), 1853B/20 to C. in C. E.F., C. in C. Med., (R) C. in C. H.F. etc).

Escort of Shipping Mozambique Channel. Requested you will give early consideration to providing A/S escort for a proportion of the shipping passing through Mozambique Channel.  
2. Appreciated that number of A/S escort ships available is at present limited though some reinforcement will be provided when A/S whalers fitting out at Durban have been worked up and are in service  
3. Not intended that convoys should necessarily run on a regular cycle, but it is suggested that such escorts as are available should run between Durban and Mombasa, and that shipping which would have sailed within a few days of the escort's

/departure...

War Diary.

20.7.1942.  
Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies - conts:-

Escort of Shipping, Mozambique Channel. Contd.

departure should be held to form an escorted group. Independent sailings would continue except when advantage could be taken of an escorted group whose sailings might be synchronised with the periods of attack referred to in C. in C. E.F. 1945/14.

4. In the case of Northbound traffic, sailings from the Cape could also be adjusted to fit in with the departure of a group from Durban. Shipping from Lourenco Marques would join at a R/V if desired.

5. In the case of southgoing shipping, it would probably be necessary to divert shipping required to form a group into Mombasa prior to departure of escorts or alternatively sailings from Aden might be adjusted to fit in with escorts sailings from Mombasa.

6. C. in C. E.F. is requested to co-ordinate proposals with C. in C. S.A. on above lines.  
(D.T.D. Approved A.C.N.S (T) 1901B/20 to C. in C. E.F., C. in C. S.A. (R) D.C in C. E.F.) *Reply: 1415Z/24, page 737-8.*

Enemy Intelligence. Estimated dispositions of Japanese main units 19/7 as follows:- Northern and (Westerly?) 1st Class 2nd and part of 3rd Japanese Battle Squadrons Japanese A/Cs. ZUIKAKU, (RYUJO?) (SHOKAKU?) A/C ZUIHO and converted merchant ship carrier JUNYO and Jap. Coast Defence Vessel KASUGA, ~~BASIDU~~. Jap. Cruisers HAGURO, MYOKO, TONE, MAYA, JINTSU, NACHI, ABUKUMA and MIKUMA, Jap. Cruiser NACHI wearing flag 5th Fleet. Also Jap. Cr. ATAGO under repair. Seaplane tenders 2 in number (?Total) of 3 Squadrons of destroyers and 2 or possibly 3 squadrons of submarines. Mandated Area. Possibly 2 A/C Carriers converted from merchant ships. Cruiser KASHIMA wearing flag of 4th Fleet, 3 Jap. Aoba Class cruisers also one Jap. Cruiser Moyamo Class cruisers under repair, (Jap light cruiser YUBARI?) 3 seaplane tenders at least 2 destroyer flotillas and one or possibly 2 submarine Squadrons. New Guinea and Solomon Is. Area. Jap. Light Cruisers TENRYU, TATSUTA and some ?destroyers and small craft. Aleutian Islands. Possibly 1 Battleship 2 heavy cruisers, 1 seaplane tender? and small craft. Malaya and East Indies. Converted ? Merchant ship A/C carrier HIYO (Jap. cruiser NATORI?) part of (?5th) destroyer Squadron and part of 5th S/M Squadron One A/C Carrier Squadron reported leaving Hainan in westerly direction on 15/7 possibly HIYO. Position of (Jap. Cruisers CHOKAI?) TAKAO, KUMANO and (MYOKO?), Heavy cruisers, are not known. (C.O.I.S. Eastern Fleet, 1951Z/20 to C. in C. E.F., C. in C. S.A. Admty etc).

DAUNTLESS  
BRITISH  
ENERGY.

2000Z/20 sailed DAUNTLESS, R.F.A.\* BRITISH ENERGY for\*(?Durban) E.T.A. 0400Z/22, knots 9. (N.O.I.C. Diego Suarez, 2001Z/20 to Admty etc).

\* See p. 639

\*\* Not in Navy list as R.F.A.

/Ceylon...

War Diary.

20.7.1942.  
Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies. - Contd.

Ceylon Personnel. Your 0845/10 to D.C.in C. E.F. Drafts of young ratings for Eastern Fleet are being sent to H.M.S. TANA vide D.C. in C. E.F.'s 0825/9. Concur in maintenance of a small drafting pool in Ceylon and provision of ratings for services mentioned in your signal. You will appreciate that there is an acute shortage of higher non-substantive and skilled ratings for manning new construction and that it is essential for such men only to be employed in Naval Billets proper to their rating. Requirements of these for Colombo and Trincomalee must be kept to a minimum. Junior E.R.As. and ratings of the Mechanic grades can be provided in small numbers.  
(D:P.S., 2247B/20 to F O. Ceylon, (R) D.C in C. E.F., C. in C. E.F.)

W.S.19 P. Final destination of SANTA PAULA and MARIPOSA is Karachi. Request you will arrange accordingly  
2. C. in C. India has information as to numbers of U.S. personnel on board.  
(D. of S.T., 2320B/20 to F.O.C.R.I.N. (R) Connav etc).

*Enemy Intelligence*  
*See p.604.*

\* Comment. The aircraft carrier ZUIKAKU has already been reported as going shortly to Singapore. If she has the flag of Commander of 1st Air Fleet it is likely that other carriers will be with her. Units so far reported as moving to Singapore are:-  
2 - 8" Cruisers (KUMANO, SUZUYA)  
1 Aircraft Carrier (ZUIKAKU)  
1 Destroyer Squadron }  
2 Destroyer Flotillas } about 24  
destroyers

War Diary.

20.7.1942  
Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies.

Shipping  
Diversions.

Your 1847/18. BRITISH DILIGENCE sailed in K.S.518 with destination Curacao. BRITISH INTEGRITY sailed in K.S. 517 with destination Trinidad.  
(C.S.A. Norfolk Vir. 0525/20 to Admty. (R) Key West.)

ROODE ZEE.

Sailed ROODE ZEE escorted by M.T.Bs 335 and 343 to salvage abandoned tanker in 11° 40' N. 60° 43' W.  
(F.O.I.C. Trinidad 0812Q/20 to S.B.N.O. W.A. (R) Admty. S.O.(I) Kingston Jamaica.)  
Tanker was SAN GASPAR, see 1632/22.

Movement  
Summary.

1800 G.M.T./20.  

Ship	Position	Course	Speed
CROCUS )	11° N. 44½° W.	270°	11
COWSLIP )			
ASTURIAS )	05½°N. 31½° W.	293°	13
LARGS )			

(D.O.D.(F) 0833Z/20 to Opnav (R) Comnav.)

Movements.

Arrival 20th Cable Ship NORSEMAN in company with M.T.B 337 and U.S.S. OPAL.  
(B.R.O. St. Lucia 0901Q/20 to Admty.)  
Arrival CLARKIA, U.S. Destroyer TARBELL U.S.S. COLFAX, U.S.S.\*P.U.482 and 492 escorting convoy W.A.T..4.  
(N.O.I.C. Trinidad 1202Q/20 to S.B.N.O. W.A. (R) Admty., S.O.(I) Kingston Jamaica.)

Q.S.19  
attacked.

Q.S.19 attacked in 049° 22' N. 065° 12' W. at 1810Z/20.  
(C.O.A.C. 1010Z/20 to Admty.)

LYNX.

Following is my 1925/10 (begins) Addressed C.O.A.C. (R) N.O.I.C. Halifax, A.S. Halifax, from N.S.H.Q. Your submission 707.8.5, 22/6.  
H.M.C.S. LYNX is to be condemned for further service. Vessel is to be destroyed and all usable equipment removed. H.Q. is to be informed when this has been completed and vessel is ready for disposal, 1925/10 (Ends)  
(N.S.H.Q. 1159Z/20 to Admty.)

ILEX.

My 1330/11/7. <sup>/NT. - W.D.</sup> It is considered ILEX should have 3 weeks working up practices in U.S.A. before sailing for her station. Request station be communicated.  
(B.A.R.R. 1208Z/20 to Admty.)

/A.H. ...

War Diary

20.7.1942  
Monday

FOREIGN STATIONS

America and West Indies Contd:

- A.H.  
Convoys  
Your 1500/17. It is difficult to advise usefully in absence of knowledge which you must have. But if ever doubt arises as to sailing of an A.H., the advantage of turning at once to T.A.W. is suggested. Apparently CARELIA might have caught T.A.W. 2 and the others T.A.W. 3.  
(D.T.D. 1220B/20, to B.R.O. Curacao).
- ALCOA  
VOYAGER  
collision.  
H.X. 199. 19th, ALCOA VOYAGER returning for repairs (?after) (?collision) with (?unidentified) tanker.  
(?N.C.S.O. Halifax, 1237B/20, to Admty (R) N.S.H.Q. etc.).
- S.Q. 21  
Sailing telegram.  
(N.C.S.O. Sydney C.B., 1327Z/20, 1329Z/20).
- H.X. 199  
Task Unit 24.1.18 will (proceed direct to) H.X. 199 in (?047°) 42' N. 050° 45' W. at 1600Z/22nd. By hand to C.T.U. 24.1.18.  
(C.T. 24 1337/20 to C.in C. U.S. Fleet. Convoys and Routeing (R) C.T.U. 24.1.18, C.T.U. 24.(?18). 8, C.T.G. 24.7 C.in C. W.A. N.S.H.Q. C.O.A.C. Admty, F.O.N.F.).
- PENNSYLVANIA  
SUN,  
diversion.  
Your 1204/18. Regret your 1609/3 was not passed U.S.R.O. Port Arthur. To prevent recurrence suggest Connav be made action addressee and not B.R.Os., when changes of destination are desired by Admty.  
(Connav, 1434/20, to Admty).
- TAIGETE  
(Italian  
repatriations)  
TAIGETE has developed a leak on starboard side and cargo is being lost from 4 5 6 7 and 8 tanks. This will presumably continue until water level is reached. Estimated loss will be approx. 200 tons on arrival Freetown. Please pass to Italian authorities.  
(S.B.N.O. Curacao, 1441QR/20, to Admty).
- MINISTER  
WEDEL  
Your 1832/8th. (Re 2 tankers due at Curacao). MINISTER WEDEL has not arrived.  
(S.B.N.O., Curacao, 1526QR/20, to Admty).

/T.A.W. ....

War Diary

20.7.1942  
Monday

FOREIGN STATIONS

America and West Indies Contd:

T.A.W. and W.A.T. Convoys My 1245/16, Curacao 1023/17, Aruba 1632/16, neither to Trinidad or Key West.  
2. Essential that extracts from convoy sailing Telegrams shall reach Curacao and Aruba promptly. G.B. 04024/(41) Art. 91 refers.  
3. Equally essential for Curacao and Aruba to report to Admty and to S.O. (I) Jamaica for information of convoy terminal port names of ships joining.  
4. In view of the short distance between Curacao/Aruba and Trinidad, procedure laid down in Art. 91 may be too slow for use by (a) Trinidad announcing departures for Curacao/Aruba. (b) Curacao/Aruba announcing departures for Trinidad. If this is the case, local arrangements should be made to meet the difficulty.  
(D.T.D., 1614B/20, to S.O.I. Jamaica (R) B.R.Os. Curacao, Aruba, Trinidad, West Key).

Casualties Your 1636/15. (Are reports of casualties America and West Indies, area received?). Yes.  
(B.A.D., 1625Z/20, to S.O.I. Jamaica.).

ATHENE Martlets Cancel my 1312/18 made in error. Consider ATHENE's figures in C.in C., S.As. 2105/18 are correct. <sup>(N.T. 4 VFD)</sup>  
(D.N.A.D., 1630B/20, to B.A.D. (R) C.in C.E.F.etc.)

Oil for Portuguese Fishing Please endeavour to comply with Admty 1432/7 which is being passed to you. Admty pass to B.N.A. Lisbon.  
(N.S.H.Q., 1640Z/20 to F.O. Newfoundland (R) Opnav, Admty. C.O.A.C., B.N.A. Lisbon).

Dispositions Section East S.C. 92 Task Unit 24.1.15 049° 30' 048° 40' 049° 7.  
O.N. 110 Task Unit 24.18.6, 043° 45' 054° 10'

(?247°) 7.  
→ O.N. 111 Task Unit 24.18.5 049° 50' 056° 00' (?208°) 9 altering in 059° 20' West to (?288°). (See amendment following).  
→ U.S. Destroyer SWANSON 045° 30' 058° 35' 224° 16 altering in 065° 35' W. to Boston. (see amendment following).  
Task Unit 24.1.7. vicinity 045° 50' (?053° 55' (?en route for) Argentia.  
(?C) L 47 (?CO) BALT, COWICHAN, (?047°) (?20') (?052°) (?20') 7.5.  
(?AMAZON) BOADICEA due St. John's N.F. 20th from eastward, 14.  
PARRSBORO, WEDGEPORT, 048° 30' 050° 40' Great Circle to (?U.K.) 11.  
DONALD STEWART 050° 30' 058° 35' to Hamilton Inlet 7 (?5).  
LADY RODNEY, TRAIL, (?LUNENBERG), 051° 15' 057° 05' to Hamilton Inlet, 14.  
SHAWNAIGAN sailed Hamilton Inlet p.m./20 to Gaspe.  
(C.O.A.C., 1650Z/20 to Admty).  
→ Section East amend my 1650Z/20. O.N. 111 for 049° 50' read 043° 50' U.S. Destroyer SWANSON 045° 25' 051° 30' (?318°) 16.  
→ (C.O.A.C., 0100Z/20/(21 intended) to Admty).

War Diary.20.7.1942.  
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies.

Dispositions. Section South-west. H.X.(?199) Task Unit (Contd.) 24.18.8 044° 45' 059° 20' 078° 9. X.B.30. Task Unit 24.18.1, ROXBOROUGH 041° (?20') 066° 50' 220° 8 altering in 067° 53' W. to (?263°) and in 069° 47' W. to 310°. ROXBOROUGH detached in 040° 10' N. coastwise to Norfolk. X.B. 30F, DUNVEGAN 044° 20' 066° 40', 8. B.X.29C, Task Unit 24.18.3, 042° (?45') 069° 50' 042° 10, altering in 043° (?30') N. to 098° in 066° 20' W. to 096°, and in 065° 27' W. to Halifax.

MOSDALE, ~~QUEBEC~~, ~~PORT ARTHUR~~, sailing St. John N.B. p.m./20 to Halifax, 14.

3 Fairmiles en route for Halifax from Bay of Fundy U.S.S. SEACLOUD vicinity 042° 55' 067° 45' to Boston 10. TRILIUM sailed Halifax 2100Z/20 to Pictou. HEPATICA, UNGAVA, vicinity 044° 55' 061° 00' en route for Halifax. (C.O.A.C., 1656Z/20 to Admty.)

U/B Positions. (C. in C. U.S. Fleet, 1705/20.)

GLASGOW. Your 1326/18 (GLASGOW to call at Bermuda to collect service passengers and stores.) GLASGOW approved. (A.C.N.S.(F), 1850B/20 to S.B.N.O. W.A., (R) B.A.M.R., N.S.H.Q.)

NEWFOUNDLAND. Pre-sailing telegram, hospital ship (NEWFOUNDLAND) sailing Halifax 1500Z/22 for Liverpool route Mercator to 045° 00' N. 050° 00' W. thence Great Circle to 055° 40' N. 008° 00' W. passing through 49° N. 41° W. 52° N. 32° W. 54° N. 23° W. S. of A. 14 knots. (C.O.A.C., 1929Z/20 to Admty., (R) N.S.H.Q., etc.)

Use of B.A.V.Gs. Your 1549/3 and my 2303/17 para. 2 (b). Cinclant desires that B.A.V.Gs should not be included in A.T. convoys, since they are not fast enough to operate aircraft with a fast convoy and he suggests they should sail in Trade Convoys to U.K. in order to make use of their aircraft. U.S. Authorities request your views. (B.A.D., 1939Z/20 to Admty., (R) C. in C. W.A., N.S.H.Q.)

A.S. 6. My 1625/15. Delay sailing convoy A.S.6 until arrival Charleston CHINA MAIL and AMERICAN PRESS from New York probably 26/7.(C in C U.S. Fleet 1943/20 to C. in C. Atlantic Fleet, (R) C.E.S.F., C.T.F.23, Com. 9, Admty., R.A.W.A., C. in C. S.A., B.A.D.)

/Co-ordination ...



War Diary.20.7.1942.  
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies - Contd.

Co-ordination of Intelligence with U.S.N. Your 1251/18, concur. (B.A.D., 1945Z/20 to Admty.) Refers to Conference at Rio. Your 1251/18, concur. Present whereabouts of Wynn unknown to me. (S.B.N.O. W.A., 2103P/20 to Admty.)

U/B Campaign. Connav serial 19 and 20. RAPHAEL SEMMES U.S. torpedoed sunk 28/6 029° 30' N. 064° 30' W. <sup>Sum p. 614</sup> LEONIDAS M Greek (reported) abandoning ship 037° N. 057° W. GLACIER, British Schooner, shelled sunk 18/7 010° 50' N. 068° 58' W. Entire crew saved. TACHIRA U.S. torpedoed sunk 12/7 018° 15' N. 081° 54' W. GERTRUDE, U.S. fishing boat, sunk by S/M 023° 32' N. 082° 00' W. 16/7. KESHENA U.S. tug, sunk U.S. mine 19/7 035° 00' N. 075° 45' W. in salvage operation. (Connav, 2048/20 to Comnav.)

Sub attack and sighting summary. TACHIRA torpedoed and sunk 18.15 N. 81.45 W. 2145Z/12. Fishing trawler GERTRUDE attacked 23.32 N. 82 W. 0830Z/16. Schooner GLACIER shelled and sunk 10.51 N. 58.58 W. 1745Z/18. THOMAS MCKEAN U.88 type, Green Swastika on yellow back-ground or vice versa. WAIWERA 2 torpedo hits. KRONPRINSEN, 2 torpedo hits. Surface and aircraft attack sub contact at scene of attack. Aircraft attacks magnetic contact 35.10 N. 75.35 W. 1810Z/19/6. Plane attacks sub 19.20 N. 78.12 W. 1626Z/19. Coast batteries shell sub. approx. 45.10 N. 66.02 W. 0240Z/19. Sub reported 19.36 N. 77.59 W. 1600Z/19. Surface craft attacks sub contact 24.30 N. 82.35 W. 2055Z/19. Plane attacks surfacing sub 10.35 N. 65.05 W. 1827Z/19. Sub reported 60° N. 49° W. 1940Z/18, and 61° 10' N. 48° 20' W. 0400Z/20. (Cominch, 2057/20 to Admty. for O.I.C.)

Information for U.S.N. Your 1555/25/5/41 to N.A. (Policy of H.M.G. of divulging information to U.S. Naval Officers). Now that U.S. are Allies can the contents of message be cancelled or amended? (B.A.D., 2135Z/20 to Admty.)

Washops 97. Aleutian Islands, Kiska. Japanese ships sighted on 18/7, 1 cruiser, 3 destroyers, 1 transport. Enemy continue to improve their position and facilities. Several large buildings have been erected and an aircraft landing strip is said to be under construction. Evacuees state that from 3000 to 4000 Japanese troops were landed on Island in original attack. (J.S.M., 2137Z/20 to Admty., etc.)

614

War Diary.20.7.1942.  
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies - Contd.

- P.554. British S/M P.554 escort AMHERST has arrived at U.S.N.O. Base, Argentia. C. in C. U.S. Fleet pass to B.A.D. (C.T.24, 2202Z/20 to C. in C. U.S. Fleet, (R) Admty., etc.)
- N.A. 14. Ref. your 1843/2nd. It appears CAPETOWN CASTLE cannot possibly arrive Halifax before 8/8 whereas W.O. message 51616/16/T passed to N.S.H.Q. gives sailing date N.A.14 7/8 to join A.T.18. 2. Request earliest possible information whether sailing date can be postponed to ensure inclusion of CAPETOWN CASTLE in N.A.14 or whether in view of Admty. 2256/19 N.A.14 will consist of CAMERONIA only. (N.S.H.Q., 2211Z/20 to D.S.T., (R) B.A.D., etc.)
- LEONIDAS M. *See previous page.* Following from C.U.A.C. (begins). Received at 1517 G.M.T. H.E. 500 K/cs "Abandoning ship - send aid - LEONIDAS M (Gr.) position 37° N. 52° W. T.O.O. 1602/19. (Ends.)" Signal passed to Bermuda. Ship sailed Rio de Janeiro 29/6 for Sydney, C.B. (N.S.H.Q., 2316Z/20 to Admty.)
- Floating Dock Convoy. This is Port Director New York 1724/20. Convoy sailings:  
 (1) Towing Convoy.  
 (2) 1653/20 Montauk Point.  
 (3) 4, 2 tugs AINWELL, KEVIN MORAN towing A.F.D. 25, 2 cargo, SS. PRIMO, SS. NIDAREID.  
 (4) BUTTERMERE, WASTWATER, U.S.S. NOURMAHAL. (Washington, 2355Z/20 to Connav, (R) Cominch etc.)

615

War Diary.20.7.1942  
Monday.FOEEIGN STATIONS.Australia and New Zealand.

Fremantle. Your 1350/28/2/1940.\* In view of present conditions it is desirable that vessels calling at Fremantle for orders be instructed to proceed into Gage Roads.  
(A.C.N.B. 0411Z/20 to Admty.)\*and my 0720Z/29/2/1940.

Situation. Serial No.179 from G.H.Q. S.W. Pacific Area 19/7. Reported large party Japanese moved into Nauru country east Dilli daylight 17/7.  
(2) Close R/C of Nauru a.m./19 by single flying boat additional to regular R/C.  
(3) Blinker lights from 5 or more unidentified ships sighted in 020° 49' S. 156° 28' E. at 1900Z/18 course S. speed 15. Air search negative.  
(4) Photo R/C Savo Island (Solomon Is.) 17/7 negative.  
(5) Single unidentified A/C reported over Cape Pierson Norman by Island 0416Z/19.  
(A.C.N.B. 0651Z/20 to Admty. etc.)

Solomon Islands. Following received from Resident Commissioner. (Begins) 16/7 No.174.  
My telegrams on local situation are in the nature of periodical reports to keep you informed of the position. All information is passed to Intelligence Centres (N.L.O. Vila, and S.I.O. Townsville) as the events occur. Since the date of my No.169, enemy warships and aircraft have been, and still are operating freely in the Protectorate. Japanese are continuing their consolidation on Guadalcanal, while the defences of Tulagi are still maintained. Many men and much material, including tractors and trucks, landed from recent convoys. Steam pile drivers being used for construction of wharf at Kokoon. Reports of conversations between the natives and Japanese suggest that Japanese have been bombed out of Rabaul and are establishing bases at Guadalcanal for attack on Vila, for which they expect to be ready in a month if uninterrupted. (Ends)  
(High Commr. Western Pacific 1717/20 to S. of S. for Colonies.)

s.s.INDUS  
"R" Report. Following intercepted from Esperance radio (begins) RRRR 026° 44' S. 082° 50' E. INDUS being shelled by battleship raider 0933 G.M.T/20 (Ends)  
(A.C.N.B. 1739Z/20 to Cmdre. Western Australia, U.S.S. PHOENIX, C. in C. E.F., F.O.I.C. Ceylon, C. in C. S.A., Deputy C. in C. E.F. (R) Cmdre. S.W. Pacific Force.)

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.Submarines Reported.

Estimated U/B positions.  
(D.D.I.C. 1407B/20, 1455B/20.)

War Diary.21.7.1942.  
Tuesday.SITUATION REPORT.Home Commands.

About 0100 today M.G.Bs 328 (S.O.), 322 and 601 on patrol in the Straits of Dover attacked off Cape Gris Nez one or more merchant vessels with 3 or 4 escorts which had left Boulogne eastbound. One of the escort vessels was set on fire and both M.G.B. 322 and 601 claim numerous hits on one merchant vessel. Shortly afterwards the enemy convoy appeared to stop and soon turned back and re-entered Boulogne, from which it may be inferred that damage was inflicted. M.G.B. 328 (Lieut. H.P. Cobb R.N.V.R.) was set on fire and is missing and presumed lost, and both M.G.B. 322 and 601 sustained considerable damage and some casualties including the C.O. of M.G.B. 601 (Lieut. A. Gotelee, R.N.V.R.) seriously wounded.

Mining.

Bomber Command aircraft laid 32 mines last night near the Texel and 4 in the Frisian Is. area.

Enemy E-Boats were plotted last night 7 to 8 miles south of Brighton, Shoreham and Worthing, probably minelaying in the old swept channel. Our forces were unable to intercept.

Foreign Stations.

Fresh rules were issued by the Admiralty today, governing operations against U-Boats in the territorial waters of Spain, Spanish possessions and Tangier and of Portugal and Portuguese possessions.

Mediterranean.Operation  
"Insect".

The force was unsuccessfully attacked by submarine at 0332B today in 37° 48' N. 2° 5' E. 29 Aircraft were flown off in 38° 1' N. 3° 5' E. between 0726 and 0847 today and 28 reached

/Malta ...

War Diary.

21.7.1942.  
Tuesday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Mediterranean. Contd.:-

Operation  
"Insect".  
(Contd.)

Malta successfully, one having crashed on taking off. Enemy fighters endeavoured without success to intercept.

Last night, 8 Halifaxes and 28 Wellingtons bombed shipping and harbour installations at Tobruk. Fires and explosions occurred in the dock area and on 1 ship.

5 Wellingtons laid mines in the harbour and approaches and 2 Wellingtons off Matruh Harbour.

No further mines have been found off Famagusta and the port is to be opened daily from 1000 to 1200 and at other times if required for special operations.

At dusk today 11 Liberators bombed shipping in Suda Bay, Crete. Fires were started by direct hits on two medium sized ships and on the pier. A large ship was near missed. 4 Liberators attacked Heraklion, bombs falling in the harbour.

Malta Beauforts attacked at 1030 a 7000 ton M/V and destroyer 334° Cape Geroghambo 63 miles. M/V was hit at least 3 times and badly damaged. The destroyer was probably hit. A Do.18 over the convoy was damaged by Beaufighter escort to the Beauforts.

East Indies.

An unknown ship made a disguised merchant raider signal at 1400Z/21 in 26° 14' S. (or 16° 14' S.) 52° 30' E. (off the S.E. or N.E. of Madagascar.)

C. in C. Eastern Fleet is to exercise strategic control of all long range flying boats and long range general reconnaissance aircraft operating in the Indian Ocean except L.R. G.R. aircraft based in India.

War Diary.

21.7.1942.  
Tuesday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Australia.

SS. COAST RESTRAINER (U.S.) was sunk by a U-Boat by torpedo today in approximately the same position as ~~GEORGE M.~~ LIVANOS yesterday.  
S.

Attack  
on Buna..

Air R/C reported a transport grounded off Buna (N.E. coast of Papua), 4 transports and 4 destroyers off Cape Sudest (4 miles S.E. of Buna) at 0700Z today. 5 Marauders attacked the latter force an hour later, obtaining a direct hit on a transport. Buna was reported being shelled by a warship at 0719Z. During the afternoon an enemy float plane (presumed to be from a cruiser) reconnoitred and attacked Buna.

War Diary.21.7.1942.  
Tuesday.HOME COMMANDS.Movements.

NIGERIA. Clyde arrival NIGERIA.  
(N.O.I.C. Greenock, 0503B/21.)

SARDONYX,  
SHIKARI. Sailed SARDONYX and SHIKARI in accordance with  
C. in C. W.A. 2233/20.  
(N.O.I.C. Aultbea, 0547B/21 to A.C.I.C.)

TRIBUNE. Your 1613/19. Arrived. (13<sup>th</sup> 7<sup>th</sup>)  
(Capt. S.6, 0628B/21 to S.O. S/M Lerwick.)

P. 45.  
STOKE CITY. My 1441/20 sailed.  
(S.O. S/M Lerwick, 0738B/21 to A.C.O.S.)

BUXTON. Your 2348B/20. My P.C.S. at 0700Z/21, 052°  
21' N. 018° 45' W., 050°, 14.  
(BUXTON, 0903B/21.)

RORQUAL. Sailed RORQUAL escorted by CUTTY SARK in  
accordance with S.3's 1051B/19.  
(F.O.I.C. Greenock, 0954B/21.)

SHARPSHOOTER. Your 2249B/20. SHARPSHOOTER should remain at  
Hvalfjord for the present.  
(R.A.D.H.F., 1000B/21 to A.C.I.C.)

GLEANER. Your 2201B/16. <sup>/N.T. in W.S.</sup> Request you will sail GLEANER  
to Scapa.  
(D.M.S., 1032B/21 to WESTERN ISLES.)

HARRIER. Your 1711B/20. Request you will sail HARRIER  
to Scapa.  
(D.M.S., 1042B/21 to F.O.I.C. Humber.)

LUDLOW. From May Island proceed independently to Rosyth  
for boiler cleaning.  
(C. in C. Rosyth, 1052/21 to LUDLOW.)

SLAZAK,  
BROCKLESBY. Cancel my 2125/20th. You are to sail at  
1230/21 and R/V with BROCKLESBY in 090° Eddystone  
7 miles at 1445/21.  
(N.O.I.C. Dartmouth, 1135B/21 to SLAZAK.)

/OPHIR ...

War Diary.21.7.1942.  
Tuesday.HOME COMMANDS.Movements - Contd.

- OPHIR. Intend sailing Cable Ship OPHIR for Bristol to join convoy P.W. 190 in 197° Portland Bill 3½ tomorrow.  
Escorted to R/V by RION. Route.  
(F.O.I.C. Portland, 1244B/21 to C. in C. Portsmouth.)
- TIGRIS. My 1647/20. TIGRIS and WHITE BEAR sailed.  
E.T.A. 0530/20.  
(C. in C. Plymouth, 1313B/21.)
- RENOWN. C.S.1 is requested to sail RENOWN screened by INGLEFIELD, INTREPID, and OFFA, passing Hvalfjord Boom at 1200B/25. Route by Reykjanes passage, through 058° 50' N. 007° 02' W., and thence to Scapa.  
(C. in C. H.F., 1438B/21.)
- EXMOUTH. Intend to sail EXMOUTH in tow a.m. 24th to Tilbury landing stage for wiping, thence to Southend for compass adjusting and onward routing to Scapa.  
(F.O.I.C. London, 1536B/21.)
- CANTON. E.T.A. 0700B/23. My position at 2000B/21, 053° 36' N. 017° 22' W.  
(CANTON, 1801Z/21 to F.O.I.C. Greenock.)
- QUEEN EMMA. <sup>/N.T.A. W.D.</sup> My 1939/14. QUEEN EMMA is required at Portsmouth on 5/8. Request you sail her accordingly.  
(C.C.O., 1843B/21 to S.O. A.S.C.)
- WICHITA,  
TUSCALOOSA. Intend sailing WICHITA and TUSCALOOSA for Rosyth p.m. tomorrow to give leave to ships company. Subject to concurrence Comnavu request arrangements to dock WICHITA at Rosyth concurrently to enable following repairs to be undertaken to port inner propeller shafts which now causes excessive vibration. Details.  
Request every endeavour be made to complete work in shortest possible time.  
(C. in C. H.F., 1916B/21.)  
WICHITA and TUSCALOOSA screened by HAMBLETON and EMMONS are to proceed passing Hoxa at 2145B/22 to Rosyth. E.T.A. May Island 0800B/23.  
(2) When released, destroyers are to return to Scapa.  
(C. in C. H.F., 2303B/21.)

/RISOR ...



621

War Diary.21.7.1942.  
Tuesday.HOME COMMANDS.Movements - Contd.RISOR,  
HORTEN.

Following from B.N.N.F. Port Edgar begins:  
RISOR expects to leave 31/7. When and where has refitting of HORTEN to (? take place) 1500/20th. Ends. Request information when RISOR may be expected in Faroe Islands.  
(N.O.I.C. Faroes, 1920B/21 to A.C.O.S.)

P.614,  
P.615.

Kola Inlet departure 1900C/21 P.614, P.615 routed through position (A) 070° 00' N. 034° 18' E.  
(B) 070° 18' N. 034° 18' E. (C) 070° 29' N. 033° 40' E.  
(D) 072° 30' N. 033° 40' E. (E) 073° 10' N. 026° 11' E.  
(F) 073° 10' N. 019° 30' E. (G) 072° 20' N. 015° 00' E.  
E.T.A. P.614 in final position 1200B/24. P.615 has been instructed to keep 40 miles astern P.614.  
(S.B.N.O. North Russia, 1926B/21.)

Operations.

Interception of Enemy Convoy by M.G.Bs 328, 322 and 601. M.G.B. 328 lost. M.G.Bs 322 and 601 damaged.

At 2335/20 M.G.Bs 328 (S.O.), 322, and 601 were on patrol in vicinity of Bullock Buoy when five vessels believed to be Trawler size and mine-sweeping were plotted by R.D./F leaving Boulogne eastbound at ten to twelve knots. Visibility was poor throughout the night. Plots were passed to the M.G.Bs and S.O. reported at 0050 one or more suitable torpedo targets. He was informed that M.T.Bs were not available owing to weather and that he should withdraw if enemy was in superior force. However before this signal was received action had been joined.

At 0105 M.G.B. 328 reported that she was on fire. M.G.Bs 322 and 601 report that the enemy consisted of one or more merchant vessels with 3 or 4 escorts and both claim numerous hits on one merchant vessel of tanker type. M.G.B. 322 attacked and set on fire one of the escorts. Both these M.G.Bs sustained considerable damage and casualties. M.G.B. 601 guns out of action through damage to hydraulic system. M.G.B. 322 steering gear and guns out of action. Casualties. M.G.B. 322 one officer and one rating seriously wounded. One rating killed and one rating wounded. M.G.B. 601 C.O. and coxswain seriously wounded and two ratings wounded.

At about 0110 enemy convoy appeared to stop and at about 0130 turned back and re-entered Boulogne from which it may be inferred that damage was inflicted. M.G.B. 328 failed to return and air and surface search having failed to locate her it is regretted that she must be considered as lost.  
(V.A. Dover, 0854B/21 and 1422B/21.)

Patrols.

Patrol (1) SHELDRAKE. (2) PYTCHLEY A/A escort F.N. 66 and (3) EGLINGTON (4) MONTROSE (5) COTTESMORE (6) MEYNELL.  
(C. in C. Nore, 0940B/21.)

/Patrol ...

War Diary.21.7.1942.  
Tuesday.HOME COMMANDS.Operations - Contd. -

Patrols. Patrol tonight. 2 M.L. patrol N with trawler.  
(Contd.) (C. in C. Nore, 1755B/21.)  
M.Ls 197 and 294 from Ramsgate patrolling between  
Dumpton and North East Spit Buoys, E.T.D. 2300,  
E.T.R. 0515/22.  
Trawlers SARPEDON and YASHIMA at D buoy.  
M.T.Bs 236, 203, and 229 and M.G.Bs 10, 9, and 7 at Bullock  
buoy from 0001 to 0300/22.  
M.G.Bs 41, S2, S3 at No. 2 buoy from 2330 to 0300/22.  
M.Ls 210 and 128 at N.E. Varne Buoy from 0001 to 0400/22.  
M.Ls 137, 142 at C One Buoy.  
(V.A. Dover, 1844B/21.)  
2 M.Ls patrolling S. of Portland.  
(C. in C. Portsmouth, 1847B/21.)

British Air Activity.

ARGUS Your 1303B/19. Concur. 804 Squadron should  
804 Sqdn. be embarked by 31/7. Six reserve Hurricanes  
will be required.  
(V.A.A. H.F., 0915B/21 to R.A.N.A.S.)

A/C for For reasons which you can learn from Ambassador  
North Russia. the plan to send six fighter squadrons as set  
out in my 1830/20 is now cancelled. Regret  
delay in reply to your recent signals but it  
was pointless to pursue these administrative questions whilst  
change in policy was under discussion and we could not tell  
you earlier.  
(Air Ministry, 0930/21 to 30 Mission.)

Bomber On day 20/7, 2 A/C bombed Bremen.  
Command (H.Q.B.C., 1204/21.)  
operations.

U.S.A. Position of U.S.A. aircraft as at a.m. 21/7.  
Aircraft. Fighters (P.38) - U.K. - 7, Iceland - 55,  
B.W.I. - 11, B.W.8 - 2,  
Goose - 4, U.S.A. - 6.  
Transports (C.47) - U.K. - 20, Iceland - 11,  
B.W.1. - 10, B.W.8 - 11,  
Goose - Nil, U.S.A. - 3.  
Bombers (B.17) - U.K. - 13, Iceland - 18,  
B.W.1. - 3, B.W.8 - 1,  
Goose - 1, U.S.A. - 37.  
Anticipated movement Iceland to U.K. today.  
39 P.38s, 16 B.17s, 6 C.34s.  
(Air Ministry, 1230/21 to 44 Group.)

/"Knocker" ...

623

War Diary.21.7.1942.  
Tuesday.HOME COMMANDS.British Air Activity - Contd.

"Knocker". My 1149B/21. Operation cancelled owing to weather. All planes returning to Iceland. (A.C.I.C., 1325B/21 to C. in C. W.A.) Operation will commence 0930Z/22. (A.C.I.C., 2027B/21.)

Enemy Air Activity.

Convoy W.P. 190. Your convoy has been reported by enemy A/C. (C. in C. Plymouth, 1515B/21 to Escorts W.P.190.)  
1. There are indications of extensive German air R/C from Norway.  
2. It is estimated that U-Boats may be encountered in the Bear Island areas. (D.D.I.C., 1803B/21 to MARTIN, WILTON.)

Mining.

Sweep. Sweep completed in accordance with N.O.I.C. Dartmouth's 1825/20. No mines found. (ILFRACOMBE, 1305B/21 to NO.I.C. Dartmouth.)

Portsmouth. Two mines detonated by LL, one in area Q.Z.X.766, one in Channel Q.Z.S. 169. (C. in C. Portsmouth, 1810B/21 and 1425/22.)

Thames Estuary. One ground mine detonated by Sweepers at 1703/18. Details. (Capt. M/S Sheerness, 1811/21.)

Enemy Intelligence.

E-Boats. 2 E-Boats in position by D/F 267° Beachy Head 16 miles. (C. in C. Portsmouth, 0142/21 to BLEASDALE, FERNIE)  
E-Boats position by D/F is approx. 212° Beachy Head 20 miles. (C. in C. Portsmouth, 0214/21 to BLEASDALE, FERNIE.)  
2348-0335/21. 4 fast vessels probably E-Boats minelaying made a sortie reaching 180° Shoreham 8' and split. (a) proceeding to 180° Brighton 7' and (b) to 180° Worthing 4.1/2', before turing S. Our forces sent to intercept did not make contact. (C. in C. Portsmouth, 1237/21.)

Enemy Vessel. 1 small vessel 46° 49' N. 9° 13' W. course 180°, 10 miles distant. Further details impossible. Bad conditions. (A/C No.4 U Sqdn., 0600/21.)

War Diary.21.7.1942.  
Tuesday.HOME COMMANDS.U-Boats.

U-Boat Am over enemy S/M in 60° 53' N. 6° 6' W. When  
 attacked. first sighted enemy was on surface and observed  
 to submerge.  
 (A/C YQ, 0055/21.)  
 Have attacked enemy with depth charges and estimate (? 4) hits.  
 (A/C YQ, 0110/21.)  
 U-Boat reported by 0608 at 0110. Search area till relieved.  
 (A.O.C. 18 Group C.C., 0155/21 to A/C Duty P.)

Casualties and Defects.

NEVADA II. Expect Salvage Tug ATTENDANT from Loch Boisdale  
 a.m. tomorrow to assist under Mr. Thomas,  
 Salvage Officer.  
 (F.O.I.C. Greenock, 0019B/21 to NIMBLE.)  
 A ship with a very valuable cargo is reported ashore on  
 the Island of Coll.  
 Two L.C.T. are to proceed, as ordered by F.O.I.C. Greenock,  
 to assist in any way they can.  
 (C.C.O., 1114B/21 to Capt. L.C.T.)  
 RANGER sailed with Commander Kay on board to assist  
 NEVADA II.  
 (N.O.I.C. Oban, 1200B/21.)  
 Request you sail L.C.T. 400 and 401 at 1500 today to  
 Coll to assist NEVADA.  
 (Capt. L.C.T., 1251B/21 to N.O.I.C. Ardrossan.)  
 Leave Troon at 1500 today and proceed through Sound of  
 Islay and Sound of Mull with all despatch to close vicinity of  
 56° 42' N. 6° 29' W. (on north coast of Coll) where you will  
 assist in refloating SS. NEVADA II ashore near above position.  
 (N.O.I.C. Ardrossan 1408/21 to L.C.Ts 400 and 401.)  
 Sailed T.L.Cs 400 and 401 in accordance with your 1114/21  
 proceeding West of Islay and Mull. E.T.A. 0800/22.  
 (N.O.I.C. Ardrossan, 1619/21.)

RICHARD Iceland 2132B/20. Intend routeing ship to Methil  
 BLAND for onward routeing.  
 (P.Q.17) (N.O.I.C. Thurso, 1140/21 to C. in C. Rosyth.)

PRINCESS My 0930/21. Returned Newlyn with engine defect.  
 MARINA. (R.N.O. Penzance, 1215B/21 to R.N.O. Padstow.)

SUN IX, F.O.I.C. London reports that P.L.A. have raised  
 AQUIETY. and beached wrecks of SUN IX and AQUIETY (A.N.M.2  
 85/1941 numbers 6 and 8). Positions reported  
 to be as follows from Eastern extremity of  
 Southend Pier Head.  
 (C. in C. Nore, 1601B/21 to Admty.)

BORDE. My 1216/17. <sup>INT. W.D.</sup> It is unlikely that BORDE will be  
 able to sail from Barry Roads before a.m. 27th  
 July owing to engine defects.  
 (N.O.I.C. Barry, 1827B/21.)

War Diary.

21.7.1942.  
Tuesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping and Convoys.

P.Q. 17. Novaya Zemlya portion left Matochkin 1800B/20. BRAMBLE, LEDA, HAZARD, DIANELLA and POZARICA sailed Dvina Bar 0200B/21. BRITOMART and SEAGULL sweeping Q.Z.L. 49 and 50. (S.B.N.O. Archangel, 0619B/21 to S.B.N.O. North Russia.) The presence of U-Boats off Matochkin must be expected as enemy air R/C will have reported our merchant ships. (D.D.I.C., 1752B/21.)

D.S. 30A. D.S.30A route. F. 270° Oversay 6 miles. G. 058° 59' N. 015° 01' W. H. 062° 02', 020° 11' thence to Reykjavik. (C. in C. W.A., 1014B/21.) Intend sailing LEINSTER passing Clyde boom 2100B/23 to R/V CHARLESTOWN and ST. MARYS at 0530B/24 in 270° Oversay 6 miles. (N.O.I.C. Greenock, 1024B/21.) Intend to sail CHARLESTOWN and ST. MARYS at 1130/23 to fuel at Moville and then anchor for the night before proceeding in time to comply with F.O.I.C. Greenock's 1024/21. (R.A.M., 1502B/21.)

O.N.114, My 1256B/17 amend "Chop" 0800Z/25.  
H.X.198. (D.T.D., 1246B/21 to Connav.)  
(C. in C. W.A., 1309Z/21.)  
H.X. 198. Slow. P.C.S. 056° 15' N. 014° 20' W. 094°, 10 knots. Estimate that O.N. 114 will be considerably slowed by head sea and may be met during dark hours tonight in view of uncertainties of my position and proximity of S.C. 91 to northward. Request O.N. 114 may be ordered to turn southward and to "home" on 4400 k/cs every 2 hours between 1800Z/21 and 0200Z/22. (C.T.U. 24.1.16, 1501Z/21 to C. in C. W.A.)  
O.N.S. 114. Arrange to keep 20 miles to port of your route during dark hours tonight and carry out homing procedure as requested by 24.1.16's 1501/21. (C. in C. W.A., 1925Z/21 to C.T.U. 24.1.3.)  
Your 0005B/22. 1. Escorts details B portion, VANESSA.  
2. E.T.A. Loch Ewe 0300B/23. E.T.A. 340° Skerryvore 18' 1630B/22.  
3. E.T.A. 055° 35' N. 007° W. 1700B/22. (HESPERUS, 2348Z/21.)

LLANSTEPHAN MALCOLM from Liverpool is to arrive Milford  
CASTLE. Haven a.m. 24th to fuel and is subsequently to R/V with SWALE from Londonderry.  
2. MALCOLM, SWALE are then to proceed by  
Q.Z.L. 18 to meet LLANSTEPHAN CASTLE in (D) 045° 01' N. 018° 01' W. at 0800Z/27.  
3. LLANSTEPHAN CASTLE is routed through position C. 042° 59' N. 017° 59' W. S. of A. 12½ knots.  
4. Escort from Gibraltar will return thither on relief. (C. in C. W.A., 1546B/21.)

626

War Diary.21.7.1942.  
Tuesday.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping and Convoys - Contd.

- W.S. 21, N.O.I.C. Cardiff 1546B/20. Request you detail  
W.S. 21S. ULSTER QUEEN.  
(C. in C. W.A., 1551B/21 to N.O.I.C. Belfast.)  
W.S. 21. A.M. 2324/18.
- Ocean escort from Clyde, HAWKINS, RANPURA. A/A escort (a)  
From Liverpool to Clyde R/V, BUXTON, thence Londonderry on relief.  
(b) From Clyde, PETARD, CATTERICK. (c) From Londonderry KEPPEL,  
SALISBURY, BICESTER, BRAMHAM, LAMERTON, LEDBURY, WILTON.  
BICESTER, BRAMHAM, LAMERTON, LEDBURY, WILTON leave convoy and  
proceed Gibraltar in company at prudent limit of endurance.  
(C. in C. W.A., 1758B/21 and 1843B/23.)
- W.P. 190. Proceed at best speed to overtake convoy W.P.190  
and act as additional escort. Estimated position  
of convoy at 2000/21 270° Trevoze 7.  
(C. in C. Plymouth, 1621B/21 to PUCKERIDGE.)
- W.N. 15, Proposed programme.  
W.N. 16. (N.C.S.O. Loch Ewe, 1650B/21.)
- EL ORIENTE, My 2006/20. Request American ships EL ORIENTE  
WEST and WEST GOTOMSKA may also be sailed in company.  
GOTOMSKA, (D.T.D., 1854B/21 to A.C.I.C.)  
(DAN-Y-BRYN  
etc.)
- E.N. Your 2341/20. Concur except that E.N. 23 (M)  
Convoys. should read 1300/12 not 1400/12. Assume all  
times E.N. 22 and after to be Zone - 1.  
(C. in C. Rosyth, 1951B/21 to Admty.)
- EMPIRE BARD, Kola Inlet departure EMPIRE BARD, HARMATRIS, KUS  
HARMATRIS, BASS escorted by HALCYON, SALAMANDER, and 4  
KUS BASS. Soviet Hunter Craft destination Archangel. E.T.A.  
Dvina Bar 2300/23.  
(S.B.N.O. Polyarno, 2206B/21 to S.B.N.O. Archangel)

627

21.7.1942  
Tuesday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.General.

Operations against U/Bs in territorial waters. A.T.0119/28/11/41 is cancelled. The following rules govern operations against U-Boats in the territorial waters of Spain, Spanish Possessions and Tangier and of Portugal and Portuguese possessions.

A. H.M. Ships and Aircraft by day or night may enter territorial waters or air space to attack any U-Boat actually in sight or contact provided -

(i) Care is taken to avoid damage to neutral ships or persons and property ashore.

(ii) Attack is not made in harbour except upon express instructions from Admty.

(iii) Aircraft after completing the attack do not remain over Spanish territorial waters longer than is essential to observe result of attack.

B. (i) By day H.M. Ships or Aircraft are not to patrol inside territorial waters.

(ii) By night H.M. Ships only (not aircraft) may, if necessary, enter territorial waters in areas where their presence is unlikely to be observed.

C. When a U-Boat has put into a Spanish port for repairs or for any other reason, it is not to be attacked within territorial waters upon leaving without express authority from Admty.

D. It will be appreciated that utmost importance is attached to avoiding unnecessary infringements of Spanish sovereignty.

(Head of M. Approved 1st Lord 1031B/21 to F.O.C.N.A., C. in C. Plymouth, C. in C. W.A., A.O.C. in C.C., C. in C. S.A., C. in C. E.F., R.A.W.A. (R) C. in C. H.F. etc.)

Raiders.

Intelligence. A.M. 2316/14. 1. No further reliable indication of present position of the 3 German raiders at sea.

2. INDUS reported being shelled by raider in 26° 44' S. 82° 50' E. at 0933/20. If report genuine this was possibly Japanese raider which captured HAURAKI on 12/7 or Raider "E".

3. It appears possible from P.R.U. that an Altmark Class tanker left Biscay between 26/6 and 7/7.

(D.D.I.C. 1836B/21 to A.I.G. 13 etc.)

North Atlantic.

Operation "Insect" Signals precised under Mediterranean.

/JONQUIL ...

628

21.7.1942  
Tuesday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic - contd.

JONQUIL, HARTINGTON. JONQUIL is to part company forthwith and proceed as necessary to R/V with SS HARTINGTON off Las Palmas in position 090° Morroa de La Vieja Light 5 miles at 2000B/22 and escort ship to rejoin S.L.116 at daylight 24th.

2. IBIS arrange R/V with JONQUIL.

3. JONQUIL report P.C. and S. and that of convoy in leaving when 100 miles clear to R.A. W.Af (R) Admty., F.O.C.N.A. and IBIS.  
(F.O.C.N.A. 0002B/21 to IBIS (R) JONQUIL, Admty., R.A. W.A.)

Request you sail HARTINGTON as necessary to R/V with JONQUIL in position 090° Morroa de La Vieja Light 5 miles at 2000B/22.  
(F.O.C.N.A. 0004B/21 to B.C. Las Palmas (R) S.B.N.O. W.A. Admty., R.A. W.A.)

Agadir, Casablanca R/C. Sortie G.167 dated 20/7 time 1705 shows Agadir Shipping. One M.V.200/250 and 2 coasters are present. Harbour Works show progress. Safi. Shipping. Since 27/3 1 Elan E/V and 3 M.Vs have departed. 1 M/V 400/450 and 1 coaster are now in harbour.

Mazagan. Shipping and only small craft present. Pilot reports shipping at Casablanca as follows: B.S. JEAN BART and DUGUAY TROUIN Cr. at previous positions. Usual amount of Naval shipping at jetty Delurn. No shipping outside harbour entrance.  
(P.R.U. Gibraltar 0315Z/21 to Admty. etc.)

U/Bs. 2 or more U-boats may be in area 39° 00' to 41° 00' N. 23° 00' to 27° 00' W.  
(D.D.I.C. 0920B/21 to Escorts of W.S.21 P. (R) C. in C. W.A., F.O.C.N.A., R.A.W.A.F. NELSON.)

U/B attack. Submarine attack 24.08 N. 23 W. at 0724 G.M.T/21.  
(Addressee and originator incompletely received T.O.R. 0932Z/21)

Bombing Restrictions. A.C.238 21/7 Serial No.G.136. Institute submerged bombing restrictions from 1200/22 to 1200/24 25 miles either side of a line joining 49° 24' N. 11° 59' W. and 49° 01' N. 13° 01' W. and 46° 01' N. 13° 01' W.  
(H.Q.C.C. 1050B/21 to R.A.F. Gibraltar (R) F.O.C.N.A., S.8.)

LÉOPARD. Your 2315B/16. F.S. LÉOPARD expected ready for sea p.m./24 or a.m./25.  
(N.C.S.O. Ponta Delgada 1135/21 to Admty. (R) F.O.I.C. Gibraltar, N.A. Lisbon.)

/Situation ...



21.7.1942  
Tuesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic - contd.

Situation Area X. Situation 2001B/21.  
 Report. (1) SENNEN and D'ESTIENNE D'ORVES escorting 1 M.V. 37.25 10.35 through 36.40 09.30 thence to Gibraltar 9.

(2) SPIREA, GERANIUM escorting tanker ORWELL E. 34.03 10.53  
 60° 6½. ^

(3) H.G.86 sails 1930/21 269° 7½, S.O. STORK.

(4) LOCH OSKAIG escorting 1 M.V. 37.31 08.58 coastwise to St. Vincent, 9 knots, thence to R/V H.G.86 at ?1700/22. Thence alone to Gibraltar.

(5) \*WILLING, IMPERIALIST, patrol off Cape Roca.

(6) STELLA CARINA, LEYLAND, 33.32 10.34 through 32.04 13.01 thence 251° 9.

(7) RHODODENDRON and Tug PRUDENT and CHARON 38.19 12.52 294° 11.

(8) HAARLEM 37.37 11.03 294° 9½.

(9) VIDETTE sails 1800B/22 to join H.G. No.86, 15. *See p.631*  
 (F.O.C.N.A. 1252B/21 to N.A. Stn.)

Situation Report Area X. My 1252B/21, and para (10)  
 DANAE sails 0615/22 through 36.30 07.01 and 36.40 09.25 thence 321° 18½ knots.

(11) WELSHMAN sails 1000/22 through 36.10 10.10 18½ knots. *See next page.*  
 (F.O.C.N.A. 1646B/21 to N.A. Stn.)

(1) O.S.34, 035° 39' 020° 38' through 033° 35' 020° 25' 181° 8. S.O. FOLKESTONE. Situation 2001B/21.

(2) 2 Fleet units, 4 destroyers, 032° 21' 022° 28' 001° 16.

(3) JONQUIL 023° 50' 018° 32' 037° 13.

(4) Convoy 21 P. 040° 18' 027° 09' through 035° 05' 026° 01' thence 175° 15, S.O. ORION. 1 destroyer part company to arrive Ponta Delgada 22nd.

(5) MANSFIELD 047° 16' 019° 50' 221° 15.

(6) GEORGETOWN searching vicinity 042° 38' 025° 25'.  
 (F.O.C.N.A. 1312B/21 to A.I.G.64.)

DIANA  
 KAOLACK.

Foreign Office Telegram 885 repeated to you. Ambassador asks action against DIANA be suspended in view of new prospects of securing release of KAOLACK.

(N.A. Madrid 1301/21 to F.O.C.N.A. (R) Admty.)

P.43.

P.43 leaves Gibraltar diving by day p.m./22 through 036° 07' 001° 52' W. at 0300B/24 036° 44' 000° 05' E. at 0300B/25, thence 080°. (F.O.C.N.A. 1336B/21 to 8 S/M F.)

DANAE.

Intend to sail DANAE for U.K. at 0615/22 routed through (all positions north and west)

(D) 36.30 07.01. (E) 36.40 09.25.

(F) 43.01 15.59 S. of A. 18½ knots.

(2) C. in C. W.A. is requested to issue onward route from (F) and destination. (3) DANAE is carrying bullion. (4) DANAE maximum speed 23 knots.

(V.A.C.N.A. 1514B/21 to Admty., C. in C. W.A. (R) DANAE.)

630

War Diary.21.7.1942  
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic - contd.

- Force F. Force F. alter course forthwith to new position (X) 37° 10' N. 26° 10' W, thence (Y) 38° 50' N. 26° 30' W. thence (F) omitting (E).  
(D.O.D.(F) 1620B/21 to NELSON (R) F.O.C.N.A. ORION, R.A.W.A.F., C. in C. W.A., C. in C. H.F.)
- A.T. 1620/21 for "thence" (F) omitting (E)" read "thence (J) in C. in C. W.A. 1605/19, omitting (E) and (H)".  
(D.O.D.(F) 1929B/21 to NELSON (R) F.O.C.N.A. etc.)  
R/V amended, see C. in C. W.A. 0048B/22.
- Escape of Italian U/B from Santander. (LUIGI TORELLI.) Re Report to Spanish M. of M. by Port Commandant. Latter and all his officers dismissed and await decision as to court martial.  
(N.A. Madrid 1621/21 to Admty.)  
See Lion Copy. *next page.*
- WELSHMAN. Intend to sail WELSHMAN at 1000/22 for U.K. routed through  
A. 036° 10' N. 010° 10' W.  
B. 039° 25' N. 014° 30' W.  
C. 043° 02' N. 014° 30' W.  
S. of A. 18½ knots. Admty. is requested to signal destination . C. in C. Plymouth is requested to signal onward route from (c). (F.O.C.N.A. 1630B/21 to Admty., C. in C. Plymouth (R) WELSHMAN, C. in C. W.A., R.A.(M)) *See Maritime Page - (Sit: Reps)*
- Portuguese Rescue Work. N.C.S.O. Ponta Delgada's 1020/17. Nothing is known here of such an offer but you should convey to Portuguese M. of M. in suitable terms H.M.G's appreciation of service rendered by destroyer LIMA in searching for British survivors. If you are satisfied no offence would be caused, you should offer to replace in kind as required oil consumed on this service. (Head of M. Approved 4th Sea Lord 1645B/21 to N.A. Lisbon (R) N.C.S.O. Ponta Delgada)  
Reply: N.A. Lisbon, 1200B/22.
- AFRICANA. Italian vessel AFRICANA (see Lloyds Register) to be called in future No.58 left mooring last night and proceeded up river. Today loaded iron ore. If stock available should complete load in 2 or 3 days. Ship does not appear armed yet.  
(Consul Bilbao 1655/21 to Admty. (R) M.E.W.etc.)
- GEORGETOWN (search for LAVINGTON COURT.) Have searched area 042° 17' to 042° 57' N. 024° 57' to 025° 54' W. Nothing sighted but a large patch of oil and a vertical spar in 042° 30' N. 025° 37' W. My P.C. and S. 042° 22' N. 025° 10' W. 188°. 11 knots, arriving off Ponta Delgada at 2000/22. Fuel situation critical, request permission be obtained for GEORGETOWN to anchor in roads for night. Fuel required (details) Weather report.  
(GEORGETOWN 1801B/21 to C. in C. W.A. (R) F.O.C.N.A. Admty.)

/Your ...

630A  
**MOST SECRET**

1621/21st July.

~~MOST SECRET~~

IN

From N.A.Madrid.

Date 23.7.42.

Recd. 0520

Naval Shore Code O.T.T. by Cable.

Addressed Admiralty,

*UB Escape from Santander (4/7)  
(LUIGI TORELLI)*

IMPORTANT.

I gave Minister of Marine today resume of H.M. Ambassador's interview with M.F.A. about Italian submarine's escape from Santander. He was sceptical about M.F.A.'s expression of concern but said he understood all M.F.A.'s had to lie sometimes and Spain's position was difficult. However they were limited.

He read me extracts from report by Port Commandant and let me read covering letter in which Commandant took all blame and made following points.

1. After Italian Captain had given word of honour several times that no attempt would be made to escape he had considered escape unthinkable.
2. He had personally inspected fuel tanks and air bottles day before S/M left dock. Tanks were practically nil somebody must have provided little fuel and air pressure in one bottle must have been obtained night before leaving.
3. Repair of one motor must have been carried out secretly by care maintenance party though this was against orders and contrary to guarantee by C.O.
4. He had no naval personnel provide guard but police and civil guard were always posted and had observed nothing in way of preparation.

Report stated 2nd Commandant of port went on board before 1700 local time which was hour before undocking. Italian officers made excuse after excuse for delay even to showing him defective Kingston valve on which men were working. At 1800 I/C (not repetition not British) flew over very high and Captain announced boat ready. She left in tow of 2 tugs. When clear of dock tugs came alongside to turn her. Captain ordered tow cast off immediately after they were made fast and S/M proceeded under own steam Captain taking charge. 2nd Com andant ordered him to stop but he said he must have room to turn. Several minutes were wasted in arguing. Spaniards were then forcibly restrained as S/M proceeded to sea. Immediately outside they called fishing boats alongside. 2nd Commandant refused to leave so he was seized by 4 seamen and thrown into a boat with his 2 companions. It has been established fishing boat was there by chance and that otherwise Spaniards would have been carried to France.

Minister stated investigation could find no trace of vessel which presumably gave S/M fuel further along

/coast

2.

coast but he did not believe she was Spanish. Presence of A/C indicates prior arrangements and probably presence of German surface craft in vicinity.

In reply to question if enough fuel could have been on board he referred port Commandant's statement but agreed he might have been taken in. He is retired Post Captain of 70 only employed because of shortage of officers.

Minister is preparing protest he wishes Spanish Government to make to Italian Government. Meantime he has informed M F A that he regards Italian naval attache as qua non grata and requests his removal.. Italian N A also gave his word that S/M would not attempt to escape.

Port Commandant and all his officers have been dismissed and await decision as to court martial.

Minister said he would welcome decision banning all S/Ms from Spanish waters and will support this project.

Franco has refused to consider his resignation.

Minister was less outspoken than last time about M F A's personal complicity but made no secret of his loathing and disgust.

I discussed Cartagena S/M with him. See later signal with further information I am expecting. Ends.

1621/21.

Advance Copy D.N.I.

1st Lord.  
1st S.L. (2)  
V.C.N.S.  
A.C.N.S. (F) (2)  
A.C.N.S. (H)  
A.C.N.S. (T)  
Sec.  
Nav. Sec.  
N.A. 1st S.L.  
F.A.S. (3)  
P.A.S. (0)  
D.N.I. (4)  
D.O.D. (H) (2)  
D.O.D. (F) (2)  
D.C. (2)  
Hd. of M. (7)

D. of P. (2)  
D.D.I.C. (2)  
I.P. (2)  
W.D.  
Admiral Blake.  
D. of P. (Q)  
D.A/S.W.

War Diary.

21.7.1942  
Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

GEORGETOWN  
(search for  
LAVINGTON  
COURT -  
Contd.

Your 1551/20. Not originally intended that GEORGETOWN should proceed Azores. Her despatch to assistance of crew of torpedoed vessel has caused acute fuel shortage.

2. Request special permission be obtained for ship to - (A) Anchor in roads 2000/22 and enter harbour next day - or (B) Enter harbour p.m./22.  
3. Ship will carry out (A) unless you can get permission for (B) which would be preferred. 4. Requirements.  
(A.C.N.S.(H) 2307B/21 to N.A. Lisbon (R) Ponta Delgada etc.)

VIDETTE.

Proceed at 2100 today to carry out A/S sweep. From 180° Europa Point 3 sweep to 090° Europa Point 60, arriving not later than 0200/22, thence sweep back to Gibraltar so as to arrive at daylight 22nd.

(F.O.C.N.A. 1817B/21 to VIDETTE (R) Capt. (D) 13th D.F. Force H.) *See 10.6.29 (Sit. Rep.)*

SIRIS  
survivors.

Picked up at 1730Z in 023° 48' 018° 59' 6 officers 22 men ex SS SIRIS. Captain of boat believed making for St. Vincent C.V. broadcast on 500 k/cs. Propose to transfer survivors to IBIS.

(JONQUIL 1830Z/21 to IBIS (R) Admty. etc.)

JAUNTY.

Rescue tug JAUNTY will be ready to leave Clyde on 27/7. 2. JAUNTY has an endurance of 4600 miles at 14 knots and is fitted with W/T.

3. Request you will sail and route her independently to Gibraltar as soon as ready.  
(D.O.D.(H) 1910B/21 to F.O.I.C. Greenock (R) C. in C. W.A., F.O.I.C. Glasgow, F.O.C.N.A.)

South Atlantic.

U/B.

Possible U-boat report by U.S. aircraft in 004° 35' N. 004° 42' W. at 1120/20.  
(R.A.W.A. 0011Z/21 to Task Force 22.)

U/B.

Following has been read: S/M sighted 10° 35' N. X 331 5° 05' W. 1827 X 331 1905 de Nau Nau.  
(Slangkop T.O.R. 0625 G.M.T./21 to Freetown.)

632

War Diary.21.7.1942  
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic - contd.

C.M.30. My 1625/20 SONTAY has returned to Durban due to engine defects. Ship only able to maintain 7 knots.  
(D.S.T.O. Durban 1049B/21 to S.T.O. Diego Suarez (R) Deputy C. in C. E.F. D of S.T., P.S.T.O. Simonstown.)

→ Dispositions. CORINTHIAN off Freetown to Takoradi, 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ .  
PICT, 2 M.Ls patrolling sector T.  
COPINSAY 006° 45' 012° 50' to Freetown 8.  
CILICIA 001° 50' 017° 25' 030° 13 at 2000/21. Friendly naval unit about 001° 30' 011° 50' 270° 14 $\frac{1}{2}$ .  
VELOX 001° 45' 010° 10' 325° 13.  
BURDOCK with O.S.S. 33 002° 55' 009° 59' to 002° 23' 007° 45' thence 073° 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ .  
CANNA 2 M.Ls about 004° 01' 003° 45' to Takoradi 7.  
BARCROSS, BARBOURNE, MOONSHINE 001° 10' S. 005° 55' E. to Walvis Bay, 8.  
BOREAS off Congo River to Lagos (Nigeria) 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ .  
(R.A.W.A. 1201Z/21 to A.I.G. 150.)

REGGESTROOM Your 1710/18. All crew and passengers safe (Dutch.) and landed U.K. Vessel lost subsequently in coastal convoy.  
(D.T.D. 1343B/21 to R.A.W.A.)

→ Dispositions. MALAYA with Capetown portion? W.S.20 036° 05' S. 018° 14' E. to Durban. SHROPSHIRE about 037° 00' S. 021° 08' E. to Simonstown. CHESHIRE 023° 50' S. 005° 55' E. 313° 12 $\frac{1}{2}$  knots. EMPIRE BIRCH 033° 41' S. 027° 55' E. to Durban, 11 knots. DETROYAT 024° 45' S. 012° 30' E. to Simonstown, 12 $\frac{1}{2}$  knots. Situation in area Q at 2000Z/21 (C. in C. S.A. 1614B/21 to S.A. Sqdn. (R) Admty.)

"Q" Simonstown W/T 1655/21. See East Indies.  
Report.

Training Your 1743/17. Part 3. Consider arrangements S/Ms in R.A. West Africa's 2355/15 para B must be Simonstown. accepted. First S/M available should be retained at Freetown for 2 months.  
(C. in C. S.A. 1741B/21 to Admty. (R) R.A.W.A. B.A.D., F.O.S.)

W.S.19. BLACKMORE sailed 1845B/21 to join Convoy W.S.19. (N.O.I.C. Capetown 1920B/21 to Admty., C. in C. S.A., N.O.I.C. East London, N.O.I.C. Port Elizabeth, (? R.A.W.A.)(R) C. in C. E.F.)

/AUBRETIA ...

633

War Diary.21.7.1942  
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic - contd.

AUBRETIA.

Following is repetition of my 2029Z/21 (begins)  
B.N.A. Lisbon (R) Admty. N.O.I.C. Bathurst,  
N.C.S.O. St. Vincent, AUBRETIA from R.A. W.A.  
Can reply now be made to my 1540/17. AUBRETIA  
expected to arrive 1200Z/24 (ends) ^  
(R.A.W.A. 2031Z/21 to Admty.)

Transports  
for  
Madagascar  
and M.E.

Your 0535/19 (0533 intended) MAURETANIA will  
sail for New York when ready. Request dry  
docking may be arranged on arrival. Para 4.  
Constitution of C.M.31 now under consideration  
but delay to troops for Middle East may have  
to be accepted.

Para 5. NOVA SCOTIA reported capable of 14 knots will  
accompany W.S.20.  
(P.S.T.O. Simonstown 2034B/21 to D.S.T.)

Mediterranean.

\* Operation  
"Insect"

Following to Admty. for information.  
Conditions suitable.

(V.A. Malta 0200B/21 to EAGLE (R) F.O.C.N.A.)  
You were reported by enemy aircraft at (?0845B)  
(F.O.C.N.A. 0926B/21 to EAGLE (R) Admty.,  
V.A. Malta, C.O.I.S. Alexandria.)

"Insect". 1st flight landing now, 2nd flight over island.  
(N.O.I.C. Malta 1036B/21 to EAGLE)  
My 1036/21. 1st, 2nd, 3rd flights landed, 4th coming  
in now.

(V.A. Malta 1213B/21 to EAGLE)  
You were reported by enemy aircraft at 0945C today Tuesday.  
(Capt. O.S. Alexandria 1258C/21 to EAGLE (R) F.O.C.N.A.  
N.O.I.C. Malta.)

Movements.

20/7. Port Said arrivals DELPHINIUM, ERICA,  
\* EXMOOR, \* HURWORTH, EURYALUS, COVENTRY, PAKENHAM,  
PALADIN, DIDO, JERVIS, JAVELIN, PRIMULA,  
SOUTHERN ISLES, ROMEO, MALINES, F.F.S. LA MOQUEUSE "A" lighter  
No.9. Departures DELPHINIUM, ERICA, MALINES.  
(N.O.I.C. Port Said 1143C/21 to Admty., C. in C. Med., (R)  
F.O.R.S. R.A. Alex.)

21st arrivals 0700 SOUTHERN MAID, 0800 SNAPDRAGON, SOUTHERN  
SEA, 1815 NEPTUNE and HENRIETTA MOLLER, 46. Departures 1020  
BURRA, REINE DE FLOTS, A.115, 1212 SOUTHERN MAID.  
(S.O.I. Beirut 1625C/21 to Admty. (R) C. in C. Med.)

\* See next page. (Op. "Master")

/Enemy ...

634

War Diary.21.7.1942  
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean - contd.

Enemy Units. P.C. and S. of 1 destroyer at 1143 39.06 N.  
19.54 E. course 300° speed 20 knots.  
(A/C D. of No.12 Sqdn. Malta Command (S.A.A.F)  
1205/21 to Hal Far D/F (Malta Command))

P.C. and S. of 1 M.V. and 2 destroyers at 1218: 38.10 N.  
20.18 E. 180° 15 knots.  
(A/C "D" of No.12 Sqdn. (S.A.A.F) Malta Cmd. 1220/21 to  
Hal Far, Malta Cmd.)

Minesweeping. Alexandria weekly M/S Summary. 19/7.  
Clearance sweep of channel for ground mines  
completed 18th, negative result. Dangerous areas  
in harbour swept daily except 18th, negative result. No  
change from my 1545/10.  
(R.A. Alexandria 1230C/21 to Admty. (R) C. in C. Med.)

Mines My 1123/20 (N.T. in W.R. but 0925C/20 refers)  
Famagusta. Careful search has not revealed presence of any  
additional mines. Port will be open daily from  
1000 to 12(?)00 and at other times if required  
for special operations.  
(N.O.I.C. Famagusta (Cyprus) 1245C/21 to C. in  
C. Med. (R) Admty. etc.)

Op: Operation "Master" is in abeyance. ? GOORGIO  
"Master". ready, EXMOOR and HURWORTH are to proceed  
Alexandria forthwith. Operation orders are  
being amended.  
(C. in C. Med. 1251C/21 to All concerned in  
operation "Master")

DERNA Entered 20th p.m.  
Italian. (Barcelona 1305/21 to M.W.T.)

Cositrep Air (3) 19/7. At dusk Liberators and Blenheims  
No.457. attacked Tobruk and Matruh Harbours respectively.  
3 fires started dock area Tobruk.  
(4) Night 19/20. Halifaxes, Fortresses and  
Wellingtons bombed Tobruk Harbour, causing a violent explosion  
several fires in dock area. 1 Wellington missing. Wellingtons  
also mined Tobruk and Matruh Harbours. 20/7. (9) Beaufighters  
attacked small tanker, 2 schooners, 3 barges off Sidi Barrani.  
2 barges set on fire, 1 schooner damaged. An escorting C.R.42  
dived into sea although not attacked.  
(C. in C. M.E. 1425/21.)

Situation Western Desert. Force consisting of R.A.(D)  
Report 238. in DIDO, EURYALUS, JERVIS, JAVELIN, PAKENHAM and  
PALADIN carried out bombardment of shipping and  
harbour facilities at Mersa Matruh night 19/20.  
Aircraft spotting most efficient. Details follows. DULVERTON  
and ALDENHAM carried out simultaneous anti-E-boat sweep inshore  
and drove off 2 E-boats. No damage or casualties to any of  
our forces.  
(C. in C. Med. 1547C/21 to Admty. (R) V.A. Malta etc.)

/Air R/C ...



War Diary.21.7.1942  
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean - contd.

Air R/C. Total enemy forces sighted up to time indicated consist of - Nil, Vis 12.  
(Med A/C of X Squadron 1650/21 to 201 Gp.H.Q.,M.E. Command.)

Bombardment of Mersa Matruh. Force A. is to carry bombardment of shipping and harbour facilities at Mersa Matruh, alternative target tank workshops between Harbour and Lagoon to westward, tomorrow night 22/23/7. R.A.(D) Med. is requested to signal orders to all concerned in accordance with M.T.O. 63, enclosure 2.  
(2) No.201 N. C. Group is requested to provide spotting and flare A/C which should proceed to Port Said for communication exercises with DIDO and EURYALUS before they sail at about 1000/22.  
(3) R.A. Alexandria is requested to supply latest information and to sail DULVERTON to R/V with Force A at 2000/22 in 031° 53' N. 029° 30' E.  
(4) Force A is to pass end Port Said Searched Channel at 1130/22 thence through 032° 00' N. 032° 00' E. 032° 10' N. 030° 30' E. 031° 50' N. 029° 08' E. S. of A. 20 knots. Return route reverse of outward route passing 031° 40' N. 028° 23' E. at approx. 0600/23.  
(5) Air H.Q. Egypt and No.201 N.C.Group are requested to provide fighter protection and A/S air patrol. Fighter protection codeword "ROC" W/T B.B.N. No.201 N.C. Group is requested to arrange R/C Mersa Matruh as late as feasible 22nd and to signal result direct F.O.C.D.F. Med. Advanced No.201 N.C. Group pass to 821 Sqdn. N.O.I.C. Alexandria pass to DULVERTON and HURWORTH in P/L.  
(C. in C. Med. 1731C/21 to F.O.(D) Med. N.O.I.C. Alexandria, Air H.Q. Egypt etc.)

TALISMAN. My 1641/20. For 10th Flotilla read 8th P.212. Flotilla.  
(F.O.S. 1747B/21 to C. in C. Med.)Amended.  
*S. p.602*

P.31 Your 1259/18. P.31, P.34 should be routed P.34. northward along Brindisi Tobruk convoy route for 48 hours, thence to Malta.  
(C. in C. Med. 1803C/21 to S.O. S/Ms Alexandria, (R) Capt. (S) 1, Capt.(S) 10, V.A. Malta.)

THORN. Intend THORN to leave Haifa 2000C/21 direct for 033° 25' 025° 33' to arrive about 0800C/25 thence patrolling from Bardia to leave vicinity of Ras-el-Tin p.m./28 for Navarin, arriving p.m./30. Area B. 035° 01' 021° 43' - 000° - 120 - 90 (?further) patrol until p.m./2/8 thence via North coast of Crete and Kaso to arrive Beirut a.m. 8/8.  
(Capt. S.10, 1830C/21 to S/Ms on patrol.)

Shipping, Anticipated arrivals from all areas of troopships, Port Sudan, transports, liners, etc. August to October. Suez. (D.S.T. 2110B/21 to P.S.T.O.E)  
See Lion Copy.

/Malta ...

MOST SECRET MESSAGE 2119B/21st July OUT

**MOST SECRET**

To F.S. ~~F.O. Egypt.~~ Date 21.7.42.  
Repeated A.D.P. Egypt.  
C. in C. Mediterranean.  
C. in C. Middle East.  
F.O.R.S.

Naval Cypher (D) O.T.P.

From Director of Sea Transport.

Anticipated arrivals of Port Sudan and Suez from all areas are as follows:-

- A. Represents arrivals in first 10 days of month.
- B. Second 10 days.
- C. Remainder of month.

Part I - August

From U.K.

Troopships B 8 C 5. Store transports A 9  
B 7 C 5. Liners and coal and truck ships A 5  
B 11 C 10

From North America.

Troopships B 1 C 4 Liners  
A British 4 Dutch 3 American 2 Norwegian 1  
Polish 1  
B British 5 American 2 Greek 1  
C British 2 American 3 Dutch 1 Norwegian 1  
Eight of the above from North America are carrying coal for Egyptian Government.

From Australia

Liners 4

From South & East Africa

Troopships A 2 B 1 C 7 Liners and store transports 5 colliers A 1 B 1 C 4 including 1 for Port Sudan 1 for Palestine and 1 for Syria.

From India

Troopships A 2 C 1 Liners and store transports 10  
Colliers A 2 including 1 for Palestine  
B 3 " 2 " "  
C 3 " 1 " Syria and 1 for Port Sudan

From River Plate

Tramp CI Liner B 1  
Total 138 ships.

Part II.....

Part II - September Arrivals includeFrom U.K.

Troopships C 4 store transports A 9 B 5 C 7  
 Liners and coal and truck ships A 10 B 3 C 4

From North America

Troopships 1 liners 25

From Australia

Liners 4

From India

Troopships 3 liners and store transports 10  
 colliers 5

From South and East Africa

Troopships 7 liners and store transports 4  
 colliers 6

Part III October arrivals includeFrom U.K.

Troopships 5 store transports 20 liners and  
 coal and truck ships 15

From North America

Liners 35 to 40

P.S.T.O. Egypt to pass to M.W.T.R.

2110B/21

for D. of S.T. (Ext. 2176)

1st S.L. (2)  
 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.M.  
 D.T.D. (3)  
 D.T.D. (M)  
 I.P. (2)  
 W.D.  
 D.N.I. (4)  
 Duty Capt. (2)  
 Admiral Blake  
 U.S.N. (3)

636

War Diary.21.7.1942  
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean - Contd.Malta Air  
Report.I.492. C.S.R. Malta 21.7.42. 20th. 1335  
hours, 4 Spitfires up, raid did not approach  
Malta. 1445 hours, 3 Ju.88s, 18 Me.109s,  
great height. Luqa bombed. 1 Army cardestroyed. 20 Spitfires up, 8 intercepted raiders before  
bombing, 1 Me.109 probably destroyed, 1 Me 109 damaged.  
6 Spitfires up cover to minesweepers.Night 20/21. 1935 to 2225 hours, 16 Ju.88s. Luqa bombed,  
1 Baltimore damaged. Elsewhere 5 other ranks killed 1 Army  
Officer wounded. 2 Beaufighters up, 1 landed engine trouble,  
other could not intercept owing serious R.D.F. also V.H.F  
jamming by enemy. 8 searchlight illuminations, 3 Ju.88s  
destroyed by A/A.21st. 2 alerts. 0630 hours, 16 Spitfires up. 3 plus raiders  
turned back before crossing coast. 0803 hours, 4 Spitfires up,  
raid turned back over sea. 0923 hours, 8 Spitfires up, 6?  
plus Me.202s turned back. 4 Spitfires up cover to minesweepers.  
(H.Q. R.A.F. Malta 2224/21.)21st. Ionian Sea R/C photographed 0500 hours 1 M/V 7000  
tons, 2 Drs. 334° Cape Geroghambo 63 miles, course 140° 13  
knots. 1030 hrs, 9 Beauforts escorted by 5 Beaufighters  
attacked. M.V. and D.R. torpedoed and machine gunned, M.V.  
hit at least 3 times and firing white smoke, 1 D.R. probably  
hit, 1 Do.18 over convoy damaged by Beaufighters.  
(H.Q. R.A.F. Malta 2235/21)  
Position south of Corfu. (D.S.1051)Enemy  
Units.Position of 1 enemy M/V 34.31 N. 22.38 E.  
(A/C All QZ 7 Duty Y 2246/21 to 201 Group H.Q.)  
P.C. and S. of 1 M.V. 2 destroyers 34° 30' N.  
22° 45' E. 233° 12.  
(A/C (QZ7) Duty C. 2259C/22 (21 intended - recd  
0225/22) to 201 Group H.Q.)P.C. and S. of 2 destroyers and 1 M.V. 34.29 N. 22. ?0 E. 215°  
6 knots.

(A/C call Q Z 7 duty Y. 2358/21 to 201 Group H.Q.)

637

War Diary.21.7.1942.  
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies.

- Mauritius. Proposals from Deputy C.E. in C. for improving docking and repairing facilities at Port Louis. (ALAUNIA, 0700Z/21 to C. in C. E.F.) See Lion Copy.
- Diego Suarez loop crossing. At 2016C/7 the controlled mining base at Diego Suarez blew up mine loops after detecting crossing. Guard loop was under repairs, therefore failed to register. Search by divers located craters but no wreckage. Echo sounding negative. Searches continuing though to date negative. MANCHESTER CITY which relaid loops is due Kilindini 23rd. (D. C. in C. E.F. 0734Z/21 to Admty.)
- ST BERNARD. Your 0944/14 SAINT BERNARD left Madras 11/7 due Durban 1/8. (D. C. in C. E.F. 0735Z/21 to S.O.I. Capetown.)
- W.S.19P. Take action on Admty. 2320/29 (?2320/20 intended re W.S.19P requesting arrangements be made as final destination of SANTA PAULA and MARIPOSA is Karachi.) (F.O.C.R.I.N. 0931Z/21 to P.S.T.O. India.)
- Cocos I. My 0500Z/20 (N.T. in W.D.) Now ascertained that aircraft remained over Island 25 minutes at a height of 4000 feet. (F.O.I.C. Ceylon 0935Z/21 to C. in C. E.F. (R) Admty. F.O.C.R.I.N. A.C.N.B. Comchief, Ceylon.) Cable and Wireless Cocos report at 0345Z/20 that 1 Japanese aircraft flew over island at 4000 ft for 25 minutes. (Concentric Colombo 1026Z/21 to Land Forces Melbourne, (R) Armindia New Delhi.)
- Transports. My 0926/17 para B. SOBIESKI now replaces ROHNA. Revised sailings 23/7. Following additional move has been arranged. Bombay Karachi, 1 personnel ship ROHNA sailed 27/7. (P.S.T.O. India 1014Z/21 to D.C. in C. E.F. (R) F.O. Ceylon etc.)
- Convoy B.M.25A. Arrived. (N.C.S.O. Colombo 1028Z/21 to Admty.)
- W.S.20. GAMBIA. N.O.I.C. Capetown 0943/19 (N.T. in W.R. not to GAMBIA just received. (1) It now appears W.S.20 may R/V off Durban a.m. 24/7. Earliest GAMBIA can arrive Durban is p.m. 25th, my 0835/13 refers. (2) Request you will arrange escort until GAMBIA has (?fuelled) at Durban and can join convoy. (3) GAMBIA report programme by W/T before leaving Mauritius. (4) Request very early reply to my 1656/16 para 2. (D.C. in C. E.F. 1028Z/21 to C. in C. S.A. (R) Cdre. I/C Durban, GAMBIA.)

/Movements.

04002/21

SECRET

MESSAGE

SECRET

IN

Date 23/ 7. 42

From H.M.S.ALAUNIA

Received 1205

Naval Cypher (A.3) by W/T

Addressed C. in C. Eastern Fleet, Repeated Deputy C. in C. Eastern Fleet, F.O.I.C. East Africa & Zanzibar, N.O.I.C.Mauritius, Admiralty for C.E. in C.

IMMEDIATE

Secret from Deputy C.E. in C.

As required and in accordance with Deputy C. in C. Eastern Fleet's 1210 6th submit following proposals for improvements of docking, slipping and repairing facilities at Port Louis Mauritius.

- (a) Short Terms. (1) Constructing spare caissons and new keep pile blocks for Stevenson dock where a crane and workshop are in course of erection.
- (2) Providing accommodation on high ground near Vaccas for officers and ratings.
- (3) Dredging by available plant to enable destroyers to berth at Quay C for repairs.
- (4) Providing the three firms owning repair shops with ordered materials. Machines and tools are good but shops are not working to full capacity.
- (5) Extending 490 foot wharf by provision of Dophins. Present depth of pier 23 feet.
- (6) A most favourable site for boom defence depot is available. Usual facilities should be provided.
- (7) Supply arrangements at Stevenson Dock.

(B) Long term bring following into operation.

- (1) Allison Dock 300 feet long 60 feet wide 19 feet 6 inches over Sill at high water ordinary spring.
- (2) Hay Dock 320 feet long 50 feet wide 13 feet 6 inches over Sill at high water ordinary springs. Neither dock has been operating since 1914 and both require partial rebuilding new caissons, keel block, pumping machinery, lifting facilities, workshop and removal of silt. If plant and machinery is available this work would probably require at least 12 months to complete. Full details of existing machinery and facilities have been collected and are being forwarded by Captain H.M.S.ALAUNIA in reply to your Eastern Fleet's 4483 7th.

0700Z/21.

- 1st Lord
- 1st S.L.(2)
- 2nd S.L.
- 3rd S.L.
- Vice Controller
- V.C.N.S.
- A.C.N.S.(F)
- A.C.N.S.(T)
- Civil Lord
- C.M.S.R.
- N.A.to 1st S.L.
- N.A. to A.C.N.S.(T)
- A.S.(C)
- A.S.(O.L.)
- P.A.S.(F)
- P.A.S.(PR)
- O.D.(5)
- M.(4)
- D. of P.(3)

- D.N.I.(5)
- D. 57 O.B.1
- D.A/S.W.
- D. of L.D.(3)
- D.B.D.(2)
- D.N.C.
- E. in C.
- W.D.
- I.P.(3)
- W.G.F.
- P.Liaison
- D.T.D.(4)
- M.S.Branch

- Dep.Contr.(3)
- D.(4)
- C.E.in C.
- D.N.C.(2)
- E. in C.
- P.
- M.F.
- E. in C.(F.M.B.)

Bath  
by  
T/P  
(BA.  
6533)

638

War Diary.21.7.1942.  
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies - Contd.

**Movements.** Departure 0045Z HINDUSTAN escorting cable ship RECORDER through focal area thence returning to Bombay. Arrival 0415Z NEWCASTLE, CORFU, with C.M.29B. 0905Z SHOREHAM with M.B.12. (S.O.(I.) Bombay 1130Z/21 to Admty. etc.)

**"Q" Report.** Following received. All stations taking part in Group N. Addressed C. in C. E.F. from Slangkop W/T. Following received. QQQQ 26° 14' S 52° 30' E followed by suspicious vessel. (Bombay W/T 1400Z/21.)  
Following has been read - 16° 14' S 52° 30' E. Followed by suspicious vessel DE ZSC (Slangkop radio) (Colombo W/T 1421 G.M.T./21) Note difference in latitude. Following received from WIHX signal letters unknown. QQQQ 26.14 S 52.30 E followed by suspicious vessel 1400 G.M.T./21. T.O.R. 1414 G.M.T./21 de ZSC. (Simonstown W/T T.O.R. 1655/21) Position 290 miles E x S of Fort Dauphin, Madagascar.

**Information for ships.** The present custom of warning warships by signal of other warships they may meet at sea will continue.  
2. Ships concerned should regard such signals as additional information which they must not count upon receiving.  
3. The authorities who will normally be responsible for issuing these C.O. signals M E I station are as follows:  
(a) F.O. Ceylon to ships north of 015° S and East of 065° E and to traffic between India and Australia.  
(b) S.N.O. Persian Gulf to ships in his area.  
(c) Deputy C. in C. E.F. for remainder.  
(D.C. in C. E.F. 1422Z/21 to S and A E.F.)

**TOOWOOMBA GERALDTON.** Comm. W.A. 0229/19. TOOWOOMBA and GERALDTON are required at Kilindini. C. in C. E.F. 0924/9/7 para 2. Request you will arrange with Comm. W.A. for them to be sailed to Addu Atoll and that you will in due course sail them on to Seychelles and Kilindini. (D.C. in C. E.F. 1504Z/21 to F.O. Ceylon. (R) A.C.N.B. Comm. West Australia.)

**ETHIOPIAN BRITTANY.** A.M. 1918/20/6. Request intended sailing date:  
(a) ETHIOPIAN for Kilindini.  
(b) BRITTANY for Grand Port.  
(D.C. in C. E.F. 1518/21 to C. in C. S.A. (R) N.O.I.C. Mauritius, Admty. F.O.I.C. E.A. and Zanzibar.) Reply: C. in C. S.A. 1615/22.

**Manza.** Your 1433/16. Proposed controlled minefield layout for Manza contained in A.L. T.O. 5833/42 dated 10/6/42 is as follows:- (details)  
(D.T.M. 1527B/21 to D.C. in C. E.F. (R) C. in C.E.F)

/Burma...

War Diary.21.7.1942.  
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies - Contd.

Burma  
Air  
Report. A.930 21/7. Intelligence Summary No.128 on information received up to 1800 hours 21/7. Burma. 1 Blenheim bombed and machine gunned Post Office building Akyab 20/7, results not observed, Police Barracks appeared demolished. Water front - no shipping no movement Kaladen River for 20 miles from mouth. Akyab aerodrome patches of water on runway, accurate light A.A. fire from North End. 1 Blenheim bombed 2 steamers Kyaukpyu from low level 22/7, warehouses nearby and steamers machine gunned, hits observed on latter. (Air H.Q. India 1545/21.)

Control  
of G/R  
Aircraft. Following from Chiefs of Staff No. C.O.S. (India) 70.  
1. C. in C. E.F. will exercise strategic control of all L.R.F.B. Until L.R. shore-based G.R. aircraft are available in sufficient numbers for operating over the Bay of Bengal C. in C. E.F. must allocate flying boats to assist in this duty.  
2. C. in C. E.F. will exercise strategic control of all L.R. shore-based G.R. aircraft operating over Indian Ocean, including those based on Ceylon but excluding those based in India.  
3. L.R. G.R. aircraft based in India will operate under orders of their respective A.O.Cs on instructions to be arranged mutually between C. in C. India and C. in C. E.F.  
4. All short range G.R. and Striking Force squadrons should be under the control of the respective A.O.Cs.  
5. It is of primary importance that shore-based aircraft which may have to operate over sea should be trained in navigating over sea and whenever practicable should receive training with the Naval forces and practice in attacking sea targets. (Air Min. T.O.O. 1655Z/21 to C. in C. India, C. in C. E.F.)

U.S.  
Pacific  
Fleet. Your 0920Z/7. There is no record of C. in C. U.S. Pacific Fleet's 0221/3 in Admiralty. Request text may be communicated. (H.W.R. 2040B/21 to D.C. in C. E.F.)

Transports. Anticipated arrivals in Persian Gulf from all areas August to October. (D.S.T. 2109B/21 to D.S.T.O. Persian Gulf (R) P.S.T.O. India.) See Lion Copy.

Diego  
Suarez. Situation report. \*DAUNTLESS left for Mombasa 20/7 calls Mayotte en route with supplies for garrison. CALEDON arrived 19/7 to relieve as guard ship. (121 Force 2321/21 to G.O.C. in C. E.A. (R) W.O.)

Madagascar  
Enemy  
Armistice  
Commission. Following from Chiefs of Staff No. (E.A.)2. You will have received reports of expected arrival in Tananarive of an aircraft bringing members of enemy Armistice Commission. If you can locate

/aircraft...



639A. 51.

MOST SECRET. **MOST SECRET** MESSAGE 2109B/21st July. OUT.

To:- D.S.T.O. ~~India to Masson~~ 21. 7. 42.  
Repeated P.S.T.O. India.

NAVAL OFFICER (X).

From Director of Sea Transport.

Anticipated arrivals in Persian Gulf from all areas are as follows:-

- (A) Represents arrivals in 1st 10 days of month
- (B) 2nd 10 days.
- (C) remainder of month

Part I August

From U.K. Store transports B1 C1  
Liners A1 B1 C2.  
These 6 ships have 20,000 deadweight of Military stores and 925 vehicles for Basra

From North America

Troopships C4 Liners A4 B2 C4 with 130 vehicles  
7 bombers and 12,000 tons military stores on British account and 1100 vehicles 37 bombers and 16,000 tons military stores for Russia.

From India Troopships A3 C2 Liners and store transports 20.

From South Africa Liners 1.

From Middle East Troopships A1

From Australia Liners 1.

From Mauritius Tramps C1

Part II September arrivals include

From U.K. Liners 3.

From North America Liners approximately 18

From India Liners and store transports 20

Part III October arrivals include

From U.K. Liners and store transports 5

From North America Liners approximately 25 to 30 at least 1/2 of which are for Russia.

From India Liners and store transports 20 D.S.T.O.  
Persian Gulf to pass to Lock and P.S.T.O.  
India to Masson.

2109B/21.

1st S.L. (2).  
V.C.N.S.  
A.C.N.S. (F) (2).  
A.C.N.S. (T).  
N.A. 1st S.L.  
D.O.D. (F) (2).  
Hd. of H. (13).  
Admiral Blake

D.D.I.C. (2).  
D. of P. (2).  
D. of S.T.  
D.T.D. (3)  
D.T.D. (4).  
D.C. (2).  
I.P. (2).  
W.D.

For D. of S.T.

War Diary.

21.7.1942.  
Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies - conts: -

Madagascar  
Enemy  
Armistice  
Commission.  
(Contd.)

aircraft and destroy it in the air or on the ground  
you are authorised to do so unless  
(a) You consider this action may unfavourably  
affect progress of your negotiations, if any, or  
(b) you consider it undesirable to confine  
Armistice Commission to Madagascar indefinitely  
by destroying their means of escape.  
(W.O. 2335/21 to G.O.C. in C. E. Africa.)

641

War Diary.

21.7.1942.

Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America & West Indies.

- U/B. D/F Bearings at 1927Z/20 suggest that a U/Boat may be anywhere on a line joining the following positions:- 54° 40' N. 26° 00' W. and 53° 20' N. 35° 00' W.  
(D.D.I.C. 0051B/21 to Escorts T.A. 17 (U.S. Ships) Cominch, Comnav 24.7. C. in C.W.A. H.Q.C.C.).
- DONOVANIA torpedoes. SS DONOVANIA torpedoed in 010° 56' N. 061° 10' W. at 0840 Z/21. Assistance being sent (N.O.I.C. Trinidad (Port of Spain) 0512Q/21 to S.B.N.O.W.A. (R) Admty. etc).  
My 0512/21, DONOVANIA now sunk. 48 survivors including Master landed Port of Spain, 4 seriously injured. 4 men missing probably dead.  
(F.O.I.C. Trinidad 1102Q/21, to S.B.N.O.W.A. (R) Admty. etc).
- "S" Report. Following received OBAMS 2b de Nau Nau. Warning priority. S/M attack 20° 00' N, 70° 34' W.  
(San Juan W/T, 0520/21, T.O.R. 0550 GMT/21).
- A.S.5. Q(O) 74 cipher 18/7. U.S.A. Convoy A.S.5 comprising PASTEUR sailed from New York 16/7 for Middle East with following U.S.A. personnel.  
(Brit. Army Staff Washington, 0521/21 to Imperial Movement Control, Capetown.).
- U/B Ruse. 1.R.O. Caracas reports possible visual signalling ruse by U/Boat shortly before dawn on 14/4.  
2.A merchant ship received flashing lamp signal "AS" (need immediate assistance) which he refused to answer.  
3.Signal "AF" (abandon ship immediately) was then made. 4.Merchant ship disregarded, proceeded at full speed and escaped. 5 Enemy U/Boat had been reported in vicinity. 6. Suggest general warning to merchant ships.  
(S.B.N.O. W.A. 0904P/21 to Admty. Connv etc.).
- U.S. Fleets. Atlantic Fleet Location Sheet No.30, contained in C. in C.Lant's 1915/20, informs as follows.  
*See also p.643* BROOKLYN at Bermuda. Task Force 37 due New York 27/7. Task Force 22 due Trinidad 30/7. WASHINGTON and 4 destroyers due New York 22/7.  
(Comnav 0907/21, to Admty.).  
Cominch's 2130/20 (Serial No.31 Changes in Locations given in his 2058/13), informs as follows:- Atlantic:- TEXAS and PHILADELPHIA left Clyde 18/7. WASHINGTON at New York. SOUTH DAKOTA due Casco Bay 21/7. TUSCALOOSA and WICHITA at Scapa. OMAHA and JUNEAU left Trinidad 20/7 for escort duty. MILWAUKEE due Miami 21/7. CINCINNATI at San Juan. Pacific: NORTH CAROLINA, ENTERPRISE, PORTLAND and ATLANTA left Pearl Harbour 16/7. IDAHO, MISSISSIPPI, NEW MEXICO, RALEIGH and HELENA at San Francisco, LONG ISLAND at Pearl Harbour, SAN FRANCISCO left Pearl Harbour 20/7. TRENTON at Balboa. Southwest Pacific. CHICAGO, AUSTRALIA, CANBERRA and HOBART left Brisbane 18/7. *14.17 - See pp.461, 464, 468*  
(Comnav 0908/21, to Admty.).

/Shipping....

642

War Diary.21.7.1942.  
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America & West Indies. - Contd.

Shipping Reports. Request that route messages Indian Ocean area for vessels not coming into U.S. strategic control such as N.C.S.O. Calcutta 0410Z/21 re NANCY MOLLER be not transmitted to Connav. (Washington ?1000/21 to Admty.).

H.Q. S.W. Pacific. C.O.S.(W) 225 re liaison with H.Q. S.W. Pacific (Air Min. 1010Z/21 to Washington) See Lion Copy.

Atlantic Convoys. After consultation between C. in C.W.A and C.T.F. 24, proposal has been made, in view of difficulty especially during winter months of estimating progress of convoys in advance, that Chop time should not be promulgated until 48 hours before estimated time of convoy crossing 26° W. Do you concur? (D.T.D. 1052B/21 to Connav) Reply See No T.O.O/24/7.

ZURICHMOOR Your 1315Z/19. SS ZURICHMOOR has been presumed lost on 24/5. (D.T.D. 1224B/21 to N.S.H.Q.).

PARRSBORO and WEDGEPORT sailed St Johns N.F. 1330Z/20 routed as in my 1208Z/19. (F.O.N.F. 1228Z/21 to Admty etc).

N.A.13. Sailing telegram. (C.O.A.C. 1335Z/21 and 1340Z/21 Admty (R) Connav, C. in C.W.A. S.B.N.O. W.A. F.O.N.F. Cinclant, C.T.F.24).  
*(Group, Canada to UK.)*

VANOC, ANNAPOLIS sailed escorting N.A.13. (S.O.(I) Halifax 1405Z/21 to Admty etc).  
Sailed N.A.13 consisting of LETITIA and DOMINION MONARCH escorted by VANOC (S.O) and ANNAPOLIS at 1300Z/21 routed in accordance with my 1750/16 and Admty 1115/15, S. of A.13.5. knots. Convoy code word "Ethics." Convoy H/F guard call sign BLK. (C.O.A.C. 1734Z/21 to Admty. C. in C.U.S. Fleet N.S.H.Q. F.O.N.F. (R) C. in C. Atlantic Fleet (U.S.) C.T.24, S.B.N.O. W.A. C. in C. W.A., N.O.I.C. Greenock F.O.I.C. Liverpool, Connav).  
*10-644. (Disposition)*

Local Defence Schemes. OZ.781. 21/7/42. C.O.S.(W) 226. Your J.S.M. 304 noted. Colonial Office therefore ask that you will act in accordance with C.O.S.(W) 216. 2. They are informing Governors that proposal has been adopted and will take effect forthwith, (Air Min. 1445Z/21 to Britman, Washington).

Routeing St. Lawrence. In view U-Boat activity Gulf of St. Lawrence request independently sailed ships from U.K. be given alternative routes via Belle Isle Strait and Cabot Strait and that lettered positions be continued as far as vicinity Father Point. (N.S.H.Q. 1451Z/21 to Admty.) Reply: D.T.D. 1153/22.

U/Bs.

# MOST SECRET

MOST SECRET.

M E S S A G E

1010Z/21 July.  
OUT.

To: Britman Washington.

DATE. 21.7.42.

CYPHER.

From. Air Ministry.

OZ.777. 21.7.42.

C.O.S. (W) 225.

Following telegram No. 1029 from Dominions Office to High Commissioner Australia is repeated to you for information. Begins.

1. We should like to arrange, if H.M.G. in Commonwealth of Australia and United States Government agree, for Senior United Kingdom Army and Air Liaison Officers to be appointed to Australia for liaison with H.Q. South West Pacific and with Australian Service Authorities.

2. Such an arrangement should help in maintaining for us prompt supply of information -

(a) as to operations and plans which, although Pacific theatre has become a sphere of United States strategic operation, it is still essential for United Kingdom Chiefs of Staff and Commander in Chief India, to receive in order to ensure effective co-ordination of strategy between Pacific and Indian theatres and to facilitate exercise of general responsibility for grand strategy in all theatres by Combined Chiefs of Staff;

(b) as to enemy forces and strategic intentions;

(c) as to enemy tactics, training, equipment and war economy;

(d) as to Allied experience in tactics, training, organisation and technical development..

3. We should also welcome opportunity to continue personal contacts between United Kingdom and Australian General Staffs which were established in Middle East but have been interrupted since return to Australia of greater part of Australian Imperial Force.

4. We should propose to send as Liaison Officers a Brigadier, General Staff, with one G.S.O.II and a Group Captain with one Wing Commander. Senior Officers would co-operate generally with you and in particular, if requested by you, would act as your advisers on military and air matters. They would communicate direct with the two Ministries in London except on matters of policy, in which case communication would be through you. (This procedure has been adopted for communications to and from our Army and Air representatives in the Union of South Africa and is working well).

P.T.O...

5. Please telegraph any comments. If, as I expect you agree and should find the arrangement helpful, please put proposals to Commonwealth Government explaining that they are of course, not yet been put to United States Service authorities and telegraph result. If Commonwealth Government agree, Joint Staff Mission, Washington (to whom this telegram is at present being repeated for information only) will then be asked to obtain United States concurrence. You should make it clear that we are greatly appreciative of information already supplied to us through existing channels of communication with Australian Army and Air H.Q. through Australian Service representatives here and that these channels will not, of course, be affected by proposed appointment of observers.

6. Please reply as soon as possible. We should like officers to reach Australia as early as practicable in August. Ends.

1010Z/21.

Circulation :

Colonel Jacob.  
Foreign Secretary.  
War Registry, Admiralty.  
C.G. Tels. War Office.  
C.A.S.

Recd in War Reg. at 0925/22.

1st Lord.  
1st S.L. (2)  
V.C.N.S.  
A.C.N.S. (W)  
A.C.N.S. (F) (2)  
Sec.  
N.L. 1st S.L.  
P.A.S. (S)  
D.O.D. (F) (2)  
D. of P. (2)  
D.N.I. (5)  
D. of P. (2)  
Hd. of M. (2)  
I.P. (2)  
W.D.  
D.C. (2)  
D.D.I.C. (2)  
Admiral Blake.  
Admiral Bellairs.  
D. of L.S.

643

War Diary.21.7.1942.  
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America & West Indies. - Contd.

U/Bs. St.Vincent passes delayed report, graded B, small submarines sighted 5th 7th and 10/7 in vicinity Fancy at North of Island moving E. and N. high speed.  
(S.O.(I) Jamaica, 1536R/21 to Admty. B.A.D.etc).

Carriage of Passengers U.S.Strategic Area. B.A.D's 1707/19. Not known whether this policy has been agreed to by Admty but I must point out impossible situation which will arise if it is applied to British controlled ships passing through U.S.Strategic Area.  
2. No women or children will be able to leave Canada, America, Bermuda or West Indies except by air for duration of the war. Since the majority of these will be wives and children of officers and men who have returned to U.K. they will be stranded without proper means of support in view of exorbitant cost of living and dollar control in this area.  
3.No women or children will be able to leave U.K. to join their husbands serving in U.S.strategic area.  
4. Movement of 200 troops from Jamaica to Bermuda and from Bermuda to U.K. will become virtually impossible.  
5. Number of female censors now waiting passage to U.K. will be compelled to remain in Bermuda and Jamaica indefinitely at Government expense.  
6. I urge most strongly that this policy should not be applied to British controlled ships especially those passing through U.S. strategic area either en route to or from U.K.  
(S.B.N.O. W.A. 1546P/21, to Admty. D. of S.T.(R) B.A.D.etc.).

NIDAREID PRIMO. My 1901/16. NIDAREID and PRIMO sailed but latter had to return to New York due to engine defects.  
(B.A.D.1551Z/21 to S.B.N.O.W.A.(R) M.of W.T. Admty N.S.H.Q. as amended 1343Z/22).

Floating Dock. My 1443/10 para 1. Dock sailed 2 days late but U.S.Authorities estimate she may still arrive St.Thomas by 29/7.  
(B.A.D. 1555Z/21 to R.A.W.A.(R) Admty).

Movements. Departures U.S.S.GREER P.C. 559, P.C.465, P.C.530, escorting T.A.W.7. HALIFAX, OAKVILLE, escorting T.A.W.7 Curacao section, SNOWBERRY escort to Puerto La Cruz, thence Rinella.  
(N.O.I.C. Trinidad 1632Q/21 to S.B.N.O.W.A.(R) Admty. S.O.(I) Kingston, N.S.H.Q. C.O.A.C. S.B.N.O Curacao).

U.S.Forces. My 1627/15. Further dispositions of U.S.Forces in Atlantic:- Battleships. TEXAS.Due New York 27/7, WASHINGTON at New York, SOUTH DAKOTA due Casco Bay 21/7, A/C Carrier, RANGER due Trinidad 30/7. 8" Cruisers, AUGUSTA, due Trinidad 30/7. TUSCALOOSA, WICHITA at Scapa. 6" Cruisers. OMAHA, JUNEAU, left Trinidad 20/7 for escort duty, MILWAUKEE due Miami 21/7, CINCINNATI at San Juan. PHILADELPHIA due New York 27/7.  
(D.O.D.(F) 1654B/21 to C. in C.H.F, S.B.N.O.W.A.etc).  
/Dispositions.....

644

War Diary.21.7.1942.  
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America & West Indies. - Contd.

Dispositions. Section South West.  
 N.A.13. VANOC, ANNAPOLIS, 044° 40' 061°  
 15' 074° 13.5. *See p. 642.*  
 O.N.111. Task Unit No.24.18.5 043° 55' 061°  
 10 288° 9, alter in 044° 20' N. to 270° and in 063° 26' W. to  
 215°  
 H.S.32. HEPATICA, NIPIGON, NORANDA, MAHONE.  
 B.X.29 C. Task Unit 24.18.3. 043° 30' 064° 50' 10.  
 SHEDIAC vicinity 044° 50' 061° 45' en route. Pictou.  
*See p. 612* TRILLIUM sailed (~~?Boston~~) 2100Z/20 to Pictou, PORT ARTHUR due  
 Halifax p.m./21 from South.  
 U.S.Destroyer SWANSON 042° 25' 069° 10' to Boston 16.  
 POLARIS U.S.Dest. INGRAHAM 040° 30' 067° 15' 270° 14.  
 MIDLAND (?vicinity) 044° 30' 061° 05' 090° 10, altering in 060°  
 00' W. to 110°.  
 EROS, 040° 10' 066° 35' 285° 12.8.  
 (C.O.A.C.1657Z/21 to Admty.).

Unescorted No unescorted vessels shall be routed between  
 Sailings, Atlantic or Gulf Ports and Bermuda without  
 Bermuda. prior approval from Cominch C and R.  
 (Connav 1700/21, to C.E.S.F., C.G.S.F., C.C.S.F.  
 N.O.B.Bermuda, (R) Admty., N.S.H.Q., S.B.N.O.W.A.  
 S.O.(I) Kingston).

GLACIER Schooner GLACIER sunk by gunfire 1745 G.M.T.  
 (sunk 18/7). 18/7 010° 50' N. 058° 58' W. Master and  
 crew all landed at Port of Spain. Prior to  
 sinking 4 armed members of S/M crew escorted  
 Master back to Schooner and searched for 20 minutes. Nothing  
 on board to be compromised.  
 (F.O. Trinidad 1702Q/21 to Admty.(R) S.B.N.O.W.A., etc).

Shipping Following is a repetition of Connav 1707/21.  
 Central Connav 1455/28, 1512/30, apply any to coasting  
 America vessels touching Central American Ports but  
 should not proceed unescorted North of Belize.  
 Vessels from and South of Belize destination Gulf  
 or Atlantic Ports shall normally be routed coastwise to Cristobal  
 thence North in PG/TAW convoys. Action C.P.S.F. Info. C.C.S.F.  
 C.G.S.F.  
 (Connav 1720Z/21, to Admty N.S.H.Q., C. in C.A.W.I. S.O.(I) Jamaica)

SANTA RATA ? SANTA RATA torpedoed and sunk by gunfire 1425  
 (sunk 9/7). G.M.T./9. 026° 11' N. 055° 40' W. Master  
 taken prisoner. Ship boarded and searched for 2  
 hours. 3 boats away, 2 boats containing 31 men  
 picked up 17/7 landed Port of Spain 21/7. 3rd boat thought to  
 contain 23 men missing. 3 known killed, 3 unaccounted for. Total  
 61.  
 (N.O.I.C. Trinidad 1732Q/21, to Admty., (R) C. in C.A.W.Indies  
 S.O.(I) Kingston).

/U/B.....



645

War Diary.21.7.1942.  
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America & West Indies. - Contd.

U/B S/M situation 21/7.  
Positions. (C. in C.U.S. Fleet 1738/21 to Admty).

DESPATCH Your 2336/19. (DESPATCH to operate on Eastern  
South America. Coast of South America). Reactions most  
favourable. Deputy C.O.S. said "that's swell."  
(B.A.D. 1759Z/21 to Admty).

Escort Allocation of new construction, numbers.  
Vessels. (B.A.D. 1803Z/21 to Admty. amended 2223Z/22)  
See Lion Copy

Sub Attack ULUA attacked 20° N 70° 34' W. about 0454Z/21.  
and ARRIAGA, 1 torpedo hit. GLACIER, U-88 type,  
sighting white bulldog on C/T. RUTH subsequent  
summary. information indicates attack and sinking 21° 44'  
N 74° 05' W. 0355Z/29/6 U-88 type, dark red deck.

Panam plane sights sub 21° 05' N. 75° 12' W. 1145Z/21. Planes  
attack subs 18° 53' N. 81° 18' W. 1830Z/20. 12° 49' N. 69° W.  
1830Z/20. Planes and surface craft attack contact 38° 45' N. 74° 36'  
W. 1355Z/20. Surface craft sight sub 39° 14' N. 74° 11' W.  
1845Z/20. Plane reports contact 21° 50' N. 85° 05' W. 2030Z/20.  
Surface craft attacks sub 22° 30' N. 61° 35' W. 1803Z/17 possibly damaged  
Blimp sights wake and attacks magnetic contact 42° 58' N. 70° 03'  
W. 1700Z/29/6. Surface craft attack sound contact 56° 08' N. 11°  
45' W. 2300Z/26/5.  
(C. in C.U.S. Fleet 2026Z/21 to Admty for O.I.C.).

Fiji and C.O.S. (W) 227.  
Tonga. Your J.S.M. 298 (2341/11) noted.  
2. Ref para 2 (iii) Colonial Office think that  
substantial modifications may be required to  
apply bases agreement to conditions in Western Pacific.  
3. Dominions Office request that nothing should be said to  
Combined Chiefs of Staff about agreement of U.K. Govt. until New  
Zealand Minister has obtained concurrence of his Government.  
(Air Min. 2040Z/21 to Britman, Washington).

DONOVANIA Connav Serial 21, DONOVANIA, British Tanker,  
CARMONA. torpedoed sunk 0840Z/21 10.56 N. 61.10.W. CARMONA  
Panama C torpedoed sunk 18/7 10.58 N. 61.20 W.  
(Connav 2050/21 to Connaveu).

ILE D'OUessant. French SS. ILE D'OUessant depart Norfolk today for  
Curacao and Africa. State has approved voyage  
from Norfolk to Curacao to Casablanca. Crew of  
NORMANDIE aboard in addition to own crew. Ship will broadcast  
position 1200 L.C.T. on 600 metres.  
(C. in C.U.S. Fleet 2106Z/21 to C.A.F.A.C. C.C.S.F., C.E.S.F., R.A.  
W.A. F.O.C.N.A. C. in C. Atlantic Fleet (U.S). C.T.F. 23, S.B.N.O.  
W.A.).

/REGENT.....

**MOST SECRET**~~MOST SECRET~~~~MESSAGE~~

1803z/21st July

IN

Date 22.7.42

Recd. 0355

From B.A.D. Washington

Naval Cypher X D by Cable

Addressed Admiralty

new Escort Vessels Allocation.

995.

Escort Vessels. It seems that only a very straightforward basis for allocation has any hope of getting through.

2. The The Two Escort Fleets are short of requirements by an agreed figure. The Escort Vessel production is in a common pool. We propose allocating from this pool in proportion to the shortages, keeping short and long range types separate.

3. Operational Movements of Forces must be made later to adjust scales of defense to scales of attack.

4. (A) Long Range includes destroyers ex-Fleet types. Hunt-Class. V and W-Classes. Sloops. Cutters. Corvettes. U.S. design of D E.

(B) Short Range includes 173 and 180 foot P C types.

5. If this simple solution, which has not been put to U.S. Authorities, is accepted, allocations based on 1st June availabilities become

(A) Long range. British, required 725, available 383, Shortage 342. U.S., required 590, available 122, shortage 468 proportion one to 1.37.

(B) Short range. British, required 95, available nil, shortage 95. U.S., required 360, available 61, shortage 299, proportion one to 3.15.

6. Long Range New Construction. To March 1943 inclusive

(A) Source	(B) Destroyers.	(C) Sloops.	(D) T.S. Corvettes.	(E) S.S. Corvettes.	(F) D.E.'s.
U.S.A.	50	Nil	Nil	Nil	41
U.K.	27	8	20	4	Nil
Canada	2	Nil	2	8	Nil
Australia	1	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

Grand Total 163 of which 68 to United Kingdom and 95 to U.S.

7./...

645<sup>B</sup>

7. Long Range Allocations.  
(A) Canadian corvettes 10 in number to U.S. Decision as regards eight of these already made.

6(B) Six D.E.'s ex U.S.A. to U.K.

(C) If U.S. modifications to Canadian T.S. Corvettes involve delay beyond October then allocate to U.K. and reduce latter's D.E. figure to four. C.M.A.B. to decide.

8. Short Range New Construction. To March 1943 inclusive 80 foot P C four. 173 foot 142. To AL 146 of which 35 to U.K. and 111 to U.S.

9. If policy is accepted shortages at end of 1943 would neglecting casualties be approximately.  
Long Range U.K. 100 U.S. 130.  
Short Range U.K. 20 U.S. 50.

1803Z/21 *as corrected 2123Z/22*

- 1st Lord
- 1st S.L.(2)
- Controller
- Vice Controller
- V.C.N.S.
- A.C.N.S.(H)
- A.C.N.S.(F)
- A.C.N.S.(T)
- A.C.N.S.(W)
- Naval Sec.
- N.A.1st S.L.
- D.O.D.(H)(2)
- D.O.D.(F)(2)
- D.D.I.C.(2)
- Duty Capt.(2)
- D.N.I.(4)
- D. of P.(2)
- D. of P.(Q)
- A.S.(C)
- D.N.C.
- Hd. of M.
- D.T.D.(3)
- D.T.D.(M)
- D.A/S.W.
- Hd. of M.A.S.
- Admiral Blake
- I.P.(2)
- W.D.
- Deputy Controller )
- D.N.C. ) Bath
- Hd. of S.W.R. )

646

War Diary.21.7.1942.  
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America & West Indies.- Contd.

REGENT. Ref. C. in C.A. & W.I. 2152/6. It is desired REGENT should call at Bermuda observing that it is otherwise intended she should proceed direct to Gibraltar from New London.  
(B.A.M.R. 2110Z/21 to Admty.(R) S.B.N.O.W.A.).  
Concur; D.O.D.F.1856/22.

CAPETOWN Your 2211/20. As a special case CAPETOWN CASTLE CASTLE is being allowed to proceed unescorted to Halifax with present personnel on board.  
N. A.14. 2. N.A. 14 now leaving Halifax 9/8. U.S. Authorities state convoy cannot leave later than that date without interference with A.T/N.A.schedule.  
(B.A.D.2207Z/21, to N.S.H.Q., D. S.T.(R) C.O.A.C. etc).

Carriage of My 2251/20 (refers to 1707/19) U.S.authorities Passengers. state that (a) They will not impose any limit as to prisoners of war to be carried in unescorted ships. (b) They suggest for time being personnel from Australia and New Zealand for Canada and U.K. should be embarked in U.S.transports returning to West Coast of U.S.A. and thence by rail to Halifax for N.A.convoy.  
(c) British army staff agree.  
(B.A.D. 2211Z/21 to Admty etc).

U.S.Navy 1 C. in C.A.W.I. 1912/15 and F.O.I.C.Trinidad's and 1741/14 are being passed to B.A.D. for information. Trinidad. 2. Request S.B.N.O.W.A. will inform F.O.I.C. Trinidad of position regarding local responsibilities, as described in my 1721/25/5 except as regards control of shipping, about which we are waiting for Adml. King's agreement to proposals in my 1750/6/7.  
3.No objection to F.O.I.C. Trinidad undertaking all defensive measures inside Gulf. This proposal seems to be in accord with general agreement. We assume Adml.Olendorf will consult Navy Dept as necessary, in particular if there should be any question of U.S. vessels and personnel being used inside Gulf and therefore under F.O.I.C. Trinidad's immediate control  
(M.Branch App. A.C.N.S.(F) 2227B/21 to S.B.N.O.W.A.(R) F.O.I.C. Trinidad, B.A.D.).

Carriage of B.A.D. 1707/19. Passengers. Although restrictions regarding passage of women and children are appreciated as far as U.S. is concerned, it is felt that situation as regards Canada is somewhat different. Requests are constantly being received by N.S.H.Q. for passage to U.K. of wives and children of R.N. personnel as well as for female Government employees. Furthermore, there has recently been a very considerable traffic in returning evacuees who owing to financial restrictions have been forced back to U.K. As it is usually impossible to provide these passages in troop convoy, arrangements in the past have been made with M.O.W.T. for their conveyance in trade convoys or independent merchant ship.Should restrictions be applied in near future M.O.W.T. advise that considerable difficulty would arise on account of large numbers of passengers registered and awaiting passage.  
(N.S.H.Q. 2230Z/21 to Admty (R) B.A.D.).

/Chilean....

647

War Diary.

21.7.1942.  
Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies - Contd.

Chilean  
S/MS.

My 0101Z/6/6. Copy of written agreement of Chilean Govt. on subject of movements of Chilean submarines now received. M.F.A. acknowledges receipt of note 969 of Ambassador of U.S.A. and agrees. Authorities will inform N.A. of that Embassy, so that he may in turn transmit to B.N.A. all movements of Chilean S/MS when they leave territorial waters, and there will also be indicated the practice zones where manoeuvres will be held, with the object of avoiding confusion with craft of other Nations. Santiago 3/6/1942.

2. British Authorities at Rio, Buenos Aires, Santiago and Lima have been informed through Diplomatic Channels. (B.A.D. 2329Z/21 to Admty).

648

War Diary.21.7.1942.  
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Australia and New Zealand.

Z.K.14. Sydney portion convoy Z.K.14 sailed from Sydney 20th July comprising 1 ship KATOOMBA, destination Fremantle.  
(N.C.S.O. Sydney 001Z/21 to Admty).

Z.K.15. Convoy Z.K.15 sailed from Sydney 21/7 comprising 3 ships for Townsville, OAKBANK, VAN DER LIJN, SEA WITCH.  
(N.C.S.O. Sydney 0012Z/21 to Admty.).  
MORESBY escorting convoy Z.K.15 departed Sydney 2139Z/20 for Townsville.  
(A.C.N.B. 1319Z/21 to Admty etc).

GEORGE M. LIVANOS.  
(Sunk 20/7). Greek vessel GEORGES LIVANOS (? GEORGE M. LIVANOS) was sunk by S/M 1300Z/20 about (?20) miles from (?Jervis Bay). Total complement landed.  
(A.C.N.B. 0121Z/21 to Admty. etc).

S.S. INDUS  
"R" Report. My 1739Z/20. Possibility of INDUS report being false to lure escort of "Schooner" away has been checked. Consider report to be authentic.  
(A.C.N.B. 0204Z/21 to U.S.S. PHOENIX (R) C. in C. E.F. D.N.O. Western Australia, Cdr.S.W. Pacific Force, Deputy C. in C.E.F. F.O.I.C. Ceylon, C. in C.S.A.).

H. Q.S.W. Pacific. C.O.S.(W) 225 re liaison.  
(Air Min. 1010Z/21 to Washington).  
See Lion Copy, America and West Indies.

*Situation.*  
Fiji and Tonga. C.O.S.(W) 227.  
See America and West Indies. 2040Z/21.  
*Byest no. 180. (ACN B, 11182/21) See separate signal.*

U.S. Forces. A.M. 2120/15. Following changes in disposition of U.S. Forces in Pacific:- NORTH CAROLINA, ENTERPRISE, PORTLAND and ATLANTA left Pearl Harbour 16/7.

IDAHO, MISSISSIPPI, NEW MEXICO, RALEIGH and HELENA at San Francisco. LONG ISLAND at Pearl Harbour. SAN FRANCISCO left Pearl Harbour 20/7. TRENTON at Balboa.  
(D.O.D.(F) 1722B/21 to C. in C.E.F. N.Z.N.B., A.C.N.B. N.S.H.Q.).  
*See p. 641.*

/Movements.

648 A

SECRET

MESSAGE

1118Z/21st July. IM

From. A.C.N.B. Melbourne.

Date. 5.8.42.  
Recd. 1110

NAVAL CIPHER (X) BY W/T

Addressed. Admiralty. C.in C. Eastern Fleet. F.O. Ceylon.  
C.O.I.S. Colombo. H.Z.N.B. C.Z.M. OPNAV.  
C.in C. U.S. Pacific Fleet. C.in C. U.S.  
Asiatic Fleet.

DIGEST. Number 180 (180) from G.H.Q. S.W.P.A.  
July 20th.

- (1) Fair Recce 20/7 (20/7) reported.
  - (A) Two large warships possibly heavy cruisers two light cruisers or large destroyers three destroyers in position four deg. fifteen min. South. 153 deg. 25 min. East at 2330Z/19. (2330Z/19) course uncertain some indication South.
  - (B) Twelve merchant ships including five very large in Rabaul Harbour at 2345Z/19 (2345Z/19) also three merchant ships leaving harbour.
  - (C) Two four thousand ton merchant ships in position 4 deg. 05 minutes South 152 deg. 08 minutes East at 2351Z/19 (2351Z/19)
- (2) 26 heavy bombers unidentified type escorted by 15 Zero attacked Pt. Moresby at 0025Z/2. Temporary damage to seven mile runway and some damage to fuel stocks. No casualties.
- (3) One enemy four engined flying boat reconnoitred Horn Island at 0026Z/20. (0026Z/20).
- (4) Possible submarine reported by air recce in position 27 deg. 19 mins. South 156 deg. 32 min. East at 2220Z/19 (2220Z/19)
- (5) Reliably reported enemy at Tenabulip (Isobel Island) 08 deg. 24 min. South 159 deg. 49 min. East on 12/7 (12/7) One vessel at anchor in harbour during day.

1118Z/21

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

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

C.N.A.S.  
N.A.1st.S.L.  
Capt. Pim.  
D.N.A.D.  
M (35)  
Ops. (3)  
D of P. (Q)

O.D. (5)  
D.N.I. (8) ( & for U.S.N. & D.N.L.O)  
O.I.C. (3)  
D of P. (3)  
D.A/S.W.  
I.P. (3)  
W.D.  
D.P.D.  
D.S.D. (2)  
Adml. Blake.  
Adml. Belloirs.

649

21.7.1942  
Tuesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Australia and New Zealand - Contd.

Movements.

Departure Wellington AUSTRALIA, CANBERRA, U.S. Cruiser SALT LAKE CITY, U.S. Cruiser CHICAGO, HOBART, U.S. Destroyers SELFRIDGE, JARVIS, PATTERSON, MUGFORD, HENLEY, BLUE, RALPH TALBOT, escorting U.S. Ships \*KCHIBA, \*ZHAUT, (?MCCAWLEY) BARNETT, ELLIOT, FULLER, AMERICAN LEGION, BELLATRIX, NEVILLE, HEYWOOD, \*\*GIBRA, HUNTER-LIGGETT. (N.Z.N.B. 2212Z/21 to Admty. (R) Comsopac.)

\* ALCHIBA, FOMALHAUT *in file 5.3.*  
\*\* ? ALGORAB *in file 5.3.*

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Submarines Reported.

Estimated U/B positions.  
(D.D.I.C. 1436B/21, 1441B/21.)



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

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| HOME COMMANDS<br>(Classification<br>by subjects)    | - Policy<br>- Defence of United Kingdom<br>- Movements<br>- Operations<br>- Allied Air Activity<br>- Enemy Air Activity<br>- Mining<br>- Enemy Intelligence<br>- U-Boats<br>- Navigational<br>- Technical<br>- Casualties and Defects<br>- Shipping and Convoys |
| FOREIGN STATIONS<br>(Classification<br>by stations) | - North Atlantic<br>- South Atlantic<br>- Mediterranean<br>- East Indies<br>- America and West Indies<br>- Australia and New Zealand<br>- 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 2247

260

22.7.1942  
Wednesday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

Unknown  
Operation.

C. in C. Nore is to sail 4 destroyers to Scapa, to arrive 2/8; they will be required for a period of 3 weeks.

British Air Operations.

291 aircraft of Bomber Command attacked Duisburg last night.

Enemy Air Operations.

A single enemy aircraft dropped incendiaries on BEEHIVE and Felixstowe Dock at 0055 and caused a small petrol fire. A few bombs were dropped in the sea off Grimsby this evening; no damage was caused.

Convoy P.W.190 was attacked in Lyme Bay at 2120. Fighters shot down one of the enemy. No damage to the convoy has been reported.

South Atlantic.

An unknown ship reported being ordered to heave to by a raider at 0810 G.M.T. today in 26° 35' S. 4° 44' (?E.or W.)

N.O.I.C. Lagos received a report yesterday that an enemy submarine flotilla with a supply ship are due off the coast of Loanda (Angola) shortly.

S.S. HONOLULAN (Table Bay for Trinidad) was torpedoed today in 8° 41' N. 22° 4' W. 10 survivors of BRITISH YEOMAN Tanker (Curacao for Gibraltar) were landed at St. Vincent C.V. by a Spanish ship today. BRITISH YEOMAN was torpedoed by an Italian submarine on 14/7 in 26° 42' N. 24° 20' W.

War Diary.

22.7.1942  
Wednesday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Mediterranean.

S/M P.44 (10th Flotilla) arrived at Malta today from Gibraltar, the first S/M of 10th Flotilla to return there. Capt. S. 10 is now at Malta.

Blenheims bombed Matruh Harbour last night. A force of 5 Halifaxes, 3 Fortresses and 8 Wellingtons was despatched to attack Tobruk Harbour, but dense cloud prevented the majority from locating their objective. At dusk today Blenheims again bombed Matruh.

C. in C. Med. reported today that MALINES (convoy escort vessel) had been torpedoed by A/C off searched channel, Port Said, and had been beached in the Avant port only just in time. BOSTON sustained damage while assisting MALINES.

N.L.O. Black Sea reports that since 29/6 the following losses have been incurred during air raids on Poti and Novorossisk:-  
One cruiser KOMINTERN and one destroyer damaged, destroyer leader TASHKENT sunk, both floating docks at Novorossisk damaged and temporarily unserviceable.

America and West Indies.

The Admiralty report that the oil requirements for the United Nations cannot be maintained unless something drastic is done without delay to expedite the passage of tanker tonnage on the round voyage from U.K. for Gulf and West Indies. The Admiralty are preparing proposals for expediting the movement of tanker tonnages and meanwhile they have asked the U.S. authorities to try to reduce delays (average  $7\frac{1}{2}$  days) between New York and Hampton Roads.

22.7.1942  
Wednesday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT.

Australia. & New Zealand.

U-boats  
off  
N.S.W.

U.S. WILLIAM DAWES (7176 tons) was sunk by a submarine at 0530 today 15 miles East of Tathra, N.S.W. SS ALLARA was torpedoed at 2100Z today in 33° 3' S. 152° 22' E. but reached Newcastle in tow of H.M.A.S. DOOMBA.

Attack  
on Papua.

Enemy landings took place last night at Gona (15 miles north of Buna). From 2051/21 to 0755Z/22 air attacks were carried out on the enemy; one 8000 to 10,000 ton transport is believed to have been sunk; a landing barge was sunk and other possible damage was caused. Before 0050Z all shipping had left Buna and 2 cruisers and 2 destroyers and a transport were sighted 15 miles from Buna on a northerly course.

War Diary.22.7.1942.  
Wednesday.HOME COMMANDS.Policy.

RORQUAL. F.O.S. 1112/18. RORQUAL is allocated Eastern Fleet but may be required to operate temporarily in Eastern Mediterranean.  
2. She will be required to do one store-carrying trip to Malta on her way.  
(A.C.N.S. (F.) 1304B/22 to F.O.S.)

Movements.

PRINCESSES  
BEATRIX. Intend to sail PRINCESSES BEATRIX at 2000B/24 for Plymouth. E.T.A. 0600B/26. C. in C. Plymouth is requested to sail vessel in accordance with C.C.O.'s 1501B/18.  
(F.O.I.C. Greenock 0734B/22.) *Concur 11/2. See 23/7. 15-684*

QUEEN  
EMMA. Your 1845B/21. Concur. *See p. 620*  
(C. in C. Plymouth 0945B/22 to C.C.O.)  
C. in C. Plymouth 0945/22. Request you will arrange for craft to be sailed as in your 1427/21.  
(C.C.O. 1425B/22 to Capt. L.C.T.)

SEAWOLF. SEAWOLF is to leave Holy Loch 31/7 for Philadelphia via St. Johns Newfoundland.  
(2) SEAWOLF is to be escorted to 10° W thence proceeding on the surface at C.O.'s discretion.  
(F.O.S. 1012B/22 to Capt. S.3.)

CARTHAGE  
BROKE. Admty. 1601/2 and C. in C. W.A. 2146B/19.  
1. Intend to sail CARTHAGE and BROKE to Clyde.  
2. Standard route. E.T.D. Needles 0900/26.  
E.T.A. Greenock 1930/27. Speed 17 knots.  
4. One Hunt Class destroyer will act as additional escort during daylight 26th, parting company and returning to Portsmouth from vicinity of Trevoise Head.  
6. N.O.I.C. Greenock is requested to sail BROKE to Tobermory on completion of escort duties.  
8. If BROKE sails for trials on 24th she will enter Portland on completion and sail from there on 26th to R/V south of Portland Bill.  
(C. in C. Portsmouth 1047B/22 and 1227/23.)

DANAE. Destination of DANAE after unloading at Clyde is Hebburn-on-Tyne.  
(D.O.D. H. 1305B/22.)  
F.O.C.N.A.'s 1514/21. Onward route from (F)  
(G) 051° 02' N 016° 00' W. (H) 54° 59' 10° 03'.  
(J) 55° 35' 07° 00' thence to Clyde.  
(2) After unloading at Clyde DANAE proceed to Hebburn-on-Tyne.  
(C. in C. W.A. 1505B/22 to DANAE.) *See p. 661.*

UNIQUE. My 2120/21/6. Intend to sail UNIQUE for Portsmouth in C.W.110 on 25/7.  
(C. in C. Nore 1404B/22.)

/UPRIGHT...

War Diary.22.7.1942.  
Wednesday.HOME COMMANDS.Movements - Contd.

- UPRIGHT.  
P.511. 1. Regret there is not a S/M immediately available to replace P.45.  
2. Capt. S.9 is to arrange for UPRIGHT to leave Blyth about 28/7 and proceed to Scapa calling at Dundee en route.  
3. As UPRIGHT has only recently completed refitting it would be appreciated if R.A.D. H.F. could arrange number of attacks for UPRIGHT, including firing one torpedo salvo.  
4. Request P.511 may be returned to Rothesay as soon as convenient after arrival of UPRIGHT in order to make good defects. (F.O.S. 1803B/22 to R.A.D. H.F.)
- P.614.  
P.615. (1) From 072° 20' N 015° E proceed on surface at C.O's discretion through:-  
(A) 064° 30' N 005° 29' W.  
(B) 063° 05' N 005° 31' W.  
(C) 089° Muckle Flugga Light 10 miles, thence Lerwick.  
(2) E.T.A. Lerwick P.614 0400B/29, P.615 0900B/29. (Capt. S.9 1815B/22 to P.614, P.615.)
- WELSHMAN. F.O.CN.A's 1630/21. Onward route from (c) through D. 50° 15' N 13° 01' W, then by QZL QI and QZS 301, 184 and 219 to Milford Haven. (C. in C. Plymouth 1857/22 to WELSHMAN.)  
*See P.661 & 668*
- EXMOUTH. Training ship EXMOUTH will be ready for towing to Scapa 25/7. Tugs CAROLINE MOLLER and ST. MELLONS have been detailed for this operation.  
2. F.O.I.C. London is requested to arrange for towage from Tilbury Dock to Tilbury Jetty.  
3. C. in C. Nore is requested to sail EXMOUTH as soon as necessary operations have been completed. (D.O.D.(H.) 1911B/22 to C. in C. Nore.)
- TIGRIS. TIGRIS escorted by WHITE BEAR northbound in Irish Sea during dark hours tonight. (C. in C. W.A. 1914B/22 to HESPERUS, etc.)
- WILTON. My P.C.S. 070° 48' N 000° 30' E, 194°, 12.5 knots. E.T.A. Scapa 1200B/25. (WILTON 2230B/22 to C. in C. H.F.)
- FURY. */N.T.W.3*  
My 1903/22. FURY not now sailing. (C. in C. Rosyth 2231B/22 to WICHITA.)

War Diary.22.7.1942.  
Wednesday.HOME COMMANDS.Operations.Unknown  
Operation.

A.M. 1204/20 and C. in C. H.F 1718/20.  
Request you will sail 4 destroyers to arrive Scapa on 2/8.  
2. They will be required for a period of about 3 weeks.  
(D.O.D. (H.) 1312B/22 to C. in C. Nore.)

Patrols.

My 1509B/19. Weather permitting M.G.Bs are to carry out similar operation tonight.  
C. in C. Portsmouth is requested to signal intended movements of BLEASDALE and FERNIE.  
→(C. in C. Plymouth 1457B/22 to N.O.I.C. Dartmouth.)  
2 M.Ls on patrol 10 miles south of Portland. FERNIE and BLEASDALE patrolling south eastward leaving Gate 2300/22.  
(C. in C. Portsmouth 1517/22 and 1830B/22.)  
→Your 1457/22. M.G.Bs 76 (S.O.) 78, 80 and M.G.B. 74 if engine trials satisfactory this afternoon.  
(N.O.I.C. Dartmouth 1545B/22 to C. in C. Plymouth.)  
FERNIE and BLEASDALE will patrol in the vicinity of 050° 25' N 000° 00' tonight.  
(C. in C. Portsmouth 1527/22.)  
M.Ls 159 S.O., 195 and 118 from Dartmouth Cloak (VI) are to patrol on line between 050° 10' N 003° 17' W and 049° 57' N 003° 29' W from 2300/22 till 0500/23.  
(2) M.Ls 181 S.O. 186 and 259 from Falmouth Cloak (7) are to patrol on line between 049° 55' N 004° 12' W and 049° 55' N 003° 50' W from 2300/22 till 0500/23.  
(3) Object to intercept and destroy E-Boats attempting to attack convoy P.W.190.  
(4) On completion M.Ls return to Base.  
(C. in C. Plymouth 1538B/22.)  
M.Ls 450 and 220 from Ramsgate patrolling between Dumpton and North East Spit buoys E.T.D. 2300 E.T.R. 0530/23.  
(V.A. Dover 1802B/22.)  
3 M.Ls on patrol 20 miles S.E. Eddystone.  
(Capt. S.3. 1829B/22 to RORQUAL.)  
My 1527/22. Destroyers will remain at Spithead at immediate notice owing to weather.  
(C. in C. Portsmouth 2137B/22.)  
→Your 1457B/22 cancelled owing to weather.  
(N.O.I.C. Dartmouth 2155/22 to C. in C. Plymouth.)

Russian  
S/M  
attacked.

My 1551/13 and earlier publications.  
(1) Believed Russian periscope was sighted in usual operational (? zone omitted) of yesterday and attacked by Swedish warship. Though large oil patches are reported and Swedes optimistic, I feel rather sceptic as to the success of attack.  
(2) It appears Swedish Navy has been prevented by Government from attacking U-Boats outside its own territorial limits but is using air force to prevent these S/Ms from surfacing and charging batteries by night.  
(3) It is believed from Finnish sources that second relay of Soviet U-Boats have passed out of Baltic. Graded A.2.  
(N.A. Stockholm 1501/22.)



656

War Diary.22.7.1942.  
Wednesday.HOME COMMANDS.Exercises.

CLEVELAND. C. in C. Plymouth's 1048/22 and 1703B/22. You are to sail at 0845/23 to R/V in 090° Eddystone 3 miles at 1100/23. On completion of exercises proceed to Plymouth.  
(N.O.I.C. Dartmouth 2145/22 to CLEVELAND.)

British Air Activity.

"Knocker". My 2027B/21. "Knocker" cancelled for today.  
(A.C.I.C. 0900B/22.)

A/C for North Russia. Air Ministry's 0930/21. Ambassador is at Kuibyshev. Request reasons for this decision may be communicated to me.  
(Ad. Miles 1004C/22 to Air Ministry.)

"Gearbox". Your 1403Z/15. It is not now intended to carry out the special flight.  
(D.O.D. (H.) 1330B/22 to Gearbox.)

Bombing restrictions. My 1341B/19. Request similar bombing restrictions tonight.  
(C. in C. Plymouth 1459B/22 to H.Q.C.C.)  
My 1459B/22. Operation cancelled tonight owing to weather.  
(C. in C. Plymouth 2144B/22 to H.Q.C.C.)

Bomber Command Operations. On night 21/22, 250 A/C bombed the docks at Duisburg, and 10 A/C laid mines.  
(H.Q.B.C. 1515/22.)

AVENGER 819 Sqdn. C. in C. H.F. 1811/13, AVENGER 0930/14, and my 1917/14.  
819 Squadron is at present operating under Coastal Command. R.A.N.A.S. is requested to arrange that when AVENGER needs a flight of T.B.Rs these may be drawn from 819 Sqdn., instead of 825 Sqdn. as proposed in Admt. 1917B/14.  
(D.N.A.D. 1942B/22 to C. in C. H.F.)

Enemy Air Activity.

Harwich. Felixstowe bombed. BEEHIVE and Felixstowe dock attacked by single enemy aircraft 0055/22. Incendiaries only. Petrol dump and adjacent storage of boom defence set alight causing loss 500 gallons petrol and small quantity reserve stores. (A) (B) (C) (D) nil.  
(F.O.I.C. Harwich 1128B/22.)

Damaged by enemy action Felixstowe Boom Depot 0200/22. Loss estimated £360. Splicers shed. Repairs in hand A.M. 23rd.  
(Works, Shotley 1740B/22.)

/Grimsby...

War Diary.

22.7.1942.  
Wednesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Enemy Air Activity - Contd.

Grimsby attacked. Six bombs were dropped by enemy A/C in shallow water off Grimsby at 1850 today. All exploded but did not cause any damage.  
(F.O. Humber 1914B/22.)

Convoy P.W.190. bombed. Convoy "Cloak" in 50° 14' N 03° 08' W, course 250°, speed 7 knots, is being attacked by unknown number enemy A/C.  
(Escort Guard 2320/22.)

Mining.

Yarmouth. My 1159/18 as amended by 1037/21 (N.T. in W.D.) LL Sweeper escorts detonated Blue magnetic mine at 0712 in position 8 B Light Buoy 189° 3 miles.  
(F.O.I.C. Gt. Yarmouth 0755B/22.)

"Tincture" Request you will repeat operation "Tincture" by 1200/24 in the usual manner.  
(D.M.S. 1136B/22 to F.O.I.C. Milford Haven.)

Thames Estuary. One ground mine detonated by sweeper at 2145/21.  
Details.  
(Capt. M/S Sheerness 1145/22.)

Sweep. Intend to sail POLRUAN, FELIXSTOWE, EASTBOURNE at 0520/23 for Portland sweeping ahead of W.P.190.  
2. You are requested to sail them for Dartmouth at 0800/24 sweeping route "A" to 193° Start Point 6 miles and continuing sweep to Dart Buoy.  
(N.O.I.C. Dartmouth 1225/22 to F.O.I.C. Portland)

Enemy Intelligence.

Submerged identification system. It has been reported that enemy has developed a system of submerged identification by SS/T, similar to that in use between our own S/Ms and surface craft, but using a frequency of about 16 K/cs.  
(1) All British S/Ms use a frequency of 10 K/cs.  
(C. in C. H.F. 1414B/22 to H.F.)

North Russia Military Situation. 1. My 1731/6. Attack on Fisherman's Peninsula has now been postponed owing to difficulties in transport of supplies. Graded A.2.  
2. My 1836/18/6 para two (a). Movement of 5th Mountain Division to Finland has now been deferred to enable it to be reformed in North Germany. It will probably proceed from Stettin to Finland in August and can thus be checked whilst passing Swedish waters. Graded A.2.  
(N.A. Stockholm 1531/22.)

War Office Comment.

Para 1. War Office have no evidence of supply difficulties in connection with projected attack on Fisherman's Peninsula.

/Para 2...

War Diary.22.7.1942.  
Wednesday.HOME COMMANDS.Enemy Intelligence.

North Russia  
Military  
Situation.  
Contd.      Para 2. War Office believe 5th Mountain Division to be already in Finland. In view of high grading of the report they consider there is a possibility that the report may be planted as a cover for an attack on the Kem - Kandalaksha line.

VIRGINIA.      Press reports Danish VIRGINIA 4088 tons mined and damaged July 21st south of Trelleborg.  
(N.A. Stockholm 1541/22.)

U-Boats.

Convoy  
W.S.21P.      A.M. 0131B/22. Further D/F bearings at 0052Z/22 and incomplete bearings at 0615Z/22 tend to confirm possibility that U/B may be in the vicinity of W.S.21P.  
(D.D.I.C. 0930B/22.)

Bear  
Island  
area.      A.M. 1803B/21 para 2. U/B danger is considered to extend well to westward and eastward of Meridian of Bear Island.  
(D.D.I.C. 1550B/22 to MARTIN, WILTON.)

Technical.

Petrol  
in S/MS.      Request early information concerning the maximum quantity of Aviation spirit it is now considered practicable to carry in CLYDE, REGENT and PARTHIAN.  
(A) In special containers.  
(B) In ships fuel tanks.  
(F.O.S. 1056B/22.)

Your 1056 (a) No special container at Gibraltar (b) CLYDE 88 tons REGENT and PARTHIAN 73 tons each. PARTHIAN is however experiencing internal leaks from all oil fuel tanks which at present preclude their use for petrol. Extent of these leaks cannot be determined until her return to Gibraltar. Stowage of 4 gallon tins in number one battery tank or internal is considered an unjustifiable risk and only about 5 tons maximum could be carried in 4 gallon tins in upper deck case.  
(Capt. S.8. 2230B/22 to F.O.S.)

U-Boat  
Bubble-  
Screen  
Tablets.      Information and precautions.  
(A.C.N.S. T. 1329B/22.)  
See Lion Copy.

Casualties and Defects.

Dinghy.      Am over dinghy in 51° 10' N 5° 37' W containing six live men.  
(A/C 3 TMB 0715/22.)

NEVADA II.      Report when L C T 400 and 401 arrive.  
(F.O.I.C. Greenock 1215B/22 to NIMBLE.)

/Jettisoned...

658A

# MOST SECRET

~~1320B/22~~ July  
MOST SECRET MESSAGE Date 22.7.42 OUT

To General "A" Message Home and Abroad 27A,  
Repeated B.A.D. Washington, 373.

WILLPRINT Naval Cypher C

From Admiralty

BASEGRAM

Information graded B.2 shows that some German U-boats are fitted with an apparatus which enables them to eject tablets of a chemical substance which a slight negative buoyancy. These, after a delay and while slowly sinking, will create a bubble screen comparable in size to a submarine target.

2. This screen is likely to become effective astern of a submerged U-boat, which will then probably attempt to keep it between her and the A/S vessel and make off while the latter holds contact with the air bubbles. The bubble screen will fade away after about six minutes.

3. A/S vessels should be on the lookout for such a ruse when in contact with or attacking a U-boat. When in doubt it should be remembered that a second echo with change in pitch should be held even if not so clear as that at closer range.

4. A directing vessel suitably placed should be able to assist by holding the U-boat contact.

5. A further signal will be made if more details become known.

1329B/22  
D.A/S.W. (34)  
Approved by A.C.N.S.(T)

- |                   |               |                 |                |
|-------------------|---------------|-----------------|----------------|
| 1st Lord          | D.N.A.D.      |                 |                |
| 1st S.L.(2)       | D.A/S.W.(4)   | (A/S.W.797/42)  |                |
| Controller        | D.M.S.        | D.S.R.          | Dep.Contr. )   |
| Vice Controller   | C.C.C.(2)     | U.S.N.(3)       | D.N.O. ) Bath  |
| 4th S.L.          | D.N.C.        | F.O.(S)         | D.N.C. )       |
| C.N.A.S.          | D.G.D.        | C.A.O.R.        | D.T.M. )       |
| V.C.N.S.          | Hd. of M.     | D.M.W.D.        | Hd. of S.W.R.) |
| A.C.N.S.(H)       | I.P.(2)       | D.N.L.O.        |                |
| A.C.N.S.(T)       | W.D.          | D.O.D.(H)(2)    |                |
| A.C.N.S.(F)(2)    | Duty Capt.(2) | D.O.D.(F)(2)    |                |
| A.C.N.S.(W)       | D.T.S.D.      | D.P.D.          |                |
| N.A.1st S.L.      | D.D.I.C.(2)   | D.T.M.          |                |
| N.A. Ad, 1st S.L. | on U/B W.     | Admiral Usborne |                |
| D. of P.(2)       | D.T.D.(2)     | Admiral Blake   |                |
| D.N.I.            | Hydrographer  | D.N.O.          |                |
| D.S.D.            | D. of P.(Q)   |                 |                |
| D. of L.D.(2)     | N.I.D.10.     |                 |                |

659

War Diary.22.7.1942.  
Wednesday.HOME COMMANDS.Casualties and Defects-contd.:

- NEVADA II. Jettisoned number one hold. Will attempt salvage  
Contd. when weather permits. Heavy swell, wind west force  
6 increasing. Am proceeding with Salvage Officer  
to Tobermory for (?fuel).  
(NIMBLE 1605B/22 to N.O.I.C. Greenock.)
- PENN Following extract from S.O. Force F's 2017/16  
PATHFINDER. begins:-  
Destroyer boiler-hours on arrival PENN each  
boiler about 600 hours. PATHFINDER one about  
450 hours. Desirable above boilers be cleaned on  
arrival ends.  
(D.O.D. (H.) 1307B/22 to R.A.D. H.F.)
- RYDE. My 1505B/20. Sailing delayed owing to dynamo  
defect.  
(F.O.I.C. London 1524B/22.)
- WICHITA. Your 1916/21. Arrangements can be made for  
WICHITA to be taken in hand forthwith by H.M.  
Dockyard, Rosyth, to make good defects.  
(D.O.D. (H.) 1530B/22 to C. in C. H.F.)

Shipping and Convoys.

- H.X.198H. H.X.198H. Ships for Loch Ewe are to be detached  
at position (U) and proceed independently.  
(C. in C. W.A. 0005B/22 to C.T.U. 24.1.16.)  
My P.C.S. are 055° 34' N 8° 22' W, 085° 10.  
(HESPERUS 1159B/22.)  
E.T.A. Liverpool 0630Z/23.  
(VANESSA 1618Z/22 to N.O.I.C. Liverpool.)
- ERODONA. Your 2203/10.  
1. In view of the importance attaching to the  
safe arrival of ERODONA which has been prepared for  
towage as a hulk without crew it is considered  
prudent to utilise both EMPIRE LARCH and EMPIRE BASCOBEL with  
this vessel. D of S.T's 2309/17 refers.  
(D.S.T. 1109B/22 to A.C.I.C.)
- S.L.115. Ships of 10 knots and over to be detached on  
reaching 050° N escorted by SALISBURY and  
WOLVERINE.  
(2) LONDONDERRY to report name of ships  
proceeding S.L.115 fast.  
(C. in C. W.A. 1113B/22 to Escort S.L.115.)  
Your 1113B/22. In view of your 1413B/20 and medical condition  
of Italian casualties have sent LULWORTH with convoy and retained  
SALISBURY. If not approved ships can change before dark.  
Fast portion 10 ships. EMPIRE PUMA, CITY OF DUNDEE, CITY OF AGRA,  
SVEVE, BRITISH VALOUR, ACARUS, HENRY JASPER, TARIA, NELEUS,  
ST. ESSYLT. At 1225/15 in 31° 50' 27° 33' CRAGPOOL left with  
engine defect and ordered to follow standard route.  
(LONDONDERRY 1435B/22 to C. in C. W.A.)

/W.N. Convoys...

War Diary.22.7.1942.  
Wednesday.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping and Convoys - Contd.

W.N. Convoys. Your 1650/21 approved.  
(C. in C. Rosyth 1224B/22 to N.C.S.O. Loch Ewe.)

North Russian Convoys. S.B.N.O. Archangel's 1717/21 has been repeated to C. in C. H.F. for decision.  
Coaling of Escort Trawlers. After trial of Russian coal at Murmansk it was found advantageous to coal escort trawlers from British merchant ships which is slow progress but worth the better result. Unless oil burner can be substituted presuming inclusion of coal burning A/S trawler is necessary in order to complete escort.  
(S.B.N.O. North Russia 1337B/22 to C. in C. H.F.)

W.S.21. Request you sail ULSTER QUEEN to Barry Roads as requisite to comply with F.O.I.C. Cardiff 1546B/20  
ULSTER QUEEN to Belfast on completion. N.T. 21 W.3  
(F.O.I.C. Belfast 1625B/22 to F.O.I.C. Milford Haven.)

A.M. 2324/18. Route. R/V at 0400Z/29 in position:-  
(a) 270° Oversay 6 miles then (b) 55.20 14.45. (c) 50.35 22.40. (y) 42.10 23.41. (d) 37.55 24.06. (e) 26.12 22.25. (f) 14.16 21.44 (g) 08.38 17.53. thence to Freetown.  
2. Standard route:- (p) 55.32 10.28. (q) 54.29 16.59. (r) 49.12 23.31. (s) 41.52 23.02. (t) 35.11 24.12. (u) 28.23 22.07. (v) 21.08 22.27. (w) 14.24 21.15. (x) 08.38 17.53.  
3. Estimated S of A 12½ knots.  
4. Destroyers referred to in para 5 (c) of above quoted message are to remain with convoy until as near position (y) as fuel will allow. When detached they are to proceed to Gibraltar passing through position (z) 36° 30' N 09° 40' W.  
(D.O.D. H. 1638B/22.)

Reserve Ammunition for North Russia. My 1328B/12. Request information whether ammunition has been shipped.  
(S.B.N.O. Archangel 1633B/22 to C. in C. H.F.)

LLANSTEPHAN CASTLE. My 1546/21 para (1) Request you sail MALCOLM and SWALE in company at 1800B/24.  
(C. in C. W.A. 1745B/22 to F.O.I.C. Milford Haven.)

P.W.190. W.P.190. Leave convoy P.W.190 1st Light and return and join W.P.190 and escort to Portsmouth.  
(C. in C. Plymouth 2257B/22 to CALPE.)

War Diary.22.7.1942.  
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic.

- Force F. Admty. 1620/21 and Admty. 1929/21 and C. in C. W.A. 1605/19. Amend R/V to read 043° 31' N. 024° 02' W. at 2000B/23.  
(C. in C. W.A., 0048B/22 to Capt. (D) 6, NELSON, (R) Admty., C. in C. H.F., F.O.C.N.A.)
- JONQUIL, Your 0002B/21 addressed IBIS.  
HARTINGTON. Shall be one hour late at R/V with merchantman.  
(JONQUIL, 0740A/22 to F.O.C.N.A., (R) Admty. etc.)
- DANAE. My 1514/21. Sailed DANAE a.m.  
(F.O.C.N.A. 0800B/22 to Admty., C. in C. W.A.)  
*See p. 653*
- EMPIRE C.A.M. Ship EMPIRE SHACKLETON did not sail with  
SHACKLETON. H.G. 86.  
(F.O.C.N.A., 0952B/22 to Admty., (R) C. in C. W.A.)
- WELSHMAN. My 1630/21 sailed WELSHMAN.  
(F.O.C.N.A., 1012B/22 to Admty., C. in C. Plymouth)  
*See p. 654 3668*
- Search for My 1603B/20.  
LAVINGTON I shall be glad if you will take over operation  
COURT. of MANSFIELD, GEORGETOWN for purpose of locating  
and salvaging LAVINGTON COURT.  
(C. in C. W.A., 1014B/22 to V.A.C.N.A., (R)  
Admty., MANSFIELD, GEORGETOWN.)  
Search eastward of area reached by GEORGETOWN. GEORGETOWN's  
1801 refers. Report 24 hours before E.T.A. Ponta Delgada  
giving amount of fuel required. Tugs PRUDENT, CHARON~~E~~, escorted  
by RHODODENDRON E.T.A. vicinity 042° 40' N. 025° 20' W. 24/7.  
(?F.O.C.N.A., 1304B/22 to MANSFIELD, (R) GEORGETOWN,  
HAARLEM, PRUDENT, RHODODENDRON, CHARON~~E~~.)  
Your 2307/21. M. of M. agrees GEORGETOWN enters Harbour  
tonight and fuels tomorrow, 23rd, 0800. Admty. inform C. in C.  
W.A.  
(N.A. Lisbon, 1600B/22 to Admty., (R) F.O.C.N.A., N.C.S.O.  
Ponta Delgada.)  
Suggest you carry out curve of search to eastward altering  
course every 2 hours commencing 0600/23. Assume datum position  
042° 38' N. 025° 25' W. speed of drift 1 knot, your initial  
position 043° 40' N. 025° 25' W. speed 15 to 16 knots depending  
on fuel. O.U 45 15/39 refers. Expect further instructions for  
search on 24th.  
(F.O.C.N.A., 1942B/22 to MANSFIELD, (R) GEORGETOWN.)
- NELSON. If not now north of 36° N. alter course to pass  
to eastward of Santa Maria, Azores, thence to Z,  
42° 02' N. 25° 02' W. thence to J.  
(D.O.D.(F), 1020B/22 to NELSON, (R) F.O.C.N.A.  
etc.)

War Diary.22.7.1942.  
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic - Contd.

AUBRETIA. S.O.(I) Freetown please pass to R.A. West Africa your 2029/21, visit in order.  
(N.A. Lisbon, 1049/22 to S.O.(I) Freetown, (R) Admty.) *10.665*

H.G. 86. OUSEL and Tow cannot keep up. Intend to send both back to Gibraltar escorted by LOCH OSKAIG. (STORK, 1115B/22 to F.O.C.N.A.)  
W.D.Note:- OUSEL towing trawler GROUIN DU COU.

VIDETTE. Your 0932/11. VIDETTE is to be sailed as convenient after 16/8 to Sheerness for refit, retubing of boilers and conversion.  
No relief can be made available.  
(A.C.N.S.(F), 1135B/22 to F.O.C.N.A., (R) C. in C. W.A., etc.)  
Sailed VIDETTE as local escort to H.G. 86.  
(F.O.C.N.A., 1802B/22 to Admty., etc.)

Portuguese Rescue Service. Your 1645/21. Have already expressed H.M.G's appreciation of services rendered by Portuguese Destroyer LIMA and also for unsuccessful search by Portuguese Destroyer TEJO for further survivors from TORVANGER.  
2. Am privately informed offer to replace in kind oil consumed by Portuguese Destroyer LIMA would cause offence.  
(N.A. Lisbon, 1200B/22 to Admty., (R) Ponta Delgada.)

Operation "Insect" (see also Mediterranean) *10.669 1670.* Arrival 1030 EAGLE, WESTCOTT, WRESTLER, ITHURIEL, ANTELOPE, 1200 CAIRO, CHARYBDIS, VANSITTART. (F.O.C.N.A., 1218B/22 to Admty.)

U/Bs NELSON. Further D/F bearings at 0908Z, 0924Z and 0944Z indicate at least two U-Boats in area within 100 miles of 36° N. 25° 30' W.  
(D.D.I.C., 1233B/22 to NELSON, Escorts W.S. 21P NEPAL, etc.)  
D/F bearings at 1420Z indicate U-Boat probably still in contact probably with W.S. 21P possibly with NELSON.  
(D.D.I.C., 1908B/22 to Escorts W.S. 21P, NELSON, S. & A N.A., NEPAL.)

O. 24. From 043° 01' 013° 01' proceed on surface at discretion on 26th, diving by day on 27th, and proceed on surface at discretion on 28th so as to pass through P. 036° 49' 010° 59' at 0330B/27 and thence R/V with escort in Q. 010° Cape Spartel 5 miles at 1000B/28.

/Total ...



War Diary.

22.7.1942.  
Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic ~~conf.~~

O. 24.  
(Contd.)  
Total bombing restrictions arranged on 26th and 28th and submerged bombing restrictions arranged on 27th.  
If unable to comply within two hours report P.C.S. (F.O.C.N.A., 1308B/22 to D.S. O.24, (R) Admty., F.O.S., C. in C. Plymouth, Capt. (S) 3.)

AFRICANA. Bilbao reports Italian SS. AFRICANA No. 58 is loading ore. She is not armed.  
(N.A. Madrid, No T.O.O. to Admty., Recd. 1350/22.)  
W.R. Note:- H.Q.C.C. and C. in C. Plymouth have been informed.

Bombing restrictions. Request total bombing restrictions in following areas:

Area	From	Until
G. 26	2300/25	1800/26
G. 27	0900/26	1800/26
G. 17	1100/26	1900/26
G. 16	1100/26	0600/27
G. 13	2300/26	1800/27
G. 14	0500/27	1000/28

All times zone minus 2.  
(F.O.C.N.A., 1438B/22 to Admty., H.Q.C.C., (R) F.O.S.)

RAJPUTANA. Ref. K.R. App. 26, Part 2 (C). Have I power to convene court martial on personnel of H.M.I.S. RAJPUTANA observing she is not included in list A.F.O. 210/42 of ships placed at disposal of Admty?  
(2) Captain has requested trial of 1 Petty Officer and 1 Leading Seaman on charge of inciting to mutiny.  
(3) Ship will be ready to sail tomorrow 23/7 if no trial is held. In any case these ratings will have to be removed.  
(V.A.C.N.A., 1750B/22 to Admty.)  
Reply. Not empowered. (Admty., 1120B/23.)

LEOPARD. R.A.W.A. Force 1709/17 and N.C.S.O. Ponta Delgada 1135/21. Are orders F.S. LEOPARD being (?issued) by Admty?  
(F.O. Gibraltar, 1804B/22 to Admty., (R) R.A.W.A.)

AVILA STAR  
(?) My 1526/17. Portuguese aircraft have located one boat with 22 survivors (ship unknown) 300 miles by Lisbon.  
Ministry of Marine is sending ship for them.  
(N.A. Lisbon, 1826B/22 to S.O.I. Gib, (R) Admty.)

*See b. 694*

P. 43. My 1408/20. Sailed H.M. Sub. P. 43.  
(F.O.C.N.A., 1848B/22 to C. in C. Med., (R) Admty., etc.)

/ S/M ...

664

War Diary.22.7.1942.  
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic - Contd.

S/M aground  
20/7. My 1820/20. Confirmed S/M surfaced close inshore off Montedor light in position already indicated. Grounded at 1420 hours and Catev proceeded north. Grounded again 3 (? miles) further north and finally continued north at low speed on surface leaking oil. Dark colour. A.1. (N.A. Lisbon, 1908B/22 to S.O.I. Gib., (R) Admty.)

SENNEN. P.C. and S. at 2130Z, 035° 57' N. 006° 44' W. 107° 6 knots. E.T.A. 1000Z. Weather. (SENNEN, 2138Z/22 to F.O.C.N.A.)

BRITISH YEOMAN (torpedoed 14/7.) 10 survivors from BRITISH YEOMAN landed at St. Vincent C.V. by Spanish ship CASTILLO ALMENARA. BRITISH YEOMAN torpedoed by Italian S/M 14/7 in 026° 42' N. 024° 20' W. (N.C.S.O. St. Vincent C.V., 2150/22 to Admty.)

South Atlantic.

Raider Report. Following has been incompletely received on 500 k/cs. R R R R de KTXS (portion missed) 8 R 5 2 N (portion missed). T.O.R. 0444Z/22. (Freetown W/T, T.O.R. 0504Z/22.)

Ref. R R R R report timed 0444Z/22. Request name and position of ship holding signal letters KTXS. (R.A.W.A., 0731Z/22 to Admty.)

Following has been read. By Ascension W/T and Slangkop W/T. Enemy raider in position 26° 35' S. 4° 44' (portion of message missed) heave to. (VRYHEID AEROGONIO, 0810 G.M.T./22.)

O.S. 34. No ships are to be detached pending further instructions. (D.T.D., 0937B/22 to Escorts O.S.34, (R) C. in C. W.A., C. in C. S.A., R.A.W.A.)

Overdue Shipping. SAWAHLOENTO due Lourenco Marques 13/7, STEEL VOYAGER and CALIFORNIA due Capetown 14th, all from Bombay, not arrived. (Navyntell Capetown, 1035B/22 to Admty., etc.)

/AUBRETIA ...

665

War Diary.22.7.1942.  
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic - Contd.AUBRETIA,  
COMMANDANT  
DROGOU.AUBRETIA 014° 20' 019° 10' 290° 12 at 2000Z/22.  
F.S. COMMANDANT DROGOU off Freetown 278° (?10).  
(R.A.W.A., 1053Z/22 to Ships in Area "P" of S.A.  
Stn. N. of 8° N., Admty., C. in C. S.A., N.O.I.C.  
Bathurst.)Departure 0730Z/22 AUBRETIA in accordance with your 1531Z/17  
not to C. in C. S.A. and Admty. *See p. 662*  
(N.O.I.C. Bathurst, 1624Z/22 to R.A.W.A.)EMILE  
BAUDOT.Request EMILE BAUDOT be sailed for Durban on  
completion of operations off Capetown.  
(D.A/S.W., 1144B/22 to C. in C. S.A., (R) EMILE  
BAUDOT.)Colliers,  
Mozambique  
Channel.Your 2039B of 22 (requesting repetition of signal  
quoted in Com. i/c Durban's 1617/22.) The  
following is a repetition of my 1302B/20 (begins)  
D. C. in C. E.F. (R) C. in C. S.A., Admty. from  
Com. i/c Durban. Your 1642/16 para. 2 and my1547/18. Lourenco Marques reports following colliers loading  
and dates expected ready, TAYGETOS 20/7, BREVIKEN 21/7, FRAM  
25/7, CAMSANIS 29/7.2. At Durban, ALICE MOLLER ready, HALVDAN p.m./20, SRECA 22nd,  
if repairs completed.3. Propose to sail escorted by JASMINE and SORSRA ships ready  
22nd Durban 23rd Lourenco Marques and to include BUSHWOOD whose  
speed is 7½ knots. 4 ships ready subsequently could be escorted  
by SOBKRA and SOLVRA 29/7. 1302B/20. (Ends.)

(Com. i/c Durban, 1145B/22 to Admty.)

My 1302/20 (circulated under T.O.O. 1504/20.) Lourenco  
Marques now reports amended dates as follows: 1 ship 24th,  
1 ship 29th, 1 ship 1/8. Names will be communicated.

2. The 3 ships at Durban will now all be ready by p.m./24.

3. Propose to sail these ships escorted by JASMINE and SORSRA  
on 25/7 to R/V with 1 ship from Lourenco Marques on 27/7.(Com. i/c Durban, 1617B/22 to D. C. in C. E.F., (R) C. in C.  
S.A., Admty.)Enemy S/Ms  
Loanda.Following from N.O.I.C. Lagos. (Begins). Head  
of M.E.W. Mission here has received (2 groups  
omitted) his agent at Loanda that enemy S/M  
flotilla with supply ship due off coast of  
Loanda shortly. (Ends). T.O.O. 1517Z/21.  
(C. in C. S.A., 1215/22 to Admty.)COMMANDANT  
DUBOC.Admty. 1555B/29/6. Endurance figures for  
COMMANDANT DUBOC (details).  
(R.A.W.A., 1311Z/22 to Admty.)

666

War Diary.22.7.1942.  
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic - Contd.

- W.S. 20. Sailed 21/7. E.T.A. R/V 0800/26.  
(S.S.T.O. Capetown, 1406Z/22, 1421Z/22 as amended 1335Z/23, 1337Z/23.)
- W.S. 21P. Following transports (5) sailed U.K. 17/7.  
Details. Convoy will be joined off Ascension by U.S. Convoy A.S. 4 (9 ships) details.  
(D.S.T., 1450B/22 to R.A.W.A., C. in C. S.A., D. C. in C. E.F.)  
See Lion Copy.
- QUEEN  
ELIZABETH,  
RAMILLIES. Programme.  
(C. in C. S.A., 1541B/22 to Admty., (R) D. C. in C. E.F., R.A.W.A., etc.)  
Cancelled. See 1410B/23.
- CHESHIRE. Your 1433/14.  
Destination for CHESHIRE in U.K. is Belfast and on arrival about 15/8 ship will be taken in hand for refit by Harland and Wolff at that port.  
R.A.W.Af. pass to CHESHIRE on arrival.  
(D.O.D.(F), 1555B/22 to C. in C. S.A., (R) C. in C. W.A., etc.) *See 15.667*
- PHOEBE,  
INDOMITABLE. 1. Desired that PHOEBE should carry out exercises with INDOMITABLE before INDOMITABLE arrives Freetown. INDOMITABLE requested to provide all facilities for PHOEBE to carry out R.D.F. exercises, sleeve (firings?), and fighter direction exercises.  
2. Intend to sail PHOEBE to R/V with INDOMITABLE in position (D) 003° 01' S. 009° 36' W. at 0700Z/26. Approaching course of (? PHOEBE) 141°. Speed about 21 knots.  
(R.A.W.A.F., 1605Z/22 to INDOMITABLE, (R) Admty., C. in C. S.A.)
- ETHIOPIAN,  
BRITTANY. Your 1518/21. Both ships now at Durban.  
BRITTANY completely defects ex trial 24/7.  
ETHIOPIAN ready 26/7 having loaded A.T. boom.  
(C. in C. S.A., 1615B/22 to D. C. in C. E.F., (R) N.O.I.C. Mauritius, Admty., F.O.I.C. E. Af. & Zanzibar, N.O.I.C. Durban.)
- BOREAS,  
THYSVILLE,  
LAFONIA. Departure from Banana BOREAS, THYSVILLE, LAFONIA routed through 002° 08' S. 008° 30' E. S. of A. 10½ knots. E.T.A. (?Lagos) 1403/26.  
(BOREAS, 1701Z/22 to Admty., (R) C. in C. S.A., etc.)

/TEMPLE INN ...

# MOST SECRET

MOST SECRET MESSAGE OUT 1450B/22/July.

To:~ R.A.W.A. 217. IMPORTANT Date 22.7.42.  
 C. in C. South Atlantic, 340.  
 Deputy C. in C. Eastern Fleet, 629.  
 Repeated C. in C. Mediterranean, 628 B 3.  
 F.O.C.N.A. 768.  
 F.O.R.S.C.A. 660.  
 N.O.I.C. Durban.  
 NAVAL CYPHER FLAG OUT and  
 NAVAL CYPHER A.3.

From Admiralty.

Following transports sailed United Kingdom 17th July in Convoy W.S. 21 P.

Code Number	Ship	Speed	Destination	Nos. on board.	Pendant No.
E.1.	EMPRESS OF JAPAN	21	West Africa	75	31
E.2.	DUCHESS OF ATHOLL	17	Middle East	4262	
			West Africa	10	41
E.3.	ORONSAY	18	South Africa	1	
			Middle East	4103	
E.4.	WINDSOR CASTLE	18	West Africa	205	21
			Middle East	4130	
E.5.	DUCHESS OF YORK	18	Middle East	2494	11
			Middle East	4004	32

2. Guns and stores shipped in DUCHESS OF ATHOLL, ORONSAY, WINDSOR CASTLE and DUCHESS OF YORK all for Middle East.

3. All personnel for West Africa are for onward conveyance by air. Four in DUCHESS OF ATHOLL are civilians otherwise all are military personnel.

4. Destination of all above vessels is Middle East They should return from Suez to South Africa where further instructions will be issued.

5. All above vessels will replenish at Capetown.

6. Convoy will be joined off Ascension by U.S. Convoy A.S.4., consisting of the following ships,

Nationality,	Speed	Name	Contents	Destination
(a) United States	16.5	EXHIBITOR	Tanks, explosives	Suez.
(b) Norwegian	15.5	TARN	Tanks, explosives	Suez.
(c) Netherlands	16.	ZAANDAM	Tanks, explosives	Suez.
(d) United States	16.	FAIRPORT	Tanks, explosives	Suez.
(e) United States	18.	HAWAIIAN SHIPPER	Tanks, explosives	Suez.
(f) United States	13.5	SANTA CRUZ	Tanks, explosives.	Suez.

Contd/.....

666<sup>B</sup>

-2-

(g) British 16. EMPIRE ORIOLE Tanks, Sucz.  
explosives  
(h) United States 13.5 NORMACDALE Oil cracking Persian  
plant. Gulf.  
(i) United States 13 AMERICAN Oil cracking Persian  
MANUFACTURER plant. Gulf.

7. SANTA CRUZ, NORMACDALE and AMERICAN MANUFACTURER  
will not proceed with W.S. 21 P. after Capetown. See A.M.  
2104/17 July not to all addressees.

8. R.A. West Africa is requested to inform ORION  
and Commodore of paras. 6 & 7.

9. Commodore of convoy is Commodore, F.A. Marten, R.N.R.  
in EMPRESS OF JAPAN, Vice-Commodore Captain J.C. Brown in  
WINDSOR CASTLE.

10. Addressees pass to S.T.Os. and Military Authorities  
concerned.

1450B/22.

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

1st S.L. (2)

V.C.N.S.

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

A.C.N.S. (T)

N.A. 1st S.L.

Capt. Pim.

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

Hd. of M.

D.D.I.C. (2)

D. of P. (2)

D. of P. (Q)

D.T.D. (3)

D.T.D. (M)

I.P. (2)

W.D.

D.C. (2)

Admiral Blake.

Admiral Bellairs.

D. A/S W.

D. of S.T.

U.S.N. (3) Above has been passed to all addressees.

667

War Diary.22.7.1942.  
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic - Contd.TEMPLE INN,  
CHESHIRE.

CHESHIRE is being sent to take you in tow to Point Noire. She should be with you 24/7. Report your position at 0800/24 but do not otherwise break W/T silence except in emergency. (C. in C. S.A., 1739B/22 to TEMPLE INN.)

Tugs (?JAMES) HUGHES and FLYING KESTREL are to be sailed forthwith to Pointe Noire to take over towing of TEMPLE INN from CHESHIRE. Report E.T.A. Pointe Noire. Further orders will be sent.

(R.A.W.A.F., 1957Z/22 to N.O.I.C. Lagos, (R) C. in C. S.A., CHESHIRE, B.N.L.O. W.A.)

HONOLULAN.

Following has been received Bombay from Simons-town. Pass to SHERBROOKE. Following has been received. S S S de KDSX position 08° 41' N. 22° 04' W. HONOLULAN torpedoed.

(Takoradi Radio, 1800/22, Freetown W/T 1837/22.)  
Re. Admty. Message AF. AAA 08° 41' N. 22° 04' W. at 1837 G.M.T./22.  
(R.A.W.A., 1855Z/22.)

CILICIA.

My 1137/9.

1. It does not now appear necessary for escort from W. Africa to U.K. to be provided for

HIGHLAND MONARCH or any other vessel in near future. My 1300/9 to first two addressees only if therefore cancelled. D. of S.T. is replying separately to S.S.T.O. Freetown's 1232/21 to R.A.W.Af. only.

2. Arrangements have been made for CILICIA to be taken in hand early August.

3. Request your intentions may be signalled and ships anticipated date of arrival at refit port.

(D.O.D.(F), 1852B/22 to R.A.W.A., (R) C. in C. S.A., C. in C. W.A., F.O.I.C. Greenock, F.O.I.C. Liverpool.)

Bissao.

Request Govt. of Portugal may be informed proposed that one of H.M. M.Ls shall visit Bissao for less than 24 hours arriving about

1600 G.M.T./27 with Diplomatic Mail and that I may be informed early if there are any objections to this visit.

(R.A.W.A., 2059Z/22 to N.A. Lisbon, (R) Admty.)

War Diary.22.7.1942  
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean.

Enemy Units attacked. Have attacked enemy merchant vessel and 2 destroyers bombs level estimate no hits. (A/C Call QZ 7 "Duty F" 0130/22 to 201 Gp. H.Q.) P.C. and S. of 1 medium M/V (not exceeding 10,000 tons) 2 destroyers 34.33 N., 22.15 E. 190° 10. (A/C (QZ7) Duty O. 0210C/22 to Air H.Q. Malta.) P.C. and S. of enemy 34.01 N. 22.05 E. 240° unknown. (?Aircraft on Duty D. 0250/22 to 201 Gp.)

WELSHMAN. Personal from 1st Lord and 1st S.L. Prime Minister wishes to be included in congratulations we now send you on having successfully overcome difficulties of passage to and from Malta. Well done. (1st S.L. 0240B/22 to WELSHMAN.) 10.6.42 9.6.42

M.E. Air Report. Bi-weekly Ops. No.40. Night 17/18. 2 Halifaxes 50 Wellingtons bombed shipping and harbour installations Tobruk, 1 ship claimed hit violent explosions and large fires started in dock area,

2 large fires on S. side of harbour and N.E. of town.

Night 18/19. 3 Halifaxes 43 Wellingtons bombed shipping and harbour installations Tobruk, large fire started at petrol depot, several fires between jetties petrol depot, low cloud hampered observation of damage. 5 Wellingtons laid 10 mines in harbour approaches. 5 Albacores bombed M/V Matruh harbour scoring several near misses. 3 Albacores illuminated with flares. Swordfish bombed 1 E-Boat west of Matruh, 1 near miss.

19/7. At dusk 13 Liberators attacked shipping and harbour facilities Tobruk, 3 fires docks area, 1 fire on jetty. 1 Me.109 which attacked was probably destroyed, 1 Liberator missing. 4 Blenheims despatched to attack M/V Matruh failed to locate, 2 bombed jetties, 2 bombed M/T near Matruh results unobserved owing poor visibility. Night 19/20. 2 Halifaxes 3 Fortresses 23 Wellingtons bombed shipping and harbour installations Tobruk, 3 fires, 1 violent explosion dock area, 1 fire south of Harbour, 1 fire in town, 1 Wellington crashed at Wadi Natrun on return 2 of crew killed. 5 Wellingtons laid nine mines Tobruk Harbour, 1 Wellington laid 2 mines Matruh Harbour.

20/7. 5 Beaufighters attacked small tanker 2 schooners, 3 barges with escort 1 Me.109, 1 Cr.42 off Sidi Barrani. 2 barges set on fire, tanker damaged. (C. in C. M.E. 1425/21, Cositrep 457, says schooner damaged, not tanker) 1 Blenheim 5 Hudsons despatched to attack vessel did not locate. A Hudson attacked with depth charges S/M 40 miles N. Port Said, no hits. 1 Maryland missing from sea R/C. Night 20/21. 8 Halifaxes 28 Wellingtons bombed shipping and harbour installations Tobruk, fires and explosions started in dock area, fires on jetty and on 1 ship. 5 Wellingtons laid 10 mines in harbour and approaches. 2 Wellingtons laid 4 mines off Matruh Harbour.

(W.D. Note.- Part 6 missing.)

At dusk 11 Liberators bombed shipping Suda Bay, Crete, fires started on 2 medium ships and 1 pier, near miss on 1 large ship. 4 Liberators attacked Heraklion, bombs falling

/in harbour ...



669

War Diary.22.7.1942  
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean. - contd.

M.E. Air Report - contd. in harbour. My Opsum 39, M/V 6000 tons was attacked at dusk 17/7 by 5 Beauforts off Matruh. 5 torpedoes fired but results unobserved as Beauforts were attacked by 3 Macchi Fighters, two Me.109s, one Me.110 escorting vessel. 4 Beauforts slightly damaged. 12 Albacores bombed ship following night in Matruh Harbour, scoring 4 near misses. Large petrol fire started on shore.  
(H.Q. R.A.F. M.E. 1003/22, 1023/22, 1049/22, 1109/22, 1129/22, 1152/22.)

JERVIS enemy A/C. 2 enemy aircraft bearing 015°. My position 13 miles from PSL (local group)  
(JERVIS 1035/22 to Port Said W/T.)

EXMOOR, enemy A/C. 1 enemy A/C bearing 020° my position 310° 5 miles from RET (Local Group).  
(EXMOOR 1111/22.)

Operation "Garway" Convoy "Cradle". (Troops for Cyprus.) "Garway" Serial 10. Escort CROOME, TETCOTT, HERO and ANTWERP. Exactly as in N.O.I.C. Port Sudan's 1209/15 and 0103/22, E.T.D. 1229/22, E.T.A. Port Said 0658/23, codeword "Cradle".  
(N.O.I.C. Famagusta, Cyprus, 1117C/22 to C. in C. Med. etc.) 10.6.42

P.34. If A/S activity is too great proceed vicinity 034° 30' N. 023° 30' E. keeping south until 0300C/24.  
(S.O. 1 S/M Alex. 1151C/22 to P.34 (R) S/Ms on Patrol etc.)  
My 1259/18 and 1151/22. Patrol in vicinity 34° 10' 23° 30' until 0600/24 then proceed through 35° 34' 23° 20' 36° 50' 21° 24' thence 35° 21' 16° 19' to arrive at last position noon/29.  
(S.O. 1 S.F. Alex. 1744C/22 to P.34 (R) S/Ms on Patrol etc.)

Black Sea. Situation report.  
1. Considerable enemy air R/C activity but fewer bombing attacks.  
2. Since my 1137C/29 following losses have also been incurred during air raids on Poti and Novorossisk: old cruiser KOMINTERN and one destroyer damaged, leader TASHKENT sunk, both floating docks at Novorossisk damaged and temporarily unserviceable.  
(N.L.O. Black Sea 1217C/22 to Admty. Adm. Miles.)

Operation "Insect". 1. 29 Spitfires flown off in 038° 01' N. 003° 05' E. between 0726 and 0847B/21. 1 hour's delay in flying off owing to lack of wind.

670

War Diary.

22.7.1942  
Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean-Conts:-

Operation "Insect" contd. 2. Long range tank of 1 Spitfire failed to operate Pilot killed on baling out, parachute did not appear to open.  
3. Attacked by S/M at 0332B/21 in 037° 48' N. 002° 05' E. 4 heavy underwater explosions, one close.  
4. Force shadowed by Ju.88 during flying off (0830 to 0850B/21) also by Fiat R S (?42) which was damaged and driven off by Hurricanes at 0910B/21.  
(EAGLE 1314B/22 to Admty., F.O.C.N.A.)

Cositrep No.458. (4) Air. Night 20/21. Halifaxes and Wellingtons bombed shipping and harbour installations Tobruk. Fires started on jetty and on one ship. Fires and explosions along water front. Wellingtons also mined Tobruk and Matruh harbours.  
21/7. At dusk Liberators bombed shipping in Buda Bay, Crete. Fires started on two medium ships and on pier. Near miss on one large ship.  
(C. in C. M.E. 1339/22.)

Malta Air Report. I.495 22/7. C.S.R. Malta. 21st, 2 alerts. 1352 hours, 8 Me.109s. R.D.F. gave poor information, enemy intercepted over Malta, one Me.109 probably destroyed by 8 Spitfires.  
2 Spitfires damaged in combat, pilots uninjured 2 other Spitfires up cover to minesweepers. 1557, 3 Me.109s crossed coast, 7 Spitfires up, no interception, insufficient height due to inadequate warning by R.D.F. system.  
Night 21/22. 2 Beaufighters on patrol during all 3 alerts, a special equipment of one failed temporarily. 2310, 4 raiders none crossed Island; 0005, 1 raider approached to within 20 miles of Malta and returned; 0035, 1 Ju.88 approached Malta and was destroyed by Beaufighter 15 miles N.E. of Valetta.  
22nd. 2 alerts. 0610, 3 plus Me.109s crossed coast, 16 Spitfires up, no interception, insufficient height due to totally inadequate warning by R.D.F. 4 other Spitfires up cover to Minesweepers. 0915, 9 plus Me.109s, 3 Ju.88s, Luga bombed, no damage, elsewhere (casualties) Enemy intercepted over sea on way out, 2 Me.109s destroyed by 14 Spitfires, 4 other Spitfires cover to minesweepers, 2 Spitfires missing. Search unsuccessful.  
(H.Q. R.A.F. Malta 1745/22.)

"Rivet" fighter protection. No fighter protection can be given to "Rivet" until ships reach 029° E. It has been impressed on your representative here that fighter protection west of this line must be provided by W.D. who cannot provide unless given sufficient warning to co-ordinate with other commitments. Tomorrow they are fully occupied on land battle.  
(Advance 201 Group 1915C/22 to C. in C. Med. (R) H.Q., R.A.F. M.E., R.A.(D) Med. Advance Air H.Q. W.D.)

/Suda ...

671

War Diary.

22.7.1942  
Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean - contd.

Suda Candia R/C Latest photo R/C Suda and Candia shows 2 small Citta class, 2 medium sized tankers, 1 small tanker, 2 medium sized merchant ships 3 destroyers and some M.T.B.  
(S.O. 1st S.M.F. Alexandria 1949C/22 to S/Ms on Patrol (R) Capt. S.(I))

Situation Report 239. My 1547C/21. 371 rounds fired by cruisers, 60% in target area.  
2. Port Said. MALINES torpedoed by A/C off searched channel and has been beached in the Avant port only just in time.  
3. Turkey. 16 U.S.S.R. seamen landed Ayancik (about 40 miles west of Sinop) having escaped from Sevastopol and are proceeding toward Russian frontier.  
(4) My 1949C/19 para 2. Loss of S/M considered due to Antennae mine. Wreck located in 40 fathoms 1½ miles off Cape Hellas, assumed she was testing Dardanelles loop at the time.  
(5) A/C R/C on 20/7 showed 165 enemy aircraft on Calato and Maritza (49 possibly troop carriers) and on Crete aerodrome 154 aircraft.  
(6) An American pilot on passage from Asmara to Port Sudan reports that at 0340Z/21 in 016° 32' N. 039° 10' E. observed what was undoubtedly a S/M in an inlet, as aircraft approached it headed to sea.  
(7) Malta. 28 Spitfires flew in from EAGLE (one crashed on taking off from carrier). \*First S/M of 10th Flotilla has arrived. Capt.(S) 10 now at Malta.  
(8) Western Desert. M.T.B. from Alexandria carried out a shipping sweep west of Mersa Matruh night of 21st/22nd but found nothing.  
(C. in C. Med. 1957C/22 to Admty.)\*P.44. See p. 651.

Movements Cyprus. Arrival 22/7\* CROOME, \*TETCOTT, \*HERO, BURRA, \*ANTWERP, Tank Landing Craft 115, M.T.Bs 268, 266, 63. Departure \*CROOME, \*TETCOTT, \*HERO, BURRA, \*ANTWERP M.T.Bs 268, 266.  
(N.O.I.C. Famagusta, Cyprus 2104C/22 to Admty., C. in C. Med., S.O.(I) Alex. R.A.(D) Med.)  
*\* 10p: "Gateway" See p. 669)*

Mersa Matruh R/C. P.R.U. Mersa Matruh 1800/22 3 small ships 034 Lido Hotel 3 cables. 3 larger ships 017 No.1 Jetty 1 cable. (2) Make as much casting as possible by daylight, no fighter protection west of 029° E.  
(C. in C. Med. 2108C/22 to F.O.C. (D) Med. (R) No.201 N.C. Group.)

672

War Diary.

22.7.1942  
Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean - contd.

NEREUS  
TRITON  
refits.

Your 1145/17/4 para 2. Greek authorities through N.A. ask that U.K. contracts be placed for certain S/M machinery spares notwithstanding that NEREUS and TRITON without expensive refits will only be fit for training. Has Greek C. in C. now indicated change in his view that condition of vessels would not justify work and expenditure involved? Greek authorities have been informed that in any case spares even in limited numbers could probably not be provided within 12 months from order. (Controller 2308B/22 to C. in C. Med.)

673

War Diary.22.7.1942  
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies.

Persian Gulf Defences. C. in C. East Indies' 0618/4/5. Considered that defences of Persian Gulf against hostile action designed to block Rooka Channel may need strengthening. Hastening action is being taken over provision of R/D.F. set for Straits of Hormuz. Request you remark on above and in particular whether EREBUS or GIORGIOS AVEROFF might profitably be employed there.  
(1st S.L. 0049B/22 to C. in C. E.F.) *Reply. DC. in C.E.F. 1207/27*

BLACKMORE. BLACKMORE due Kilindini about 5/8 and will require H/A firing practice. In view of her (?good) H/A armament suggest that C. in C. Med. might like to exchange her temporarily for a larger destroyer with longer dispersal.  
(D. C. in C. E.F. 0814Z/22 to C. in C. E.F.  
(R) C. in C. Med. Admty.)

Movements. Departure 21/7. WARSPITE, BIRMINGHAM, NORMAN, VAN GALEN, ILLUSTRIOUS, MAURITIUS, NIZAM, FORMIDABLE and INCONSTANT.  
(F.O.I.C. E.A. & Z. 0845Z/22 to Admty. (R) F.O.I.C. Ceylon.)  
Departure 22/7. NAPIER.  
(F.O.E.A. & Z. 0846Z/22 to Admty. (R) F.O. Ceylon, D. C. in C. E.F.)

Staff of C. in C. C. in C. East Indies 0334/10/5. Request appointment of Officer with Military experience to my staff may be made as soon as possible.  
(C. in C. E.F. 1002Z/22 to Admty.)

Enemy Report. H.M.S. GNAT. (1) 17 (18 or 38)Z/20.  
(2) 5450 k/cs. (3) E K I. (4) Vicinity 011° S. 067° E. (5) Simonstown 077° (B)  
Durban 063° (B) Butawayo 081° (B)  
Port Elizabeth 073° (B) Milnerton 074° (B)  
Fremantle 282° (B) Mauritius 057° (B).  
(D. C. in C. E.F. 1227Z/22. and A.E.I. Station  
(R) Admty., C. in C. S.A.)

Madagascar Vichy plane. Ref. W.O. 52735 (M.O.5) 21/7 (Re plane carrying members of enemy Armistice Commission) You are authorized to destroy this plane on land or in the air if you can locate it.  
(G.O.C. in C. E.A. 1520/22 to 121 Force.)

/Ceylon ...

674

War Diary.

22.7.1942  
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies - contd.Ceylon  
movements.

Summary No.8 of 22/7. Ref. summary No.7.

1. SHOREHAM due Bombay 21/7. *arr: - 2. p. 638*  
 2. FALMOUTH due Bombay 23/7. 6. MARGUERITE  
 and LUCIA arrived Colombo 21/7. 7. WILLEM VAN  
 DERZAAN diverted from Male to Bombay due 23/7. Summary No.8.  
 1. SHOREHAM and HINDUSTAN due to leave Bombay about 25/7  
 escorting B.M.26 (5 ships). ✓  
 2. SUTLEJ left Colombo 17/7 escorting TAIPING, arrived Addu  
 Atoll 20/7 sailed 22/7 due Diego Garcia 24/7 thence Seychelles.  
 3. SONAVATI left Colombo 21/7 escorting C.23 (two ships)  
 until dusk 23/7 thence returning Colombo due 25/7.  
 4. BATHURST left Colombo 21/7 to rendezvous APPLELEAF off  
 Cochin and thence escort to Colombo due 24/7.  
 5. INVESTIGATOR left Karachi 19/7 escorting SANTHIA for  
 Persian Gulf through focal area thence returning Karachi.  
 6. WILLEM VAN DERZAAN expected to leave Bombay about 24/7  
 escorting Dutch submarine K.14 to Colombo.  
 7. PUNJAB due to leave Bombay 27/7 escorting ROHNA to Karachi  
 thence escorting B.A.29 (Karachi portion) out of focal area.  
 8. FALMOUTH leaves Bombay 23/7 escorting H.T. SOBIESKI to  
 Karachi thence returning to Bombay.  
 9. COLOMBIA escorting submarines O.19 and K.15 sailed  
 Bombay 20/7 due Colombo 25/7.  
 (F.O. Ceylon 1540Z/22 to Admty. etc.)

Movements.

Departures 22/7. H.M. Ships <sup>\*</sup>QUEEN ELIZABETH,  
 DUNCAN, ARROW, HOTSPUR.  
 (F.O. E. Africa 1544Z/22 to Admty. (R) D. C.  
 in C. E.F. etc.) *See also next page.*

Burma Air  
Report.

A.933 22/7. Intelligence Summary No.129 on  
 information received up to 1800 hours 22/7.  
 Burma. 1. 4 Blenheims attacked Aitug and 3  
 steamers in Akyab area 21/7, near miss on and  
 probable damage to tug moving North in (Arakan?) River, attacks  
 on steamers, bombs missed or results not observed, buildings and  
 Sampans believed damaged by 1 aircraft North Bank of Satyogya  
 Creek, no serviceable shipping Arakan Flotilla workshops.  
 2. 2 Blenheims bombed building and jetty Kyaukpyu and scored  
 direct hit Akyab jail 21/7, no movement other than fishing  
 craft Hunters and Cumbermere Bays.  
 (A.H.Q. India 1616/22.)

GAMBIA,  
STIRLING  
CASTLE.

Your 0741/18 and my 0656/12.  
 1. As FROBISHER'S endurance is insufficient to  
 return from (?090° E) GAMBIA will replace her  
 as escort for STIRLING CASTLE.  
 2. Convoy is expected to leave Mauritius after  
 fuelling and watering 31/7. S. of A. 16½ knots.  
 3. Route through position (R) 024° 20' S. 065° 30' E.  
 S. 030° 30' S. 085° 50' E. T. 032° 15' S. 097° 15' E.  
 thence as directed by A.C.N.B.  
 4. R/V with Neth. Flotilla leader TROMP in about 090° E. on  
 5/8 zigzag signal.  
 (D. C. in C. E.F. 1714Z/22 to Admty., C. in C. E.F. Com 1/c  
 Durban, A.C.N.B. Melbourne, (R) C. in C. S.A. Commodore Gambia)

/U/B ...

675

War Diary.

22.7.1942  
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies - Contd.

U/B.

By D/F at 1934Z/20 probably Japanese U-boat call sign N O M A in approx. position 005° S. 050° E. Frequency used is Japanese U-boat inter-pack wave.

(D. C. in C. E.F. 2007Z/22 to Ships keeping watch on Group V. (R) Admty., A.C.N.B., C. in C. S.A.)

Dispositions. Following is a repetition of C. in C. E.F.'s 1256Z/19 (begins) - S. & A. E.I. Stn., Admty., C. in C. S.A., F.O.R.S.C.A., Cdre Durban from

C. in C. E.F. Movements Summary No.7 19/7. Ref. Summary No.6.

- (5) Neth cruiser HEEMSKERK arrived Kilindini 19th.
- (9) ROYAL SOVEREIGN arrived Kilindini 19th.
- (11) CHITRAL due Aden 21st. *arr: 20/7 - See p. 601*
- (13) NEWCASTLE due Bombay 21st with C.M. 29 B. *arr: 20/7 - See p. 638.*
- and: See p. 576* (19) DRAGON arrived Diego Suarez 19th. Read in 5 columns -
- (1) CALEDON Kilindini 17th, Diego Suarez 19th, escorting SS MONARCH OF BERMUDA. *arr: See p. 576. Left*
- (2) QUEEN ELIZABETH, NAPIER, FOXHOUND, Aden 15th, Kilindini 21st thence Durban and Simonstown. \* *See p. 693.*
- (3) GUARDIAN Kilindini 16th Durban 22nd to refit. *Sailed - See p. 577*
- (4) ENTERPRISE Kilindini 15th Bombay 23rd escorting W.S.19 P.
- (5) CERES Bombay 15th Seychelles 22nd thence Mauritius 25 Simonstown 2/8. *See p. 577*
- (6) SUTLEJ Colombo 17 Addu Atoll escorting V.S.I.S. TAIPING thence Diego Garcia (? and) Seychelles. *See Mauritius 12/8*
- (7) GAMBIA, WORCESTERSHIRE, Colombo (? 13) Mauritius 23 escorting "Schooner" to 020° 19' S. 083° 00' E. *See p. 577*
- (8) CAPETOWN Bombay 14 Khor Kuwait 17 relieves CERES.
- (9) DEVONSHIRE Aden 18 Kilindini approx 24 escorts SS TAKLIWA. *See p. 577*
- (10) SS QUEEN ELIZABETH Suez 19 Capetown approx. 4/8 Blank.
- (11) GRIFFIN Kilindini 19 Mayotte Blank via Dar es Salaam.
- (12) ALBATROSS.
- (13) FOXHOUND Kilindini 21 Mayotta Blank Blank. T.O.O.1256Z/19. (Ends)

(D. C. in C. E.F. 2353Z/22 to S. & A. E.I. Stn.)

War Diary.

22.7.1942.  
Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies.

QUEEN MARY. New York arrival 1020Z/21 QUEEN MARY.  
(N.S.H.Q. 0234Z/22 to Admty. S.B.N.O.W.A.).

A.T.18, A.T.20. Present position regarding British ships for  
N.A.14, N.A.15. A.T.18 and A.T.20 and N.A.14 and N.A.15 is as follows:-

2.(a) A.T.18 will sail New York 6/8, comprising ANDES, ORCADES, BATORY Plus QUEEN OF BERMUDA. QUEEN OF BERMUDA will probably be for Iceland and thence to U.K.

(b) A.T.20 will sail New York 19/8, comprising WINCHESTER CASTLE, STRATHMORE, REINA DEL PACIFICO and 1 other ship to be nominated. REINA DEL PACIFICO will sail U.K. about 7/8 for New York.

(c) N.A.14 sailing Halifax 9/8 will comprise CAPETOWN CASTLE and CAMERONIA. EMPRESS OF CANADA has developed serious engine trouble at Freetown and is having to continue direct to U.K.

(d) N.A.15 sailing Halifax 22/8 will comprise STRATHNAVER, AWATEA, and probably ORMONDE and MOOLTAN.

Total capacity about 14000.  
(D.S.T. 0300B/22 to B.A.D. N.S.H.Q.).

Raider Report. Intercept de NAU, San Juan Puerto Rico Radio.  
Raider attack 9.52 N. 59.14 W. 0425Z/22 (Ends)  
(Valentia Radio 0515/22).

Movement Summary. 1800 G.M.T/22/7.

Ship	Position	Course	Speed.
CROCUS	11° N.	269°	11.
COWSLIP.	53° W.		
ASTURIAS	09½° N.	293°	13..
LARGS	41° W.		
Convoy T.A.17.	51° N. 39° W.	238°	14.
Convoy N.A.13.	46° N. 53½° W.	074°	13½.

(D.O.D.(F) 0922Z/22 to Opnav.(R) Comnav.)

W. I. M. R. I. Amendment Number 216.  
(S.B.N.O.W.A. 1123P/22 to N.C.S.Os etc).

Routeing St.Lawrence. Your 1451/21. It is considered that diversion by W/T to avoid U-Boats is sufficient especially now that one ship recoding table gives a high degree of security and precision.  
(D.T.D. 1153B/22 to N.S.H.Q.).

HUMBOLT. Arrivals, U.S.Seaplane tender HUMBOLT.  
(N.O.I.C.Trinidad 1402Q/22 to S.B.N.O.,W.A.).

CAPETOWN CASTLE. Your 2207/21. From latest information CAPETOWN CASTLE due Panama 31/7. Request you arrange passage through canal and onward be expedited so as to arrive Halifax by 7/8. Request also Master be instructed to have ship ready for embarkation on arrival Halifax.  
(N.S.H.Q. 1453Z/22 to B.A.D.(R) D.S.T.etc).

/A.H.I....



677

War Diary.22.7.1942.  
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America & West Indies - Contd.

A.H.1.

My 1626/13 and Trinidad's 1612/21. Request sailing A.H.1 be deferred not later than 26/6 in order to effect inclusion of CHRISTY PAYNE if this can possibly be arranged by that date.

(N.S.H.Q. 1454Z/22 to C.A.F.A.C.(R) C.C.S.F. N.O.I.C.Trinidad Admty, B.A.D.etc).

Navigation.

Shinnecock light Long Island and Sea Girt Light New Jersey will be temporarily discontinued on 22/7.

(Opnav 1516/22 to Admty.).

ILEX.

Your 1208/20. On completion of refit about 14/8 concur ILEX should have three weeks working up practices and request you will arrange this with necessary authorities.

2. After working up ship should be sailed for Mediterranean via Trinidad, Freetown and the Cape.

(D.O.D.(F) 1548B/22 to B.A.M.R.(R) B.A.D.etc).

REGENT.

Your 2110/21. Concur REGENT should call at Bermuda.

(D.O.D.(F) 1556B/22 to B.A.M.R.(R) S.B.N.O.W.A.).

On passage from Philadelphia to New London. Keep normal W/T watch on Louisberg Broadcast shift to read Rugby G.A. routine. Books held are in accordance with form A 2C para.44 (A) with U.S. - British books in addition.

(B.A.D. 2017Z/22 to REGENT (R) Admty, N.S.H.Q., C.O.A.C.Cmd.S/Ms Atlantic Fleet, S.B.N.O.W.A.).

SAN ELISEO.

My 1012/9.\* SAN ELISEO completion delayed about a month.

(C. in C.A.W.I. 1602Z/22 to C.C.S.F.).

\* Re SAN ELISEO damaged by enemy action undergoing repairs at Barbados).

SAN GASPAR.

My 0812/20. Arrival Tug ROODE ZEE and escort with torpedoed SAN GASPAR in tow. SAN GASPAR severely damaged by fire.

(N.O.I.C. Trinidad 1632Q/22, to C.in C.A.W.I.).

M.Ls for  
Trinidad.

Your 2321/18. Cominch reports 72 and 100 octane fuel will be available at Narsartsuak, near Julianshaab.

(N.S.H.Q. 1644Z/22 to Admty).

U/B Positions.

S/M estimate.

(C. in C.U.S.Fleet 1714Z/22, 1715Z/22, 1716Z/22, 1717Z/22, 1718Z/22.).

/U.S.....

War Diary.

22.7.1942.  
Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies - Contd.

U.S.Salvage at Massawa. My 2259B/14. Procurator General advises early action desirable re cargoes. Request early reply concerning U.S. reactions to my proposals. If U.S.have no objections,intend to adopt same procedure for FRAUENFELS which U.S.salvage unit commenced to salve on 16/7. (Head of M.1746B/22 to B.A.D.).

U./B. Fisherman reports S/M in 046° 38' N. 063° 30' W. at 1400Z/22. (C.O.A.C. 1755Z/22 to Admty.).

Shipping Delays, Cape Cod - Hampton Roads. Your 2245Z/18. Oil requirements for United Nations cannot be maintained unless something drastic is done without delay to expedite passage of tanker tonnage. The aim is to obtain by some means a complete round voyage of tankers from U.K. for the Gulf and West Indies of not more than 70 days.

2. A.M. 1817B/15 was drafted with the idea that this might be achieved by reducing the cycle of coastal convoys and eliminating delays and on the principle that it is quicker in the end to keep ships moving than to run direct fast convoys at infrequent intervals.

3. An analysis of time taken by ships ex O.N.convoys from arrival in New York to sailing from Hampton Roads shows the following figures in days:-

	No.of Ships.	Max. Time	Min.Time	Average.
O.N.101.	4	7	7	7
O.N.(S) 102.	2	6	6	6
O.N.103.	15	14	5	9
O.N.105.	7	8	8	8

It is considered that the average should not exceed 4 days.

4. Proposals for expediting the movement of tanker tonnage will be forwarded very shortly. Meanwhile we shall be grateful if you will raise with U.S.Authorities as a matter of urgency question of reducing delays between New York and Hampton Roads.

(A.C.N.S.(T) 1759B/22 to B.A.D.)

Reply B.A.D. 2121Z/23.

SAN GASPAR (torpedoed 18/7). SAN GASPAR torpedoed 0415Z/18 in approx. 011° N. 060° 20' W. and towed Port of Spain today. Tobago reports 40 survivors landed, Master and some others in hospital. (N.O.I.C.Trinidad 1802Q/22 to Admty.).

A.V.Gs. Your 1939/20.(Hush circulation(N.T.in W.D.)) In order that A.V.Gs may be made operationally efficient at earliest possible date it is important they should be sailed to reach U.K. at earliest date after they are ready to leave U.S.A. They should be sailed in A.T. or trade convoy, whichever is most suitable, the fact that they may be unable to operate aircraft if included in the former being accepted.2. In any case shortage of aircraft makes it probable that some A.V.Gs will have to sail for U.K. without aircraft. (D.O.D.(H) 1820B/22 to B.A.D.).

War Diary.22.7.1942.  
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America & West Indies - Contd.

**PENNYWORT.** Will be ready to sail for Halifax on Monday 27/7. (B.A.M.R. 1840Z/22 to Admty (R) S.B.N.O.W.A.etc).

**S.C.93. Diversions.** Following message has been sent by M. of W.T. to British Merchant Shipping Mission, Washington (Begins):-  
ESEK HOPKINS, MARY LUCKENBACH, PATRICK HENRY, WILLIAM MOULTRIE and GREYLOCK are listed in Signal from N.C. S.O. Sydney as lined up for immediate convoy to U.K. If you have not already done so we trust you will at once order diversion of these ships (Ends). (D.T.D.1910B/22 to N.S.H.Q.).

→ **S/M attack and sighting summary.** Schooner MARIA DA GLORIA shelled and sunk 50.14 N. 39.12 W. 1830Z/5/6. BLUEFIELDS sunk in convoy 1 torpedo 34.46 N. 75.22 W. 2020Z/15. GLACIER later information indicates time of attack as 1545Z/19. BAJA CALIFORNIA sunk 2 torpedoes 25.14 N. 82.27.W. 0345Z/19. TUAPSE later information indicates 4 torpedoes 22.13 N. 86.06 W. 1800Z/4. R.W.GALLAGHER U.28 on C/T. MANAGUA possibly U.45 type. WAITWERA U.45 type. Surface craft attack sound contacts 52.19 N. 38.38 W. 2103Z/6./6. 54.34 N. 23.36 W. 1638Z/13/6. 18.24 N. 74.41 W. 2150Z/19/6. Approx. 35° N. 74.51 W. 2258Z/3. Patrol craft attacks S/M on surface 50.43 N. 3702 W. 1748Z/16/6. M.V.attacks contact 31.05 N. 81° W.1235Z/13. ARIZONA shells periscope at position and time previously reported. Plane attacks possible S/M 09.48 N. 81.15 W. 2210Z/19. Planes attack subs on surface 10.36 N. 60.43 W.1710Z/19. 23.29 N. 81.47 W. 0420Z/22. Planes attack subs 27.35 N. 88.05 W. 1920Z/21 course 285° speed 12. 18.45 N.67° W. 2300Z/21. Planes sight subs 11.06 N. 61.40 W. 1530Z/21. 24.19 N.80.51 W. 1850Z/21. Connav and B.A.D. informed. (C. in C.U.S.Fleet 1946Z/22, to Admty for O.I.C.).

**Personnel Transport.** N.S.H.Q. 2230/21 (N.T. in W.R.) Any arrangements that are agreed between N.S.H.Q. and Admty regarding movements of personnel between Canada and U.K. will be agreeable to U.S.Naval Authorities. (B.A.D. 2059Z/22, to Admty, N.S.H.Q.(R) Cominch).

→ **U./Boat Campaign.** Connav Serial No.22. GEORGE M.LIVANOS Greek sunk by torpedo 20/7 035. 00 S. 151° 00' E. COAST RESTRAINER U.S.sunk by torpedo 21/7 approx. same location. BAJA CALIFORNIA (Hond) Sunk by torpedo 18/7. 025° 00' N. 082° 20' W. SAN SPAR (?GASPAR) British Tanker torpedoed 30 miles area Trinidad 17th or 18/7. burned or being towed Trinidad. No information survivors. MARIA DA GLORIA Portugal Schooner sunk by gunfire 5th, Beachy Head 050° 14' N. 039° 12' W. 8 survivors (corrupt group) lost. BLUE FIELDS (Nic) sunk by torpedo 15/7 in convoy K.S. 520. 034° 46' N. 075° 22' W. WILLIAM C BRYANT U.S. 7176 gross tons damaged by internal explosion 10th (?/7) 24.08 N. 82.23.W. (Connav 2101/22 to Connaveu).

/MITIDJA.....

War Diary.22.7.1942.  
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies - Contd.MITIDJA,  
suspect.

SS. MITIDJA carrying 500 tons Cobalt for Germany reliably reported to be leaving Nemours, Algeria, today 22/7 probably for Marseilles.  
(B.A.D. 2125Z/22 to Admty. (R) F.O.C.N.A., C. in C. Med. S.O. Force H.) *22 p. 682*

Australia and New Zealand.COAST  
FARMER.

COAST FARMER (3290 tons) sunk by a S/M 1600Z/20. 168° 25 miles from Point Perpendicular, survivors landed at Jervis Bay, 1 man missing.  
(A.C.N.B. 0356Z/22 to Admty. C.O.I.S. Kilindini, C. in C.E.F., N.Z.N.B., B.A.D. ) COAST FARMER American 3290 tons. Brisbane for Melbourne.

BOMBAY  
defect.

BOMBAY due Fremantle 24/7 reports A/S dome broken, oscillator lost. (? Necessary to) sail her (? for) India in this condition as delay of 3 weeks is involved if ship returns to nearest dock at Adelaide for repair.  
(A.C.N.B. 0729Z/22 to F.O.C.R.I.N. (R) F.O. Ceylon, D. C. in C.E.F. Cdre. Western Australia, BOMBAY).

WILLIAM  
DAWES  
(sunk).

U.S. vessel WILLIAM DAW(?ES) was sunk by S/M 0530/22 15 miles east of Tathra (N.S.W. coast). 4 of crew killed and 3 injured. Latter and (? remaining), members of ships complement landed Merim(?b)ula.  
(A.C.N.B. 1126Z/22 to Admty. C.O.I.S. Kilindini, C. in C.E.F. N.Z.N.B. B.A.D.)

Dispositions. Main Naval Units S.W. Pacific area 21/7.  
Brisbane. ALSEY, ATREUS, U.S.S. TULSA, U.S.S. GRIFFIN  
Departures Brisbane 14/7, AUSTRALIA, CANBERRA,  
HOBART, US.Ss. CHICAGO, SALT LAKE CITY, JARVIS, PATTERSON, RALPH  
TALBOT, and 17/7 U.S.S. BAGLEY for Wellington.  
Sydney (N.S.W.) U.S.S. DOBBIN, CHEVREUIL, Free French Ship  
CAP DES PALMES. Repairing. ARUNTA, U.S.S. VICTORIA, F.S. LE  
TRIOMPHANT. Departure Sydney (N.S.W.) 15/7 U.S.S. SELFRIDGE  
(?CHARLESTON) MUGFORD for Wellington, ✓  
20/7 ADELAIDE for Fremantle. STUART for A/S patrol.  
Departure Grafton Passage 21/7, BUNGAREE for Port Moresby.  
Melbourne, repairing. VENDETTA, U.S.S. GOLDSTAR.  
Departure Melbourne 14/7 U.S.S. BLUE for Wellington. 17/7 U.S.S.  
HELM for Auckland. 18/7 U.S.S. PELIAS for Albany. Fremantle,  
VOYAGER, WESTRALIA, MANOORA. U.S.S. CHILDS, W.B. PRESTON, OTUS,  
LANAKIA, ERLING BROVIG, TRINITY. Departure Fremantle 20/7, N.S.  
TROMP for escort duty and return. Departure Albany 20/7, U.S.S.  
HOLLAND for Fremantle. Exmouth Gulf. U.S.S. HERON. On escort  
duties Indian Ocean. KANIMBLA, U.S.S. PHOENIX.  
(A.C.N.B. 1259Z/22 to A.I.G. 114 etc.).

/Weekly...

681

War Diary.22.7.1942.  
Wednesday.U/BOAT CAMPAIGN.Submarines Attacked.Weekly  
Summary

Proposed to make a weekly signal informing you of interesting and promising attacks on U-Boats in areas under British Control. Only up to date information will be signalled, and some reports which are received in Admty after a delay of some days will not be included. In general, results of attacks will be based on signalled evidence only and will therefore not have been before Admty Assessment Committee.

U.751 - Following is information for week ending Monday 20/7, which has been unusually good:- Successive attacks by Whitley and Lancaster aircraft sank a German U-Boat in Bay of Biscay. Survivors were photographed in water after last attack at 1422B/17. An Italian U-Boat was sunk by surface and aircraft near Beirut at 1700/11. Italian U-Boat CALVI was sunk by Convoy Escort forces N.W. of Canary Islands at 0038B/15. Convoy escort reports probable damage to U-Boat S.W. of Canaries at 0430B/14. There have been 2 other promising A/C attacks in the Bay of Biscay, 1 by night using a searchlight at 0100B/13, and the other by day at 1620B/15. A/C attacks were made with shallow set depth charges.  
(D.A./S.W. Approved A.C.N.S.(T) 1059B/22 to Cominch (R) B.A.D.).

Submarines Reported.

Approximate U/Boat positions.  
(D.D.I.C. 1447B/22, 1448B/22).

682

War Diary.23.7.1942.  
Thursday.SITUATION REPORT.North Atlantic.

French SS MITIDJA is reported to have left Nemours yesterday with a cargo of cobalt for Germany. P.222 was ordered to patrol on her route within 30 miles of Cape Palos. The ship is to be intercepted outside Spanish Territorial waters. Air search was employed. 1.680.

FOLKESTONE has picked up 23 survivors of SS. SHAFTESBURY in 28° 15' N. 22° 15' W. The ship, which had dispersed from Convoy O.S.33. was torpedoed.

South Atlantic.

A U-Boat was in approx. 5° N. 14½° W at about 1730 today.

SS.GARMOLA which left Table Bay on 8/7 for Freetown and U.K. was sunk at 1730Z in 5.30. N. 14.45 W., with considerable loss of life. R.A.W.A. states that position indicates this cannot be the same S/M that sank HONOLULAN.

Mediterranean.

Captain (S) 10 has resumed operational control of the 10th S/M Flotilla at Malta.

Last night 5 Halifaxes and 27 Wellington bombed shipping and harbour installations at Tobruk and claimed hits on 2 ships, and on a jetty; large fires were started in the dock area and on the south side of the harbour. Wellingtons also mined harbour. At dusk today Liberators bombed shipping at Benghazi and a direct hit started a fire on a large ship.

Last night, R.A.(D) in DIDO with EURYALUS and 8 destroyers carried out a bombardment of Mersa Matruh. Owing to low cloud and the failure of flare dropping, the operation was abandoned after 2 salvos had been fired.

/C. in C.Med.....

683

War Diary.23.7.1942.  
Thursday.SITUATION REPORT.Mediterranean - Contd.

C. in C.Med. reports that U/B sunk by PROTEA, SOUTHERN MAID, and Walrus A/C on 11/7 was ONDINA, which left Leros night of 2-3/7 on her month war patrol. Five officers and 34 ratings were picked up.

Operation "Garway" move of troops to and from Cyprus, by ANTWERP and PRINCESS MARGUERITE, was completed without incident today.

East Indies.

The following two ships are overdue on routes passing through the Mozambique Channel and are presumed lost:-

QUEEN VICTORIA, Table Bay, 21/6 for Aden.

NYMPHE., Lourenco Marques 1/7 for Aden.

The following three ships are also overdue in the Indian Ocean:-

INDRA, Calcutta 27/6 for Aden (Presumed lost).

STEEL VOYAGER } Bombay for Capetown due 14/7.  
CALIFORNIA }

As the R.A.F. owing to delays in constructing new aerodromes, must retain use of Katukurunda until end of August instead of July 15, full facilities for 3 squadrons disembarked will not be completed until end of September and for 6 squadrons end of October.

America & West Indies.

At 1145 WANDERER sighted a submarine on the surface in fog in 41° 3' N. 66° 24' W. An hour later she reported that the submarine was seen turning in circles and was possibly damaged by charges from throwers.

Australia.

8 Air attacks were made by Allied aircraft today on shipping and shore installations in the Buna-Gona Area. A 5,000 ton vessel was set on fire by a direct hit. 25 landing barges were observed at Buna and 20 at Gona.

SS. MURADA was unsuccessfully attacked by U-Boat at 2346Z today in 31° 50' S. 153° E. (Off New South Wales).

War Diary.23.7.1942.  
Thursday.HOME COMMANDS.Policy.

North Atlantic Dispositions. Area N.Russia. 2 Destroyers; Area Iceland (C), RENOWN, LONDON, CUMBERLAND, 3 Destroyers; Area Scapa, DUKE OF YORK, ANSON, VICTORIOUS, DELHI, HAWKINS, KENYA, MANCHESTER, NORFOLK, 2 Destroyers 2 Destroyers (U.S.); Area Clyde. ARGUS, FURIOUS; Area Rosyth, TUSCALOOSA, WICHITA, 2 Destroyers (U.S.); Area Gibraltar, EAGLE, CHARYBDIS; Passage to S.Atlantic ORION, 2 Destroyers; Passage to Scapa, NELSON, RODNEY, 6 Destroyers.  
(D.O.D.(H) 1049Z/23 to C. in C.U.S.Fleet).

Flag of C.S.10. The Flag of C.S. 10 is to be transferred to KENYA at 0800 tomorrow.  
(C. in C.H.F. 1325/23).

Movements.

PRINSESS BEATRIX. CANTON. <sup>/p.620</sup> Cancel my 0734B/22. Understand Diesel engines of PRINSESS BEATRIX do not permit ship to proceed in convoy at slow speed (C. in C. Plymouth's 1819B/22 refers). Intend therefore to sail PRINSESS BEATRIX at 2000B/24 direct for Portsmouth to comply with C.C.O's 1501B/18. E.T.A. 0600B/26.  
(F.O.I.C.Greenock 0034B/23).  
DOUGLAS is available to escort CANTON and PRINSESS BEATRIX to Portsmouth. Request you will sail ships as convenient.  
(C. in C.W.A. 1154B/23 to F.O.I.C.Greenock).  
Cancel my 1141B/23. <sup>NOT W.D.</sup>  
(C. in C. Plymouth 1555B/23).  
Cancel my 0034B/23. Intend to sail in company at 0300B/25 CANTON for Southampton and PRINSESS BEATRIX for Portsmouth escorted by DOUGLAS routed via QZS 293 and 284. E.T.A. Needles 1130B/26.  
(F.O.I.C.Greenock 1614B/23)  
DOUGLAS leaving Scapa 2120 to Minches. <sup>S p.688.</sup>  
(A.C.O.S. 2005B/23).

EMERALD. Intend sailing EMERALD escorted by BROCKLESBY a.m. tomorrow to arrive Western end QZX 766 at 1200/24. Can you join a destroyer on so as to increase A/A escort.  
(C. in C. Plymouth 1525B/23 to C. in C. Portsmouth).  
C. in C. Plymouth 1525B/23. CALPE is to be sailed to R/V with EMERALD and BROCKLESBY in 145° Start 8 miles at 0830/24 and act as additional escort to Portsmouth.  
(C. in C. Portsmouth 1743/23 to N.O.I.C.Portland.).

BLYSKAWICA. Intend following working-up programme for BLYSKAWICA.  
(Capt.D.Greenock 1554B/23).

SHEFFIELD. After unbasining a.m. tomorrow proceed by searched channel to Scapa adjusting your speed so as to arrive before dark.  
(C. in C.Rosyth 1629B/23 to SHEFFIELD).

/MARTIN.....



685

War Diary.23.7.1942.  
Thursday.HOME COMMANDS.Movements - Contd.MARTIN, MARNE  
BLANKNEY,  
MIDDLETON.

After disembarking personnel, ammunitions, and stores at Murmansk and Archangel, MARTIN, MARNE, BLANKNEY and MIDDLETON are available to act under your orders.  
(C. in C.H.F. 1818B/23 to S.B.N.O. North Russia).

FURIOUS.

Propose sailing for Scapa Flow on completion of night flying a.m./26th. Request escort ~~day~~ R/V off Ailsa Craig at 0930/26. E.T.A. Hoxa Gate 0530/27.

(FURIOUS 1831B/23 to F.O.I.C. Greenock).

Arriving Scapa Flow for gunnery exercises p.m./27th.  
(FURIOUS 2141B/23).

FURIOUS 1831/23. Request you detail necessary escort.  
(N.O.I.C. Greenock 2244B/23 to C. in C.W.A.).

WISHART.

On completion of refit request you will sail WISHART so as to arrive Clyde not later than p.m./1/8.  
(D.O.D.(H) 1847B/23 to N.O.I.C. Newport).

WILTON.

Your 1841B/23. Estimated position WILTON at 1600B/24, 062° 30' N. 004° W.  
(A.C.O.S. 2258B/23 to C. in C. Rosyth.)

Operations.MARIE LOUISE  
MACKAY.  
(Cable-  
laying).

MACKAY sheltering Ballinskelligs Bay. Escort lying off. R/V 0800 or 1800 5 miles north Great Skellig when weather suitable.  
(M.L. MACKAY 1240/23 to F.O.I.C. Milford Haven).

Patrols.

2 Destroyers patrolling to South Eastwards.  
2 M.Ls on patrol 10 miles south of Portland.  
(C. in C. Portsmouth 1547B/23).

Tonight BLENCATHRA and ATHERSTONE will patrol in vicinity of 50° 25' N. 00° 00' W.

(C. in C. Portsmouth 1607B/23).

2 Chasseurs and 1 A/S trawler on patrol south of E.A. 5 buoy.  
(C. in C. Portsmouth 2137B/23).

Exercises.UPRIGHT  
Exercise  
attacks.

Your 1803B/22 para. III. Shall be glad to give every assistance possible.  
(R.A.D. 0949B/23 to F.O.S.).

/Tactical....

686

23.7.1942.  
Thursday.War Diary.HOME COMMANDS.Exercises - Contd.Tactical  
Exercise.Circumstances permitting request that when  
DUKE OF YORK proceeds Hvalfjord she may  
participate in tactical exercises to  
exercise cruisers on patrol "White."2. Zero hour on arrival day 0900Z when it is requested DUKE OF  
YORK be 45 to 55 miles and between 080° and 180° from position  
F. (062° 52' N. 025° 30' W.)  
(F.O.C.S.1.1515B/23 to C. in C.H.F.).

DELHI.

Admiralty 1744/16. DELHI additional low-angle  
practices completed a.m./22nd. Data required  
by EXCELLENT's 1732/15, obtained.  
(DELHI 1723B/22).Exercise  
"Stone."Portsmouth No.0241/2 of 18/7/1942 (submission  
number 4101 to Admiralty).  
Exercise "Stone" has been postponed for about  
14 days.  
(C. in C. Portsmouth 1827B/23 to Admty).British Air Operations.

"Knocker."

Operations cancelled today.  
(A.C.I.C. 1701B/23).Enemy Air Activity.(?) SANNAEOAGE. Crew of Faeroese Schooner (?SANNAEOAGE) reported  
sunk. their ship was attacked by 4 engined aircraft  
thought to be Blohm and Voss in approx. 40 miles  
N. of Kadlur Light. 2 bombs dropped, near missed, and cannon  
attack. Vessel sank after about 2 hours. Crew abandoned ship in  
life boats and arrived at Fugo Fiord 0200/23. No casualties.  
(N.O.I.C.Faroes 1632B/23).Mining.FLOWER OF THE  
FOREST. Sunk.Crew Faeroese Smack FLOWER OF THE FOREST arrived  
Thorshavn and reported their ship damaged by small  
underwater explosion at 1800/20 about (214?) miles  
West of Sumbo. Vessel sank after 20 minutes.Skipper states he was following route given to him at Seidisfiord  
from a position 5 miles off the coast 014° 30' W. 059° N. 007° 10' W,  
047° North Rona to Scrabster. No evidence air or U-Boat attack.  
No casualties.  
(N.O.I.C.Faroes 1251B/23 to A.C.O.S).

Thames Estuary.

Two ground mines detonated by Sweepers at 1632/22.  
Details.  
(Capt.M/S Sheerness 1410/23).

/New.....

687

War Diary.23.7.1942.  
Thursday.HOME COMMANDS.Mining- conts:-

New Italian Mine. A.G.M. A.M.9A of 18/7. Examination of parts of new type small Italian mine recovered at Gibraltar suggests following operation:- Mine is taken under vessel at anchor by diver probably in D.S.E.A. diver then turns cock and air flask in mine inflates rubber belt holding it against ship's bottom by flotation. After soluble plug delay of perhaps two hours the mine is detonated by hydrostatic switch. If mine surfaces at any time another hydrostatic switch explodes it at 10 feet or less. The explosive charge is about five pounds.  
(D.T.M. 1947B/23).

Enemy Intelligence.

German Warships. Following reported on 14/7. (a) At Dantzig. "Nurnberg" Class cruiser and KÖLN. (B) At Gdynia. A. Battle-cruiser, SCHLESWIG-HOLSTEIN, and GRAF ZEPPELIN. Latter had engineers working in engine rooms. Graded B.3.  
(N.A. Stockholm 1549/23).  
O.I.C. Comment (0925/24) (a) KÖLN was at Trondheim on 14/7. This report may, however, refer to LEIPZIG and EMDEN.  
(b) The old battleship SCHLESIEN and the aircraft carrier GRAF ZEPPELIN are considered to have been at Gdynia on 14/7.

U-Boats.

U-Boat attacked. One S/M bearing 340°, distant 8 miles, course 210° My position 61° 45' N. 16° 18' W.  
(A/C 6 TFF 0940/23).  
My 0940. Have attacked enemy with depth charges and estimate one hit.  
(A/C. 6TFF 0945/23).

U-Boats reported. D/F bearings at 1409Z/23 indicate at least one U-Boat still in your vicinity.  
(D.D.I.C. 1800B/23 to Escorts U.R.33).

Navigational.

Ice. Jan Mayen free from ice for last 7 days.  
(A.C.I.C. 01305B/23).

Casualties & Defects.

Barges adrift. Trawler DHOON has returned to Tilbury. Her two barges numbers CCF 400 and 408 are reported adrift in the Downs.  
Tug is being sent from Dover to attempt salvage.  
(V.A. Dover 0716B/23).

PENN PATHFINDER. Your 1307B/22. PENN will be boiler cleaned on arrival. PATHFINDER will be taken in hand if time permits.  
(R.A.D.H.F. 0947B/23 to Admty).

/DOUGLAS.....

688

War Diary.23.7.1942.  
Thursday.HOME COMMANDS.Casualties & Defects. - Contd.

- DOUGLAS. On conclusion of Board of Inquiry proceed to Londonderry.  
(R.A.D.H.F. 1002B/23 to DOUGLAS).  
Your 2238/22. Request DOUGLAS may be sailed to Greenock (C. in C.W.A. 1156B/23 to R.A.D.).  
My 1002B/23. For Londonderry read Greenock. (R.A.D.H.F. 1318B/23 to DOUGLAS).  
Sailed DOUGLAS for Greenock. E.T.A. 1800B/24. *S. p. 684.*  
(R.A.D. 2112B/23).
- WELSHMAN. F.O.C.N.A. 1816/21.  
1.WELSHMAN can be taken in hand at Newcastle on Tyne.  
2.F.O.I.C. Milford Haven is requested to sail WELSHMAN for Tyne as convenient.  
(D.D.O.D.(M) 1124B/23).
- Dinghy. Keep a look-out for Dinghy with 6 men sighted by A/C 0734/22. 051° 13' N. 005° 32' W.  
2. Auxiliary Patrol trawlers and aircraft searching.  
(C. in C. Plymouth 1135/23 to Escort W.P.191.)  
My 1135/23. Dinghy has been picked up.  
(C. in C. Plymouth 1441B/23).
- MACKAY. Inability to close main port ahead manoeuvring-valve at sea in MACKAY on 22/7 revealed on subsequent examination a.m./23/7 that broken one-inch steel stud had become lodged on valve seating. Consider stud was left or placed in valve box on closing up after repairs completed by Chatham Dockyard in early July. Defective valve and seating have been despatched to Chatham Dockyard for repair today accompanied by steel stud.  
(Capt.D.16. 1248B/23).
- PUCKERIDGE. Request you will report anticipated date of completion of defects in PUCKERIDGE and sail the ship for Scapa as soon as ready.  
(D.O.D.(H) 1842B/23 to C. in C. Plymouth).
- MONKSHOOD. Completion date MONKSHOOD delayed until 7/8 owing to shortage of labour.  
(F.O.Humber 1846B/23).
- HARRIER. My 1156B/22. Sailing delayed by Gyro defect.  
(F.O.Humber 2243B/23 to R.A.D.).

689

War Diary.23.7.1942.  
Thursday.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping & Convoys.

- W.P.M.191. My 1051B/22. DAFFODIL and IRIS will not sail with WPM 191 owing to weather.  
(F.O.I.C.Milford Haven 0621B/23.)
- P.W.190 My 2029/22 and 2219/22. Convoy P.W.190 delayed due to weather. Sail as ordered and proceed independently to destination.  
PWF.190. My 1224/22. Postponed.  
(C. in C.Plymouth 0637B/23 to QUIBERON).  
Convoy will sail at 0600/24 plus escorts and ships of PW.190 which are entering Falmouth for night in view of weather deterioration.  
(F.O.I.C.Falmouth 1832B/23 to C. in C.Plymouth).
- W.S.21. Admiralty 1638/22. Convoy W.S.21.  
1130Z/28 Bar L.V. R/V Clyde section 0400Z/29.  
270° Oversay 6 miles. Commodore's R/V.  
Noon G.M.T./29th 055° 34' N. 009° 19' W. Noon G.M.T./30th  
053° 56' N. 016° 57' W. E.T.A. Freetown 10/8.  
(N.C.S.O.Mersey 1015Z/23 to N.C.S.O.Clyde).
- E.N. Programme of E.N.Convoy sailings.  
Convoys. (E.N. 18 to 30 inclusive)  
(C. in C. Rosyth,1105B/23).
- R.U.33. \* NARCISSUS from Greenock and SALADIN, SABRE, SKATE, and ABELIA from Londonderry are to R/V off Moville at 0700B/24 as arranged by Commodore Londonderry and proceed in company to Reykjavik. These ships are required to re-inforce escort to R.U.33. Request they may be sailed accordingly.  
(C. in C.W.A. 1145B/23).  
Cancel my 1145/23.  
SALADIN, SABRE, SKATE and ABELIA are not to sail till further orders.  
(C. in C.W.A. 1945B/23 to Cdre.Londonderry).  
*\* See next page.*
- O.S.35. Lost sight of convoy O.S.35 Clyde.  
(DUKE OF SPARTA 1330/23 to N.O.I.C.Greenock).
- LLANSTEPHAN Your 1546/21 para. 3. Destination of LLANSTEPHAN  
CASTLE. CASTLE on arrival in U.K. is Clyde.  
(D.O.D.(H) 1537B/23 to C. in C.W.A.).
- Stationing of Unless other considerations render it inadvisable,  
C.A.M.Ships. C.A.M.Ships and D/F guards should be stationed not less than 6 cables apart, as the C.A.M.Ships' R.D.F may interfere with D/F reception.  
(Admty.1630B/23).

/P.Q. Convoys...

War Diary.23.7.1942.  
Thursday.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping & Convoys - Contd.

- P.Q.Convoys. 1. Next Rescue Ships to proceed with P.Q.Convoys  
Rescue-Ships. are required to be available on 1st September  
and two vessels have been allocated for this  
sailing. Unlikely that RATHLIN and ZAMALEK will  
arrive in U.K. before mid September. COPELAND now  
on homeward voyage.
2. Suggest COPELAND and TOWARD should be used on Halifax or  
Gibraltar routes. If there is not sufficient time for a round  
voyage and providing that escort arrangements can be made no  
objection to voyage to Reykjavik.  
(D.T.D.1649B/23 to F.O.I.C.Greenock).
- Novaya Zemlya, Request any information available from Russian  
anchorage. sources, of anchorages suitable for fuelling or  
refuge in emergency on west coast of Novaya Zemlya  
north of Gusini Nos.  
(C. in C.H.F. 1717B/23 to S.B.N.O. North Russia).
- KIM. Russians report Soviet Merchant Ship KIM sailed  
Petrovavlovsk 17/7 for U.S.A.  
(Ad.Miles 1836C/23).
- Identification A.G.M. 779A/6/6 and 844A/17/6. Identification  
Signals. signals from S.P.02296M are to be given to all  
merchant ships sailing in convoy for use in case  
of separation as well as to ships routed  
independently.  
(D.T.D. 1836B/23).
- D.S.30.A. My 1024B/21. Sailed. Routed as in C. in C.W.A.  
1014B/21. E.T.A. 0900B/26.  
Secret positions:- SKUNK 060° 50' N. 011° 15' W.  
SPANIEL 061° 30' N. 026° 30' W. TURTLE. 063° 20' N. 014° 40' W.  
(N.O.I.C.Greenock 2056B/23).
- U.R.33. Admlty 1800B/23. SHIKARI and SARDONYX have been  
sent to reinforce escort to U.R.33.  
(A.C.I.C. 2131B/23 to C. in C.W.A.).
- O.S.35. Sailed NARCISSUS to join O.S.35 in accordance with  
C. in C.W.A. 1848B/23. *NT in 23.*  
(F.O.I.C.Greenock 2318B/23). *See Maritime page*
- BELOMORCANAL. Russian Merchant Ships BELOMORCANAL and  
FRIEDERICH ENGELS arrived from U.S. have received  
ENGELS. orders from Shipping Company to replenish  
bunkers at Reykjavik and proceed to Dickon via  
(? Cape) Dgelama when icebreakers will meet them. Request  
instructions when they are to be sailed.  
(A.C.I.C. 2356B/23 to Admty.).

War Diary.23.7.1942.  
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic.

RAJPUTANA. Your 1750/22. Do not sail RAJPUTANA. Further signal will be made.  
(A.C.N.S. (F.) 0030B/23 to F.O.C.N.A.)  
Your 1750/22 you are not empowered to convene Court-Martial.  
(Head of N.L. 1120B/23 to V.A.C.N.A.)

BRITISH YEOMAN (torpedoed 14/7.) Following received from N.C.S.O. St. Vincent (Cape Verde Is.) (Begins) 10 survivors from BRITISH YEOMAN landed St. Vincent, Cape Verde Is. by Spanish ship CASTILLO ALMENARA. BRITISH YEOMAN torpedoed by Italian S/M 14/7 in 026° 42' N 024° 20' W T.O.O. 2150/22. (Ends.)  
(S.O.I. Gibraltar 0344B/23 to Admty.)

Keep look out for boat with survivors from BRITISH YEOMAN torpedoed in 026° 42' N 024° 20' W on 14/7.  
(F.O.C.N.A. 0420B/23 to S and A N.A. Areas XYZ (Negative Submarines, Ships on patrol and Trawlers of Western Patrol.)  
Ref. instructions for I.D. Form S.A.(1) BRITISH YEOMAN. (2) British Tanker Co. (3) 2150/14 026° 42' N 024° 20' W (4) Not sighted. (5) Position as in (3) 0800/15 North, (6) not known. (7) Ship sunk by S/M. (8) Not known. (9) No number, gun forward C/T approx. 3 inches apparently a Des Geneys type definitely Italian. (10) Torpedo (11) On bridge and wireless station burning with ship.  
(N.C.S.O. St. Vincent 1110/23 to Admty. (R) S.O.I. Gib.)

IMPERIALIST, A/C. One A/C Fokker Wolfe bearing unknown course 180°. Position 300 Espichel 10.  
(IMPERIALIST 0808/23 to Gibraltar W/T.)  
My 0808. Enemy aircraft bearing 270° distance 6 miles.  
(IMPERIALIST 0815/23 to Gibraltar W/T.)  
2 A/C Fokker Wolfe 215° distant 10 miles from Espichel.  
(IMPERIALIST 1055B/23 to Gibraltar W/T.)  
Enemy A/C circling, not yet attacked.  
(IMPERIALIST 1102B/23 to Gibraltar W/T.)  
Aircraft flying north last seen passing over ?Rock, no attack carried out.  
(IMPERIALIST 1125B/23 to Gibraltar W/T.)  
IMPERIALIST entering Lisbon with one rating requiring medical attention.  
(F.O.C.N.A. 1914B/23 to Admty.)

EMPIRE SPEY Arrival SS. EMPIRE SPEY escorted by SENNEN,<sup>9</sup> COMMANDANT D'ESTIENNE D'ORVES.  
(F.O.C.N.A. 1012B/23 to Admty. (R) C. in C. W.A. R.A.W.A. N.O.I.C. Greenock, N.O.I.C. Londonderry.)

Search for LAVINGTON COURT. Sailing from Ponta Delgada 1200Z proceeding towards search area. At 15 knots fuel endurance permits approx. 10 hours search. Request instructions.  
(GEORGETOWN 1035/23 to F.O.I.C. Gibraltar (R) Admty. passed by N.C.S.O. Ponta Delgada.)

War Diary.23.7.1942.  
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic- conts:-

Search for GEORGETOWN left Ponta Delgada 1300 G.M.T./23.  
LAVINGTON (N.C.S.O. Ponta Delgada 1305/23 to S.O.I. Gibraltar.  
COURT. (R) Admty.)  
Contd. Proceed when ready and continue search. Search  
should be direct to east and southward of area  
searched by you and MANSFIELD. MANSFIELD is to  
report area searched on next occasion of breaking

W/T silence.

(F.O.C.N.A. 1520B/23 to GEORGETOWN (R) MANSFIELD,  
RHODODENDRON, PRUDENT, CHARON.)

Your 1942B/22 and your 1520B/23. Have carried out curve of  
search from 043° 37' N 025° 20' W through 042° 41' N 025° 12' W to  
041° 24' N 024° 14' W. Now returning to northward 20 miles  
eastwards curve. Empty raft shifted 042° 15' N 024° 57' W.  
Speed 15 knots.

(MANSFIELD 1600Z/23 to F.O.C.N.A. (R) GEORGETOWN, RHODODENDRON,  
PRUDENT, CHARON.)

MANSFIELD is to R/V with RHODODENDRON and tugs in 042° 30' N  
024° 30' W at 0800B/24 and organise search. GEORGETOWN will be  
ordered to R/V with RHODODENDRON on receipt MANSFIELD's fuelling  
signal.

(F.O.C.N.A. 1949B/23 to MANSFIELD, GEORGETOWN, RHODODENDRON,  
(R) Admty. HAARLEM.)

Intend to continue search at 0600 tomorrow from 042° 26' N  
024° 53' W to 043° 20' N 024° 53' W then south along curve 20  
miles to eastward. Speed 15 knots.

(MANSFIELD 2230Z/23 to F.O.C.N.A. (R) GEORGETOWN, RHODODENDRON  
PRUDENT, CHARON.)

Remain searching until limit of prudent endurance then  
proceed to Gibraltar.

(F.O.C.N.A. 2301B/23 to GEORGETOWN (R) MANSFIELD, Admty.  
RHODODENDRON, HAARLEM, PRUDENT, CHARON.)

LIMA.

Your 1301/22 (N.T. in W.D.) LIMA is not to be  
sent in but if intercepted and conditions permit  
desirable to remove as much parcel mail as can be  
stowed without interfering with fighting efficiency

or living accommodation of trawler.

2. If possible examine hand luggage of Italian passenger  
Eleanor Bernasconi for enemy correspondence.

(D.E.W.D. 1203B/23 to F.O.C.N.A.)

ORWELL.

Arrival GERANIUM, SPIREA escorting Norwegian  
Tanker ORWELL.

(F.O.C.N.A. 1330B/23 to Admty. (R) S.B.N.O.  
Curacao, S.O.I. Jamaica.)

MITIDJA  
P.222  
patrol.

French SS. MITIDJA reported to have left Nemours  
22/7 for Marseilles with cargo of cobalt for  
Germany.

Probable route along Algerian coast to vicinity of  
Oran and then across to Cape Palos. P.222 should  
be ordered to establish patrol on route within

thirty miles of Cape Palos.

Ship should be stopped outside Spanish territorial waters and  
boarded, weather permitting. Every effort should be made to  
prevent ship using W/T.

/If...



War Diary.23.7.1942.  
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic - con'td. -MITIDJA  
P.222  
patrol.  
Contd.

If cargo is found to include cobalt and crew will be reasonably safe in ship's boats, having regard to conditions of weather, sea and the distance from shore, crew should be ordered into boats and the ship then sunk. If no cobalt found, ship should be released.

In the event of boarding proving impossible, ship should be ordered into Gibraltar and escorted there, all necessary force being used should she attempt to escape.

F.O.C.N.A. is requested to pass to P.222 all available information concerning SS. MITIDJA.

(Head of M. Approved 1st. Lord 1341B/23 to F.O.C.N.A. (R) P.222.)

Proceed with all despatch to comply with Admty 1341/23.

2. MITIDJA description.

3. Total bombing restrictions arranged within 50 miles Cape Palos.

(F.O.C.N.A. 1550/23 to P.222.)

My 1341/23. Cobalt is dark heavy ore broken into small pieces. Commonly stowed in 1 cwt. bags but owing to shortage of gunny bags in North Africa may be stowed in bulk.

(Head of M 1930B/23 to P.222 (R) F.O.C.N.A.)

Your 1828/23 para 1. Yes.

(D.O.D. F. 2251B/23 to F.O.C.N.A.)

(W.D. Note: F.O.C.N.A. 2216/27 para (1) makes clear the contents of 1828/23.)

LOCHEE.

M/V LOCHEE for Gibraltar with a cargo of cased petrol is being sailed in O.S.36. She has received no instructions when to leave the convoy or subsequent route to Gibraltar.

2. Request if possible you will sail 2 A/S trawlers to suitable R/V with convoy to escort LOCHEE to Gibraltar, signalling R/V and subsequent route to S.O. of escort for information of Commodore and LOCHEE.

(D.T.D. 1648B/23 to V.A.C.N.A. (R) C. in C. W.A. N.C.S.O. Mersey.)

Portuguese  
Mails.

Your 1014/19 para 2. Portuguese Guinea mails must not be removed on any stage of a voyage except on Admty. instructions regarding a particular ship.

2. Ships carrying those mails no longer have to call at Bathurst but we reserve the right to

intercept and remove mails occasionally.

3. My 1321/15/12/1940 and C.A.F.O. 355/42 para 4B not yet amended as negotiations for new Portuguese mails agreement still continue.

(D.E.W.D. 1751B/23 to F.O.C.N.A. (R) R.A.W.A.)

LIVERPOOL.

LIVERPOOL will be ready to sail for Rosyth 5/8. Maximum speed probably 13 knots on one engine only.

(2) No escorts available locally.

(3) Propose ~~GEORGETOWN~~ and MANSFIELD should proceed to Gibraltar on completion of search for LAVINGTON COURT and escort LIVERPOOL.

(F.O.C.N.A. 1846B/23 to Admty. (R) C. in C. W.A. C. in C. Rosyth.)

War Diary.23.7.1942.  
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic. - Contd.

LÉOPARD.

Ref. A.M. 1159/23. <sup>/N.T.W.D.</sup> Request you will sail F.S. LÉOPARD routed through (A) 37.00 N 26.00 (B) 26.40 23.00 (C) 20.00 21.30. S of A at least 15 knots.

(2) R.A.W.A. is requested to issue onward route from (C).

(F.O.C.N.A. 1912B/23 to N.C.S.O. Ponta Delgada. R.A.W.A. (R) Admty. B.N.A. Lisbon.)

German A/C.

Firing heard Cape Roca 1050/23. 1 German A/C seen off Cape Roca 1100 and another at 1110 flying north. Same 2 A/C seen together heard Peniche 1130. Another seen off Peniche 1200. All (?GMT) (N.A. Lisbon 2215B/23 to S.O.I. Gibraltar (R) Admty.)

AVILA STAR  
search.

My 1826/22 Portuguese Sloop PEDRO NUNES has not yet found boat. Search being continued by PEDRO NUNES and aircraft. First seen in 034° 00' N 011° 45' W 1200/22 boat with red sail steering East.

(N.A. Lisbon 2230B/23 to F.O.C.N.A. (R) Admty.)  
Boat found. see 1843/25.

Movements.

UTMOST sails 0730B/24 for exercise with WRESTLER in area B B. P.211 E.T.A. Gibraltar 0830B/24. (F.O.C.N.A. 2236B/23 to 8th Sub. Flot.)

SHAFTESBURY  
CORTONA  
survivors.

Have picked up 23 survivors SS. SHAFTESBURY in 28° 15' N 22° 15' W survivors report 3 other boats from SHAFTESBURY and CORTONA were in touch on 20th to N.W. of this position.

(FOLKESTONE 2239Z/23 to Admty. (R) C. in C. W.A. F.O.C.N.A. R.A.W.Af.)

South Atlantic.

Dispositions. MALAYA, BLACKMORE with Capetown portion W.S.20 about 035° 39' S 025° 00' E to Durban.

CHESHIRE about 015° 00' S 000° 30' E 005° 13.

COMMANDANT DETROYAT 034° 00' S 017° 30' E to Simonstown 12½.  
DUSK, AIGLON 034° 55' S 021° 20' E to Durban 8.

Situation in Area Q at 2000Z/23.

(C. in C. S.A. 1021B/23 to S.A. Stn.)

AUBRETIA 015° 30' 023° 20' to St. Vincent 12.

VIMY 013° 50' 017° 55' to 020° 06' 023° 37' 14 at 2000/23.

F.S. COMMANDANT DROGOU 009° 05' 017° 50' to 009° 35' 020° 32' thence 043° 10.

War Diary.23.7.1942.  
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic.

Dispositions. WOODRUFF 008° 40' 019° 20' to 008° 41' 022° 04' to  
Contd. rescue survivors of two M.Ls off Freetown 302° 9.  
(R.A.W.A. 1149Z/23 to Ships in Area "P" of S.A.  
Stn. N of 8° N. Admty. C. in C. S.A. N.O.I.C.  
Bathurst.)

TORVANGER Overdue shipping TORVANGER due Capetown 16th  
SAGOLAND. from Halifax and SAGOLAND due Capetown 17th from  
New York not arrived.  
(S.O.I. Capetown 1050B/23 to Admty. etc.)

S.L.117. Your 1829B/7/4. S.L.117 will have 28 fast ships  
and 14 slow ships. Should convoy split intend to  
let Commodore proceed with fast portions.  
(N.C.S.O. Freetown 1221Z/23 to Admty. (R) R.A.W.A.)  
(Concur D.T.D. 1214B/24.)

\*QUEEN Cancel my 1541B/22. The following arrangements  
ELIZABETH. will now be made.  
RAMILLIES. etc: 2. H.M.S. QUEEN ELIZABETH arrives Durban 27/7  
sails 31/7 and escorts MONARCH OF BERMUDA and  
\* See p. 697 EMPRESS OF RUSSIA to arrive Capetown 2/8.  
3. QUEEN ELIZABETH, MALAYA, MONARCH OF BERMUDA  
and EMPRESS OF RUSSIA escorted by 3 destroyers from Eastern Fleet  
sail from Capetown 3/8, destroyers part company at dawn 6/8 and  
return to Simonstown for boiler cleaning.  
4. Ships mentioned less destroyers E.T.A. Freetown 11/8.  
5. MONARCH OF BERMUDA and EMPRESS OF RUSSIA will be carrying  
British Service Personnel, invalids, Poles and Italian prisoners  
of war. MALAYA could provide onward escort for MONARCH OF BERMUDA  
and EMPRESS OF RUSSIA to vicinity of Gibraltar. Request  
arrangements may be made for escort for final stage to U.K.  
6. BRILLIANT and WIVERN leave Simonstown 3/8 for Durban, then  
escort RAMILLIES to Capetown leaving Durban 6/8. E.T.A. Capetown  
9/8. RAMILLIES escorted by BRILLIANT and WIVERN sails Capetown  
10/8 for Freetown routed via St. Helena for fuelling. E.T.A.  
St. Helena 15/8.  
8. FORTOL will be sailed from Capetown 9/8 to meet RAMILLIES  
and destroyers at St. Helena.  
9. On completion of fuelling RAMILLIES and destroyers to Freetown.  
E.T.A. 20/8.  
10. FORTOL E.T.A. Freetown 21/8.  
(C. in C. S.A. 1410B/23 to Admty. (R) D.C. in C. E.F. R.A.W.A.  
S.B.N.O. W.A. Cdre. Durban, MALAYA, QUEEN ELIZABETH, RAMILLIES,  
B.A.R.M. Washington.)

BOREAS BOREAS with Troopships THYSVILLE, LAFONIA sailed  
troopships. 22/7 for Lagos (Nigeria.)  
(Pointe Noire 1537/23 to Admty.)  
On arrival at Lagos about 26/7 BOREAS is to be  
sailed for Freetown. Report E.T.A.  
(R.A.W.A.F. 1905Z/23 to N.O.I.C. Lagos (R) BOREAS.  
Capt. D. 18th D.F.)

/MARAJO...

War Diary.23.7.1942.  
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic-Contd.

MARAJO.

Ministry of Marine is sailing Brazilian Navy Tanker MARAJO for Pernambuco tonight to join a convoy proceeding under Adm. Ingram's direction to Trinidad. She will require 6000 tons oil fuel and 2000 tons diesel oil and appears not to wish to go to Caripito.  
(N.A. Rio de Janeiro 1906Z/23 to Admty. (R) F.O.I.C. Trinidad.)

Mediterranean.Blenheim  
shot down.

No. 298. My tel. 19/7 (Recd. in W.R. 1020/16/7.)  
Blenheim shot down near Jibuti was on R/C to ascertain if enemy aircraft were using station. It may be politically useful to you to know that the pilot was American volunteer in the Canadian Air Force and recently posted to Aden.  
(Governor (Sir J. Hathorn Hall (Aden) No. T.O.O. to S of S for Colonies.)

P.31.

My 1259/18. From (734°) 18' 23° 27' proceed to patrol in vicinity Elaphonisi, do not cross longitude 023° 30' before 2200/24. Leaving area at dawn 26th to arrive position 035° 21' 016° 19' about 0400C/30.  
(S.O.1st S.F. Alexandria 0937C/23 to P.31 (R) S/Ms on patrol, C. in C. Med. N.O.I.C. Malta, Capt. S.1. Capt. S.10.)

10th S/M  
Flotilla.

Capt. S.10 has resumed operational control of 10th Sub. Flotilla at Malta. Address of S.O. Sub. Malta should no longer be used.  
(V.A. Malta 1202B/23 to C. in C. Med. (R) Admty. F.O.S. F.O.C.N.A. Capt. S.1. Capt. S.8.)

M.E.  
Report.

Cositrep No. 458.

1. 22/7. Our offensive was opened by move of 5 Ind. Div. with 161 Ind. Mot Bde. and 5 and 6, N.Z. Bdes. under command with objective to secure eastern edge Deir El Shein depression point 63 on Ruweisat Ridge 876279, thence southwards. (Details)
- Air. Night 21/22.
7. Blenheims bombed Matruh Harbour, starting large fire jetty area.
8. Force of Halifaxes, Fortresses and Wellingtons despatched to attack Tobruk Harbour. Dense cloud prevented majority from locating objective and obscured results of bombing.  
(C. in C. M.E. 1407/23.)

/Movements...

697

War Diary.23.7.1942.  
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean - Contd.

Movements Port Said. 22/7 Port Said arrivals FALK, KLO, H.M. Tug  
\*LUCHAN, WHITEHAVEN, MALINES, BOSTON. Departures  
JERVIS, JAVELIN, PAKENHAM, PALADIN, HURSLEY,  
BELVOIR, DIDO, EURYALUS. *See p. 699*  
(N.O.I.C. Port Said 1549C/23 to Admty. etc.)  
*\*Not in C.F.A.*

Malta Torpedoes. F.O.C.N.A. 2252/20 and Admty. 0159/22 (N.T. in W.D.)  
Concur as regards CLYDE and REGENT. Request as  
many aircraft torpedoes as are available may be  
sent Malta distributed between PARTHIAN, CLYDE  
and (corrupt group)  
(2) Stock at Malta has 10 only.  
(3) 12 torpedoes are being sent from Eastern Med. by submarines.  
Air transport is restricted by necessity for conserving stocks  
of petrol at Malta.  
(C. in C. Med. 1627C/23 to F.O.C.N.A. Admty. (R) Capt. S.I.  
H.Q.R.A.F. M.E. Capt. S. 10th S. Flot.)

Coastal Vessels for Army. To F.S. from Political from C.F.A.  
Request your covering authority purchase two  
vessels needed urgently coastal security Eritrea  
and communications Assab. E.A. Command 33802 of  
25/6 (1132/27) refers. Existing vessel THREE  
BROTHERS is unseaworthy. No craft available from  
Navy. Have in view two vessels now lying in Alexandria, MACANDER  
4063 Lloyds Register, and MOROCCO displacement 25 tons diesel  
engined at present chartered to Alexandria Harbours patrol,  
sailed by owner. Can obtain for £600 each and am proceeding  
subject to Lloyds report and approval local Naval authorities.  
(C. in C. ME. 1630/23 to W.O.)

Aden, Overdue ships. Following ships have not arrived Aden: QUEEN  
VICTORIA, INDRA, NYMPHE. Sailing and destination  
confirmed, now presumed lost.  
(Cdre. Aden 1641Z/23 to Admty. (R) D.C. in C. E.F.)

QUEEN ELIZABETH. Ref. my 1630/19 S of A of QUEEN ELIZABETH from  
Perim to Capetown now only 20 $\frac{1}{4}$  knots, E.T.A.  
Capetown day 12, 2/8.  
(N.C.S.O. Suez 1801C/23 to Admty.) *See p. 695.*

Malta Air Report. I.498 23/7 C.S.R. Add to 22nd. My I.495.  
2 p.m. alerts 1245 hours, 6 Ju.88 escorted by 19  
Me.109s great height bombed Kalafrana, 2 airmen  
1 civilian injured, 20 Spitfires up, effective  
interception prevented by serious R.D.F.  
interference and enemy use cloud cover. 1 Spitfire  
damaged in combat, pilot unhurt. 1440 hours, 2 R/C Me.109s  
crossed coast, 4 Spitfires did not intercept owing to insufficient  
R.D.F. warning.  
Night 22/23. 4 Beaufighters sorties. 2 alerts - 2011 hours,  
5 Ju.88s approached, 1 shot down by Beaufighter 10 miles north of  
Malta, 2 turned back, only 2 crossed coast, both illuminated by  
S/Ls, bombs caused no damage. 2259 hours 3 raiders approached,  
1 turned back before crossing coast, other one chased by

/Beaufighter...

War Diary.23.7.1942.  
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean. - con'ts: -

Malta Air Report. Contd. Beaufighter but contact lost owing to serious R.D.F. interference. Bombs caused no damage. 23rd. Continued searches for Spitfires missing 22nd unsuccessful. 0520 hours, 3 Me.109s crossed coast, 8 Spitfires did not intercept owing to low cloud. 0600 hours, 5 Spitfires up, raid did not approach Malta. 0821 hours, 3 Ju.88s escorted by 7 Me.109s, 5 Re.200ls using cloud cover attacked Luqa, 1 petrol bowser destroyed, 1 Spitfire damaged on ground. In spite of R.D.F. interference, 1 Re.200l, 1 Ju.88 destroyed, 1 Me.109 probably destroyed, 2 Ju.88 damaged by 16 Spitfires. 2 Spitfires up cover to minesweepers. (H.Q. R.A.F. Malta 1815/23.)

NEREUS. Capt. S.10 2109/19. Proceed through 034° 17' 032° 11' (?to) 031° 48' 032° 34' thence direct Port Said to arrive 0601C/28. (Capt. S.1. 1831/23 to Greek S/M NEREUS. (R) C. in C. Med. S.O.S. Alexandria. 201 Group, 235 Wing, C.S.15, Capt. S. CORINTHIAN. N.O.I.C. Port Said, N.O.I.C. Palestinian Ports.)

P.34. My 1744/22. Cancel movement ordered after 0600/24. Patrol in vicinity 034° 20' 022° 10'. (S.O. 1st. S.F. Alexandria 1852C/23 to P.34. (R) S/MS on Patrol, C. in C. Med. V.A. Malta. Capt. S.1. Capt. S.10.)

U/B. Following has been read. Addressed 201 Gp. H.Q. M.E. P.C.S. of 1 enemy Sub. 32.04 N 34.17 E. 030° 4 kts. (A/C of No.47 Sqdn. M.E. Duty G. 1906C/23.)

SCYTHIA LACONIA. At request of Minister of State SCYTHIA allocated embarked 42 men 36 women 11 children anti-Axis refugees ex Suez 27/7 for Kilindini. (2) LACONIA allocated embarked 95 men 150 women 45 children Axis internees ex Suez 28/7 for Kilindini. (3) Vessels should be sailed accordingly. Kilindini pass to East Africa Command and D/C in C. E.F. (P.S.T.O. Egypt 1919C/23 to S.S.T.O. Suez (R) Dep. C. in C. E.F. G.H.Q. M.E. F.O. R.S.F. D of S.T. P.S.T.O. Kilindini, East Africa Command, Minister of State Cairo.)

Enemy Units. At 1630, A/C reported 3 merchant ships 1 destroyer P.C.S. 035° 40' 023° 25' 180° 10. (S.O. 1st. S.F. Alexandria 2000C/23 to P.34. (R) V.A. Malta. S/MS on Patrol.) My 2000C/23rd. Aircraft searching from 2300 to 0400 using homing procedure on 320 K/cs, dropping flares (?over) enemy every hour and half hour from 0100 (corrupt group) at about 0030. Aircraft call sign K Z 7 suffixed C J or S. (S.O. 1st. S.F. Alexandria 2019C/23 to P.34. (R) V.A. Malta. S/MS on Patrol.)

/Situation...

War Diary.23.7.1942.  
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean - Contd.

Situation Report 240. My 2012C 12th July para 2. Submarine was ONDINA which left Lerof (?Leros) night 2/3 July on her ninth war patrol.

2. On surfacing for 1700 wireless routine, was sighted and attacked by H.M. Ships. First Pattern extinguished lights and caused structural damage. Second attack caused damage forward and in galley. Final attack extensively damaged hull and machinery, main batteries giving off chlorine. The tanks were blown with difficulty and ship surfaced with heavy list. Walrus then attacked, crew abandoned ship when it was realised they were on surface (depth gauges previously smashed).

3. 5 officers and 34 ratings were picked up by PROTEA and landed at Beirut. All the above extracted from preliminary interrogation report.

4. Western Desert night 22/23, R.A.D. in DIDO with EURYALUS, JERVIS, PAKENHAM, JAVELIN, PALADIN, HURSLEY, BELVOIR, DULVERTON and ALDENHAM carried out bombardment Mersa Matruh Harbour area. Only two salvos fired, low cloud and failure of flare dropping caused operation to be abandoned.

5. My 1957C/22/7 para 2. Casualties MALINES 7 killed, 7 wounded. BOSTON sustained damage whilst assisting MALINES.

6. Malta 21/7. Beauforts attacked M/V escorted by destroyer 334° Cape Geroghambo 63 miles steering 140°. M/V badly damaged, destroyer probably hit.

7. Levant. Operation "Garway" move of 6,000 troops in and 700 out of Cyprus by ANTWERP and PRINCESS MARGUERITE completed without incident 23/7.  
(C. in C. Med. 2023C/23 to Admty.)

Malta Fuel. My 1300C/18/6. Estimated total fuel stocks remaining on 15/8 for all purposes after supplying BADSWORTH, MATCHLESS. Merchant ships TROILUS and ORARI will be furnace fuel nil, Diesel 1300 tons. Consumption all services about 240 tons per week. (V.A. Malta 2041B/23 to Admty. (R) C. in C. Med. F.O.C.N.A.)

Enemy Units. Following has been read on Malta broadcast. P.C.S. of 2 enemy merchant vessels one destroyer 35.09 N 22.55 E 170° 7 knots. (A/C Call sign QZ7Z 2250/23.)  
Following has been read 201 Group H.Q. (M.E. Command.) Position of enemy destroyer 5 miles astern. (A/C using call sign QZ7Z. 2258/23.)  
Following read by Malta W/T. P.C.S. of enemy, 2 M/Vs, 2 destroyers 34.29 N 23.12 E. 160° 7 knots. (A/C using call sign QZ7C. 2330/23.)

R/C, Enemy Shipping. PRU. p.m. today. Taranto. One Littorio battleship afloat and one in T dock. 3 Cavour battleships, 10 destroyers, 2 T.Bs. 12 S/Ms, and one merchant ship 5 - 6,000 tons loading M.T.  
Shipping at sea. At 1715, 1 merchant ship 7000 tons and 1 destroyer 161°. Ugento 10 miles, course (?120°) 10 - 12 knots. At 1728 1 merchant ship 4 - 5000 tons and 1 destroyer 148° Otranto 08' course 180°, 9 - 10 knots. (V.A. Malta 2357B/23 to C. in C. Med. F.O.C.N.A. Admty.)

War Diary.23.7.1942.  
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies.

TRUSTY. (? Leave) patrol after dark 24/7 and proceed Trincomalee. Route M. 008° 42' N. 092° 13' E. N. 008° 41' N. 088° 20' E. O. 008° 39' N. 084° 16' E. dive during daylight from longitude 094° 30' to position M, remainder on surface at your discretion. Total bombing restriction M to N 0001Z/26 to 0600Z/27, N to O 0001Z/27 to 1200Z/28, O to Trincomalee 2200Z/27 to 0600Z/29. You are expected to arrive Trincomalee 0100Z/29. (S.O.S., Colombo, 0327Z/23 to TRUSTY, (R) N.O.I.C. Ceylon, N.O.I.C. Trincomalee, H.N.M.S.O. 23.)

Use of Katukurunda for F.A.A. Owing to delays in construction of new R.A.F. aerodromes and lack of accommodation for R.A.F. personnel A.O.C. has requested use of Katukurunda until end of August instead of 15/7 which was previously arranged date of evacuation. C. in C. Ceylon has approved. Regret that this will mean that full facilities for three squadrons disembarked will not be completed till end of September and for six squadrons end of October. (F.O. Ceylon, 0603Z/23 to C. in C. E.F., (R) 222 Group, etc.)

Movements. Arrival 0314Z FALMOUTH with M.B.13, 0516Z ENTERPRISE with W.S. 19P.B. (S.O.I. Bombay, 0747Z/23 to Admty., etc.)

Shipping Routes. For N.C.S.Os. and R.Os. The routes to be followed by ships proceeding West of Durban are to be reported in routeing signals. The appropriate number of route will be sufficient. (D. C. in C. E.F., 0807Z/23 to E.I. Stn., (R) F.O.R.S., C. in C. S.A., Cdre. i/c Aden.)

HONOLULAN torpedoed. Following has been received via Colombo W/T. SSSS de KDSX position 08.41 N. 22.04 W. HONOLULAN torpedoed, 1800 G.M.T./22. (Bombay, 0922/23 to Admty.)

Kilindini. Re development of Naval repair base. (F.O. E.A. & Zanzibar, 0944Z/23 to Admty.) See Lion Copy.

Mining Policy. Your 0700/15/6. Your para. 2, concur. Should extensive operations from Colombo be contemplated it may be necessary for PROME to be based Colombo to assist in storage of ready issue units also in assembly. F.O.I.C. Ceylon is

/requested ...



SECRET

M E S S A G E

0944Z/23rd July

IN

From: F.O. East Africa &amp; Zanzibar.

Date: 24.7.42.

Recd: 1153.

Naval Cypher X Plug by W/TCORRECTED VERSION

Addressed: Admiralty.

Your 1410/19. Following is repetition of my  
1732/16 begins:-

Kilindini Repair Base

Admiralty repeated C.in C. Eastern Fleet from F.O. East Africa & Zanzibar. Assuring that reports of Ings and Newnham re development of Kilindini Naval Repair Base and my No.OAZ 2 dated 6th June 1942, have now received consideration. Request guidance on Admiralty policy re construction of dockyard on Simonstown scale on mainland, vide paras three (seven) and nine (A) and (B) of my quoted letter. Reference para.nine (B) Naval Armament Depot site has since been approved near Flora Point instead of on railway as stated.

2. If construction of this self contained dockyard is definite policy a full commission of experts in all dockyard departments is essential for even preliminary investigation selection of site and survey. Staff at Kilindini is quite inadequate for work involved and is fully otherwise necessarily employed.

3. Current and proposed works programmes of combined services and K U R and C new wharfs construction are estimated to absorb resources of colony for two years. An additional major works item could only be undertaken by special importation of all plant, machinery,

/materials

materials and labour with provision of accommodation  
for latter ends. T.O.O. 1732/17/7.

0944Z/23.

✗ Sent by W.R.  
✗ Received very corrupt.

1st Lord		
1st S.L.		
3rd S.L.	1/P for	Dep. Contr. (3)
Vice Contr.		D (4) )
4th S.L.		D.N.C. (2) )
Civil Lord.		E. in C. )
V.C.N.S.		S.D.G. (2) )
A.C.N.S. (F)		D.A/S.W. (2) )
A.C.N.S. (W)		P )
Sec.		D.T.M. ) Bath
Nav. Sec.		D.N.O. (4) ) (BA 6896)
N.A. 1st S.L.		D.A.S. (4) )
P.A.S. (F)		D.E.E. (3) )
P.A.S. (P.R)		D.S.D. (3) )
P.A.S. (O)		M.F. )
P.A.S. (S)		C.E. )
D. of P (3)		C.E. in C. )
A.S. (C)		
N.A. to A.C.N.S. (T)		
Ops (3)		
O.D. (5)		
D. of L.D. (3)		
M. (4) for action		
D.N.C.		
E. in C.		
D.T.S.D.		
D.G.D. (2)		
D.N.O. (2)		
D.A.S. (L)		
C.E. 1.		
Ad. Blake.		
D. of S. (3)		
I.P. (3)		
W.D.		
D.A/S.W.		
D.S.D. (2)		
C.E. in C.		
M.F. (L)		
D.		
File 1732/16.		

701

War Diary.23.7.1942.  
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies - contd.:

Mining Policy. (Contd.) requested to investigate possibility equipping Mine Carriers with rails to accommodate up to 150 married units each.

2. Your para. 3, concur that for present Bombay should be normal base for M.I.S. and Mine Carriers not required elsewhere. Not intended to provide shore facilities storage or preparation. Cmdre. R.I.N. is requested to provide facilities at Mombasa commercial dock when weather conditions render this essential.

3. Your para. 4, Karachi will be used as alternative to Bombay should weather conditions render Bombay unsuitable. Not intended to develop shore facilities.

4. Your para. 5, Durban is in course of construction as storage depot for 3550 units and to be capable of assembly at 250 units per week. Mombasa will have storage facilities only for 1000 units.

5. Your para. 6, concur.

6. Your para. 7 and 8 arrangements listing stock have been made and details will be reported shortly. All stocks at Karachi have been loaded in WARIALDA now at Bombay.

7. When loading of Mine Carriers and M.I.S. is completed and Mutwall depot is a going concern, no shore accommodation for mines will be required in India. A second M.I.S. is being provided (? my 1835) 18/6 and F.O.I.C. Ceylon 1038/27/6.

8. Reserve stocks of mines will be kept ashore east coast of Africa and at Massawa.  
(D. C. in C. E.F., 1004Z/23 to MANXMAN, (R) Cmdre. Durban, C. R.I.N., Admty., C. in C. E.F, F.O. India, F.O.I.C. Ceylon.)

Burma Air Report. A. 936, 23/7. No. 130. Intelligence summary on information received up to 1800 hours 23/7. Burma. One Blenheim 2 near misses on steamer apparently aground Kaladan river 7 miles North of Akyab.

22/7 only small craft seen in river to Paletwa. One Blenheim bombed 2 steamers Mayu river 4 miles South of Buthidaung. 22/7 2 hits on one in Kad Stream. 2 near misses on other. Small steamer (Hponnylied?) machine-gunned.  
(Air H.Q. India, 1440/23.)

Dhows and Sampans in Combined Operations. Your 0913/13 and 0707/20 and B.A.D. Washington's 0131/17 (Lorsa 3610). (Details of tractors referred to.) Please state whether these units are considered suitable for the purpose in view.  
(D.N.E., 1853B/23 to F.O.C.R.I.N., (R) B.A.D.)

Landing Craft. Your 1601/20. Regretted no L.C.As can be spared. All that are available now are urgently required for operations and training in U.K. Future production can only provide operational requirements.  
(D. of P., 1918B/23 to C. in C. E.F.)

/Battleship ...

War Diary.

23.7.1942.  
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies - Contd.

Battleship  
Refits.

A.M. 1224/24/6 (?) and C. in C. E.F. 1951/14/7.  
Propose following arrangements for R class to  
U.K. or U.S.A. fitting of armour and refit, also  
docking.

(A) ROYAL SOVEREIGN leaves station about mid Sept. when REVENGE  
should be ready for sea.

(B) RESOLUTION leaves station on return RAMILLIES about Jan.  
1943.

(C) REVENGE return, ROYAL SOVEREIGN about March 1943.

(D) ROYAL SOVEREIGN whose last effective docking was June 1941  
should be docked as quickly as possible as her endurance is  
seriously effected and unless this is done passage to U.K. or  
U.S.A. will be prolonged. Propose therefore ROYAL SOVEREIGN  
should be quickly docked Durban just prior to leaving station  
or earlier if escort requirements necessitate her proceeding  
there.

(E) RESOLUTION last docked August 1941 should be given quick  
docking soon and propose this is done Durban fitting with  
operational requirements.

(F) Deputy C. in C. E.F. concurs.

(V.A.3, 2052Z/23 to C. in C. E.F., (R) Admty., etc.)

War Diary.

23.7.1942  
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies.

S.C.93  
Diversions. Your 1910/22 not fully understood. N.C.S.O. Sydney 1429/21 reports 4 of these ships for U.S.S.R. Are there any new instructions regarding ships bound for U.S.S.R? (N.S.H.Q. 0210Z/23 to Admty. (R) N.C.S.O.Sydney)

Convoy  
E.3. Details. 12 ships for Capetown, Santos, etc. (B.R.O. Trinidad 0826Q/23 amended 0942Q/23.)

Movement  
Summary. 1800 G.M.T. 23/7.

Ship.	Position	Course	Speed.
CROCUS )	11° N. 57° W.	269°	11
COWSLIP )			
ASTURIAS )	12° N. 46° W.	293°	13
LARGS )			
Convoy T.A.17. )	47½° N. 46° W.	227°	14
Convoy N.A.13 )			
(D.O.D.(F) 0932Z/23 to Opnav (R) Commaveu.)	50° N. 48° W.	044°	13½

MARYMAR. Your 1333/4 MARYMAR not arrived. (B.R.O. Trinidad 1023Q/23. to N.O.I.C. Freetown (R) Admty. etc.)

Shipping  
Route  
Signals. Ref. N.O.B. Trinidad 1931/21. My 1954/26/5 was supplemented by 1356/27/6. When U.S. Routeing Office N.O.B. Trinidad assumes full control on 1/8 accordance Connav 1500/18 all route signals and Mercos shall be forwarded by you to U.S. and British addressees as stated in Giro. (Connav ? 1141/23 to N.O.B. Trinidad)

WANDERER  
U/B. Following has been read: Addressed Halifax W/T. S/M sighted on surface in fog. Am hunting. My position 041° 03' 066° 58'. (WANDERER 1145Z/23.)

My 1145 (WANDERER hunting for submarine sighted on surface in fog (N.T.in W.D.) S/M (seen?) turning in circles. May be damaged by charges from throwers. A/S conditions remain? poor.

(WANDERER 1245Z/23 to C.T.F. 24 (R) Opnav etc.)

Following is recyphered version of 1145/23 from WANDERER "Submarine sighted on surface in fog. Am hunting. My position 041° 03' N. 066° 24' W." (Ends.) (C.O.A.C. Halifax 1252Z/23 to Admty.) (Note difference)

A.H.1. A.H.1 delayed in accordance request Com.10 0413/23. Three additional ships ready for inclusion by 27/7 warrant delay until that date. Request approval. (C.A.F.A.C. 1410Z/23 to C.C.S.F. (R) C.O.A.C. Halifax, Com 10, Connav, C.E.S.F., N.O.I.C. Trinidad, Admty. N.S.H.Q.)

/Shipping ...

704

War Diary.

23.7.1942  
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies - contd.

Shipping  
Trinidad.

Your 1743/20/6 (British ships for East Coast Ports of U.S.A. to be routed to Trinidad Convoy) Does this apply to vessels of under 500 tons? Barbados reports motor vessel CELESTE (Br) now Barbados speed 9 knots gross tonnage 274 icebound St. John. (B.R.O. Trinidad 1541Q/23 to S.B.N.O.W.A.)

CALDWELL.

Anticipated that CALDWELL will be ready to sail from Boston for Halifax a.m. 31/7. Type 271 set not available and will not be fitted. (B.A.R.M. 1630Z/23 to Admty. (R) N.S.H.Q. etc.)

PENNYWORT.

B.A.M.R.'s 1840/22. Request PENNYWORT may be employed temporarily on local escort duty from Halifax or Argentia and subsequently be sailed with escort unit B.4 on their next E-bound duty. (C. in C. W.A. 1643Z/23 to B.A.M.R., C.O.A.C. (R) Admty., N.S.H.Q. F.O.N.F. Cominch, S.B.N.O. W.A. C.T.F.24. HIGHLANDER, PENNYWORT, Cdre. Londonderry.)

Fiji,  
Tonga.

U.S. planners draft agreement. Request for comments. (J.S.M. 318, 1715Z/23 to C.O.S.) See Lion Copy.

U/B Positions. 23/7 S/M estimate.  
(Cominch 1740/23 to Admty.)

Oil for  
Portuguese  
Fishing.

Your 1640Z/20. 200 tons of gas oil will be available. Admty. pass to B.N.A. Lisbon. (F.O.N.F. 1745Z/23 to N.S.H.Q. (R) Opnav etc.)

CAPE VERDE.  
(sunk 9/7  
by U/B.)

This is Port Director Trinidad 2011/21 passed to you for information - "Your 1923/17. Master of SS CAPE VERDE states 2 operators kept international watches for zone F, listened on 600 meters from 0400 to 1600 for old G.B.M.S.

Stations. Did receive messages I.N., I.O., and I.P. had no B.A.M.S. instructions for this area. Did receive diversion message on 25/6 from Freetown via Ascension Island relative to Point Q. Did not receive diversion message sent 4/7." - Addressed for action to Connav and infor. C.C.S.F. (R.D.O. Washington 1931Z/23 to Admty.)

/Sub. attack ...

Unparaphrased Version of a Secret Cypher  
Message not One Time Table.

IZ. 943  
TOO. 1715Z/23  
TOR. 2320Z/23

SECRET CYPHER TELEGRAM.

IMPORTANT.

From:- J.S.M. Washington.  
To:- Chiefs of Staff London.

J.S.M. 318                      23.7.42                      Reference J.S.M, 315

U.S. planners have now tabled following  
draft agreement regarding defence of Fiji and  
Tonga. May we have your comments.

Begins.

1. Agreement shall be for period of war and six months thereafter.
2. Terms and conditions under which U.S. Forces occupy Fiji Group shall be, in so far as they are applicable, same as those now in operation for leased bases as set forth in "Agreement for use and operation of United States Bases" signed in London, 27th March, 1941.
3. Governor of Fiji islands is single and supreme authority responsible to and representative of His Majesty's Government, and is ipso facto responsible for protection of civilian rights and property. Commanding General, U.S. Forces in Fiji, is under principle of unity of command responsible for military security of islands.
4. Unity of command in defence of Fiji islands shall vest in Commanding General, U.S. Army Forces in Fiji. He shall have responsibility and authority to co-ordinate operations of participating combatant units of all combined forces by organisation of task forces, assignment of missions, designation of objectives and

/exercise of such

/objectives and

exercise of such co-ordinating control as he deems necessary to insure success of defence. Unity of command does not authorise Commander exercising it to control administration and discipline of forces of combatant services to which he does not belong, nor to issue any instructions to such forces beyond those necessary for effective co-ordination.

5. In order to avoid duplication of effort and to promote efficiency Governor of Fiji (or High Commissioner) and Commanding General U.S. Army Forces shall work in closest co-ordination to integrate plans for civil and military defence of islands. Commanding General U.S. Army Forces may consult and seek advice of his staff and commanders of various local defence forces in formulating his plans but responsibility and authority for making decisions and issuing operational directives is vested in him alone. If situation warrants, and if agreeable to members concerned, he may designate such commanders of various task units of combined local defence forces to serve on his staff in addition to their primary duties as commanders of various task units.

6. Such modifications or interpretations of above principles as may be found necessary shall be agreed between Governor of Fiji islands (or High Commissioner) and Commanding General U.S. Forces in Fiji. Should these parties be unable to agree on any point of substance, it shall be first referred for decision to New Zealand Government (agent for His Majesty's Government) and U.S. Commander South Pacific area.

7. Relations between Governor of Fiji as representative of His Majesty's Government, and Commanding General U.S. Army Forces in Fiji, shall be conducted in spirit of good neighborliness and with due regard for their respective responsibilities and prerogatives.

8. Terms and agreements set forth above shall also be applicable to Tonga.

9. As local British forces are equipped with British type equipment N.Z. Government shall be responsible for maintaining this equipment

/and shall



/this equipment

and shall co-ordinate with Commander South Pacific area regarding its shipment.

10. Disposal of coast defense and anti-aircraft equipment already in Fiji and Tonga shall be decided by mutual agreement between N.Z. Government and Commanding General of U.S. Forces in Fiji. Provision of additional equipment shall be United States responsibility.

Ends.

TOO. 17152/23

(Circulation)

Col. Jacob  
Foreign Secretary  
War Reg. Admiralty  
C.6 Tels, War Office  
C.A.S.

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705

War Diary.23.7.1942  
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies - contd.

Sub. attack and sighting summary. TYSA sunk 3 torpedoes 23 shells 25.33 N. 57.53 W. 1930Z/29/6. PORT ANTONIO torpedoed presumed sunk 23.59 N. 84 W. 1715Z/19. Surface craft attack sound contacts 29.30 N. 80 W. 0922Z/26/6, 34.40 N. 75.38 W. 1435Z/30/6, 34.30 N. 75 W. 1231Z/3/7. 34.52 N. 75.57 W. 1528Z/3, 35.28 N. 74.39 W. 2350Z/3. Planes attack oil slicks 39.17 N. 74.07 W. 1432 and 1900Z/21. 39.20 N. 74.12 W. 1608Z/21. Surface craft sights sub. 34.52 N. 75.43 W. 1740Z/22. Sub reported 28.53 N. 89.29 W. 0130Z/23. (Cominch 1941/23 to Admty. for O.I.C.)

A/C attacks U/B. Aircraft attacked possible S/M in 051° 37' N. 056° 10' W. at 1015/23. (C.O.A.C. 2016Z/23 to Admty.)

? U.S. ships for Russia. Your 0210/23 (N.T. in W.D.) Understand U.S.A. authorities intend delay sailing ships named pending clarification Russian Convoy position. You should communicate Washington to confirm as Admiralty unable instruct these U.S.A. ships. (D.T.D. 2021B/23 to N.S.H.Q.)

U/B Campaign. Connav serial 23. SAN GASPAR British serial 22 arrived Trinidad. WILLIAM C. BRYANT U.S. reached Key West. PENN SUN serial 17 at Key West. CHILORE U.S. and J.A. MOWINCKLE Pan. both salvaged. TYSA Du. Torpedoed sunk 29/6 25.33 N. 57.53 W. Entire crew survived. WILLIAM DAWES U.S. torpedoed sunk 22/7 36.43 S. 151° 30' E. PORT ANTONIO Nor. torpedoed sunk 19/7 23.59 N. 84.00 W. HAVORN Nor. sunk in collision 19/7 near Ile de Coudres in St. Lawrence. HONOLULAN U.S. torpedoed sunk 22/7 08.41 N. 22.04 W. (Connav 2040/23 to Comnav.)

TRIGLAV. Yugo-Slavian TRIGLAV overdue New York since 5/7 from Tobito. (N.S.H.Q. 2109Z/23 to Admty. etc.)

U/B. U-boat estimated your vicinity by D/F has made sighting report of a convoy or important unit at 1913Z/23. (C. in C. U.S. Fleet 2111/23 to C.T.U. 24.1.12, C.T.U. 24.1.15, Admty. C.T.24. N.S.H.Q. C.O.A.C.)

BURNHAM U/B. Enemy S/M on surface. My position 052° 33' N. (?038°) 13' W. (BURNHAM 2115Z/23 to ? Admty.) My 2115Z/23. U-boat dived after 3rd round fell close. (BURNHAM 2130Z/23 to Admty. C.O.A.C. Halifax.)

/Carrying ...

War Diary.23.7.1942  
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies - contd.

- Carrying of passengers in U.S. Strategic Area. S.B.N.O. W.A. 1546/21. This is fully explained by B.A.D. Washington who have not failed to make representations to Navy Dept. (B.A.D. 2115Z/23 to Admty. D. of S.T. (R) C. in C. W.A., C. in C. S.A. F.O.C.N.A., N.S.H.Q. R.A. W.A., S.B.N.O. W.A.)
- RAMSEY. RAMSEY carries out trials Saturday 25/7. If satisfactory ship will then be re-entered to sail for Halifax. (B.A.M.R. 2120Z/23 to Admty.)
- Shipping Delays. Your 1759/22 paras 3 and 4 (Re expediting the passage of tanker tonnage) Cominch has passed information to Comeastseafon and instructed him to take the steps considered necessary to reduce delays. (B.A.D. 2121Z/23 to Admty.)
- S.C.93 Diversions. Admty. 1910/22. British Merchant Shipping Mission, Washington, instruct that ships referred to are to be held pending further instructions. (N.S.H.Q. 2151Z/23 to N.C.S.O. Sydney (R) Admty.)
- DUC D'AUMALE My 1249/14. 1607/16, French DUC D'AUMALE arrived Ciudad Trujillo 23/7 presumably from Martinique. (S.O.I. Jamaica 2156R/23 to B.A.D. Admty., S.B.N.O.W.A.)
- U/B. U-boat estimated dawn vicinity by D/F has made sighting report of a convoy or important unit at 1909Z/23. (C. in C. U.S. Fleet 2211/23 to C.T.U. No.24.1.18 (R) AMAZON, C.T.U.No.24.1.11, C.T.F. No.37, C.T.U.No 24.1.12, C.T.24. N.S.H.Q., C.O.A.C. Admty.)
- U/B. U-boat estimate your vicinity by D/F has made sighting report of a convoy or important unit at 1938Z/23. (Cominch 2213/23 to C.T.U. 24.1.13, C.T.U.24.1.15, (R) C.T.U. 24.1.12, Admty. C.T.24, C.O.A.C., N.S.H.Q.)
- U/B. Coast watcher reports possible S/M sighted in 047° (?37') N. 058° 23' W. westbound p.m./23rd. (C.O.A.C. 2234Z/23 to Admty.)

War Diary.

23.7.1942  
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies - contd.

S.G.2.  
BECCAS.

S.G.2 arrived Greenland 0630Z/22 Norwegian  
BECCAS Straggler not yet arrived.  
(N.S.H.Q. Ottawa 2307Z/23 to Admty.)

U/B.

(Group missed) reports S/M sighted off  
Hardbargain South Side Long Island course  
South East 22nd.  
(S.O.I. Kingston 2317R/23 to Admty., S.B.N.O.  
W.A. B.A.D. Connav, N.O.I.C. Port of Spain,  
Seafronmiami, Seafron San Juan.)

BAJA  
CALIFORNIA  
19/7.

Honduras BAJA CALIFORNIA torpedoed 0445 G.M.T/19  
40 miles N. by E. of Rebecca Shoal, 34 survivors  
landed Havana 3 missing.  
(S.O.I. Kingston 2318R/23 to Admty., S.B.N.O.  
W.A., N.S.H.Q., Connav, B.A.D., N.O.I.C. Port  
of Spain, Seafron Miami, Seafron San Juan.)

U/Bs.

Barranquilla reports two S/Ms sighted by U.S.  
Consul off Cabo de Velas Goajira 20/7.  
(S.O.I. Kingston 2352R/23 to Admty. etc.)

War Diary.23.7.1942.  
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Australia and New Zealand.→ ALLARA  
torpedoed.SS. ALLARA (? 3279 tons) torpedoed 2100Z/22nd in  
(? 033°) 03' S. 152° 22' E. No further details  
yet available.  
(A.C.N.B., 0134Z/23 to Admty., etc.)

Situation.

Series No. 181 from G.H.Q. S.W.P.A. 21/7.  
202. Air R/C 21/7 reports (a) 2 heavy cruisers  
4 destroyers in 007° 15' S. 148° 30' E. at

2220Z/20 course 260° speed 12 knots.

(b) 1 Fortress reports 1 transport grounded South of Una  
Buna 4 transports 4 destroyers off Cape Sudest (4 miles South-  
east Buna at 0700Z/21.II. 5 Marauders attacked latter force at 0802Z/21 1 direct hit  
on transport, 4 other bombs in target area.III. Buna strafed and reconnoitred by enemy float plane  
presumably from cruiser during afternoon 21/7.

IV. At 0719Z/21 warships reports shelling Buna.

V. Reliable Solomon Island native reports 19/7 (a) A/A guns  
Tanavula Point (Western end Sandfly Passage) (b) Wireless  
Station Makambo Island (c) Enemy warship daily uses Harbour  
Ysabel Island (Probably Rekata Bay).VI. Greek merchantman G.S. LIVANOS sunk by enemy S/M 20 miles  
off Jervis Bay N.S.W. at 1300, total complement saved.VII. U.S. Merchantman COAST FARMER torpedoed by submarine off  
Jervis Bay at 1600Z/20.

(A.C.N.B., 0314/23 to Admty., etc.)

Serial Number 182, 22/7.

(1) U.S. Merchantman WILLIAM DAWES torpedoed and sunk by enemy  
S/M 36° 45' S. 150° 20' E. at 1930Z/21, casualties 4 killed 3  
wounded.→ (2) British Vessel ALLARA torpedoed 33° 03' S. 152° 22' E.  
2123Z/22.(3) At least 3 enemy submarines believed operating Newcastle -  
Jervis Bay area.

(4) Ref. Serial No. 181 para. 6 for G.M. LIFCANOS read G.S. LIVANOS.

(5) Bukaua 6° 50' S. 147° 25' E. frequently visited by Japanese  
for supplies according reliable report natives not permitted to  
visit Lae. Enemy patrol attacked Mubo 12 miles South Salamaua  
21/7 attack repulsed. More troops reported landing Salamaua.(6) Enemy landings took place at Gona (15 miles North Buna)  
during night 21/22. A.A. guns established Gona where 22  
landing barges on beach 0755/22/7 fifteen attacks comprising  
approx. 57 sorties carried out by Fortresses, Marauders, B.25s,  
Aircobras, Kittyhawks from 2025/21 to 0755Z/22. 1 8-10000 ton  
transport believed sunk. One barge sunk. One possible hit  
destroyer, one type 95 float-plane probable shot down all  
shipping departed Buna before 0050Z/22 when two cruisers two  
destroyers one transport sighted 15 miles from Buna on northerly  
course.(7) Two 5000 ton transports observed Rabaul harbour by air R/C  
0330Z/22.(8) Native report indicates (? four) warships at Kessa (Buka)  
19th and 20th.

(G.H.Q. S.W. Pacific, 0640Z/23 to Admty., etc.)

/Transport ...

War Diary.

23.7.1942.  
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Australia and New Zealand - Contd.

Transport  
of Service  
Personnel.

Your 1707/19. To assist in assessing passages for service personnel for U.K. or Halifax request classification (A) if any vessel under 15 knots proceed unescorted (B) specification of vessels likely to be included in trade convoys.

(2) Your 2211/21. Every opportunity taken to utilise U.S. Transports to West Coast for air trainees but these are rare and seldom fit in with completion dates of classes thus incurring long undesirable delays.

(3) Complete lack of forward information as to destination U.S. Transports introduces complications.

(4) If no transports available for West Coast suggest possibility embarking personnel for Balboa and balance over numbers allowed being (there?) shipped by coastal convoys to West Coast ports. (N.Z.N.B., 1306M/23 to B.A.D., (R) Admty., etc.)

Reply: B.A.D. 2125/24.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Submarines Reported.

Approximate positions.  
(D.D.I.C., 1424B/23, 1426B/23.)

24.7.1942  
Friday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

The destroyers MARTIN, MARNE, BLANKNEY and MIDDLETON arrived in the Kola Inlet at 1602B today.

At 0915 an enemy Coastal Battery fired one round which fell in Dover causing slight damage to twenty houses and wounding one civilian.

S.B.N.O. North Russia reports that only 46 Russian naval Fighter A/C of which 15 are of obsolescent type and 20 Bombers are believed to be available in the Murmansk area, where 45 Hurricane A/C are held up for spares. He considers that the Germans now enjoy an air superiority in that region of which they may decide to take advantage.

S.B.N.O. Archangel has reported that on 18/7 he estimated the total casualties in Convoy P.Q.17 to have been about 70, and that there were then about 1150 survivors from that Convoy in North Russia and at Novaya Zemlya.

A German broadcast today states that an officer from SS CARLTON was picked up by a German Red Cross aircraft. This was the one ship unaccounted for in P.Q.17 and is now presumed to have been lost.

British Air Activity.

The operation "Knocker" was again cancelled today; but the U.S. Air authorities at Reykjavik have asked that, as soon as the weather permits movement, accommodation for 142 U.S. aircraft may be found in the North to relieve congestion at Reykjavik.

186 aircraft attacked Duisburg and area last night but the attack is not considered to have been so successful as that on the night 21/22 July.

711

24.7.1942  
Friday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT.

Enemy Air Activity.

Great Yarmouth and Kings Lynn were bombed last night, some damage to buildings being caused in both places but no casualties in either.

Mining.

Scattered minelaying off Flamborough Head and the Wash is suspected to have been carried out last night by some 35 enemy A/C.

One Magnetic Mine was exploded by Sweepers today in the Thames Estuary, and one off the Tyne.

About 35 enemy aircraft operated over an area from Flamborough Head to the Wash and up to 30 miles out to sea between 2315/23 and 0045/24. Scattered minelaying is suspected.

Bomber Command aircraft last night laid 49 mines off the Dutch coast.

North Atlantic.

S/M P.211 reports on return today from patrol off East Coast of Sardinia that at 1405/12 she sank Italian SS ADDA, 800 tons, laden with timber, 330° Cape Monte Santo 5 miles. At 2130/15 she attacked in the Gulf of Orosei a 1500 ton M/V which was hit and possibly beached.

Portuguese LIMA was boarded by IMPERIALIST today in 38.36 N. 09.30 W. and mails removed, also pamphlet from a German woman passenger.

F.O.C.N.A. reports that position of LAVINGTON COURT is out of range of air search from Gibraltar, and asks if assistance can be given from U.K.



War Diary.

24.7.1942  
Friday.

SITUATION REPORT.

South Atlantic.

Resident Minister, West Africa, in a telegram for Minister of Defence, reports that a meeting today between the Services and Members of the War Council considered the inadequacy of defence in this area against S/Ms and surface raiders. S/M activity has begun as foreshadowed, with sinkings 500 miles W. and 200 miles S. While appreciating the difficulty of providing naval reinforcements, he asks if possible for some reassembling of naval A/S forces dispersed during the last 6 months from Freetown escort force, and also for a squadron of long range aircraft at Natal.

Norwegian TRITON reported at 0500Z having picked up 11 survivors of WILLIAM F. HUMPHREY, sunk by raider. A corrupt SSS was received from a ship believed to be WILLIAM F. HUMPHREY at 2128Z/16 in 06.30 S., 01° E. (026° St. Helena 625 miles)

Mediterranean.

C. in C. Med. reviewing the condition of his destroyers, tells Admty. that he hopes it will be possible to send him some 4.7 inch destroyers before long.

Damage was caused at Luqa aerodrome by air attack today.

5 Halifaxes, 3 Fortresses and 23 Wellingtons last night bombed shipping and harbour installations at Tobruk. 1 ship is claimed hit, and several fires were started in the dock area.

Torpedo Wellingtons attacked a southbound convoy of 2 M/Vs and 2 destroyers last night 130 miles N.N.W. of Tobruk. 1 ship is claimed hit, and a probable hit on 1 destroyer.

Torpedo Beauforts attacked a 7000 ton M/V last night 273° Cape Geroghambo (Sephallonia Island) 10 miles, and R/C photos at 1220 today showed it ablaze forward being towed towards Argostoli.

War Diary.24.7.1942  
Friday.SITUATION REPORT.East Indies.

Replying to Admty request on 20/7 for consideration to providing A/S escort to a proportion of shipping passing through Mozambique Channel, C. in C. E.F. says this has received constant consideration both before and since U-boat campaign commenced. His available A/S escorts are required for (a) Screening main units of the Fleet. (b) Escorting merchant shipping in and out of main harbour. (c) Supplementing inadequate A/S protection of harbour. He reviews the situation of the 26 destroyers nominally allocated to Eastern Fleet, and shows that only 2 remain for operations in Mozambique Channel. Attacks may begin shortly in Persian Gulf approaches. If escorts in Indian area are transferred to Mozambique Channel, time occupied in reinforcing Persian Gulf, especially in monsoon weather, would not be acceptable. By late autumn as 11 new Bathursts and 8 whalers, with A/S trawlers building for R.I.N. come into service, it will be possible to organise some group sailing with escort as proposed.

No attacks have been made by Japanese U-boats in Indian Ocean during the week ending today, but a report has now been received that Norwegian THELMA was unsuccessfully attacked in 24.18 S., 37.17 E. on 15/7. No U-boats were known to be in the vicinity at the time. Estimated dispositions are:-

At least 1 in 08° N., 059° E. on 23/7.  
1 in vicinity 05° S., 050° E. on 20/7.  
2 or 3 in area 07° S., to 15° S., 69° E. to 80° E. on 22 - 23/7.

There are indications of Japanese U-boats moving northward in the Indian Ocean. D. C. in C. E.F. asks Commodore, Aden, to impress on N.C.S.O. Aden, the importance of avoiding congestion of shipping on the line Aden to Cape Guardafui, particularly at the Aden end, where routes should be well spread out after leaving the searched channel. He asks Aden for a summary of A/S and air forces at their disposal and available for A/S escort of convoy or important ships in Gulf of Aden.

Persian Gulf  
Dredging.

Admty. today asked S.N.O. Persian Gulf, in view of the importance of dredging operations in Rooka Channel, what ships and patrol craft he has available to protect working dredgers from (a) disguised merchant raiders, (b) S/Ms and midget S/Ms, and (c) Aircraft; and what arrangements have been made to prevent an attempt to block the Rooka Channel by scuttling from a disguised merchantman.

714

War Diary.24.7.1942  
Friday.SITUATION REPORT.America and West Indies.

A message from St. Kitts reported today the landing of survivors from Dutch ship, TYSA, on 9/7. No details of attack are yet given.

A U-boat was sighted on the surface at 0935Z by BUCTOUCHE in 41.49 N. 66.31 W. but contact was lost in thick fog.

BURNHAM escorting O.N.113, at 1820Z sighted 2 U-boats on the surface, one on either bow, 10 miles, in 48.37 N. 40.38 W. At 2240Z a U-boat was seen on the surface, 7 miles, in 48.38 N. 41.24 W. and observed to dive, but the attack was broken off in heavy rain and no visibility.

*U. 90 Sunk.  
(Dr: R. 60/7/42  
7000: 643)*

ST. CROIX, Canadian destroyer, also escorting O.N.113, reports having sunk a U-boat about 720 miles E. of St. Johns N.F. at 1055 p.m.

Australia.

SS ALLARA (torpedoed 22/7) was taken in tow by DOOMBA and has reached Newcastle. Her casualties were 4 killed and 6 wounded.

Twelve Mile aerodrome, Port Moresby was attacked by 18 bombers escorted by 16 fighters at 0400Z today; some damage was caused.

715

War Diary.24.7.1942  
Friday.HOME COMMANDS.Policy.

Base at Peterhead. Your letter 3318/01405 dated 18/7. I have no objection from the operational aspect to the base being transferred to Peterhead. Request that C.O. FLORA II may represent C. in C. H.F. and myself at the meeting proposed in para 5 of your letter.  
(A.C.O.S. 1045/24 to C..in C. Rosyth.)

X.3 Craft Training. Para 4 of my No.1512/S M 04351 of 10/7. As the base at Gareloch may not now be ready for two months it is intended to proceed with training in the Portsmouth area it is therefore requested that SEILISTEIR and CHOUANGHI with their crews may be sent to Fort Blockhouse at an early date.  
(F.O.S. 1306B/24 to Admty.)  
1. My No.1490/S M of 10/7. X.3 and X craft training organization cannot be transferred Gare Loch until requisitioned and necessary alterations to shed and slipway are completed. Request highest priority may be allocated to this work. In the meantime X.3 must remain in Portsmouth area with consequent adverse effect on training programme.  
(F.O.S. 1652B/24 to Admty.)

Invergordon Coaling facilities Crail's 1510/18th and R.A.N.A.S. 1450B/19. Experience at Methil shows that existing coaling facilities at Invergordon are inadequate. Even if VIKING could coal from a collier, which owing to fixed landing craft davits, is improbable that at Invergordon can only supply seventy tons a day under favourable weather conditions. No working party can be provided at Invergordon and under present agreement crew of VIKING cannot be compelled to coal their own ship. VICTORIA cannot fuel from an oiler. Also owing to fixed landing craft davits, and for the same reason, can only fuel at the oiling jetty between limited times either side of high water.  
(C. in C. Rosyth 1335B/24 to Admty.)

CLIO. Liverpool 1469/252/119 of 19/6 and 1639/266P of 9/7. Request very early instructions regarding disposal of CLIO.  
(F.O.I.C. Liverpool 1547/24 to Admty.)

Movements.

MARTIN. My 1720B/20. Amended E.T.A position M.V.1215B and E.T.A. Kola Inlet 1500B/24.  
(MARTIN 0153B/24 to S.B.N.O. North Russia.)  
*Recd: 2.11.42 p.722*

EMERALD  
CALPE  
BROCKLESBY. Your 1743B/23. Sailed 0539.  
(F.O.I.C. Portland 0550B/24 to C. in C. Portsmouth.)  
Sailed EMERALD, BROCKLESBY.  
(C. in C. Plymouth 0607B/24.)

716

War Diary.

24.7.1942  
Friday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Movements - contd.

ARGUS. Sailed ARGUS.  
(N.O.I.C. Lamplash 0858B/24 to F.O.I.C. Greenock)

RENOWN. Take INGLEFIELD, INTREPID, \*WRESTLER under your orders and proceed in accordance with C. in C. H.F.\*1838/21. (N/T in War Registry)  
(2) Signal E.T.A. Scapa before sailing.  
(C.S.1 1101B/24 to RENOWN.)  
*\*? 1438B/21 - See p. 620 \*\* In the ... OFFA ...*

FURIOUS. FURIOUS 1831/23. Owing to congestion at Scapa, request you will retain FURIOUS at Clyde until 31/7.  
(C. in C. H.F. 1111B/24 to N.O.,I.C. Greenock.)

PRINSES§  
BEATRIX.  
CANTON. As CANTON cannot maintain speed of 19 knots, intend to sail PRINSES§ BEATRIX independently as in my 1614B/23 and CANTON escorted by \*DOUGLAS at 2000B/25. E.T.A. Needles 1200B/27.  
(F.O.I.C. Greenock 1154B/24 to C. in C. Portsmouth.)  
*\* See p. 721*

DESPATCH  
LEDBURY. Take LEDBURY under your orders and leave harbour at 0900/25. 2. Proceed by searched channel to Scapa carrying out partial repair trial on passage.  
(C. in C. Rosyth 1203B/24 to DESPATCH.)

ALBRIGHTON. ALBRIGHTON is to be detached to arrive Dartmouth before dark.  
(C. in C. Plymouth 1544B/24 to BROCKLESBY.)

JAUNTY. A.M.1910B/21. Route for H.M. Tug JAUNTY.  
F. 360° Inishtrahull 10 miles.  
G. 054° 35' N. 013° 02' W.  
H. 051° 03' N. 016° 41' W.  
J. 042° 58' N. 017° 01' W.  
(C. in C. W.A. 1549B/24.)

BROKE. Intend to sail BROKE to westward to carry out repair trials and on completion to enter Portland. Needles E.T.D. 1330/25, E.T.A. Portland 1800/25.  
(C. in C. Portsmouth 1633/24.)

EXMOUTH. Your 1911B/22. Sailing delayed owing to operation to facilitate towing. Probable date now 28 or 29/7.  
(F.O.I.C. London 1653B/24.)

717

War Diary.24.7.1942  
Friday.HOME COMMANDS.Movements - contd.

EMPIRE My 1452/24. Owing to delay in loading N A V  
FIRTH. EMPIRE FIRTH, sailing of LINNET and EMPIRE  
LINNET. FIRTH is postponed.  
(N.O.I.C. Invergordon 1656/24.)

13 L C P(L) Your 2046B/23 para 2. Concur.  
for (C. in C. Portsmouth 1830B/24 to C.C.O.)  
Portsmouth  
Command.

STURGEON. 1. STURGEON and P.54 are to be ready to leave  
P.54 Lerwick p.m. 3rd August for patrol.  
UREDD. 2. S.9 is to order UREDD, P.48, P.219 to leave  
P.48, P.219 patrol so as to arrive Lerwick a.m. 28th, p.m.  
P.247, P.51 29th, and p.m. 29th respectively.  
P.614, P.615. 3. UREDD is to remain Lerwick for one day for  
camouflage trial.  
4. P.247 and P.51 are to leave Lerwick p.m.  
29th for A/S patrol in area K.101 between 063° 20' and 062° 40' N.  
and 000° 30' E. and 000° 30' W. and K.102 between 061° 30' and  
062° 20' N. and 000° 30' E. and 000° 30' W. respectively.  
5. Submarines are to spend a minimum time at Lerwick.  
6. In order to keep bombing restrictions to a minimum  
Submarines proceeding to and from patrol should be routed close  
together possible mutual encounter being accepted.  
7. H.M.S. P.614 and H.M.S. P.615 are to proceed to Holy Loch  
from Lerwick.  
(F.O.S. 1913B/24.)  
1. Intend sailing P.247 and P.51 escorted by CUTTY SARK  
at 1000B/27 via searched channel Minches and west of Orkneys  
for Lerwick. E.T.A. 1100B/29.  
(Capt. S.3 2207B/24.)

EGRET. My 1640/22. Sailed.  
(F.O.I.C. Tyne 2250/24 to C. in C. Rosyth.)

Operations.

Offensive My 1509B/19. Weather permitting M.G.Bs are to  
Patrol. carry out similar operation tonight.  
(C. in C. Plymouth 1329B/24 to N.O.I.C. Dartmouth)  
Your 1329/24. M.G.B. 74, 76, 78, 80.  
(N.O.I.C. Dartmouth 1525B/24 to C. in C. Plymouth.)  
Your 1329B/24. My 1525/24 cancelled owing to weather.  
(N.O.I.C. Dartmouth 2059/24 to C. in C. Plymouth)

Patrols. 2 Chasseurs and ADONIS patrolling to south of  
E.A.5 buoy.  
(C. in C. Portsmouth 1507/24.)

/Weather ...

718

War Diary.24.7.1942  
Friday.HOME COMMANDS.Operations.

Patrols - Weather permitting M.Ls 491 S.O., 153, and  
Contd. 195 from Dartmouth are to patrol on a line  
between 49° 10' N. 03° 17' W. and 49° 57' N.  
03° 29' W. from 2300/24 till 0500/25.

2. M.Ls 181 S.O., 179, 259, and 184 from Falmouth are to  
patrol on a line between 49° 55' N. 04° 12' W. and 49° 55' N.  
03° 50' W. from 2300/24 till 0500/25.

3. Object to intercept and destroy E-Boats attempting to  
attack Convoy P.W.191.

4. On completion M.Ls return to base.  
(C. in C. Plymouth 1539B/24 and 1819B/24.)  
My 1819 read 50° 10' N. 3° 17' W.  
(C. in C. Plymouth 2039B/24 to BROCKLESBY.)  
M.Ls 220 and 207 from Ramsgate patrolling between Dumpton  
and North East Spit buoys. E.T.D. 2300, leaving patrol 0530/25.  
(V.A. Dover 1753B/24.)  
3 M.Ls on patrol 13' S.E. Start. 4 M.Ls on patrol 20'  
S.E. Eddystone.  
(C. in C. Plymouth 1922B/24.)

L.C.P (L) Operational L C P (L)'s are being organised  
organisation. into three groups as follows. Group A. 28  
craft, Group B. 28 craft, Group C 24 craft  
including L C N 96. Intend assembling Group  
B at Newhaven shortly. Thirteen L C P (L) quoted in C.C.O's  
2046B/23 are part of Group B.  
(TORMENTOR 1717B/24 to C. in C. Portsmouth.)

Dover At 0915 today enemy coastal battery fired one  
shelled. round which fell in Dover causing superficial  
damage to twenty houses and wounding one  
civilian.  
(V.A. Dover 1827B/24.)

Exercises.

Tactical Your 1515/23. Approved.  
Exercise. (C. in C. H.F. 1044B/24 to F.O.C. 1st C.S.)  
DUKE OF YORK.

S/M and F.O.S. requires certain trials between a S/M  
A/C Trials. and A.S.V fitted A/C. Trials are estimated to  
last for about six hours a day over a period of  
eight days commencing 27/7. Request an A.S.V  
fitted A/C may be made available at Arbroath.  
(C. in C. Rosyth 1831B/24 to Admty.)  
C. in C. Rosyth's 1831/24. Considered likely two A/C  
and crews will be required. One or more first line reserve  
aircraft could be provided by Donibristle if necessary. Air  
crews cannot be provided from Arbroath Training resources without  
detriment to training. No crews available Donibristle.  
Consider these trials should be undertaken by 778 Squadron and  
importance justifies high priority.  
(C.D.B. 2230/24 to Admty.)

719

War Diary.

24.7.1942  
Friday.

HOME COMMANDS.

British Air Activity.

"Knocker" Operation will commence 1000Z/24 weather permitting.  
(A.C.I.C. 0048B/24.)  
My 0048/24. Operation postponed until 1400Z.  
(A.C.I.C. 1100B/24.)  
Operation possible 1400 G.M.T.  
(T.A.C. Prestwick 1350/24)  
Due to weather conditions causing congestion here request arrangement made to accept and accommodate 85 P.38s, 22 B.17s, S 35 C.47s in area Prestwick Ayr Ballyhalbert Tiree as soon as weather permits movement.  
(U.S.A.T.C. Reykjavik 1450/24 to Air Ministry, 44 Group, T.A.C. Prestwick.)  
Operations cancelled today.  
(A.C.I.C. 1630B/24) (T.A.C. Prestwick 1800/24)

Bombing My 1341B/19. Request similar surface bombing restrictions. restrictions tonight.  
(C. in C. Plymouth 1327B/24 to H.Q.C.C.)

Russian Official figures of Russian A/C now being withheld but fairly reliable source reveals only A/C in 30 to 40 naval fighters and 20 bombers available North Russia. here and Ponoï. 45 Hurricane held up for spares. Number of army A/C not known but compared with 450 or more A/C and 100 troop carrying Junkers employed by enemy in Northern Norway Germans enjoy an air superiority of which they may decide to take advantage.  
(S.B.N.O. North Russia 1813B/24 to Admty.)  
Note.- See Amendment 2001B/26.

Enemy Air Activity.

Yarmouth and Kings Lynn Gt. Yarmouth bombed night 23rd/24. No casualties. Moderate blast damage to WATCHFUL, bombed. buildings etc. Very near miss.  
(N.O.I.C. Gt. Yarmouth 0154/24, 1110B/24.)

EMPIRE Received at 1511 G.M.T. de EMPIRE FISHER begins FISHER Attacked by enemy A/C 40 miles East of Cape attacked. Langaness 1507.  
(Wick Radio 1713/24 to Admty.)

Mining.

East Between 2315/23 and 0045/24 approximately 35 A/C Coast. operated over an area from Flamborough Head to the Wash and up to 30 miles out to sea. About half this number are known to have crossed the coast. Scattered minelaying suspected.  
(F.O. Humber 0110B/24.)



720

War Diary.24.7.1942  
Friday.HOME COMMANDS.Mining - Contd.

S.N.82. Intend to carry out as follows. Details.  
(R.A.M. 0904B/24) See Lion Copy.

West Channel Sweep. Intend to sail ILFRACOMBE, EASTBOURNE, STORNOWAY at 0520/25 for Portland sweeping ahead of W.P.191.  
2. You are requested to sail them for Dartmouth at 0800/26 sweeping route "A" to 193° Start Point 6 miles and continuing sweep to Dart buoy. (N.O.I.C. Dartmouth 1655B/24 to F.O.I.C. Portland.)

Tyne. At 1250/24 one Magnetic Mine exploded by Sweepers. Details.  
(N.O.I.C. North Shields 1805/24.)

Thames Estuary. One ground mine detonated by Sweepers at 0952/24. Details.  
(Capt. M/S Sheerness 1832/24.)

DELPHINUS. DELPHINUS has today detonated her 50th mine, a great proportion of which has been during night sweeping operations in the main shipping channels.  
(Capt. M/S Sheerness 1852/24.)

U-Boats.

U-Boat reported. Position 1400Z/24, 054° 32' N. 027° 32' W. Lost contact at 2145Z/23. Search abandoned 2230. Resuming course. Wind 5.  
(PARRSBORD. 1402Z/24.)

Navigational.

Ardrishaig. Shoal Patch. SEAHAWK reports a shoal patch in 161° 6 point 35 cables from Ardrishaig Pier light. Details. Request promulgation.  
(F.O.I.C. Greenock 1519B/24 to Hydrog.)

Thames Estuary. East Margate Buoy is missing from station.  
(Capt. M/S Sheerness 1850/24)  
(Hydrog 2351B/24.)

Casualties and Defects.

Newport. Entrance to Alexandra Docks Newport blocked until HENRY R. MALLORY. further notice by U.S. ship HENRY R. MALLORY ramming lock gate.  
MALLORY. (N.O.I.C. Newport 0715B/24.)

**MOST SECRET**

720A.

MOST SECRET

MESSAGE

IN

0904B/24th July

FROM: R.A.M.

Date: 24.7.42.

Recd: 1816.

R.A.F. Code by T/P.

ADDRESSED: Admiralty, C. in C. Home Fleet, C. in C. Rosyth.  
Repeated A.O.C. in C. F.C. C. in C. Western  
Approaches, A.C.O.S. R.A.D. H.F. Air Ministry,  
Whitehall, H.Q. 18 Group, H.Q. 14 Group.

Intend to carry out operation S N 82 as follows

(A) Surface minefield from South East to North West

(D) (i) 1st minelayer squadron H.M.S.'s BRIGHTON,  
LANCASTER, CASTLETON, NEWARK, SCOTT.

(ii) C. in C. H.F. is requested detail one cruiser

(E) Anti submarine air escort is requested when outside  
North Minch. Initial rendezvous on 30th July 1942  
090 degs Butt of Lewis 15 miles at 1900.

(F) From 062 degs 32' 12" North 008 degs 46' 48" West  
to 063 degs 09' 30" North 009 degs 49' 18" West.

(G) 1300 30th July

(I) At 2200 30th July in position 090 degs North Rona  
5 miles

(J) Through position

A. 059 degs 45' North 005 degs 30' West

B. 060 degs 30' North 007 degs 00' West

C. 061 degs 53' North 007 degs 41' West

(K) 13 knots

(L) 1600/31st July

(N) Through position

D. 063 degs 28' North 009 degs 03' West

E. 062 degs 22' North 006 degs 00' West

F. 060 degs 30' North 005 degs 30' West

A. 059 degs 45' North 005 degs 30' West or to

Port Z A 0600/2nd August

(P) H.M.S. BRIGHTON and H.M.S. CASTLETON to Clyde and  
remainder to Port Z A.

(R) 2230/28th July

(W) 47 miles 14 knots. H.M.S. ADVENTURE will lay  
for first 24 miles only

/X.

720<sup>B</sup>

2.

- (X) Mark XX II Star/Mark XVII 3 Star set to 20 feet
- (Y) Full outfit
- (Z) 2 lines ship in area B throughout.

0904B/24

Advance Copy D.D.O.D.(M) D.C.  
D.O.D.(H) D.D.I.C.

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

MLC.

Admiral Blake.

721

War Diary.

24.7.1942  
Friday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Casualties and Defects - contd.

P.45. The following signal has been received from P.45. DOUGLAS collided with P.45 berthed on St. SUNNIVA at 0700. P.45 holed in tube space starboard side between 20 and 30 frames below water line. Ship out of action operationally. Request docking arrangement. Ends. Anticipated temporary repairs will be completed and vessel undocked 1000/25. Request docking arrangement be made for permanent repair which is estimated will take approx. 3 weeks. (F.O.S. 0948B/24 to Admty.)

WICHITA. Admiralty 1530B/22. WICHITA will be docked down p.m. today. (A.S. Rosyth 1020B/24.)

DRAUGETTE. <sup>/N.T.W.D.</sup> Your 1544B/23. This motor boat at present has engine defects. Anticipated date of completion 5/8. (Patrol Lowestoft 1315B/24 to Admty.)

NEVADA II. NIMBLE no longer required. Am returning Stornoway via Tobermory and Loch Ewe. (NIMBLE 1415B/24.) Sailed NIMBLE. (WESTERN ISLES 1834B/24.)

M.G.B.601. At 1045 today a small explosion occurred in the engine room of M.G.B.601 and started a serious fire. A further heavy explosion of the after fuel tank followed and M.G.B. 601 now lies completely submerged in Wellington Dock. Efforts are being made to pump her out and raise her. The cause of the explosion is not known but enquiries are proceeding. One Stoker who was working in the engine room missing presumed killed, six ratings wounded three of them seriously. (V.A. Dover 1524B/24.)

EMPIRE <sup>/N.T.W.D.</sup> <sup>/N.T.W.D.</sup>  
PUMA. Your 1649B/24 and my 1412Z/24. Request confirmation that EMPIRE PUMA is to proceed to Loch Ewe on reaching position V although damaged as reported. (LULWORTH 1732Z/24.)

Shipping and Convoys.

U.R.33. E.T.A. Skago 1230Z/24 at 7 knots.  
SHIKARI. (SARDONYX 0431B/24 to A.C.I.C.)  
SARDONYX. A.M's 2006B/20 and 1854B/21. In view of your 2131B/23 request information when these ships will sail as they are urgently required U.K. (D.T.D. 1846B/24 to A.C.I.C.)

Q.P.14. Arrived HALCYON, SALAMANDER, EMPIRE BARD, HARMATRIS, KUS PELO 0730B/24. (S.B.N.O. Archangel 0829B/24 to S.B.N.O. N.Russia)  
<sup>\*KUS BASE. See p.626 /Kola ...</sup>

722

War Diary.

24.7.1942  
Friday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping and Convoys - contd.

- Q.P.14 - Kola Inlet arrival 1600 MARTIN, MARNE, BLANKNEY, MIDDLETON.  
contd. (S.B.N.O. North Russia 1602B/24.)
- P.Q.17. Following is repetition S.B.N.O.'s 1000B/18  
Survivors. addressed Admiralty 93, S.B.N.O. North Russia, repeated C. in C. H.F., A.I.G.47. Admiral Miles begins. P.Q.17. Survivors. Situation is approximately as follows. In Archangel 651. In ships in Novaya Zemlya and onshore approximately 350. In Kola Inlet about 130. Landed at Iokanka 15. Total about 1150. Hospital cases about 40. Casualties not yet fully known but believed at present to be about 70. Survivors here ? fairly comfortably housed and well fed. Ends.  
(Archangel 0900B/24 to Admty.)
- W.P.192. In view of F.O.I.C. Falmouth's 1832/23 intend sailing W.P.192 at 0800/26.  
(F.O.I.C. Cardiff 1011B/24.)  
F.O.I.C. Cardiff's 1011B/24. Request you sail W.P.192 to R/V Helwick light float at 0200/26 approx. Convoy not to pass Start Point before 0500/27, and proceed to Portsmouth not calling at Dartmouth.  
(C. in C. Plymouth 1339B/24 to F.O.I.C. Cardiff.)
- LLANSTEPHAN My 1546/21. Onward route for LLANSTEPHAN CASTLE.  
CASTLE. From (d) to (e). All positions N. and W. 50° 30', 18° 02'. F. 54° 01' 14° 02'.  
G. 55° 25' 09° 01'. H. 55° 35' 07° 00', thence Clyde. (2) LLANSTEPHAN CASTLE is escorted by ITHURIEL and ANTELOPE to (d). (3) N.O.I.C. Milford Haven is requested to pass above to H.M.S. MALCOLM and SWALE on arrival.  
(C..in C. W.A. 1111B/24.)  
My 1217B/24. Sailed MALCOLM to R/V with SWALE and thence in accordance with C. in C. W.A. 1546B/21.  
(F.O.I.C. Milford Haven 1825B/24.)
- S.L.115. Intend proceeding independently to Greenock on crossing 007° W. WOLVERINE escorting Clyde Belfast and Liverpool sections of S.L.115 fast.  
(LULWORTH 1408Z/24.)
- W.S.21. Cancel my 1546/20. Intend sailing SS TAMAROA and ULSTER QUEEN as escort from Barry Roads at 0330/27 to R/V SS CURACOA from Swansea at Scarweather 0700/27. E.T.A. Greenock 0800/28.  
(N.O.I.C. Cardiff 1608B/24.)  
Your 2324/18, part two, para three. DELFTDIJK will not complete loading in time to sail with W.S.21.  
(F.O.I.C. Cardiff 1711B/24.)

723

War Diary.

24.7.1942  
Friday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping and Convoys - contd.

W.N.14.  
W.N.15.

My 1225/19 para 2. After bearings W.N.14 to  
Methil sail meet and give A.A. cover to  
W.N.15. Delete reference to E.N.16.  
(C. in C. Rosyth 1721B/24 to CURACOA.)

724

War Diary.24.7.1942.  
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic.

Search ~~sunk~~ for  
GEORGETOWN  
LAVINGTON  
COURT.

Your 2301B/23 acknowledged. Distance being approx. the same it is requested consideration be given to ship returning to Home Bases as overdue for external and internal boiler cleaning.  
(GEORGETOWN 0630B/24 to F.O.C.N.A.(R) Admty. MANSFIELD.)

Ref.1949B/23 from RHODODENDRON my position at 1400B/24 will be  $042^{\circ}$  ( $744'$ ) N.  $024^{\circ}$   $12'$  W.  
(MANSFIELD 1000B/24 to RHODODENDRON (R) F.O.C.N.A. GEORGETOWN)  
Your 1304B/22. E.T.A. Ponta Delgada 1000Z/25. Require 255 tons oil fuel and 60 tons water.  
(MANSFIELD 1002Z/24 to F.O.C.N.A. (R) GEORGETOWN RHODODENDRON.).

If search today Friday unsuccessful, search up to 120 miles to westwards of position of torpedoed ship tomorrow Saturday.  
2. If nothing found all without further notice return Gib, MANSFIELD fuelling at Ponta Delgada.(3) HAARLEM acknowledge to MANSFIELD.

(F.O.C.N.A. 1251B/24 to MANSFIELD, GEORGETOWN, RHODODENDRON, HAARLEM, PRUDENT, CHARON.)

WELLINGTON's 0559/19 Position of LAVINGTON COURT is out of range of air search from Gibraltar. Can any assistance be given from U.K.?

(F.O.C.N.A. 1252B/24 to Admty.(R) C. in C. Plymouth).

AC 256 24/7. If possible Catalina to be sent to search for LAVINGTON COURT abandoned in estimated position  $42.38$  N.  $25.28$  W. Tugs searching.

(H.Q.C.C. 1951B/24 to R.A.F. Gibraltar (R) Admty. Air Min.)

Your 0156B/20. Not met. Have searched belt 30 miles wide on  $294^{\circ}$  course from  $041^{\circ}$   $56'$  N.  $023^{\circ}$   $14'$  W. to date position thence  $042^{\circ}$   $12'$  N.  $024^{\circ}$   $33'$  W. Now proceeding N.E. to continue search as ordered by MANSFIELD. First contacted MANSFIELD 2000Z/23 and again 1200Z/24 since departure to refuel. HAARLEM joined 1200Z/24 present P.C. and S.  $043^{\circ}$   $11'$  N.  $024^{\circ}$   $04'$  W.  $010^{\circ}$  Weather.

(RHODODENDRON 1800Z/24 to F.O.C.N.A., Admty., C. in C.W.A. (R) MANSFIELD, GEORGETOWN, PRUDENT, HAARLEM, CHARON).

Have searched the area joining  $042^{\circ}$   $20'$   $025^{\circ}$   $09'$   $042^{\circ}$   $15'$   $026^{\circ}$   $00'$   $041^{\circ}$   $08'$   $025^{\circ}$   $09'$   $041^{\circ}$   $20'$   $024^{\circ}$   $22'$ . Intend steering  $270^{\circ}$  to  $041^{\circ}$   $36'$   $027^{\circ}$   $35'$  thence  $042^{\circ}$   $42'$   $028^{\circ}$   $00'$  sweeping with (271?) during the night thence by similar route 20 miles eastward and, southward proceeding Gibraltar on completion. General R/V  $042^{\circ}$   $42'$   $027^{\circ}$   $30'$  1200B/25. No appreciable setting has been experienced during searches.

(GEORGETOWN 2130B/24 to F.O.C.N.A. (R) S.O. 38th Escort Group RHODODENDRON, PRUDENT, CHARON, HAARLEM.)

Have searched area enclosed by following positions:- (a)  $043^{\circ}$   $31'$  N.  $025^{\circ}$   $13'$  W. (b)  $043^{\circ}$   $03'$  N.  $025^{\circ}$   $20'$  W. (c)  $042^{\circ}$   $35'$  N.  $025^{\circ}$   $12'$  W. (d)  $041^{\circ}$   $25'$  N.  $024^{\circ}$   $14'$  W. (e)  $041^{\circ}$   $25'$  N.  $023^{\circ}$   $43'$  W. (f)  $042^{\circ}$   $05'$  N.  $023^{\circ}$   $42'$  W. (g)  $042^{\circ}$   $52'$  N.  $024^{\circ}$   $22'$  and along line (e) to  $040^{\circ}$   $50'$  N.  $024^{\circ}$   $33'$  W.

(MANSFIELD 2130Z/24 to F.O.C.N.A. (R) GEORGETOWN, RHODODENDRON PRUDENT, HAARLEM, CHARON.)

R/V with GEORGETOWN in position  $042^{\circ}$   $42'$   $027^{\circ}$   $30'$  at 1200B/25. If not met by 1400B/25, return to Gibraltar.

2. RHODODENDRON pass to GEORGETOWN 2130/24 to CHARON and PRUDENT.  
(F.O.C.N.A. 2315B/24 to HAARLEM (R) Admty. MANSFIELD GEORGETOWN, RHODODENDRON.) *See also p. 727.*

/? AVILA STAR....

725

War Diary.24.7.1942.  
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic - Contd.

? AVILA STAR. For LEOPARD. Survivors picked up in 028° 15' N. LEOPARD. 022° 15' W. reported other boats to N.W. of this position.  
(N.O.I.C. Gibraltar 0932B/24 to N.C.S.O. Ponta Delgada (R) Admty. C. in C.W.A. R.A.W.A.).  
Your 1912B/23. F.S. LEOPARD left Ponta Delgada 2045 G.M.T./24 S. of A. 16 knots. 5 p. 730.  
(N.C.S.O. Ponta Delgada. 2050/24, to F.O.C.N.A. (R) Admty. N.A. Lisbon).

NARCISSUS Following is a repetition of my 0934B/24. (begins) British Consul Ponta Delgada (R) A.I.G. 190 B.N.A. Lisbon NARCISSUS From: N.O.I.C. Greenock for C.S.A. Request arrangements may be made supply NARCISSUS with 110 tons of fuel on arrival 1/8. (Ends).  
(N.O.I.C. Greenock 0936B/24 to A.I.G. 190, NARCISSUS).

EMPIRE F.O.C.N.A. 1320/23.  
SHACKLETON SS. OUSEL returned from H.G. 86 and sailed with EMPIRE SHACKLETON, knots 9, days 20 (18) (19) S.P. 02404 (3) EMPIRE SHACKLETON has H/F transmission. (3 operators.).  
(F.O.C.N.A. 0950B/24 to Admty).

STORK Shadowed by 2 F.W. P.C. and S. at 0927B, 037° 52' A/C. N. 014° 18' W. 299° 7½ knots. Weather report.  
(STORK 0954B/24 to F.O.C.N.A. (R) C. in C.W.A. Admty.)

French Shipping. Passings 23/7. Eastbound 1330 CAPITAIN GLE-DIABAT, laden, STRASBOURGEOIS. NANCEEN, TEMERAIRE, all laden.  
(V.A.C.N.A. 1010B/24 to Admty for M.E.W.).  
Gibraltar 1530. Sloop Minesweeper LA GRACIEUSE, Ship MARECHAL LYAUTEY, light Trawlers CAPITAINE ARMAND, JOSEPH ELISE eastbound.  
(S.O. (I) Gibraltar 1817B/24 to Admty).  
Extract from a Fairmiss telegram from Lisbon. French Ship ARAGAZ.  
(Lisbon 1841/24, to M.W.T.).

LIMA Portuguese LIMA boarded 038° 36' N. - 009° 30' W. intercepted Ref. your 1433B/23rd, 124 bags of parcel mail by removed. One pamphlet removed from German woman IMPERIALIST. passenger.  
(IMPERIALIST 1045B/24. to F.O.C.N.A.).  
IMPERIALIST entered harbour p.m./23 for 3 hours in order to land seaman for treatment at British Hospital (N.A. Lisbon 1239B/24 to F.O. Gibraltar (R) Admty.)  
Your 1203/23 LIMA boarded by VIDETTE 23/7. Eleanor Bernasconi's luggage searched; nothing found. IMPERIALIST removed 124 bags parcels mail, and one pamphlet from German woman passenger 24th.  
(F.O.C.N.A. 1314B/24 to Admty. (R) B.N.A. Lisbon.  
/H.G. 86.....



726

War Diary.24.7.1942.  
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic - Contd.

H.G.86. You were probably reported by enemy aircraft at 0928 (D.D.I.C.1051B/24 to Escorts to Convoy H.G.86, (R) F.O.C.N.A.C. in C.W.A.).

P.211 enemy ship sunk. P.211 patrol report east coast Sardinia (a) 1405/12 engaged with guns Italian S.S. ADDA 800 tons laden with timber approx. position 330° Cape Monte Santo 5 miles. Ship sunk with one torpedo and four survivors rescued.  
(b) 2130/15 in Gulf Orosei attacked 1500 ton merchant ship with guns. Ship hit and possibly beached Gonome. P.211 engaged by shore defences but undamaged.  
(c) No other sightings except A/S Schooners and air patrols. Enemy A/S measures otherwise negligible.  
(F.O.C.N.A. 1108B/24 to Admty. (R) C. in C.Med. V.A.Malta).

RAJPUTANA Your 0030/23 and 1120/23 to V.A.C.N.A. only.  
KONKAN. As I have no power to convene court martial on the 2 Indian Ratings of RAJPUTANA charged with inciting to mutiny, intend to send them and relevant correspondence to Freetown by first air or other opportunity for onward passage in next India bound convoy. They must not remain in RAJPUTANA and very undesirable to embark them in KONKAN in view of trouble which occurred in that ship in U.K.(2) Intend to sail KONKAN for Freetown tonight. (3) Propose sailing RAJPUTANA for Freetown tomorrow. S.O. considers under circumstances preferable ships should cruise independently.  
(F.O.C.N.A. 1212B/24. to Admty (R) R.A.W.A.F.O.C.R.I.N.).  
Intend sailing KONKAN for Freetown at 1830/24 routed through A.350° Spartel 12. B.034° 00' N. 011° 45' W. C. 029° 01' N. 018° 59' W. D. 018° 01' N. 018° 59' W. S. of A. 11 knots. Request you will issue onward route from D.  
2.KONKAN should have 800 miles endurance from position D. with 5% fuel in hand.  
(F.O.C.N.A. 1702B/24 to R.A.W.A. (R) Admty, N.O.I.C.Bathurst, C.in C.S.A. F.O.India).  
A.M. 1120/23. RAJPUTANA. Ratings should be disembarked and sent under guard to India at first opportunity.  
(A.C.N.S.(F) 1748B/24 to F.O.C.N.A.).  
My 1702/24. Sailed KONKAN E.T.A. Freetown 1202Z/1st. *See next page*  
(F.O.C.N.A.1914B/24 to R.A.W.A.(R) Admty, N.O.I.C.Bathurst Gambia, C. in C.S.A. F.O.C.R.I.N.).

JONQUIL Detach JONQUIL at daylight 25th to proceed  
IBIS. Gibraltar passing 34° 00' N. 11° 45' W. where boat with red sails was sighted steering East at 1200/22.  
(F.O.C.N.A.1245B/24 to IBIS (R) Escort S.L.116. C. in C.W.A. Admty, R.A.W.A.). *See next page. 13th 7.42*

/Situation.....

727

24.7.1942.  
Friday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic - Contd.

- Situation 1.H.G.86.(E) 38. C. 15.31. through 39.12 17.27  
2001B/24th. thence 330° 7½. S.O. STORK.  
2.STELLA CARINA, LEYLAND escorting HALLANGER  
35.34 06.55 to Gibraltar 9.
3. ITHURIEL, ANTELOPE, escorting 1 merchant ship 36.10 08.55  
through 36.12 09.18 thence 302° 12½. *See p.722.*
4. S.L.116 G. escorted by SENNEY, D'ESTIENNE D'ORVES 36.10.  
07.29. through 36.27 09.11 305° 9.
- 5.S.L.116 (731) 28' 19° 20' 354° 7½, S.O. IBIS. JONQUIL parted  
company 0800/25. course 081° 11 knots. *See previous page*
6. ALOUTTE 36.18 06.40 to R/V 3 merchant ships off Cape St.  
Vincent at 0830/25 and escort coastwise to Cape Trafalgar 8  
knots. *See next page.*
7. IMPERIALIST on patrol off Cape Roca. *See p.725.*  
(F.O.C.N.A. 1334B/24, to A.I.G. 63).  
Situation 2001B/24. 1. MANSFIELD, GEORGETOWN, HAARLEM,  
RHODODENDRON, Tug PRUDENT and CHARON searching vicinity of 42.30  
26.30. *See p.724.*  
(F.O.C.N.A. 1348B/24 to Situation Report for Area Y).  
Situation Report for Area X. My 1334B/24th. Add para. 8  
KONKAN sailed 2000/24 through 34.00 11.45 thence 231° 11. *See p.726*  
Amend para. (i) to read through 38.45 16.20 thence 354° (77½)  
(F.O.C.N.A. 2048B/24 to N.A. Stn.) *See p.726.*

LIVERPOOL. Your 1846/23. Approved. Request you will issue  
necessary instructions to ships concerned.  
(D.O.D.(H) 1503B/24 to F.O.C.N.A. (R) C. in C. W.A.  
C. in C. Rosyth.)

S/M at Cartagena. Consul reports S/M in floating dock repair  
U.573. (?proceeding) but his information is she can not  
be ready in time.  
Special sources confirm above and add work which  
is being carried out by Spanish dockyard labour is very slow  
because workers receive double pay from Germans in addition to  
ordinary wage and consequently wish work to continue as long as  
possible. Extra pay is received for overtime. Crew living in  
German training ship which has been there since 1939.  
M. of M. informs me S/M might be repaired sufficiently in time  
to leave on the surface on one engine but she would be easy  
prey. German Govt. has made reasonable offers for sale to  
Spain which Spanish Govt. is considering. What would be our  
attitude? I replied I had no idea but I did not ask details as  
I submitted it would be best to have a period expire before  
discussing such matter. Minister said in case of sale crew would  
be interned of course. My personal opinion is work would not  
be proceeded with if Germans did not intend to (corrupt gp.)  
S/M even in very poor shape. Matter is being watched.  
(N.A. Madrid 1627/24 to Admty. (R) F.O.C.N.A.)

German Tanker. On 23/7 German Tanker formerly alongside at Muelle  
de Ribera de Arenal Vigo, was reported to be no  
longer present. Has this ship left the port?  
(D.D.I.C. 1648B/24 to Consul Vigo (R) F.O.C.N.A.,  
C. in C. Plymouth H.Q.C.C.)

/ALOUETTE.....

War Diary.24.7.1942.  
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic-Contd.

ALOUETTE. Sailed 1614 for escort Cape St. Vincent to Cape Trafalgar. On completion ALOUETTE assumes Y.3 patrol.  
(F.O.C.N.A. 1719B/24 to Admty. (R) W.P. Trawlers).  
*See previous page. (S.I. 746)*

? Vessels S.O.(I) Gibraltar Please pass to F.O.C.N.A.,  
Building Admty. for D.S.V.P.  
at Lisbon. Your 0958/24., and my 1510/24 (N.T. in W.R.)  
repeated in S.O.(I) Gib. 0748/25). Germans have  
been watching these vessels ever since they were  
laid down. Strong attack most probable.  
In view of total lack of protection or armament propose they  
should wait until escort available.  
(N.A. Lisbon 1815B/24 to S.O.I. Gib. (R) Admty.)

MITIDJA. Your 1541/23. Air search revealed nothing today.  
P.222. If nothing further reported intend to order P.222  
to return Gibraltar at 1200 tomorrow.  
(F.O.C.N.A. 2326B/24 to Admty. (R) S.8.)

South Atlantic.

Towing of Your 1957/22. 1. Tug JAMES E. HUGHES has runner  
TEMPLE INN. crew with no towing experience. 2. FLYING  
KESTREL has experienced crew and may be capable  
of towing TEMPLE INN sole subject to removal of  
gun and extra lifeboats.  
3. Above is for guidance.  
(D. of S.T. 0544B/24 to R.A.W.A. (R) N.O.I.C. Lagos, C. in C.  
S.A., B N.L.O. W.A.)

U/B. U-Boat in approx. position 005° 00' N. 014° 30'  
W. at about 1730/23rd.  
(R.A.W.A. 0805Z/24 to Admty., All Authorities  
Afloat etc.)

CALIFORNIA. Overdue shipping my 1035/22, cancel CALIFORNIA.  
Ship arrived Capetown.  
(S.O.I. Capetown 1021B/24 to Admty. etc.)

Navigation, Cape Recife and Bird Island lights extinguished.  
Shore Light. All coastal lights of Union of South Africa may  
be extinguished without notice.  
(Adm. Simonstown 1045B/24 to Ships in Area 3B and  
3C).

/Suspicious.....

729

War Diary.24.7.1942.  
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic-Contd.Suspicious  
Ship.

British ship GLENFINLAS sighted in 8° 48' S. 27° 03' W. at 1047/13/7. M/V steering S.E. which from Master's sketch drawing very much resembles raider H. Thought that this vessel was flying Danish flag and probable speed of 15 knots. (F.O.(I) Freetown 1131Z/24 to Admty. (R) C. in C. S.A.)

Use of  
Torpedo  
Aircraft,  
W. Africa.

A.112 24/7. R.A.W.A. has raised question of obtaining facilities in this Command for operation torpedo carrying aircraft both R.A.F. and F.A.A. In our view if hostilities with Vichy French materialise or if Axis forces should obtain use of Vichy West African Ports,

such aircraft could be most usefully employed: (A) For repelling enemy surface craft raids on our ports and shipping, (B) For destruction of enemy coastal shipping and convoys in West African Waters, (C) For attacking enemy convoys proceeding down North African coast to Dakar under cover of land based air forces, and (D) For attacking enemy warships after leaving Dakar Harbour.

We therefore suggest establishment of small torpedo maintenance sections at Yundumy in Gambia and at Waterloo in Sierra Leone similar to that established at Reykjavik in Iceland to meet such contingencies. R.A.W.A. is strongly in favour of this and is also pressing for a Flotilla of M.T.Bs. plus minelaying equipment which these boats can fit.

(A.H.Q. W.Africa 1150Z/24 to Air Min.)

Vichy  
Units.

Observed by pilot of B.S.A.C. plane at 1117/22/7 1 Vichy destroyer 4° 29' N. 6° 53' W. One 10,000 ton M/V 4° 27' N. 6° 52' W. 1 8000-ton M/V 4° 25' N., 7° 04' W. all steering 230° SS. HOGGAR anchored off Tabou. (S.O.I. Freetown 1157Z/24 to Admty. (R) C. in C. S.A.)

A/C in transit Gibraltar to Bathurst reported 0955/23 4 M/Vs Spanish 500/600 tons position 026° 45' N. 014° 27' W. 5 knots. 1221/23 one Vichy M/V 1000 tons 021° 37' N. 017° 18' W. 000° 8 knots. 1242/23 one Vichy M/V 1000 tons 020° 52' N. 017° 27' W. 270° 8 knots.

(S.O.I. Freetown 1405Z/24 to Admty. S.O.(I) Gib.)

S.L. 117.

Your 1221Z/23. Concur. (D.T.D. 1214B/24 to N.C.S.O. Freetown (R) R.A.W.A.)

LAFONIA  
Escort.

*/MT in N.C. but see p. 695 9p. 767.*  
BOREAS 2110Z/23rd. MORRIS DANCE and/or TURCOMAN are to be sailed forthwith to take over escort of LAFONIA. (R.A.W.A. 1331Z/24 to N.O.I.C. Lagos (R) BOREAS)

/Movements.....

War Diary.24.7;1942.  
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic-Contd.

Movements summary. 2000Z/24 Area Q.  
MALAYA, BLACKMOOR, with Capetown portion of W.S.20 about 033° 48' S. 028° 48' E. to Durban.  
DUSK, AIGDON, 034° 37' S. 025° 10' E. to Durban 8 knots.  
(? ALCANTARA) with BANFORA 036° 12' S. 019° 00' E. to Durban 12½ knots.  
W.S.19 Q, 036° 00' S. 028° 50' E. to Simonstown, 18½ knots.  
(C. in C.S.A. 1505B/24 to S.A. Stn. (R) Admty.)

GARMULA GARMULA was sunk in approx. position 5° 32' N. 14° 40' W. 1730Z/23. Position indicates that this cannot be the same S/M as that which sank HONOLULAN.  
(R.A.W.A. 1651Z/24 to Admty. (R) C. in C.S.A.)

LÉOPARD. 1. F.O.C.N.A.'s 1912B/23 (Requesting sailing F.S. LÉOPARD). (T) 013° 55' N. 019° 43' W. (Y) 009° 50' N. 017° 45' W. thence Freetown.  
(2) Request E.T.S. N.C.S.O. Please pass to F.S. LÉOPARD.  
(R.A.W.A. 1657Z/24 to N.C.S.O. Ponta Delgada, F.O.C.N.A., Admty.) *p. 725*

W.S.21P. A.M. 1450/22. U.S.S. FAIRPORT in U.S. Convoy A.S.4. will not now arrive.  
A.S.4. One extra ship of 14 knots carrying U.S. Air Corps, vehicles, stores and locomotives for Middle East will sail with U.S. convoy A.S.6. to join W.S.21.  
A.S.6. (D.O.D.(F) 1931B/24 to R.A.W.A. C. in C.S.A., Dep. C. in C.E.F. (R) C. in C.Med. F.O.C.N.A. F.O.R. S.C.A., N.O.I.C. Durban.)

West Africa Forces, Strength. Following from Resident Minister for Minister of Defence.  
1. Meeting of Services (?and) members of War Council today considered inadequacy of our defence in this area against submarines and surface raiders. S/M activity has begun as foreshadowed in D.W. telegram of 21/7 and sinkings 500 miles west and 200 miles south of here reported to Admty., besides further SSS. message received today from ship in this area.  
2. Apart from trawlers and M.Ls. for local patrol duty, surface forces at present at disposal of F.O.I.C. West Africa reduced to following 1 A.M.C. now on escort duty outside area, 1 O.B. vessel, 3 destroyers, 10 corvettes of which 4 now detached outside this area by Admty. orders.  
3. Appreciate difficulty of providing naval reinforcements but would ask if possible (for?) some reassembling of naval A/S forces dispersed during last six months from Freetown Escort Force.  
4. Apart from escort duty, protection of U.S. unloading off, Liberian schedule is important commitment which cannot be satisfactorily met with existing force.  
5. In view of both shortages of naval forces and importance of

/covering.....

731

War Diary.24.7.1942.  
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic - conts.West Africa  
Forces,  
Strength.  
- Contd.covering vital trade routes by long range A/C  
we wish to suggest for your consideration  
following air protection and R/C by ourselves  
and U.S.

(a) Squadron long range A/C at Natal.

6. This would enable watch to be kept on (a)  
trade routes between West Indies and South America  
and West Africa and (b) trade routes West Africa  
to Cape Agulhas for neither of which is adequate

convoy protection available.

7. It would also enable sufficient watch to be kept over area  
where raiders operate and supply ships have been known to  
fuel S/Ms.8. Please pass copy to S. of S. for Colonies, personal.  
(R.A.W.A. 1931Z/24 to Admty.)Carriage  
of Passengers.B.A.D. Washington 1707Z/19. Fast ships returning  
U.K. and routed West of Cape Verde Islands pass  
through U.S. strategic area for a short period.  
Strict compliance with U.S. policy would create  
congestion of personnel here or entail routing  
ships east of Islands. Latter as standard  
procedure is considered undesirable. Propose  
to continue present Admiralty policy regarding  
number of passengers carried.

(R.A.W.A. 2139Z/24 to Admty. (R) B.A.D.

C. in C.S.A. F.O.C.N.A., S.B.N.O. W.A. N.S.H.Q.  
D. of S.T.)

BUSHWOOD.

Your 1056/20th. BUSHWOOD sailed from Durban 21/7  
for Kilindini.(C. in C.S.A. 2158/24 to C. in C.E.F. (R) Admty.  
etc.)

War Diary.24.7.1942.  
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean.

Enemy Units. Following read. Addressed Malta W/T. P.C.S. of 2 enemy M/vs and 2 enemy destroyers 34.25 N 23.45 E. (A/C using call sign QZ7S 0005/24.)  
Following read by Malta W/T. P.C.S. of enemy 2 M/Vs 1 destroyer 34.12 N 23.40 E. 150° 8 knots. (A/C using call sign Q17S 0240/24.)  
Midnight search aircraft report 1 M/V 1 destroyer, P.C.S. 035° 15' 023° 25' 175° 10 knots.  
(S.O. 1st S/M Flot. 1001C/24 to P.34. (R) S/Ms on Patrol.)

THRASHER. THRASHER leaves Port Said 1800/26th for area Q between 19° E and 024° 30' E south of 035° N routed through positions 031° 55' N 032° 20' E 032° 42' N 031° 14' E 032° 56' N 026° (716') E 032° 14' N 025° 16' E.  
(Capt. S.1. 0906C/24 to S/Ms on patrol No. 201 N.C. Group, Capt. S.10. S.O.S. Alexandria, S.O.S. Haifa. (R) C. in C. Med. THRASHER.) Second position amended by 1811C/26 q.v.  
My 0906/24 and 0910/24 (N.T. in W.D.) Amend second position to read 032° 30' N 031° 14' E.  
(Capt. S.1. 1928C/24 to Subs. on patrol. No. 201 N.C. Group. Capt. S.10. S.O.S. Haifa. S.O.S. Alexandria. N.O.I.C. Port Said. (R) C. in C. Med. THRASHER.)

Cositrep No.460. Air. 5. 22/7. At dusk Blenheims bombed Matruh harbour starting 4 fires.  
6. Night 22/23. Halifaxes and Wellingtons bombed shipping and harbour installations Tobruk. 2 ships claimed hit. 1 being set on fire. Direct hit on jetty. Large fires started dock area. Wellingtons also mined off harbour.  
(C. in C. M.E. 1015/24.)

PORPOISE information. Shipping movements in Haifa a.m./25. 0600, 4 Merchant ships and 2 Hunt Class destroyers leaving Haifa due to R/V with southbound convoy at end of searched channel. Convoy escorted by 2 Corvettes 2 Trawlers and 1 French escort vessel.  
0700, Hospital ship ABA leaves Haifa northbound. Ref. Capt. S.10 1232/6 on sighting shipping leaving Haifa you are to proceed for remainder of passage down searched channel on the surface.  
(N.O.I.C. Palestinian Ports 1313C/24 to PORPOISE (R) Capt. S.1. C.S.15.)

P.43. CLYDE. Proceed through position C and D adjust speed to arrive approx. positions sunset. CLYDE 036° 21' (?) 013° 49' on 28/7.  
P.43 (?) 036° 43' 013° 32' on 31/7. Further instructions will be signalled on conclusion  
Channel sweeping now progressing. You will be expected to surface off Grand Harbour at dusk, CLYDE on 29/7, P.43 on 1/8.  
(V.A. Malta 1329B/24 to P.43. CLYDE. (R) S/Ms on patrol. F.O.C.N.A. C. in C. Med. Capt. S.1. Capt. S.8.)  
Amended by 1125B/26, q.v.

733

War Diary.24.7.1942.  
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean - Contd.

"P" Class destroyers. Your 1853/20 (See East Indies 20/7) para 3. This would be much appreciated. In addition to PAKENHAM and PALADIN I have 7 fleet destroyers of which JANUS has starboard H.P. turbine out of action for about a month. Report follows.

HERO is in need of major refit. KELVIN is experiencing boiler pad press trouble. SIKH, ZULU, JERVIS, JAVELIN are operationally fit.

2. I hope it will be possible to send me some 4.7 inch destroyers before long.  
(C. in C. Med. 1342C/24 to Admty. (R) C. in C. E.F. etc.)  
*See next page. (BLACKMORE.)*

T/B aircraft. Your 1752C/12/7. F.A.A. torpedo bomber squadrons operating permanently from shore bases would be first units to re-arm with Grumman Avenger. Deliveries have been delayed however and not now anticipated that this type will be available in time to re-arm any units before 1943. Fitting of all T/B aircraft with A.S.V. is proceeding as production allows.  
(Head of Air Branch. Approved by C.N.A.S. 1412B/24 to C. in C. Med.)

NEBOJSCA PERLA. My 1657/17 (Admty. 1657/17 intended) As very few of Yugoslav S/M NEBOJSCA's crew are trained S/M ratings consider it best to obtain agreement of Yugoslav Gov. to her temporary (?loan) and to manning her with British crew.

2. (?without) OTUS and OSIRIS no training S/Ms are available in Mediterranean. Intend therefore keep NEBOJSCA for A/S training in Mediterranean for present. Italian S/M PERLA will be made serviceable for A/S training if possible but her battery is extensively damaged.  
(C. in C. Med. 1528C/24 to Admty. (R) F.O.S. Capt. S.I.)

M.T.B. Bases Turkey. For Adm. Kelly, (R) Chief Intelligence Staff, D.N.I. From N.A. Istanbul. If leave can be obtained from Staff College, proposed to send Cdr. Halahan to Mersina by passenger steamer to inspect coast line with object of improving our knowledge particularly regarding temporary M.T.B. bases. Declared object is to improve his knowledge for Staff College purpose. H.E. agrees with proposal subject to your concurrence that risk of ship being intercepted and searched by enemy can be accepted. As it is a regular monthly steamer and does not leave Turkish Territorial Waters this risk appears to be very slight. Request early reply as steamer sails 7/8 and leave from Staff College must be obtained.  
(Beyoglu 1529C/24 to C. in C. Med. (R) N.A. Ankara.)  
Concur. (C. in C. Med. 1152C/26.)

Enemy Units. P.C.S. 1 M/V, 1 destroyer, 034° 40' 023° 14' 180° 10.  
(S.O. 1st S/M F. 1531C/24 to S/Ms on patrol.  
(R) Capt. S.I.)

/THORN...



War Diary.24.7.1942.  
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean - Contd.

THORN. Endeavour to be about 30 miles eastward of Ras-el-Tin Libya by dawn 26th. (S.O. 1st. S.F. 1532C/24 to THORN (R) Subs on patrol, Capt. S.1.) Cancelled by 2137/25. q.v. p.770.

BLACKMORE. Your 0814/22 BLACKMORE would be most useful but I regret I cannot spare a fleet destroyer in exchange. My 1342/24 refers. *See previous page.* (C. in C. Med. 1532C/24 to D.C. in C. E.F. (R) Admty. C. in C. E.F.)

ALBARO  
CELANO My 1248C/17th July ALBARO CELO (CELANO intended?) were loading Constanza 23/7; expected transit Istanbul, reaching Aegean within next 72 hours. B.3. (S.O.I. Istanbul 1650C/24 to S.O.I. Med.)

Benghazi  
R/C. PRU Benghazi p.m. today. 3 destroyers, merchant ship WACHTFELS, 1 merchant ship Lerici class, 1 merchant ship 7,000 tons, 4 merchant ships, 1000 to 2000 tons. (N.O.I.C. Malta 2108B/24 to C. in C. Med. F.O.C.N.A. Admty.)

Enemy  
Units,  
TRAVELLER. A/C R/C show 1 escorted ship at 1450 today in 038° 14' N 021° 16' E. Course 090°. (Capt. S.10 2002B/24 to TRAVELLER (R) S/Ms on patrol. C. in C. Med., Capt. S.1.)

Malta  
Air  
Report. I.506. C.S.R. July 24. 23rd. Alert 1420 hours 5 Ju.88s escorted by 15 plus Me.109s, Mc.202s. Luqa bombed, 1 Baltimore slight damage, craters on main runway which was rendered temporarily unserviceable suspected UXBs. 23 Spitfires intercepted enemy raid 10 miles before reaching target, 2 Me.109s, 1 Mc.202 destroyed, 2 Me.109s probably destroyed, 3 Me.109s, 1 Mc.202 damaged. 1 Spitfire damaged on landing pilot unhurt, 3 others on search found 1 Italian prisoner in sea subsequently rescued by H/S L. Night 23/24. No alerts. 1015 to 2220 hours 1 Beaufighter on patrol, no interceptions. 24th. 3 alerts. 0607 hours, 2 R/C Me.109s crossed coast enemy interference non effective on R.D.F. 4 Spitfires up ineffectively chased enemy who had advantage of height and rate of climb. 0645, 4 Spitfires up, raid did not approach Malta. 0839 hours, 15 plus Me.109s which did not cross coast and 5 Ju.88s escorted by 9 plus Me.109s. Luqa bombed, no damage in spite of partial interference to R.D.F. resulting in scanty information regarding heights. 24 Spitfires intercepted enemy raid 15 miles before reaching target. 3 Ju.88s, 1 Me.109 destroyed, 1 Ju.88, 2 Me.109s probably destroyed, 1 Ju.88, 2 Me.109s damaged. 1 German prisoner. 2 Spitfires damaged in combat pilots uninjured. 2 further Spitfires on cover to minesweepers 0935 to 1106 hours. 2 sorties of 4 Spitfires search for enemy survivors,

/none...

War Diary.24.7.1942.  
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean. conts:-Malta  
Air  
Report.  
Contd.

none found. 1151 hours, 3 plus Me.109s crossed coast, 4 Spitfires up, no interception, R.D.F. gave insufficient warning. 4 other Spitfires up cover to minesweepers.

(H.Q. R.A.F. Malta 2335/24.)

Part 2. My I.506 24/7. C.S.R. Malta.

Night 23/24. No operations. 24th, 9 Beaufighters,

1 of which returned early mechanical trouble, escorted 6 Beauforts attacked 0730 1 M/V 7000 with heavy deck cargo escorted by 2 Drs. 2 E-Boats, 1 Flying boat, 273° Cape Geroghambo 10 miles, course 160° 12 knots in 2 waves from landward side. 5 torpedoes dropped, each having mark 12 star duplex pistols set at 22 feet. (Second section of part 2 to follow. N.T. in W.D.)  
(H.Q. R.A.F. Malta 2020/24 G.M.T.)

P.34.

My 1852/23. Leave patrol position a.m./26 and proceed direct 035° 21' 016° 19' to arrive noon/29. (S.O. 1st. S.F. Alex. 2322C/24 to P.34. (R)  
V.A. Malta. Capt. S.1. Capt. S.10. Subs on patrol)

736

War Diary.24.7.1942.  
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies.? Enemy  
Unit.

My 0236Z/24. Further bearings indicate reliable position 7° S 69° E.  
(D.C. in C. E.F. 0709Z/24 to S & A E.I. Stn.  
(R) Admty. A.C.N.B. C. in C. S.A.)  
W.R. Note: Former was sent to O.I.C. only.

Operations  
against  
U/Bs in  
territorial  
waters.

The following rules govern operations against U-Boats in territorial waters, Spain Spanish possessions and Tangier and of Portugal and Portuguese possessions - (repeats Admty. 1031B/21 q.v.)  
(D.C. in C. E.F. 0823Z/24 to S & A E.I. Stn.)

RECORDER.

Request cable ship RECORDER now on passage to Aden may be diverted to Kilindini where she is urgently required to pick up and relay cables clear of Boom and harbour defences. Time required 3 weeks.  
(D.C. in C. E.F. 0826Z/24 to Admty. (R) Com. R.I.N. Com. I/C Aden)  
Your 0826/24. RECORDER is being instructed to proceed Kilindini from Aden to carry out diversion work in addition to repairs mentioned in my 1232/23.  
(D.S.D. 1907B/24 to D.C. in C. E.F. (R) Com. R.I.N. Com. I/C Aden.)

K.14. K.15.  
O.19.

B.A.R.M. Washingtons 2026/20/5 and A.M. 1319/20.  
Dutch S/Ms K.14, K.15 and O.19 due Simonstown about 22/8 for onward routing to destinations.  
(D.C. in C. E.F. 0835Z/24 to Admty. B.A.R.M. (R)  
C. in C. S.A.)

ROYAL  
SOVEREIGN.

C. in C. E.F. 0113/13/5. Further examination of boilers in ROYAL SOVEREIGN indicates that following repairs will be necessary on next occasion of refit. (details)  
(9) Presume Admty will make arrangements for the delivery of tubes and headers at refitting port. My 2052/23 not to Com. Durban refers.  
(10) ROYAL SOVEREIGN 1210Z/20/6 is cancelled. *MTW 4.3*  
(B.S.3. 0901Z/24 to Admty. (R) C. in C. E.F. etc.)

Jap. U/Bs.  
Indian Ocean.  
A/S Forces  
Aden.

There are indications of Japanese U-Boats moving northward in Indian Ocean.  
1. Request you will impress N.C.S.O. Aden with importance of avoiding congestion of shipping on line Aden to Cape Guardafui particularly at Aden end, where route should be well spread out after leaving searched channel.  
2. Request brief summary what anti S/M and air forces you have at your disposal and available anti S/M escort convoy or important ships in Gulf of Aden.  
(D.C. in C. E.F. 0937Z/24 to Com. I/C Aden. (R) F.O.C. Red Sea Force. C. in C. E.F. Admty. C. in C. Med.)  
Reply Cmdre Aden 1005Z/25.

/Under-water...

737

War Diary.24.7.1942.  
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies - Contd.

Under-water Defence. Present position, E.I. Station.  
(D.C. in C. E.F. 1015Z/24 to E.I. Stn. C.774.)  
See Lion Copy.

Rooka Channel. Your early remarks are requested on following points:-  
1. In view of importance of dredging operations in Rooka Channel are anti-sabotage measures on board these vessels adequate?  
2. What ships and patrol craft have you available to protect working dredgers from  
(a) Disguised merchant raider. (b) S/Ms and Midget S/Ms.  
(c) Aircraft?  
3. What arrangements have been made to prevent an attempt to block Rooka Channel by scuttling by a disguised merchantman?  
(D. of L.D. Approved by A.C.N.S. F. 1024B/24 to S.N.O. P.G.  
(R) C. in C. E.F.)

Manza Bay. My 1433/16 (Defences laid at Manza Bay.) para (C) Cancel "Covers the entrance" and substitute "sited at Ras Kasone".  
(D.C. in C. E.F. 1126/24 to Admty. (R) F.O. East Africa and Zanzibar.)

A/S Training. C. in C. E.F.'s 1346/15. Shortage of S/Ms for A/S training further accentuated by despatch of O.19 to U.K. for refit without doing any A/S training. Request very early action to implement para (iii) of this message.  
(D.C. in C. E.F. 1324Z/24 to Admty. (R) F.O.S. S.4. F.O.C. R.I.N. F.O. Ceylon.)

THELMA U/B campaign. No attacks have been made by Japanese U-Boats in Indian Ocean during week ending 24/7 but report now received that Norwegian THELMA was unsuccessfully attacked in 024° 18' S 037° 17' E on 15th. No U-Boats known to be in vicinity at time. Estimated dispositions, at least 1 in 008° N 059° E on 23rd, and 1 in vicinity 005° S 050° E on 20th. 2 or 3 in area 007° S to 015° S 069° E to 080° on 22/23.  
(D.C. in C. E.F. 1343Z/24 to S & A E.I. Stn. Admty. C. in C. S.A. A.C.N.B. Melbourne.)

Escort of Shipping, Mozambique Channel. Following received from C. in C. E.F. for transmission to Admty. (begins)  
Admty. from C. in C.E.F. Your 1901/20. This has received constant consideration both before and since U-Boat campaign commenced.  
(2) Available A/S escorts are required for (a) Screening main units of the fleet. (b) Escorting merchant shipping in and out of the main harbour.  
(c) Supplementing inadequate A/S protection of harbour.  
(3) Of the 26 destroyers allocated to Eastern Fleet, there are

# MOST SECRET

737A

MOST SECRET

M E S S A G E

1015Z/24th July 42

From Deputy C. in C. Eastern Fleet.

Date 27.7.42.  
Recd. 0432.

Naval Cypher C by W/T and T/P.

Addressed East India Station (C.774)

AIDAC.

(Not to be passed to Civil Establishments)

Underwater defence (East Indies Station)

(1) Present position.

(A) Colombo. Controller mine loops outside both entrances (2 of the 3 guard loops are at present defective) A/T A/B Boom at both entrances. D/C thrower on breakwater.

(B) Trincomalee. A/S A/B boom A/T baffle and controlled minefield. One H.D.A.

(C) Addu Atoll. Partially completed A/S A B boom in 2 Southern entrances. Indicator net inside 2 Northern entrances. Controlled mines at all 4 entrances.

(D) Diego Garcia. Indicator net.

(E) Kilindini. Improvised A/S A/B Boom at Mbuyini. Improvised type 135 A/S set and D/C thrower at Mzimili.

(F) Manza Bay. Indicator nets and anti-torpedo baffles.

(G) Diego Suarez. Indicator nets and controlled minefield.

(H) Mauritius. Controlled minefields at southern entrance to Grand Port.

2. Following defences are being, or will shortly be undertaken.

(A) Kilindini. Anti-torpedo boom to southward of fleet anchorage. Indicator loops and H D A's in entrance.

(B) Manza Bay. Control minefield.

(C) Mauritius. Bottom net in southern entrance to Grand Port. Possibly indicator net temporary.

(D) Seychelles. Anti torpedo baffle, and possibly indicator net in two southern entrances to Port Victoria.

3. Future commitments.

(A) Colombo. Indicator loop.

(B) Trincomalee. Indicator loop and H D As.

Also /.....

Also extensive additional defence and alternative to existing defence in connection with new berthing plan.

- (C) Addu Atoll. Awaiting decision.
- (D) Diego Suarez. Anti torpedo baffle
- (E) Mauritius. A/S A/B boom in Southern entrance to Grand Port. A/B boom in the Narrows. A/T baffle at Port Louis.

1015Z/24.

Advance copy Ops, O.D. . . .

- 1st Lord.
- 1st S.L. (2)
- 3rd S.L.
- Vice Controller.
- 4th S.L.
- V.C.N.S.
- A.C.N.S. (F) (2)
- A.C.N.S. (T)
- A.C.N.S. (7)
- N.L. 1st S.L.
- D. of P. (2)
- D.O.D. (F) (2)
- D.C. (2)
- D.D.I.C. (2)
- D.A.S.W.
- D.T.S.D.
- D.G.D.
- D. of L.D.
- N.A. to A.C.N.S. (T)
- D.S.D.
- D.T.H.
- D.N.I. (4)
- Head of M.
- D.B.D.
- D. of P. (0)
- D.D.O.D. (1)
- D.A.S. (L)
- D.H.V.D.
- D.D.T.H.
- D.T.D. (5)
- D. . . .
- Admiral Bellairs.
- Admiral Blake.
- I.P. (2)
- W.D.
- D. of N.
- Hydrog.
- Staff Charts.
- D.
- D. of S.
- Deputy Controller. } Bath.
- D. } Bath.
- D.T.M. } Bath.
- Hd. S.W.R. } Bath.

738

War Diary.24.7.1942.  
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies - conts:-

Escort of Shipping, Mozambique Channel. Contd. (a) 4 detached to Mediterranean. (b) 5 not yet joined. (c) 2 repairing in U.K. (d) 3 broken down and under repair on the station. (e) 3 with QUEEN ELIZABETH and RAMILLIES all of which require repairs or boiler cleaning. (f) 2 with VALIANT. (g) 5 with Force A. The 2 remaining are now operating in Mozambique Channel.

(4) There are in addition, 1 old destroyer, 5 (3 R.I.N.) Sloops, 8 Corvettes, 2 Bathursts. Of these 12 are employed escorting trade in India - Ceylon area.

(5) There have been indications of preliminary enemy R/C of Persian Gulf Approaches and attacks may commence shortly. If escorts in Indian area are transferred to Mozambique Channel, the time occupied in reinforcing Persian Gulf, especially in monsoon weather would not be acceptable.

(6) The remaining 4 A/S craft in East African area plus the 3 vessels of 14th M/S Flotilla temporarily retained on this station, are required for duties specified in para 2 (B) and (C). Considerable difficulty is experienced in providing escort for Colliers referred to in Admty 1814/15.

(7) As new 11 Bathursts and 8 Whalers, together with A/S trawlers building for R.I.N. come into service by late Autumn, it will be possible to organise some group sailing with escort as proposed. (Ends.)

(D.C. in C. E.F. 1415Z/24 to Admty. (R) C. in C. S.A.)

Mauritius etc., Command. In reply 17175/G of 21/7. Agree transfer Command and maintenance midnight 31/8 - 1/9. (G.O.C. in C. E.A. 1455/24 to C. in C. India.) 063579. 17175/G cipher 21/7. S.D.5. transfer command Mauritius Rodriguez and Seychelles to East Africa Command.

Suggest responsibility command and maintenance passes midnight 31/8 - 1/9.

Shipping. Understand from Ceylon no shipping to Mauritius and Rodriguez available ex Ceylon in future. F.O. Ceylon confirm shipping can be sent ex India otherwise demands in fifth above must be transferred East Africa.

(C. in C. India 0410/25 to G.O.C. in C. E.A. etc.)

Battleships, Ceylon berthing. 1. Your 1255 of 16/7, draught of battleships is as follows - NELSON and Q E Classes - 35 feet. "R" Class. 35 feet, 6 inches. As shown in N.E. Monsoon plan, there is insufficient water for the battleships berthed in numbers 3 and

4 berths.

2. Are you satisfied that the number and power of tugs at Colombo are adequate for requirements?

(D of L.D. 1933B/24 to F.O.I.C. Ceylon (R) C. in C. E.F. D.C. in C. E.F.)

Reply: F.O. Ceylon 1315Z/27.

739

War Diary.24.7.1942.  
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies.

TYSA. St. Kitts report one lifeboat with 17 Dutch 7 British from Dutch Steamer TYHT landed at St. Martin 9/7. No details of attack. Remaining at St. Martin pending instructions. 1 boat with 5 British unaccounted. Comment: Ship probably Dutch TYSA. (S.O.I. Kingston, 0004R/24 to Admty., S.B.N.O. W.A., B.A.D., Connav, N.S.H.Q., N.O.I.C. Port of Spain, Seafrom San Juan.) My 0004/24 TYSA now confirmed. (S.O.(I) Kingston, 1541R/24.)

U/Bs. U-Boat estimated in your vicinity by D/F has made sighting report of a convoy or important unit at 2111Z/23rd and 2132Z/23.  
(C. in C. U.S. Fleet, 0021/24 to C.T.U. No. 24.1.12, C.T.U. No. 24.1.15, (R) Admty., C.T.24, N.S.H.Q., C.O.A.C.)  
U-Boat estimated your vicinity by D/F has made sighting report on a convoy or important unit at 2236Z/23.  
(C. in C. U.S. Fleet, 0059Z/24 to C.T.U. 24.1.12, C.T.U. 24.1.15, (R) Admty., C.T.24, C.O.A.C., F.O.N.F.)  
U-Boat estimated in your vicinity has made a first sighting report of a convoy or important unit at 2313Z/23.  
At 0018Z/24 S/M made sighting report within 150 miles of 052° N. 040° W.  
(Cominch, 0348Z/24 to C.T.U. 24.1.12, (R) C.T.U. 24.1.15, Admty., C.T.24, F.O.N.F., C.O.A.C.)  
U-Boat position by D/F at 0556Z/24 in vicinity of 055° 00' N. 034° 30' W. Type Enigma origin 0520Z. Position uncertain.  
(C. in C. U.S. Fleet, 0807Z/24 to C.T.U. 24.1.15, C.T.U. 24.1.12, C. in C. Atlantic Fleet, N.S.H.Q., (R) C.C.N.F., C.O.A.C., WEDGEPORT.)  
U-Boat estimated your vicinity by D/F has made sighting report of a convoy or important unit at 0653Z/24.  
(C. in C. U.S. Fleet, 0922Z/24 to WEDGEPORT, (R) C.O.A.C. C.T.U. 24.1.15, C.T.U. 24.1.12, Admty., F.O.N.F., C.T.24.)  
U-Boat estimated in your vicinity by D/F has made sighting report of a convoy or important unit at 0907Z/24.  
(C. in C. U.S. Fleet, 0952Z/24 to C.T.U. 24.1.15, C.T.U. 24.1.12, C.T.U. 24.1.18, Admty., C.T.24, F.O.N.F., C.O.A.C. WEDGEPORT.)  
U-Boat estimated in your area by D/F has made sighting report of Convoy or an important unit at 1329Z/24.  
(C. in C. U.S. Fleet, 1620/24 to C.T.U. 24.1.12, AMAZON, C.T.U. 24.1.18, C.T.U. 24.1.11, U.S.S. MUSKEGET, C.T.24, C. in C. Atlantic Fleet, Admty., C.O.A.C., N.S.H.Q., F.O.N.F.)  
U-Boat estimated in your vicinity has made sighting report of a convoy or important unit at 1909Z/24.  
(C. in C. U.S. Fleet, 2110/24 to C.T.U. 24.1.12., (R) C.T.U. 24.1.18, C.T.24, C.O.A.C., C. in C. Atlantic Fleet, N.S.H.Q. F.O.N.F., Admty.)

/BURNHAM ...



War Diary.24.7.1942.  
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies - Contd.

- BURNHAM,  
U/B contact. My 2115/23 to Admty. Have lost contact. Am rejoining convoy, ST. CROIX in company. (BURNHAM, 0233Z/24 to Connav, C. in C. Atlantic Fleet, S.O.P.As. Argentia and Iceland, (?S.O.(I) Kingston, Jamaica), Admty., C. in C. W.A., (?N.C.S.O. Sydney, C.B.), N.S.H.Q., C.O. R.N.A.S. Kingston Jamaica, C.O.A.C. Halifax, DRUMHELLER.)  
*See h/p. 743 746*
- S.C. 93. C.T.U. 24.1.17 in HARVESTER (H/F D/F) plus PIORUN (H/F D/F) HEATHER, ORCHIS, RENONCULE and ROSELYS designated ocean escort for S.C. 93. (C.T.24, 0549Z/24 to C. in C. U.S. Fleet, (R) C.C.N.F., C.T.U. 24.1.17, C.T.U. 24.18.2, C.T.G. 24.6, C.T.G. 24.7, Admty., C. in C. W.A., N.S.H.Q. C.O.A.C.)
- U/B  
BUCTOUCHE. S/M sighted on surface by BUCTOUCHE at 0935Z/24 in 041° 49' N. 066° 31' W. Contact lost in thick fog. BUCTOUCHE, ST. CLAIR searching. (S.O. Local Western E.U. W.I. T.U. 24.18.1, 0950Z/24, 1249Z/24 to C.O.A.C., (R) Ottawa, C.E.S.F., Cdr. 1st N.D. Boston, C. in C. U.S. Fleet, C.T.F.24.)
- Shipping  
Signals. Cancel my 1704/28/5 and 1142/6/6. Commandants of United States Sea Frontier through which ships will pass are now to be included in addresses of Vescas and signals. (S.B.N.O. W.A., 1003P/24 to S. & A. W.I. Station, N.C.S.Os., C.S.As., and R.Os. Jamaica (I) Area, B.R.O. San Pedro de Marcoris, (R) Admty., B.A.D., N.S.H.Q., S.O.(I) Jamaica.)
- U.S. Control  
Trinidad. Connav 1410/23 indicates that U.S. routing officers at Trinidad are to take over control on 1/8. Request information whether agreement has been reached regarding proposals in Admty. 1750/6.  
(S.B.N.O. W.A., 1011P/24 to Admty., (R) F.O.I.C. Trinidad, B.A.D.)  
My 2031/11. Adml. Willson, in absence of Adml. King, is pleased to note that Admty. have agreed to control and routing of shipping at Trinidad being exercised by U.S. authorities and desires that Commandant U.S. operating base should take over control on 1/8/1942. He understands that British personnel will be retained for duties outlined in paras. 1 (1) to (IV) of your 1750/6 and is issuing necessary instructions in regard thereto.  
(2) Adml. Willson concurs that present organisation at Bermuda should stand subject to question being raised again if circumstances change.

War Diary.24.7.1942.  
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies - contd.

U.S. Control  
Trinidad.  
(Contd.) (3) Adml. Willson is in complete agreement with the principle of British staff remaining at Aruba and Curacao until change over is completely effective and then being retained for duties as at Trinidad.  
(B.A.D., 1933Z/24 to Admty., (R) S.B.N.O. W.A.)

Shipping  
Trinidad. Your 1541/23. This should be referred to Com. Carib. Sea Frontier for decision.  
(S.B.N.O. W.A., 1103P/24 to B.R.O. Trinidad, (R) Admty., S.O.(I) Jamaica.)

W. I. M. R. I. Amendment 219.  
(S.B.N.O. W.A., 1153P/24 to A.I.G. 129, A.I.G. 130.  
(R) Admty., B.A.D.)

BARFLEUR. My 1739/30/6. BARFLEUR scheduled to depart Casablanca about 28/7 to arrive Martinique 8/8.  
(C. in C. U.S. Fleet, 1259/24 for information C. in C. Atlantic Fleet (U.S.), S.B.N.O. W.A., C.T.F. No. 23, R.A.W.A., C.C.S.F.)

T.F. 38  
Escort for  
A.T. 18. Cinclant's 1522/23 to U.S.S. ARKANSAS, informs as follows:-  
Seenav Ltr. P. 17-1 of 18/7. Capt. C.F. Bryant hereby placed in command Task Force 28, constituted as follows: ARKANSAS, BROOKLYN, Comdesdiv 21 in LIVERMORE, KEARNY and Desron 7 (PLUNKETT, NIBLACK, BENSON, ✓ GLEAVES, MAYO, MADISON, LANSDALE, HILARY P. JONES, and CHARLES F. HUGHES). Escort for Convoy A.T.18 consisting of 14 troopships ready to depart from New York 6/8 and 2 troop ships ready to depart from Boston same date to U.K. via Halifax where joined by Convoy N.A.14, consisting of 2 troopships, also for U.K. Proceed via routeing to be prescribed by Cominch (Convoy and Routeing) who is hereby requested to designate. Fuel available at Halifax only for topping off destroyers. 3 ships in convoy are destined for Iceland and will be turned over to British escort at prescribed Momp.  
All above destroyers, except LANSDALE, will report to you at New York. LANSDALE to report at Boston. Available additional destroyers may be directed to report to you at New York and Boston to augment escort through coastal waters. Task Force 38 to return to New York, escorting T.A.18, when directed and routed by Admty.  
Admty. inform C. in C. W.A.  
(Comnavcu, 1333/24 to Admty.)

/TAIGETE ...

War Diary.24.7.1942.  
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies - Contd.

- TAIGETE,  
ARCOLA. Following routes issued by U.S. authorities to TAIGETE, ARCOLA, Italian, sailed Curacao 24/7 for Freetown 12/8.  
(S.B.N.O. Curacao, 1352QR/24 to Admty.)
- SS. ARCOLA and TAIGETE departed Curacao 1530Z/24. Route as per your 1940/13. E.T.A. 14/8.  
(C.A.F.A.C., 1947/24 to Connav pass to C. in C. U.S. Fleet, N.S.H.Q., C. in C. W.A., C.C.S.F., pass to C.T.F. 23, N.O.B. Trinidad.)
- U/B Barbados. S/M sighted dawn today Friday near Ragged Point Barbados.  
(S.O.I. Kingston, 1501R/24 to Admty., S.B.N.O. W.A., B.A.D., Connav, Com. 10, N.O.I.C. Port of Spain.)
- PORT ANTONIO (sunk 19/7) Havana report Norwegian PORT ANTONIO sunk 1615 G.M.T./19th in 023° 39' N. 084° 00' W. 11 survivors landed Cayo Jutias Pinar del Rio. 23 killed in explosion.  
(S.O.I. Kingston, 1513R/24 to Admty., N.S.H.Q., S.B.N.O. W.A., B.A.D., Seafron Miami, Connav.)
- Convoy H.A.2. FREDERICTON, SUDBURY, THE PAS sailed escorting H.A. 2. Tug ZWARTE ZEE in company.  
(S.O.I. Halifax, 1535Z/24 to Admty., N.S.H.Q., C.C.N.F., Opnav, Com. 1st U.S. Naval District, Boston, S.B.N.O.W.A., S.O.(I) Jamaica, F.O.I.C. Trinidad, B.A.D.)
- VAN KINSBERGEN. VAN KINSBERGEN is now due for refit and Netherlands Naval Authorities desire that work should be carried out in U.K.  
2. Request information when this ship will be available to return to U.K.  
(D.O.D. F., 1616B/24 to B.A.D., (R) S.B.N.O.W.A.)
- ASTURIAS. E.T.A. St. Thomas 1500Z Monday 27/7. Requirements. Weather.  
(ASTURIAS, 1647Z/24 to S.B.N.O.W.A., (R) B.A.D., R.A.W.A.)
- GLASGOW. A.M. 1837/30 to B.A.M.R. only.  
On completion of refit about 5/8 it is requested that you will arrange for GLASGOW to carry out one week's working up practices. Full work up will be undertaken in Home Waters.  
2. Destination in U.K. is Portsmouth and on completion of work up ship should be sailed via Bermuda for that port manned in accordance with A.M. 2217/3/10/41 (C.A.F.O. 1325/42.)

War Diary.24.7.1942.  
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies.GLASGOW.  
(Contd.)

3. On arrival in U.K. leave may be granted in one watch to personnel retained on board during refit in accordance with A.F.O. 4374/41.  
(D.O.D.(F), 1649B/24 to B.A.M.R., B.A.D., N.S.H.Q. Cominch, Connav, C.E.S.F., S.B.N.O.W.A., C. in C. W.A., C. in C. Plymouth, C. in C. Portsmouth, C. in C. E.F., Combrax Portsmouth, GLASGOW.)

U/B  
Positions.

24/7 S/M estimate.  
(C. in C. U.S. Fleet, 1735/24.)

BURNHAM,  
U/Bs  
O.N. 113.*See 10-740 1746*

2 U-Boats sighted on surface, 1 on either bow 10 miles. My P.C. and S. 048° 37' N. 040° 38' W. 225° 10.  
(BURNHAM, 1820Z/24 to Opanav, (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.)

A.M. 1148Z/24. D/F bearings between 1508Z/24 and 1548Z/24 indicate at least 2 U-Boats in vicinity convoy O.N. 113.  
(D.D.I.C., 1826B/24 to Escorts of O.N. 113, (R) C. in C. W.A., H.Q.C.C., Cominch, N.S.H.Q.)

Net Depot,  
Australia.

Your 1637/16. No provision made for Central Net Depot in Australia. Some material has been shipped at request of Comsouwespac and Liaison Officer is on way to report to him. 2.

Comsouwespac has full particulars of U.S. materials available to enable him to forward demands.

(B.A.D., 1931Z/24 to Admty., (R) A.C.N.B.)

CITIES  
SERVICE  
KOOLMOTOR.

Have you any news CITIES SERVICE KOOLMOTOR sailed Beaumont 11/7 for U.K?  
(D.T.D., 2030B/24 to Connav, (R) N.S.H.Q.)

Use of  
Aircraft  
Carriers,  
Midway  
Action.

Your 1554/9. Following is extract from a written direct communication from Chief of Staff to U.S. C. in C. Begins: There are a number of advantages which accrue from operation of 2 or 3 carriers in a task force instead of 1 each in 2 or 3 task forces. We consider that 2 carriers operating together (i.e. under one tactical command) are more than twice as strong offensively and defensively than 1 carrier. We consider also that escorting force required for 2 carriers (cruisers, destroyers and defence air disposition) is considerably less than twice what is required for 1 carrier. There is also to be considered the added flexibility which is derived from having 2 or more decks from which to operate aircraft whose carriers may have been damaged whilst they were in flight. The only advantage to be gained from wide dispersal of carriers is in increasing difficulties of enemy in his search operations. We consider it entirely

/practicable ...

War Diary.

24.7.1942.  
Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies - conts. -

Use of  
Aircraft  
Carriers,  
Midway  
Action.  
(Contd.)

practicable to operate 2, 3, or 4 air groups in concerted operations. This is entirely a matter of organisation and training. Difficulty in conducting operations of this nature does not outweigh the advantage again in flexibility which results from operating carriers in mutually verged groups of 2 or 3, both as to increase of offensive power and in protection to ships themselves. (Ends.)

(2) At Midway Is. carriers were divided 2 in 1 task force and 1 in another, both being within visual signal touch of each other. This may be because C. in C. Pacific Fleet does not share Chief of Staff's view as above or possibly because task force commanders like to maintain their independence. (B.A.D., 2041Z/24 to C. in C. E.F., (R) Admty.)

AGWISTAR.

Overdue Trinidad U.S. AGWISTAR.  
(S.O.I. Jamaica, 2044R/24 to Admty., S.B.N.O.W.A., N.S.H.Q., B.A.D., C. in C. U.S. Fleet.)

BARALT.

Overdue Ciudad Trujillo Dutch BARALT.  
(S.O.I. Jamaica, 2048R/24 to Admty., S.B.N.O.W.A., N.S.H.Q., B.A.D., C. in C. U.S. Fleet.)

CHILORE,  
ALLARA,  
PORT ANTONIO.

Connav serial 24. CHILORE now beached lying on side near Norfolk. ALLARA (British) torpedoed 22/7 033.03 S. 152.22 E. PORT ANTONIO serial 23 corrected date 17/7. (Connav 2100/24 to Comnav.)

S/M Attack  
and sighting  
summary.

Patrol craft attacked one torpedo miss 40.22 N. 69° W. 0730Z/24. PORT ANTONIO later information indicates time of attack as 1615Z/17. PLEASANT VILLE, U.88 type. Surface craft attack sound contacts 01.58 N. 06.09 W. 0631Z/9/5, 02.04 N.

06.18 W. 0718Z/07/5. Plane attacks sub on surface 17.15 N. 64.22 W. 0135Z/26/6. J.J. LUCKENBACH fires at periscope at time and position of reported attack. Surface craft attacks sound contact 22.51 N. 84.42 W. 1700Z/8, possible damage. Plane sights submerged sub 30.39 N. 81.09 W. 1745Z/23. Planes attack sub 18.05 N. 81.15 W. 1627Z/23 and 18° N. 81.11 W. 1737Z/23. Sound contact reported 34.54 N. 75.32 W. about 1800Z/23. M.V. sights periscope 31.10 N. 71.47 W. about 2200Z/23. Sub reported 17.30 N. 67.30 W. 2000Z/23. Surface craft attacks sub on surface 52.33 N. 38.13 W. about 2100Z/23. Sub reported sighted on surface 29.55 N. 81.10 W. 0350Z/24 doubtful. Plane sights sub on surface 42.15 N. 70.15 W. 1430Z/24. Sub reported 13.11 N. 59.25 W. 1243Z/24. Sub wake reported 36.21 N. 71.02 W. 1620Z/24. (C. in C. U.S. Fleet, 2108/24 to Admty. for O.I.C.)

745

War Diary.24.7.1942.  
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies - Contd.

Transport of Service Personnel. Your 1306/23. Para. 1 A. Rare special cases. B. Vessels between 8 and 15 knots. Para. 2 and 3. British Army staff are arranging with U.S. Military Authorities here for their representatives in Australia to inform A.C.N.B. and N.Z.N.B. in advance of suitable sailings. Para. 4. Suitable ships capable of carrying personnel from Balboa to West Coast ports are very rare and advance knowledge of such ship's movements would not be available for you to arrange embarkation of personnel in your ships in time to connect. (B.A.D., 2207Z/24 to N.Z.N.B., (R) Admty., etc.)

S.C. Convoy Schedule. As a result of a conference at Ottawa between representatives of C. in C. U.S. Fleet, N.S.H.Q., B.A.D., C.O.A.C., F.O.N.F. and C.N.A. Washington, it is recommended that S.C. Convoys be sailed from Halifax on Tuesdays instead of from Sydney on Wednesdays. This would have the following advantages:  
(A) Reduction in number of merchant ships which have to be escorted between Halifax and Sydney.  
(B) More economical use of Western local escorts for S.C. Convoys.  
(C) As a result of (B) above escorts from O.N. and O.N.S. Convoys could escort shipping of all speeds from Boston to Halifax. This would provide a better flow of shipping from Boston to Halifax and a better ratio of escorts to merchant ships.  
2. Further recommended that new arrangement commence with S.C. 95 sailing from Halifax on Tuesday 4/8. Request your early concurrence.  
3. If above is concurred in, C.O.A.C. will investigate possibility of providing escorts for a Sydney portion of S.C. Convoys to escort this portion to R/V with main S.C. Convoy which will be routed to pass near Sydney. These escorts will then R/V with O.N. or O.N.S. Convoys when possible and escort ships for Gulf of St. Lawrence direct to Sydney.  
4. Minutes of conference are being forwarded by bomber mail and official bag respectively.  
(N.S.H.Q., 2126Z/24 to Admty., C. in C. U.S. Fleet.)  
Concur. D.T.D. 1119B/26.

Escort Vessels, Construction. Your 1803/21, concur.  
2. We lose a lot of the early production we counted on, but appreciate equity of proposal. Agreement should cover period till Sept. 1943 at least, otherwise our earlier sacrifices may not be made good.  
3. We estimate R.N. will get about the following number of D.Es in 1943:-  
1st Quarter 4 or 6. 2nd Quarter 24 or 31. 3rd Quarter 42. 4th Quarter 46; and we shall give up from Empire production not substantially more than 2 T.S. Corvettes in addition to transfers already arranged.

/4. ....

746

War Diary.24.7.1942.  
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies - conts: -Escort  
Vessels,  
Construction.  
(Contd.)

4. C.M.A.B. should be allowed sufficient latitude to avoid ships going to U.S.A. with British equipment the U.S. Navy do not want and vice versa or to avoid extra shipyard work in making changes.

(Sec. N.A.C. Approved 1st Lord, 2129B/24 to B.A.D.)

U/B,  
BURNHAM.

S/M on surface bearing 000° 7 miles. My P.C. and S. 048° 38' N. 041° 24' W. 000° 25 knots. (C.T.U. 24.1.12, 2240Z/24 to Admty., Opnav, (R) C.T.24, C. in C. W.A., N.S.H.Q., F.O.N.F., C.O.A.C., C.T.G.24.7.)

My 2240/24 U-Boat observed diving. Carrying out hunt. (BURNHAM, 2346Z/24 to Opnav, (R) C.T.F.24, C. in C. W.A., N.S.H.Q., F.O.N.F., C.O.A.C., C.T.G.24.7.) *1.1.1. 740 1743*U/B sunk by Canadian destroyer ST. CROIX, escorting Convoy ST. CROIX. O.N.113, reports having sunk a U-Boat about 720 *(U.90. Lt. T. P. ...)* miles W.E. of St. Johns N.F., at 1055 p.m./24. *(Int. Cmd: 6843)* (D.O.R., 1070 - no signal in W.D.)Atlantic  
Convoys.

Your 1052B/21, concur. However time and manner of dissemination chop not essential C. in C. U.S. Fleet, therefore recommend retention of present system to avoid additional communication unless time of crossing 26° W. greater value to you.

(C. in C. U.S. Fleet Convoy and Routeing No T.O.O./24 Recd. 0355/25.)

Tanker  
Movements.

Oil supply problem at Freetown and also at Gibraltar is particularly difficult because of small storage capacity and heavy irregular offtake. Although emphasising these points it is impossible to exaggerate the urgency of oil movements wherever occurring. 2. You realise that no opportunity of moving tankers must be lost. You must also realise that timely report to Admty. of delays often enables loss to be reduced by taking appropriate measures. 3. (a) Mr. Robinson, Trinidad and Mr. Jongejan, Curacao are responsible for reporting via Admiralty every cause which postpones the date of a tanker's readiness to sail. (b) B.R.Os must cover the remaining ground by reporting promptly every cause which has prevented or is likely to prevent the sailing of a tanker which is ready for sea. 4. Compliance with para. 3 will render unnecessary such message as 2040/8/6 to Aruba 2129/16/7 to Curacao and 2130/16/7 to Trinidad.

(D.T.D., 2316B/24 to S.B.N.O. Trinidad, B.R.O. Trinidad, B.R.O. Curacao, B.R.O. Aruba, (R) S.B.N.O.W.A., S.O.(I) Jamaica.)

747

War Diary.24.7.1942.  
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Australia and New Zealand.ALLARA  
(torpedoed  
22/7.)

My 0134Z/23rd. ALLARA was taken in tow by DOOMBA and has reached Newcastle. Casualties 4 killed, 6 wounded. Vessel was struck in stern. (A.C.N.B., 0738Z/24 to Admty., C.O.S. Kilindini, C. in C. E.F., N.Z.N.B., B.A.D.)

Situation.

Serial No. 183 23/7, 2030.

- (1) Indications 1 enemy S/M off Port Jackson and 1 off Tathra Head (N.W.S.) 23/7.
- (2) ALLARA reached Newcastle under tow p.m./23/7 refer serial No. 18 para. 2.
- (3) 2000 ton cargo vessel and possible destroyer at Salamaua a.m./23/7.
- (4) R/C A/C sighted destroyer and M/V 3° 55' S. 151° 40' E. (?0422/23) course 270°.
- (5) Reliably reported 22/7 61 machine guns 12 A.A. guns Kukum Suna River area (Guadalcanal) machine guns mounted on trucks.
- (6) 8 air attacks 23/7 by Aircobras A.24 Marauders P.39 Hudsons on shipping and shore installations Buna Gona area. 1 hit on buildings observed. 5000 ton vessel set on fire by direct hit. A.A. position at Gona silenced. 25 landing barges observed Buna, 20 at Gona.
- (7) 3 Aircobras attacked destroyer or corvette and float-plane Salamaua 2045/20 result not observed.
- (8) Unidentified A/C reported over Townsville 0025/22. (A.C.N.B., 0827Z/24 to Admty., etc.)

GERALDTON,  
TOOWOOMBA.

Your 0915Z/23 to A.C.N.B. only. Sailed GERALDTON in accord with Deputy C. in C. E.F. 1504Z/21 in company with BAHREIN. TOOWOOMBA will proceed at later date. (A.C.N.B., 0921Z/24 to D.N.O. Fremantle, (R) F.O.I.C. Ceylon, Dept. C. in C. E.F.)

Shipping  
Fremantle.

Your 0411Z/20 (re ships calling at Fremantle for routing instructions to proceed to Gage Roads.) Concur. (D.T.D., 1548B/24 to A.C.N.B.)

Transport  
of Service  
Personnel.

Cancel D. of S.T.'s 0343/24 not to last two addressees. D. of S.T. informs that if necessary SS. DEVONSHIRE may proceed to Middle East. 2. Can you in consultation with Deputy C. in C. E.F. arrange escort for this ship to Suez via Colombo or alternatively to Cape for oncarriage? As her capacity is 2216 she could then take 150 Dutch Naval Air Personnel for Colombo and nearly all personnel in your 1256/14/7 for Suez. Remainder could be embarked in ARONDA, RAJULA and/or EKMA, to Durban unescorted. 3. If escort cannot be provided SS. DEVONSHIRE, ARONDA, RAJULA and EKMA should take as many as allowed on unescorted basis to Durban for oncarriage, see D. of S.T.'s 0346/24. Dutch personnel should not be embarked, see A.M. 1214/16. 4. Request your proposals. (D.O.D.(F), 2246B/24 to A.C.N.B., (R) Dep. C. in C. E.F., P.S.T.O. India, P.S.T.O. Simonstown, S.T.O. Durban, C. in C. S.A., F.O.I.C. Ceylon.)



War Diary.

24.7.1942.  
Friday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Submarines Reported.

Approximate U/B positions.  
(D.D.I.C., 1410B/24, 1424B/24.)

749

War Diary.25.7.1942.  
Saturday.SITUATION REPORT.Home Commands.

The five merchant ships EMPIRE TIDE, TROUBADOUR SILVER SWORD, BENJAMIN HARRISON, and IRONCLAD, and the damaged Russian Tanker AZERBAIDJAN, from Convoy P.Q.17 were safely escorted today to Archangel from Novaya Zemlya; and the American WINSTON SALEM has been refloated there and is expected to reach the Dvina on the 27th escorted by 4 Russian Patrol Vessels.

In view of the acute situation as to the survivors of P.Q.17 now in North Russia, S.B.N.O. Archangel proposes that 800 should be brought home in the SS. DVINA sailing with a Destroyer Escort on about 5/8, and that 4 more Destroyers should be sent to escort Convoy Q.P.14 which, probably consisting of 17 ships, will be ready to sail on 12/8.

RENOWN with 3 Destroyers left Hvalfjord at 1145 today for Scapa.

Photographs taken at 0800B today at Trondheim show KÖLN in Foetten Fiord and a Pocket Battleship, probably LÜTZOW, berthed at the entrance to Lofjord.

British Air Operations.

A.C.I.C. informs C. in C. H.F. that the forthcoming withdrawal without replacement of 612 Whitley Squadron, will reduce the total number of aircraft in Iceland available for Fleet R/C, and they are not fitted with A.S.V. gear. It will also not be possible with this reduced number of aircraft to provide individual escorts for all British and U.S. convoys and independent sailings.

Other items that may be adversely affected include the ability to institute air patrol on the Denmark Straits at short notice. (It is understood that arrangements were made later to meet the difficulty.)

Enemy Air Operations.

At 0825 today M.A/S.B. 31 was attacked while leaving Ramsgate by 2 Fighter A/C and was considerably damaged.

750

War Diary.

25.7.1942.  
Saturday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Mining.

The port of Milford Haven will be closed for sweeping daily from 0400 to 0700 during August. One magnetic mine was exploded by Sweepers today in the Thames Estuary, and one off Harwich.

North Atlantic.

Portuguese sloop PEDRO NUNES picked up at 1000 G.M.T. today 28 survivors, including 2 women, presumed from AVILA STAR (torpedoed 6/7, or 19 days ago). In addition to this number, 11 died before rescue.

South Atlantic.

A Hudson aircraft attacked a U-Boat on the surface at 1413 in 04.07 N. 14.10 W.

Norwegian tanker TANKEPRESS (10095 tons) was torpedoed at 1502 in 10.05 N. 21.31 W., about 345 miles S.W. of Dakar.

H.M. Trawler LAERTES was sunk by U-Boat which she was hunting about 2115 today in approx. 6° N. 14° 17' W.

R.A. West Africa suggests that as a result of a recent joint appreciation on the problem of defending vital interests in that area consideration might be given to the provision of facilities enabling a torpedo bombing squadron to operate at short notice when the strategic situation requires.

Mediterranean.

A 6000 ton tanker making for Tobruk was attacked by aircraft early this morning about 40 miles E. of Ras-el-Tin. S/M THORN was advised that the ship may have been stopped.

/Aircraft ...

War Diary.

25.7.1942.  
Saturday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Mediterranean - Contd.

Aircraft operated against shipping and the harbour at Tobruk last night; near misses on 3 ships and large fires started in the dock area are reported.

Wellingtons last night bombed Heraklion and Tymbaki Aerodromes in Crete, starting fires at each.

East Indies.

S/M TRUANT, on patrol in Malacca Strait, was subjected to sudden and accurate surface night attack by small patrol craft, indicating probable use of R.D.F. by enemy. F.O. Ceylon considers a great measure of protection would be provided, in addition to assistance in locating target, if S/Ms could be provided with R.D.F., type 291 or other.

Replying to Deputy C. in C. E.F's inquiry as to what A/S and air forces he had for escorting convoy or important ships in Gulf of Aden, Commodore Aden, replies that there are 3 asdic trawlers, and POOLE, (asdic fitted) For all purposes, including defence of port, there is only a Blenheim squadron, without A.S.V. averaging 7 aircraft serviceable daily. There are also 2 rescue tugs normally employed on dredging.

Convoy C.M.30 (8 ships with troops for Diego Suarez, Kilindini and Bombay) escorted by FROBISHER and RANCHI, is off the S.E. Coast of Madagascar.

America and West Indies.

U/B attack  
on O.N. 113.

O.N. 113 was attacked at 0159Z in 48.51 N. 40.16 W. SS. EXPLORER and BRITISH MERIT (A.N.D. ship) were torpedoed. This is the first recorded instance of torpedoing of an A.N.D. ship. The U-Boat was not sighted. SS. BROOMPARK was torpedoed at 0212Z in 49° 2' N. 40° 26' W. and was abandoned.

War Diary.

25.7.1942.  
Saturday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Australia.

Dutch SS. TJINEGARA (9227 tons) was torpedoed today about 100 miles S.W. of Noumea and is reported sunk.

Japanese flying boats dropped 6 bombs in the sea off Townsville at 1440Z today. No damage was caused. Five unidentified bombers raided Darwin at 1125Z today, causing slight damage.

Allied aircraft carried out 5 attacks in the Buna - Gona area today. No damage was observed.

War Diary.25.7.1942.  
Saturday.HOME COMMANDS.Policy.

North Atlantic Dispositions. A.M. 1049Z/23.  
Area Scapa - add KING GEORGE V, 2 destroyers (U.S.)  
1 destroyer.  
Area Rosyth- Delete WICHITA, 2 destroyers (U.S.)  
(D.O.D. H., 1035Z/25 to C. in C. U.S. Fleet.)

AURORA. It is anticipated that AURORA will be required to leave the U.K. during the last week in August to rejoin the Mediterranean Fleet.  
(D.O.D.(H), 2026B/25 to C. in C. H.F.)

Movements.

SHIKARI, SARDONYX. Your 1846/24. Sailed 1300B/24. N.C.S.O.  
Iceland's 1330B/24 refers.  
(A.C.I.C., 0012B/25 to Admty.)

PRINCES\$ BEATRIX. Sailed PRINCES\$ BEATRIX for Portsmouth in accordance with my 1154/24.  
(F.O.I.C. Greenock, 0326B/25.)  
Adjust speed to R/V with Sweeper 1 mile West of A.M. Q.Z.X. 766 at 1200/26.  
(C. in C. Portsmouth, 1133B/25 to PRINCES\$ BEATRIX.)

ST. MARYS. On completion of duty with S.D.30A proceed to Newport for refit following standard route through Irish Sea.  
(R.A.M., 0843/25 to ST. MARYS.)  
My 0843/25. Request necessary fighter protection may be arranged on receipt of ST. MARYS signal.  
(R.A.M., 0845/25 to C. in C. W.A.)

WELSHMAN. A.M. 1124B/23. Intend sailing WELSHMAN 2000B/26.  
E.T.A. Port ZA 1130B/27.  
(N.O.I.C. Milford Haven, 1839B/25.)

LULWORTH. Arrived LULWORTH with 33 Italian prisoners of war.  
(F.O.I.C. Greenock, 1136B/25.)

Russian S/Ms. My 0501/22. Following is repeat of my para. 3.  
"It is believed from Finnish sources that second relay of Soviet U-Boats have passed out of Finnish Gulf into Baltic. Graded A.2"  
(N.A. Stockholm, 1211/25 to Admty.)

BLACK RANGER, WILTON. Scapa arrival BLACK RANGER, WILTON.  
(A.C.O.S., 1218B/25.)

War Diary.25.7.1942.  
Saturday.HOME COMMANDS.Movements - Contd.

RENOWN. Hvalfjord departures RENOWN, INGLEFIELD, INTREPID. OFFA at 1145. E.T.A. Scapa 0500/27. (A.C.I.C., 1222B/25.)

EXMOUTH. My 1800/24 and Admty. 1911/22. F.O.I.C. London is requested to sail EXMOUTH in tow tugs CAROLINE MOLLER and ST. MELLONS, with trawlers LOCH HOPE and CASTLENAU as escorts, to Southend for onward passage to Methil for Scapa.  
2. LOCH HOPE is to part company as requisite for entering Hartlepool and CASTLENAU to act as escort to Methil before proceeding to Granton.  
3. Tow and escorts should be sailed so as to pass Thames gate astern of S.N. Convoy.  
5. C. in C. Rosyth is requested to arrange for onward passage to Scapa with any escort considered desirable. (C. in C. Nore, 1604B/25.)

9 L.C.Ts. <sup>/N.T.W.D.</sup> My 1557B/14. L.C.T. 321, 322, 323, 317, 318, 324 325, 354 and 342 of 5th Flotilla. E.T.A. St. Helens 1500/27 and will proceed to Calshott. (C. in C. Portsmouth, 1607/25.)

UNIQUE. Sheerness departure UNIQUE at 1630 with convoy C.W.110. (C. in C. Nore, 1710B/25 to C. in C. Portsmouth)

MACBETH, <sup>/N.T.W.D.</sup>  
→ OPHELIA. Your 1944/24. MACBETH is not in Orkneys and Shetlands command. (A.C.O.S., 1828/25 to Admty.)

NELSON, E.T.A. 2145B/26. RODNEY, SOMALI, ICARUS, RODNEY. FORESIGHT, PENN and QUENTIN in company. (NELSON, 1906Z/25 to A.C.O.S.)

CANTON, E.T.A. Trevoise Head 2300B/25. DOUGLAS. (CANTON, 1956/25 to C. in C. Portsmouth.) Sailed CANTON escorted by DOUGLAS in accordance with my 1154B/24. Amended E.T.A. Needles 1500B/27. (F.O.I.C. Greenock, 2018B/25.) *See p. 760*

WOODBIDGE. <sup>N.T.W.D.</sup> Your 1324/25, Admty.'s 1944/24, and my 1812/12. Request confirmation OPHELIA will escort M.F.V. WOODBRIDGE to Iceland in which case THIRLMERE will not be required for this duty. (A.C.I.C., 2005B/25 to A.C.O.S.)

/UREDD ...

War Diary.25.7.1942.  
Saturday.HOME COMMANDS.Movements.- Contd.

→ UREDD.

My 1717/25. UREDD leaves patrol and passes through  $63^{\circ} 31' N. 00^{\circ} 01' W.$  at 0001/27, thence through  $60^{\circ} 05' N. 00^{\circ} 01' W.$  Due Lerwick 0600/28. Probably proceeding on the surface. (F.O.S., 2119B/25.)

Operations.

Patrols. Tonight S.G.B.3, 5, 6, 8 will sweep south-eastward from Cap Barfleur.

(C. in C. Portsmouth, 1317B/25.)

2 M.Ls on patrol 10 miles South Portland Bill.

Coastal Force exercising between Portland and St. Albans 2230 to 0100.

(C. in C. Plymouth, 1527B/25 and 1811B/25.)

M.Ls 450 and 220 from Ramsgate patrolling between Dumpton and N.E. Spit Buoy. E.T.D. 225, E.T.R. 0530/26.

Trawlers WATERFLY and SARPEDON and M.Ls 293 and 137 two miles south of D and C One Buoys respectively.

M.Ls 210 and 128 at N.E. Varne Buoy.

(V.A. Dover, 1819B/25.)

→ UREDD  
Patrol.

UREDD is to leave patrol so as to pass through  $063^{\circ} 31' N. 000^{\circ} 01' W.$  at 0001B/27, thence through  $060^{\circ} 05' N. 000^{\circ} 01' E.$  to Lerwick. E.T.A. 0600B/28. (Capt. S.9, 2001B/25.)

Exercises.

AMBUSCADE.

Sailed AMBUSCADE for exercises at Lamlash. (Cdre. Londonderry, 0950B/25.)

Tactical  
Exercise.

DUKE OF YORK screened by HAMBLETON, RODMAN, EMMONS and MACOMB is to proceed passing Hoxa Gate at 1730/26.

(2) Route through position A.  $058^{\circ} 55' N. 006^{\circ} 25' W.$  B.  $060^{\circ} 21' N. 010^{\circ} 39' W.$  C.  $062^{\circ} 22' N. 024^{\circ} 02' W.$  Thence Hvalfjord after complying with C.S.1 1515/23. S. of A. 17 knots.

(3) HAWKINS is to sail to exercise in company and is to be detached off Cape Wrath to Clyde.

(4) C. in C. Rosyth is requested to arrange A/S air escort until dark 26th. C. in C. W.A. and A.C.I.C. are requested to arrange A/S air escort on 27th and 28th.

(C. in C. H.F., 1159B/25.)

My 1515B/23 and C. in C. H.F. 1044B/24. Orders for Exercise. (C.S.1, 1539B/25 to DUKE OF YORK.)

/ S/M ...



War Diary.25.7.1942.  
Saturday.HOME COMMANDS.Exercises - Contd.S/M and A/C  
Trials.

C. in C. Rosyth 1831/24. Three Swordfish of 811 Squadron and necessary stores and personnel are to be transferred to Arbroath for the trials. (R.A.N.A.S., 1311B/25 to Machrihanish.)

British Air Activity.

"Knocker".

Operation commenced 0400Z/25.  
(A.C.I.C., 0118B/25.)  
My 0118B. First A/C taken off.

(A.C.I.C., 0715B/25.)

My 0118/25. Last A/C airborne 1058/25.

(A.C.I.C., 1400B/25.)

Operation expected to commence 0400Z/26.

(A.C.I.C., 2006B/25.)

A/C for  
North Russia.Your 1004C/22. Cancellation of P.Q.18 and uncertainty about subsequent convoys is reason for cancellation of project for despatch R.A.F. Squadrons to Murmansk.  
(Air Ministry, 0920Z/25 to 30 Mission.)

886 Sqdn.

My 1722/17. Subject to your concurrence it is now desired to postpone the date of the proposed movement of 886 Squadron to Turnhouse until 10/8.  
(R.A.N.A.S., 1053B/25 to H.Q.F.C.)Bombing  
restrictions.

Institute total submarine bombing restrictions 35 miles either side of line joining 67° 30' N. 01° 20' E. to 63° 48' N. 07° 10' W. from 1200/26 until 1800/28.

(H.Q.C.C., 1212/25.) (Capt. S.9, 1717B to P.614 and P.615.)  
Capt. (S) 9 1717/25. Owing to air search bombing restrictions between 064° 30', 005° 29' W. and 063° 48', 007° 10' W. will not commence before 0001/27.

(F.O.S., 2318B/25 to P.614, P.615.)

U.S.A.  
Aircraft.Position of U.S.A. aircraft as at A.M. 25/7.  
Fighters (P.38) - U.K. 11. Iceland 23.

B.W.1 10. B.W.8 2. Goose 32. U.S.A. 79.

Transports (C.47) - U.K. 20. Iceland 3. B.W.1. 21. B.W.8 nil. Goose 3. U.S.A. 24.

Bombers (B.17) - U.K. 14. Iceland 8. B.W.1. 5. B.W.8 4. Goose 12. U.S.A. 30.

Seven B.17s, 10 C.47s, and 24 P.38s left Iceland for U.K. a.m. 25/7.

(Air Ministry, 1510/25 to 44 Group.)

/Air ...

757

War Diary.25.7.1942.  
Saturday.HOME COMMANDS.British Air Activity - Contd.

Air Forces in Iceland. I have been informed that 612 Whitley Squadron are to be withdrawn from Iceland very shortly and apparently not replaced. This will reduce the total number of A/C in Iceland available for Fleet R/C and they are not fitted with A.S.V. gear. It will also not be possible with this reduced number of A/C to provide individual escorts for all British and U.S. convoys and independent sailings. Adequate sweeps will still be possible but Commandant N.O.B.I. does not consider that these will provide sufficient security as far as U.S. ships are concerned. Other items that may be adversely affected will be ice R/Cs, the ability to institute air patrol on Denmark Straits at short notice, and the local patrol known as the Hvalfjord section patrol.  
(A.C.I.C., 2041B/25 to C. in C. H.F.)

Enemy Air Activity.

M.A/S.B. 31 damaged. At 0825 today M.A/S.B. 31 was attacked by two hostile fighter A/C when leaving Ramsgate on air-sea rescue duties. No casualties. Superficial hull damage and considerable damage to centre engine.  
(V.A. Dover, 1844B/25 and 2019B/25.)

A/C off Jan Mayen. Jan Mayen reports A/C heard South Island 0540/25 going eastwards. Weather foggy.  
(A.C.I.C., 2307B/25.)

Mining.

Girvan. Girvan Police report a mine floating about 50 yards from shore at Shallock Mill  $1\frac{1}{2}$  miles south of Girvan. Position not suitable for M.S. vessel to investigate.  
(N.O.I.C. Ardrossan, 0955/25.)  
My 0955/25. Girvan Coastguard reports that this mine has been rendered safe by mine disposal officer.  
(N.O.I.C. Ardrossan, 1450B/25.)

Milford Haven. Port of Milford Haven will be closed for sweeping from 0400 to 0700 daily during August.  
(F.O.I.C. Milford Haven, 1041B/25.)

Harwich, 1 ground mine detonated by LL Trawlers at 1012/25. Details.  
(F.O.I.C. Harwich, 1129B/25 and 1816B/25.)

Sweep. Intend sailing 5 of 9th M.S.F. at 0800/26 running taut wire to 150° 7.5 miles from Beachy Head and laying Datum Dan. Commence sweeping on courses 090° and 270° at 1000, returning to harbour about 1830. Request air cover.  
(N.O.I.C. Newhaven, 1634/25 to C. in C. Portsmouth.)

/Thames ...

758

War Diary.25.7.1942.  
Saturday.HOME COMMANDS.Mining - Contd.

Thames Estuary. One ground mine detonated by Sweepers at 1011/25. Details.  
(Capt. M/S Sheerness, 1931/25.)

Enemy Intelligence.

German Shipping on Norwegian Coast. (A) German Naval Authorities are constantly urging need for more German shipping for war transport to northern Norway. Graded A.2.  
(B) Recent analysis of shipping statistics shows increasing number Norwegian vessels being requisitioned by K.M.D. to augment German transport tonnage. These are all small vessels suitable for navigating inner fairways on passage to far north. Early July there were 28 vessels totalling 46,663 tons under this charter many of which now make whole voyages Germany to northern Norway. Seven of these are now under repair in Norwegian and German yards including four suffering mine damage.  
(C) Total Norwegian shipping now in Norwegian waters we estimate at 260 vessels of 660 thousand tons including oil burners and vessels laid up. Of this an increasing number are under repair and at present amount to 21 ships of 63,539 tons.  
(D) See my R/S 571. Germany will shortly have to supply at least seven divisions in north Finland where previously they had only three. Bulk of increased transport must proceed to Kirkenes where distribution to Petsamo along coast is made by T.L.C. and other landing craft.  
Conclusion. Paras. (A) and (B) bear out implication in my R/S 571 and in para. (D). Though an increasing number Norwegian ships are likely to be required for war transport it seems Germans can find ships providing reduction in ordinary position can be accepted.  
(N.A. Stockholm, 1127/25 to Admty.)  
Comment: N.A. Stockholm's R/S 571 has not yet been received.

Trondheim. Photographie R/C of Trondheim at 0800B/25.  
KÖLN, KÖLN in Foetten Fiord. Pocket Battleship,  
?LÜTZOW. probably LÜTZOW, berthed at entrance to Lofjord.  
(D.D.I.C., 1458/25.)

U-Boats.

U-Boat attacked. Am investigating suspicious object (oil patch) (? 197) Eddystone 2. Have called corvette to investigate and attack.  
(A/C 9JWR, 1000/25.)  
Have attacked enemy with depth charges. Result unknown.  
(A/C 9JWR, 1024/25.)

/U-Boats reported...

War Diary.25.7.1942.  
Saturday.HOME COMMANDS.U-Boats - Contd.

U-Boats reported. U/B by D/F 0849Z/25 between 62° N. 02° E. and 62° 30' N. 02° 30' E, bound towards Atlantic. (D.D.I.C., 1144B/25 to UREDD.)  
U-Boat reported by aircraft in 062° 03' N. 015° 15' W. at 1219/25.  
(C. in C. W.A., 1542B/25 to CHARLESTOWN, ST. MARYS, SARDONYX, SHIKARI.) (D.D.I.C., 1707B/25.)  
Am over enemy submarine in 61° 39' N. 16° 39' W. (A.O.C. 15 Group, 2010/25.)  
Enemy was sighted on surface and observed to submerge bearing 240°, 15 miles. (A.O.C. 15 Group, 2011/25.)  
Following has been read R.A.F. Call Sign 7 VY, R.A.F. Call Sign 7 BBE.  
I am remaining in 61° 39' N. 16° 39' W. (Reykjavik W/T, 2030Z/25.)  
D/F bearings at 1926 and 1933 indicate that you have probably been reported by 2 U-Boats. (D.D.I.C., 2222B/25 to Escorts O.N. 113.)

Navigational.

Newport. My 0715B/24. Ships up to 325 feet in length may now enter and leave Alexandra Docks, Newport. (N.O.I.C. Newport, 1330B/25.)

Casualties and Defects.

CELANDINE. Arrived CELANDINE with defects. (Cdre. Londonderry, 0600B/25.)

NEVADA II. Arrived **"NIMBLE"**. (N.O.I.C. Aultbea, 0609B/25.)

HENRY R. MALLORY. Accident at Newport yesterday caused by American ship HENRY R. MALLORY. Believed due to engines put full ahead in engine room instead of full astern. Consider inquiry desirable. Should Board be Naval or Board of Trade. If former can American Officer be made available. (F.O.I.C. Cardiff, 1026B/25.)

GLENCAIRN. GLENCAIRN with defective D.G. is returning with Convoy F.S. 262. (LAUDERDALE, 1135B/25.)

LUCELLUM. Cancel my 1153B/25. Returned with defects. (Cdre. Londonderry, 1428B/25.)

/RICHARD BLAND ...

760

War Diary.25.7.1942.  
Saturday.HOME COMMANDS.Casualties and Defects - Contd.

RICHARD  
BLAND  
(P.Q. 17)      Your 1605/24 arrived.  
(N.C.S.O. Methil, 1654/25 to N.C.S.O. Thurso.)

CAMELLIA.      A.M. 1728B/20.      CAMELLIA in hand at Barry on  
25/7.      Date of completion 23/8.  
(F.O.I.C. Cardiff, 1802/25 to Admty.)

DESPATCH.      My 1203/24.      DESPATCH returned to Rosyth on  
one engine and arrived at 2100/25.  
(C. in C. Rosyth, 2159B/25.)

Shipping and Convoys.

N.A. 13.      Convoy N.A. 13 comprising LETITIA for Clyde and  
DOMINION MONARCH for Liverpool is due 29/7.  
3. LETITIA should be prepared for voyage  
commencing about 7/8.      DOMINION MONARCH will be included in  
convoy W.S.22.  
(D.S.T., 0607B/25.)

O.N.S. 116.      O.N.S.116.      SS. NEVA (Sw.) After sailing in  
NEVA.      O.N.S.UJ.116 was reported to have speed of 7  
knots only. If she cannot maintain speed of  
convoy before reaching 10° W. she is to return  
to Clyde.  
(C. in C. W.A., 1028B/25 to KIRKELLA.)

HIGHLAND  
BRIGADE.      Intend sailing HIGHLAND BRIGADE at 2100B/25  
independently for Avonmouth unescorted.      Speed  
15 knots.      Route K.      E.T.A. Barry Roads  
1730B/26.  
(N.C.S.O. Belfast, 1101B/25.)

W.P. 192.      Your 1154B/24.      BLEASDALE has been ordered to  
part company with CARTHAGE and BROKE off Trevoise  
Head at 2300/26 and to join CANTON and DOUGLAS  
to act as additional escort to convoy.      CANTON is to adjust  
speed to arrive at position one mile west of A.M. Q.Z.X.766  
at 1500/27 to R/V with sweepers and follow them through  
Needles Channel.  
Convoy W.P. 192 is to follow CANTON and escorts.  
(C. in C. Portsmouth, 1113B/25 to N.O.I.C. Greenock.)  
\* ~~3~~ 12.754.

E.N.Convoys.      C. in C. Rosyth's 1105B/23.      Three out of the  
thirteen E.N. convoys are due to arrive at the  
Orkney R/V during dark hours.      In the event of  
a ship requiring to be sailed in a slow convoy after 31/7 a  
delay of up to 14 days would be incurred.      My letter 1266/OS  
383 of 5/7/1942 refers.  
(A.C.O.S., 1136/25 to Admty.)

/HOPEMOUNT ...

War Diary.25.7.1942.  
Saturday.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping and Convoys - Contd.

- HOPEMOUNT. Intend sailing HOPEMOUNT with icebreakers LENIN, KRASSIN, STALIN, LIJKE and MONTCALM p.m. 28th for Ka(?mis)a Sea.  
3 British M/S and 3 Corvettes will sweep convoy through White Sea and escort as far as Kolguev off shore behind (corrupt group) Kanin Nos if weather is thick.  
(S.B.N.O. Archangel, 1241B/25 to S.B.N.O. North Russia.)
- O.S. 36. PENTSTEMON is to join 44th group temporarily and is to sail with O.S.36.  
(C. in C. W.A. 1257B/25.)
- W.S. 21. My 2324/18, para. 2. Delete DELFTDIJK and KARAMEA who will not be ready to sail with W.S. 21.  
(D.O.D. (H.), 1326B/25.)  
(1) P.C.74 is to arrive Barry Roads in time to escort JAMES LYKES ready 2100/27 to join W.S. 21 in (A) 270° Oversay 6 miles at 0400Z/29.  
(C. in C. W.A., 1708B/25 to N.O.I.C. Holyhead.)
- West Coast of Novaya Zemlya. Your 1717B/23. Matochkin Shar and Mollerrack Archangel the only suitable anchorages North of Gusoni Nos. Belushya Bay to South of South Gusoni Nos is also considered a very good anchorage.  
(S.B.N.O. Archangel, 1809B/25 to C. in C. H.F.)  
Your 1717/23. Russkaya Harbour, Matochkin Shar, and Belushya Bay in 071° 30' N. 052° 20' E. are best anchorages. Defences against air attack are being established.  
(S.B.N.O. North Russia, 2001B/25 to Admty.)
- BELOMORCANAL, Your 2356B/23. Anglo-Soviet Shipping Company requests that BELOMORCANAL and FRIEDRICH ENGELS and other Russian flag ships in Iceland (C) be held pending further instructions. Admiral Miles 1331C/24 is understood to refer.  
FRIEDRICH ENGELS. (D.T.D., 1908B/25 to A.C.I.C.)
- Use of Sound Signals. Commodores of Ocean Convoys are to be recommended to make greater use of sound signals when altering course in fine weather by day, so that in cases of fog or emergency bridge officers may be fully accustomed to their use.  
(D.T.D., 1929B/25.)

/"Chop" ...

762

War Diary.25.7.1942.  
Saturday.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping and Convoys - Contd.

"Chop" times'. Following from C. in C. U.S. Fleet Convoy and routeing addressed Admiralty repeated C.T.F.24 begins. Your 1052B/21 concur. However time and manner of dissemination "chop" not essential. C. in C. U.S. Fleet therefore recommend retention of present system to avoid additional communication unless time of crossing 26° W. greater value to you. No T.O.O./24. Ends. Request your remarks.  
(D.T.D., 1931B/25 to C. in C. W.A.)

P.Q. 17. P.Q.17. Novaya Zemlya operation "Metres" completed. EMPIRE TIDE, TROUBADOUR, SILVER SWORD, BENJAMIN HARRISON, IRONCLAD, and AZERBAIDJAN, with ~~the~~ "BRAMBLE", POZARICA, LOTUS, POPPY, LA MALOUINE, DIANELLA, HAZARD, SEAGULL, and AYRSHIRE arrived Dvina. WINSTON SALEM refloated and en route escorted by 4 Soviet Union patrol vessels. Will be met by LEDA and BRITOMART. E.T.A. Dvina 1100B/27.  
(S.B.N.O. Archangel, 2137B/25.)  
Your 2144B/24.

No reply has yet been received to my 1824/16. SS. DVINA expected to be ready 5/8, speed 16 knots. In view of acute situation as regards survivors propose she should be carrying 800 with destroyer escort and that 4 more destroyers should be sent to escort Q.P. 14 ready 12/8, consisting of probably 17 ships.  
(S.B.N.O. Archangel, 2229B/25 to S.B.N.O. North Russia.)

*\* Confirmed by Movement of H.M. Ships.*

War Diary.25.7.1942  
SaturdayFOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic.STELLA  
CARINA.

Your 1200/24. <sup>/N.T. - W.B.</sup> With LEYLAND in company turn to meet HALLANGER and steam along approach route until dark 25th. If not met by then return along approach route to Gibraltar. Report to F.O.C.N.A. (R) Admty. at dark 25th if not met. (F.O.C.N.A. 0505B/25 to STELLA CARINA (R) Admty.)

Vessels  
building  
at Lisbon.

Your 0215/25. (sent by W.R. requesting repetitions of messages, quoted in 1815/24.) Following is F.O.C.N.A.'s 0958/24 (begins) N.C.S.O. Lisbon from F.O.C.N.A. Your 1545/21. Vessels should be sailed coastwise to arrive

220° St. Vincent 3 miles at 0830B/25, whence they will be escorted by ALOUETTE direct to Cape Trafalgar, thence independently to Gibraltar.

(2) Your 1239/23. No escort available. Trawlers should be routed coastwise to Gibraltar. T.O.O. 0958/24/7 (Ends) Following is B.N.A.'s Lisbon 1510/24 (Begins) S.O.I. Gibraltar please pass to V.A.C.N.A. Admty. for D.S.V.P. from B.N.A. Lisbon, N.C.S.O. Lisbon's 1239/23. PORT JACKSON and PORT MADOC have neither bridge protection nor defensive armament. Suggest protection may be fitted Gibraltar while awaiting convoy and machine guns supplied if available. T.O.O. 1510/24 (ends) (S.O.I. Gibraltar 0748B/25 to Admty.)

Towing of  
LAVINGTON  
COURT  
(torpedoed  
20/7)

From noon R/V position sweep 80 miles to N. eastward then proceed to Gibraltar if nothing found. (F.O.C.N.A. 1007B/25 to GEORGETOWN (R) Admty., RHODODENDRON, HAARLEM, PRUDENT, CHARON.) My 1007/25 and 1251/24. On completion of search GEORGETOWN proceed independently to Gibraltar.

(2) RHODODENDRON and HAARLEM escort tugs to Gibraltar.

(3) GEORGETOWN and RHODODENDRON acknowledge.

(F.O.C.N.A. 1019B/25 to GEORGETOWN, RHODODENDRON, HAARLEM, PRUDENT, CHARON (R) Admty.)

Your 1019B/25 received and understood. HAARLEM parted company at 0200Z/25 in accordance with your 2315B/24 to R/V GEORGETOWN at 1200B/25.

(RHODODENDRON 1045Z/25 to F.O.C.N.A. (R) HAARLEM, Admty. GEORGETOWN.)

Your 1019B/25. Acknowledged. In vicinity of R/V until 1300B, nothing met. Now proceeding in accordance with your 1007B.

(GEORGETOWN 1315B/25 to F.O.C.N.A. (R) Admty., RHODODENDRON, HAARLEM, PRUDENT, CHARON.)

Following has been received HAARLEM, LAVINGTON COURT 042° 48' N. 026° 16' W. T.O.O 1345Z/25. My position 1630Z/25 041° 33' N. 025° 30' W. am proceeding 12 knots in company CHARON (?PRUDENT) to position indicated.

(RHODODENDRON 1640Z/25 to F.O.C.N.A., Admty., C. in C. W.A., WESTMINSTER, GEORGETOWN, MANSFIELD, PRUDENT, CHARON.)



War Diary.25.7.1942  
Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic - contd.

RAJPUTANA. Intend sailing RAJPUTANA for Freetown at 1100/25 routed through A 350 Spartel 12 B 34.00 N. (?10) 48 W. C 29 01 18 40 D 18 01 18 59 S. of A. 11 knots. Request you will issue onward route from D. 2. RAJPUTANA should have (?800 mls) endurance from D. with 5% fuel in hand.  
(F.O.C.N.A. 1026B/25 to R.A.W.A.F. (R) Admty., N.O.I.C. Bathurst, F.O.C.R.I.N., C. in C. S.A.)  
My 1026/25 sailing RAJPUTANA 1125.  
(F.O.C.N.A. 1552B/25 to R.A.W.A.F. (R) Admty., N.O.I.C. Bathurst, C. in C. S.A., F.O.C.R.I.N.)

P.222 P.222 is to leave patrol diving by day to pass (interception through (m) 036° 31' 002° 05' W. at 0600B/26 of MITIDJA.) and to arrive Gibraltar 1000B/27, proceeding on the surface at C.O.'s discretion on 27th. Submerged bombing restrictions till dawn 27th then total bombing restrictions arranged. If unable to comply within 2 hours P.222 will report P.C. & S.  
(F.O.C.N.A. 1106B/25 to 8th S.M. Flotilla)  
Your 2326/24 and 1106/25. P.222 is to remain on patrol until further orders unless there is any urgent reason for her return to Gibraltar.  
(D.O.D.(F) 1313B/25 to F.O.C.N.A., S.8, P.222.)  
A.M. 1313B/25. Am I to comply with your 1106B/25?  
(P.222 2204B/25 to F.O.C.N.A.)

MANSFIELD. Arrived Ponta Delgada 1230/25 G.M.T.  
*See next page.* (N.C.S.O. Ponta Delgada 1240/25 to S.O.(I) Gibraltar (R) Admty.)  
MANSFIELD left Ponta Delgada 1800 G.M.T. for Gibraltar. S. of A. 14 knots. E.T.A. 28th.  
(N.C.S.O. Ponta Delgada 1805/25 to F.O.I.C. Gibraltar. (R) Admty.)

Situation For Area Y. of N.A. Stn. Situation 2002B/25.  
Report. S.L.116 34° 30' 19° 40' 354° 7½ S.O. IBIS.  
(F.O.C.N.A. 1326B/25.)  
*N.T. in W.D.* My 1326/25 add new para (V) F.S. LEOPARD 32° 22' 24° 34' through 26° 40' 23° 00' thence 168° 16'.  
(F.O.C.N.A. 1758B/25.) *See next page*

→ MITIDJA. Your 2125/22. No sign of SS MITIDJA on expected route. Possible she may have put into Oran. Request U.S. be asked to make immediate enquiries as to her whereabouts and as to truth of report concerning loading of Cobalt.  
(M. Branch 1353B/25 to B.A.D. (R) F.O.C.N.A.)

War Diary.25.7.1942  
Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic - contd.A/C  
Torpedoes.

C. in C. Med. 1627C/23. 30 aircraft torpedoes allocated to Med. are being sent to Gibraltar by earliest opportunity. Torpedoes now at Gibraltar may be sent on in anticipation of their arrival.

(D.T.S.D. 1410B/25 to F.O.C.N.A. (R) C. in C. Med., H.Q. R.A.F. M.E.)

Firing on  
Portuguese  
A/C By  
MANSFIELD.

MANSFIELD reports at 1108Z/25 position 110° Ferraria Point 3½ miles course 195° on A/C was sighted fine on port bow. A/C approached at a height of 2000 feet. Having identified it as Junkers 52 and markings not being visible I opened fire when plane was 700 yards off port bow.

No hit observed, plane flew down port side and sheered off. Unfortunately plane proved to belong to Portuguese Air Force. Consul sending letter of apology to local Naval Authorities who take sensible view.

(N.C.S.O. Ponta Delgada 1520/25 to Admty., N.A. Lisbon (R) F.O.I.C. Gibraltar.) *see previous page.*French  
Shipping.

Gib 0829. Minesweeper COMMANDANT BORY, ships IPANEMA laden deck motor lorries, OUED SEBOU II Light, CEPHEE Light. Deck cargo 18 produce gas motor lorries, BAMAKO Light, five motor lorries on deck, Trawlers BRITTIA, KERPAPE, Westbound. (S.O.I. Gibraltar 1823B/25 to Admty., R.A.W.A.F., S.O.I. Kingston.)

AVILA STAR.  
(torpedoed  
6/7)

My 2230/23. Portuguese Sloop PEDRO NUNES picked up 28 survivors including 2 women in 033° 14' N. 010° 03' W. 1000 G.M.T.25th. No definite information yet but presume from AVILA STAR. In addition to above 11 died before rescue. Further signal will be made when details available. (B.N.A. Lisbon 1843B/25 to Admty., (R) S.O.I. Gibraltar.)

F.S. LEOPARD.

My 1912/23. F.S. LEOPARD sailed 2245B/24. *Ponta Delgada*  
S. of A. 16 knots.  
(F.O.C.N.A. 1934B/25 to R.A. West Africa (R) Admty., B.N.A. Lisbon.) *12.7.25*

War Diary.25.7.1942  
Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic.C.M.30 Z. Sailing telegram. 4 ships.  
(N.C.S.O. Durban 0714Z/25 to Admty. etc.)→ JASMINE  
BUSHWOOD.Sailed (a) JASMINE (b) Mauritius S OR S R A  
escort (c) BUSHWOOD and 2 ships routed as in  
N.C.S.O. Durban's 0714Z/?18 (N.T. in W.R.)  
(2) JASMINE shifting to W/T organisation V at  
0215Z/4/8.  
(N.O.I.C. Durban 0732Z/25 to Admty., C. in C.  
S.A., C. in C. E.F. Dep. C. in C. E.F.,  
F.O.I.C. East Africa and Zanzibar, S.O.(I)  
Colombo, S.O.(I) Kilindini.)

→ C.M.30 Z.

Convoy C.M.30 Z comprising HALVDAN and ALICE  
MOLLER both convoying coal for Mombasa sailed  
25/7 to R/V with TAYGETOS from Lourenco Marques  
E.T.A. R/V 1000Z/27. (2) BUSHWOOD also in  
convoy. (3) SRECA for Aden did not sail owing  
to crew trouble.  
(Durban 0936B/25 to Admty.)

KONKAN.

F.O.C.N.A.'s 1702B/24. From position (D) pass  
through (E) 014° 21' N. 019° 18' W. thence to  
Bathurst for fuel and as ordered by N.O.I.C.  
Bathurst E.T.A. Bathurst p.m./21/7.  
(R.A. West Africa 1015Z/25 to KONKAN, (R) N.O.I.C. Bathurst,  
F.O.C.N.A.)WILLIAM F.  
HUMPHREY.  
(sunk by  
Raider 16/7)(i) TRITON (Norway) reported at 0500Z/24 that he  
had picked up 11 survivors of WILLIAM F. HUMPHREY  
and that WILLIAM F. HUMPHREY was sunk by raider.  
(ii) Corrupt SSS was received from ship believed  
to be WILLIAM F. HUMPHREY 006° 30' S. 001° E. at  
2128Z/16.  
(R.A. West Africa 1121Z/25 to Admty. (R) C. in  
C. S.A. S.O.(I) Freetown.)

BANADEROS.

My 1901Z/24. BANADEROS Norwegian 7 hours late.  
(B.R.O. Bahia 1145/25 to Admty. (R) N.S.H.Q.  
Ottawa, Cominch.)CILICIA,  
ORBITA.Sailed CILICIA acting as ocean escort to ORBITA  
to U.K. Route: R. 009° 00' N. 021° 00' W.  
S. 014° 00' N. 027° 00' W. T. 018° 00' N. 028° 00' W.  
U. 030° 00' N. 025° 00' W. V. 039° 00' N. 023°  
00' W. W. 052° 00' N. 022° 00' W. thence as  
ordered by C. in C. W.A. E.T.A. position (W) 2359Z/4/8.  
(R.A. West Africa 1300Z/25 to Admty. (R) N.C.S.O. Freetown,  
C. in C. S.A., C. in C. W.A., N.O.I.C. Liverpool, CILICIA,  
N.O.I.C. Greenock.)

War Diary.

25.7.1942

Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic - contd.

LAFONIA, Milwestaf's 1700/24 to R.A.W.Af. only. LAFONIA  
 THYSVILLE. and THYSVILLE left Matadi p.m. 22/7 for Lagos.  
 LAFONIA has now developed defects and her  
 estimated time of arrival at Lagos is 27/7.

This delay necessitates cancelling my 1847Z/23. LAFONIA is to  
 be escorted from Lagos to Freetown via Takoradi by TURCOMAN  
 and/or MORRIS DANCE.

(R.A. West Africa 1315Z/25 to N.O.I.C. Takoradi, 527. N.O.I.C.  
 Lagos, (R) BOREAS.)

Weekly R.A. West Africa 1441Z/25 to Admty. etc.  
 state 25/7.

FORTOL My 0951/16 in view of C. in C. S.A. 1103/20  
 refit. work on FORTOL referred to in your 1220/24/6  
 is being progressed sufficiently to render ship  
 capable of supplying fuel oil to vessels alongside.

Date of completion 2/8. Work will not include heating coils.

2. Arrangements for oiling at sea will not be fitted but it is  
 hoped to make some temporary arrangement.

(C.S. Simonstown 1554B/25 to Admty. (R) C. in C. S.A. R.A.W.A.F.)

Fast ships Your 2139/24. U.S. Authorities agree your  
 returning proposal.  
 to U.K. (B.A.D. Washington 1607Z/25 to R.A.W.A.)

U/B attacked U-boat on surface attacked by Hudson A/C in  
 by A/C. TANK- 004° 07' N. 014° 10' W. at 1413/25. TANKEXPRESS  
 EXPRESS torpedoes in 010° 05' N. 021° 31' W. at 1502/25.  
 torpedoes. (R.A. West Africa 1649/25 to Admty. (R) C. in C.  
 S.A.)

BOREAS. ? Your 1534Z/25 (N.T.in W.R.) My position 002°  
 ? 53' N. 005° 24' E. 316° 8 knots at 1900Z/25.  
 (BOREAS 1843Z/25 to N.O.I.C. Lagos ? (R) R.A.W.Af.)

CABO Have you any news of CABO VILLANO which left  
 VILLANO. Montevideo 11/6 for Las Palmas? Agent in Rio  
 (Spanish) de Janeiro states telegram from Spain saying  
 no news received of her since 13/6.  
 (S.O.I. Montevideo 2027Z/25 to S.O.I. Gibraltar  
 (R) Admty.) Reply: No news (S.O.I.Gib.1929B/26)

Defence of In recent joint appreciation on problem of  
 sea defending vital interests in this area possible  
 communications.means of improving striking power for defence of  
 sea communications were considered.

2. Commitments elsewhere are fully appreciated  
 but it is suggested consideration might be given to provision of  
 facilities enabling T/B squadron to operate at short notice when  
 strategic situation requires. A.O.C. is in full agreement and  
 has sent telegram to Air Min. on this subject.

War Diary.25.7.1942  
Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic - contd.:

Defence of sea 3. I have also under review possibility of  
 communica- operating M.T.B. and minelayer M.L. for local  
 tions contd. defence but available for offensive operations  
 when required. Letter follows.  
 (R.A. West Africa 2029Z/25 to Admty., C. in C.  
 S.A. A.O.C. West Africa.)

O.S.34.  
EMPIRE BARON.

FOLKESTONE 1712/25 (?1412/25 intended) Propose  
 GORLESTON tow SS EMPIRE BARON to Bathurst  
 escorted by ORISSA. AUBRETTIA joins escort to  
 O.S. 34 p.m./26/7. <sup>/N.T.N.W.D.</sup> DUBOC joins escort 27/7.  
 (R.A. West Africa 2219Z/25 to F.O.C.N.A. (R) C.  
 in C. W.A.. Admty., N.O.I.C. Bathurst, FOLKESTONE,  
 GORLESTON.)

Mediterranean.VASSILIKI  
(Greek  
caique.

My 1230/12/11/41. Sunk by enemy S/M 23/7  
 while on Passage Beirut Famagusta. No  
 casualties.  
 (P.S.T.O. Egypt 0745/25 to Admty.)

Enemy  
tanker  
attacked.

6000 tons tanker (?was) attacked by A/C about  
 40 miles E. of Ras El Tin early this morning.  
 Was making for Tobruk. May be stopped.  
 (S.O. 1st S.M. Flot 0914C/25 to THORN (R)  
 S/Ms on patrol.)

M.E. Air  
Report.

Bi-weekly Opsum No.41. Night 21/22.  
 5 Halifaxes, 3 Fortresses, 8 Wellingtons  
 despatched to bomb shipping and harbour  
 installations Tobruk. Owing to very dense cloud  
 over area 4 Halifaxes, 3 Fortresses only located objective and  
 bombed with unobserved results. Of remainder 1 Halifax  
 bombed buildings at Sollum, 2 Wellingtons dropped bombs near  
 Tobruk. Damage unobserved. Remaining 1 Wellington and 5  
 Wellingtons despatched to mine Tobruk harbour returned.  
 7 Blenheims despatched to attack ship in Matruh Harbour did not  
 locate. 5 bombed jetty area starting large fire. 3 Wellingtons  
 bombed southbound convoy, 1 merchant ship, 2 destroyers  
 previously located by R/C S.W. of Crete. 2 near misses with  
 bombs.  
 (A.H.Q. R.A.F. M.E. 1108Z/25 to Air Min.)

War Diary.25.7.1942  
SaturdayFOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean - contd.

M.E. Air Report - contd. A Swordfish on A/S patrol along Western Desert coast attacked small vessel possibly destroyer, results unobserved.

(A.H.Q. R.A.F. M.E. 1128Z/25 to Air Min.)

22/7. Shipping search by 2 Beaufighters along coast to Tobruk no sightings. In morning 2 enemy A/C attacked ship 12 miles N. of Port Said ship hit by one torpedo and taken in tow for port. At dusk 8 Blenheims bombed Matruh Harbour starting 4 small fires. Night 22/23 5 Halifaxes 27 Wellingtons bombed shipping and harbour installations Tobruk 2 ships hit of which 1 set on fire direct hit on jetty large fires started dock area and on south side harbour.

23/7. Shipping searches by 3 Beaufighters along Western Desert Coast to Tobruk. No sightings. At dusk 12 Liberators bombed Benghazi Harbour hit 1 large ship near Central Mole, started a fire, other bombs on Central and Cathedral Moles.

Night 23/24 July. 5 Halifaxes 3 Fortresses 23 Wellingtons bombed shipping and harbour installations Tobruk. 1 ship claimed hit 2 large several smaller fires started in dock area. 4 special Wellingtons on shipping search W. of Crete located southbound convoy 2 ships 6,000 tons 2 destroyers, and shadowed to position 130 miles N. N.W. Tobruk. These Wellingtons illuminated ships for 4 torpedo Wellingtons which claim 1 hit on M/V probable hit on destroyer. 5 Bomber Wellingtons did not locate. 6 Hudsons 3 Beauforts with 11 Beaufighters despatched early following morning did not find Convoy.

24/7. 5 Beaufighters on defensive reconnaissance for shipping along Western Desert made no sightings.

(R.A.F. M.E. 1257/25 to Air Min.)

Return of Your 1422/18, paras 1 and 4 approved.  
Transports from (Admty. 1207B/25 to C. in C. Med.)  
E.Mediterranean.

Black Sea Situation Report. Enemy building up his forces in Eastern Crimea. Russian naval A/C operating day and night in support of Red Army on (?Southern) front. 9th Turkish Army Corps reported to have moved recently from Erzerum up to Russian - Turkish frontier. Turks also reported to have mounted more guns along southern Black Sea coast at Rize and Hopa. Received (corrupt group) from reports of Russian agents. Reduced enemy air activity recently in this area except for R/C.  
(N.L.O. Black Sea 1414C/25 to Admty., Adml. Miles.)

Air Report Malta. I.508 25/7. C.S.R. Malta. 24th. 1553 hours 5 Ju.88s escorted by 20 Me.109 great height attacked Luqa 1 Beaufort destroyed 2 slightly damaged 1 Spitfire damaged on ground. Military casualties. Serious V.H.F. interference hindered interception. 1 Ju.88 1 Me.109 damaged over Island by 32 Spitfires. 25th. 2 alerts.

(H.Q. R.A.F. Malta 1615/25 to Air Min.)

Part 2. 24th. Photos. 1220 hours of M/V attacked by Beauforts my I.506 shows M/V ablaze forward being towed towards Artostoli.

(H.Q.R.A.F. Malta 1634/25 to Air Min.)

/Movements ...

770

War Diary.

25.7.1942  
Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean - contd.

Movements.

24th Departures. 1830 PRIMULA, 2005 LA  
MOQUEUSE. 25th Arrivals. 0620 SPETSAL.  
(S.O.(I) Beirut 1726C/25 to Admty.)

THORN.

Cancel my 1532/24.  
(S.O.(S) 1 Alex. 2137C/25 to THORN.)

771

War Diary.

25.7.1942.  
Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

R.D.F. for Submarines. TRUANT while on patrol in Malacca Strait was subjected to sudden and accurate surface night attack by small patrol craft indicating probable use of R.D.F. by enemy. Fitting of R.C.M. Receivers to S/Ms at Colombo is under active consideration. Consider a great measure of protection would be provided in addition to assistance in locating target if S/Ms could be provided with R.D.F. type 291 or other. Number of R.D.F. sets type A-286-P are now coming to hand and if full details of suitable aerial system were made available it is possible these sets could be fitted.  
(F.O.Ceylon 0519Z/25 to Admty.)

B.M.26. 1. B.M.26. Sail 1015Z/25 VARELA, DILWARA, EGRA.  
(N.C.S.O. Bombay 1021Z/25 to Admty.)  
Departure SHOREHAM, HINDUSTAN with B.M.26.  
(S.O.(I) Bombay 0851Z/25).

Convoy Ships in Gulf of Aden A/S escort. Your 0937/24 (N.T. in W.D.) para 2. A/S forces Aden - 5 asdic trawlers and POOLE asdic fitted. Operational bases for A/C exist at Socotra, Bandar, Kassim Salalah and Oakulla. For all purposes including defence of port only Blenheim Squadron without A.S.V. averaging 7 A/C serviceable daily at Aden. A.O.C. concurs. There are also two rescue tugs normally employed on the dredging scheme.  
(Com Aden 1005Z/25 to Dep. C. in C.E.F.)

Burma Situation Report. Minbya. No shipping visible. No shipping seen Akyab. Town appeared deserted. 25/7. 2 Mohawks bombed and machine gunned six Sampans and one barge on Chinawin. Kalewa 20/7 - no shipping visible.  
(A.H.Q. India 1415/25 to Air Min.)

ALAUNIA. (1) Leaving Colombo 0300Z/26th. E.T.A. Durban 1500Z/6/8. Route. (a) 002° 05' N. 077° 19' (b) 002° 57' S. 073° 02' (c) 005° 20' S. 067° 26' (d) 020° 36' S. 059° 43' (e) 027° 46' S. 046° 56' thence direct to Durban. S. of A. 13.5 knots.  
(F.O.I.C.Ceylon. 1539Z/25 to Dep.C. in C.E.F.)

Mauritius Defence Works. N.O.I C.Mauritius 0701/16. apart from para (VII) of Admty message 0109 /3/6. Work to be proceeded with except R.N.air requirements, which are in abeyance. It is proposed that N.O.I. C. Mauritius be informed accordingly.  
( C.in C.Bath 1817B/25 to M.Branch.)



War Diary.

25.7.1942.  
Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies.

- U/B BURNHAM. (2 groups missing) My 2346/24 have broken off hunt, no contacts, heavy rain, no visibility. Am rejoining convoy ST. CROIX in company. (BURNHAM 0017Z/25 to Admty. Opnav. (R) C.T.24. C. in C. W.A. N.S.H.Q. F.O.N.F. C.O.A.C. C.T.G. 24.7.) *See p.776*
- U/B attack. Intercept 0028 G.M.T. SSSS de NRMM (Undecypherable) 38.55 N 46.55 W at 0015 engaging submarine de GCK 0025/25. (Burnham Radio T.O.R. 0028/25.)
- O.N.113 attacked by U/B. Attacked 0159Z/25 in 048° 57' N 040° 16' W EXPLORER and BRITISH MERIT torpedoed. (C.T. 24.1.12 0229Z/25 to Admty. Opnav.) My 0229/25 position 048° 51' N 040° 16' W. BRITISH MERIT engine room flooded can be towed. (BURNHAM 0305Z/25 to F.O.N.F.)  
→ Have left POLYANTHUS and BRANDON in vicinity of torpedoed ships with instructions to report to you at daylight their condition and to request your instructions. (C.T.U. 24.1.12 0538Z/25 to F.O.N.F.)  
Cancel my 0315/25. U-Boat estimated in your vicinity by D/F at 0035Z/25 had made sighting report of a convoy or important unit on 5660 K/cs. (Cominch 0547/25 to C.T.U. 24.1.12.)  
Your 1405/25. Anticipate sailing FOUNDATION FRANKLIN escorted by WASAGA direct to BROOMPARK p.m./26. FOUNDATION FRANKLIN only tug available due Halifax from Boston a.m./26. (C.O.A.C. Halifax 1612Z/25 to C.C.N.F.) *See also p.776*
- O.N.113. My 1230Z/25 (N.T. in W.R.) Speed of convoy now 8 knots improving to maximum 10. DRUMHELLER rejoined. Request relief escort as early as possible. Anticipate BURNHAM must detach late p.m./26 and ST. CROIX early a.m./27 for fuel. (C.T.U. 24.1.12 1825Z/25 to F.O.N.F. ANNAPOLIS.) Sailed for position of BRITISH MERIT and BROOMPARK. On arrival one escort will be detached to stand by BROOMPARK. (C.C.N.F. 2022Z/25 to C.O.A.C. Halifax.)

U-Boat. U-Boat estimated your area by D/F at 0035Z/25. Has made sighting report on convoy or important unit. (Cominch 0315/25 to SWANSON.) Cancelled. See 0547/25.

Movements. Movement summary 1800 G.M.T./25.

Ship.	Position.	Course.	Speed.
ASTURIAS.)	16° N.	293°	13
LARGS.)	56° W.		
N.A.13.	56° N.	073°	13½
	34° W.		
T.A.17.	42½° N.	253°	14
	59° W.		

(Admty. 0900Z/25 to Opnav.)

773

War Diary.25.7.1942.  
Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies.-Contd.

Co-operation with U.S. Pacific Fleet. My 2303Z/15. Is there any reply? (B.A.D. Washington 0915Z/25 to Admty.)

WYOMING (French.) Intercepted letter from Martinique date 7th states WYOMING expected shortly from Casablanca. (S.O.(I) Kingston 1028R/25 to S.B.N.O. W.A., Admty, N.O.I.C. Trinidad, N.S.H.Q. Connav, Com. 10, B.A.D.)

Vesca System. Your 1704/22/5 to A.I.G. 128. My 1303/4/6. Are the arrangements required by Admty. 1555/12/5 now working satisfactorily in your area. (S.B.N.O. West Atlantic 1033P/25 to S.O.I. Jamaica).  
Reply: Yes.  
(S.O.I. Jamaica 1552R/27).

Special convoy 2. 12 G.M.T. 25/7 San Juan 18 G.M.T. 27/7, knots 9, 015° 56' N. 067° 04' W. 018° (904'), 067° 42' 018° 22' 067° 22'. PIMPERNEL U.S. ship Y.P.64. M. 014° 35' N. 068° 03' W. N. 016° 09' N. 066° 51' W. O. 018° 02' N. 067° 38' W. P. 018° 23' N. 067° 17' W. "Donkey" 015° N. 070° W. "Peacock" 017° N. 065° W. "A(?s)rictempt" 020° N. 067°. 4 ships.  
(N.C.S.O. Curacao 1036QR/25, 1040QR to Admty.)

H.X.200. Intend to delay sailing 24 hours to include ship of B.X. 30B.  
(C.O.A.C. Halifax 1325Z/25 to Admty.)

U.S. Control Trinidad. My 1011/24. Correct first ref. to read Connav 1401/23.  
(S.B.N.O. W. Atlantic 1328P/25 to Admty.)

U/B campaign. Procedure established by A.M. 1059B/22 much appreciated by Cominch. Please advise whether similar information forwarded by Cominch in his daily submarine sighting and attack summary is adequate for Admiralty requirements.  
(Comnav 1516/25 to Admty.)

Liaison Personnel for Eastern Fleet. Your 2303/15. The transfer to the Pacific of all ships of the Eastern Fleet cannot be envisaged as a number of older cruisers and destroyers will always be required for escort duties. Liaison personnel is therefore only required for modern units which at present consist of 2 Battleships, 2 Carriers, 4 Cruisers, 10 Destroyers.

/Present.....

War Diary.25.7.1942.  
Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies-~~conts.~~

Liaison Personnel for Eastern Fleet - Contd. Present anticipated reinforcements are 2 Battleships, 1 Carrier in September, 1 Cruiser in October. Long endurance destroyers suitable for Pacific work will join the Eastern Fleet throughout the autumn and winter. Propose that liaison personnel and trained communication ratings transfer to them from the older destroyers now with the fleet as they join.  
5. Consider liaison personnel should be as follows. Details.  
(Admty. 1556B/25 to B.A.D. Washington (R) C. in C. E.F.)

A.T.18. It is proposed to sail one British Troopship with escort from U.K. to meet A.T.18 at M.O.M.P. which should be between 15 and 20° W.  
Ships from U.K. together with Iceland portion of A.T.18 will then proceed in company to destination in Iceland. Please propose date and position of M.O.M.P. as soon as convenient in order that sailing of British troopship may be arranged.  
(D.O.D.(H) 1610Z/25 to Cominch).

S.C. Convoy Schedule. Your 2126/24 affirmative.  
(Connav 1619/25 to N.S.H.Q. Ottawa).

SATURN. Admty. 1611/24. Request ocean transport no. 26 (SATURN) may be sailed via Bermuda to embark minesweeping gear. Would be glad if R.C.N. crew could remain for passage to Trinidad where new crew will take over.  
(S.B.N.O. W. Atlantic 1633P/25 to N.S.H.Q. Ottawa.)

BARFLEUR (French). Meter Martinique 23/7 ungraded. Will leave Casablanca 28/7 and arrive Martinique 8/8.  
(B.A.D. Washington 1701Z/25 to Admty.)  
N.I.D. Comment. This A.M.C. took parts of immobilised French warships from West Indies to Casa.

CALDWELL. My 1630/23 for 31/7 read 28/7.  
(B.A.RM Washington 1710Z/25 to Admty.)

Routeing St. Lawrence. 1153/22.  
By arrangement with Connav diversion of shipping within Canadian coastal zone as defined in Buera appendix B is carried out by N.S.H.Q. Agree that ships with one ship tables can be diverted by geographical positions but if intended routes not known diversion signal may be lengthy or unnecessary. Moreover knowledge of route in St. Lawrence is necessary to enable air or other coverage to be given.  
(N.S.H.Q. Ottawa 1716Z/25 to Admty.)

/U.B.....

War Diary.25.7.1942.  
Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies-Contd.

U.B. D/F bearings on 13768 kc/s at 1146Z indicate U.boat in vicinity of O.N. 112 or O.N. 113. (D.D.I.C. 1723B/25 to Escorts of O.N.112 and 113 R. C. in C.W.A. Cominch, N.S.H.Q. Ottawa H.Q.C.C.)

RAMSEY. C. in C.W.A. desires RAMSEY sail with H.X. 200. When may RAMSEY be expected? (C.T.F.24 1725Z/25 to C.O.A.C. (R) C. in C.W.A.)

Transport of U.S. Air Corps to Middle East. To provide for the movement of the August contingent of U.S. Air Corps personnel from U.S.A. to Middle East, MAURETANIA will sail Durban about 6.8. via Rio de Janeiro for New York arriving about 23/8. Admty. request Cominch will assume control of vessel on crossing 26° W. westbound.

2. Vessel requires drydocking in New York if possible and B.M.W.T. New York is requested to confirm whether this can be arranged.

3. When ready to sail from New York she should proceed to Suez via Freetown and Durban.

4. B.A.D. is requested to report anticipated date of sailing from New York in due course.

(D.S.T. 1725B/25 to B.A.D. Washington.)

QUEEN ELIZABETH. RAMILLIES. C. in C.S.A. 1410/23. U.S. Atlantic Fleet will be very short of destroyers when QUEEN ELIZABETH and RAMILLIES are due to arrive, since two groups troop convoy escorts will be absent from U.S. during period 19/8 to about 7/7.

2. U.S. authorities are anxious to know proposals for onward passage of these ships from Freetown to U.S. and hope it may be possible for them to make passage in company in order to economise A/S escorts.

(B.A.D. Washington 1801Z/25 to Admty.)

H.X.199. NORTH KING. U.S. Army H.Q. suggests that about 400 U.S. Army passengers have embarked in NORTH KING. Request confirmation that no passengers are in this ship. Your 2028/20 refers. (D.T.D. 1825B/25 to C.O.A.C. Halifax).

U.B. Positions. 25th Sub. estimates. (C. in C.U.S. Fleet 1828/25, 1829/25 to Admty.)

Ice bulletin. Comtask 24 1859/25 to Admty.

/U.B.....

776

War Diary.25.7.1942.  
Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies-Contd.

- U.B. By D/F traffic believe still shadowing convoy.  
(C. in C.U.S. Fleet 1933/25 to Comdr. T.U. 24.1.42.)
- G.S.2. My 2307/23. Arrived Julienshaab 22nd.  
BENCAS (N.S.H.Q. Ottawa 1934Z/25 to Admty.)  
(Nor.)
- O.N.113 S/M on surface bearing and distance 175° 5 miles.  
U-boat My P.C. and S. 047° 57' N. 041° 14' W. BURNHAM  
sighted. and ST. CROIX chasing.  
(BURNHAM 2005Z/25 to Admty. Connnav, (R) C.T.F. 24  
C. in C.W.A., N.S.H.Q., Ottawa, F.O.N.F., C.O.A.C.  
Halifax, C.T. Grp. 24.7.)  
Hunt abandoned. No contact obtained. Consider essential  
to rejoin convoy by dark in view of small escort.  
(BURNHAM 2146Z/25 to Admty., Connnav).  
My 2005Z/25 S/M has (?not) dived. BURNHAM and ST. CROIX  
hunting.  
(BURNHAM 2036Z/25). *See p 772*
- K.S.522. Your 1434Z/20 K.S.522 dispersed off lightship  
1600 G.M.T./25.  
(B.R.O. Key West 2043Z/25 to Norfolk).
- U/B report. U-boat estimated in your vicinity by D/F has  
made sighting report of a convoy or important  
unit at 1925Z/25th and at 1932Z/25th. K/cs 12260.  
(Cominch 2045/25 to C.T.U.24.1.11, C.T.U. 24.1.12,  
C.T.U. 24.1.17, C.T.F.24, Admty., N.S.H.Q. Ottawa,  
C.O.A.C.)
- Submarine EXPLORER and BRITISH MERIT torpedoed O.N.113  
attack and 48.57 N. 40.16 W. 0159Z/25. Patrol craft one  
sighting torpedo miss 38.35 N. 46.55 W. 0015Z/25. *See p. 772*  
summary. BEACON LIGHT two torpedo hits. M.F. ELLIOTT  
survivors taken aboard S/M. Remained there 5 hours.  
Confirm previously reported Goats Head Insignia  
and number 108. Submarine possibly constructed Hamburg. "Esso"  
Boston unit -88 type knights Helmet on conning tower. Plane  
attacks S/M on surface 11.16 N. 62.18 W. 1345Z/17/5.  
Surface craft attack sound contacts 52.16 N. 38.36 W. 2055Z/6/6,  
24.08 N. 82.05 W. 2320Z/9/6, 24.14 N. 81.51 W. 1830Z/9/6. Surface  
craft attacks smoke float 38.52 N. 74.51 W. 22/6. Surface craft  
attack sound contacts 34.40 N. 75.45 W. 1122Z/30/6. 34.33 N.  
74.47 W. 2025Z/1. Surface and aircraft attack magnetic contact  
40.04 N. 75.54 W. 2320Z/3. My 1820/31 confirm three submarines  
sighted on surface 0645Z/18. Plane attacks submarine 27.35 N. 88.05  
W. 1902Z/21. Plane sights submarines 28.14 N. 78.55 W. 0320Z/24  
course W.N.W. speed 8. M.V. sights S/M 39.47 N. 44.23 W. 0630Z/25.  
Patrol craft attacked 0015Z/25 claims one direct hit on submarine  
which was on surface and which then submerged.  
(Cominch 2056Z/25).
- W.I.M.R.I. Para. 46 add new note 5. "Masters of vessels  
Amendment 221. proceeding Pointe Noire should be warned that they

/may....

War Diary.

25.7.1942.  
Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies.

W.I.M.R.I.  
Amendment  
221 - Contd.

may be challenged by Pointe Indienne, this must not be mistaken for Pointe Noire lighthouse". (C. in C.A.W.I. 2105P/25 to B.R.O. in W.I. Intelligence Area, (R) Admty. B.A.D.)

FELIX  
DZERJINSKY.

C.O.P.C. reports.  
R.C.A.F. Annette Island report 17/7 Jap S/M fired twenty shots at Russian FELIX DZERJINSKY missing at 450 yards off Shunigan Islands diving as P.B.Y. approached with depth charge T.O.O. 2241/21 ends. Ship sailed Seattle 12/7 for Nagaeva via Petropavlovsk.  
(N.S.H.Q. Ottawa 2104Z/25 to Admty. Connav.)

CITIES SERVICE  
KDOLMOTOR.

Your 2030/24. Our latest information is that CITIES SERVICE KOOLMOTOR sailed Tempa 17/7 after sheltering.  
(N.S.H.Q. Ottawa 2121Z/25 to Admty. (R) Connav.)

Air attack  
on U/B.

S/M attacked by A/C 047° 52' N. 052° 37' W. to 2110Z/25.  
(C.O.A.C. Halifax 2158Z/25).

SEVERN.

Propose to sail SEVERN on completion of refit without reload salvo of torpedoes on board. Do you concur.  
(B.A.M.R. Washington 2336/25 to F.O.(S),(R) Admty.)

Time of  
Chop.

This is a re-encipherment of my 1412/24 and cancels my 0943/25. Your 1052B/21 concur. However time and manner of dissemination Chop not essential. C. in C.U.S. Fleet therefore recommend retention of present system to avoid additional communication unless time of crossing 26.00 West greater value to you.  
(Connav 2357Z/25 to Admty.)

Australia and New Zealand.

Serial No.  
184 24/7.

Digest. (1) Reports 24/7 indicate one enemy S/M 28° 58' S. 155° 30' E. at 2205Z/23 one in 31° 03' S. 153° 37' E. at 0530Z/24. Also indications possible enemy S/M in Fremantle area afternoon 4/7.

(2) Five air attacks 24/7 by 13 marauders one Hudson eight A.24's 2 Aircobras on stores barges installations Gona area. Two buildings hit fires started. One A.A. Battery silenced one transport observed half submerged no other shipping sighted. A.A. fire only opposition.

/ (4) .....

778

25.7.1942.  
Saturday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.Australia and New Zealand.

Serial No. (4) Deserting natives report 600 Japanese 400  
184 24/7. Rabaul natives landed Gona from two cargo vessels  
- Contd. one of which alleged withdrew half unloaded. This  
probably refers Laqdines 22/7.  
(5) Now reported eight enemy fighters over Gona  
at 0450Z/22 (1450Z/22) during allied attack.  
(6) Unidentified aircraft reported over Beagle Bay. (W.A.)  
24/7.  
(7) 18 bombers 16 Eko fighters attacked Twelve Mile Aerodrome,  
Moresby 0400Z/24. Some bombs and petrol destroyed.  
(8) Recco. aircraft over Guadalcanal 24/7 reported large  
aerodrome almost completed Tetere. Aerodrome sites?preparing  
Ten?pu. (8 miles West Tetere.) Wharves small vessels at  
Lunga.  
(9) Destroyer reported Salamaua 23/7 departed that area northerly  
direction noon 24/7.  
(G.H.Q. S.W. Pacific Area 0900Z/25).

H.D.M.L. A.M. 1611B/11. H.D.M.L. lost by enemy action.  
1090. Replacement will be sent as shipping facilities  
permit.  
(D.D.O.D.(C) 1206B/25 to N.Z.N.B.)

Digest Serial (1) Indications of one enemy S/M off Port  
No. 183 23/7. Jackson and one off Tathra Head N.S.W. 23/7.  
(2) CORKALA (ALLARA intended) reached Newcastle  
under tow p.m./23 refer serial no. 182 para. 2.  
(3) 2000 ton cargo vessel and (?) possibly destroyer at Salamoa  
a.m./23.  
(4) R/C aircraft sighted Destroyer and M.V.003° 55' S. 151° 40'  
E. 0422Z/23. course 270°.  
(5) Reliable report 22/7 61 machine guns 12 A/A guns Kukum Suna  
River area (Guadalcanal) machine gun mounted on truck.  
(6) 8 air attacks 23/7 by aircobras 24 Marauders P.39 Hudson  
on shipping and shore installations Buna Gona area. One hit  
on building observed. 5000 ton vessel set on fire by direct  
hit. A/A position at Gona silenced. 25 landing barges  
observed Buna 20 at Gona.  
(7) 3 Aircobras attacked destroyer or corvette and float  
Plane Salamoa 2045/22nd result not observed.  
(8) Unidentified aircraft reported over Townsville 0025/25.  
(A.C.N.B. 2351Z/25).

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.Submarines Reported.

U-boat positions estimated as follows.  
(D.D.I.C. 1534B/25, 1535B/25).

779

War Diary.

26.7.1942.  
Sunday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

NELSON and RODNEY arrived at Scapa this evening.

S.G.Bs. 3, 5,6 and 8 engaged two flak trawlers at about 0200 today north of Cape Barfleur. One trawler was left sinking and the other damaged. S.G.B.3. was damaged and had to be towed home.

British Air Operations.

229 aircraft out of 313 which took off attacked the Duisburg area last night in cloud on estimated time of arrival.

A Hudson aircraft of Coastal Command reports 2 hits with depth charges at 0540 on a U-boat on the surface 170 miles south of Iceland (C). At 1030 another Hudson made two attacks on a U-boat 190 miles South of Iceland (C) and claims 2 hits with bombs, the aircraft being damaged by the explosion.

Enemy Air Operations.

About 20 enemy aircraft operated over the Tees-side area from about 0100 to 0130 today, causing some damage at Middlesborough, Billingham and West of Hartlepool.

North Atlantic.

French SS. MITIDJA, suspected of carrying a cargo of cobalt from Nemours for Germany was intercepted by S/M P.222 this evening in approx. 36° 54' N. 0° 30' W. (about 75 miles north of Oran). P.222 was unable to examine the MITDJA's cargo; accordingly a boarding party was placed on board and the ship was escorted towards Gibraltar.



War Diary.26.7.1942.  
Sunday.SITUATION REPORT.South Atlantic.

In view of submarine activity in the Freetown area tankers sailing independently from the West Indies to Freetown and vice versa are to be provided with escorts for about 600 miles from Freetown whenever possible.

An unknown ship reported sighting a periscope about 1841Z today in 5° 57' N. 10° 23' W.

Mediterranean.

The aerodromes at Malta were bombed in daylight today and some damage was caused.

THRASHER was attacked by our own aircraft at 2140 today 35 miles north of Port Said whilst on passage to patrol and was damaged and docked at Port Said. There were no casualties.

Long range fighters successfully attacked barges west of Matruh today.

It is reported that ships leave Tobruk at night and remain just outside harbour to avoid air raids. Another heavy air attack was made on Tobruk last night; bombs were dropped near 4 ships off the port and fires were started in the harbour and dock area.

Wellingtons bombed Heraklion Aerodrome (Crete) again last night.

East Indies.

In reply to the request of C. in C. Eastern Fleet (14/7) for augmentation of his A/S forces in view of the expected opening of a U-boat campaign by the Japanese in the approaches to the Persian Gulf the Admiralty point out that the 5 minesweepers CROMARTY, CROMER and ROMNEY on passage to the Mediterranean were on 17/7 allocated to him until further orders, and that the completion of whalers at Durban and arrival of reinforcements from Australia have been hastened. No general re-allocation of A/S

/forces.....

War Diary.

26.7.1942.  
Sunday.

SITUATION REPORT.

East Indies-Contd.

forces can be considered at present and forces operating in areas where a heavy scale of attack exists cannot be withdrawn to reinforce an area in which no attack has yet developed.

SS. IMA from Abadan and FALSTERBO from Aden are 5 days overdue at Mombasa.

America and West Indies.

The oil situation is such that it is of the utmost importance to the United Nations that voyages of tankers generally should be expedited and that a maximum of oil should be imported to the U.K. before the winter. Future operations may be jeopardised if fuel stocks are not augmented and drastic action is necessary. A plan to expedite immediately the movements of tanker tonnage was put forward by the Admiralty today.

It is stated that on 15/7 the U.S. S/M GRUNION sank (3 Japanese destroyers) at Kiska (Aleutian Is.)

*(alt. alt. Submarine 25 + 27. (52° 2' N. 177° 42' E.)  
(from Jap. Naval 1st Lt. Torii, during W.W. II by all hands.)*  
Convoy O.N. 113 was attacked at 0601Z today in 47° 8' N. 42° 57' W; EMPIRE RAINBOW was torpedoed and sunk.

Australia.

An enemy submarine shelled SS. COOLANA in approx. 36° 49' S. 150° 5' E. in the Cape Howe area (New South Wales) at 1815Z today. The vessel was not damaged.

Air attacks continued on the Gona area and shipping in the Buna area. Two air attacks were made on Kupang Aerodrome today, but results were not seen.

Darwin was attacked again today by enemy aircraft and some buildings were destroyed.

War Diary.

26.7.1942.  
Sunday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Policy.

S.B.N.O. Rear Admiral Fisher assumed duty as S.B.N.O.  
North Russia in succession Rear Admiral Bevan  
Russia. today.  
(S.B.N.O. North Russia 1110B/26 to Admty.)

Flag of Vice Admiral Syfret. The Flag of Vice Admiral E.N. Syfret, C.B. is to be transferred from SIRIUS to NELSON at 0800 tomorrow.  
(C. in C. H.F. 1410B/26.)

U.S.A. Troops for Iceland. Your 2300/21 para 2 (B). U.S. War Department estimates equipment will arrive 6 to 8 weeks after personnel.  
(British Army Staff, Washington. 1415/26.)

Movements.

PATHFINDER. E.T.A. 0830B/26. Have 23 survivors. Nil cot cases.  
(PATHFINDER 0150Z/26 to N.O.I.C. Londonderry.)

CURAÇOA. Scapa arrival 0120 CURAÇOA.  
(A.C.O.S. 0958/26.)

UPRIGHT. Intend to sail UPRIGHT <sup>from Blyth</sup> escorted by ELFIN at 1800B/27 by latest swept channels to Dundee.  
E.T.A. Dundee 0800B/28.  
(Capt. S.6. 1045B/26.)

S/Ms for Mediterranean. (A) Following are approximate dates of S/Ms leaving U.K. for Mediterranean.

S/M.	Flotilla.	Date.	Working-up patrols completed before leaving U.K.
<i>See next page</i> RORQUAL	1st. (Temp)	27/7.	Nil.
TALISMAN	1st.	3/8.	Nil.
P. 212	8th.	3/8.	One.
P. 219	8th.	12/8.	One.
P. 48	10th.	12/8.	One.
P. 247	8th.	23/8.	One.
P. 51	10th.	23/8.	One.

(B) Owing to small changes in personnel RORQUAL and TALISMAN are considered fully worked up.  
(F.O.S. 1216B/26 to C. in C. Med.)

28th. M.L. Flotilla. Admty. 1414B/27/6 and F.O.I.C. Falmouth's 1628B/25. Request you will arrange for 28th M.L. Flotilla to be sailed for Milford Haven on 31/7. It is anticipated that they will be ready to commence passage from Milford Haven on 3/8.  
(R.A.C.F. 1241B/26 to C. in C. Plymouth.)

War Diary.26.7.1942.  
Sunday.HOME COMMANDS.Movements - Contd.CARTHAGE.  
BLEASDALE.  
BROKE.

My 1047B/22. CARTHAGE and BLEASDALE sailed Needles 1110/26. BROKE to join off Portland. BLEASDALE parts company off Trevoise Head. (C. in C. Portsmouth 1247B/26.)

RAMSEY.  
BUXTON.

B.A.R.M's 2120/23 and your 1507/26/6. If RAMSEY could be sailed to overtake H.X.200 BUXTON can be sailed to arrive St. Johns about 10/8. (C. in C. W.A. 1302Z/26 to C.T.F.24.)

RORQUAL.

1. C. in C. Plymouth is requested to sail RORQUAL at 1600B/27 for Gibraltar escorted to A. 180° Lizard Head 20 miles, thence dived by day through B. 49° 32' 07° 45'. C. 49° 20' 10° 20'

D. 49° 10' 12° 15'. E. 47° 10' 12° 13'. F. 45° 08' 12° 10'. G. 43° 01' 12° 08'. thence as routed by F.O.C.N.A. E.T.A. at (G) 0300/3.

2. H.Q.C.C. is requested to institute following submerged bombing restrictions.

(F.O.S. 1314B/26.) *See previous page*

MACBETH.

Request you sail MACBETH to Reykjavik forthwith. (D.M.S. 1325B/26 to N.O.I.C. Faroes.)

Your 1325/26. A.C.O.S. 1828/25 refers.

MACBETH is not in Faroes.

(N.O.I.C. Faroes 2005B/26 to Admty.)

Your 1325/26 is at Reykjavik and has been serving in Iceland Command.

(A.C.I.C. 2359/26 to Admty.)

DANAE.

Intend sailing DANAE for Tyne at 2030B/26 in accordance with C. in C. W.A. 1505B/22. E.T.A. 0800B/28.

(N.O.I.C. Greenock 1358B/26.)

Sailed DANAE in accordance with my 1358B/26.

(N.O.I.C. Greenock 2034B/26.)

DUKE OF  
YORK.

Scapa departure for Hvalfiord DUKE OF YORK screened by HAMBLETON, RODMAN, EMMONS, MACOMB. (A.C.O.S. 1729/26.)

P.48.

P.48 is to return to Lerwick passing through 063° 29' N 000° 01' E at 0800B/28, through 060° 06' N 000° 01' W and into harbour E.T.A. 1400B/29. (Capt. S.9. 1731B/26.) *See previous page*

P.219.

P.219 is to leave patrol so as to pass through 063° 29' N 000° 02' E at 1200B/28, thence 060° 04' N 000° 02' W and into Lerwick. E.T.A. 1800B/29. (Capt. S.9. 1737B/26.) *See previous page*

War Diary.26.7.1942.  
Sunday.HOME COMMANDS.Movements - Contd.

WELSHMAN. My 1841B/25. Sailed WELSHMAN.  
(N.O.I.C. Milford Haven 2001B/26 to N.O.I.C. Lochalsh.)

NELSON. Scapa arrivals NELSON, RODNEY, SOMALI, ICARUS,  
RODNEY. FORESIGHT, PENN, QUENTIN.  
(A.C.O.S. 2236B/26.)

Operations.

Convoy C.W.110. Enemy Coastal Batteries fired ten rounds at C.W.110 while off Deal between 2342 and 2352 yesterday. No damage or casualties reported. Four rounds and Dover were also fired into the Dover area between 0501 and 0505 today, of which one fell in the harbour two in the sea, and one in the outskirts of Dover. No casualties reported. Some damage to houses but none to Naval Property.  
shelled. (V.A. Dover 1010B/26.)

Engagement with Trawlers. S.G.Bs. 3, 5, 6 and 8 engaged two Flak Trawlers at about 0200/26 North of Cape Barfleur. Two attacks were made at point-blank range. One 1 Trawler left sinking, the other certainly damaged. 1 Trawler sunk, S.G.B.3 hit in Condensers and towed home by 6, 8. 1 Trawler damaged. Two ratings wounded in S.G.B.6 which received slight damage.  
S.G.B.3 (C. in C. Portsmouth 1117/26.)  
and  
S.G.B.6 damaged.

Patrols. My 1509B/19. M.G.Bs 78 (S.O.) 80, 74, 75 and 76 are to carry out similar operations tonight.  
(C. in C. Plymouth 1227B/26 to N.O.I.C. Dartmouth)  
(1) M.Ls 181, S.O. 186 and numbers from Falmouth Codeword "Range" (7) are to patrol on a line between 049° 50' N 003° 50' W and 049° 50' N 004° 12' W from 2300/26 till 0500/27.  
(2) 1 to intercept and destroy E Boats attempting to attack convoys P.W.192 and W.P.192.  
(3) P.W.192 will pass Start Point westbound at 2300/26 approx. and W.P.192 will pass The Lizard at 2200/26, proceeding by outer route to Start Point.  
(4) On completion M.Ls. return to base.  
(5) M.G.Bs 78, S.O. 80, 74, 75 and 76 will be on patrol near Alderney.  
(C. in C. Plymouth 1457B/26 to N.O.I.C. Falmouth.)  
Your 1227B/26. Intend to sail M.G.Bs at 2300/26. S.O. is M.G.B.76.  
(N.O.I.C. Dartmouth 1615B/26 to C. in C. Plymouth.)  
Chasseurs 13 and 41 and ADONIS patrolling south of E.A.5 Buoy.  
M.Ls. 245 and 303 on patrol 10 miles south of Portland Bill.  
(C. in C. Portsmouth 1507/26.)

War Diary.26.7.1942.  
Sunday.HOME COMMANDS.Operations.

Patrols. M.Ls 450 and 220 from Ramsgate patrolling between  
(Contd.) Dumpton and N.E. Spit Buoys. E.T.D. 2255. E.T.R.  
0525/27.  
(V.A. Dover, 1842B/26.)

M.Ls 101 and 125 will patrol N.E. Varne leaving Dover so as to  
arrive there at 2300, and remaining on patrol until 0330.  
(V.A. Dover, 2232B/26.)

Exercises.

S/M and A/C My 1311/25. The co-operation of 778 Squadron  
Trials. in connection with method of conducting and  
reporting the trials is desirable. Request  
instructions to this effect may be issued.  
(R.A.N.A.S., 1116B/26 to Admty.)

British Air Activity.

Bombing My 1717/25. For 1200B/26 read 0800B/26.  
restrictions. (Capt. S.9, 0143B/26 to P.614, P.615.)  
My 1341B/19. Request similar surface bombing  
restrictions tonight.  
(C. in C. Plymouth, 1222B/26 to H.Q.C.C.)

"Knocker". My 2006B/25. Postponed until 0800Z today.  
(A.C.I.C. 0550B/26.)  
My 0550/26. Postponed until 1200Z today.  
(A.C.I.C., 1015B/26.)  
Operation now completed for today.  
(A.C.I.C., 1756B/26.)  
Operations expected to commence 0400Z/27.  
(A.C.I.C., 2042B/26.)

2000-ton M/V My 1032B/26. (See Enemy Intelligence). Track  
believed E.25 D was attacked by two pairs of Hurricane  
sunk. bombers of 174 Squadron who claim hits with M.G.  
fire, but thick weather prevented observation of  
results of bombing. At 0730 A/C observed one  
2000-ton ship stationary surrounded by four flak ships about  
five miles west of Berck Buoy. The 2000-ton ship was on fire  
and smoking heavily astern. At 0930 A/C could only observe  
the four flak ships and careful search failed to locate the  
2000-ton ship.  
(V.A. Dover, 1033B/26.)

Bomber On day 24/7 and night 24/25 no operations.  
Command On night 25/26, 229 A/C attacked Duisburg.  
operations. (H.Q.B.C., 1700/26.)

/ A/C ...

War Diary.26.7.1942.  
Sunday.HOME COMMANDS.British Air Activity - Contd.

A/C in North Russia. My 1813/24. Total number of naval fighters should read 46, of which 15 are of obsolescent type (S.B.N.O. North Russia, 2001B/26 to Admty.)

Escort for DUKE OF YORK. C. in C. H.F. 1159/25. Expect Sorties of single Sunderland A/C from dawn 27th till about 1600B. (C. in C. W.A., 2219B/26 to DUKE OF YORK.)

Mining.

Milford Haven. The port of Milford Haven will be closed for sweeping from 0400 to 0700 daily during the month of August. Pass to N.C.S.Os. (D.M.S., 0848B/26.)

Western Channel Sweep. Intend to sail POLRUAN, STORNOWAY, FELIXSTOWE at 0500/27 for Portland sweeping from 111° Start Point, 9 miles, then route "B" D.C.1 33 to 50° 27'30" N. 2° 38' W. thence to Portland as usual. 2. You are requested to sail ships to Dartmouth at 0800/28, sweeping route "A" to 193° Start Point 6 miles and continuing sweep to Dart Buoy. (N.O.I.C. Dartmouth, 1145/26 to F.O.I.C. Portland.)

S.N. 82. Your 0904B/24. DELHI detailed. S.N.C.O. will be provided by C. in C. H.F. C.S.18 is requested to supply S.N.T.I. (C. in C. H.F., 1412B/26 to R.A.M.)

Harwich. At 1155/26 one magnetic mine exploded by Sweepers. Details. (F.O.I.C. Harwich, 1652B/26.)

Sweep off Beachy Head. Intend sailing 0800/27, commence sweeping 0930, and return to harbour 1800. BRIDLINGTON will be detached 1.5 miles south of Newhaven to proceed by inshore to Portsmouth passing through the Looe at 2030. (M/S. 9, 1806/26 to C. in C. Portsmouth.)

Enemy Intelligence.

Enemy Convoy. Course and speed of 3 merchant vessels 208°, 8 knots, position 45° 13' N. 1° 38' W. - (IJV) - 3008 - 1 - TNKR - 1000 - enemy previously reported is accompanied by AMO(? Armed Merchant Cruiser) - 0600. (A/C 10 Sqdn. R.A.F., 0620/26.)

/off ...

War Diary.26.7.1942.  
Sunday.HOME COMMANDS.Enemy Intelligence - Contd.

Off Bilbao. One M/V 4000 neutral markings escorted 2 hostile A.M.T., 140°, 12, 43° 35' N. 2° 20' W. (A/C Duty Z, 0750/26.)

Straits of Dover. Enemy shipping plotted by R.D.F. in Dover Strait from 0900/25 to 0900/26. Track E.25D. 1 large vessel escorted by 2 or more vessels of trawler size from 4½ miles S.W. of Boulogne at 2225 course south westerly at 10 - 12 knots faded at 0130 5 miles N.W. of Le Touquet. Track E.1D. 2 or more vessels of medium size from Calais at 2245 eastbound at 8 - 10 knots faded off Gravelines at 0030. (V.A. Dover, 1032B/26.)

Narvik. TIRPITZ, HIPPER, SCHEER. P.R.U. Narvik today. Shows TIRPITZ, HIPPER and SCHEER still in same berths. (D.D.I.C., 1515B/26.)

Havre. Air R/C reports 4 enemy torpedo boats at Le Havre on 25/7. (C. in C. Plymouth, 1743B/26.)

U-Boats.

U-Boats attacked. Am over enemy S/M in 62° 22' N. 26° 40' W. Enemy on surface and then observed to submerge steering South. (A/C B. Sqdn., 0411Z/26 to No. 3 Wing H.Q.)  
Have attacked enemy with bombs level and estimate no hits. Patrolling area instruct. (A/C 8 VCB, 0429/26 to 3 Wing H.Q.)  
Am over enemy S/M in 60° 27' N. 18° 37' W. (A/C P8GM, 0532Z/26 to 3 Wing H.Q.)  
Have attacked enemy with depth charges and estimate two hits. (A/C P8GB, 0540Z/26 to 3 Wing H.Q.)  
Am over enemy submarine in 45° 45' N. 14° 29' W. Enemy on surface when first observed was on a course 160°, speed 10 knots. (A/C 15 Group, 2002/26.)  
Have attacked enemy with depth charges. Result not known. (A/C 15 Group, 2020/26.)  
Am over enemy S/M in 50° 55' N. 4° 55' W. When first sighted was on a course 180°, speed 3 knots. (A/C 6TAH, 2030/26 to F.O.S.)  
Have attacked enemy with depth charges. No hits. (A/C 6TAH, 2050/26.)  
Not on surface. (A/C 6TAH, 2200/26.)

/U-Boats ...



War Diary.26.7.1942.  
Sunday.HOME COMMANDS.U-Boats - Contd.

U-Boats reported. One submarine bearing 240°, distance 20 miles, course 220°. My position 59° 56' N. 19° 24' W. (A/C E. Sqdn., 1025/26 to 3 Wing H.Q.)  
My 1025. Enemy sighted on surface and then observed to submerge. Have attacked with depth charges. Result 2 probable hits. (A/C E. Sqdn., 1028/26.)  
One S/M bearing 140°, 15 miles, course 200°, position 59° 55' N. 19° 25' W. (A/C E. Sqdn., 1030/26 to 3 Wing H.Q.)  
American A/C flying Reykjavik - Prestwick reports S/M steering westerly course sighted at 0913 G.M.T. position 58° 55' N. 08° 04' W. (TAC Prestwick, 1358/26.)  
A/C report U-Boat 050° 55' N. 004° 55' W., course 180°, 3 knots, at 2030/26. (C. in C. Plymouth, 2119B/26 to DOUGLAS, CANTON.)  
My 2119/26. M.L. 444 from Lundy Roads proceeding to search. (C. in C. Plymouth, 2159/26 to DOUGLAS, CANTON.)  
A/C report at 1740 U-Boat sighted in 061° 59' N. 004° 30' E., course 345°. (F.O.S., 2216B/26.)  
Your 2119B/26. DOUGLAS investigated S/M reported. No contact. DOUGLAS now rejoined as further search would have led her into minefield. A/C was sighted but had nothing further to report. (CANTON, 2220B/26 to C. in C. Plymouth.)

Casualties and Defects.

M.G.B. 601. My 1524/24. M.G.B. 601 has now been raised. Engines and other fitting are being salvaged. (V.A. Dover, 1144B/26.)

JOHN RANDOLPH. Reykjavik arrivals ADHERENT towing JOHN RANDOLPH. (A.C.I.C., 1445B/26.)

P. 45. P.45's 1515B/25. Request P.45 be sailed to arrive Holy Loch not later than 6/8 to be taken in hand for permanent repairs. During intervening period request vessel be used for A/S exercises only if urgently required and providing a satisfactory test dive to 150 feet is carried out previously. (F.O.S., 1516B/26 to A.C.O.S.)

M.G.B. 106. Following received from M.G.B. 106. Total engine breakdown 2 miles 250° from Sheep Isles, Firth of Lorne. Request immediate assistance. Tug has been despatched. (N.O.I.C. Oban, 1840B/26 to ST. CHRISTOPHER.)

War Diary.26.7.1942.  
Sunday.HOME COMMANDS.Casualties and Defects. - Contd.

M.M.S. 62. M.M.S. 62 arrived Sheerness today with defects as follows:- propeller shaft out of alignment necessitating docking, bad knock in cylinders, lubricating oil passing from main engine through uptake. Work cannot be undertaken at Sheerness.  
(Comdre. Sheerness, 2221B/26.)

Shipping and Convoys.

F.S. 865. C. in C. Nore's 1451/24. Intend to sail SHELDRAKE for Sheerness on 28/7 in F.S. 865.  
(F.O.I.C. Harwich, 0915B/26.)

S.D. 30A. Intend to sail LEINSTER, CHARLESTOWN, ST. MARYS at 2300B/26. Route C. in C. W.A. 1442B/25.  
(A.C.I.C., 1123B/26.)

P.Q. 17. Repatriation of Survivors. Casualties. If my 2229B/25 is approved following arrangements for repatriation of naval officers and ratings and British, U.S. Mercantile Marine personnel will be made. 12 Naval and Military officers (names) and (?150) ratings ex EDINBURGH and GOSSAMER. DVINA: 800 British and American Mercantile Marine personnel pro rata as to number British and American survivors. Remaining 300 Naval and Mercantile Marine personnel in escorts and Merchant Ships of Q.P.14.  
(S.B.N.O. Archangel, 1129B/26 to S.B.N.O. North Russia.)  
Your 0900/24. You state casualties are believed at present to be about 70. Request confirmation. It is particularly desired to know the total casualties to personnel in P.Q. 17.  
(A.C.N.S. H., 1855B/26 to S.B.N.O. Archangel.)  
Your 2229/25 and 1824/16. Doubts have been expressed as to whether DVINA (Late CABO QUILATES) can steam at more than 10 knots. Can you confirm speed of 15 knots. If any doubt trials should be carried out, as speed is all important factor.  
(D.T.D., 1555B/26 to S.B.N.O. Archangel.)

(EX VANCOUVER)

W.S. 21. CURACOA. SS. CURACOA may be delayed and unable to rendezvous as in F.O.I.C. Cardiff's 1608/24.  
2. In this case she should be sailed to R/V with P.C. 74 and JAMES LYKES at Scarweather as arranged by F.O.I.C. Cardiff and proceed in company to Oversay R/V.  
(D.O.D. (H.), 1322B/26 to C. in C. W.A.)  
Cancel my 1608/24.  
Intend to sail SS. TAMAROA and ULSTER QUEEN as escort Barry Roads at 0330/27. E.T.A. Greenock 0800/28.  
(N.O.I.C. Cardiff, 1653B/26 to C. in C. W.A.)  
My 1708/25 para. (3). For Holyhead read Belfast.  
(C. in C. W.A., 1856B/26 to N.O.I.C. Milford Haven.)

790

War Diary.26.7.1942.  
Sunday.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping and Convoys - Contd.

W.P. 192. On arrival at Lizard Head ships for Falmouth, Truro, and Par are to be detached to proceed to Falmouth. 2 M.Ls from Falmouth will escort.  
 (2) Remainder of convoy is to proceed by route C, and ships for Plymouth are not to be detached before 0200.  
 (3) Plymouth ships and CETO escorted by TREVO TERCEIRO will be met at Eddystone, R/V with AMBROISE PARÉ, and escorted into Plymouth.  
 (C. in C. Plymouth, 1547B/26 to SLAZAK.)

Coastal Shipping for Bristol Channel. Pass to N.C.S.Os. In bad weather delays are caused to independently sailed coastal shipping by waiting at Barry Roads for onward route to Bristol Channel ports. N.C.S.Os at ports of departure are in future to through-route such ships to ports of destination.  
 (D.T.D., 1551B/26 to C. in C. W.A., C. in C. Plymouth.)

P.W. 192. Estimated position P.W. 192 at 1900/26, 120° Berry Head 9 miles.  
 (C. in C. Plymouth, 1833B/26 to CLEVELAND.)

AMSTERDAM, PRAGUE. Intend sailing transport AMSTERDAM and PRAGUE 0030/29. speed 17 knots, routed Q.Z.S.150 352 163 to 32° Copinsay Light 4½ miles. Thence AMSTERDAM to Kirkwall, E.T.A. 0700/29, PRAGUE and escort to position 2 miles E. of Fair Isle, thence Lerwick, E.T.A. 1200/29.  
 (N.O.I.C. Invergordon, 2002/26.)

O.N. S. 116. "Chop" 1200Z/30.  
 (C. in C. W.A., 2040Z/26 to C.T.U. 24.1.14.)

791

War Diary.26.7.1942.  
Sunday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic.

LAVINGTON COURT (torpedoed 20/7.) HAARLEM's 1345Z/25. HAARLEM and RHODODENDRON are to escort LAVINGTON COURT to U.K., towed by PRUDENT and CHARON (2) RHODODENDRON pass to PRUDENT and CHARON. (3) RHODODENDRON acknowledge. (4) GEORGETOWN and MANSFIELD proceed to Gibraltar. \* See next page.

(F.O.C.N.A., 0053B/26 to HAARLEM, RHODODENDRON, (R) Admty. GEORGETOWN, MANSFIELD.)

Your 0053B/26 received and understood. Have met HAARLEM standing by LAVINGTON COURT in 042° 48' N. 025° 54' W. Amplifying report follows. Uncoded weather report. (RHODODENDRON, 0300Z/26 to F.O.C.N.A., (R) GEORGETOWN, MANSFIELD, Admty.)

Your 0300/26. Do not break W/T silence unless this is essential.

(F.O.C.N.A., 1020B/26 to RHODODENDRON, (R) Admty.)

P.222 (interception of MITIDJA.) My 1106/25. If ship not sighted (P).222 is to leave patrol at 1500 today Sunday (?through) position M at 0600B/27 to arrive Gibraltar 1000B/28. Bombing restriction arranged accordingly. (F.O.C.N.A., 1018B/26 to 8th S.F.)

Cancel my 1018 to P.222.

P.C. and S. of MITIDJA 035° 58', 000° 33' W., 000°, 6 at 1055B/26.

Proceed at economical speed to intercept.

(F.O.C.N.A., 1136B/26 to 8th S.F., (R) Admty.)

SUX. Boarding 37.12 N. 00.35 W. Arrest reported Oran by W/T.

(A/C using call sign V9RD, 1942/26 to Gibraltar W/T.)

Hudson A/C report MITIDJA was 8 miles N.E. from you at 1722 when you were put down by friendly Sunderland.

(F.O.C.N.A., 2006B/26 to P.222.)

MITIDJA boarded by 1 officer and 6 ratings. Search impossible without unloading. Proceeding for Gibraltar. Oran aware of arrest. Master refused to obey unless boarding party remain on MITIDJA. My P.C. and S. 036° 54' 000° 30' W. 250°, 6 knots.

(P.222, 2020B/26 to F.O.C.N.A.)

My 1022/24 (N.T. in W.R.) American report sailing delayed probably left 25th. 500 tons of Cobalt reported to be in pier warehouse Nemleds on 23/7. French Authorities stated to have refused shipment in French vessels except small quantities needed by French Metallurgical industry, these not included in 500 tons destined for Germany.

(Greenleaves, 2054/26 to Admty. for D.N.I., S.O.(I) Gibraltar.)

STORK,  
enemy A/C.

My P.C. and S. 042° 41' N. 016° 58' W. 353°, 7½.  
Am being shadowed by 1 F.W. Weather.

(STORK, 1115B/26 to C. in C. W.A., F.O.C.N.A., (R) Admty.)

792

War Diary.26.7.1942.  
Sunday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic. - Contd.

CAUDEBEC. French SS. CAUDEBEC from Lisbon proceeding South in territorial waters. My position 338 PCL 8 $\frac{1}{2}$  miles. Request instructions. (IMPERIALIST, 1200B/26 to F.O.C.N.A.)

Air Report. WX. 1539. Gib. Ops. 137. Resume for 26/7. 3 Hudsons search for French M/V MITIDJA 0700 - 2130. 1 Hudson search for Tanker HALLANGER 1115 - (?2015 or 2115). (A.H.Q. Gibraltar, 1733Z/26.)

MANSFIELD. 037° 06' N. 018° 34' W. Weather report. (MANSFIELD, 1800/26 to Admty., (R) C. in C. W.A., F.O.C.N.A.) *See previous page.*

CABO VILLANO. Your 2027/25. No news here. (S.O.I. Gib., 1929B/26 to S.O.I. Montevideo, (R) Admty.)

South Atlantic.

GORLESTON, EMPIRE BARON. If you (as decyphered "Do you" intended) anticipate any difficulties in tow to Bathurst. If not do not break W/T silence. (C. in C. S.A., 0927Z/26 to GORLESTON, (R) R.A.W.A.)

O.S.34. GORLESTON returned to convoy for fuel reported SS. EMPIRE BARON proceeding eventually under (her own) power but liable to have to anchor at any time. EMPIRE BARON at present escorted by ORISSA. GORLESTON will return to stand by before dark today. Weather report. (FOLKESTONE, 1102Z/26 to R.A.W.A., (R) Admty., etc.) Concur with your 2219/25 (GORLESTON to tow SS. EMPIRE BARON to Bathurst.) (F.O.C.N.A., 1517B/26 to R.A.W.A.)

Hurricanes for M.E. Your 0052B/9. SS. MALANCHA arrived 24/7. 4 Hurricanes transhipped to EMPIRE AUSTEN and one Hurricane to SS. LA CORDILLERA for Middle East. (S.S.T.O. Capetown, 1002Z/26 to D. of S.T., (R) S.T.O. Durban.)

/SAWAHLOENTO ...

War Diary.26.7.1942.  
Sunday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic - Contd.

- SAWAHLOENTO. Overdue shipping. My 1035B/22. Cancel SAWAHLOENTO. Ship left Kilindini 24th for Lourenco Marques via Mayotte. (S.O.I. Capetown, 1010B/26 to Admty., etc.)
- BRITTANY. Sailed BRITTANY to Port Louis, Mauritius, routed through 027° S. 050° E. S. of A. 13 knots. E.T.A. 31/7. (N.O.I.C. Durban, 1034Z/26 to Admty., etc.)
- Situation. At 2000Z/27th. Area Q. (C. in C. S.A., 1111B/26.)
- AGWISTAR. S.O.(I) Jamaica's 2044R/24 reports AGWISTAR (U.S.) overdue Trinidad. Ref. N.C.S.O. Capetown's 1215Z/28/6, request confirmation sailing of vessel, not reported by Vesca. (D.T.D., 1156B/26 to S.O.I. Capetown.)
- W.S. 20. Durban portion convoy W.S.20B sailed for Bombay a.m./26, personnel on board ORION Army 5002. E.T.A. p.m./9/8. (D.S.T.O. Durban, 1242B/26 to P.S.T.O. Bombay.) Durban portion Convoy W.S.20 sailed for Aden a.m./26/7. Personnel on board STRATHEDEN Army 4397, R.A.F. 41. ARUNDEL CASTLE Army 890, R.A.F. 1985 for Middle East. E.T.A. p.m./7/8. (D.S.T.O. Durban, 1244B/26 to S.S.T.O. Aden.)
- JOHN MACKAY My 1921/11/7. JOHN MACKAY now repairing cable cables. in vicinity of Takoradi. 2. Freetown - Accra cable broken again in vicinity of Freetown. 3. This cable works 24 hour traffic. It is put forward for consideration that JOHN MACKAY repairs break before proceeding to Cape. Fault developed in Freetown - Bathurst cable but communication still possible. (R.A.W.A., 1329Z/26 to Admty.)
- West Africa Forces, Strength. A. 135, 26/7. Please see R.A.W.A.F. 1931/24 addressed Admty. containing telegram from Resident Minister for Minister of Defence. This recommends increase number of naval A/S forces at disposal R.A.W.A. and in addition:
- (A) Squadron of Catalinas at Freetown.
  - (B) American Squadron long range aircraft at Ascension, and
  - (C) Squadron of long range aircraft at Natal.
- In order to ensure maximum co-ordination all A/S forces in West African waters we suggest consideration of British Squadron at Ascension if possible in lieu of American. Owing increasing shipping congestion Freetown harbour we would also like eventually to base detachment of Catalinas at Fishermans Lake. We are already completing arrangements for basing small detachment of Hudsons at Robertsfield (Marshall). (A.H.Q. W.Africa, 1340/26 to Air Ministry.)

794

War Diary.26.7.1942.  
Sunday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic - Contd.

- WIVERN, BRILLIANT, MALAYA. WIVERN, BRILLIANT sailed (?07)55Z today 26/7 R/V outer (? end) Durban searched channel with MALAYA proceeding under her orders as escort. (N.O.I.C. Durban, 1402Z/26 to C. in C. S.A., (? S.A. Station), Admty., C. in C. E.F., D. C. in C. E.F., S.O.(I) Colombo, N.O.I.C. Kilindini.)
- OXFORDSHIRE. H.M. H.S. OXFORDSHIRE sailed 1400 today Capetown 30th S. of A. 8 knots (route). (S.B.N.O. Walvis Bay, 1415Z/26 to Admty., etc.)
- Spanish Shipping. Spanish ships in Santos have received telegram from owners in Bilbao referring to circular of 6/4 and instructing them to send daily by W/T to H.Q. their noon position. (S.O.I. Montevideo, 1450Z/26 to Admty. for D.N.I., (R) B.A.D., S.O.(I) Jamaica, F.O. Trinidad, S.O.(I) Gibraltar, Rio de Janeiro.)  
N.I.D. Comment. No. 1804/16 from N.A. Madrid stated that while owners can cable their ships in Foreign ports, ships may not use W/T at all except to report noon position to Spanish Govt. and in case S O S necessary.  
W/T restriction imposed due to American suspicions of Spanish M/Vs communicating with enemy S/Ms.
- Movement of Belgian Troops. Requested that following procedure may be adopted when movements of Belgian troops are contemplated (details).  
(4) Details of embarkation and time of sailing are to be arranged by B.N.L.O. Pointe Noire. (R.A.W.A.F., 1647Z/26 to Milwestaf.)
- U/B. Following has been read from ship with signal letters KFNJ. SSSS de KFNJ. Periscope sighted Lat. 5° 57' N. 10° 23' W.  
(Ascension, W/T, T.O.R. 1841Z/26 to Freetown W/T.)
- BEACON STREET. O.S. 35. Oiler BEACON STREET in lieu of BRITISH HUSSAR is available for fuelling escorts. Request she be sailed for U.K. in a similar capacity in S.L. 119.  
(D.T.D., 1849B/26 to R.A.W.A., (R) N.C.S.O. Freetown.)
- Escort of Tankers. Norwegian Tanker MOSLI loaded with Admiralty fuel oil sailed Trinidad 20/7 and is due Freetown 4/8. Request you will despatch escort to meet as far out as possible and escort to Freetown.  
2. In view of S/M activity in the area request that whenever possible tankers sailing independently from West Indies to Freetown and vice versa may be provided with escorts for about 600 miles from Freetown.

War Diary.

26.7.1942.  
Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic.

Escorts of Tankers.  
(Contd.)

3. Escorts meeting eastbound ships are to make a "Not Met" signal if contact is not made within 4 hours of scheduled R/V in order to keep daily state information as accurate as possible.  
(D.T.D., 1941B/26 to R.A.W.A., (R) C. in C. S.A.)

NORTHMOOR.

Overdue shipping British NORTHMOOR due Buenos Aires 21/7 from Durban has not arrived.  
(S.O.I. Montevideo, 2057Z/26 to Admty.)

GARMULA  
(sunk 23/7)

My 1651Z/24. GARMULA hit by 1 torpedo at 1805Z/23 in 5° 30' N. 14° 45' W. Ship sank in 5 minutes with loss of 5 Europeans and 16 Asiatics. German U-Boat then surfaced, approached within 50 yards of lifeboat and courteously questioned survivors. Survivors report U-Boat similar to U.570 class but smaller. Length approx. 120 feet (treated with reserve) and no after gun. No Net Cutter and painted medium grey. Yellow double Eagle on fore end of C/T. Crew well sun burned.  
(R.A.W.A., 2203Z/26 to Admty., (R) C. in C. S.A.)

Mediterranean.

P.43,  
CLYDE.  
P.31.

Cancel last sentence in my 1329/24. Proceed in accordance with Capt. (S) 10, 1847/26 to arrive off Marsamxett as requisite, CLYDE 29/7, P.43 1/8. P.31 may also arrive latter date.  
(V.A. Malta, 1125B/26 to P.43, CLYDE, (R) F.O.C.N.A., C. in C. Med., Capt. (S) 1, Capt. (S) 8, S/MS on patrol.)

M.E. Report.  
Cositrep 462.

4. Air. Night 24/25. Halifaxes, Wellingtons, Bostons, Blenheim and Albacores operated against Tobruk shipping and harbour, M.T. Battle area, Daba landing ground and M.T. west of Matruh.

Near misses on group 3 ships Tobruk and large fires started dock area possible petrol store.

5. Wellingtons bombed Heraklion and Tymbaki Aerodromes Crete starting fires at each.

6. Torpedo Wellingtons attacked 1 M/V with destroyer east of Bomba, claiming one hit one probable hit. Ship reported stationary after attack.

10. Beaufighters attacked (?2) barges off Matruh, destroying one.

11. 2 torpedo S.79s shot down off Port Said. One R/C Ju.88 destroyed, second probably destroyed west of Alexandria.

(C. in C. M.E., 1140/26.)



796

War Diary.26.7.1942.  
Sunday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean - Contd.

M.T.B. Bases, Turkey. Your 1529/24, concur.  
(C. in C. Med., 1152C/26 to N.A. Istanbul, (R) N.A. Ankara for Adm. Kelly, Admty. for D.N.I., C.O.I.S. Alexandria.)

Enemy Shipping, Tobruk. Bombing aircraft report that ships leave Tobruk at night and remain just outside harbour to avoid air raids.  
(S.O. 1 S.F. Alex., 1225C/26 to THORN, (R) Subs. on Patrol ?Alexandria, Capt. (S) 1.)  
My 1225/26. Aircraft probably attacking tonight.  
(S.O. 1 S.F., 1846C/26 to THORN.)

10th S.F. Report S. of A. and estimated position at 2101B on following days.  
P.34 (?27/7), P.31 28/7, UNA 30/7.  
(Capt. S.10, 1515B/26 to S.F.10, (R) C. in C. Med. Capt. (S) 1, S.O. (S) Alexandria.)

THRASHER. My 0906/24 second position should read 032° 30' 031° 14'.  
(Capt. S.1, 1811C/26 to S/Ms on Patrol, No. 201 N.C. Group, Capt. (S) 10, S.O. (S) Alexandria, S.O. (S) Haifa, (?R) V.A. Malta, THRASHER.)  
Were you attacked by aircraft at 2140?  
(S.O. 1 S.F. Alex., 2226C/26 to THRASHER, (R) Capt. (S) 1, C. in C. Med.)

PROTEUS. Intend to sail PROTEUS at 2001C/27 (? direct) from Beirut searched channel to position 035° 18' 026° 42' thence within (? 30) miles of N. coast of Crete to vicinity of Kithera channel area. Details of patrol area will be signalled later.  
(Capt. S.1, 1915C/26 to C. in C. Med., (R) S.O. (S) Alexandria, 235 Wing, N.O.I.C. Palestinian Ports, Capt. (S) 10, S/Ms on Patrol, No. 201 N.C. Group.)

Canal Minesweeping. Weekly Canal M/S Summary 19th to 25/7.  
No further mines detonated. 5 danger points remain, traffic unrestricted except in southern section which ships do not enter till 0845 after a clearance of 2 danger points and a search of 17 k.m. has been made.  
(F.O.R.S.C.A., 1916B/26 to Admty., (R) C. in C. Med.)

/Malta ...

797

War Diary.26.7.1942.  
Sunday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean - Contd.

Malta Air Report. I. 510, 26/7. C.S.R. Part 1. During period covered by report most effective northern R.D.F. station off the air.

25th. 4 alerts. 1240 hours, 4 Ju.88s escorted by 15 plus Me.109 bombed Hal Far. 1 airman injured 2 Spitfires slight damage U.X.Bs dispersal and main runway which was rendered temporarily unserviceable. D.A. bomb exploded later slightly damaging 1 Albacore, partial interference to R.D.F. resulting in no heights being given. 32 Spitfires up sighted enemy raid 7 miles before reaching target but being up sun only attacked shortly before bombs released 1 Macchi 202 destroyed, 2 Ju.88s damaged. 1412 hours and 1433 hours for same 3 plus enemy unidentified fighters on search N. and E. of Malta. 4 Spitfires up ineffectively chased enemy who had advantage of height.

Night 25/26th. 1910 hours, 1 Beaufighter on patrol, no interceptions. Alert 0200 hours, 2 raiders, 1 crossed coast, bombs sea. 1 Beaufighter up, no interceptions R.D.F. and Beaufighter interference partially effective.

26th. 3 alerts. 0720 hours, 4 Me.109s crossed coast 8 Spitfires did not intercept owing insufficient warning. 1038 hours, 7 Ju.88s escorted by 15 plus Me.109 bombed Ta Kali where 1 Spitfire was destroyed and U.X.Bs suspected. 24 Spitfires up including 8 from previous raid in spite of partial interference of R.D.F. intercepted enemy force 20 miles before reaching target, 1 Mc. 202 damaged.

1211 hours. 5 Ju.88s escorted by 18 plus enemy fighters bombed Hal Far where 1 Hurricane was slightly damaged. 12 Spitfires up, no interceptions due to totally inadequate warning by R.D.F. owing to serious interference.

(H.Q. R.A.F. Malta, 1920/26.)

Situation Western Desert. M.T.B. and M.L. shipping sweeps Report 241. West of Alexandria nights 24-25/7 and 25-26/7 found nothing.

(2) Levant. Convoy (?followed) between Port Said and Ripfli, Syria from 24/7. Greek schooner VASSILIKI sunk by gunfire from U-Boat (?0500)/23 in approx. 034° 35' N. 034° 55' E.

(3) Malta Beaufort attacked escorted merchant ship 10 miles west of Cape Cheroghambo. Ship badly damaged and left fired. (See H.Q.R.A.F. Malta 2020/24 to Air Ministry).

(4) S/Ms P.211 sank small\*Italian ship laden with timber on 12/7 off East coast Sardinia. Also attacked and hit merchant ship 1500 tons with gun close to coast. (F.O.C.N.A. 1108B/24 to Admty. and V.A. Malta only refers).

(C. in C. Med., 1932C/26 to Admty. as amended 1128C/27.)

\*S.L. ADDA

U/B  
THORN

At 2110/26 aircraft reported S/M P.C. and S. 034° 17' 022° 20' 150° 12.  
(Capt. S.1 Alexandria, 2125C/26 to THORN.)

798

War Diary.26.7.1942  
Sunday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies.

- Repatriations Departure 28/7 ASAMA MARU, Japanese, Singapore; CONTE VERDE, Italian, Singapore.  
(N.C.S.O. Lourenco Marques No T.O.O. 26th, Recd. 0825/27 to M.W.T.)
- Enemy Units. By D/F at 1800Z/25 position of unknown enemy unit was 008° S. 079° E. Reliable fix. Call sign E K I. (2) By D/F at 1625Z/25 position of unknown enemy unit was 004° N. 060° E. Reliable fix. Call sign K I N O.  
(D. C. in C. E.F. 0537Z/26 to E.I. Stn.)  
By D/F at 1730Z/25. Position of unknown enemy unit was 007° S. 058° E. Call sign N.O.M.A. unreliable fix.  
(D. C. in C. E.F. 0755Z/26, 0855Z/26 to S. & A., E.I. Stn.)
- B.M.26. Sailed from Bombay 25/7 for Colombo, E.T.A. 0600/29. Numbers on board. 3 ships.  
(P.S.T.O.I. 0559Z/26 to S.T.O. Colombo (R) D.S.T.)
- Battleship refits. Your 1952/23 (?2052/23 intended) Concur.  
(C. in C. E.F. 0720Z/26 to F.O. 3rd Battle Squadron (R) Admty., C. in C. S.A. Deputy C. in C. E.F.)
- Troop Movements. Following is revised and up to date programme of proposed troop movements.  
(a) B.A.29, 2 personnel ships from Bombay, EL MADINA, ISLAMI, sailing 28/7.  
(b) B.A.30, 2 (?personnel) ships from Karachi EL (?LE)NGA, ETHIOPIA, sailing 3/8.  
(c) Bombay diverted 2 personnel ships ROHNA, SOBIESKI, sailing 27/7.  
(d) B.P.50, 2 personnel ships from Bombay, NEVASA, CAP ST JACQUES sailing 1/8 and 2 personnel ships from Karachi KITROA, SATHIA, sailing probably 4/8. Dates will be confirmed (?later).  
(e) Bombay, Lourenco Marques, CITY OF PARIS with approx. 830 Japanese sailing 10/8.  
(f) Bombay, Addu Atoll, 2 personnel ships ERINPURA, KUTSANG, sailing 15/8.  
(g) B.P.51, 4 personnel ships DILWARA, ROHNA, VARSOVA, DUNERA, sailing 20/8.  
(P.S.T.O.I. 0729Z/26 to D. C. in C. E.F. (R) F.O. Ceylon etc.)
- Dispositions. Summary No.8 26/7.  
1. GAMBIA leave Durban 26/7 with W.S.20. Relieved by FROBISHER and WORCESTERSHIRE S.E. Madagascar 30/7 then escort SS STIRLING CASTLE to 090° E. calling Mauritius for fuel 31/7.  
2. FROBISHER, WORCESTERSHIRE leaving Mauritius 29/7 as escort W.S.20. WORCESTERSHIRE to Aden. FROBISHER to latitude of Kilindini.  
3. ENTERPRISE leaves Bombay 28/7 for Kilindini.  
4. CHITRAL left Aden 23/7 for (?Diego Suarez) 29/7.

799

26.7.1942  
Sunday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies.

Dispositions contd. 5. ALAUNIA left Colombo 26/7 for Durban 6/8 routed S. of Maldwin and Mauritius and 200 miles S. of Madagascar.

6. RANCHI left Durban 20/7 with C.M.30.

Escorting Bombay section routed E. of Seychelles and through Equator at 063° 30' E. 9 knots.

7. CALEDON leaving Diego Suarez p.m./26 to meet C.M.30 in 017° 26' S. 051° 10' E. on 27/7, escort to Kilindini and Madagascar section to Diego Suarez, due p.m.29th.

Not M/S 8. BLACKPOOL left Durban 27/7 for Kilindini routed through Mozambique Channel.

(D. C. in C. E.F. 0821Z/26 to E.I. Stn. etc.)

C. in C. E.F. 1305/19. Eastern Fleet weekly disposition Summary No.3. Changes from No.2 Summary. (c) DEVONSHIRE at Kilindini. (d) NEWCASTLE (damaged) and \*ENTERPRISE at Bombay, \*GAMBIA escorting to S. of Madagascar.)

(D. C. in C. E.F. 1007Z/26 to C. in C. S.A., C. in C. Med. A.C.N.B., F.O. Ceylon, F.O.R.S., V.A.3.) \* *see previous page*

IMA.  
FALSTERBO.

IMA (Nor.) and FALSTERBO due in this port from Abadan and Aden are now five days overdue.  
(N.C.S.O. Mombasa 1034Z/26 to S.O.(I) Colombo,  
(R) D. C. in C. E.F. Admty.)

Request for  
A/S Forces.

Your 0935/14 para 4. Following action has been taken. (a) My 2230/17 allocates GROMARTY, GROMER and ROMNEY to you until further orders.

(b) My 1118/23 hastens completion of Whalers at

Durban. (c) My 1214/23 accelerates arrival of reinforcements from Australia.

2. No general reallocation of A/S forces can be considered at present. Forces operating in areas where a heavy scale of attack exists cannot be withdrawn to reinforce an area in which no attack has yet developed.

3. Your 0935/14 para 3. There is a composite Blenheim/Vincent Squadron in Iraq, part located at Shaibah and part at Sharjah. Air Ministry suggest S.N.O.P.G. should discuss with A.O.C. Iraq whether these aircraft would be available and how they should be operated.

(D.A/S W. Approved by A.C.N.S. (F) 1052B/26 to C. in C. E.F.)

J.C.2.

Convoy sailing Telegram.  
(N.C.S.O. Colombo 1100Z/26 to Admty.)

/Midway ...

War Diary.

26.7.1942  
Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies - contd.

Midway  
Island  
Lessons.

Your 0852/20. Stationing of destroyers by day.  
1. Against torpedo aircraft attack made by a long approach at low level, experience has shewn that, when sufficient destroyers are available, screen at about 4,000 yards is valuable as a visible and deterrent barrier and to provide defence in depth.  
2. With a small number of destroyers, or against torpedo attack carried out by diving tactics as used by the British Naval aircraft, or against dive or low bombers, it is considered preferable for the screen to be at 1,000 yards or less.  
3. No evidence has yet been received as to the approach tactics of Japanese carrier-borne torpedo aircraft, but this will be signalled when known.

(D.T.S.D. Approved A.C.N.S.(W) 1143B/26 to C. in C. E.F. (R)  
C. in C. Med., C. in C. H.F., R.A.A. (E.F.) R.A.A. (H.F.)

DERWENTDALE

To return to Bombay. At your discretion she may first discharge her cargo of furnace fuel at either Kilindini, Seychelles or Diego Suarez.

(D.O.D.(F) 1240B/26 to D. C. in C. E.F.)

War Diary.26.7.1942.  
Sunday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies.

- U/B. S/M estimated in your vicinity by D/F has made sighting report of a convoy or an important unit at 2130Z/25 and 2133Z/25.  
(C. in C. U.S. Fleet 0048/26 to C.T.24.1.12. (R) C.T.24.1.11. C. in C. Atlantic Fleet, Admty. C.T.24. N.S.H.Q. C.O.A.C. U.S.S. MUSKEGET.)
- U/B. Belle Isle. Eastern Air Command report (begins) Canadian Army H.Q. advise observation post number 1 and 2 report S/M surfaced and submerged off Belle Island Conception Bay at 2230Z/25 (ends)  
(C.O.A.C. 0135Z/26 to Admty.)
- O.N.113. D/F bearings at 2132Z/25 and at 2255Z/25 indicate  
O.N.112. convoy is still being shadowed.  
U/B. (D.D.I.C. 0141B/26 to Escorts O.N.113. (R) C. in C. W.A. Cominch, N.S.H.Q., H.Q.C.C.)  
D/F bearings at 0228Z indicate U-Boat has again reported O.N.112 or O.N.113.  
(D.D.I.C. 0522B/26 to O.N.112. O.N.113. (R) C. in C. W.A. Cominch, N.S.H.Q. H.Q.C.C.)
- ILEX. Your 1548/22. Arrangements made for working up programme including A/S exercise at sound school Key West and gunnery and torpedo practice at Guantanamo en route to Trinidad.  
(B.A.D. 0141Z/26 to Admty. (R) S.B.N.O. W.A. N.S.H.Q. ILEX. C. in C. E.F.)
- U/B. U-Boat estimated in your vicinity by D/F has made sighting report of a convoy or important unit at 0226Z/26.  
(Cominch 0355/26 to U.S.S. WINOOSKI, C.T.U. 24.1.11. C.T.F.37. C.T.U. 24.1.17. (R) C. in C. Atlantic. Admty. C.O.A.C. N.S.H.Q. C.T.24.)
- O.N.113. O.N.113 attacked 047° 08' N 042° 57' W at 0601Z  
EMPIRE SS. EMPIRE RAINBOW torpedoed and sinking, picking  
RAINBOW up survivors.  
torpedoed. (C.T.U. 24.1.12. 0647Z/26 to Admty. Opanv. (R) C.T.F. 24. C. in C. W.A. N.S.H.Q. F.O.N.F. C.O.A.C. C.T.G.24.7. WALKER.)  
U-Boat located in your vicinity by D/F has made a sighting report of a convoy or other important unit at 0404Z/26.  
(C. in C. U.S. Fleet 0820/26 to C.T.24.1.12. (R) U.S.S. SAPELO. C. in C. Atlantic Fleet. C.T.24. Admty. N.S.H.Q. C.O.A.C.)  
My 0647/26, have re-embarked crew of EMPIRE RAINBOW with exception of one injured man in BURNHAM. 2 waterlogged boats still adrift. Attempt being made to (?tow her) to St. Johns N.F. DAUPHIN as escort. BURNHAM proceeding St. Johns N.F. for fuel.  
(C.T.24.1.12 1140Z/26 to Admty. Opanv, C.T.24. C. in C. W.A. N.S.H.Q. F.O.N.F. C.O.A.C. C.T.G.24.7.)  
EMPIRE RAINBOW abandoned and sunk at 2320Z/26. Have all survivors on board. P.C.S. 47.17 N 44.33 W. 274° 14 knots.  
(DAUPHIN 2322Z/26 to F.O.N.F. (R) COBALT.)

/Movement...

War Diary.26.7.1942.  
Sunday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies - Contd.

Movement Summary. 1800 G.M.T./26.

Ship.	Position.	Course.	Speed.
ASTURIAS. )	18° N. 61° W.	293°.	13.
LARGS. )			
Convoy T.A.17.	41° N. 66½° W.	261°.	14.
Convoy N.A.13.	57° N. 24½° W.	090°.	13½.

(D.O.D. (F.) 0919Z/26 to Opanav. (R) Comnav.)

SAGOLAND. Overdue shipping. My 1050B/23. Cancel SAGOLAND. Ship left Trinidad 23/7 for Capetown. (S.O.I. Capetown 0930B/26 to Admty. etc.)

KINGMAN believed torpedoed. It is suspected that straggler from S.C.93 Panamanian KINGMAN may have been torpedoed in 046° 21' N 053° 35' W at 0700Z/26 as rockets were observed astern of convoy. WITCH and MONCTON swept astern for 12 miles without locating her. MONCTON is still searching.  
(C.T. 24.18.2. 1030Z/26 to Opanav. (R) F.O.N.F. C.T.24. Admty. C. in C. W.A. N.S.H.Q. C.O.A.C. C.T.24.7.)  
My 1030Z/26. Rockets observed astern were later ascertained to be snowflakes being fired by Task Units 24.1.17. S.C.93 P.C.S. at 1500Z/26. 046° 45' N 052° 25' W. 055°. 7 knots. (? All ships) and escort Task Units 24.1.(?17) present except one straggler KINGMAN, Panamanian.  
(C.T.U.24.18.2. 1601Z/26 to Opanav. (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.)

S.C. Convoy Schedule. Your 2126/24. Concur. (D.T.D. 1119B/26 to N.S.H.Q.)  
Connav has concurred in my 2126/24. (N.S.H.Q. 1501Z/26 to Admty. (R) C.O.A.C. N.O.I.C. Sydney.)

U/B. Following received. Addressed Newfoundland W/T from DRUMHELLER. 1 S/M submerged Rapture 46.44 N. 44.13 W.  
(Halifax W/T 1201Z/26.)

POLYANTHUS relief O.N.113. Detach one ship to proceed at best speed to relieve POLYANTHUS last reported in 049° 38' N 040° 09' W at 1700Z/25.  
(F.O.N.F. 1237Z/26 to AMHERST. (R) NAPANEE, POLYANTHUS. C.T.24. C.O.A.C. N.S.H.Q. Admty.)

Escort of Tankers. My 1759/22 to B.A.D. only. The following plan for expediting movements of tanker tonnage is put forward for urgent consideration as a practicable immediate scheme:-  
(a) Abolish H.A. and A.H. convoys.  
(b) Inaugurate a Halifax-Guantanamo 10 knot convoy for Gulf and Caribbean shipping on a 7 days cycle, the convoy to sail from Halifax as soon as possible after the arrival of the O.N. convoy.

// (c) Run...

War Diary.26.7.1942.  
Sunday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies - contd.Escort of  
Tankers.  
Contd.

(c) Run this convoy as a temporary measure, say for 3 months, reviewing situation towards end of that period.

2. To provide necessary escorts 3 groups would be required.

(a) One group to be taken temporarily from mid-ocean escorts (but only in summer conditions and with present routing).

(b) Canadian corvettes escorting A.H. - H.A. convoys could provide a second group to be backed up by 2 U.S. destroyers in exchange for 2 Canadian corvettes.

(c) Third group to be provided by putting W.A.T. and T.A.W. convoys temporarily on a 4 day cycle and thus releasing B.5. or other group.

3. Foregoing plan has been generally agreed in discussion with C. in C. U.S. Fleet, request therefore that you will put this plan forward to Cominch (C &amp; R) and N.S.H.Q. with a view to working out an agreed scheme, the essential factor being its immediate operation during the remainder of the summer.

(1st. S.L. 1328B/26 to B.A.D. (R) N.S.H.Q. C. in C. W.A.)

Reply from C. in C. U.S. Fleet, see 1546/28 and N.S.H.Q. see 1859Z/28.

Personal for C.N.S. Ottawa from 1st. S.L.

A.M. 1759/22 and A.M. 1328/26.

Review of oil situation indicates that it is of utmost importance to United Nations that voyages of tankers generally should be expedited and that a maximum of oil should be imported to U.K. before the winter. Future operations may be jeopardised if fuel stocks are not augmented and drastic action is necessary.

Plan put forward in A.M. 1328/26 has been suggested with foregoing consideration in mind. It is realised that it may well have disadvantages from your point of view compared with present system but I hope that you will accept it in view of the importance of the matter for the united war effort.

(1st. S.L. 1330B/26 to N.S.H.Q. (R) B.A.D.)

AWATEA,  
proposed  
call at  
Bermuda.

My 1256/27. S.S.T.O. Capetown's 1339/27 and D of S.T. 0708/28. It appears that AWATEA due Halifax 10/8 is not required to leave there until 22/8 in N.A.15.. Propose she be diverted to Bermuda to embark passengers for U.K. This will have advantage of saving us dollars as Bermuda passengers would not then have to transfer in

U.S.A. and will leave more room for passengers from West Indies in escorted convoy referred to in B.A.D.'s 1927/28.

(S.B.N.O. W.A. 1346P/26 to D.S.T. Admty. (R) B.A.D. N.S.H.Q. Cdre. I/C Bermuda).

Escort  
Vessels,  
production.

Personal from 1st. S.L.

I have discussed assignment of corvettes and D.Es. with Adm. King. He considers that assumption that only one third of new construction destroyers are to increase fleet numbers and two thirds go to escort duty is unacceptable and suggests that ratio should be two thirds to increase fleet numbers and one third to escort duty.

/It is...



804

War Diary.26.7.1942.  
Sunday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies - contd. -Escort  
Vessels,  
production.  
Contd.

It is estimated that the effect on number in para. 3 of A.T. 2129B/24 will be as follows:-  
Up to March 1943. We get 3 B.D.Es. if transfer of 8 S.S. Corvettes to U.S. in this quarter is confirmed.  
2nd. Quarter 1943. We get 30 B.D.Es if transfer of 7 S.S. Corvettes to U.S. in this quarter is confirmed.

3rd. Quarter 1943. 41 D.Es to R.N.

4th. Quarter 1943. 45 D.Es to R.N.

This amendment is accepted and we have also agreed that in interpreting their directive the C.M.A.B. should take regard of the availability of equipment and crews.

(1st. S.L. 1356B/26 to B.A.D.)

Reply: B.A.D. 1743Z/30.

BRITISH  
MERIT. O.N. 113  
(Sunk  
25/7.)  
BROOMPARK  
O.N. 113.

BRANDON's report E.T.A. 0800Z/27 A.F.O. 2901/41.  
Grand total survivors aboard 78. Missing from SS. BROOMPARK 3. Remainder of crew of BRITISH MERIT on board her.  
(BRANDON 1420Z/26 to F.O.N.F. (R) N.S.H.Q. Admty. etc.)

Escorts  
for  
RAMILLIES  
and Q.E.

C. in C. S.A's 1410/23 to B.A.M.R.  
Your 1801/25. Request you will ascertain whether U.S. Navy can provide A/S escort for:-  
1. H.M.S. QUEEN ELIZABETH from approx. 15° N 40° W to Trinidad, thence to Norfolk leaving Freetown about 12/8. S of A 14 knots.  
2. (A) RAMILLIES from approx. 10° N 45° W to

Trinidad thence to Philadelphia leaving St. Helena about 15/8. S of A 14 knots, or

(B) RAMILLIES in about 40° W leaving Freetown 22/8 should C. in C. S.A. report that endurance will not allow passage from St. Helena to Trinidad.

If it is not possible to provide separate escort delay to QUEEN ELIZABETH will be accepted and she will accompany RAMILLIES as in para 2 (B) above.

(D.O.D.(F) O.D.1134/42. 1438B/26 to B.A.D.)

U/B.

U-Boat estimated in your vicinity has made sighting report of convoy or important unit at 1426Z/26.  
(C. in C. U.S. Fleet 1523Z/26 to C.T.U. 24.1.12. C.T.U. 24.1.11. C.T.F. 24. C. in C. Lant. N.S.H.Q. C.O.A.C. F.O.N.F. Admty.)

L.N. and N.L.  
Convoys.

In future convoys leaving River and Gulf of St. Lawrence for bases in Labrador or farther north will be known as L.N. convoys and convoys from Labrador and farther north to St. Lawrence as N.L. These convoys will be run at irregular intervals

as shipping and escorts warrant. Next convoy leaves Quebec on 1/8 will be L.N.4 and leaves Goose Bay on 31/7 N.L.4.

Admty. is requested to promulgate.

(N.S.H.Q. 1537Z/26 to C.O.A.C. N.O.I.C. Quebec. N.O.I.C. Gaspe.

(R) Admty. Connav. F.O.N.F.)

War Diary.26.7.1942.  
Sunday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies - Contd.

Oil off Grenada. Grenada Police report large quantity of oil seen on surface at dawn 25/7 vicinity of Isle de Ronde. (S.O.I. Kingston 1636R/26 to Admty. B.A.D. Cominch. S.B.N.O. W.A.)

"Q" Message System. Your 1928/22. Question is still under consideration by Navy Dept. (2) Short titles are Comsopac for (Auckland) Cincpac (Honolulu) Comalsec (Kodiak) Comnowestseafron (Seattle) Comwestseafron (San Francisco) Comhawseafront (Honolulu) Comsepac (At sea) Compaseafron (Balboa) Cinclant (At sea) Comeastseafron (New York) Comcaribseafron (San Juan R.P.) Comgulfseafron (Miami). Commander Southwest Atlantic Sub area is the senior officer at sea in that area (probably C.T.F.23.) (B.A.D. 1717Z/26 to Admty. (R) N.S.H.Q. S.B.N.O. W.A.)

U/B Positions. 26/7. (C. in C. U.S. Fleet 1805Z/26 to Admty.)

CHESLEY R. Schooner wrecked. Newfoundland Schooner CHESLEY R. 98 tons wrecked near Cape Race 25/7. Total loss, no casualties. (N.S.H.Q. 1901Z/26 to Admty. Connav.)

U/B. Periscope (? sighted by) fishermen in 043° 21' N 050° 53' W at 1800Z/26, travelling S.W. (C.O.A.C. 2044Z/26 to Admty.)

Sub attack and sighting summary. ONONDAGA torpedoed and sunk 22.37 N 79 W 0030Z/24. Unknown vessel attacked and sunk locality 27.58 N 96.08 W 0940Z/26. EVERALDA 15 shells U.88 type. Yellow shield one foot square with German Eagle. Surface craft attacked sound contacts 56.42 N 07.17 W 2044Z/7/4, 43.22 N 64.30 W 1245Z/16/5. Surface craft attack subs on surface 51.14 N 35.25 W 1527Z/16/6 and 50.45 N 36.14 W 1541Z/16/6. Surface craft attacks sound contact 44.36 N 51.25 W 0622Z/22/6. Aircraft attacks oil slick 12.20 N 80.20 W 2130Z/24/6. Surface craft attacks sound contact 34.27 N 74.47 W 1652Z/1/7 possible damage. Sub reported attacked 16.10 N 87.40 (?W) 1215Z/24. Subs sighted 39.09 N 74.40 W 0135Z/26 doubtful, 41.16 N 71.50 W 0247Z/26 doubtful. D D and patrol craft report sub contacts 35.34 N 73.48 W about 0200Z/26 and 35.49 N 74.51 W 1030Z/26. Fishermen report 2 subs 27.58 N 96.08 W 1625Z/26 unverified. Sub reported 15.56 N 77.39 W 1100Z/26. Planes sight subs on surface 09.30 N 60.30 W 1115Z/26. 09.32 N 59.54 W 1515Z/26. Plane attacks sub 46.35 N 55.55 W 1517Z/26. (Cominch 2046/26 to Admty. for O.I.C.)

SALAMONIE. Section East. Add U.S.S. SALAMONIE 049° 10' N 051° 25' W en route Argentina 17. (C.O.A.C. 2130Z/26 to Admty.)

806

War Diary.26.7.1942.  
Sunday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Australia and New Zealand.

- Situation. Serial No. 185. 26/7. 2 merchant ships in convoy attacked by enemy S/M in 37° 54' S 149° (corrupt group) E at 1900Z/24. Both able to proceed. Another M/V unsuccessfully attacked by S/M 31° 50' S 153° E at 2346Z/23.
2. Enemy S/M of I.60 class sighted 10° S 155° 40' E 22/7.
  3. Dutch TJINE LRA (?TJINEGARA) torpedoed 23° 10' S 165° (corrupt) E (corrupt) /25. No details.
  4. Fortress on R/C sighted 4 larger vessels two small tenders 2° 28' S 150° 37' E 25/7, course 140°. Fortress intercepted by 15 Zeros at 1300Z/25 60 miles N.E. Buna. One possibly destroyed.
  5. 3 possibly 4 type 97 Kawanisi flying boats dropped 6 bombs in sea off wharves at Townsville 1440Z/25, no damage or casualties.
  6. Five unidentified bombers raided Darwin 1125Z/25 causing slight damage.
  7. Small enemy warship possibly YUBARI visited Salamaua for one hour at 0424Z/25.
  8. Photographs Rabaul Harbour 23/7 show 3 M/Vs 14 small motor boats 5 flying boats.
  9. 4000 ton vessel and Pinnacle departed (group missed) ?615Z/25.
  10. Ref. para 4 serial 184, personnel now stated re-embarked, whole report now substantially discounted.
  11. A.A. guns and R.D.F. unit reported installed Wide Bay (South Coast New Britain.)
  12. 5 air attacks Buna Gona area 25/7 by one Catalina 15 B.25s 12 Aircobras. No damage observed. Interception enemy fighters 2 probably destroyed.
  13. 4 unidentified aircraft over Cape (corrupt groups) 0315Z/24 course N.
  16. Two B.17s (?) managed photographic recco Guada Canal area 23/7, unsuccessful. Attacked by 5 Zero type floatplanes, one possibly destroyed.  
(A.C.N.B. 1200Z/26 to Admty. etc.)

<sup>M.</sup>  
GEORGE ~~S.~~  
LIVANOS.

<sup>M.</sup>  
My 0121Z/21. GEORGE ~~S.~~ LIVANOS torpedoed (?struck) starboard side of vessel between number 4 and 5 hatch. (?Engine room) flooded through tunnel. Main top mast came down and ship was unable to use wireless. She sank stern first on even keel in 10 minutes. (?Weather) was fine and clear.  
(A.C.N.B. 2127Z/26 to Admty. (R) C. in C. E.F.)

COAST  
FARMER.

My 0356Z (?22), COAST FARMER. Torpedo struck vessel amidship and she sank in 20 minutes. S/M came to surface and examined ship from close range with searchlight. Did not attempt to molest survivors.  
(A.C.N.B. 2139Z/26 to Admty. (R) C. in C. E.F.)

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.Submarines Reported.

Estimated U-Boat positions.  
(D.D.I.C. 1439B/26, 1504B/26.)

27.7.1942.  
Monday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

RORQUAL sailed from Plymouth this afternoon for Gibraltar, to join the Eastern Fleet. She may operate temporarily in the Eastern Mediterranean and is to do a store carrying trip to Malta on the way.

British Air Operations.

Last night 304 out of 403 aircraft which took off attacked Hamburg. Bomber Command H.Q. consider the attack to have been very successful. Extensive fires were reported in the old town and in the dock area. 29 aircraft are missing.

A Whitley of Coastal Command reports two hits on a U-Boat this afternoon 240 miles N.W. by N. of Cape Ortegal. The U-Boat is said to have been seriously damaged; it listed heavily to starboard and submerged, but although the aircraft remained in the neighbourhood for 45 minutes nothing further was seen to indicate that the U-Boat was destroyed.

Four other attacks by aircraft on U-Boats are reported today, but in no case is damage reported.

Fifteen permanent anti-submarine patrols to be known as Port 1 to 15 have been arranged by H.Q.C.C.

North Atlantic.

SS. MITIDJA which P.222 intercepted yesterday was allowed to escape this morning under escort of a French destroyer owing apparently to a misunderstanding between the Admiralty and F.O.C.N.A. The full story is told in the large number of signals which passed.

War Diary.

27.7.1942.  
Monday.

SITUATION REPORT.

South Atlantic.

U.S. STELLA LYKES (Bombay to Paramaribo independently) was torpedoed at 0648Z today in 6° 40' N. 25° 5' W. (about 690 miles west of Freetown.)

SS. TEKOA (Montevideo 15/7 for Freetown and U.K.) sighted a periscope at 1720 in 3° 45' N. 19° 11' W.

WOODRUFF found an abandoned raft and wreckage this evening in about 9° 18' N. 20° 57' W.

There are indications that 4 U-Boats are working in the Freetown area, possibly from a supply ship to the westward. R.A. West Africa sends today a message describing the 8 different duties which ~~is~~ he called upon to perform with a force, at present available, of 3 destroyers and 6 corvettes. His present force can only meet more important commitments.

Mediterranean.

Last night, a heavy force of Bombers again attacked Tobruk. Fires and explosions were caused in the dock area and a direct hit on a ship was followed by a big explosion and the ship is claimed as sunk.

East Indies.

There are inadequate immediate reserves of aircraft for the Eastern Fleet carriers whose situation in regard to modern fleet fighters is now grave and has been aggravated by non-delivery of Martlet spares and recent postponements of our Martlet allocations in U.S.A. where production has lagged.

War Diary.

27.7.1942.  
Monday.

SITUATION REPORT.

America and West Indies.

The first Curacao to Halifax convoy A.H.1 sailed today after being delayed from 16/7 by diversion of escorts to Trinidad and after being greatly reduced in numbers.

Australia.

Three <sup>or</sup> possibly 5 enemy aircraft attacked the R.A.A.F. Aerodrome at Darwin this afternoon. Slight damage was caused.

War Diary.27.7.1942.  
Monday.HOME COMMANDS.Policy.PIORUN.  
Proposed  
visit to  
U.S.A.

It has been represented to me that a visit from a Polish warship to an American port would be valuable propaganda for American citizens of Polish extraction.

2. Subject to operational requirements PIORUN could pay a brief visit to Boston during next routine visit of Unit B.3 to American waters late in August.

3. If approved, suggest Admiralty initiate matter with U.S. authorities.  
(C. in C.W.A. 0013B/27 to Admty.)Flag of  
C.S.18.The Flag of C.S.18 is to be transferred from MANCHESTER to NORFOLK at 2100/29.  
(C. in C.H.F. 0916B/27).Movements.

LIBERATOR.

Departure LIBERATOR with barges C.C.F. 329 and 409 in tow to join Consular Group 53.  
(V.A. Dover 0339B/27).

RENOWN.

Scapa arrivals. RENOWN, INGLEFIELD, OFFA.  
(A.C.O.S. 0637/27).

SEAWOLF.

F.O.S. 1012/22, para. (3) Route for SEAWOLF to St. Johns N.F.  
(C. in C.W.A. 0946B/27).

C. in C.W.A. 0946/27 and F.O.S. 1013/22.

(1) SEAWOLF passes through 057° 25' N. 010° 01' W. at 0001B/2 and proceeds thence on the surface at C.O.'s discretion as in C. in C.W.A. 0946/27. S. of A. 8½ knots.

(2) SEAWOLF crosses 035° W. at 0200B/6 and is covered by total bombing restrictions up to that point. C.O.A.C. is requested to arrange any further bombing restrictions considered necessary.  
(Capt. S.3. 1827B/27).P.247.  
P. 51./Holy Loch  
Sailed P.247, P.51 escorted by CUTTY SARK in accordance with S.3s 2207B/24.  
(F.O.I.C. Greenock 1004B/27). *p. 812.*

RORQUAL.

Intend sailing RORQUAL escorted by LORD STONEHAVEN as far as 180° The Lizard 20 leaving Plymouth 1600/27 for Gibraltar routed as in F.O.S. 1314/26. E.T.A. position G. 043° 01' N. 012° 08' W. 0300/3. (C. in C. Plymouth 1041B/27).  
Sailed RORQUAL in accordance with my 1041/27.  
(C. in C. Plymouth 1729B/27).

/UPRIGHT.....

811

War Diary.27.7.1942.  
Monday.HOME COMMANDS.Movements. Contd.

- UPRIGHT. Intend sailing UPRIGHT escorted by LOCH MONTEITH from Dundee at 1600B/28 for Scapa, E.T.A. 1200B/29.  
(Capt.S.9. 1211B/27). *See next page.*
- BOADICEA. N.A.13. BOADICEA is to escort DOMINION MONARCH to Bar L.V., subsequently proceeding Clyde for refit.  
(C. in C.W.A. 1215B/27 to AMAZON.)
- WELSHMAN. Intend sailing WELSHMAN at 1130/28 for Tyne. E.T.A. 1000/29. Request fighter protection. S. of A. 20 knots.  
(R.A.M. 1224B/27 to C. in C.Rosyth).
- NEBOJSCA. C. in C.Med. 1528/24. British crew for Yugo Slavian S/M NEBOJSCA will be ready if required to leave U.K. by 12/8.  
(F.O.S. 1426B/27).
- P.48  
P.219. S/MS returning to Lerwick from patrol proceed into harbour without local escort.  
(S.O.S/M Lerwick 1457B/27).
- THIRLMERE. A.C.I.C.'s 2009B/26 <sup>1422/26</sup> and my 0002/27 <sup>1422/27</sup>. Intend to sail THIRLMERE independently to Scapa for onward routeing to Iceland at 2230 today.  
S. of A. 12 knots. E.T.A. 2200/18.  
(F.O.I.C.Tyne 1510/27).
- H.32.  
H.34. At 1900B/29, intend sailing H.32 escorted by Z.5. from Rothesay to Londonderry arriving Lough Foyle buoy at 0700B/30 at which time N.O.I.C.Londonderry is requested to sail H.34 escorted by Z.5. to Rothesay.  
(Capt.S.7.1524B/27).
- MAGNOLIA. Request that on completion MAGNOLIA may be sailed to Port Edgar for working up. She is subsequently to return to Milford Haven preparatory to joining the 170th M/S Group.  
(D.M.S. 1648B/27 to F.O.I.C.Milford Haven).
- 1st S.G.B.  
Flotilla. Admty 1539/23. 1st S.G.B. Flotilla will be operated from Newhaven and will proceed there p.m./29th.  
(C. in C.Portsouth 1817/27).

/WISTARIA.....



812

War Diary.27.7.1942.  
Monday.HOME COMMANDS.Movements. - Contd.

WISTARIA.

Your 1224B/26. On completion of working up WISTARIA is to be sailed in convoy for Reykjavik.  
(D.A./S.W. 1831B/27 to WESTERN ISLES).

CANTON.

Intend sailing CANTON escorted by DOUGLAS and BLEASDALE for Southampton at 0900 tomorrow in accordance with C. in C. Portsmouth's 1453/27, adjusting speed to arrive in position 1 mile W. of QZX 766 at 1100/28.  
(F.O.I.C. Portland 1842B/27.).

UPRIGHT.

My 1045/26 sailed 1½ hours late. *See previous page*  
(Capt. S.6.1930B/27).

MARTIN.  
MARNE.

Kola Inlet departure MARTIN, MARNE.  
(S.B.N.O. North Russia 2315B/27 to S.B.N.O. Archangel).

Operations.N.W. Norway  
S/M Patrol.

F.O.(S) 1913B/24. P.247 and P.51 are to sail 1500B/29 and 1900B/29, respectively routed through 060° 38' N. 000° 01' W, thence direct to patrol, P.247 in area K.101, and P.51 in area K.102 as laid down in para.4. of above signal.  
(Capt. S.9. 1241/27 to S.O.S/M Lerwick). *See p 810*

Coastal  
Patrols.

2 M.Ls on patrol 10 miles south of Portland.  
(C. in C. Portsmouth 1547B/27).  
WORCESTER is to carry out patrol 3 and 4,  
PYTCHLEY patrol 5 and 6.  
(C. in C. Nore 1646B/27).

Tonight CALPE and COTTESMORE will patrol in the vicinity of 050° 15' N. 001° W.

(C. in C. Portsmouth 1657/27).

2 M.Ls on patrol, 10'S. Portland Bill.

(C. in C. Plymouth 1713B/27).

Negative 'N' Patrol tonight.

(F.O.I.C. Harwich 1747B/27).

M.Ls 450 and 207 from Ramsgate patrolling between Dumpton and N.E. Spit Buoys. E.T.D. 2255. E.T.R. 0530/28. Trawlers FYLDEA and YASHIMA at D buoy, and M.Ls 293 and 138 at C. one Buoy (V.A. Dover 1753B/27).

2 Chasseurs and NORLAND on patrol South of E.A.5 buoy.  
(C. in C. Portsmouth 1827/27).

British Air Activity.

"Knocker."

My 2042/26. Postpone until 0800Z/27.

(A.C.I.C. 0005B/27).

My 0005/27. 1st plane airborne 0844Z/27.

(A.C.I.C. 1101B/27).

My 0005/27. last plane airborne 1225Z/27.

(A.C.I.C. 1440B/27).

Operation completed for today.

(T.A.C. Prestwick. 2105/27).

/Air.....

813

War Diary.27.7.1942.  
Monday.HOME COMMANDS.British Air Activity.-Contd.

Air Forces in Iceland. Following received from A.C.I.C. begins:-  
(quote A.C.I.C's 2041B/25) Ends.  
2. Request your remarks.  
(A.C.N.S. (H) 0016B/27 to A.O.C. in C.C.C.).

Observation of Enemy Camouflage. LU/G 298/26/7, request pilot may be interrogated whether camouflage was on both sides of TIRPITZ. Request that in future sorties P.R.U. pilot may be briefed to observe camouflage of German heavy ships.  
(D.D.I.C. 1152B/27 to H.Q.C.C.).

Bomber Command Operations. On night 26/27, 304 A/C bombed, Hamburg and bombs were dropped at Cuxhaven, Heligoland, Nordeney, Emden and Bremerhaven.  
(H.Q.B.C. 1540/27).

Dunino. Admiralty's 1957B/25. Consider R.A.F. Station Dunino would be very suitable for development as a Naval Air Station.  
2. Size and surface of Aerodromes have been tested under conditions of no wind with Albacore and Swordfish carrying dummy torpedoes and found quite suitable for these types. R.A.F. state that Blenheims Battles and Hurricanes have used aerodromes successfully.  
3. Living and office accommodation already built would accommodate 36 officers, 90 P.Os and 420 men.  
4. If transferred to Navy and vacated by R.A.F., Station could be brought into immediate use backed by Crail.  
5. Distance between perimeters of Crail and Dunino aerodromes is 3½ miles.  
6. Consider first line T.B.R. Squadrons could work up from Dunino using Crail's and Arbroath's training facilities for their practices.  
(Crail 1832/27 to R.A.N.A.S.).

A/S Patrols. Particulars.  
"Port 1" to (H.Q.C.C. 1535B/27).  
"Port 15". See summaries Folder.

Russian A/C in North Russia. Consider S.B.N.O. North Russia's 1813B/24 is too pessimistic.  
(2) We think here that number of enemy operational A/C is more in region of 200 excluding troop carriers.  
(3) Will try to get confirmation of Soviet A/C in Murmansk and White Sea areas but 2 R.A.F. officers who have been staying in Vaenga say that when they left on 23/7 there were about 15 bombers and 100 serviceable fighters including M.I.Gs Hurricanes and few Chaikas distributed between there and Chelnopushka.  
(Ad.Miles 1836C/27 to Admty.).

War Diary.

27.7.1942  
Monday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Enemy Air Activity.

Convoy reported. You have been reported by enemy A/C.  
(C. in C. Plymouth 1415B/27 to Convoy P.W.)

Mining.

Nore Command. Mines rendered safe in Nore Command week-ending 25/7. Twenty British Mark XIV A.  
(R.M.S.O. Gt. Yarmouth 1042B/27)

Sweep off Beachy Head. Following from M/S 9. Intend sailing with 4 ships at 0900/28, sweeping from 1030 to 1700, returning to harbour at 1830. Request air cover.  
(N.O.I.C. Newhaven 1409/27 to C. in C. Portsmouth)

Beachy Head. Detonated one (off?) 122° 6.4 miles from Beachy Head.  
(S.O. M/S Flotilla 1542B/27.)

U-Boats.

U-Boats reported. Am over enemy S/M in 63° 22' N. 11° 28' W. S/M was sighted on surface and observed to submerge, course 270°, estimated speed 14 knots.  
(15 Group 0910/27.)

Report forthwith bearing of U-boat if obtained at 0901. Friendly aircraft will be in your vicinity about 1200Z.

(C. in C. W.A. 1017Z/27 to AMAZON.)

U/B reported by A/C 63° 22' N. 11° 28' W. at 0910B/27.  
Co. 270°.

(D.D.I.C. 1100B/27 to C. in C. H.F., DUKE OF YORK)

Bearing U-Boat at 0908Z/27 030°. My P.C.S. was 056° 44' N. 023° 42' W., 091°, 10.

(C.T.U. 24.1.18. 1155Z/27 to C. in C. W.A.)

By D/F at 0910Z/27. U/Boat within 20 miles of line joining 57° N. 20° W. and 57° 30' N. 23° W. estimated southward bound.

(D.D.I.C. 1209B/27 to Convoy Escorts.)

By D/F at 0934Z/27. U-Boat estimated to be in area 58° 30' N. to 60° N., 19° W. to 21° W. Estimated probably bound to southward possibly damaged.

(D.D.I.C. 1221B/27 to A.C.I.C., H.Q.C.C.)

Home-based A/C will search in area 57° 57½' N., 20° 22½' W. and in area 58½° 6' N. 19° 21' W. Request you concentrate on 0910B sighting in 63° 22' N. 11° 28' W.

(H.Q.C.C. 1310B/27 to R.A.F. Iceland.)

A/C reported U/B in 61° 28' N. 24° 51' W. about 1230B/27.  
(D.D.I.C. 1909B/27 to C. in C. H.F. etc.)

U-Boats attacked. Am over enemy S/M in 61° 28' N. 24° 51' W. Sighted on surface and observed to submerge.  
(A/C 1 BBG 1228/27 to 3 Wing H.Q.)

/Have ...

War Diary.27.7.1942  
Monday.HOME COMMANDS.U-Boats.

U-Boats  
attacked  
contd. Have attacked with depth charges. Estimated  
hits nil.  
(A/C 1 BBG 1230/27 to 3 Wing H.Q.)  
Am over enemy S/M in 46° 25' N. 9° 28' W.  
When first sighted S/M was on surface, observed  
to submerge on a course 090°, speed 8 knots.  
(A/C 1530/27 to 19 Group.)  
Have attacked enemy with depth charges. Estimate 2 hits.  
(A/C 1530/27 to 19 Group.)  
Enemy has been severely damaged by surface attack.  
(A/C 1530/27 to 19 Group.)

Casualties and Defects.

DOON. M/S Trawler DOON aground in Moelfre Bay and  
holed aft. Rescue Tug AMSTERDAM and Moelfre  
Lifeboat standing by. Part of crew landed  
by Breeches buoy. No casualties.  
(F.O.I.C. Liverpool 1143B/27.)

SARDONYX. E.T.A. Merville 2330B/27. SHIKARI in company.  
My 1400/20. Asdics trunk leaking into number  
one fuel tank which has become unusable.  
(SARDONYX 1247B/27 to N.O.I.C. Londonderry.)

GREGORY. Departure Tug SABINE at 1340 to assist H.M.T.  
GREGORY disabled with engine defects near H.8  
Buoy.  
(F.O. Humber 1405B/27.)  
My 1405B/27. Arrived Humber 1815 with GREGORY  
in tow.  
(F.O. Humber 1825B/27.)

M.G.B. 501. M.G.B. 501 sank after internal explosion in  
49° 46' N. 05° 56' W. at 1206 today. No loss  
of life but few slight casualties. Crew landed  
at Newlyn at 1500.  
(F.O.I.C. Falmouth 1516B/27.)

HERON. Your 1701B/17. Request full report.  
(A.C.O.S. 1621/27 to N.O.I.C. Faroes.)  
(Trawler sunk  
1217.)

M.M.S. 62. M.M.S. 62 can be taken in hand North Woolwich  
for defects indicated. She is not to be sailed  
before 29/7.  
(D.M.S. 1835B/27 to Cdre. Sheerness.)

War Diary.27.7.1942  
Monday.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping and Convoys.

- LETITIA. My 0607/25 para 2. Following are details of personnel on board LETITIA. Total 2302. 2. Total cargo on board 2722 tons D.W. Details. (D.S.T. 0132B/27.)
- BREM. Intend sailing M/V BREM escorted by LEICESTER CITY at 0600/28 for Faroe Islands. E.T.A. 0600/29. Route. (N.C.S.O. Kirkwall 1130B/27.)
- PRAGUE  
AMSTERDAM. Intend sailing transport PRAGUE and escort at 2345/29, speed 17 knots, routed 5 miles East Fair Isle 058° 56' 30" N. 002° 27' W., E.T.A. 0500/30. Thence in company of AMSTERDAM to Invergordon, E.T.A. 1100/30, routed by A.M. QZS 324, 352, 150. (N.C.S.O. Lerwick 1145B/27 to A.C.O.S.)
- W.S.21. C. in C. W.A. 1708B/25. Sailed P.C. 74. E.T.A. Barry Roads 1900B 27th. (N.O.I.C. Milford Haven 1303B/27)  
Intend sailing SS CURACOA and circumstances permitting SS JAMES LYKES both of Bristol Channel section W.S.21 from Barry Roads at 2300/27. E.T.A. R/V 270° Oversay 6 miles 0600/29. P.C.74 acting as escort to R/V and returning to Belfast. (N.O.I.C. Cardiff 1304B/27.)
- LLANSTEPHAN  
CASTLE. Our merchant ships at 1100B 045° 14', 018° 01', 000°, 13.5. My P.C.S. at 1430B, 044° 20', 018° 01', 180°, 15.4, altering to 134° at 1700B. E.T.A. 1900B/29 or earlier if ANTELOPE's fuel permits. (ITHURIEL 1430B/27.)
- P.Q.17. Repatriation of Survivors. S.B.N.O. Archangel 1129/26. Proposal to use DVINA is considered acceptable providing her speed is not less than 15 knots. Escort would be \* MARTIN and \* MARNE only, as Hunts have no safe margin endurance. Destination Seidisfiord to refuel, destroyers thence as ordered. (C. in C. H.F. 1516B/27 to Admty.)\* ~~See p. 812~~
- W.N.  
Convoys. Your 1550/26. Approved. (C. in C. Rosyth 1528B/27 to N.C.S.O. Loch Ewe.)

27.7.1942  
Monday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping and Convoys - contd.

O.S.35. Detach ABELIA as convenient to join escort  
 S.L.116. S.L.116, S.O. IBIS. Estimate position S.L.116  
 at 0600Z/29 044° 53' N. 021° 07' W., routed  
 through F. 047° 15' 021° 27'. E. 051° 55'  
 017° 47'. D. 054° 50' 012° 00', speed 7½ knots.

Weather permitting ABELIA should refuel from oiler in O.S.35  
 before parting company.

(C. in C. W.A. 1622B/27 to ROCHESTER.)

N.T. W.D. F.O.C.N.A. 1246/27. NARCISSUS is to part company as soon  
 as SENNEN and COMMANDANT D'ESTIENNE D'ORVES have joined.

(2) NARCISSUS is then to return to Greenock, overtaking S.L.116  
 if possible. My 1622/27 refers.

(3) If NARCISSUS has not been able to refuel at sea, she may  
 refuel at Azores reporting intention when well clear of convoy.

(C. in C. W.A. 2229B/27 to ROCHESTER.) *See also p. 821*

EMPIRE Provided that she does not thereby miss sailing  
 RHODES. in O.S.37 request EMPIRE RHODES may be sailed  
 to Clyde as soon as loaded and that F.O.I.C.  
 Greenock will arrange for her to carry out full  
 speed trials on the Arran Mile. It is expected  
 she will be ready for trials on 9/8.  
 (D.T.D. 1710B/27)

A.T.19. Convoy A.T.19 comprising SS QUEEN MARY carrying  
 U.S. Troops will leave New York on 2/8 for  
 Clyde unescorted.

2. Commander Eastern Sea Frontier is requested to sail and  
 route ship so as to R/V in 14° 30' W. at dawn 7th.

3. C. in C. W.A. is requested to: (a) Provide route from R/V  
 to Clyde, (b) Sail CURACOA to provide A/A escort from R/V,  
 (c) Sail 6 destroyers to provide A/S escort or carry out A/S  
 sweep along the route as seems most propitious according to  
 prevailing weather conditions.

4. R.A.(M) is requested to provide 2 of the destroyers  
 referred to in para 3 (c).

5. H.Q.F.C. is requested to provide maximum possible fighter  
 escort and to arrange that fighters are sighted by the convoy  
 from time to time.

6. QUEEN MARY is expected to arrive Clyde p.m. 7th August and  
 will leave for New York p.m. 10th.

7. Air Ministry is requested to arrange for special protection  
 whilst at anchorage in accordance with my 1045/18/4.

(D.O.D.(H.) 1819B/27 to C. in C. W.A.)

A.N.D.Gear. My 1146/6/6, para 2. Add EMPIRE SPLENDOUR.  
 EMPIRE HOUSTON CITY.  
 SPLENDOUR. (D.T.D. 1905B/27.)  
 HOUSTON CITY.

/Convoy ...

War Diary

27.7.1942  
Monday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping and Convoys - contd.

Convoy P.C.S. signals. Whenever the position of a mercantile convoy as signalled in the daily Situation Report is more than 40 miles in error, the S.O.. Escort is to report the P.C.S. of the convoy, adding a weather report and the names of any escort vessels and merchant ships not present. The suffix "A", "B" or "C" is to be added immediately after the position to denote respectively that the position given is "reasonably accurate" (i.e. based on a good fix), "doubtful" or "unreliable".

2. This report is only to be made on the appropriate H/F wave.  
3. It should be noted that C.A.F.O. 450/42 applies to H.M. ships escorting troop convoys but not to those escorting mercantile convoys.

4. A.M. 573AZ, 218AK, 231AJ and 220AG of 13th October is cancelled.  
(D.T.D. 1911B/27.)

Admiralty 1608/1 July para 4, cancel last sentence.

2. Masters of British-Managed ships fitted with H/F are, whilst in British area of strategical control, to report by night every three days after leaving harbour their position by W/T in form laid down in C.A.M.S.I.52.

3. Messages are to be in plain language and are to contain in preamble, passing instructions "Pass to Admiralty" also in plain language. No other passing instructions are to be included.

4. Admiralty will originate a daily signal to diversion authorities Admiralty message 1232/29 June refers, giving summary of all positions.

(A.C.N.S. T. 2252B/27.)

OCEAN  
VOICE.  
DEER LODGE.

Kola departures OCEAN VOICE and DEER LODGE escorted by BLANKNEY and MIDDLETON. Destination Archangel. E.T.A. Dvina Bar 1400B/29.  
(S.B.N.O. North Russia 2030B/27 to S.B.N.O. Archangel. Reptd. M.S.1.)

War Diary.27.7.1942.  
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic.

MITIDJA (intercepted by P. 222, 26/7.) Following for P.222. Your 2020/26. Remove boarding party from MITIDJA after dismantling her wireless.  
2. Order her to proceed to Gibraltar and that if she does not do so she will be sunk.  
(F.O.C.N.A., 0008B/27 to 8 S.F., (R) Admty.)  
Send destroyer or corvette to escort MITIDJA.  
(A.C.N.S.(F), 0056B/27 to F.O.C.N.A., (R) P.222.)  
Following for P.222. A.M. 0056/27. Remove guard, do not sink ship. WRESTLER being sent.  
(F.O.C.N.A., 0206B/27 to 8 S.F., (R) Admty.)  
Following for P.222, expect WRESTLER about 0930.  
(F.O.C.N.A., 0350B/27 to 8 S.F.)  
One destroyer closing.  
(P.222, 0705/27 to Gibraltar W/T.)  
Position 036° 34' 002° 01'. French destroyer T.21 has taken over escort of MITIDJA and proceeding northeast.  
(P.222, 0725B/27 to F.O.C.N.A.)  
Have been kept down by French aircraft since 0720. Have lost touch with MITIDJA and her new escort. Intend to proceed to Gibraltar, E.T.A. 0830/28.  
(P.222, 0850B/27 to F.O.C.N.A.)  
1 destroyer 1 M/V bearing 350° distant 11 miles course 040°. My position 36° 39' N. 1° 56' W., shadowing.  
(WRESTLER, 0940B/27 to Gibraltar W/T.)  
P.222 is to return to Gibraltar on the surface at C.O.'s discretion, adjust speed to arrive 0900B/28. Total bombing restrictions arranged accordingly. 2. WRESTLER has been ordered to return to Gibraltar.  
(F.O.C.N.A., 1010B/27 to 8 S.F.)  
Both shadow. Await further instruction.  
(1st Sea Lord, 1041B/27 to WRESTLER, P.222, (R) F.O.C.N.A.)  
A.M. 1041B/27. P.C. and S. at 1130B/27 233° Cape de Gata 19, 078° 23 knots, thick haze inshore.  
(WRESTLER, 1201B/27 to F.O.C.N.A., (R) Admty., P.22.)  
(F.O.C.N.A., 1256B/27 to P.222.)  
Cancel my 1010, comply with Admty. 1044. Hudson aircraft co-operating.  
(F.O.C.N.A., 1206B/27 to P.222.)  
1 A/C bearing 060. Height 8,000 feet. Course 150°, shadowing me. My position 133° C.D.G. 12.  
(WRESTLER, 1315B/27 to Gibraltar.)  
Cancel my 1041/27. Return to Gibraltar.  
(V.C.N.S. 1329B/27 to WRESTLER, P.222, (R) F.O.C.N.A.)  
Admty. 1329/27. Act in accordance with my 1010/27.  
Report E.T.A. if unable to comply.  
(F.O.C.N.A., 1410B/27 to P.222.)  
Your 0206B/27. What were your reasons for ordering P.222 not to sink ship in view of A.M. 0130B/4/7/1941, para. 2 (c).  
(Hd. of M. Approved 1st Lord, 1520B/27 to F.O.C.N.A.)  
Your 1353/25. Tangier 27/7. C.3.  
Oran reports MITIDJA delayed may sail 25/7 amount Cobalt loaded unknown. Casablanca reports 500 tons Cobalt in Pier Warehouse Nemours 23/7.  
(B.A.D., 1701Z/27 to Admty., (R) F.O.C.N.A.)

/Your ...



820

War Diary.27.7.1942.  
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic - conts:-

MITIDJA Your 1240/27 (Sent by W.R. requesting repetition  
(intercepted of 1022/24 referred to in 2054/26.) My 1022/24  
by P. 222, (begins): American report French steamer MITIDJA  
26/7.) was expected to sail from Nemours 22/7 with  
(Contd.) cobalt. (Ends). This sent to S.O.(I) Gibraltar  
only. (From Greenleaves).  
(Consul Gen. Tangier, 1730/27 to Admty. for D.N.I.)

Your 1520/27.

- (1) A.T. 2251/23 directed that S/M action only was to be taken.  
(2) As ship was so close to area where enemy force was known to be and she had succeeded in communicating by W/T I considered it inevitable that surface force would intervene, as in fact occurred, and accordingly ordered P.222 to withdraw armed guard and to sink the ship if she did not proceed to Gibraltar.  
(3) Receipt of A.T. 0056/27 changed the whole situation. A.T. 1341/23 authorised the release of the ship if cobalt was not found. P.222 had been unable (? to) search vide her 2020/26. WRESTLER was not expected to arrive on scene before 0900. Consequently it was necessary to cancel previous orders to P.222 to sink ship if she did not comply, or ship would probably have been sunk before WRESTLER arrived. I took precaution of repeating this signal to Admiralty who did not question my action at the time. It was not addressed or repeated to WRESTLER.  
(4) My 0240 drew WRESTLER's attention specifically to G.W.O.36 which contains essence of A.T. 0130/4/7/41 para. 2(c).

(F.O.C.N.A., 2216/27 to Admty.)

Arrival WRESTLER.

(F.O.C.N.A., 2220B/27 to Admty.)

Arrival 0830 P.222.

(F.O.C.N.A., 0902B/28 to Admty.)

SIRIS 26 survivors landed at St. Vincent (C.V.I.) ex  
(sunk 11/7) SS. SIRIS torpedoed and sunk in 031° 05' N. 024°  
45' W.  
(N.C.S.O. St. Vincent, 0840/27 to Admty., (R)  
S.O.(I) Gibraltar.)

O. 24. My 1308/22. Your escort will be a corvette.  
1 Trawler is on patrol in Western Approaches to  
Straits of Gibraltar.  
(F.O.C.N.A., 1106B/27 to D.S. O.24.)

\*ITHURIEL arrives from westward a.m./28. \*SPIREA and \*GERANIUM  
escorting 2 tankers pass homeward Spartel westbound a.m./28.  
(F.O.C.N.A., 1545B/27 to D.S. O.24.) *\* See next page*

CAUDEBEC. Extract from Cable. Dept. 26th, 0900, CAUDEBEC,  
French, Casablanca 28th.  
(Lisbon, 1151/27 to M.W.T.)

/S.L. 116.

War Diary.27.7.1942.  
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic - Contd.S.L. 116,  
O.S. 35,  
additional  
escort  
orders.

Endeavour to fuel from tanker in S.L. 116 then meet O.S. 35.  
 (2) O.S.35, 52 ships, Cdre. in EURYBATES escorted by ROCHESTER (S.O. of escort), LEITH, SANDWICH, ERNE, CHALLENGER, (route), S. of A. 7 knots.  
 (3) COMMANDANT D'ESTIENNE D'ORVES is to remain as additional escort to O.S. 35. SENNEN will be

ordered to join S.L. 117.

(4) If fuelling from tanker is impracticable SENNEN is to report when crossing from S.L. 116 to O.S.35 fuel required at Ponta Delgada. SENNEN is then to part company from O.S. 35 and proceed to Ponta Delgada on crossing 040° N.

(5) O.S. 35 was estimated to be in 052° 19' N. 021° 38' W. at 2000/26.

(6) Report if not met by ? 2200/29.

(F.O.C.N.A., 1246B/27 to SENNEN, COMMANDANT D'ESTIENNE D'ORVES,  
 (R) Escorts of S.L. 116, C. in C. W.A., Admty., Escorts of O.S.35)

*See 12.817*Situation  
2000B/27.

(1) S/M D.S. 0.24 36° 32' 09.26' to Gibraltar diving by day 27th 2½ knots on surface thereafter 15 knots.

(2) S.L.116G, 41.48 18.55 304° 9 to R/V S.L.116

a.m./28th.

(3) KONKAN 29.23 18.30 through 29.01 18.59 thence 180°, 11.

(4) RAJPUTANA 30.50 15.51 through 29.01 18.40 thence 181°, 11.

(5) MANSFIELD (E) 36.04 10.44 through 35.59 09.50 thence to Gibraltar 16.

(6) GEORGETOWN (E) 38.04 12.47 through 36.(40?) 09.01 thence to Gibraltar.

(7) SPIREA, GERANIUM escorting two tankers sail 2230/27 through 35.58 06.00 thence 247° 9½. *See previous page*

→ (8) IMPERIALIST patrolling off Lisbon.

(9) ALOUETTE patrolling Huelva Bight.

(10) SCOTTISH patrolling off Cape Roca.

→ (11) LORD HOTHAM 36.10 06.25 through 225° St. Vincent 6 miles thence to Cape Roca.

(12) ANTELOPE 42.48 17.03 134° 15.

→ (13) STELLA CARINA, LEYLAND 35.44 06.45 235° 9.

(F.O.C.N.A. 1254B/27 to A.I.G. 63.)

My 1254B/27. Add new para. 14, ITHURIEL 041° 50' 015°

46', 134°, 25. *See previous page*

(F.O.C.N.A., 1502B/27 to A.I.G. 63.)

→ HALLANGER.

HALLANGER reported in 032° 02' N. 013° 42' W. at 1000B/27. Proceed to meet.

(F.O.C.N.A., 1333B/27 to STELLA CARINA, LEYLAND, (R) Admty.)

→ Lisbon  
Convoy

Departure 1355 LORD HOTHAM to join you as additional escort to Lisbon-Gibraltar convoy.  
 (F.O.C.N.A., 1443B/27 to IMPERIALIST, (R) Admty.)

/Firing ...

War Diary.27.7.1942.  
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic - Contd.Firing on  
Portuguese  
A/C 25/7.

N.C.S.O. Ponta Delgada's 1520/25. I have made personal apology to Ministry of Marine but emphasised that Portuguese planes should always identify themselves before approaching Allied Ships. Some time ago I informed M. of M. of necessity of this procedure.  
(N.A. Lisbon, 1731B/27 to Admty., (R) F.O.I.C. Gibraltar, N.C.S.O. Ponta Delgada.)

DREPANUM,  
AFRICANA.  
(Italian)

DREPANUM arrived 27th to load iron ore. AFRICANA fully loaded ready for sea probably sailing tomorrow 28th.  
(H.M. Consul Bilbao, 1843/27 to Admty.)  
W.R. Note:- Passed to C. in C. Plymouth and H.Q.C.C. by War Reg.

Patrol Boat  
and A/C  
Action.

Action reported 10 miles south of coast 037° 00' N. 008° 20' W. between patrol boat and aircraft 1355 G.M.T./27. Aircraft believed shot down.  
(N.A. Lisbon, 1852B/27 to S.O.(I) Gibraltar, (R) Admty.)

South Atlantic.

DRAGON.

Sailed DRAGON to Diego Suarez routed through position A. 026° 30' S. 037° 30' E. B. 016° 25' S. 042° 35' E. C. 011° 45' S. 047° 50' E. S. of A. 17 knots, E.T.A. 0600Z/31.  
(N.O.I.C. Durban, 0456Z/27 to Admty., etc.)

AIGLON  
defect.

AIGLON arrived 0724 G.M.T./27 with engine defect.  
(N.O.I.C. East London, 0736Z/27 to Admty., etc.)

BLACKMORE.

Sailing BLACKMORE to Kilindini route through E. 026° 30' S. 037° 50' E. F. 015° 25' S. 042° 50' E. S. of A. 15 knots. E.T.A. 0900Z/1/8. Shifting to W/T organisation V at 0215Z/31.  
(Cdre. i/c Durban, 0924Z/27 to Admty., etc.)

/ETHIOPIAN ...

823

War Diary.27.7.1942.  
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic - Contd.

ETHIOPIAN. Sailed ETHIOPIAN for Kilindini due 11/8 route  
D. 025° 50' S. 047° 30' E.  
E. 015° 20', 052° 50'.  
F. 009° 10', 049° 50', 8 knots.  
(2) Wireless watch as for merchant ship with 2 operators.  
Carrying usual merchant ship book and S.P. 02383 (7) to (14)  
inclusive.  
(Cdre. i/c Durban, 0935Z/27 to Admty., etc.)

STIRLING  
CASTLE. Sailed A.M./26 in Durban portion convoy W.S.20,  
personnel on board for Australia. E.T.A.  
Mauritius 31/7. N.O.I.C. Mauritius pass to  
A.C.N.B. E.T.A. Melbourne.  
(D.S.T.O. ?Durban (Recd. via Simonstown) 1015C/27  
to A.C.N.B., (?D.N.O. Western Australia), N.O.I.C.  
Mauritius, D. of S.T., P.S.T.O. Simonstown.)

Dispositions. → LEOPARD 19° 10' 22° 3' to 13° 22' 19° 43 thence  
154°, 16.  
GORLESTON, ORISSA, about 18° 50' 19° 58' to  
Bathurst 6 at 2000Z/27.  
FOLKESTONE with O.S.34 14° 20' 19° 35' 154° 9½.  
→ F.S. COMMANDANT DROGOU off Bathurst to join O.S.34 at 0730Z/28  
arriving R/V 13° 10' 22° 25' to 14° 1' 26° 59' thence (?) 347°, 13.  
PELICAN with S.L. 117 10° 59' 18° 42' to 12° 26' 20° 11' thence  
287°, 7½.  
WOODRUFF about 9° 1' 20° 30' searching for survivors.  
(R.A.W.A., 1141Z/27 to A.I.G. 149.)  
SNOWDROP off Freetown 162°, 8.  
SPANIARD, 2 M.Ls on patrol sector T.  
ST. WISTAN about 005° 40' 011° 20' to Freetown 8.  
PICT 006° 15' 012° 25' 120°, 8.  
POSTBOY and Convoy (? 003°) 40' 004° 50' 075° 7½ at 2000Z/27. ✓  
CORINTHIAN off Takoradi with cable ship.  
BOREAS about 004° (?55') 001° 10' E. to Freetown, 18.  
(R.A.W.A., 1201/27 to A.I.G. 150.)

AQUITANIA. Your 0001B/11/6. Master SS.AQUITANIA states  
ship is unable to undertake the passage Rio to  
New York for reason of stability. Intend to  
route her via Freetown.  
(C. in C. S.A., 1159B/27 to Admty., (R) R.A.W.A.F.  
N.O.I.C. Capetown.)

→ LEOPARD,  
AVILA STAR  
survivors. F.O.C.N.A's 1912B/23rd, request route instructions  
from (C). F.O. Gib.'s 0932B/24. no trace of  
survivors.  
(LEOPARD, 1201Z/27 to R.A.W.A.)

/Dakar ...

War Diary.27.7.1942.  
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic - Contd.

Dakar R/C. Photo R/C of Dakar 24/7.  
Northern part of Port covered: RICHELIEU usual berth with merchant ship of (corrupt group) foot alongside. 2 Galissonniere Class Cruisers present. 1 in dry dock. 2 Fantasque destroyers present. Light cruiser L'AUDACIEUX left dry dock now berthed at Naval Jetty. 6 or 7 submarines and Parent Ship JULES VERNE at Naval Jetty. 12 merchant ships over 200 foot seen in part of Harbour covered including 2 liners possible JAMAIQUE and PORTHOS. Hann, 9 aircraft visible 8 small, 1 medium.  
(S.O.I. Freetown, 1226Z/27 to Admty., (R) C. in C. S.A., F.O.C.N.A.)

TEMPLE INN. Following passed to Admty. for information.  
Addressed: B.N. Liaison Officer W. Africa.  
From: C. in C. S.A.

Report whether repairs to TEMPLE INN can be carried out at Pointe Noire. If docking will be necessary she should be towed to Capetown by FLYING KESTREL and JAMES E. HUGHES R.A.W.A. 1957Z/22 refers.

(C. in C. S.A., 1258B/27.)

Arrived Pointe Noire with TEMPLE INN, request instructions.  
(CHESHIRE, 1630Z/27 to C. in C. S.A., (R) R.A.W.A.)

ATHENE. My 1014/12, C. in C. E.F. 0905/16 and B.A.D. 2137/18. ATHENE will be ready to sail from Capetown on 31st.  
(2) Request instructions.  
(C. in C. S.A., 1535B/27 to Admty., (R) C. in C. E.F., Comnas E.T.)

Dispositions. ALCANTARA escorting BANFORA off Durban then ALCANTARA return Capetown.  
MALAYA, WIVERN, BRILLIANT 036° 35' S. 022° 25' E. to Capetown 18 knots.  
BARCROSS, BARBOURNE, MOONSHINE 023° 30' S. 011° 00' E. to Walvis Bay, 8 knots.  
Position in Area Q at 2000Z/27.  
(C. in C. S.A., 1550B/27.)

AGWISTAR, Your 1156/26. Confirm AGWISTAR sailed 28/6 overdue. E.T.A. Trinidad 21/7. Departure ship was omitted from Vesca by N.C.S.O. in error.  
(S.O.I. Capetown, 1700B/27 to Admty.)

TEKOA Following has been read. SSSS de GJFQ 03° 45' N. U/B. 19° 11' W. periscope sighted.  
(TEKOA, 1720/27.)  
W.D. Note:- TEKOA, British, Montevideo 15/7 for Freetown and U.K.

War Diary.

27.7.1942.  
Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic - Contd.

STELLA LYKES U.S. Ship STELLA LYKES torpedoed in 006° 40' N.  
torpedoed. 025° 05' W. at 0648Z/27. Regret have not  
ship available to search for survivors.  
(R.A.W.A., 1801Z/27 to C.T.F.23, (R) Admty.)

COMMANDANT Departure 1800Z/27 COMMANDANT DROGOU in  
DROGOU. accordance with R.A. West Africa's 0929Z/27 not  
to Admty.  
(N.O.I.C. Bathurst, 1844Z/27 to R.A.W.A., (R)  
ALCANTARA, Admty.) *See p 623 - (Dispositions)*

Lack of Indications that four U-Boats are working possibly  
A/S patrol from supply ship to westward.  
craft. Escort Commitments.  
(ii) (a) Reinforcing ocean escort of O.S. and  
S.L. convoys.

(b) Local coastal convoy.  
(c) Covering 3 Liberian Surf Port Guards are of increasing  
importance to U.S.A. and Accra.  
(d) Necessary reinforcements of W.S. convoy escort.  
(e) Large continuous local troop movements including (? Belgian  
Congo) from Matadi.

(f) Tankers.  
(g) Capital ships on passage.  
(h) Survivors.  
(iii) (a) My scouting forces now available are 3 destroyers  
6 corvettes.  
(b) Detached are 4 destroyers, 10 corvettes.  
(c) Refit 2 sloops, 3 corvettes. Trawlers and M.Ls are used  
whenever possible to supplement escort force complements.  
(iv) Present force can only meet more important commitments and  
am anxious about (a) American ships visiting Liberia Port for  
which one trawler at each anchorage available. M.Ls have been  
found to be unsuitable for this duty. (b) Escorts for tanker  
has been provided when possible but involve delay.

My 1211Z/8/7 refers. <sup>COMMANDANT</sup>  
(v) To meet present situation can DUBOC and LÉOPARD be retained,  
and vessels at present detached returned as soon as circumstances  
permit.

(vi) No force available to patrol area used by supply ships.  
(R.A.W.A., 1930Z/27 as amended 1035Z/28 to Admty., (R)  
C. in C. S.A.)

Reply re Para. 5. (Admty., 1318B/30.)

Wreckage. Investigated abandoned raft and wreckage in  
estimated position 009° 18' N. 020° 57' W.  
Intend to remain in vicinity till daylight, fuel  
remaining at 0800Z/27, 107 tons.  
(WOODRUFF, 2040Z/27 to R.A.W.A., (R) D.18.)

/ U-Boat ...

War Diary.27.7.1942.  
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic - Contd.

U-Boat SPEY reports U-Boat adopted following tactics.  
 Tactics. (a) Retired at high speed on surface after detected  
 ? U. 136 *smk* by R.D.F. range 6000 yards.  
 117 - *sm P. 310* (b) Dived 900 yards ahead evading SPEY counter  
 attack.  
 (c) Definitely went astern when SPEY commenced first skirmishing  
 attack.  
 (d) U-Boat consequently lost trim and scraped SPEY port bilge.  
 2. PELICAN reports.  
 (a) After 5 attacks by SPEY and one by PELICAN very firm contact  
 at longer range was (? consequently) lost about 750 yards.  
 (b) Estimated speed of U-Boat at approx. depth of 600 feet was  
 2 to 3 knots.  
 (c) Time to fire depth charges from receiving recorder was  
 of doubtful accuracy.  
 (R.A.W.A., 2129Z/27 to Admty., (R) C. in C. W.A., N.O.I.C.  
 Londonderry.)

W.S. 21P. Arrivals 27/7 ORION, VIMY, NEPAL, TJERK HIDDERS  
 with W.S. 21P.  
 (S.O.I. Freetown, 2202Z/27 to Admty., F.O.C.N.A.,  
 S.O.W.P.)

Mediterranean.

P. 34. Your 0515B/26. <sup>/N.T. H.D.</sup> 034° (750') 019° 16' (? 137)  
 miles per day.  
 (P.34, 0013B/27 to Capt. (S) 10, (R) 10th S.F.,  
 C. in C. Med., Capt. (S) 1, S.O. (S) Alex.)

Enemy Aircraft reported 1 destroyer P.C. and S. 032°  
 Destroyer. 30' 023° 25' 300° 20 at 0145/27.  
 (Capt. S.1 Alex., 0201C/27 to S/Ms on Patrol.)

TRAVELLER. If A/S activity is too great you may proceed to  
 vicinity 040° 00' 019° 00' keeping S.E. until  
 2100/27.  
 (S.O. 1 S.F. Alex., 0927C/27 to TRAVELLER, (R)  
 Capt. (S) 10, Capt. (S) 1, C. in C. Med.,  
 S/M on Patrol.)

/HOOGKERK ...

War Diary.27.7.1942.  
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean - Contd.

HOOGKERK. O/593/72 ? 27/7 my 2015/17/7 (Request for full enquiry for HOOGKERK being routed to Karachi involving serious delay in arrival M/T 8th Armoured Div. in Egypt.) Request result of enquiry may be communicated as early as possible and that steps may be taken to prevent similar mistakes in future.  
(P.S.T.O. Egypt, 0930/27 to C. in C. S.A., (R) C. in C. Med., D. C. in C. E.F., etc.)

Cositrep 463. 4. Air. Night 25/26. Halifaxes, Liberators, M.E. Air Fortresses and Wellingtons bombed shipping and Report. harbour facilities Tobruk. Very large fire started N.W. corner of harbour, about 12 medium fires in dock area. Some bombs near 4 ships off Tobruk.

Crete. Many bombs, on runway and dispersal areas. Six fires started of which two believed aircraft burning. One aircraft taking off seen to crash. One Wellington missing.

8. 26/7. Beaufighters attacked 6 barges off Sidi Barrani, holing one below waterline. Spitfires shot down a R/C Ju.88 west of Alexandria.  
(C. in C. M.E., 0959/27.)

S/M Patrol, Your 1108/24 (P.211 Patrol report East Coast Sardinia, Sardinia) was first intimation received that a P. 211. sub. was patrolling in this area.  
(C. in C. Med., 1101C/27 to F.O.C.N.A.)

Need for Your 1931/25/5.  
Liberator There is no immediate prospect of providing the Aircraft. Liberators other than the 2 Liberator Is. which have been sent.  
2. Request information whether -  
A. These Liberators have given useful results working with submarines.  
B. Whether you are able to use Wellingtons for your purpose against the nearer targets making for Tobruk etc.  
C. Whether you now have all Rooster sets required.  
(A.C.N.S.(F), 1256B/27 to C. in C. Med., A.O.C. 201 N.C. Group, Capt. S.1.)

Malta Admiralty pass to Air Ministry. C. in C. pass Aircraft to H.Q. R.A.F. M.E. (Begins). Addressed H.Q. Strength. R.A.F. M.E., (R) Air Ministry. From A.O.C. Med. A. 652/27/7. Ref. my A. 598, 20/7 and my A. 616 23/7. Grateful if all reinforcement aircraft could be here latest by 5/8. Still require 8 Baltimores as I have as yet been unable collect 2 replacement. Also the 6 P.R.U. Spitfires of which 3 are replacements. Losses in Beauforts continue to be heavy and apart from 8 from Gibraltar for 86 Sqn. would be grateful if 11 Beaufort 2 replacements with crews selected for this job could be flown to Gibraltar and

/there ...



War Diary.27.7.1942.  
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean—contd:—Malta  
Aircraft  
Strength.  
(Contd.)

there form a pool for the operation. Present strength Beauforts is 10 in 217 Sqn. and 3 in 86 Sqn. of which total 8 serviceable and 3 beyond economical repair. Consider that for this operation I must maintain a strength of 20 Beauforts. T.O.O. 1100 G.M.T.  
(V.A.M., 1321B/27 to Admty., C. in C. Med.)

Situation  
Report 242.

Submarines. THRASHER attacked by own aircraft at 2140/26 35 miles N. of Port Said whilst on passage to patrol. Main batteries severely damaged and serious defects to hull likely.

No casualties. Ship being docked Port Said.

2. Greek S/M NEREUS reports having sunk 3 Caiques in Dodecanese waters and probable hit on 7000 ton M/V. Further details awaited.

(C. in C. Med., 1927C/27 to Admty., etc.)

P. 31.

Your 1515B/26. <sup>/N.T. in W.D.</sup> 035° 24' 018° 25' 80 miles per day.  
(P. 31, 2301C/27 to Capt. (S) 10, (R) 10th S.F., C. in C. Med., Capt. (S) 1, S.O. (S) Alexandria.)

War Diary.27.7.1942.  
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies.

Bombay  
Docks,  
S/Ms. LUCIA's 0432/25/6 (re situation at Bombay Docks - N.T. in W.D.) referred to existing situation. This will be improved in many respects when approved alterations are advanced. Preliminary investigation indicates that refits of new construction S/Ms will be possible one at a time. (A.S. Bombay, 0419Z/27 to F.O.S., (R) S.4.)

TRUSTY,  
information. (1) Convoy consisting of 8 ships escorted by JUMNA, ASTER and SONAVATI northbound passes Trincomalee about 0300F/29, speed 7 knots.  
(2) 2 ships escorted by ASTER will be detached to arrive off Trincomalee about 0600F from northward. ASTER will then proceed to rejoin convoy.  
(3) They have been informed of your movements. (F.O. Ceylon, 0507Z/27 to TRUSTY.)

FALSTERBO,  
IMA. Cancel my 1034/26 FALSTERBO arrived Aden, IMA (Nor.) arrived Kilindini. (N.C.S.O. Kilindini, 0742Z/27 to S.O.(I) Colombo, (R) Admty., D. C. in C. E.F.)

BLACKMORE. Deputy C. in C. E.F. 0814/22. Consider exchange of BLACKMORE for long endurance destroyer would be of mutual benefit. (C. in C. E.F., 0756Z/27 to Admty., C. in C. Med., (R) Dep. C. in C. E.F.)

Persian  
Gulf,  
Defences. A.M. 0049/22 para. 1. GEORGIOS AVEROFF is totally unsuited for service in any hot climate. EREBUS is already installed as part of Kilindini defences. If she were employed in Straits of Hormuz no ship would be likely to approach within range of her guns since surface mine-field is not a practical proposition and consequently the narrowing of the channel to a width of ten miles cannot be effected.  
Para. 2. An examination service is being set up at Khassab which will proceed on information received by R.D.F. when installed.  
Para. 3. It is hoped usually to maintain 2 instead of 1 C or D class cruiser to back up examination service. (D. C. in C. E.F., 1207Z/27 to Admty., (R) C. in C. E.F., F.O.C.R.I.N., V.A. 3.)

TRUANT  
defects. As a result of large number of defects in TRUANT's main engines both engines were out of action together for 36 hours during return passage from recent patrol. She is mechanically unfit for further patrols before refit. On completion of defects about 20/8 intend to sail TRUANT to Kilindini for A/S practice before being sailed to reach U.K. 20/11. (D. C. in C. E.F., 1221Z/27 to Admty., (R) F.O.I.C. Ceylon, F.O.S., Capt. S.4, C. in C. E.F., V.A. 3rd B.S.)

/FERNCastle ...

War Diary.27.7.1942.  
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies - Contd.

FERNCASTLE. Have you any news of FERNCASTLE (Norwegian) due Abadan 20/7 from Fremantle?  
(D.T.D., 1235B/27 to N.C.S.O. Abadan, (R) S.O.(I) Colombo.)

Martlets. Numbers delivered.  
(D.N.A.D., 1312B/27.)  
See America and West Indies.

Battleship Berthing, Ceylon. Your 1933B/24. (1) 3 and 4 berths have been dredged to 39 feet. Para. (2) (a) of my 1255/16 refers. (2) At present there are sufficient tugs at Colombo but without margin for breakdown. Future requirements have been covered by C. in C. E.F. 1300Z/15/7.  
(F.O. Ceylon, 1315Z/27 to Admty., (R) C. in C. E.F., D. C. in C. E.F.)

Enemy Unit. By D/F at 1808Z/26, position of unknown enemy unit was 005° S. 080° E. Unreliable fix.  
Call sign E.K.I.  
(D. C. in C. E.F., 1406Z/27 to S. and A E.I. Station (R) Combrax Portsmouth, A.C.N.B. Melbourne C. in C. S.A.)

Minesweepers Shatt-El-Arab. In view of increased threat to Shatt-El-Arab it is desirable that conversion and building of minesweepers in India be given highest priority after destroyers. What other work would suffer?  
(D. C. in C. E.F., 1420Z/27 to D.S.R. Bombay, (R) F.O.C.R.I.N., Admty., C. in C. E.F.)  
Reply: 0341Z/29.

Rooka Channel, precautions. Your 1924/24, para. 1 (1024/24 intended). Precautions are in force which I hope will be adequate. Presume you understand that crews are Iraqi. Your para. 2A and B. The real protection is patrol in Straits of Hormuz of CAPETOWN and 3 A/S vessels. Fourth A/S vessel badly needed to ensure never less than 2 on patrol allowing for fuelling and refitting. As long stop a river gunboat is kept off Rooka, weather permitting, reinforced by a second when there is a scare.  
Para. 2B. A minesweeper fitted with depth charges but not A/S patrols approach to Rooka, shallow water to seaward. Principal protection is at Hormuz Straits against parent S/M.  
Para. 2C. Each dredger has 2 Lewis guns plus 1 ex Persian machine gun. British officers instructed in working. Gunboat's A.A. armaments available to protect dredgers operating but COCKCHAFFER's .5 multiples not yet received; she has only 3 inch and 8 Lewis guns.

/Your ...

War Diary.

27.7.1942.  
Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies - conts.

Rooka  
Channel,  
precautions.  
(Contd.)

Your para. 3 as above. Hope shortly to start examination service in Strait of Hormuz to help make patrol more effective. Shortage material has caused some delay in equipping ship on a scale which will not delay traffic unduly. (S.N.O.P.G., 1553Z/27 to Admty., (R) C. in C. E.F.)

DERWENTDALE.

My 1240/26. Report intended programme for DERWENTDALE. (D.O.D.(F), 2251B/27 to D. C. in C. E.F.)

Enemy  
Unit.

By D/F 1808Z/26 position of unknown enemy unit was  $005^{\circ}$  S.  $080^{\circ}$  E. Call sign E.K.I. Unreliable fix. (D. C. in C. E.F., 2320/27 to S. and A. E.I. Station, (R) Admty., A.C.N.B., C. in C. S.A.)

War Diary.27.7.1942  
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies.

LUCILLE Ref N S 1013 X 2 - 3, 23/5. Fishing Schooner  
(sunk 25/7) LUCILLE, 438.  
2. F.W.Sutherland and Sons, Lockport N.S.  
3. 0700Z/25/7 42° 2' N. 65° 38' W.  
4. Negative report. 5. Negative report. 6. On surface.  
7. Vessel badly damaged, fate unknown. 8. None. 9. Large 400  
feet, 2 gun, one semi-automatic other twin machine in C/T.  
10. Gunfire. 11. 4 crew wounded. All landed safely in dories.  
Enemy gave no warning before opening attack but addressed  
survivors in perfect English after they had abandoned ship.  
After leaving schooner U-boat fired 20 rounds semi-automatic  
at 100 yards 200 rounds machine gun; one enemy crew was heard  
remark in English "The damn thing will not sink". Captain  
schooner states he had heard S/M on surface 2 hours before  
attack, also states she remained on surface 2 hours after they  
abandoned ship. Captain also states he heard at least 50  
rounds gunfire near him noon 24/7 in same position. Sea calm,  
weather hazy.  
(N.O.I.C. Shelburne 0405Z/27 to Admty. (R) N.S.H.Q. C.O.A.C.)

COWSLIP Sailed COWSLIP and CROCUS direct route St. Thomas.  
CROCUS. E.T.A. 2200Z/28. R.N.O. St. Thomas Pass to  
ASTURIAS.  
(F.O. Trinidad 0702Q/27 to B.S.N.O. W.A. (R)  
Admty. B.A.D. R.A. West Africa, S.O.(I) Jamaica  
ASTURIAS, R.N.O. St. Thomas.)

TAMANDARE Torpedoed and sunk 0600 G.M.T. 26/7 011° 34' N.  
(Brazil) 060° 30' W. 48 survivors landed Port of Spain.  
4 men lost.  
(N.O.I.C. Trinidad 0822Q/27 to Admty. (R) S.B.N.O.  
W.A. S.O.I. Kingston, Jamaica.)

DUC D'AUMALE Departure 1800/26 Martinique 27th.  
(Cuidad Trujillo 0935/27 to M.W.T.)

CALGARY. My 0830Z/27 (N.T. in W.D.) WALKER has been in  
contact with us. Have left J position, pro-  
ceeding towards K to intercept.  
(CALGARY 1105Z/27 to N.O.I.C. St. Johns N.F.  
(R) WALKER.)

Carriage of Urgently request reply to my 1546/21. Situation  
Passengers, regarding male service passengers is somewhat  
U.S.Strategic eased with prospect of GLASGOW and PENELOPE  
Area. calling at Bermuda en route U.K. but position of  
entitled women and children and non-entitled  
civilians of both sexes is still most serious.  
If the American policy promulgated in B.A.D.'s 1707/19 must be  
adhered to, it is recommended that a troop transport proceeding  
to America or Canada from South Africa or canal zone for troop  
convoy to U.K. be utilised, passengers remaining on board for  
entire journey to U.K.  
(S.B.N.O.W.A. 1256P/27 to Admty. (R) B.A.D. etc.)

/Movements ...

War Diary.

27.7.1942  
Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies - contd.

Movements. Departures HAVELOCK\* (?LAVENDER) GODETIA, U.S.  
Trinidad. Ships P.C.492, P.C.463 escorting T.A.W.9.  
U.S.S. MEMPHIS, U.S.S. CINCINNATI, U.S.S. JOUETT,  
U.S.S. WINSLOW, U.S. MERRIMACK for Pernambuco, S.S. STANVAC  
MANILLA in company.  
(N.O.I.C. Trinidad 1302Q/27 to S.B.N.O.W.A. (R) Admty. etc.)

*\* Confirmed by the accounts of H.M. Ships*

ATHENE, C. in C. E.F.'s 0905/16 and B.A.D.'s 2137/18 and  
Martlets for 2129/21. Aircraft should be flight delivered  
Eastern Fleet. to Santos for embarkation provided Adm. King's  
concurrence in Items in para 3 of B.A.D.'s 2129/21  
is obtained, in which event ATHENE should be  
sailed by C. in C. E.F. to arrive Santos by 17/8. 20 erected  
aircraft to be embarked leaving 6 as a nucleus for formation  
of 890 and 892 Sqdns.

2. Very desirable that as many spares as possible should be delivered with the aircraft, and that spares, type tools and equipment may be sent to East Africa.
3. 90 folding wing Martlets less 17 sunk have been delivered and disposed of as follows:- 36 in Carriers, 4 at Kilindini, 5 under repair Nairobi. 16 in transit from U.S.A. 12 wastage.
4. There are thus inadequate immediate reserves for Eastern Fleet Carriers whose situation in regard to modern Fleet Fighters is now grave and has been aggravated by non delivery of Martlet spares and recent postponements of our Martlet allocations.
5. B.A.D. is requested to inform Admty. and C. in C. E.F. when Adm. King's concurrence has been obtained, vide para 1 above.  
(D.N.A.D. Approved A.C.N.S.(F) 1312B/27 to B.A.D., C. in C. E.F. (R) C. in C. S.A. Comms E.T.)

BROOMPARK ex O.N.113, owners J. and J. Denholm Ltd. Glasgow, torpedoed in stokehold in 49.02 N. 40.26 W. at 0212Z/25. S/M not seen. Ship abandoned but still afloat. (Casualties) All C.Bs dumped by 1st Radio Operator and sank. List of survivors follows in my 1341Z/27. (N.C.S.O. St. Johns N.F. 1340Z/27 to Admty (R) N.S.H.Q.)

Sailed FOUNDATION, FRANKLIN escorted by WASAGA at 1400Z/27 to 049° 30' N. 039° 16' W. to assist SS BROOMPARK, WASAGA keeping watch on 105 and 2410 k/cs. (C.O.A.C. 1407Z/27 to F.O.N.F. Admty., N.S.H.Q., C.T.F.24, POLYANTHUS, NAPANEE, AMHERST, WASAGA.) My 1407/27. Speed 10 knots. (C.O.A.C. 1944Z/27)

BRITISH MERIT (torpedoed 25/7) BRITISH MERIT A.N.D. ship torpedoed 0150/25 in 48.57 N. 40.16 W. on port quarter abaft net. S/M not sighted. Ship afloat, anticipate will be towed to St. Johns, no casualties, 32 survivors landed St. Johns remainder on board ship. C.Bs on board. (N.C.S.O. St. Johns N.F. 1425Z/27 to Admty. (R) N.S.H.Q.) W.D. Note.- In O.N.113 first recorded torpedoing of an A.N.D. ship.

War Diary.

27.7.1942  
Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies - contd.

- A.H.1. 1900 G.M.T/27, Halifax 5/8, knots 10. Route. 8 ships.  
(N.C.S.O. Curacao 1505QR/27 to Admty.)
- Vesca System. Your 1033/25. (Is extension of Vesca system working satisfactorily) Yes.  
(S.O.I. Jamaica 1552R/27 to S.B.N.O.W.A. (R) Admty.)
- ONONDAGA. U.S. ONONDAGA sunk 0030 G.M.T/24, 24 miles East Cayo Frances.  
(S.O.I) Jamaica 1616R/27 to S.B.N.O. W.A., B.A.D. Connav, N.S.H.Q. F.O.C. Trinidad.)
- AWATEA N.C.S.O. Capetown reports AWATEA due Halifax 10/8 for N.A.15. If she requires docking suggest this might be done at Halifax if drydock available between 10th and 19/8.  
(N.S.H.Q. 1650Z/27 to C.O.A.C. Halifax (R) D. of S.T.)
- DONOVANIA "Q" report 10/7. Ref. suspicious vessel report made by DONOVANIA 2019/10 in 020° 46' N. 017° 34' W, master described vessel similar to ALSTERUFER in Talbot Booth, about 3000 tons but funnel closer to bridge house and a short mast aft of main mast.  
DONOVANIA made off at 14 knots with slight zigzag, suspicious vessel altered course towards and was gaining but DONOVANIA escaped in darkness.  
(N.O.I.C. Trinidad 1702Q/27 to Admty., (R) S.B.N.O. W.A.)  
O.I.C. Comment. DONOVANIA's position was 02° 46' N. 17° 46' W. according to previous intercept. (Burnham on Sea Radio's 2245/10 refers).
- O.N.114. Western local escort T.U.24.18.2. ANNAPOLIS S.O. COBALT, MONCTON, SASKATOON will sail St. Johns N.F. 2330Z/29 to join in 47.20 N. 50.40 W. at 1100Z/30.  
(F.O.N.F. 1710Z/27 to C.T.U. 24.1.3. (R) C.O.A.C. N.S.H.Q., C. in C. U.S. Fleet, Admty. ANNAPOLIS.)
- O.N. Escorts. In view of early arrival of O.N.114 and H.X.200 being retarded 24 hours it will be necessary to switch Western local groups of O.N.114 and O.N.115. Western local escort for O.N.114 will  
→ now be ANNAPOLIS, COBALT, SASKATOON, MONCTON. WITCH and MOOSEJAW boiler cleaning until 2350/2/8. On completion WITCH will be sailed for Halifax or as ordered by C.O.A.C. My 1115/20, propose to retain MOOSEJAW in place of COBALT until return of CHAMBLY.  
(F.O.N.F. 1711Z/27 to C.O.A.C. (R) C. in C. U.S. Fleet, Admty. C.T.F.24., N.S.H.Q.)

/ANNAPOLIS ...

835

War Diary.27.7.1942  
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies - conts:-

- O.N. Escorts contd. ANNAPOLIS is to be detached to arrive St. Johns N.F. before dark 28/7.  
(F.O.N.F. 1718Z/27 to C.T.U. No.24.18.7 (R)  
ANNAPOLIS, C.O.A.C. N.S.H.Q. C.T.24., C. in C. U.S. Fleet, Admty.)  
Your 1711/27. Estimate O.N.114 will arrive 052° W. 1/8. Task unit 24.18.3 should arrive St. Johns N.F. 30/7. Therefore request you will sail groups as originally intended, that is, Task unit 24.18.3 to escort O.N.114 and Task unit 24.18.2 to escort O.N.115. This should enable WITCH to complete boiler cleaning and proceed with his group.  
(C.O.A.C. 2139Z/27 to F.O.N.F. (R) C. in C. U.S. Fleet, Admty., C.T.F. 24., N.S.H.Q.)
- AQUITANIA. Admty. 1659/7. U.S. authorities request route and "Chop" date for AQUITANIA.  
(B.A.D. 1715Z/27 to C. in C. S.A. (R) Admty.)
- U/B Positions. 27/7, submarine estimate.  
(Cominch 1720/27.)
- U/B, Pacific. R.C.A.F. Hampden on training exercise reported S/M on surface 049° 12' N. 123° (? 40') W. at 1000 P D T today 27/7. S/M proceeding 350° 8 knots crash dived on approach of aircraft. SANS PEUR, WOLF, 2 Fairmiles proceeding to investigate, also R.C.A.F. aircraft.  
(C.O.P.C. 1841Z/27 to Admty., N.S.H.Q., S.B.N.O. W.A., Connav, Commandant 13th U.S. Naval District, Seattle.)
- H.X.200. C.T.U. 24.1.4 in VISCOUNT (H/F, D/F) plus VERVAIN, ACANTHUS, MONTBRETIA, POTENTILLA, designated ocean escort for convoy H.X.200.  
(C.T.24, 1845Z/27 to Connav (R) C.T.U. 24.1.4, C.T.U. 24.18.3. C.T.G.24.6., C.T.G.24.7, Admty., C.O.A.C., C. in C. W.A., N.S.H.Q., F.O.N.F.)  
Sailing telegram.  
(S.N.C.S.O. Halifax 1910Z/27)
- Escort of Tankers. A.M. 1328B/26. Request your remarks.  
(B.A.D. 1857B/27 to N.S.H.Q. (R) Admty.)
- PARRSBORO WEDGEPORT. attacks on U/Bs. Following is brief report of attacks by PARRSBORO and WEDGEPORT. (1) 2005Z/23. (2) 2051Z/25. Consider that contacts were non subs, probably whales.  
(Odre Londonderry 2045B/27 to C..in C. W.A. (R) D.A/S.W.)

/Martlets ...



836

War Diary.27.7.1942  
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies - conts.

Martlets, Production. Martlet IV have again lagged. We anticipate 35 from production this month of which 24 will be Flyaways. Remainder will be sent to Eastern Fleet.

2. Representations on lag have been made to Adm. Towers who has promised to take matter up personally.

3. Firm are now concentrating on our aircraft and I anticipate about 130 will be delivered by August.

6. Allotment of August quota must remain until Admty reach decision on B.A.D.'s 2129Z/21. Meanwhile I assume proportion of 60% to Eastern Fleet and 40% between U.K. and U.S.A. still stands.  
(B.A.C. Washington 2040/27 to M.A.P. (R) Admty.)

L.27. Sail L.27, escorted by QUALICUM when ready about 30/7 via Montauk Point.  
(E) 040° 05' N. 069° 40' W.  
(F) 040° 10' 066° 30'  
(G) 045° 50' 059° 45'

thence St. Johns N.F. Advise sailing time and S. of A.  
(Connav 2056/27 to Com. S/M Atlantic, (R) Admty., F.O.N.F., C.O.A.C. C.E.S.F., N.S.H.Q. Com.1, C.T.24.)  
Cancelled by 1305/28, q.v.

Movements, Bermuda. Bermuda arrivals Tug ZWARTE ZEE, U.S.S. OSMOND INGRAM, escorting U.S.S. MAUMEE. U.S.S. GEORGE E. BADGER escorting U.S.S. PASTORES and a freighter. Bermuda departures, U.S.S. HILARY P. JONES.  
(S.B.N.O.W.A. 2102P/27 to Admty. (R) B.A.D. N.S.H.Q., C.O.A.C. S.O.(I) Jamaica.)

Sub.attack and Sighting Summary. OAXACA torpedoed and sunk 28.23 N. 96.08 W. 0945Z/26. ONEIDA U-88 type. THOMAS MCKEAN later information indicates Lion with Hammer and Torch painted in dark red on C/T. M.V. Shells Sub. 29.27 N. 85.22 W. 29/6, 3 hits claimed. Plane attacks Sub. on surface 18.48 N. 75.13 W. 0130Z/14. Plane attacks submerged Sub. 28.35 N. 80.25 W. 1405Z/23. Sub. reported attacked 48.58 N. 64.15 W. 2040Z/24 doubtful. Plane sights Sub. on surface 36.22 N. 70.46 W. 1301Z/24. Subs. reported sighted 40.22 N. 69 W. 0730Z/24, 43.14 N. 70.15 W. 1430Z/24. Plane attacks air and oil bubbles 39.15 N. 74.10 W. 2050Z/25. Sub. reported attacked 48.57 N. 46.16 W. 0159Z/25. Patrol craft sights Sub. 43.10 N. 70.35 W. 2000Z/25. 40.10 N. 73.10 W. 0820Z/25. M.V. sights periscope 28.58 N. 89.19 W. 1853Z/25. Plane sights Sub. apparently on surface 23.41 N. 81.13 W. 1720Z/26. Patrol craft sights Sub. 32.42 N. 79.45 W. 2211Z/26. Sub. reported sighted 62.20 N. 26.01 W. 0620Z/26. M.V. sights Sub. on surface 28.40 N. 90.59 W. 0415Z/26. Patrol craft attacks sound contact 26.15 N. 80.05 W. 1415Z/27. Plane sights Sub. on surface 28 N. 96 W. 1454Z/27.  
(Cominch 2117/27 to Admty. for O.I.C.)

/U/B ...

837

War Diary27.7.1942  
MondayFOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies - contd.

U/B Campaign. Connav Serials 25 26 27. Correct Serial 22 to G.S. LIVANOS not GEORGE M. LIVANOS. BROOMPARK and BRITISH MERIT both British torpedoed 25/7 in convoy O.N.113, 048° 57' N. 040° 16' W.

BROOMPARK 105. Possible salvage BRITISH MERIT. 547 RAINBOW British torpedoed sunk 26/7 convoy O.N.113 047° 08' N. 042° 57' W.

TAMANDARE Brazilian torpedoed sunk 26/7 011° 34' N. 060° 30' W.

OAXACA (Mexican) torpedoed sunk 26/7 028° 23' N. 096° 08' W.

ONONDAGA U.S. torpedoed sunk 24/7 022° 37' N. 079° 00' W.

WILLIAM F. HUMPHREY U.S. tanker sunk by raider 16/7 005° 37' S. 000° 56' E. T.J. INEGARA (D U) reported sunk off Noumea 25/7. (Connav 2126Z/27 to Comnav. N.S.H.Q. S.O.(I) Kingston, C.E.S.F. C.G.S.F., C.P.S.F., C.C.S.F.)

Australia and New Zealand.

MURADA Australian Union SS Navigation Co's MURADA which arrived Sydney 1842Z/24 was attacked by S/M 2346Z/23 in 031° 50' S. 153° E. Torpedo missed. (A.C.N.B. 0019Z/27 to Admty. (R) C. in C. E.F.)

Situation. Serial No.186, 26/7.

- (1) Enemy S/M shelled M/V Cape Howe area (N.S.W.) 1815Z/26.
- (2) One Liberator attacked 2 Merchant ships Kieta 26/7, no hits. 2 S/Ms reported sighted in harbour.
- (3) One Liberator attacked Sohona Island Buka Aerodrome 25/7, results not observed. A.A. Fire encountered both areas.
- (4) Photo R/C. Guadalcanal 24/7 show runway under construction Lunga-Kukum area, much activity on beach, 27 barges, 2 larger craft. Wharf under construction. Road from beach to aerodrome.
- (5) Dutch patrol attacked near Dilli 24/7 by 30 Japanese, 40 natives.
- (6) Nadzab (17 miles N.W. Pae) heavily bombed by enemy 25/7.
- (7) Natives report 500 Japanese Salamaua including 300 first class storm troops ex Rabaul.
- (8) 120 Japanese unsuccessfully attacked Mubo (12 miles South Salamaua) 21/7, approx. 50 enemy reported killed.
- (9) Small Allied force engaged enemy Kokoda area twice 25/7, 15 enemy casualties.
- (10) Two attacks 26/7 on stores installations Gona area by 2 Catalinas, 1 Hudson, causing several explosions.
- (11) 3 B.26s attacked 2 destroyers 171000 ton cargo ship Buna area 0745Z/26 without result.
- (12) 5 B.25s intercepted by 15 zeros vicinity Gona 2215Z/25. 1 Zero destroyed, 2 B.25s shot down.
- (13) 3 aircraft attacked Darwin 26/7, 3 buildings destroyed.
- (14) Single unidentified A/C over Broome, Beagle Bay area, 26/7. (A.C.N.B. 0450Z/27 to Admty. etc.)

/Troops ...

838

War Diary.27.7.1942  
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Australia and New Zealand.

Troops for Middle East. D. of S.T.'s 0346B/24. Request P.S.T.O. Simonstown advise whether 2500 A.I.F. and N.Z.E.F. reinforcements for Middle East can be accommodated in South Africa to await transshipment to M.E.

If this accommodation available propose using FELIX ROUSSEL and DEVONSHIRE. 150 Dutch Naval personnel for Colombo would also be embarked. My 0529Z/16 and Admty. 1214B/16 refer.

(2) In addition to above propose embark in WESTERNLAND 1200 R.A.A.F. personnel waiting passage to U.K. and also 70 service wives and children. Limit on number of personnel embarked in unescorted ships imposed by U.S. Navy precludes trans-Pacific route.

(3) FELIX ROUSSEL, DEVONSHIRE and WESTERNLAND could be sailed in convoy from Melbourne about 10/8 and escort could be given to 90° E. Request Deputy C. in C. E.F. advise whether escort could be arranged from 93° to Durban.

(4) Request C. in C. S.A. advise possibility of escort being available for WESTERNLAND from South Africa.

(5) Request urgent consideration be given to foregoing as R.A.A.F. personnel are all partly trained air crews.

(6) Admty. 2246B/24 refers.

(A.C.N.B. 1102Z/27 to Admty., D. of S.T. P.S.T.O. Simonstown, C. in C. S.A. C. in C. E.F., D. C. in C. E.F. (R) N.Z.N.B., P.S.T.O. Durban, P.S.T.O. India.)  
Reply from Simonstown, 1202B/29.

COOLANA,  
U/B.

Melbourne SS C's vessel COOLANA was shelled by S/M 1815Z/26 in approx. position 036° 49' S. 150° 05' E. Vessel was undamaged.

(A.C.N.B. 1154Z/27 to Admty., Capt. on S. Kilindini, C. in C. E.F., N.Z.N.B., B.A.D.)

Movements.

Departures. Fremantle 0925Z/25 U.S.S. OTUS for (Melbourne?) 0115Z/26, H.M.A.S. GERALDTON for Addu Atoll in company with Tanker BAHREIN. 0501Z/26, U.S.S. W.B. PRESTON for Exmouth Gulf. (A.C.N.B. 1407Z/27 to Admty. etc.)

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.Submarines Reported.

Approximate U/B positions.  
(D.D.I.C. 1455B/27, 1533B/27.)

28.7.1942  
Tuesday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

CALPE and COTTESMORE engaged two enemy trawlers 15 miles N.W. of Cherbourg at 0245 today and sank one of them. The other, which was heavily damaged, was last seen retiring towards the coast under cover of smoke. *See next page.*

The ports of Yarmouth and Lowestoft were closed for a few hours early this morning on account of fog.

DUKE OF YORK arrived at Hvalfiord this evening.

Convoy  
P.Q.17.

SS WINSTON SALEM, which went ashore off Novaya Zemlya and was refloated arrived at Archangel this morning. A total of 11 merchant ships from this convoy have now arrived at Archangel and one ship remains unaccounted for.

Arrived Archangel - AZERBAIDJAN torpedoed by A/C 4/7, rejoined convoy, BELLINGHAM, BEN HARRISON, DON BASS, EMPIRE TIDE, IRONCLAD, OCEAN FREEDOM, SAMUEL CHASE, SILVER SWORD, TROUBADOUR, WINSTON SALEM (after being ashore off Novaya Zemlya), RATHLIN Rescue ship.

Sunk - ALCOA RANGER, BOLTON CASTLE, CHRISTOPHER NEWPORT, DANIEL MORGAN, EL CAPITAN, EMPIRE BYRON, FAIRFIELD CITY, HARTLEBURY, HONOMU, HOOSIER, J. WITHERSPOON, NAVARINO, OLOPANA, PAN ATLANTIC, PAN KRAFT, PAULUS POTTER, PETER KERR, RIVER AFTON, WASHINGTON, R.F.A. ALDERSDALE, ZAAFARAN Rescue ship.

EXFORD. Damaged by ice, returned to Iceland.

RICHARD BLAND. Went ashore off Iceland, taken to Tyne.

CARLTON. Fate unknown, considered lost.

The total merchant seaman casualties (including DEMS but excluding SS HONOMU for which particulars are not yet complete) were as follows:-

Survivors	999
Killed	92
Wounded	27
Prisoners	28

*Faint, illegible text at the bottom of the page.*

840

War Diary.

28.7.1942  
Tuesday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Enemy Air Operations.

CALPE and COTTESMORE, returning from the attack on enemy trawlers off Cherbourg were attacked by aircraft. COTTESMORE had two casualties, but neither ship sustained serious damage.

Seven enemy aircraft operated west of Milford Haven and at the southern entrance of the Irish Sea between 0025 and 0250B today. The area has been swept with negative results and F.O.I.C. Milford Haven considers the object of the raid was shipping. The area was vacant at the time. At least 2 enemy aircraft were shot down.

Two fishing trawlers were attacked off the Faroes today and a fishing trawler is reported to have been attacked whilst fishing off Vopua Bank (Iceland) on 24/7.

Mining.

Falmouth was closed from 0235B to 0909 today owing to suspected enemy minelaying.

South Atlantic.

Descriptions have now come in of the suspicious vessel which chased SS DONOVANIA at 2019/10 in 2° 46' N. 17° 34' W. and of the raider which sank U.S. Tanker WILLIAM F. HUMPHREY at 2142Z/16 in 6° 30' S. 1° 0' E. One or two E-boats took part in the attack on the latter.

It was reported today that H.M. Trawler LAERTES was sunk by a U-boat about 2115/25 in approx. 6° N. 14° 17' W. *See p. 750*

841

War Diary.

28.7.1942  
Tuesday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Mediterranean.

Air activity over Malta was on a reduced scale today.

Proposed  
revision of  
Western  
Atlantic  
convoy  
system.

6 Beauforts with torpedoes and 3 with bombs, escorted by 6 Beaufighters attacked in 185° Sapienza 10 miles a large escorted merchant vessel which was sighted at 0500 in the Ionian Sea, south west of Greece. One torpedo hit the merchant vessel, the destroyers were near missed with bombs, and all ships were machine gunned. The merchantman was sighted at 1715 in Navarin Bay damaged.

Heavy bombers of the Allied Air Forces carried out a successful dusk attack on shipping in Suda Bay. Long range bombers and fighters attacked barges near Sidi Barrani setting one on fire. Another heavy air attack was made on Tobruk last night.

About 10 enemy aircraft operated over the Southern sector of the Suez Canal and Gulf of Suez last night. It is suspected that mines were laid in the Gulf. B.D.V. PUNNET was damaged, Egyptian SS EL AMIRA FAWZIA was sunk in shallow water and some other slight damage was caused.

East Indies.

Since 1 May 18 ships on the East Indies Station have been sunk by U-boats, 4 by raider and one by cause unknown. The Admiralty expect the submarine danger in this area will increase and they have requested C. in C. Eastern Fleet to arrange for a system of reporting their positions by merchant ships (See 1/7) which will enable an accurate plot to be kept, so that ships can be conned through U-boat or raider areas.

D.S.023 at 2325Z today unsuccessfully attacked 2 Japanese cruisers of the Takao class and 4 destroyers in 5° 32' N. 98° 50' E. (near Penang) steering 340°.

842

28.7.1942  
Tuesday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT.

America and West Indies.

Commencing with S.C.95 sailing on 4/8 S.C. Convoys will be sailed from Halifax every 7 days.

Proposed revision of Western Atlantic convoy system.

C. in C. U.S. Fleet proposes that a meeting should be held in Washington on 1/8 to consider the revision of the present Western Atlantic convoy system; it is believed that in view of the number of escort vessels available on 1/9 a general revision of convoy routes about that time will result in improved efficiency, particularly as to reduction in turn round, more economical employment of escort groups, and improved interlocks at assembly ports.

P.48,  
P.219,  
P.614,  
P.615.

Arrived P.614.  
(U.S. 3/8 Lervick 20752/28).

WALLACE.

Proposed sailing programme subject to satisfactory completion of trials. Details.  
(P.O.I.C. London, 11194/28).

SIXTON.

SIXTON is to join eastern local escort force and is to proceed direct to St. John's N.F. on completion of duty ordered in 2021/28.  
(U. in C. W.A., 11474/28 to Comdore Londonderry).

UPRIGHT.

Arrival Bontee UPRIGHT.  
(Capt. S.G., 1201/28).

LOCH  
MORAYTH.

Cancelled by 1211/27. Intend sailing LOCH MORAYTH independently for Lervick at 1600h/28. E.T.A. 2200/29.  
(Capt. S.G., 12273/28).

DISPATCH

Leaves harbour at 0740/29 and proceed by searched channel to Tyne so as to arrive off pierhead at 1500/29.  
(S. in C. Morayth, 10552/28 to DISPATCH).

MALCOLM  
SWALE.

MALCOLM remains Greenock on completion of escort SWALE to Londonderry on passing.  
(U. in C. W.A., 15543/28 to MALCOLM).

War Diary.

28.7.1942.  
Tuesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Movements.

→ UREDD

(1) Intend sailing UREDD escorted by LOCH MONTEITH 2300B/29 for Dundee. Route. E.T.A. 0400/31. (S.O. S/M Lerwick 0858B/28).

CANTON,  
DOUGLAS,  
BLEASDALE.

My 1842B/27. Sailed. (F.O.I.C. Portland, 0910B/28). Your 2018B/25. Arrived. *Southampton - Sup p. 812* (C. in C. Portsmouth, 1750B/28).

P.48,  
P.219,  
P.614,  
P.615.

1. Intend sailing P.48, P.219, P.614, P.615 escorted by CUTTY SARK 2000B/29 July for Holy Loch. Route. E.T.A. 2200B/31. (S.O. S/M Lerwick, 1017B/28 and 1006B/29). Arrived P.614. (S.O. S/M Lerwick 2026B/28).

WALLACE.

Proposed sailing programme subject to satisfactory completion of trials. Details. (F.O.I.C. London, 1119B/28).

BUXTON.

BUXTON is to join western local escort force and is to proceed direct to St. Johns N.F. on completion of duty ordered in my 1021/28. *N.T. W.D.* (C. in C. W.A., 1147B/28 to Commdre Londonderry). *Sup p. 851 - (W.S. 21)*

UPRIGHT.

Arrival Dundee UPRIGHT. (Capt. S.9., 1201/28).

→ LOCH  
MONTEITH.

*N.T. W.D.* Cancel my 1211/27. Intend sailing LOCH MONTEITH independently for Lerwick at 1600B/28. E.T.A. 2200B/29. (Capt. S.9., 1427Z/28).

DESPATCH

Leave harbour at 0740/29 and proceed by searched channel to Tyne so as to arrive off pierhead at 1600/29. (C. in C. Rosyth, 1455B/28 to DESPATCH).

MALCOLM  
SWALE.

MALCOLM remain Greenock on completion of escort SWALE to Londonderry on passing. (C. in C. W.A., 1554B/28 to MALCOLM).

/SEAWOLF...



War Diary.

28.7.1942.  
Tuesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Movements. - Contd.

SEAWOLF. F.O.S. 1012/22 and C. in C. W.A. 0946/27.  
Intend sailing SEAWOLF escorted by LA CAPRICIEUSE  
at 2100B/31 via Searched Channel through 180°  
Barrahead 10 miles to 057° 25' N., 010° 01' W. E.T.A. 0001B/2.  
Thence SEAWOLF proceeding on the surface at C.O's discretion in  
accordance with C. in C. W.A. 0946/27. S. of A. 8½ knots.  
(Capt. S.3., 1713B/27).

PETER  
HENDRIKS. Intend sailing PETER HENDRIKS via Sounds of Islay  
and Mull to Tobermory at 1900B/28. E.T.A. 1800B/29.  
(F.O.I.C. Greenock, 1739B/29).  
Sailed PETER HENDRIKS in accordance with my 1739B  
/28.  
(F.O.I.C. Greenock, 2113B/28).

LIBERATOR LIBERATOR is required for refit and is to be sailed  
for Harwich on return from duty with Group 53.  
(C. in C. Nore, 1808B/28 to F.O. London).

DUKE OF  
YORK. Hvalfiord arrival your 1729B/26.  
(A.C.I.C., 1833B/28 to A.C.O.S.)

STRAIDE. Request STRAIDE may be sailed for Belfast on  
completion of operations at Port D.  
(D.A/S.W., 1836B/28).

SKATE,  
SALADIN,  
SABRE,  
EGLANTINE. Sail SKATE, SALADIN, SABRE, EGLANTINE to Hvalfiord  
when ready.  
(C. in C. W.A., 1926B/28 to Cdre. Londonderry).

28th M.L.  
Flotilla. F.O.C.N.A. 1804/24. 28th M.L. Flotilla consisting  
of M.Ls. 307, 341, 443, 493 will be ready to leave  
PINDOS. Milford Haven for Gibraltar on 3/8.  
2. Flotilla has an endurance of 2000 miles at  
10 knots.  
3. Escort will be provided by Greek destroyer PINDOS from  
Milford Haven.  
4. R.A.D. Home Fleet is requested to sail PINDOS for Liverpool  
on 1/8 and not as in his 1901/27.  
5. On completion of boiler cleaning F.O.I.C. Liverpool is  
requested to sail PINDOS for Milford Haven.  
6. C. in C. W.A. is requested to route and sail all ships from  
Milford Haven when ready and weather conditions are propitious.  
(D.O.D. (H.), 1930B/28).

SCYLLA Request you sail SCYLLA to arrive Scapa 30/7.  
(C. in C. H.F., 1958B/28 to N.O.I.C. Greenock).

845

War Diary.28.7.1942  
Tuesday.HOME COMMANDS.Operations.East Coast  
Patrols.Weather permitting carry out the following  
offensive patrols tonight.(1) One combined unit M.T.Bs and M.G.Bs R.B.4  
to R.B.5.(2) One unit M.T.Bs vicinity R B 2, one unit M.G.Bs as covering  
force vicinity R B 1. Units should not proceed west of 02°  
40' E. unless in action.

(C. in C. Nore 1034B/28 to BEEHIVE.)

Patrols tonight (1) 2 M.Ls patrol N with trawler. (2) 3  
M.G.Bs (L) sweep from 52° 35' N. 4° E. in direction 090°  
(3) 3 M.G.Bs (L) sweep from 52° 45' N. 4° E. in direction 090°  
(4) 4 M.G.Bs (S) Sweep (100%) from 52° 55' N. 4° E. directional  
090° (5) 3 M.G.Bs (S) and 2 M.T.Bs, R B 4 to R B 5 (6) 2 M.G.Bs  
(S) and 2 M.T.Bs vicinity R B 1.

(C. in C. Nore 1801B/28 and 2143B/28.)

Departure M.G.Bs 67, 63, 61, 21 and 18. M.T.Bs 69, 32,  
72 and 14.

(F.O.I.C. Harwich 2110B/28)

CALPE  
COTTESMORE.  
Engagement  
with Traw-  
lers. One  
Trawler sunk.  
One Trawler  
damaged.At 0214/28 CALPE and COTTESMORE engaged two enemy  
trawlers in 310° Cherbourg 11 miles. One  
trawler left in sinking condition heavily on fire  
and down by stern. Other trawlers magazine  
appeared to blow up and she was last seen retiring  
slowly in smoke screen. 10 Group has since  
reported one vessel entering Cherbourg in tow at  
about 1100/28 and another abandoned on fire off  
Cap de la Hague. No damage to own ships. Three  
ratings wounded in COTTESMORE.  
(C. in C. Portsmouth 1137/28.)

Q.Q.4.

My 476T (6) of 9th July. Weather permitting  
No.4 Unit T.E.S.D. will be towed from Tilbury  
via Thames Gate and Q Z S 285 to buoyed position  
51° 33' 40" N. 1° 09' 45" E. on 1/8. 2. Approximate time-table:  
Leave Tilbury 0500B/1, Thames Gate 0900B/1. Arrive at site  
1200B/1, Sink at 1515B/1. 3. Unit will be grounded on bearing  
110° - 290° Dolphin Westward. 4. Captain M/S Sheerness is to  
arrange for sweepers to meet at Thames Gate and sweep ahead to  
site. 5. Tugs CRESTED COCK, WATER COCK, and CHALLENGER and  
Salvage Vessel YANTLET have been ordered. 6. X D O Sheerness  
is to arrange A/A escort from J buoy to site and return.  
8. Fighter protection will be arranged from 1200B/1 till  
return of tugs to Thames Gate. 10. 3 self-propelled hoppers  
with rubble will accompany tow from Tilbury. 11. Operation  
will be known as Q Q 4.

(C. in C. Nore 1224B/28.)

Western  
Channel  
Patrols.My 1509B/19. Available M.G.Bs are to carry  
out similar operation tonight. N.O.I.C.  
Dartmouth to report numbers. Code word  
"Obstacle". 2. C. in C. Portsmouth is requested  
to report disposition of his forces.  
(C. in C. Plymouth 1321B/28.)

/M.Ls ...

846

War Diary.28.7.1942  
Tuesday.HOME COMMANDS.Operations - contd. -Western  
Channel  
Patrols -  
contd.

→ M.Ls 159 (S.O), 195, and 118 from Dartmouth, code work "Cloak VI" are to patrol on a line between - 50° 10' N. 03° 17' W. and 49° 57' N. 03° 29' W. from 2230/28 till 0500/29.  
2. M.Ls 186 (S.O), 184 and 179 from Falmouth, code word "Cloak VII" are to patrol on a line between - 49° 55' N. 04° 12' W. and 49° 55' N. 03° 50' W. from 2230/28 till 0500/29. 3. Object to destroy E-boats trying to attack P.W.193. 4. On completion M.Ls return to base.  
(C. in C. Plymouth 1341B/28.)

→ Your 1321/28. M.G.B 76 (S.O) 78, 75, 74, 80. Intend to sail at 2245/28.

(N.O.I.C. Dartmouth 1425/28 and 1509/28 to C. in C. Plymouth.)

→ Your 1341B/28 and my 1637B/27. 1. Intend to sail M.Ls 155 (S.O) 159, 118 at 1800/28 escorting one merchant vessel to R/V with P.W.193 in 111° Start Point 9 miles at 2000/28.

2. M.Ls will then proceed on patrol. Code word "Cloak VI" (N.O.I.C. Dartmouth 1521/28 to C. in C. Plymouth.)

Tonight S.G.Bs 8 and 5 and M.T.Bs 233 and 241 patrol near 50° 15' N. 01° W.

(C. in C. Portsmouth 1527/28.)

My 1321/28. To cover line of approach of E-Boats possibly working from Guernsey, patrol line ordered in para 4 of my 1705/16/7, is to be amended as follows. M.G.Bs are to patrol in vicinity of line joining position (X) 49° 50' N. 2° 33' W. and position (Y) 49° 40' N. 3° W.

(C. in C. Plymouth 1825B/28 to N.O.I.C. Dartmouth.)

Departure "Cloak VII".

(F.O.I.C. Falmouth 2019B/28 to C. in C. Plymouth.)

→ My 1425/28. "Obstacle" sailed 2245/28 less M.G.B.75.

(N.O.I.C. Dartmouth 2314B/28 to C. in C. Plymouth.)

Exercises.

CAMPBELL, HOLDERNESS, MEYNELL exercising between 3 and 3B buoys return to Sheerness p.m./28.  
(C. in C. Nore 1200B/28.)

TEDWORTH  
(Deep-  
diving  
exercises)

My 1600/21/7. Propose proceeding at 0800/31 for the diving exercises in Lower Loch Long.  
(TEDWORTH 2025/28.)

British Air Activity.

"Knocker".

My 2340/27. Operations cancelled for today.  
(A.C.I.C. 1150B/28.)

Bombing  
restrictions.

My 1151/28. Please amend my 1341/19/7 to read Guernsey instead of Alderney.  
(C. in C. Plymouth 1909B/28 to H.Q.C.C.)

War Diary.

28.7.1942.  
Tuesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Enemy Air Activity.

Convoy  
attacked.

Help "Multiple". 50° 22' N., 5° 36' W., 203°,  
6 knots.  
(Convoy Escort 0047/28).

A/C hit by  
GOATFELL.

H.M.T. GOATFELL at anchor in convoy anchorage,  
reports that at 0243B/28 she engaged and hit  
repeatedly a Ju.88 which flew overhead at 2,000  
feet flying east.  
(F.O. Humber, 0345B/28).

St. George's  
Channel.  
2 A/C shot  
down.

Seven E/A operated West of Milford Haven and in  
vicinity of Smalls, St. Davids, and S.G.3 between  
0025 and 0250B/28 in bright moonlight and good  
visibility. Q.Z.S. 300 and vicinity S.G.3 have  
been swept with negative results so far. Consider  
object of raid was attack of shipping but raider  
area was vacant at the time. Two E/A reported  
shot down for certain. One probable.  
(F.O.I.C. Milford Haven, 1001B/28).

Convoy H.G.  
86

Enemy A/C are operating in your area. Your  
position was probably reported at 1117.  
(D.D.I.C., 1154B/28 to Escorts H.G.86).

Convoys  
O.G.87,  
O.S.35.

Long Range R/C aircraft operating in your vicinity  
(D.D.I.C., 1402B/28 to Convoy Escorts).

CLAIR.

Fishing Trawler CLAIR attacked with bombs and  
machine gun by enemy A/C whilst fishing off  
Vopna Bank 24/7. Vessel damaged by machine gun  
fire only. No casualties.  
(A.C.I.C., 1730B/28).

Mining.

Falmouth.

Port of Falmouth closed owing to suspected enemy  
minelaying.  
(F.O.I.C. Falmouth, 0235B/28).  
Port now open.  
(F.O.I.C. Falmouth, 0909/28).

Sweep.

Intend to sail ILFRACOMBE, POLRUAN, EASTBOURNE, at  
0520/29 to Portland, sweeping ahead of W.P.193.  
2. You are requested to sail ships back to  
Dartmouth at 0800/29, sweeping route "A" to 193° Start Point 6  
miles, and continuing sweep to Dart Buoy.  
(N.O.I.C. Dartmouth, 1005B/28 to F.O.I.C. Portland).

Beachy  
Head.

Detonated Red magnetic mine in position 115° Beachy  
Head Light 6.4 miles.  
(Lt. Cdr. M/S Newhaven, 1118B/28 and 1748/28).

War Diary.

28.7.1942.  
Tuesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Mining - Contd.

Harwich One ground mine detonated by M.M/S at 1034. Details.  
(F.O.I.C. Harwich, 1217B/28 and 1903B/28).  
1 ground mine detonated by M.M/S at 1229. Details.  
(F.O.I.C. Harwich, 1427B/28 and 1903B/28).

Unknown operation. 15th M.S.F. (Nine ships) will be required for an operation at Port ZA by p.m. 21/8 under the orders of R.A.M.  
(D.M.S., 1228B/28 to C. in C. Rosyth).

Off Brighton. Further to my 1118. (A) At 1118/28 one Magnetic Mine exploded by Sweepers. Details.  
(Lt. Cdr. M/S Newhaven, 1643/28).

Sweep off Beachy Head. 100% search to latitude 050° 40.7' N., completed. One mine apparently German "R" detonated vide my 1542B/28.  
(S.O. 9 M/S 1755B/28).

Following from M/S 9. Intend sailing 1000/29 with 5 ships to sweep from latitude of C.2 Buoy for 1½ miles to southward commencing 1130 in 4.0 miles 108½° from Beachy Head. Leave area 1700, enter Newhaven 1830. Request air cover.  
(N.O.I.C. Newhaven, 2000/28).

Enemy minelaying information. On completion of any patrols of operations which have taken place within twenty miles of the North Coast of France or Channel Islands request you will forward pencil track-charts from ships concerned.

2. These are required to enable Admiralty to collate information (even if negative) of enemy minelaying.  
(D.O.D. H., 1902B/28 to C. in C. Plymouth, C. in C. Portsmouth, (R) C. in C. Nore, V.A. Dover).

Enemy Intelligence.

HYDRA (Ex HENNING MAERSK). U-boat supply ship. R/S 651 gives details of HYDRA ex HENNING MAERSK completing August 1st at (?Nakskov) Denmark. (A) Tonnage 13000. (B) Speed 13 knots. (C) Armament (one) main, one 10.5 c.m. and one 3.7 c.m. gun on poop.  
(2) A/A guns, 2 20 millimetre on forecastle and (?2) amidships, all guns concealed. (D) Large ammunition-rooms for above calibres, 1/3 of which for ship, remainder for U-boats. Torpedo room provides for 60 torpedoes. (E) Fuel 10,000 tons stated to be carried. (F) Usual prison rooms. Graded A2.  
(N.A. Stockholm, 1239/28 to Admty)  
O.I.C. Comment. P.R.U. of Nakskov on 2nd July 1942 shows a 490' tanker fitting out. HENNING MAERSK is reported to have been launched at Nakskov on 20th March, 1940.

/German...

War Diary.

28.7.1942.  
Tuesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Enemy Intelligence. - Contd.

German Warship movements. Following German warship movements reported:  
July 4th (a) Minelayers OLAF TRYGGVASON and SPALHEIM VAN DER ZAN passed through Great Belt southwards. (b) Minelayer with three steamers in stern passed through Great Belt northwards. (c) Auxiliary SCORPION,\*minelayer TRITON arrived Aalborg week ending July 4th - July 5th.  
Depot ship SAAR with large tanker in ballast and SPERRBRECHER passed through Great Belt southwards.  
July 10th. Cruiser KÖLN passed through Sound northwards.  
July 12th. Cruiser believed KÖLN passed through Sound southwards (Graded B.2.)  
(N.A. Stockholm, 1317/28).  
O.I.C. Comment. This report is considered correct except last paragraph. KÖLN was sighted at Kristiansand South on 11/7 and proceeded to Oslo p.m. 12/7. \*Survey Ship. c.B 1815.

LÜTZOW,  
KÖLN.

P.R.U. of Trondheim area 28/7. LÜTZOW in 63° 32' N., 10° 38' E., course 280° possibly engaged in target practice. KÖLN has left Foetten Fiord, but area west of 10° 30' E., not photographed. (D.D.I.C., 1831B/28).

U-boats.

U-boats reported.

By D/F at 2147Z/27 U-boat within 60 miles of 61° 30' N., 24° 00' W. (D.D.I.C., 1005B/28).  
D/F bearings at 1509Z and 1550Z indicate U-boat in area within 30 miles of 63° 30' N., Greenwich meridian. (D.D.I.C., 1845B/28).

U-boats attacked.

Admiralty 1059B/22. An attack made on 26/7 by a Hudson A/C N.W. of the Butt of Lewis probably caused some damage. Several promising attacks were made in this area and there is some corroborative D/F evidence. Reports by C.Os. of PARRSBORO and WESTPORT on arrival in harbour discount the probability of a U-boat being sunk in 30° W., although they reported oil and wreckage after their attacks. A Wellington manned with a Czech crew probably slightly damaged a German U-boat in the Bay of Biscay, using Torpex-filled shallow setting depth charges. The U-boat, which was probably German, adopted the unusual procedure, for a German, of remaining on the surface for the first attack made at 1130B/27. It submerged after a second attack had been made. (A.C.N.S.F., 1835B/28 to Cominch).

Navigational.

Yarmouth.

Port closed owing to fog. (F.O.I.C. Gt. Yarmouth, 0535B/28).

Lowestoft.

Port closed owing to fog. (N.O.I.C. Lowestoft 0625B/28).  
port now open.  
(N.O.I.C. Lowestoft 0907B/28).

War Diary.

28.7.1942.  
Tuesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Technical.

A/A procedure. Admiralty 1143B/26. Relative advantages of close and distant screens still under investigation but American opinion possibly based on efficiency of U.S. Destroyers A.A. fire which is better than ours.

Close or Distant Screens. 2. When distant screen is used prefer 600 yards distant to 4000.

3. When close screen is used one thousand yards considered too close when avoiding action is being taken. Am trying fourteen hundred yards.

4. In general with good visibility and many destroyers distant screen is preferred with few destroyers close screen. (C. in C. H.F., 2347B/28 to C. in C. Eastern Fleet).

Casualties & Defects.

Unknown Unit. Third class 113<sup>o</sup> distress F.F.U. (Tiree Radio, 0404 G.M.T./28 to N.O.I.C. Greenock).

LUDLOW. Anchored off 52 buoy with engine trouble. Impossible to rejoin "Railway" before its arrival. Repairs being effected. (LUDLOW, 0809B/28 to C. in C. Nore).

My 0809B/28. Am proceeding at slow speed. Both dynamos defective mechanically. Request Dockyard assistance on arrival. (LUDLOW, 0954B/28 to C. in C. Nore).

M.L.160 E.R.O. Brixham's 2010/16.  
1. Intend to sail BRECON CASTLE and COMMANDER EVANS at 0530/29 for Brixham. E.T.A. 0630/29.  
2. BRECON CASTLE to tow M.L.160 from Brixham to Plymouth in company with COMMANDER EVANS sweeping "SLAVE IV." E.T.D. 0645/29. (N.O.I.C. Dartmouth, 1021/28).

JOSEPH Following received. Begins. From N.C.S.O. Weymouth to N.C.S.O. Dartmouth. My 1010/27. Sailing postponed owing to engine breakdown. (C. in C. Portsmouth, 1105/28 to D.S.T.)

DOON My 1143B/27. M/S Trawler DOON refloated and now docked at Liverpool. (F.O.I.C. Liverpool, 1455B/28).

WISTARIA Your 0119/28. Intend to sail WISTARIA 30/7 to Clyde for re-ranging and compass adjusting and onward routing to (?Reykjavik). (WESTERN ISLES, 1551B/28).

/M.L....

War Diary.

28.7.1942.  
Tuesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Casualties & Defects. - Contd.

M.L. 245. Explosion occurred in engine room M.L. 245 at 1045 today. Following two ratings injured through burns. Names.  
(F.O.I.C. Portland, 1700B/28).  
My 1700B/28. It is desired to hold a Board of Inquiry. Request whether this should be composed of Fighting French Officers appointed by F.F. Naval Authorities or of mixed British and French Officers appointed by me, the president of which should be British.  
(F.O.I.C. Portland, 1710B/28 to Admty).

M.M.S.62 Admiralty's 1835B/27. Intend to sail M.M.S.62 at 0900 tomorrow to North Woolwich. E.T.A.1400.  
(Commdre. Sheerness, 2141B/28).

Shipping & Convoys.

W.N. Convoys. Programme. W.N.17 Zero (as for 7½ knot convoy) 0645/1. W.N.18 Zero 2315/3. W.N.19 Zero 0015/6.  
(N.C.S.O. Loch Ewe, 0010B/28).

W.S.21. My 1304/27. Sailed.  
(N.O.I.C. Cardiff, 0230B/28).  
Escort your convoy to Greenock, then proceed to

Belfast.

(C. in C. W.A., 1302B/28 to P.C.74).  
Convoy W.S.21 delayed 24 hours. Amend date of R/V in A.M. 1638/22 accordingly.  
2. H.Q.C.C., and H.Q.F.C. informed.  
(D.O.D. H., 1318B/28).  
Escort your convoy to Greenock, then go to Londonderry.  
(C. in C. W.A., 1321B/28 to BUXTON)  
Cancel my 1014B/26. Intend sailing convoy less ALMANZORA escorted by HAWKINS, RANPURA, CATTERICK, and PETARD passing Clyde Boom 1930B/29 to R/V with Escort from Londonderry at 0600B/30 in 270° Oversay 6 miles.  
(N.O.I.C. Greenock, 1614B/28).  
Liverpool portion sailed 1330B/28 less SIBAJAK, delayed by defects. Escort BUXTON.  
(N.O.I.C. Liverpool, 1649B/28).  
Further to previous signals following vessels should be ready to sail on 7.8 (a) From Glasgow: ORMONDE, NEA HELLAS, and LETITIA and (b) From Liverpool: REINA DEL PACIFICO and DUCHESS OF BEDFORD.  
2. Approximately 600 personnel will embark in each of DUCHESS OF BEDFORD, LETITIA, and NEA HELLAS. No personnel will embark in REINA DEL PACIFICO or ORMONDE.  
3. LETITIA and NEA HELLAS will embark in Glasgow.  
(D.S.T., 0709B/28).

P.Q.17. P.Q.17 LEDA, HAZARD, and WINSTON SALEM arrived WINSTON SALEM. Dvina bar 0600B today. Is there any news of CARLTON.  
(S.B.N.O. Archangel, 0907B/28 to S.B.N.O. North Russia).

Your 0907/28. No information of CARLTON other than your 0952/16.  
(S.B.N.O. North Russia, 1631B/28 to S.B.N.O. Archangel).



War Diary.28.7.1942.  
Tuesday.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping & Convoys. - Contd.

- A.T.19,  
D.S.31. Admiralty 1738/15 and 1819 /27. LANCASTER and NEWARK detailed for this duty and as escort for D.S.31. (R.A.M., 0914/28).
- O.S.35 Not met. COMMANDANT D'ESTIENNE D'ORVES in company. My P.C.S. at 1000B 042° 33', 020° 49', 174° 9 knots. (SENNEN, 1002B/28).
- P.W.193 KRAKOWIAK is to pass the Gate at 1900/28 and proceed to relieve ALBRIGHTON as S.O. Escort of P.W.193. Rendezvous will be signalled later. (C. in C. Plymouth, 1025B/28). My 1025/28. Sailed. (C. in C. Plymouth, 1903/28).
- C.W.111,  
C.E.110. My 1702/21 and Capt. (D) 21, 1220/22. Escort of C.W.111 will be MEYNELL S.O. and EGLINGTON and C.E.110 EGLINGTON. (C. in C. Nore, 1040B/28).
- H.G.86 E. My P.C.S. 048° 02' N., 017° 48' W., 353° 7½. One F.W. shadowing. (STORK, 1057B/28).
- Barents Sea. S.B.N.O. Archangel 2241/25. (N.T. in War Diary) In view of U-boat(s) off coast of Novaya Zemlya Russians have asked for A/S escort to be continued as far as Yugersky Straits 069° 35' N. 060° E. Comply (corrupt group) escort vessels and report ships's details. (S.B.N.O. North Russia, 1246B/28 to M.S.F.1) Your 1246B/28. All British escorts consisting BRAMBLE, HAZARD (corrupt group) LOTUS, DIANELLA, LA MALOUINE. Endurance of Russian escorts not known. (M/S F.1., 1926C/28 to S.B.N.O. North Russia).
- GUERNSEY Intend sailing at 2100 today GUERNSEY QUEEN,  
QUEEN, THE MARQUIS, CRASTER, ARANDA to Kirkwall for  
THE MARQUIS, onward routeing Silloth, Leith, Aberdeen, Leith,  
CRASTER, respectively, also WAR SUDRA Scapa escorted by  
ARANDA, OAKLEY, PRESTON NORTH END, and TIREE. Speed 8 knots  
WAR SUDRA. E.T.A. 0600/30. Routed 061° 50' N., 005° 24' W.,  
059° 28' N., 002° 17' W., south of Aukerrv.  
(?N.O.I.C. Faeroes, 1436B/28 to A.C.O.S.)
- S.C.92 Average speed 7.63 knots. Fog 12th to 19th July. No stragglers other than ships which returned. All now reported. (D.T.D., 1527B/28 to Connav).

War Diary.28.7.1942.  
Tuesday.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping & Convoys. - Contd.

## Convoy.

If convoy cannot arrive Bar Light Vessel by 1600B/30 ships capable of so doing are to be detached on crossing 11° W., reporting their E.T.A. to Admiral Liverpool on 600 metres to Port Patrick on crossing 8° W. Loch Erne ship to proceed independently from position (G).  
(C. in C. W.A., 1538B/28 to C.T.U.24.1.18).

## W.S.21 S.

A.M. 2319B/18, 1847B/23, 1755B/24, 2326B/24.  
(1) Ocean Escorts from Clyde. F.O.10th C.S. in NIGERIA, KENYA, MANCHESTER.

- (ii) A/S escort (a) Bristol Channel to Clyde. WISHART.  
(b) Liverpool to Clyde WOLVERINE (c) From Clyde AMAZON, ZETLAND.  
(d) From Londonderry, WISHART S.O., VENOMOUS, DERWENT, MALCOLM, WOLVERINE.  
(iii) DERWENT is to sail direct from Liverpool to Londonderry. Remaining Londonderry escorts are to sail there after Clyde conference.  
(iv) Request you will sail ships accordingly.  
(C. in C. W.A., 1557B/28).

## BART

Intend sailing SS. BART escorted by THIRLMERE at 2300/29 for Faeroes. E.T.A. 0600/31. Route. (N.C.S.O. Kirkwall, 1645B/28 to A.C.O.S.)

## LIFLAND.

SS. LIFLAND is being escorted to Harwich by M.L. 224. Present position between 55A and 56A Buoys. (VIVIEN, 2044B/28).

D.S.31,  
A.T.18,  
S.D.31.

Convoy D.S.31 will consist of LEINSTER speed 16 knots. She will be ready to leave Clyde on 13/8 with service personnel for Reykjavik.  
2. F.O.I.C. Greenock is requested to sail D.S.31 as requisite to R/V with A.T.18 at 0915Z/15/8 in

M.O.M.P. 56° 45' N., 19° 30' W.

3. U.S. Army transports ANCON and H.F. ALEXANDER for Akureyri and QUEEN OF BERMUDA for Reykjavik carrying U.S. troops will be detached from A.T.18 after meeting and proceed with D.S.31 to destinations.

5. Ships in para. 3 will return to Clyde with LEINSTER as S.D.31  
6. R.A.M. is requested to detail 3 destroyers two of which will provide escort to Akureyri and the third to Reykjavik. Those 3 destroyers will return as escorts for S.D.31.  
(D.O.D. H., 2226B/28).

## H.X.199.

EMPIRE ZEPHYR informs me she has received instructions from Admiralty changing her destination to Mersey. Request confirmation.  
(HIGHLANDER, 2337B/28 to C. in C. W.A.)

854

28.7.1942.

Tuesday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.Raiders.

Intelligence. A.M. 1836B/21.  
 1. INDUS is considered a definite raider casualty. This provides further evidence of activity by Raider "E" or Japanese raider in Indian Ocean.  
 2. WILLIAM F. HUMPHREY sunk by raider in 06° 30' S. 01° 00' E. at 2128Z/16. In view of 2 sightings of a suspicious vessel resembling Raider "H" within 500 miles of Pernambuco on 8/7 and 13/7 it is possible that WILLIAM F. HUMPHREY was sunk by Raider "J"  
 3. Unknown vessel made a raider report from 26° 35' S. 04° 44' E. or W. at 0810Z/22. If report is genuine Raider "H" probable responsible.  
 (D.D.I.C.1021B/28)

North Atlantic.

ITHURIEL. Parted company from ANTELOPE on receipt of your 1502B/27. (N.T. in W.D.).  
 My P.C. and S. at 0100B/28 041° 53' 015° 34'  
 134° 20. E.T.A. 0800B/29. Please confirm you have no further orders for me.  
 (ITHURIEL 0110B/28 to F.O.C.N.A. (R) ANTELOPE).  
 My P.C. and S. at 1200B, 039° 16' 012° 17' 134° 20.  
 (ITHURIEL 1157B/28 to F.O.C.N.A.).

DREPANUM  
 AFRICANA. Message received Most Immediate timed 1843/27 from R.O. Bilbao Italian 54 (DREPANUM) arrived loaded with iron ore. No. 58 (AFRICANA) fully loaded ready for sea probably sailing Tuesday 28th.  
 (Madrid 0616/28 to Admty.).

Air Patrols. AC.290 28/7.  
 Request you fly patrols CV 8 and CV 9 to-morrow 29/7. Aircraft should be at Western Extremity at last light.  
 (H.Q.C.C. 0944B/28 to R.A. F. Gibraltar (R) Admty. Air Min).

O.24. If escort not met proceed Gibraltar unescorted keeping outside territorial waters and 100 fathom line. Acknowledge and report intention.  
 (F.O.C.N.A. 1206B/28 to D.S. O.24.).  
 Arrival D.S.O.24. Admty pass to B.D.Z.  
 (F.O.C.N.A. 1532B/28 to Admty (R) C. in C.S.A. etc).

U/B. Cartagena. My 1627/24. R.O. Cartagena, Spain reports inside information (?is that) S/M cannot leave under (U.573) 2 months. I am not satisfied this is true although special sources are definite she cannot leave before 3/8. Vice Consul (group missing) Spanish workers going slow and Blohm and Voss specialists expected.  
 (Madrid 1242/28 to Admty (R) F.O.C.N.A.).

/Situation.....

War Diary.28.7.1942.  
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic-Contd.

Situation, Area X.  
1958B/28. (i) ITHURIEL (7037°) 25' 009° 51' to Gibraltar  
20 knots.  
(ii) ANTELOPE 038° 42' 011° 31' to Cape St. Vincent  
thence 110° 15½.  
(iii)\* ELLESMERE, LEYLAND escorting tanker HALLANGER 034° 25' 009°  
05' 055° 15½.\* *at last off. STELLA CARINA intended - see p. 821.*  
(iv) SPIREA, GERANIUM escorting tankers ORWELL, ALEXIA 34.56 09.12  
through 34.00 12.00 thence (?Portsmouth) 9½.  
(v) IMPERIALIST, LORD HOTHAM R/V 4 merchant ships at 2200/28 off  
Lisbon and escorting coastwise to Gibraltar, 8 knots.  
(vi) ALOUETTE patrolling Huelva Bight.  
(vii) SCOTTISH apparently off Lisbon.  
(F.O.C.N.A. 1322B/28).  
Area Z.  
1. RAJPUTANA 027° 42' 018° 41' 181° 11. *see p. 859.*  
2. KONKAN (E) 22° (753) 18° 59' 180° 13.  
(F.O.C.N.A. 1352B/28).

German Tankers Your 1648/24 2 German tankers are still at  
Vigo. usual anchorage at Vigo near naval base see my  
1146/24/12/41. They have not (?docked) alongside  
quay for over one year.  
I hold S.P. 02389 (20) (Navy 3 way table).  
(R.O. Vigo 1547/28 to Admty.)

M.A.R.I. M.A.R.I. Sec. 2 para. 14A. Sub para (II) does  
not seem to agree with sec. I para. 16. Unless  
otherwise ordered am complying with the former.  
(V.A.C.N.A. 1631B/28 to Admty.)

LE TRAIT. ? Arrived.  
(French). (Lisbon 1831/28 to M.W.T.)

South Atlantic.

Vichy Convoy. At least 4 large merchant ships bearing lights  
first sighted bearing 000° 10 miles steering  
approx. 270°. My P.C. and S. 013° 22' N. 017°  
35' W. 079° 11 knots. ORISSA investigating.  
(GORLESTON 0441Z/28 to Admty. R.A. W.A. N.O.I.C.  
Bathurst., FOLKESTONE, ORISSA, R.I.N.)

Ships reported in 0451(0441/28 intended) (group missing)  
are 1 Naval Sloop, 2 Cargo ships believed LION S and ARIZONA,  
1 liner BELLE ISLE marked Vichy Francais. No reply received  
to our signal. (2 corrupt groups) course between 190° and 210°.  
9 knots. TAMAR (?ORISSA intended) and GORLESTON proceeding.  
(GORLESTON 0515Z/28 to Admty. etc.)

/Arrival....

856

War Diary.28.7.1942.  
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic.

Vichy Convoy - Contd. Arrival 1100Z/28 GORLESTON and ORISSA escorting SS. EMPIRE BARON. (N.O.I.C. Bathurst 1130Z/28 to R.A.W.A.) *See p. 854*  
Vichy Convoy sighted at 0945/26 in 4° 10' N. 14° 12' W. 297° 8 knots 4 M.Vs DAHOMEY, HOGGAR, CAPITAINE PAUL LEMERLE, ILE DE BREHAT, escorted by Destroyer A.75.  
(S.O.I. Freetown 1227Z/28 to Admty. D.N.I. (R) C. in C.S.A., F.O.C.N.A.)

ALCANTARA. ALCANTARA arrived off Durban escorting BANFORA and sailed for Capetown, E.T.A. 1400Z/30. (N.O.I.C. Durban 0530Z/28 to Admty., C. in C.S.A.)

TAYGETOS. My 0714Z/25 not to Comdre. Aden. TAYGETOS sailed Lourenco Marques 27th to R/V with C.M.30Z. From position 007° 05' S. 041° 05' E. routed independently by Lourenco Marques through position (D) 004° 01' S. 044° 30' E. (E) 004° 30' N. 050° 01' E. (F) 012° 50' 051° 20' speed 7 knots. E.T.A. Aden 16/8. (N.C.S.O. Durban 0704Z/28 to Admty., C. in C.S.A., C. in C. E.F. D.C. in C.E.F. Comdre, Aden, S.O.(I) Capetown, S.O.(I) Colombo S.O.(I) Kilindini, N.O.I.C. Kilindini, C.S.A. Lourenco Marques)

Colliers, Mozambique Channel. My 1504/20 para. 4. Intend sailing colliers SRECA, BARON ELPHINSTON, escorted by SOBKRA, SOLVRA, on 1/8 to R/V with CAMBANIS and GLADYS MOLLER from Lourenco Marques on 3/8 if ready. (2) HARTLEPOOL for Beira carrying 76(?) tons steel sheeting and pipes for Rhodesian government will be included in convoy. (N.O.I.C. Durban 0816Z/28 to D.C. in C.E.F., (R) Admty., C. in C.S.A., C. in C.E.F.)

A/S Whalers. Your 1118/23. SOBKRA, SOLVRA, will be sailed 1/8 in accordance with my 0816Z/28. (2) SIGFRA, SIMBRA, LURCHER, MASTIFF, will be ready for service 5/8. Propose that they escort collier convoy for Kilindini if ready. (3) SONDRRA will be completed middle of September. (Cdre I/C Durban 0832Z/28 to Admty. (R) C. in C.E.F. D.C. in C. E.F., C. in C.S.A., Capt. Supt. Durban.)

JOHN<sup>w</sup> MACKAY, cables. My 1329/26. JOHN<sup>w</sup> MACKAY has finished repairs to Accra cable and is proceeding south. 2. Request decision on para. 3. (R.A.W.A. 0927Z/28 to Admty.) *See p. 858.*

Lack of A/S Patrol craft. My 1930Z/27. Para. (?V) should read: To meet present situation can<sup>correction</sup> DUBOC and LEOPARD be retained and vessels at present detached returned as soon as circumstances permit. (R.A.W.A. 1035Z/28\* to Admty., (R) C. in C.S.A.) \*amended 1930Z/27. *See p. 825.*

/Situation

857

War Diary.28.7.1942.  
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic - conts:-

Situation. SPANIARD patrolling Sector T.  
(?SNOWDROP) 005° 50' 013° 25' 162° 8 at 2000/28.  
PICT 004° 20' 009° 58' to Takoradi through  
002° 40' 007° 41' 8.  
BOREAS 003° (2025°) 004° 25' to 002° 01' 007° 59' thence 298° 20.  
POSTBOY and small convoy 004° 20' 001° 50' 075° 7½.  
CORINTHIAN 000° 50' 000° 20' 158° 10½ *see next page*  
CHESHIRE 004° 05' S. 009° 40' E. to Freetown 12½. *see p. 858*  
(R.A. W.A. 1131Z/28 to Ships in Area P. of S.A. Stn. S. of 8° N. Admty.  
C. in C.S.A. N.O.I.C. Takoradi, R.N.O. Lagos).

LAERTES H.M. Trawler LAERTES sunk by U-Boat about 2115/25  
(torpedoed in approx. 6° N. 14° 17' W. After attacking  
sunk 25/7). doubtful contact earlier in afternoon further  
contact was made about 2110/25, at range 1000  
LAERTES turned to attack and sighted U-Boat  
surfacing. Shortly after one torpedo hit and sank ship. 11  
ratings rescued at 1300/27 by M.L. 302 but possible others were picked  
up by U-Boat.  
(R.A.W.A.F. 1231Z/28 to Admty (R) C. in C.S. A.).

WILLIAM F. My 1121Z/25. U.S. Tanker WILLIAM F. HUMPHREY sunk  
HUMPHREY by surface raider at 2142Z/16, in 005° 37' S. 000°  
(sunk 16/7). 56' E. Raider resembled raider J with 2 E-Boats  
which took part in attack.  
(R.A.W.A. 1235Z/28 to Admty. (R) C. in C.S.A. C.T.F.  
23).

My 1235Z/28. Raider description. Tactics employed. Master  
saw white light on port beam distant 3 miles and again 2 minutes  
later. Master altered course 090° to starboard full speed. After  
2 minutes star shell followed by heavy gunfire from port bows and  
machine gun fire from starboard quarter. After 5 minutes 3 torpedoes  
hit ship port hand one forward starboard side one forward one aft.  
Raider crossed bows and fired from 3 directions repeatedly. One  
life boat called alongside raider in good English. One survivor  
saw E-Boat.

(R.A.W.A. 1313Z/28 to Admty (R) C. in C.S.A. C.T.F. 23).

WOODRUFF (1) Proceed to R/V with Convoy O.S. 34 in 010° 36' N.  
O.S. 34. 017° 43' W. at 1200Z/29 to fuel from ROSEWOOD (Tanker).  
Convoy course 154° 8½ knots. (2) After  
fuelling proceed to R/V with tanker MOSLI in  
007° 25' N. 025° 31' W. and escort direct to Freetown at 1700Z/31.  
MOSLI steer approx. 098° 9 Knots.  
(R.A.W.A.F. 1414/28 to WOODRUFF (R) Capt. D. 18. Admty. FOLKESTONE  
Escorts O.S. 34, A.O.C.W.A.).

BARRYMORE Sailed to Kilindini routed through A. 028° 30' S.  
BARFOUNT. 032° 40' E. B. 024° 07' 035° 40' C. 019° 01' 037°  
35' D. 016° 30' 040° 20' E. 015° 20' 041° 01' F. 011°  
01' 041° 01' G. 007° 50', 040° 16' S. of A. 7½ knots.  
E.T.A. 1000Z/7/8. (2) W/T organizations constant watch between them  
as for merchant ships. Codes held as for merchant ships also  
current S.P. 02183.  
(N.O.I.C. Durban. 1428Z/28 to Admty. C. in C.S.A. C. in C.E.F.D.C. in C.  
E.F., N.O.I.C.E.A.N.Z. S.O. (I) Colombo, S.O. (I) Kilindini).

MORIZABA.

War Diary.

28.7.1942.  
Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic - Contd.

ORIZABA.  
(wrongly  
diverted  
Bombay).

Your 0241/3. It now appears that DEVONSHIRE diverted ORIZABA to Bombay on grounds that these were his instructions from D.C. in C. Eastern Fleet.  
(P.S.T.O. Simonstown 1503B/28 to Admty for D. of S.T. (R) D.C. in C.E.F.).

CHESHIRE  
TEMPLE INN.

Arrival Pointe Noire 27/7 CHESHIRE with SS. TEMPLE INN in tow.  
(Pointe Noire 1613/28 to Admty, (R) C. in C.S.A. R.A.W.A.). *See p. 824.*

RAMILLIES.

Your 1438B/26/7. RAMILLIES endurance does not permit of passage St. Helena to Trinidad.  
(C. in C.S.A. 1631B/28 to Admty (R) B.A.D. R.A.W.A.F. S.B.N.O.W.A.).

JOHN W.  
MACKAY.  
Cables.  
CORINTHIAN.

(1) CORINTHIAN escorting JOHN MACKAY left 4° 48½' N. 1° 46' W. at about 2200Z/27 proceeding towards Capetown in accordance with Admty 2145B/2/7  
(2) Route L. 023° 00' S. 010° 00' E.  
M.034° 40' S. 017° 30' E. thence Capetown. S. of A.11 knots.  
(3) Request escort may be provided to relieve CORINTHIAN when possible.  
(4) CORINTHIAN on relief will proceed Takoradi.  
(R.A.W.A.F. 1641Z/28 to C. in C.S.A. (R) N.O.I.C. Takoradi Admty, Capt. D.18 CORINTHIAN). *See p. 856.*

Shipping  
Freetown  
Area,  
dispersal.

Consider present submarine situation necessitates diversion of shipping well clear of Freetown.  
2. Intend to divert Northbound traffic to Southwards of 7° N. 25° W.  
3. To obtain maximum dispersal suggest arrangements may be made for diversion of Southbound traffic before crossing 26° W.  
(R.A.W.A. 1703Z/28 to Admty (R) C. in C.S.A. Connav)  
Reply:- D.T.D. 1801B/29 to S.A. and 1802B/29 to Connav.

In view of renewed U-boat threat in Freetown area an amendment to M.A.R.I. is being drafted giving approach routes to Freetown. This instruction is based on short experience of similar scheme east of Trinidad when it appears to be working well. 2. Requested you will report in due course whether scheme is operating satisfactorily.  
(D.T.D. 1954B/28 to R.A.W.A. (R) C. in C.S.A.).

LORD GAINFORD  
~~POINTE NOIRE.~~  
*Pointe Noire*

B/D Vessel LORD GAINFORD ~~and B/D POINTE NOIRE~~ has been transferred to F.N.F.C. (as received but presumably should be F.N.F.L.), as from 28/7.  
(B.D.O. W.A.F., 1705/28 to R.A.W. A. (R) Admty.).

859

War Diary.28.7.1942.  
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic-Contd.

- O.S. 34. Departure 1800Z/28 GORLESTON and ORISSA (R.I.N.) to R/V O.S. 34 in accordance with your 1725Z/27, not to C. in C.S.A. and Admty. *See p. 855.*  
(N.O.I.C. Bathurst 1809Z/28 to R.A.W.A. (R) C. in C. S.A., Admty.)
- AQUITANIA. Admty. 0001/11/6. AQUITANIA arrived Capetown 26/7 and sails for New York p.m. today via Freetown. Expeditious turn round was effected by taking advantage of favourable weather to berth ship at Capetown for fuelling and watering thus dispensing with use of tankers which will be kept ready for QUEEN ELIZABETH.  
(P.S.T.O. Simonstown 1817B/28 to Admty.)
- RAJPUTANA. F.O.C.N.A. 1026B/25. From position (D) pass through position (E) 014° 19' N. 019° (09') W. thence to Bathurst for fuelling and as ordered by N.O.I.C. Bathurst, estimated time Bathurst a.m. 1/8.  
(R.A.W.A. 1903Z/28 to RAJPUTANA, (R) F.O.C.N.A., F.O.C.R.I.N., Admty., N.O.I.C. Bathurst, C. in C. S.A.) *See p. 855.*
- MALAYA. Arrived 1735B/28.  
(S.O.I. Capetown 2022B/28 to Admty. etc.)
- Movements, Pernambuco. Arrival 28/7 U.S. Cruisers OMAHA, JUNEAU, U.S. Destroyers DAVIS, SOMERS, British cable ship CAMBRIA.  
(R.O. Pernambuco 2035Z/28 to Admty.)
- NORTHMOOR. My 2057Z/26, NORTHMOOR arrived Rosario 28th.  
(S.O.I. Montevideo 2147Z/28 to Admty.)
- CESHIRE. Ref. 1141B/27 from C. in C.S.A. and ref. 1121Z/28 (?1131/28 intended) from R.A.W.A.F. received.  
E.T.A. Freetown 0602Z/5/8.  
(CESHIRE 2305Z/28 to C. in C.S.A., R.A.W.A.F.)  
*See p. 857. (Situation?)*

Mediterranean.

- THORN. Proceed to vicinity of 033° 50' N. 022° 00' E. Leave this position for new patrol area at daylight 29th.  
(S.O.S. Alexandria 1033C/28 to THORN. (?) H.44, C. in C. Med., Capt. (S) 1, Capt. (S) 10).  
Cancel my 1033/28, ship has been damaged and is at Navarin.  
Proceed to execute previous orders.  
(S.O.S. Alexandria 2237C/28 to THORN.)

/Cositrep.....



War Diary.28.7.1942.  
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean-Contd.Cositrep  
464.

Part 2. Air. Night 26/27. Halifaxes and Wellingtons bombed shipping and harbour installations Tobruk. One ship claimed hit. Possible sunk. Several near misses on other ships.

Fires and explosions dock area and one violent explosion west side of harbour.

27/7. Beaufighters damaged 2 barges between Matruh and Sidi Barrani. Night 27/28. Approx. 10 enemy aircraft operated over southern Sector Suez Canal and Gulf of Suez. Preliminary reports indicated damage slight, but mines suspected laid in Gulf. Beaufighters shot down one He. 111, damaged another. (C. in C.M.E. 1037/28).

OTUS.

OTUS sailed from Haifa at 2001G/27 (?expected) through 033° 06' 033° 10' about noon/28 and 034° 40' 019° 01' (?about) (?1601G/4, thence Malta as routed by Captain (S) 10.

(Capt. S.1. 1113C/28 to S/Ms on Patrol.)

OTUS sailed at 2001G/27 for Malta and U.K.

(Capt. S.1, 1815C/28 to F.O.S. (R) Admty. C. in C. Med.)

→ CLYDE  
(?)My 1125/26. Cancel reference to Marsamxett and follow sweepers as in Capt. (S) 10's 1847/26 to position 4 and proceed to Marsaxlokk which will have been swept and bottom in position 205° Delimara 3 cables at first air raid. Surface at 2015 (? if no) raid in progress (?and) secure to Shell pier to discharge cargo. Sweepers will pass any further instructions by V/S.  
(V.A. Malta 1115B/28 to ?CLYDE).P.34.  
P.31.  
UNA.  
P.43.

P.43's 0329/28 acknowledged. (?S/Ms.) are to arrive in accordance with Capt. (S) 10's 1847/26, A.M., as follows:

P.34, P.31, UNA through 035° 21' 014° 12' on 31/7, 1/8, 3/8 respectively. Through 036° 09' 014° 01' P.43 2/8.

If periscope visibility less than (?3 miles) on day of arrival submarines are to remain in sanctuary until following day maintaining SS.T. communication as necessary.

(V.A. Malta 1138B/28 to 10 S.F.(R) C. in C. Med., Capt. S.1, CLYDE).

S/Ms,  
Malta.Orders to S/Ms when arriving at Malta.  
(V.A. Malta 1215B/28 to F.O.C.N.A., C. in C. Med.)  
See Lion and Tiger copies.

ST. BRIEUX.

French Ship ST. BRIEUX.  
(Barna 1231/28 to M.W.T.)

~~461A~~ hex  
860A Lion.

# MOST SECRET

MOST SECRET

MESSAGE 1215B/28 July IN.

From: V.A. Malta.

Date: 29.7.42

Recd: 0006

Naval Cypher C by W/T

Correction

Addressed: F.O.C.N.A. C. in C. Mediterranean repeated  
Capt. (S) 1, Capt. (S) 8, Admiralty,  
F.O.S.

*Submarine arriving Malta, instructions.*

## DEFERRED

434. Cancel my 1246 21st June and all but 1st 2 paragraphs of my 1150 29th March not to all addressees. Unless minesweeping situation deteriorates or enemy air offensive greatly increases submarines are to proceed up searched channel in QBB 273 as in Capt.(S) 10 1847 26th July not to Admiralty and F.O.S. Waters outside this searched channel are known to be mined.

Owing to 1 (one) to 2 knots sets which vary considerably in direction but are generally northerly or southerly navigation requires particular attention especially when submerged.

(2) Store ~~carrying~~ submarines will be ordered to bottom after arrival in harbour and they will be unloaded at night. If cargo is required at Marsaxlokk that channel will be swept before sweeper sweeps to end of main channel where the submarine will surface and then follow sweeper as far as position (4) in QBB 273 and proceed to bottoming berth as ordered.

(3) A/C beacon referred to in Capt.(S) 10 1847 26th July will always be shown for arriving submarines irrespective of which beacon is in use for R.A.F. and submarines will be informed what characteristics will be used.

(4) W/T watch on 465 kcs. is to be set in addition to M.S. routine 24 hours before arrival on which frequencies any RDF position obtained will be transmitted.

(5) If periscope visibility is less than 3 miles or sweepers are not met passage up searched channel is not to be attempted and submarine is to remain outside 100 Fathom line in Submarine Sanctuary, as far as practicable in vicinity of Filfola I. and keep submerged during daylight hours a report being made as soon as possible when further orders will be signalled.

(6) ...

(6) Following information will be passed before arrival quoting S.A.M. (a) sector and time of showing Gozo light

- (b) Approximate time submarine is expected to enter Sanctuary.
- (c) Characteristics of Hal Far beacon.
- (d) Approximate time sweeper will turn at end of searched channel.
- (e) Harbour to be entered.
- (f) Bottoming berth if necessary. Delemara light should not be expected and Gozo light will be exhibited only on dark nights or in bad visibility.

(7) Request orders on the above lines be issued to submarines sailing for Malta in order to minimize signals.

1215B/28

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

V.C.N.S.  
 A.C.N.S. (H)  
 A.C.N.S. (F)(2)  
 A.C.N.S. (W)  
 N.A. 1st S.L.  
 D.O.D. (H)(2)  
 D.O.D. (F)(2)  
 D.D.O.D. (M)  
 D.C. (2)  
 D.D.I.C. (2)  
 D.B.D.  
 D. of P. (2)  
 D.A/S.W.  
 Hd. of M.  
 D.B.D. 9  
 D.N.I. (4)  
 D.T.S.D.  
 D.T.M.  
 N.I.D. 10  
 Hydrog. (2)  
 D. of N.  
 D.M.S.  
 D.M.S. Citadel  
 I.P. (2)  
 W.D.  
 Admiral Blake

/MC

861

War Diary.28.7.1942.  
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean-Contd.

NEBOJSCA. My 1528/24th Yugoslavs cannot raise crew for NEBOJSCA and ask that she may be taken over by us. Request approval to commission NEBOJSCA with British Crew under 82.  
(C. in C. Med., 1312C/28 to Admty. (R) F.O.S., Capt. (S).)

THRASHER (attacked by own A/C 26/7). 3 x 250 lbs. bombs set to 25 feet exploded almost under THRASHER. 2 from Officer of the Watch estimation fell within a few feet 1 by fore hatch on port side 1 abreast of engine room hatch on starboard side, the 3rd further aft starboard side. First appeared to check S/M severely. 2nd and 3rd lifted stem sufficiently for bows to tip almost to water level. Battery shattered. Power failed completely after 8 hours. Gyro and diving compasses smashed. Pressure hull apparently only minor damage. Air line, main fittings and auxiliary machinery apparently only minor damage except for forward percolator pump. W/T out of action for only 2 hours. Full report follows in writing after docking. Provided no major damage is discovered on docking S/M should be ready for sea in approx. one month as full tests including deep diving and full power trial will be required.  
(Capt. S.1, 1600C/28 to C. in C. Med. (R) 201 Group, F.O.S.)

TRAVELLER. (1) A submarine was sighted in your area at 1053C/28.  
(Capt. S.1, 1847C/28 to TRAVELLER).

Situation report 243. Air raids. Suez area attacked night 27/28 by about 8 aircraft. D.E.M.S. Office Building wrecked. Boom Defence vessel PUNNET damaged and unfit for service. One naval rating killed one wounded. Bombs also dropped Shallufk and Shandur aerodromes. Night fighters destroyed one He. 111.  
2. Levant. German U-boat sank sailing vessel 30 miles east of Cape Greco on 24/7.  
(C. in C. Med., 1958C/28 to Admty.)

M/V damaged by Beauforts. Beauforts struck merchant ship in position 185 Sapienza 10 at 1210B, estimated one hit. Ship stopped. P.R.U. Spitfire report at 1715B followed oil streak to Navarin Bay where ship was found apparently damaged, also 3 cruisers and destroyers.  
(V.A. Malta 2005B/28 to C. in C. Med. (R) Admty.)  
Capt. (S)).

Malta Air Report. I.513 28/7. C.S.R. 27th. Alert 0712 hours, add 1 M.C. 202 destroyed. 1750 hours, 2 Ju.88s. escorted by 16 Me. 109s. and M.C. 202 bombed Luqa, no damage, 15 Spitfires up, but owing R/T failure and partial R.D.F. interference only 7 intercepted. 1 M.E. 109 probably destroyed, 1 R.E. 2001 damaged before bombing. 4 Spitfires up cover to Catalina.

/Night 27/28...

War Diary.28.7.1942.  
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean-Contd.

Malta Air Report - Contd. Night 27/28. 2 alerts. 1842 hours, 4 raiders approached to 10 miles North of Island and returned. V.H.F. and partial R.D.F. interference Beaufighter up, no interception. 2040 hours, 4 raiders approached, only 2 crossed coast, bombs land and sea caused no damage. 2 Beaufighters, 2 Spitfires up but could not intercept owing to partial R.D.F. and serious V.H.F. interference 28th. 2 alerts. 0635 hours, 27 Me. 109 fighter sweep fast and high, ineffective R.D.F. interference, 15 Spitfires up but lacked height, 1 shot down sea, Pilot rescued unhurt, another crash landed pilot killed. 0930 hours, 5 Ju.88, 15 Me. 109, and Re. 2001 approached, partial R.D.F. interference, 23 Spitfires up, enemy intercepted East of Island where 2 Ju.88s and 1 Me. 109 were probably destroyed 1 Ju.88 2 Me. 109s. 1 Re. 2001 damaged, only 2 Ju.88s. then crossed coast to bomb Halfar, craters and D.A. bombs runway temporarily unserviceable, during retreat 2 more Me.109s. damaged. 2 Spitfires up cover to minesweepers. (H.Q. R.A.F. Malta 2015/28).

Malta. Military situation report for week ending 25/7/42. Enemy air activity. Fighter sweeps first three days, thereafter regular two main raids daily, each about 5 Ju.88 and 17 (or 15) fighters. Anti personnel and H.E. bombs on aerodrome. Night raiders average 5 nightly except Monday when A.A. destroyed 3 Ju.88s. out of 16. Jamming of R.D.F. etc. continues. Counter measures being investigated. Enemy aircraft casualties. A.A. destroyed 3 Ju. 88s. at night, R.A.F. destroyed 7 bombers 10 fighters probably destroyed 4 fighters damaged 6 bombers 6 fighters. Increased security precautions being taken on Gozo. (Govr. Malta 2250/28 to C. in C.M.E.)

28.7.1942  
Tuesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

Sea Tractors. Following is a repetition of my 0426/27 (begins) Admty. from F.O.C.R.I.N. Re your 1853/23. Have any tests been carried out with sea tractors in open sea and do you consider them suitable for such work?

2. It would appear that considerable strain would be brought on transom of Dhow unless flat (CACM) (as received) (Ends). (F.O.C.R.I.N. 0402Z/28 to Admty.)

SOBIESKI. Cancel my 0531/25 to P.S.T.O. India only and also Admty 1803/26/6 in respect of SOBIESKI. She should be held in India pending further instructions. (D.S.T. 0532B/28 to P.S.T.O. India.)

Troops for Basra. C. in C. India's 1757/G cipher 25/7, quotes dates of arrival at Basra of 5th Division convoys "dependent upon shipping."

2. W.O. agreed signal 53327 of 24/7, requested that you should report to D. of S.T. shipping requirements and your proposals to ensure maximum speed of movement.

3. Request your early report. (D.S.T. 0707B/28 to P.S.T.O. India.)

Japanese Fleet Intelligence. My 1951/20. Following amendments. Northern waters. Add Seaplane Carrier SUJIKAWA MARU. Home waters. Add new aircraft carrier \*SUJIKAWA MARU HITAKA possibly a converted merchant ship joining (L.A. 1615 7210/28. 4th Aircraft Carrier Sqdn. Add also seaplane carrier FHIYODA, delete one destroyer squadron.

Mandated area. Delete cruisers KASHIMA and YUBARI add Cruiser CHOKAI, Flagship new 8th Fleet. Add also 3 seaplane carriers and 1 destroyer flotilla.

New Guinea and Solomon Island Area. Add Cruiser KASHIMA and one submarine squadron. Probably several transports.

Malaya and East Indies. Add cruiser ISUDZU and possible 7th Cruiser Sqdn and two destroyer squadrons. Seaplane carrier CHIYODA is in Formosa area. Units of 3rd Submarine Sqdn. operating in S.E. Australia. (C.O.I.S. Eastern Fleet 0931Z/28 to C. in C. E.F., C. in C. S.A., Admty., C. in C. Ceylon, A.C.N.B., N.Z.N.B., B.A.D., F.O.C.R.I.N., F.L.O. Delhi, F.O. Ceylon, V.A.3, R.A.A., C.S.4. Comd.(D))

TRUSTY. Cancel my 0327/23. You are to proceed Colombo. Route through X 006° 06' N. 082° 09' E. Y. 180° Dondra Head 32 miles. Z 005° 45' N. 079° 46' E.

(2) Total bombing restrictions arrange to add 20 miles Route (a) from W, 008° 40' N. 083° 14' E. through X to Y from 1400Z/28 to 0200Z/30. (b) From Y through Z to Colombo from 1600Z/29 to 1200Z/30.

(3) Your 576 0500Z/30. (S.O.S., Colombo 0937Z/28 to TRUSTY (R) F.O.I.C. Ceylon, C. in C. E.F., N.O.I.C. Trincomalee, A.O.C. Ceylon.)

864

28.7.1942  
Tuesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies - contd.

B.A.29 Z.

Sailing telegram, 2 ships.  
(N.C.S.O. Bombay 1110Z/28 to Admty.)

Diversion of  
Shipping.  
Reporting by  
Ships.

Your 0731Z/14 (?0741Z/14 intended) Para 2.  
Number of signals to be expected daily on your  
Station is estimated as not likely to exceed 25.  
Para 3. No evidence that raiders are fitted with  
H/F D/F but assuming they are, bearings will be  
more difficult to obtain at night due to interact-  
ion of ground and reflected rays and to greater instability of  
conditions at night. German and Italian submarines are not so  
fitted and there is no evidence to show the Japanese submarines  
are equipped with HF/DF. Since 1/5 18 ships on E.I. Station  
have been sunk by S/M, 4 by raider and 1 by cause unknown.  
Probable that S/M danger in this area will increase and it is  
only by keeping an accurate plot of merchant shipping and by  
making intelligent forecasts of S/M movements that losses can  
be kept down by timely diversions. Para 5 Admty. 2252B/27  
refers. 2. Requested you will give this scheme a trial and  
treat as a matter of urgency the setting up of an organisation  
which can divert shipping from known or suspected dangers.  
(D.T.D. Approved A.C.N.S.(T) 1139B/28 to C. in C. E.F. (R)  
C. in C..S.A.)

Fighter A/C  
Control.

Request your views on best Fighter control  
arrangements with two large Carriers in company  
and operating a large number of Fighters.  
(D.N.A.D. Approved A.C.N.S.(W) 1206B/28 to  
C. in C. E.F.)

Air Report,  
Burma,  
Ceylon.

A.949 28/7. Intelligence Summary No.135 on  
information received up to 1800 hours 28/7.  
Burma 1 Blenheim bombed central dock area Akyab  
27/7, no shipping seen in harbour no activity  
aerodrome, light A.A.

Ceylon. Coastal patrols and Catalina 250 (?256) miles east 27/7  
negative. U.S.A. Army Air Corps report that 1 of their aircraft  
sighted 15/7 an enemy aerodrome at Tahona at junction of  
Irrawaddy and Mogaung Rivers 24° 57' N. 97° 05' E.  
(A.H.Q. India 1426 G.M.T/28.)

Movements.

Colombo arrivals 28/7. 0300Z. WARSPITE,  
ILLUSTRIOUS, FORMIDABLE, BIRMINGHAM, MAURITIUS,  
NAPIER, NORMAN, NIZAM, INCONSTANT, VAN GALEN.  
Departures 1230Z, SCOUT.  
(S.O.I. Colombo 1446Z/28 to Admty. etc.)

865

War Diary.28.7.1942  
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies - contd.CALEDON,  
CORFU.My 1542/19/6 and A.M. 1548/6/7. Following  
amends programme for CALEDON. Leave Diego  
Suarez 1/8 and CORFU leave Kilindini 15/8.

Place	CALEDON	CORFU
Durban	5th Aug.	
Simonstown	8th Aug.	23rd Aug.
Pointe Noire	15th Aug.	
Freetown	21st Aug.	6th Sept.
Gibraltar	28th Aug.	
Plymouth	3rd Sept.	17th Sept.

Thence CALEDON to Chatham and CORFU to  
Southampton.

2. C. in C. S.A. and C. in C. W.Africa are  
requested to sail ships as necessary.  
(D. C. in C. E.F. 1507Z/28 to Admty. (R) C. in  
C. S.A. C. in C. Nore, F.O. Greenock, C. in C.  
West Africa, CORFU, CALEDON, N.O.I.C. Southampton)

Whalers.

A.L.D.N.O. (W.O) 494/41 of 2/3/1942. In view  
of C. in C. Med's 1951/27/4 (Conversion of 5  
Whalers at Mediterranean ports) request guns,  
mountings and ammunition for whalers being sent Colombo be  
diverted Mediterranean with exception of those intended for  
SEMLA.  
(N.O.I.C. Colombo 1511Z/28 to Admty.)

W.S.21 P.  
Escort.

Following are intended escort arrangements for  
W.S.21 P assuming expected sailing Durban about  
14/8.

1. W.S.21 P (fast section of convoy) ORION Togo-  
land to Aden, VALIANT to prudent limit of destroyer endurance  
then to Mombasa. Convoy will be routed through Mozambique  
Channel.
2. W.S.21 P G (slow section of convoy including SANTA CRUZ).
  - (a) ALAUNIA to about 10° N. thence with SANTA CRUZ to Aden.
  - (b) ENTERPRISE Durban to vicinity of Seychelles.
  - (c) DEVONSHIRE Seychelles to about 20°N. (d) 2 A/S vessels from  
about 018° N. 065° through Hormuz Strait.
3. Request you will arrange following: (a) ORION, EXPRESS,  
NEPAL and TJERK HIDDES to fuel at Port Said for escort of  
W.S.21 P from that vicinity. (b) ARROW and ANTHONY to provide  
anti S/M escort for VALIANT in Cape area, refuelling at Durban  
and rejoining convoy if this can be arranged. (c) EXPRESS to  
take place of ANTHONY if latter is not ready in time.
4. Request confirmation E.T.D. from Durban and whether any  
ships of either convoy will call there.
5. F.O.I.C. Ceylon is requested to arrange for 2 anti S/M  
escort ships to be available for (2) (D) about 28/8. Speed  
of slowest ship in W.S.21 P G is 13 knots.  
(D. C. in C. E.F. 1542Z/28 as amended 0714Z/29 to C. in C. S.A.  
(R) C. in C. E.F., Admty., B.S.3., F.O. Ceylon.)

/STIRLING CASTLE...



866

War Diary.

28.7.1942  
Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies - contd.

STIRLING  
CASTLE  
Escort.

My 1714/22 para 4. R/V for relief escort of  
STIRLING CASTLE 031° 01' S. 089° 03' E. at 0300Z/  
5/8. M 271 A 100° 18½ knots.  
(D. C. in C. E.F. 1907Z/28 to A.C.N.B. (R)  
GAMBIA Cdre. W. Australia.)

R.M.  
Appt.

Your MNB 28846 of 27/7 T.O.O. 1559/28, approved  
appoint Lt. Col. Lukis command 1. R.M.A.A. Bde  
Group vice Brown deceased and promotion Act.  
Brig. Signal date assumes appointment. Ref.

C. in C. E.I. 0331Z/10/5 and my 2241B/24, regret no R.M.  
Officers at present available for appointment to Staff C. in  
C.E.I  
(Adj. Gen. R.M. 2251B/28 to Force Overt. (R) Arminia,  
C. in C. E.F., R.M. Base Depot E.I. c/o F.O. Colombo.)

War Diary.

28.7.1942.  
Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies.

RAMSEY. My P.C. and S. at 0001Z/28, 040° 09', 066° 24', 027°, 16.5. E.T.A. 1800 p.m./28. Urgent defects to type 271. 4 torpedoes to land. (RAMSEY, 0100Z/28 to C.O.A.C. Halifax (N.S.), (R) Capt. (D) E.D.O.)

U-Boat Tactics. Recent attacks on U-Boats on surface give indications that U-Boats when being chased continue on approx. the same course after diving at a speed of 8 to 10 knots for about half an hour, they then surface once more and make off at high speed if unobserved. (C.T.U. 24.1.12, 0644Z/28 to F.O.N.F., (R) Admty., D.A/S.W., C. in C. W.A., N.S.H.Q., Connav, C.T.F. 24, C.O.A.C.) C.T.U. 24.1.12 0644/28. This assumption appears to be borne out by experiences of both BURNHAM and ST. CROIX. Suggest Funnel Sweep 20° either side of MLA from earliest possible position would probably be more effective than present Box Sweep which wastes time if above assumption is correct. (F.O.N.F., 1613Z/28 to Cominch, Admty., (R) C. in C. W.A., N.S.H.Q., C.T.F.24, C.O.A.C., C.T.U. 24.1.12.)

A.T. 20, N.A. 15. Ref. P.S.T.O. Simonstown's 1643/24. To make good deficiencies in A.T. 20 and N.A. 15, proposed to despatch DUCHESS OF BEDFORD, NEA HELLAS, and LETITIA from U.K. about 7/8 in addition to REINA DEL PACIFICO and ORMONDE referred to in my 0300/22. 2. Composition of A.T. 18 (20 intended) (British ships only) sailing New York 19/8 and N.A. 15 sailing Halifax 22/8 will now be as follows:- A.T. 20, WINCHESTER CASTLE, STRATHMORE, REINA DEL PACIFICO, ORMONDE. N.A. 15, AWATEA, DUCHESS OF BEDFORD, LETITIA, NEA HELLAS. (Capacities). 3. Further signal will follow to P.S.T.O. Simonstown regarding disposal of STRATHNAVER, MOOLTAN, DEMPO and MARNIX VAN ST. ALDEGONDE. (D.S.T., 0708B/28 to B.A.D., N.S.H.Q.)

TELAMON. TELAMON Dutch torpedoed and sunk 2355Z/24 in 009° 15' N. 059° 54' W. 15 survivors landed Port of Spain 27/7. Total crew 37, very doubtful whether more survivors likely. (N.O.I.C. Trinidad, 0822Q/28 to Admty.)

Movement Summary. 1800 G.M.T./28.

Ship	Position	Course	Speed
CILICIA	16½° N. 27½° W.	346°	13½
ASTURIAS )	Arriving St.	Blank	Blank
LARGS )	Thomas.		
	(Virgin Is.)		

(D.O.D. (F), 0825Z/28, 0828Z/28 to Opnav, (R) Comnav.)

/ U/B ...

868

War Diary.28.7.1942.  
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies - Contd.

- U/B. Aircraft sighted S/M at 0609Z/28 052° 52' N. 040° 05' W. course 045° magnetic. (C.O.A.C., 0838Z/28 to Admty.)
- U.S. Navy and Admty. 2227/21. F.O.I.C. Trinidad is of opinion that Adm. Oldendorf will not consult Navy Dept. with regard to suggested clear cut arrangement proposed in F.O.I.C. Trinidad's 1714/14 (Presume 1741Q/14 intended re plan for Contraband Control and Examination service in the Gulf,) as he is under orders of Adm. Hoover, who during short visit on 27/7 deliberately evaded any discussion of such questions. Could you therefore obtain from proper U.S. Authority in Washington their concurrence with Admty. view that proposals referred to are in accord with general agreement, in order that matter may be finally settled before Adm. Hodges turns over to his relief. Position as regards local responsibility for control of shipping appears to be clear. (S.N.O.W.A., 1001P/28 to B.A.D., (R) Admty., F.O.I.C. Trinidad.) Reply: Admty. 2124B/30.
- JAN VAN BRAKEL. From B.N.L.O. Your 1026/24 (N.T. in W.R.) Submit C.B. 4097 necessary while co-operating with British ship. Request application may be reconsidered at C.O.'s request. Leaves for Key West en route for Aruba a.m./30/7. (JAN VAN BRAKEL, 1005/28 to S.B.N.O. W.A.)
- U.S. Dispositions. Cominch's 2138/27, containing Serial 31 (changes in Locations in his 2130/20), informs as follows:  
Atlantic - MASSACHUSETTS at Boston. ARKANSAS, BROOKLYN and PHILADELPHIA at New York. TEXAS and CLEVELAND (light cruiser) due Norfolk 28/7. SOUTH DAKOTA at Philadelphia. RANGER and AUGUSTA due Trinidad 30/7. TUSCALOOSA at Rosyth. OMAHA and JUNEAU at Recife. CINCINNATI and MEMPHIS left Trinidad 27/7.  
Pacific - RALEIGH left San Francisco 23/7. HELENA left San Francisco 21/7. BOISE at Pearl. SALT LAKE CITY left Brisbane 14/7.  
(Comnav, 1209/28 to Admty., Recd. from U.S.N. 1745/28.)
- L. 27. Cancel my 2056/27. Sail L.27 escorted by QUALICUM when ready about 30/7 via Montajk Point. (K) 040° 05' N. 069° 40' W. (L) 040° 10' N. 066° 50' W. (M) 045° 40' N. 058° 45' W. (N) 046° 30' N. 052° 35' W. thence St. Johns (N.F.) Advise time of sailing and S. of A.  
(Connav, 1305/28 to Cmdr. Submarines Atlantic Fleet, (R) C. in C. Atlantic Fleet, C.E.S.F., C.T.24, Admty., C.O.A.C., N.S.H.Q., F.O.N.F., Com. 1.)

/ZWARTE ZEE ...

War Diary.

28.7.1942.  
Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies - Contd.

ZWARTE ZEE,  
ROODE ZEE.

Dutch tug ZWARTE ZEE is being docked at Bermuda. On completion about 31/7 intend sailing her to Trinidad to relieve ROODE ZEE who will then return to Bermuda. C. in C. U.S. Fleet is requested to give routes for both ships. (S.B.N.O. W.A., 1402Z/28 to Admty., (R) Trinidad, B.A.D., etc.)

Wreck.

Wreck with Mast projecting out of water reported 28.23 N. 96.11 W. 28/7. (Navcom Washington, 1416/28 to Admty, All U.S. Warships.)

COMRADE  
(sunk  
18/7)

British Schooner COMRADE sunk by shells and incendiary bombs 2100 G.M.T./18 in 011° 20' N. 058° 50' W., all on board arrived Tobago. (S.O.(I) Kingston, 1446R/28 to Admty., etc.)

ILE DE  
NOIRMOUTIER.

This is C. in C. U.S. Fleet, 1346/28. French SS. ILE DE NOIRMOUTIER now en route North Africa via Curacao is on approved voyage. (U.S. Navcom, 1452/28 to Admty., (R) C.A.F.A.C., C.C.S.F., C.E.S.F., C.T.F.22, C.T.F.23, R.A.W.A.F. F.O.C.N.A.)

S.C. Convoys.

N.S.H.Q. Ottawa 2126/24. Commencing with S.C. 95 sailing 4/8, S.C. convoy will be sailed from Halifax every 7 days. (C.O.A.C., 1505Z/28 to Admty., Cominch, C.T.24, C.E.S.F., F.O.N.F., B.A.D., N.A. Washington, N.O.I.C. Sydney (C.B.), N.S.H.Q.)

Shipping,  
Report of  
Positions.

Masters of all British managed ships bound for Freetown or Gibraltar from Gulf of Mexico or Caribbean are to be instructed (a) if fitted with H/F transmission, to report their position in accordance with A.M. 2252B/27 on the night after crossing 26° W. or (b) if not fitted with H/F transmission, and if not already met by an escort, to report their position. (1) if bound for Freetown, on crossing 22° W., or (2) if bound for Gibraltar, on crossing 15° W. (D.T.D., 1513B/28 to B.R.Os Key West, Trinidad, Aruba, Curacao, (R) C. in C. S.A., R.A.W.A., F.O.C.N.A., S.B.N.O. W.A., Connav.)

Dispositions. Section South West. O.N.112, T.U. 24.18.8. (?) 043° 25' N. 064° 35' W. 222° 7.5, alter in 065° 17' W. to 259°. (?) B.X. 30C T.U. 24.18.6, 043° 15' N. 065° 50' W. 093° 10 altering in 050° 26' W. to 052°.

870

War Diary.28.7.1942.  
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies - contd:-

Dispositions (Contd.) MELVILLE, MEDICINE HAT, patrol South of Cape Sable.  
 QUALICUM 043° 45' N. 64° 10' W. 223° 13 altering in 67° 34' W. to 255°.

H.S. 35 MATAPEDIA, NORANDA, MAHONE, sailing 1830Z/28/7, Newfoundland 42° 25' N. 63° 15' W. 176° 15 knots. (C.O.A.C., 1526Z/28 to Admty.)  
 Section East.

S.C. 93 T.U. 24.1.17, 051° 10' N. 047° 50' W. (?046°) (? 6).  
 DORCHESTER, CHATHAM, U.S. Dest. SWANSON 051° 10' N. 048° 30' (?) W. 041° (?) 12.

O.N.113, T.U. 24.18.7, 044° 45' ?N. 025° (?) 30' W. 250° 9.  
 H.X.200, T.U. 24.18.3, 044° 45' N. 057° 50' W. 076° 9 altering in 053° 05' W. to 037°.

FOUNDATION FRANKLIN, WASAGA, 045° 50' N. ?055° 40' W. 074° 10.  
 MALPEQUE 047° 10' N. 052° 20' W. en route St. Johns N.F.  
 S/M P.554 on surface escorted by TRILLIUM sailed Argentia 2200Z/28 9 knots, routed through (A) 046° 55' N. 054° 30' W. (B) 046° 25' N. 054° 05' W. (C) 046° 25' N. 053° 05' W. (D) 046° 36' N. ?052° 45' W. (E) 047° 30' N. 052° 23' W. thence St. Johns N.F.

OLAF FOSTENES 048° 05' N. 049° 32' W. 046° 13.5 Labrador, 3.  
 SHAWINIGAN 053° 10' N. 055° 30' W. to Hamilton Inlet, 7.  
 S.G.3, U.S.S. MODOC, MOHAWK, 053° 45' N. 054° 10' W. 020° 10.  
 G.S.3, U.S.S. MOJAVE, ALGONQUIN, 054° 05' N. 053° 50' W. 200° 10.  
 N.B. McLEAN, U.S.S. TAMPA, Labrador Coast en route Resolution Island.  
 3 Merchant ships LUNENBURG 051° 45' N. 056° 10' W. westbound, 8. (C.O.A.C., 1530Z/28.)

U/B. S/M sighted by aircraft (? 043°) 38' N. 63° 31' W. at 1515Z/?28.  
 (C.O.A.C., 1542Z/28 to Admty. as amended 1717Z/28)

Escort of Tankers. This despatch represents my further consideration of matters listed in your 1328B/26 to B.A.D. Para. 1 (B). It would be uneconomical to include Gulf ships in proposed Halifax Guantanamo Convoys because of delay incidental to inclusion in T.A.W. - W.A.T. Convoys. Para. 2 (A). No objection perceived to reduction strength Mid-ocean escorts temporarily. (B) 2 U.S. Destroyers cannot be made available in exchange for 2 Canadian Corvettes unless some groups in Sea Frontier escorts are to be wholly without destroyers which is unacceptable. (C) W.A.T. - T.A.W. Convoys are already on a 4 day cycle due solely to insufficient escorts to maintain a 3 day cycle. These convoys require 7 escort groups which are equivalent of 35 operating ships of capabilities of 173 foot P.C. Boats or above. At present there are 39 such ships available. Removal of B.5 group of 10 ships would so decrease strength of escorts as to force consideration of abandonment or marked reduction in these convoys that were only inaugurated 1/7. As a temporary expedient for next few months which will lead to minimum

/disruption ...

War Diary.28.7.1942.  
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies, conts:-

Escort of Tankers. (Contd.) disruption present system propose continue H.A. - A.H. convoys on ten day cycle with two groups fortified as necessary by mid-ocean escorts so that an unlimited number of ships may be accepted in these convoys.  
(C. in C. U.S. Fleet, 1546/28 to Admty., (pass to Comnaveu for information), (R) N.S.H.Q.,

C. in C. W.A.)

See also N.S.H.Q. 1859Z/28.

Your 1328/26. Recommend concurrence with Cominch 1546/28.

2. It is considered that as 3 ocean escort groups are unobtainable, this is the best method of immediate accelerating the tanker traffic as a temporary measure.

(B.A.D., 2151Z/28 to Admty., (R) N.S.H.Q.)

U/Bs.

Submarines sighted by fisherman 046° 31' N. 062° 39' W. at 1020Z/28, aircraft (? investigation).  
(C.O.A.C., 1551Z/28 to Admty.)

Escort of Tankers.

A.M. 1328/26/7.

Para. 1. Do not consider practicable to operate present convoy schedule with 10 mid-ocean groups even summer and direct routeing. Layover at

Newfoundland would be too short for boiler cleaning. Alternatively if sailing of O.N. convoys were adjusted to cut down layover at Londonderry (normally 7 days) then B groups could not boiler clean there.

Para. 2. Suggest Admty. might be asked whether they are prepared to consider opening up schedule of ocean convoy sailing to 8 days.

(F.O.N.F., 1557B/28 to N.S.H.Q.)

U/B Positions. (C, in C. U.S. Fleet, 1726/28, 1727/28, 1728/28, 1729/28, 1730/28.)

IRISH PLANE, suspicious.

Following received from BURNHAM (begins) Met Eire ship IRISH PLANE in 47.20 N. 41.45 W. steering eastward at 2200Z/25. As she was in vicinity of O.N.113 when shadowed request her credentials be looked up. (Ends).  
(F.O.N.F., 1736Z/28 to Admty., (R) N.S.H.Q.)  
See also N.S.H.Q. 2141Z/29.

CALDWELL.

My 1630/23 (CALDWELL to sail from Boston to Halifax) and 1710/25th. For Tuesday 28/7 read Wednesday 29/7.  
(B.A.R.M., 1818Z/20 to Admty., (R) N.S.H.Q., etc.)

/Escort ...

War Diary.

28.7.1942.  
Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies - Contd.

Escort of Tankers. Admty. 1328/26. Concur provided Canadian Oil Controllers Tankers are give priority up to 15 per month.  
(II) 6 Canadian Corvettes now escorting H.A. - A.H. convoys are available as follows. 3 at Halifax on 10/8 and remaining 3 at Curacao on 5/8.  
(III) 2 of these 6 can be exchanged with 2 U.S. Destroyers when convenient to U.S. Naval Authorities. Request information of duty on which these 2 Corvettes will be employed and date and place of exchange. (IV) B.A.D. pass to C. in C. U.S. Fleet. (N.S.H.Q., 1859Z/28 to B.A.D., (R) Admty., F.O.N.F., S.B.N.O. W.A., C.N.A. Washington, C.O.A.C.)

Midway Island. Preliminary report of lessons learnt from action. (B.A.D., 1915Z/28 to Admty., C. in C. E.F.)  
See Lion Copy.

Carriage of Passengers, U.S. Strategic Area. S.B.N.O. W.A.'s 1256/27. U.S. Authorities making tentative arrangements for special convoy towards end of August, which will remove all women and children to U.K. It will then be necessary to arrange special passages from either Halifax or New York to

U.K.  
2. Suggest as soon as fixed date of U.S. Convoy is known, S.B.N.O. W.A. Signals exact numbers of passengers. Most convenient method would then be to provide one British ship to sail with A.T./N.A. Convoy.  
(B.A.D., 1927Z/28 to Admty.)

HONOLULAN. (Following addressed Admiral Liverpool repeated S.N.O. Freetown from Burnham Radio received from WINCHESTER CASTLE) WINCHESTER CASTLE picked up entire crew of American Steamer HONOLULAN.  
(Portishead Radio, 2000/28 to Admty.)

Sub attack and sighting summary. ONANDAGA, 2 torpedo hits, 1 port and 1 starboard. Subs sighted 10.55 N. 61.29 W. 1033Z/28. 36.54 N. 75.44 W. about 1325Z/28. 47.08 N. 42.57 W. 0815Z/27. Guard ship sights periscope 36.54 N. 75.51 W. 2230Z/27. Sub reported 41.15 N. 71.55 W. 1945Z/27. Panair plane sights sub on surface 19.42 N. 78.20 W. 2300Z/27. Patrol craft attacks sub 35.10 N. 74.25 W. 1325Z/26.  
(Cominch, 2044/28 to Admty. for O.I.C.)

U/B Campaign. Connav Serial 28. POTLATCH U.S. reported sunk, time and place not yet known. Survivors ashore. ST. KITTS, BROOM PARK Serial 27 not sunk, salvage possible. COMRADE British Schooner 110 tons sunk by S/M 17/7 011° 35' N. 059° 35' W. LUCILLE M(?) Nova Scotia schooner 54 tons (shelled sunk) 25/7.  
(Connav, 2101/28 to Comnav, (R) N.S.H.Q., C.P.S.F., S.O. Kingston, C.E.S.F., C.C.S.F.)

/Navy ...

# MOST SECRET

1915z/28th July  
 MOST SECRET MESSAGE IN  
 Date 29.7.42  
 Recd. 2040  
 From B.A.D. Washington

## Naval Cypher F by Cable

Addressed Admiralty, C. in C. Eastern Fleet.

### IMPORTANT

210.

Personal for First Sea Lord.

Preliminary report from <sup>FAA.</sup> (~~particular~~) point of view of lessons learnt from Midway Is. battle.

General.

1. U.S. Intelligence was brilliant and enabled Task Forces to be operated with great tactical advantages at outset of battle.
2. Delays were experienced due to C. in C. Pacific Fleet signalling appreciations to Task Force Admirals in high grade cyphors not held by "private" carriers. This entailed long visual signalling messages being passed to private carriers before they could send off attack groups.
3. Task Forces did not maintain continuous watch on all shore based reconnaissance frequencies. Enemy reports rebroadcast from shore station(s) were received in some cases more than 2 hours after original report.
4. Tracking (shadowing) on whole was unsatisfactory, in that it was not continuous, it also did not include any comprehensive account of enemy loss. This resulted in Task Force Commanders not knowing which parts of enemy fleet were being attacked by other units, this was particularly so in the case of attack <sup>mid out</sup> ~~carrying~~ shore based Marine Corps and Army Air Corps aircraft.
5. The difficulties shown in para. (4) would largely have been overcome if U.S. had had an organization similar to our duty Q although it is doubtful if our present organization would have allowed for comprehensive report, of 2 widely separated enemy forces, reaching all

necessary/...



872<sup>13</sup>

necessary authorities. Our present and future operational type carrier borne aircraft with possible exception of Fireflies are unlikely to be allowed to remain in the vicinity of enemy fleet while his carriers can still operate fighters.

6. To obviate difficulties envisaged in para. (5) it has been suggested that heavily protected long range shore based aircraft such as the B 17 should be made available with a Naval Observer in them for duties similar to our duty Q.

7. It is for consideration that, if our fleet is going to operate in Pacific or Indian Ocean waters where island bases may be available, a small long range Naval reconnaissance unit equipped with B 17's or some similar aircraft might be formed.

8. U.S. aircraft were not all fitted with I F F. This had a direct bearing on attack on U.S. A/C Carrier YORKTOWN. It appears probable the Japanese did not know position of U.S. carriers until U.S. Aircraft Carrier YORKTOWN broke R/T silence on power to Vector fighters on to aircraft which subsequently proved to be friendly. The attacks on YORKTOWN developed subsequently at a time commensurate with them having been organized on D/F bearings of these transmissions.

9. The danger of unauthenticated R/T was shown when Japanese asked by R/T using correct calls, for position of U.S. Carriers.

10. The necessity for a fighter escort in daylight is emphasized by total loss of Torpedo Squadron 8 whose escort inadvertently joined up with striking force from another carrier.

11. The necessity for fighters to have the same range as other attack aircraft is emphasized. Several fighter forces landed in sea owing to lack of fuel.

12. It would appear that the most hopeful solution to long range fighter problem is to fit all Naval fighters with a dropable tank, the fuel arrangements being such that petrol from this tank is used on outward journey. Aircraft would then drop this tank if engaged in fight and would not have their performance penalized by its extra weight. This is being done in future American fighters.

# MOST SECRET

- 3 -

13. Zero fighters again out performed and out manoeuvred F 4 F 4's but were much more vulnerable and again there are reports of Zero being reluctant to attack aircraft in formation. Even as few as 2 would cause them to open fire ineffectually at long range. It is obvious in every report that come in that superior courage and skill of U.S. aircraft crews more than made up for deficiency of their equipment.

14. When it was obvious that Japanese carriers were out of action C. in C. Pacific Fleet made signal suggesting that time was propitious for night surface attack, it is not quite clear why this was not done.

15. Results of battle have strengthened U.S. Naval opinion that Commanders of Task Forces containing carriers must be aviators.

16. U.S. dive bombing was most successful and opinion is expressed that very high Japanese aircraft losses were due to carriers being on fire from stem to stem thus rendering it quite impossible for any aircraft to get back aboard them.

17. Further report will be signalled when further details are known.

1915Z/28

Advance copy sent 1st S.L.

- 1st Lord
- 1st S.L. (2)
- C.N.A.S.
- V.C.N.S.
- A.C.N.S. (H)
- A.C.N.S. (F) (2)
- A.C.N.S. (W)
- N.A. 1st S.L.
- D. of P. (2)
- D.O.D. (F) (2)
- D.O.D. (H) (2)
- D.N.A.D.
- D.A.C.D.
- Hd. of Air
- D.T.S.D.
- Hd. of M.
- D.N.I. (4)
- D.A.M.
- D.S.D. (2)
- D.S.D. 9.
- Duty Capt. (2)
- D.A/S.W.
- D.D.I.C. (2)
- D. of P. (Q)
- I.P. (3)
- W.D.
- Admiral Blake

**MOST SECRET**

From War Registry.

1915Z/28

B.A.D. ~~1915Z/28.~~CORRECTION

In paragraph 1 second line read "F.A.A."  
instead of "(?particular)"

In paragraph 4 line 7 read "carried out by"  
instead of "carrying".

H.W.R.

1st Lord.  
1st S.L. (2)  
V.C.N.S.  
A.C.N.S. (H)  
A.C.N.S. (F) (2)  
A.C.N.S. (W)  
D.N.A.S.  
A.A. 1st S.L.  
D. of P. (2)  
D.O.D. (F) (2)  
D.O.D. (H) (2)  
D.N.A.D.  
D.A.C.D.  
Hd. of Air.  
D.T.S.D.  
Hd. of M.  
D.N.I. (4)  
D.A.M.  
D.S.D. (2)  
D.S.D. 9.  
D.C. (2)  
D.A/S.W.  
D.D.I.C. (2)  
D. of P. (Q)  
I.P. (3)  
W.D.

MEK. Admiral Blake.

873

28.7.1942.  
Tuesday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies - Contd.

Navy Dept. messages. The address and routeing of messages to Navy Dept. is still proving somewhat unsatisfactory. Suggest general message on following lines should be issued to clarify the matter. (Begins).

Following is promulgated to assist originators of signals to Navy Dept. in addressing and routeing messages. C. in C. U.S. FLEET (short title Cominch) deals with operations, U.S. Chief of Naval Operations (short title Opnav) deals with administration which includes Intelligence W/T Intelligence and Communications and C. in C. U.S. Fleet (Convoy and Routeing) short title Cominch (C and R) deals with matters similar to those dealt with Trade Division, Admty. All 3 authorities are situated within Navy Dept. Telegraphic addresses are Cominch, Opnav and Connnav respectively.

(2) Delivery groups have been allocated to all 3 authorities to expedite handling through British communications channels, Washington D.C.

(3) It is never necessary to include more than one of these authorities in the address of a message as messages are passed from one C.C.O. to another within Navy Dept. as required. Important, however, that correct authority be addressed to avoid delay which may otherwise result. (Ends). Request groups for "C. in C. U.S. Fleet (Convoy and Routeing)" and "Commander Sea Frontier Indicated" may be included in naval cypher No. 4 and naval code.

(B.A.D., 2105Z/28 to Admty., (R) N.S.H.Q.)

DASHER. Your 1820/22. DASHER now delayed due to machinery defects. She should be ready by 17/8 in which case she will be included in A.T. 20. (B.A.D., 2121Z/28 to Admty., (R) C. in C. W.A., N.S.H.Q.)

TOULOUSE, PELEUS, BENVANNOCH. Norwegian TOULOUSE, Greek PELEUS, British BENVANNOCH, diverted Trinidad while en route U.S. from South Africa, have not arrived. Have you any information? (S.O.I. Jamaica, 2129R/28 to N.S.H.Q., (R) Admty., Connnav, S.B.N.O. W.A., B.A.D.) Reply: N.S.H.Q. 1504Z/30.

Convoy System, Conference. This is C. in C. U.S. Fleet 2145/28, B.A.D. and C.J.S.W. informed. Estimate of potential escort vessels as of 1/9 leads to belief that escort efficiency particularly as to reduction turn around, more economical employment escort Groups, and improved interlocks at assembly ports, will result from general revision of convoy routes about that time. Therefore propose meeting in Washington 1000/1/8, representative designated by action addressees and one from each of Info. addressees less Commaveu, to consider revision present Atlantic convoy system on these premises:

/ (A) ...

874

War Diary.28.7.1942.  
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies - contd. -Convoy  
System,  
Conference.  
(Contd.)

(A) Operate convoys between Galveston and New York utilizing Key West as necessary junction only.  
 (B) Continue Panama Guantanamo convoys.  
 (C) Modify present W.A.T. - T.A.W. run between Trinidad and Guantanamo via Aruba but with subsidiaries as necessary and possible between Guantanamo and Key West.  
 (D) Inaugurate Guantanamo - New York convoys.  
 (E) Use New York as terminal port alternate O.N. convoys with consideration to H.X. either using same port or taking advantage protection afforded by Long Island Sound to assemble at Newport.  
 (F) Abolish A.H. - H.A. Foregoing not intended to exclude any other considerations but only to give in broad terms what we have in mind.  
 (C. in C. U.S. Fleet, 2145/28 to Admty. and N.S.H.Q., (R) Commaveu, C.E.S.F., C.G.S.F., C.C.S.F., C.P.S.F., Cinclant, C.T.F. 24.)  
 Reply : Admty. 0101B/30.

U/B.

S/M sighted by A/C 046° 45' N. 062° 50' W. at 2052Z/28 course 270°.  
 (C.O.A.C., 2210Z/28 to Admty.)

Minesweepers,  
Trinidad.

In view of present lack of minesweepers at Trinidad and probability of enemy minelaying in those waters, U.S. authorities have agreed that the first 10 B.Y.M.S now starting to commission at Seattle and ultimately destined Freetown and Gibraltar, should work up for 14 days at Trinidad, instead of doing so at San Francisco.  
 (2) They will be sailed in groups of 2 or 3 when ready, and routed to Trinidad, stopping as necessary for fuel.  
 (B.A.D., 2215Z/28 to Admty., S.B.N.O.W.A., F.O.I.C. Trinidad, F.O.C.N.A., R.A.W.A.)

FRANZ  
KLASEN,  
collision.

Following from Philadelphia (begins). Casualty on fire and in collision with bridges in Chesapeake Canal FRANZ KLASSEN (Pan.) 28/7.  
 (Ends.) Ship en route Curacao from New York. Kingston informed.  
 (N.S.H.Q., 2242Z/28 to Admty., Connav.)

EBB  
(sunk by  
U/B.)

WITHERINGTON has picked up 12 survivors U.S. fishing vessel EBB, sunk by gunfire by U-Boat 0700Z/28? position approx. 043° 20' N. 063° 40' W. Intend detaching WITHERINGTON with one corvette and Boston ship direct to Boston daylight 30th in 070° W. C.O.A.C. Halifax is requested to acknowledge.  
 (VANOC, 2245Z/28 to Cdr, 1st U.S. Naval District Boston, Connav,  
 (R) C.T.24, Admty., C. in C. W.A., N.S.H.Q., F.O.N.F., C.O.A.C, C.T.G. 24.)

/BRITISH ...

875

War Diary.28.7.1942.  
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies - Contd.BRITISH  
MERIT  
(torpedoed  
25/7.)

Your 1338Z/28. <sup>N.T.A.W.D.</sup> My P.C. and S. 048° 54' N 041° 06' W. 260° 4 knots escorting FRISKY and BRITISH MERIT. Do not require assistance. Weather report.  
(NAPANEE, 2256Z/28 to F.O.N.F.)

U/B Report  
27/7.

My 1841/27 (Report by R.A.C.F. Hampden by sighting S/M on surface) search by H.M. Canadian Ships and R.C.A.F. A/C negative.  
(C.O.P.C., 2334Z/28 to Admty., N.S.H.Q., S.B.N.O. W.A., Comm. N.W. Sea Frontier.)

Australia and New Zealand.

"Schooner B".

Convoy "Schooner B" arrived consisting of RAJULA, WESTERNLAND, ARONDA, EKMA, CLAN MACDONALD, \*DEVONSHIRE. \* *See next page*  
(Cdre. W. Australia 0125Z/28 to Admty., Naval Board Melbourne (R) C. in C. E.F., F.O.I.C. Ceylon.)

U/B.

A/C sighted and unsuccessfully bombed enemy S/M at 2337Z/27th in 035° 45' S. 117° 21' E. MARYBOROUGH proceeding to Albany to search.  
(Cdre W.A. 0458Z/28 to H.M.I.S. Bombay (R) D.N.O. South Australia, D.N.O. Victoria, Australia.)

Situation.

Serial No. 187 27/7.

Indications enemy S/M Newcastle Area 0850/26.

(5) Ref serial No. 185, para 1. Cancel report

S/M attack 2 Merchant Ships at 1900/24.

2. 7 Hudsons bombed Koepang Aerodrome 1202Z/26, 2 fires started. 8 Hudsons bombed same Aerodrome at 1800Z/26 results not observed. Bofors Type A.A. fire encountered.

3. Attacks on Buna Gona Area between 1045Z/26 and 0315Z/27 by 2 Catalinas, 3 Marauders 5 A. 24s escorted by 12 aircraft. Several huts and one small ammunition dump demolished, hits Buna Road.

4. Natiye report indicates 2 Cruisers, 2 Destroyers off Ramos Island 8° 16' S. 160° 11' E. at 1830Z/24, course S.

5. Air R/C 26/7 reported small Army Barracks Rekatabay (Ysabelhisland) also Barracks type buildings Gijunabeana (Gijunabeana) Irlang (East Side Rekata Bay)

876

War Diary.28.7.1942.  
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Australia and New Zealand.

Situation (Contd.)

6. Enemy R/C A/C over Broome 0240Z/27.  
7. At least 1 enemy A/C believed flying boat over Townsville at 1622Z/27. 3 bombs dropped 5 miles from Aerodrome, no damage.  
8. 3 possibly 5 aircraft attacked R.A.A.F. Aerodrome Darwin between 1256Z/27 and 1550Z/27. Slight damage Searchlight Station.  
9. Enemy patrol activity Kokoda Area. Allied Forces evacuated Kokoda 27/7 after destroying Aerodrome.  
(G.H.Q., S.W.P.A., 0950Z/28 to Admty., etc.)

Escort for troops to Middle East. <sup>Transport</sup> My 1102/27. Netherlands Cruiser TROMP and H.M.A.S. KANIMBLA will be available to escort DEVONSHIRE to Colombo. A.M. 2246B/24 refers. (2) Subject to confirmation that escort can be arranged by C. in C. E.F. and C. in C. S.A. as requested in para. 3 and 4 of my 1102Z/27, propose sailing FELIX ROUSSEL and WESTERLAND in accordance with my para. 3.  
(A.C.N.B., 1111Z/28 to Admty., etc.)

Enemy S/M Parent Ship. Coast watcher Savo (Solomon Is.) reports having seen off Kokoom 8/7 a small S/M entering the "submerged bows" of a motor vessel of about 15,000 tons with 1 funnel, and also 3 other small S/Ms alongside "refuelling". Principle described as similar to whaling mother ship. Graded C.2.  
Admty. 0949B/12 refers.  
(A.C.N.B., 1409Z/28 to Admty., C. in C. E.F., C. in C. S.A., (R) C.O.I.S. Kilindini, S.O.(I) Capetown, N.Z.N.B.)

INDUS. INDUS, British, due Fremantle 21/7 from Colombo has not arrived.  
(A.C.N.B., 1159Z/28 to Admty., etc.)

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.Submarines Reported.

Approximate positions of U-Boats.  
(D.D.I.C., 1500B/28, 1510B/28.)

War Diary.

29.7.1942.  
Wednesday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

M.L. A/S striking forces are to be established at Sullom Voe or Balta Sound in the Shetlands and also in the Faroe Islands. The forces will be kept at short notice and ordered out by A.O.C.S. when U-Boats are reported in the area.

Whilst M.G.Bs 67 (S.O.), 63 and 61 with M.T.Bs 32 and 69 were on patrol in 51° 23' N. 3° E. at 0042 today the M.G.Bs engaged 3 or 4 E or R boats steering to the N.E., which escaped, probably not without damage. Three minutes later two trawler type vessels with a larger vessel were sighted steering south-westwards and were engaged by all forces. The larger vessel was evidently hit by torpedoes and was seen on her side sinking rapidly and one of the trawlers was probably damaged. M.G.B. 67 and M.T.B. 32 sustained considerable damage and had some casualties; M.G.B. 61 had two engines put out of action but had no casualties.

British Air Operations.

259 aircraft took off to attack Hamburg last night, but about a third turned back when a recall signal was sent out. Eighty-five aircraft attacked under difficult conditions, other aircraft bombed Cuxhaven and other targets in N.W. Germany. Our losses were heavy.

Enemy Air Operations.

Trawlers ANDRADITE and LOIS were attacked by one Me.109 at 0730 today four miles south of Dover whilst returning from patrol. ANDRADITE (Lieut. E.S. Brookes R.N.V.R.) shot down the enemy. LOIS sustained 3 slight casualties.

Yarmouth was bombed at 0855B today. No naval damage was caused.



War Diary.

29.7.1942.  
Wednesday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Mining.

24 R type German mines were detonated and two mines were swept today 6 to 7 miles E. by S. of Beachy Head.

South Atlantic.

In view of the renewed U-Boat threat new approach routes to Freetown were today promulgated, based on short experience of a similar scheme east of Trinidad where it appears to be working well.

Mediterranean.

S/M CLYDE arrived at Malta this afternoon from Gibraltar with supplies.

Last night 4 Halifaxes and 59 Wellingtons again bombed shipping and harbour installations at Tobruk. One ship was hit and set on fire and damage was caused in the port. Albacores and Swordfish attacked 3 E-Boats off Matruh, obtaining one direct hit and one near miss with bombs. Bostons bombed Matruh harbour. Liberators made a dusk attack on shipping in Navarino harbour, but no success is claimed.

N.L.O. Black Sea reports that the Azov Flotilla of small craft and Russian naval aircraft are operating continuously in the Black Sea though the main units of the Black Sea Fleet are inactive.

East Indies.

Two ships were attacked today, off the Coromandel coast but both arrived safely at Vizagapatam.

/SS. BLACK HEATH ...

879

War Diary.29.7.1942.  
Wednesday.SITUATION REPORT.East Indies - Contd.

SS. BLACKHEATH reported being attacked about 1600 G.M.T. by a U-Boat on the surface apparently in 10° 23' N. 82° 33' E. and SS. STEEL TRAVELLER reported at 1715 G.M.T. that two shots had been fired at her, probably by a submarine in position 90° 22 miles from Sacramento Shoal (16° 36' N. 82° 20' E.)

Deputy C. in C. Eastern Fleet has asked A.C.N.B. whether the sailing of the minesweepers completing in Australia for the Eastern Fleet can be hastened. With the recent U-Boat activity in the Mozambique Channel and the deterioration of the situation in Russia and the Middle East he considers the time has arrived when the enemy may be expected to attack our communications in the Persian Gulf and Gulf of Aden. The shortage of A/S and M/S craft in the Eastern Fleet has now become serious.

The destroyers ACTIVE, ANTHONY, ARROW, DECOY, DUNCAN and GRIFFIN have reached such a worn out state that they need general overhaul. Refits on the East Indies Station are strictly limited in scope, and in spite of the time lost on passage Deputy C. in C. E.I. considers that the interests of efficiency will best be served by sending them to the U.K. for a thorough refit.

America and West Indies.

A U.S. launch was sunk by a violent explosion when passing through the boom defence gate at Port Castries, St. Lucia at 1440 today. The cause of the explosion is believed to have been an acoustic mine placed in position to demolish the boom gate when closed.

The Chesapeake and Delaware Canal is blocked to all traffic indefinitely through an accident.

Shipping space cannot be allocated for 20 aeroplanes from U.S.A. for the Naval Air Station at Jamaica as the imported food situation in the island is now very acute; shortages have arisen from delays on account of engine trouble and difficulties with labour and crews, coupled with rearrangement of Canadian shipping and some ships being unable to join convoys because of insufficient speed.

/U-Boat ...

War Diary.

29.7.1942.  
Wednesday.

SITUATION REPORT.

America and West Indies - Contd.

U-Boat  
attack  
on O.N.113.

Convoy O.N.113 was attacked by a U-Boat at 2311 today about 140 miles E.S.E. of Halifax; PACIFIC PIONEER was sunk in 43° 32' N. 60° 38' W., QUINTE(? damaged).

Australia.

Seven U.S. light bombers escorted by 7 Aircobras attacked a convoy approaching Gona (Papua) at 0600Z today, obtaining a direct hit on a destroyer.

9 heavy bombers attacked the aerodrome at Hedland (W.A.) at 2300Z today and slightly damaged the runway.

War Diary.29.7.1942.  
Wednesday.HOME COMMANDS.Policy.

M.L. A/S Striking Forces at Shetlands and Faroes. Admty. 1554/28 (N.T. in W.D.) M.L. A/S striking forces are to be established at Sullom Voe or Balta Sound and Faroe Is. These forces are to be kept at short notice and will be ordered out by me when U-Boats are reported in this area. M.Ls when operating against U-Boats are to keep watch on 6440 k/cs., shifting to 1570 k/cs at the half-hours for 5 minutes. N.O.I.C. Lerwick is to report when 22nd Flotilla will be ready to operate. 4 M.Ls will be sailed for Faroe Is. as soon as fuel becomes available there. (A.C.O.S., 1550/29.)

1st S.G.B. Flotilla. Cancel my 1817/27. (C. in C. Portsmouth, 1641B/29 to N.O.I.C. Newhaven)

Movements.

OFFA. My 1951/28 and your 2314/28. Request you sail OFFA for Hvalfjord at 1600B today. (C. in C. H.F., 1057B/29 to R.A.D. H.F.) Proceed passing Switha at 1600B today to Hvalfjord routed through 58° 50' N. 7° 2' W., thence through Reykjanes Passage. (R.A.D., 1145B/29 to OFFA.)

15th M/S Flotilla. Admty's 1228/28. The arrival of 9 minesweepers in addition to PLOVER will be a severe strain on the berthing facilities available. This will be particularly the case when embarkation is in progress. 1st M.Ls will be at sea on 21/8 but will have returned and should have embarked by 25/8. Consequently I consider it desirable that minesweepers do not arrive before this date. I do not anticipate this will cause any delay in commencing actual sweeping operations as the presence of myself and my staff will be essential before any concrete plans can be made. (R.A.M., 1122B/29 to Admty.)

STURGEON. (1) Intend sailing STURGEON escorted by JAN VAN GELDER at 1000B/1 via Swansea, Minches, and West of Orkneys for Lerwick. E.T.A. 1100B/3. (Capt. S.3, 1155B/29.)

EXMOUTH. Intend to sail EXMOUTH from Tilbury Dock at 0700/30 in tow of CAROLINE MOLLER and ST. MELLONS and two Commercial Tugs for Southend for compass adjustments and onward routeing to Scapa. Estimated speed of advance 6 knots. S.O. (O) Tilbury will provide escort as in C. in C. Nore's 1604B/25. (F.O.I.C. London, 1214B/29.) Cancel my 1214B/29. (F.O.I.C. London, 1858B/29.)

/Your ...

War Diary.29.7.1942.  
Wednesday.HOME COMMANDS.Movements - Contd.

EXMOUTH. Your 1214/29 and my 1604/25/7 para. 3.  
(Contd.) It is not considered desirable for tow to remain at Southend anchorage before proceeding astern of F.N.775 on 1/8. It is, therefore, requested that all necessary compass adjustments be completed either 30th or 31st, tow anchoring as convenient in Lower Hope Reach, thence proceeding so as to pass through Thames Gate astern of F.N.775 about 0700/1.  
(C. in C. Nore, 2120B/29 to F.O.I.C. London.)

ORFASY. <sup>/N.T.W.D.</sup> My 1645/9 allocating ORFASY to 16th Trawler Group is cancelled.  
On completion of working up at Tobermory ORFASY is to be sailed to Greenock to give leave and prepare for tropical service. Subsequently C. in C. W.A. is requested to sail ORFASY to Freetown in convoy to join 1st Trawler Group. (D.M.S., 1724B/29.)

P. 45 Intend sailing P. 45 escorted by STELLA PEGASI at 0600B/30 for Holy Loch.  
(A.C.O.S., 1907/29.)

107th M.S. Request you will sail 107th M.S. Group from Group. North Shields to Portsmouth as convenient.  
(D.M.S., 1915B/29 to C. in C. Rosyth.)

P.48, My 1017/28. As second submarine mentioned has  
P. 219, not yet arrived sailing delayed until further  
P. 614, notice.  
P. 615. (S.O. S/M Lerwick, 2036B/29.)  
CUTTY SARK. My 2036/29 and my 1017/28. Vessels will sail at  
2300B/29. S. of A. 10 knots. E.T.A. 2100B/31.  
(S.O. S/M Lerwick, 2228/29.)  
P. 219 arrived.  
(S.O. S/M Lerwick, 2240/29.)  
My 1017/28 and my 2228/29 sailed.  
(S.O. S/M Lerwick, 2330B/29.)

HOPEMOUNT, HOPEMOUNT, STALIN, KRASSIN, LENIN sailed for  
STALIN, Kara Sea at 1400C/29 escorted by BRAMBLE, SEAGULL,  
KRASSIN, HAZARD, DIANELLA, LOTUS, and LA MALOUINE.  
LENIN. (S.B.N.O. Archangel, 2115B/29 to S.B.N.O. North  
Russia.)

UREDD. My 0958/28 sailed.  
LOCH MANTETH. (S.O. S/M Lerwick, 2246B/29.)

War Diary.29.7.1942.  
Wednesday.HOME COMMANDS.Operations.

Engagement  
with E-Boats  
off Thornton  
Bank. 1  
Enemy ship  
sunk. 1  
E-Boat and  
1 Trawler  
damaged.  
M.G.B. 67,  
M.G.B. 61,  
M.T.B. 32  
damaged.

Following is a summary of coastal force activity 28th-29th July.  
1. M.G.Bs 67 (S.O.), 63, 61, with M.T.Bs 32 and 69 were ordered to carry out an offensive patrol between positions R.B.4 and R.B.5. The combined Unit steered for the S.W. end of their patrol and at 0042/29 in 51° 23' N. 03° E. M.G.B. 67 sighted three possibly four 'E' or 'R' boats steering to the N.E. M.G.Bs engaged and claim hits, one E/R boat pouring black smoke when last seen. At 0045/29 two trawler-type with one larger ship were sighted steering slowly S.W. in approx. 51° 29' N. 03° 05' E. M.G.Bs engaged this new target in two runs while M.T.Bs manoeuvred for position.

M.G.B. 67 then carried out a depth-charge attack on one trawler which was observed to explode under it, but M.G.B. 67 was forced to retire having sustained severe damage and casualties.

M.G.B. 61 was also hit in the engine room and had two engines put out of action.

At 0050/29 M.T.B. 69 fired one torpedo and observed a large flash amidships in the larger vessel but, as this may have been gun flash, no hit is definitely claimed. Whilst manoeuvring for a second shot she was driven off to the southward by E/R boats. At the same time M.T.B. 32 fired two torpedoes at the larger M/V, the result of which were not observed, the C.O. being temporarily blinded by shell hit on the bridge. Whilst disengaging M.T.B. 32 was hit many times, two engines being put out of action, but one enemy vessel was observed on her side sinking rapidly, second vessel appeared to be on fire. This was confirmed by M.G.B. 61 who had stopped to ascertain damage and reported having seen a large vessel enveloped in black smoke which disappeared from view.

M.G.B. 67 and M.T.B. 32 sustained considerable damage, casualties M.G.B. 67, one officer and one rating killed, 2 ratings seriously wounded, 2 officers and 10 ratings slightly wounded, M.T.B. 32 3 ratings slightly wounded. M.G.B. 61 had two engines put out of action but no casualties. Details in BEEHIVE's 0824/29 and 1057/29 to Admiralty.

2. Two M.G.Bs and two M.T.Bs off Ostend report no contacts.

3. Six M.G.Bs (L) and three M.G.Bs (S) from Yarmouth and Lowestoft carried out offensive patrols towards the Dutch coast between 52° 35' N. and 52° 55' N. Conditions were good but nothing was sighted, though the Northern Group went as far as Engelschmans Gat.

M.G.Bs were sighted by a Dornier 217 at about 2200 and the Southern Unit was shadowed intermittently until 0700/29.

(C. in C. Nore, 1602B/29.)

Arrival M.G.B. 61, M.L. 100, M.L. 106.

(F.O.I.C. Harwich, 0955B/29.)

/Norway ...

War Diary.29.7.1942.  
Wednesday.HOME COMMANDS.Operations - Contd.Norway S/M  
Patrol.

P.247 and P.51 leave Lerwick at 1500/29 and 1900/29 respectively. Probably on surface through 60° 38' N. 00° 01' W. to patrol in areas K.101 and K.102 respectively.

(F.O.S., 1051B/29.)

P.247 left Lerwick unescorted and on the surface at discretion of C.O. routed through 060° 38' N. 000° 01' W., thence to carry out A/S patrol in area between 063° 20' N. and 062° 40' N. and meridian 000° 30' E. and 000° 30' W.

(S.O. S/M Lerwick, 1505B/29.)

P.51 leaving Lerwick on the surface at C.O.'s discretion routed through 060° 38' N. 000° 01' W., thence carrying out anti-S/M patrol in area between 061° 30' N. and 062° 20' N. and meridian 000° 30' E. and 000° 30' W.

(S.O. S/M Lerwick, 1903B/29.)

Patrols.

Night 28/29.

M.Ls 220, 207 from Ramsgate patrolling between Dumpton and N.E. Spit Buoys. E.T.D. 2250.

E.T.R. 0530/29.

M.Ls 128 (S.O.) and 125 at No. 10 Buoy. E.T.D. 2300. E.T.R. 0430/29.

M.T.Bs 218 (S.O.), 45, and 38 and M.G.Bs 41 (S.O.), S2, and S3 at Bullock Buoy. E.T.D. 2215. E.T.R. 0445/29.

M.G.Bs 329 (S.O.), 331, and 324 at North East Varne. E.T.D. 2300. E.T.R. 0400/29.

(V.A. Dover, 1826B/29.)

Interception  
of E-Boats.

Three E-Boats may arrive Guernsey from Cherbourg between 0400 and 0500/30. Sail M.G.Bs to arrive near Cap La Hague from the North by 0215/30, and leave at 0430/30 if nothing sighted. 10

Group A/C operating near Alderney until 0200/30. Codeword "Obstacle".

(C. in C. Plymouth, 2257B/29 to N.O.I.C. Dartmouth.)

Your 2257B/29. "Obstacle" sailed.

(N.O.I.C. Dartmouth, 2346/29 to C. in C. Plymouth.)

Exercises.

ARGONAUT.

ARGONAUT will be carrying out trials at high speed from Liverpool on August 1st and 2nd. (C. in C. W.A., 1959B/29 to R.A.N.A.S.)

British Air Activity.Lake  
Lakhta.

F/Lt. Castbe and party established at Lake Lakhta with ampority of stores 28/7. Remainder of stores in transit to Lakhta. (Party A, 0915Z/29 to Air Ministry.)

/Bomber ...

War Diary.29.7.1942.  
Wednesday.HOME COMMANDS.British Air Activity - Contd.

Bomber Command operations. On day 27/7, 8 A/C attacked Bremen and Emden.  
On night 27/28, no operations.  
On day 28/7, 2 A/C bombed Lubeck.  
On night 28/29, 85 A/C bombed Hamburg.  
(H.Q.B.C., 1600/29.)

Air Forces in Iceland. My 2041/25. Understand steps are now being taken to ease this situation.  
(A.I.C., 1740B/29 to Admty.)

"Knocker". 7 B.17s and 24 P.38s arrived today. A/C warned to take off at 0900Z/30.  
(A.C.I.C., 2331B/29.)

Enemy Air Activity.

Yarmouth bombed. Great Yarmouth bombed at 0855B/29. A to D nil. Damage to civilian property. Water main broken. Two civilians killed.  
(F.O.I.C. Gt. Yarmouth, 0944B/29 and 2212B/29.)

ANDRADITE, LOIS attacked. One Enemy A/C shot down. Trawlers ANDRADITE and LOIS were attacked by one Me.109 at 0730 this morning whilst returning from patrol in position four miles south of Dover. Enemy A/C was shot down by ANDRADITE. LOIS sustained 3 slight casualties.  
(V.A. Dover, 0948B/29.)

RIVER YTHAN, GARDAR attacked. RIVER YTHAN arrived Thorshavn 0100/29 reports attack by enemy A/C at 1915/28 Bispen Fuglo Faroe Is. 098° 33 miles. Casualties 5, of which one serious. Also slight damage superstructure and loss of fishing gear. Further report received Klaksvig; enemy A/C attacked Faroes fishing smack GARDAR at 1745/28 in Svino Faroe Islands 202° 22 miles. One man killed.  
(N.O.I.C. Faroes, 1230B/29.)

Mining.

Off Beachy Head. Have detonated 12 German "R" mines within one mile of position 107° 6 miles from Beachy Head.  
(S.O. 9 M/S.F., 1215B/29.)  
6 mines detonated and 1 mine swept within 4 cables of position 109° 6.8 miles from Beachy Head.  
(S.O. 9 M/S.F., 1445B/29.)

/4 mines ...



War Diary.29.7.1942.  
Wednesday.HOME COMMANDS.Mining - conts:-

Off Beachy Head. (Contd.) 4 mines detonated and one mine swept within 5 cables of position 113°, 6.5 miles from Beachy Head. Mine swept in my 1445B/29 identified as German "R" and sunk by rifle fire. (S.O. 9 M/S.F., 1620B/29.) 100 per cent search of area completed with exception of Zone about 1 mile wide being swept by M.M.S. which cannot be searched for several days. 2 Floats lost and 2 Otters damaged by explosion. Intend returning to Portsmouth to draw minesweeping gear and refuel and wait till M.M.S. are clear of area. Will proceed by inshore route passing through Looe Channel at 2100. (S.O. 9 M/S.F., 1710B/29.)

Western Channel sweep. Your 1005/28. Arrived 1236/29. (F.O.I.C. Portland, 1420B/29 to N.O.I.C. Dartmouth.)

S.N. 3D. (A) Propose that material originally ordered for S.N. 89 should be utilized to back up the south eastern 20 miles (approximately) of S.N. 3 and that the operation should be carried out immediately after S.N. 73. The new field to be called S.N. 3D. (B) The field should be laid at high density, given a length of about 19 miles, with its southern end in approx. 059° 30' N. 006° 08' W. and its northernmost end in vicinity of 059° 49' N. 006° 32' W. (C) The exact position of the field cannot be given until the results of SCOTT's survey south of S.N. 3 are known. This survey should be complete during the first week in August. (D) If S.N. 3D is concurred in, request material may arrive at Port ZA so that whole outfit may be embarked in minelayers on 23/8. (R.A.M., 1430B/29 to Admty.)

Enemy Intelligence.

SCHARNHORST, PRINZ EUGEN, NURNBERG. Photographs of Kiel 1145/28 show SCHARNHORST alongside and PRINZ EUGEN in dry dock. NURNBERG undocked and alongside. (D.D.I.C., 1127B/29.)

U-Boats.

U-Boats reported. Submarine reported in 63° 55' N. 24° 15' W. by A/C. (Iceland, 0223Z/29 to Whitehall W/T.) Enemy submarine on surface and then observed to submerge on a course 070°, speed 10 knots. (A/C HL6E, 0225/29.)

War Diary.29.7.1942.  
Wednesday.HOME COMMANDS.U-Boats.

U-Boats reported. (Contd.) 1 S/M submerged. Am over enemy S/M in 62° 42' N. 24° 20' W. Enemy was sighted on surface and observed to submerge. When first sighted was on course 120°, estimated speed 8 knots. (A/C IBBB, 1527Z/29.)

No attack made.

(A/C IBBB, 1540/29.)

Cancel No.3. Am investigating suspicious wake or swirl in 62° 52' N. 24° 10' W. (A/C IBBB, 1640Z/29.)

U-Boat attacked. Am over enemy S/M in 47° 45' N. 11° 59' W. Enemy was sighted on surface and observed to submerge on course 270°, speed 6 knots. Have attacked enemy with depth charges. (A/C of 19 Group, 1940/29.)

Navigational.

Q.Z.H.561. (2) Wreck of a trawler dangerous to navigation is situated 097° 1200 yards from Engey Spit Buoy and marked by a green buoy with staff and green flag. (3) An uncharted rock having a least depth of 23 feet lies in 054° 2750 yards from Engey Lighthouse and is temporarily marked by a Dan Buoy with a red flag. (A.C.I.C., 1323B/29 to Hydrog.)

Portsmouth. E.A.5 Float is reported missing from its station. (C. in C. Portsmouth, 1543B/29 to MEYNELL.)

Newport. My 1330B/25. Ships up to 340 feet in length may now enter and leave Alexandra Docks, Newport. (N.O.I.C. Newport, 1645B/29.)

Casualties and Defects.

LIFLAND. Arrival in Roads SS. LIFLAND in tow of tug SUPERMAN escorted by M.L. 224 at 0705. (F.O.I.C. Gt. Yarmouth, 0738B/29.) Arrival SS. LIFLAND with damaged propeller from F.N. 72 at 0705. (F.O.I.C. Gt. Yarmouth, 0758B/29.)

H. 32. My 1524/27. H.32 delayed 48 hours by defects. (Capt. S.7, 1034B/29 to Cdre. Londonderry.)

/LAVINGTON ...

888

War Diary.29.7.1942.  
Wednesday.HOME COMMANDS.Casualties and Defects - Contd.LAVINGTON  
COURT.

Detach NARCISSUS forthwith to join RHODODENDRON and \*HAARLEM escorting LAVINGTON COURT damaged and in tow. P.C.S. of LAVINGTON COURT at 1930Z/27 044° 48' N. 024° 46' W. 049°, 4 knots. Routed through (B) 049° 59' N. 016° 01' W. NARCISSUS report if not met by 2000B/30.  
(C. in C. W.A., 1151B/29 to ROCHESTER.)

\* See p. 892

WICHITA.

Defects of port inner shafting of WICHITA are as follows.

Intend making good defects as follows.

Subject to no unforeseen difficulties anticipate ship will undock about 5/8 and complete ex trials p.m. 10th. Ship's officers concur with above method of dealing with defective shaft.

(A.S. Rosyth, 1255B/29.)

CARTHAGE.

A.M. 1601/2. Electrical defects affecting fighting efficiency in CARTHAGE together with adjustments and minor alterations resulting from gun trials will require one week to complete.  
2. Consider minimum of 10 days is required for working up on completion of defects.  
Confirmation is requested that delay can be accepted.  
(F.O.I.C. Greenock, 1452B/29.)

CADUCEUS.

N.O.I.C. Isle of Man reports CADUCEUS has been in collision with Victoria Pier, Douglas and has sustained considerable damage forward. Ship has been ordered to Liverpool.  
(F.O.I.C. Liverpool, 2238B/29.)

Shipping and Convoys.

O.S. 35.

Detached COMMANDANT D'ESTIENNE D'ORVES at 0001Z/29 to join O.S. 35 in accordance with F.O.C.N.A's 1916B/23 para. 8.  
My P.C.S. at 0001Z, 043° 00' N. 020° 31' W., 354°, 9 knots.  
EMPIRE SHACKLETON and OUSEL in company.  
(SENNEN, 0004Z/29.) See p. 891.

N.A. 13.

My 0607/25. Code numbers are as follows:-  
DOMINION MONARCH B.77. LETITIA B.76.  
(D.S.T., 0407B/29.)

W.P. 193.

Sailed less W.D. Launch ENA delayed by engine trouble.  
(N.O.I.C. Dartmouth, 0703/29.)

War Diary.29.7.1942.  
Wednesday.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping and Convoys - Contd.

- W.S. 21. ✓ Liverpool section of W.S. 21. Five ships arrived 0725/29.  
(D.S.T.O. Greenock, 0925/29.)
- N.O.I.C. Liverpool 1649B/28. BUXTON is to meet SIBAJAK dawn 30th as arranged by N.O.I.C. Liverpool and escort to convoy, then return to Londonderry.  
(C. in C. W.A., 1807B/29.)
1. Sailing of SIBAJAK delayed until a.m. tide 30/7.
  2. She is to R/V with convoy in 270° Oversay 6 miles at 1600Z/30.
  3. Sailing of convoy is to be postponed accordingly.  
(D.O.D. (H.), 1826B/29 to C. in C. W.A.)  
Subject to satisfactory engine trial intend sailing SIBAJAK at 2230B today to R/V with Clyde section in 270° Oversay 6 miles at 1800B/30. Speed 12 knots.
2. Commodore Londonderry is requested to sail BUXTON to R/V with SIBAJAK in 270° Chicken Rock 5 miles at 0530B/30.  
(N.O.I.C. Liverpool, 1841B/29.)  
Cancel my 1841B/29. Trials not satisfactory.  
(F.O.I.C. Liverpool, 2214B/29.)
- S.C. 92. Detach ships for Loch Ewe from position (H) escorted by one Corvette to 57° N., thence independently.  
(C. in C. W.A., 0943B/29 to C.T.U. 24.1.15.)
- EL NIL. Intend sailing EL NIL (Egyptian - Diplomatic) 1230Z/29. Route. From Oversay position (A) 56° N. 08° W. (B) 56° N. 16° W. (C) 50° N. 25° W. (D) 39° N. 30° W. (E) 17° N. 26° W. (F) St. Vincent. (G) 15° N. 26° W. (H) 05° N. 20° W. (J) 08° S. 00° E. (K) 15° S. 08° E. (L) Walvis Bay, (M) 30° S. 10° E. (N) 37° S. 15° E. (O) 38° S. 20° E. (P) 37° S. 25° E. (Q) 35° S. 29° E. (R) 30° S. 21° E. to Lourenco Marques speed adjusted to 12½ maximum 15 days 15 S.P. (19) (20) one ship 154 H/F. Q.G.A. 96 Q.G.B. 117. Estimate passing 007° W. 0400Z/30/7. "Chop" 7/8 "Chop" 15/8.  
(N.C.S.O. Mersey, 0950Z/29.)  
Sailed EL NIL 1245Z/29.
- E.T.A. St. Vincent 8/8, Walvis Bay 21/8, Lourenco Marques 30/8.  
(N.C.S.O. Mersey, 1415Z/29.)
- D.S. 31. Admty. 2226B/28. As four of my destroyers will be required to screen 1st M/L. S. for S.N. 73 commencing 16/8 and lasting about one week, regret only one destroyer can be made available for D.S. 31 and this is dependant on the absence of defects in the interval. Remaining two destroyers will be under refit.  
(R.A.M., 1046/29.)

/W.N. ...

War Diary.29.7.1942.  
Wednesday.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping and Convoys - Contd.

- W.N. Convoys. N.C.S.O. Loch Ewe 0010B/28. Request the  
Passage of attention of sailing authorities may be drawn  
Pentland to the necessity of convoys passing Pentland  
Firth. Firth in daylight hours. One out of these  
three W.N. convoys is passing during hours of  
darkness.  
(A.C.O.S., 1150/29 to Admty.)
- P.Q. 17 Your 1555B/26. Trials have been arranged.  
survivors. (S.B.N.O. Archangel, 1409B/29.)  
DVINA.
- Novaya Novaya Zemlya. Gribovaya Bay 172° from Goletz  
Zemlya Island Lighthouse, 2.6 miles, shoal water less  
anchorage. than 2 fathoms reported.  
(2) Moller Bay. Karmakulski Island good  
anchorage and good approach through Pomorski  
Channel. Admiralty chart 3039.  
(S.B.N.O. Archangel, 1436B/29 to Admty.)
- H.X. 198. Average speed 9.5 knots.  
Dense fog first 56 hours and thick weather there-  
after. BELOMORCANAL fell astern night 19/20  
and arrived Iceland (C). No other stragglers, all ships  
reported. Commodore states station-keeping unusually good.  
(D.T.D., 1516B/29 to Connav.)
- IRISH Your enquiry regarding Irish SS. IRISH PLANE.  
PLANE. Ship sailed from Dublin for Belfast and Gourrock  
June 28th. Understood ship now homeward bound  
from Halifax. Agents Palgrave Murphy received  
W/T message yesterday giving her position. The  
Master, H. Wilson, considered by the U.K.S.A.  
to be entirely reliable.  
(N.A. Dublin, 1618/29 to D.N.I.)
- AMSTERDAM. Could you provide escort for a special sailing of  
SS. AMSTERDAM carrying R.A.F. personnel from  
Invergordon to Lerwick and return, sailing from  
Invergordon on August 4th, 5th or 6th and if so, which date  
would be most convenient.  
2. It is undesirable to interrupt the routine fortnightly  
sailings to Shetlands or Faroes and no additional ship is  
available.  
(D.O.D. (H.), 1839B/29 to A.C.O.S.)
- LLANSTEPHAN E.T.A. MALCOLM, SWALE, LLANSTEPHAN CASTLE  
CASTLE. position 055° 35' N. 007° 00' W. at 0230B/30.  
(MALCOLM, 1901B/29 to N.O.I.C. Greenock.)
- BART. My 1645/28. Sailed.  
(N.C.S.O. Kirkwall, 2315B/29 to N.O.I.C. Faroes.)

War Diary.29.7.1942.  
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic.

- ANTELOPE E.T.A. Gate 1315B/29. Request dockyard assistance before fuelling to repair by caulking sea water leaks (details). Weather report.  
(ANTELOPE, 0400B/29, to F.O.C.N.A. (R) Capt. (D) 13).
- JAUNTY. Onward route from (J) 042° 58' N., 017° 1' W. (K) 041° 02' N., 017° 1' W. (L) 036° 40' N., 008° 56' W., thence Gibraltar. Admty. pass to A.O.C. in C.C.C.  
(F.O.C.N.A. 1151B/29 to JAUNTY (R) C. in C. W.A., Admty, A.O.C. in C.C.C.)
- S.L.116, O.S.35. Following is a repetition of para. 7 and 8 of my 1916B/23, addressed SENNEN and COMMANDANT D'ESTIENNE D'ORVES. (Begins). (7) COMMANDANT D'ESTIENNE D'ORVES is to part company on meeting S.L.116 and proceed to R/V with O.S.35 for which meeting signal will be made.  
(8) If S.L.116 is not met, SENNEN is to escort EMPIRE SHACKLETON and OUSEL to U.K.  
COMMANDANT D'ESTIENNE D'ORVES is to comply with para. (7) on crossing latitude 043° N., (Ends).  
(F.O.C.N.A. 1246B/29 to C. in C. W.A., (R) Admty). *See p. 888.*
- P.37 P.37 is to leave patrol at 0001B/30, through 036° 39', 004° 10' and proceed 3½ miles off coast of Spain through 036° 20' 005° 08' thence direct to position X X 086° Europa Pt. Lighthouse 8 miles to R/V with P.46 at 0900B/30.  
P.46 Either destroyer or M.L. on U Patrol will transfer Commander (S) with exercise orders from P.46 to P.37.  
Total bombing restriction arranged accordingly.  
(F.O.C.N.A., 1338B/29 to 8 S.F. (R) S. and A.)  
My 1338. P.37 is to R/V VIDETTE in position X X at 30th for transfer Commander (S).  
(F.O.C.N.A., 1606B/29 to 8th S.F. (R) Capt. (D) 13).
- BARFLEUR. <sup>A.M.C.</sup> French ~~SS~~ BARFLEUR expected to leave Casablanca a.m. 29/7 for Fort De Fro. This ship is not to be molested.  
(A.M.C.) (F.O.C.N.A., 1409B/29 to S. and A. N.A.S.)
- PINDOS. My 1930/28. G.S. PINDOS will be ready to leave U.K. about 9/8.  
2. Request you will sail her to Freetown for onward passage to Mediterranean.  
(D.O.D. (F) 1523B/29 to F.O.C.N.A. (R) C. in C. H.F., etc).

War Diary.

29.7.1942.  
Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic. - Contd.

- TRIGLAV (sunk 9/7). Yugoslav SS. TRIGLAV torpedoed and sunk 9/7 in 26° 47' N., 48° 10' W. 19 survivors landed Gibraltar 28/7 by Spanish SS. IAILR (as received ?ICIAR). One boat containing 22 survivors still adrift last seen steering S.W. (true). (F.O.C.N.A., 1716B/29 to R.A.W.A. Cominch, S.B.N.O.W.A. (R) Admty).
- Exercises. Intend to sail EAGLE, CHARYBDIS and destroyers for exercises on Friday 31st. (F.O.C.N.A., 1752B/29 to Admty).
- HALLANGER Arrival STELLA CARINA, LEYLAND, escorting Norwegian HALLANGER. (F.O.C.N.A., 1815B/29 to Admty).
- HAARLEM F.O.C.N.A. 1432/18. On arrival HAARLEM can be taken in hand by Milford Engineering Co. Milford Haven for refit and conversion to Ocean Escort vessel. (D.O.D. (H), 1835B/29 to F.O.C.N.A., C. in C. W.A.)  
*See 10.888.*
- MITIDJA My 2054/26. American report MITIDJA sailed right (?night) 25th presumably for Marseilles. Unconfirmed report from observer state that some cobalt was included in cargo, French officially disclaimed all knowledge of this. (Greenleaves, 1915/29 to Admty (for D.N.I.) (R) S.O.(I) Gibraltar).
- P.211 Sardinia patrol. Your 1101/27. My 1606/1 giving this information was addressed Admty, F.O.(S) C. in C. Med., V.A. Malta only in accordance with policy laid down in your 1156/29/7 84 B. (F.O.C.N.A., 1920B/29 to C. in C. Med., (R) Admty)
- LIVERPOOL. My 1846/23. Intend to sail LIVERPOOL p.m./2/8 escorted by GEORGETOWN and MANSFIELD routed through (A) 35.59, 06.01 (B) 36.26, 09.05 (I) 37.55, 13.01 (Z) 43.12, 16.30 S. of A. 11½ knots.  
2. C. in C. W.A. is requested to provide onward route from position (D).  
3. LIVERPOOL expected to be able to reach Rosyth on one engine without refuelling. Request relief escorts may be arranged. (V.A.C.N.A., 1922B/29 to Admty, C. in C. W.A., (R) C. in C. Rosyth, C. in C. Plymouth).
- LOCH OSKAIG. Sailed LOCH OSKAIG to R/V SS. KINGSBOROUGH and BARON FORBES off Huelva for escort to Lisbon. On completion LOCH OSKAIG assumes Y.l. patrol. (F.O.C.N.A., 2159B/29 to Admty (R) Trawlers, Western Patrol).

893

War Diary.29.7.1942.  
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic.

Vichy Convoy A/C sighted Vichy convoy <sup>\*</sup>BELL, ARIZONA, LINOT and one escort vessel in 012° 52' N., 017° 40' W. 192° 1110/28.  
(S.O.(I) Freetown, 0959Z/29 to Admty for D.N.I.,  
(R) C. in C. S.A., F.O.C.N.A.)

*\*Not identified*

Shipping Pass to F.Os. I.C. and N.C.S.Os. Amendment No.55  
Approaching to M.A.R.I. Sect. IV. para. 6 cancel and  
Freetown. substitute  
(1) In order to facilitate maximum air cover two lines of approach to Freetown from a radius of about 400 miles are to be used by all shipping, one line being for shipping approaching Freetown from North of 8° N., and one for shipping approaching from South of 8° N.  
(2) Accordingly all ships concerned approaching from North of 8° N. are to be given one of the following 3 positions as the last position on their routes:-  
(1) 12° N., 19° W. (2) 9° N., 20° W. (3) 6° N., 19° W.  
Similarly all ships concerned approaching from south of 8° N., are to be given one of the following 3 positions as the last position on their routes:-  
(1) 3° N., 17° W. (2) 2° N., 14° W. (3) 2° N., 11° W.  
(3) The position used is to be appropriate to the estimated date of arrival and is to be lettered as usual. In the case of a ship whose estimated date of arrival at the final position falls within 48 hours of change of approach, the Master is to be given as an alternative final position the appropriate position for the changed line of approach, and is to be warned that, if during the voyage it appears that he will be 48 hours late or early, as the case may be, he should shape course for the alternative final position.  
(4) The positions in para. (2) above from which to approach Freetown will be in force as follows:-  
(1) 11/8 to 20/8. (2) 21/8, to 30/8. (3) 31/8 to 9/9.  
all dates inclusive, and so on repeating the cycle. Dates to run according to G.M.T.  
(5) Ships sailing from Freetown to be sailed on a route some 20 miles to the west or north of the approach route in force at the time.  
(D.T.D., 1039B/29 as amended 1243B/30 to C. in C. S.A., R.A.W.A., N.S.H.Q., C.O.A.C., F.O.C.N.A., S.B.N.O.W.A., A.C.I.C., S.O.(I) Jamaica, (R) Connav, B.A.D.)

Dispositions. 2 M.Ls. off Freetown to sector T.  
KELT 005° 10', 012° 45' to Freetown through sector T.8.  
SPANIARD, 005° 15', 010° 40' to Marshall 8.  
BOREAS about 005° 01', 009° 50' to Freetown 17.  
SNOWDROP, 002° 45', 012° 20' to 000° 40', 011° 46' thence 170° 8.  
PICT, 002° 45', 007° 15', 070° 8 at 2000Z/29.  
POSTBOY and Convoy, 005° 10', 001° 10' E. to Lagos 7½.  
CORINTHIAN 002° 30' S., 001° 35' E., 158° 10½.  
CHESHIRE, 002° 30' S., 004° 30' E., 285° 12½.  
(R.A.W.A., 1139Z/29 Sit Rep. Area P).

/PETUNIA...



War Diary.

29.7.1942.  
Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic. - Contd.

- PETUNIA Request date of completion of PETUNIA and of return to Freetown.  
(R.A.W.A., 1141Z/29 to Admty (R) A.S. Rosyth, C. in C. W.A.)
- Troops for Middle East. Your 1102/27. Para. 1. Union Military Authorities regret that owing to commitments already undertaken and serious risk of acute congestion in camps Australian and New Zealand troops cannot be accommodated in South Africa whilst awaiting onward passage.  
(P.S.T.O. Simonstown, 1202B/29 to A.C.N.B., (R) Admty etc).
- Mine German V type horned Antenna mine cut in 33° 52' 30" S., 17° 56' 36" E., 26/7. Mine heavily covered Marine growth and exploded when hit by rifle fire.  
(C. in C. S.A., 1239B/29 to Admty).
- Presumed Vichy Tanker. Unescorted tanker presumed Vichy reported in 004° 00' N., 007° 04' W., at 1400Z/28 steering 125° 10 knots Talbot Booth No. 119.  
Investigate.  
(R.A.W.A., 1301Z/29 to CHESHIRE)
- M.A.R.I. Pass to F.Os. I.C. and N.C.S.Os. Amendment No. 54 to M.A.R.I.  
(D.T.D., 1303B/29 to C. in C. S.A., R.A.W.A. etc).  
Amendment No. 56 to M.A.R.I.  
(D.T.D., 1809B/29 to C. in C. S.A., R.A.W.A. etc).
- NIEUW AMSTERDAM. Your 1815/16 and my 1526/17 para. 5. At request of Union Defence Dept. in view of delay to C.M.31 which will not now sail till about mid-August now decided to send NIEUW AMSTERDAM to Diego Suarez with 27 E A Brigade in place of MAURETANIA and ship will be sailed accordingly about 3/8. Ship will return to Capetown direct from Diego Suarez to embark 2800 R.A.F. and Military personnel ex W.S.20 thence proceeding to Durban to complete to capacity and then to Mid East.  
(P.S.T.O. Simonstown, 1303B/29 to D.S.T.)
- Movements summary. 2000Z/29. Area Q. ALCANTARA about 036° 40' S., 022° 20' E., to Capetown E.T.A. 1400Z/30.  
W.S.19 Q, 029° 10' S., 012° 20' E. 330° 20.5 knots CARNARVON CASTLE with ESPERANCE BAY 034° 30' S., 017° 30' E., to Falkland Is. 14.5 knots. *see next page.*  
(C. in C. S.A., 1554Z/29 to S.A. Stn (R) Admty).
- CAMBRIA 30/7 Cable Ship CAMBRIA E.T.S. 4 to effect repairs at following positions.  
(N.C.S.O. Pernambuco, 1602/29 to Admty (R) N.S.H.Q. Connav).

29.7.1942.  
Wednesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic. - Contd.

Independent  
Ships,  
Reports of  
Positions.

Pass to N.C.S.Os. and B.R.Os. Masters of independently sailing British managed ships bound for U.K., including those dispersed or separated from convoy, are to be instructed that, whether or not fitted with H/F transmission, they are to report their position on crossing 18° W. in the form laid down in C.A.M.S.I. 52 or in the case of ships dispersed or separated from convoy, by reference to a lettered position on Standard Route.

2.\* Message is to be made in P/L and to contain in preamble the passing instructions "Pass to Admty and Adm. Liverpool", also in P/L. No other passing instructions are to be included.

3.\* In addition, to facilitate air escort and port arrangements, such ships whether or not fitted with H/F transmission, are to signal their position on crossing 8° W., followed by their E.T.A. Clyde Boom, Liverpool Bar L/V or Belfast. Time of arrival only, not destination, is to be signalled. This message is to be made in S.P.2405 recoded by S.P.02272 Series. Passing instructions "Pass to Admty and Adm. Liverpool" to be inserted in preamble in P/L.

(D.T.D., 1757B/29 to C. in C. S.A., R.A.W.A. N.S.H.Q. etc)

\*For amendments, see D.T.D.2129B/30.

Shipping  
Freetown Area  
dispersal.

Your 1703/28. My 1325/27 (amendment No.52 to M.A.R.I.) will divert a considerable amount of shipping from Freetown area.

2. No objection to action taken by your para. 2.

3. Concur with suggestion in your para. 3.

4. Intended to retain in convoy all O.S. ships bound for African ports and beyond and considered that such ships should either (a) continue to limit of endurance of local escort or (b) continue to Freetown with O.S. convoy and sail in next S.T. Convoy Request you take necessary action for (a) or (b) as regards each O.S. convoy depending on circumstances at the time.

(D.T.D., 1801B/29 to R.A.W.Af. (R) C. in C. S.A. Connav)

See also his 1802B/29 to Connav (America & West Indies).

BLACKHEATH.

Q Report.

(S.O.(I) Capetown, 1935B/29) See East Indies.

CARNARVON  
CASTLE,  
ESPERANCE  
BAY.

Departure Capetown CARNARVON CASTLE 1300Z/29 escorting ESPERANCE BAY. Shifting to wireless organization S at 1300Z/4/8. E.T.A. Falkland Is. 1400Z/11.

(C. in C. S.A., 2229B/29 to Admty, N.O.I.C. Falklands C.T.23., R.A.W.A.) Sailing telegram route etc. (N.C.S.O. Capetown, 1446Z/29).

*See Message / safe (through summary)*

TEMPLE INN,  
MARUDU.

In view C. in C. S.A.'s 1258/27 to B.N.L.O. West Africa only towage of MARUDU by FLYING KESTREL as in my 2206/27 (N.T. in W.D.) should be deferred until it is known whether TEMPLE INN will require towage and is prompt.

(D. of S.T., 2355B/29 to R.A.W.A.F. (R) N.O.I.C. Lagos etc).

War Diary.29.7.1942.  
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean.

THORN Request permission to remain in Tobruk area where many targets have been sighted. (THORN 0219C/29 to Capt. (S) 1, (R) C. in C. Med). Your 0219/?29 approved. Patrol south of 035° between 019° and 024° 30'. (Capt. S.l., 0855C/29 to THORN (R) C. in C. Med., S.O. S/Ms Alexandria, S/Ms on patrol).

S. 1. 898 (TAKU) 1899

CLYDE Your estimated position at 0420B/29 was 14 miles 258° from St. Elmo Light. (V.A. Malta, 0425B/29 to CLYDE). 29/7 arrival CLYDE. (V.A. Malta, 1326B/29 to Admty etc).

LACONIA, SCYTHIA. Your 1919/23. Request report whether the 89 anti-Axis refugees and the 293 Axis internees could have been accommodated in one ship by segregation so as to avoid both LACONIA and SCYTHIA being diverted into Kilindini. (D. of S.T., 0556B/29 to P.S.T.O. E. (R) addresses of former).

Black Sea. Situation report. Enemy units believed to be preparing for operation against Taman Peninsula. 2. Intensive exchange of artillery fire across Kerch Straits daily. 3. Main units Black Sea fleet inactive but Azov flotilla of small craft and Russia naval A/C operating continuously. (N.L.O. Black Sea, 1007C/29 to Admty, Adm. Miles).

Bi-weekly Night 24/25 July. 3 Halifaxes 8 Wellingtons Opsum No.42. bombed shipping and harbour installations Tobruk. 2 near misses on group of 3 ships. Several explosions and fires started dock area believed petrol store hit. 4 torpedo Wellingtons despatched to attack 1 Merchant vessel 1 destroyer located by A.S.V. Wellington? East of Bomba. 2 Wellingtons attacked claiming 1 hit 1 probable hit on merchant ship. Low cloud prevented remainder from attacking. ship reported stationary after attack. 4 A.S.V. Wellingtons with bombs despatched of which 2 returned engine trouble. 1 located and attacked with unobserved results. 25/7. 6 Beaufighters on offensive reconnaissance for coastal shipping at Base attacked 2 barges off Matruh. 1 barge sunk second apparently protected by armoured deck as it was repeatedly hit without visible effect. 3 Beaufighters damaged Me. 110s escorting barges. A R/C Maryland attacked 5 (J?) boats near Sidi Barrani. Damaged unknown. 4 Spitfires shot down 1 R/C Ju.88 probably destroyed second west of Alexandria. 2 Martlets shot down 2 torpedoes 79s of Port Said 4 survivors captured.

Night 25/26. 7 Halifaxes 6 Liberators 3 Fortresses 10 Wellingtons bombed Shipping and harbour installations Tobruk 1 very large fire started N.W. corner harbour about 12 medium fires dock area, some bombs near ships off Tobruk. 1 Wellington unable reach Tobruk bombed Sollum without visible effect. 1 Wellington missing 1 Sunderland missing from A/S patrol off Delta.

War Diary.29.7.1942.  
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean - contd.

Bi-weekly 26th. 5 Beaufighters offensive R/C for coastal  
Opsum No.42 shipping west Matruh. 2 Beaufighters attacked 6  
Contd. barges off Sidi Barrani holing 1 below waterline  
damaging another. 1 Beaufighter badly damaged  
by A/A fire, observer killed. A Spitfire shot

down a R/C Ju.88 west of Alexandria. Covering patrols over  
shipping off Port Said and in Gulf of Suez by 2 Hurricanes 11  
Martlets 6 Fulmars

Night 26/27. 3 Halifaxes 31 Wellingtons bombed shipping  
and harbour installations Tobruk. 1 ship claimed hit and sunk.  
Several near misses on other ships, fires and explosions started  
on docks in main jetty area, violent explosion N.Q. corner of  
harbour. 4 torpedo Wellingtons made offensive R/C for enemy  
shipping off Tobruk. 1 attacked stationary ship close inshore  
east of Tobruk hit causing explosion, now believed that ship was  
a wreck, no other vessels seen.

Night 27/28. 5 Halifaxes 3 Fortresses 35 Wellingtons  
bombed shipping and harbour installations Tobruk. 1 ship  
claimed hit. Many bombs fell near ships at south side of harbour  
and large fire started in vicinity, several fires started main  
jetty area, large fire north west corner of harbour. Intense  
A.A. opposition experienced, additional 2 Wellingtons missing  
third forced landed 30 miles S.E. Tobruk.  
12 Bostons attacked F-boats Matruh, results unobserved. About  
10 enemy aircraft operated over Southern Sector Suez Canal and  
Gulf of Suez bombs dropped Shandur Aerodrome, destroying one  
Wellington, and at Suez, where slight damage to refinery and  
Naval Building. Small Egyptian Naval Vessel also sunk.  
Casualties. Mines also probably laid in Gulf. 12 Beaufighters  
up shot down one He.111, damaged second.

28/7. 2 Beaufighters on offensive R/C attacked 2 barges  
West of Sidi Barrani, sinking one. 4 Hudsons escorted by 4  
Beaufighters attacked 2 other barges, one barge believed damaged  
by near misses, one Hudson hit by A/A fire crashed in sea.

Night 28/29. About 7 enemy aircraft dropped bombs Amiriya  
Rosetta (?tif) Damietta areas, reports awaited. 3 Beaufighters  
up shot down one Italian 3 engined aircraft believed Cant.  
North of Rosetta. Following attacks made on submarines 24/7.  
Blenheim attacked submerged S/M with 3 depth charges off  
Caesarea, one falling 50 feet ahead of point where periscope last  
seen, yellow triangular marker came up to surface 7 minutes  
after attack but no wreckage seen.

25/7. A Blenheim on convoy escort attacked submerged S/M  
with 2 depth charges about 10 miles West of Haifa, bursts ahead  
of swirl but results unknown. A Wellesley attacked second  
submerged S/M 40 miles S.W. Haifa 4 depth charges falling 30  
yards ahead of swirl, 6 explosions observed (?Posf) oil on surface

28/7. A Wellesley attacked S/M 20 (?30) miles N.W. Jaffa  
depth charges failed to explode.  
(H.Q., R.A.F., M.E., 1041/29, 1101/29, 1143/29, 1203/29, 1223/29,  
1253/29).

Cositrep No. 3. Air. Night 27/28. Halifaxes Fortresses and  
465. Wellingtons bombed shipping and Harbour installa-  
tions Tobruk. 1 ship claimed hit near misses on  
ships south side Harbour, large fire started in  
vicinity. Good fires started main jetty area, one large fire N.  
W. corner harbour. Intense A.A. opposition experienced. 3  
Wellingtons missing.

War Diary.29.7.1942.  
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean-conf:-

Cositrep No. 465. Contd. 6. Beaufighters sank a barge west of Matruh. Second barge damaged by escorted Hudsons. 1 Hudson shot down by A.A. fire.  
8. Night 28/29. About 7 enemy aircraft over Delta coast. No damage yet reported. Beaufighters shot down 1 Italian 3 engined aircraft into sea. (C. in C. M.E., 1100/29).

Navarin R/C. My 2005/28. Photographs of Navarin. (1) 2 E-class Cruisers, 1 C-class Cruiser, 3 Fleet destroyers and Naval Repair ship QUARNARO, all behind Torpedo Net Western side of Harbour.  
(2) 2 Small Escort Destroyers with damaged M/Vs in tow of Tug.  
(3) 1 Fleet Water Carrier. (4) 5 Large M.A.S. (length 89 feet).  
(5) 1 Merchant Ship, 7,000 tons, around off Methioni and apparently abandoned.  
(V.A. Malta, 1155B/29 to C. in C. Med., F.O.C.N.A. Admty).

P.42, Intend following patrol.  
P.44. 1. P.42 in area Z east of line Ischia-Orlando leaving p.m. Malta 30/7 Naples 6/8, Palinuro 7/8 Vaticano 8/8, Stromboli 9/8, thence to patrol vicinity of Milazzo from about 2359B/9.  
2. P.44 leaves Malta 1/8 for area Y south of  $038^{\circ} 50'$  between  $012^{\circ} 31'$ , and  $014^{\circ} 21'$  until 0001B/10 when western limit will be  $013^{\circ} 06'$  and patrol maintain off Galo.  
Both submarines will keep a full salvo for use after 0001B/10. (Capt. S.10., 1301B/29 to C. in C. Med., F.O.C.N.A. (R) N.O.I.C. Malta, Capt. S.1., Capt. S.8).

A/S trawlers Your 2006/28/6. No further allocation of A/S Alexandretta. trawlers can be made to you at present. Every effort should be made to persuade the Turks to fit their Torpedo Boats and Auxiliaries with Asdics Type 123A as soon as possible. (D.A/S.W., 1341B/29 to C. in C. Med).

TAKU. P.35 Intend TAKU and P.35 to sail from Haifa about 2001C/31 and proceed as follows:-  
TAKU through  $032^{\circ} 54'$ ,  $034^{\circ} 34'$ ,  $032^{\circ} 54'$ ,  $025^{\circ} 52'$  and  $032^{\circ} 20'$ ,  $024^{\circ} 30'$  to operate with THORN in area Q, S. of  $035^{\circ}$  between  $019^{\circ}$  and  $024^{\circ} 30'$ . \* *See p. 896-899*  
P.35 through  $035^{\circ} 18'$ ,  $026^{\circ} 40'$  S., of Ovo Island,  $035^{\circ} 34'$ ,  $023^{\circ} 12'$  and  $035^{\circ} 21'$ ,  $016^{\circ} 19'$  to arrive latter position 0801C/11/8 thence Malta as ordered by Capt. (S) 10. N.O.I.C. Palestinian Ports Haifa is requested to sail these submarines accordingly.  
(Capt. S.1., 1615C/29 to C. in C. Med., (R) S/Ms on patrol V.A. Malta, Capt. (S) 10, 201 Group, N.O.I.C. Haifa, C.S.15, 235 Wing, S.O. S/Ms Alexandria).

War Diary.29.7.1942.  
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean - Contd.→ PROTEUS,  
THORN.

My 1615/29.  
Keep North of 036° from 0001C/5 to 0001C/8.  
THORN is now operating in area B. *See 14/896 2898.*  
(Capt. S.1., 1619C/29 to PROTEUS, (R) N.O.I.C.  
Palestinian Ports (Haifa), P.35).

→ Enemy Units,  
THORN.

Report 1 Merchant ship and 3 E-boats P.C. and S.  
031° 53', 026° 05', 280° 8 at 1505.  
(S.O.S. Alexandria, 1802C/29 to THORN).

Malta Air  
Report.

WX2173. Part 1.  
I.517 29/7, . C.S.R..  
28th. 1514 hours, 3 Ju.88s escorted by 12 Me.  
109s approached. Serious but decreasing R.D.F.  
interference. 20 Spitfires intercepted over coast before  
bombing. All 3 Ju.88s and 1 Me. 109 destroyed. 2 prisoners.  
Few bombs Luqa caused no damage. 1 Spitfire slightly damaged  
in combat, pilot unhurt. 2 Spitfires up cover to minesweepers.  
Night 28/29. 2036 hours, 6 Ju.87s approached. 5 crossed coast.  
1 bombed Hal Far no damage, elsewhere 2 houses destroyed 1 civil-  
ian wounded. 2 Beaufighters and 2 Spitfires could not  
intercept owing to (?various) R.D.F. interference particularly  
in Beaufighter.  
29th. 1 alert, 0744 hours, fighter sweep of 16 Me. 109s and  
4 Mc. 202s approached followed by 6 Ju.88s and 6 fighters close  
escort. Partial R.D.F. interference. Fighter sweep intercepted  
2 miles N.E. of Malta by 7 Spitfires, 2 Me. 109s destroyed.  
16 other Spitfires up. Ju.88s jettisoned bombs in sea and fled  
homeward. 2 Spitfires damaged in combat of which 1 was destroyed  
on crash landing. Another damaged landing. Pilots unhurt.  
2 Spitfires up cover to minesweepers.

Part 2 my I.517. 28th Convoy sighted 0500 (my I.513)  
attacked 1010, 185° Sapienza 10 miles, course 170° 12 knots, by  
6 Beauforts with torpedoes and 3 with bombs escorted by 6  
Beaufighters. 5 torpedoes dropped, M/V hit once and pouring  
white smoke, hit confirmed by photos. Bombs dropped scoring  
near misses on D/Rs, all ships machine gunned. 3 Beaufighters  
provided top cover while 3 others attacked, 1 D/R 2 floatplanes  
attacked results unobserved, 2 Beauforts landed sea, crew of 1  
picked up by Red Cross Cant. 506. Next day crew overpowered  
captors and took possession of aircraft and forced Italian pilot  
to land Cant at point of pistol safely Malta p.m./29, 5 Italian  
prisoners.

1 other Beaufort damaged by attack from 3 Macchi 200, crew  
unhurt, 1 Macchi damaged. 2 Photo R/C of strike show tug towing  
M/V into Navarino 1540. Oil film in M/Vs wake.  
(H.Q., R.A.F., Malta, 1851/29).

Your I.517 29/7, part 2 relating incident of Beaufort  
crew picked up by enemy aircraft. Ensure that any publication  
of this incident is prevented.  
(Air Ministry, 1115/30 to H.Q., R.A.F., Malta, and M.E.)

War Diary.29.7.1942.  
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies.Need for  
Minesweepers.

Your 1420/27. Conversion and building of mine-sweepers has already been given highest priority after destroyers, every endeavour being made to hasten, but lack of equipment and facilities has caused unavoidable delay.  
(Com. R.I.N. 0541Z/29 to D.C. in C. E.F. (R) F.O.C.R.I.N. Admty., C. in C.E.F., D.S.R. Bombay.)

Need for  
A/S and  
M/S craft.

Your 1150/23/6 to Admty. With recent U-boat activity in Mozambique Channel and deterioration of situation in Russia and Middle East, the time has arrived when enemy may be expected to attack our communications in Persian Gulf and Gulf of Aden.

(2) The shortage of A/S and M/S craft in the Eastern Fleet has now become serious.

(3) Can any improvement be made in dates of sailing CESSNOCK, LAUNCESTON, WOOLLONGONG, BURNIE? They should all be sailed to Kilindini via Addu Atoll and Seychelles. Their arrival together with that of ~~TOB~~ BOMBA would do much to alleviate the situation. It is hoped that CAIRNS and IPSWICH can also be sailed to Kilindini at the same time and MARYBOROUGH to Colombo.

(5) GAWLER and TAMWORTH will be required for Ceylon as soon as completed.

(D. C. in C.E.F. 0949Z/29 to A.C.N.B. (R) Admty., C. in C. E.F., D.N.O. W. Australia, F.O. Ceylon.)

Personal from 1st S.L.

A.M. 1634D/29.

According to Admty. information future A/S M/S reinforcements for R.I.N. are as follows:-

2. "BATHURSTS". (i) From Australia - 2 leave this month, 1 leaves in November.

(ii) Built in India - 3 complete next June.

3. "BANGORS". (i) From England - 3 left this month 1 leaves August, 3 November, 1 December, 1 January.

(ii) Built in India - 1 completes August, 1 September, 2 next June.

4. A/S M/S trawlers completing in India.

14 complete by end of this year and a further 17 by next April. (1st S.L. 1723B/29 to C. in C.E.F.)

B.A. 29.

Sailed Bombay 28/7 for Suez via Aden. Ships and contents. E.T.A. Aden 0500/6.  
(P.S.T.O. India 1139Z/29).

Movements.

Ceylon movement summary No. 9 on 29/7. Ref. Summary No. 8 (1540/22).

1. SHOREHAM and \*HINDUSTAN arrived Colombo 29/7 with convoy B.M. 26. *See next page*

2. SUTLEJ left Diego Garcia 25/7 due Seychelles 30/7.

3. WILLEM VAN DER ZAAAN now expected to leave Bombay 29/7 escorting K.14 to Colombo.

/ Summary....

War Diary.29.7.1942.  
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies - Contd. -Movements  
- Contd.

Summary No. 9. SCOUT left Colombo 28/7 for Madras and Vizagapatam, due latter 31/7.

2. JUMNA, ASTER, and SONAVATI left Colombo escorting convoy J.C.2 due Madras 30/7.

→ 3. HINDUSTAN and MARGUERITE leave Colombo 29/7 escorting 2 tankers to Trinco, due a.m. 31/7. (F.O. Ceylon 1141Z/29 to Admty.)

Colombo arrivals 29/7, 0115Z SHOREHAM,\*HINDUSTAN; 0300Z JACOB VAN HEEMSKERCK.

→ Departures 0315Z MANXMAN. 0915Z MARGUERITE; 0950Z \*HINDUSTAN. (S.O.I. Colombo 1450Z/29)

\* See previous page

Fleet  
Oilers.

E.I. Station Message 649C (0752Z/10/5 re Fleet attendant oilers - instructions regarding arrival and departure). (1) Add BRITISH AVIATOR.

(2) Delete CLEODORA.

(D. C. in C.E.F. 1515Z/29 to E.I. Stn., 790C (R) Admty.)

Escort for  
Troops to  
M.E.

Your 1111/28.

Escort can be arranged from 090° E. to Durban and for DEVONSHIRE from Colombo to Aden.

(D. C. in C.E.F. 1507Z/29 to A.C.N.B., (R) Admty. etc.)

Refits of  
Destroyers.

The A, D, and G. Class destroyers of Eastern Fleet have reached such a worn out state that they are all in need of general overhaul. When they are sent to a refitting port on this or S.A. Station for a particular essential item the work situation

is such that opportunity cannot be taken to carry out an overhaul beneficially. New boiler tubes are often delayed on arrival and spare parts for machinery found defective on opening up are not available. Other reasons could be given to emphasize refits on this station are strictly limited in scope.

2. Acute shortage of destroyers makes it difficult to spare any for refitting elsewhere but more work will eventually be got out of some ships after a thorough refit in U.K., even though time on passage will be lost.

3. In order partly to compensate for time taken on passage, request that refit of these ships may be given high priority. The ship could sometimes be used for escort duty on passage if this did not cause undue delay.

4. Propose to sail one destroyer at an early date and a 2nd on arrival of NEPAL. Ships affected are ACTIVE, ANTHONY, ARROW, DECOY, DUNCAN, GRIFFIN.

(D. C. in C. E.F. 1528Z/29 to Admty.)

BLACKHEATH.  
"Q" Report.

Following has been read. 1550 G.M.T. 16.23 N. 82.33 BLACKHEATH being attacked (Colombo Radio 1556 G.M.T./29)

Following has been read. QQQQ. BLACKHEATH 06° 23' N., 80° 33' E., being attacked.

(1634 G.M.T./29) Note difference in position.

Following received from Com I/C Durban (begins). Following received from Jacobs (begins) QQQQ BLACKHEATH 06.23 N. 80.33 E. being attacked, T.O.R. 1613Z/29 (Ends) T.O.O. 1930C/29. (Ends). (S.O.I. Capetown 1935B/29 to D. C. in C.E.F. (R) Admty., C. in C. S.O.(I) Colombo).

/0.23.....



War Diary.

29.7.1942.  
Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies-Contd.

O.25  
unsuccessful  
attack on  
enemy units,  
Malacca  
Straits.

Following received. (Begins) C. in C.E.F., F.O.I.C. Ceylon, S.O.(S) Colombo from D.S. 025. 2 Cruisers Jap TAKAO class, 4 destroyers 005° 32' N. 098° 50' E. course 340° speed 14 knots, torpedo missed, 2325Z/28. (ends).  
(F.O.I.C. Ceylon 1705Z/29 to Admty. Naval Board, Melbourne.)

STEEL  
TRAVELLER  
attacked.

Following has been read. Received 1715 G.M.T. SSSS STEEL TRAVELLER 22 miles 90° from Sacramento shoal, probable sub. fired 2 shots 1540 G.C.T. (Colombo Radio 1715/29).

Mauritius,  
minefield.

Ref. prohibited anchorage at Grand Port, care is necessary to ensure that ships are not endangered by firing of C.M. Field. Ships should berth so that a minimum distance of 200 yards between ship and mines is maintained. (D.T.M. 2501B/29 to C. in C.E.F., D. C. in C.E.F., (R) N.O.I.C. Mauritius)

War Diary.

29.7.1942  
Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies.

Food Shortage, Jamaica. It has been necessary to decline request for allocation of shipping space on Webster vessels for 20 aeroplanes for naval air station, as imported food situation now very acute and serious shortages imminent, due to delays on account of engine trouble and difficulties with labour and crews in handling vessels, coupled with rearrangement of Canadian shipping and some ships being unable to join convoys because of insufficient speed.  
(Govr. Jamaica to S. of S. for Colonies No T.O.O. Recd 0330/29)

Signals for C.in C. E.F. While C. in C. Eastern Fleet is at sea, Deputy C. in C. E.F. assumes his responsibility for control and routing of ocean shipping and for provision of escorts. 2. Therefore requested that all signal relating to such matters made or repeated to C. in C. E.F. be made also to Deputy C. in C. E.F.  
(D.O.D.(F) Approved A.C.N.S.(F) 0100B/29 to Cominch (R) B.A.D. Connav.)

MORMACSTAR U/B. Following received from Valentia Radio: Intercept De Amagansett Radio (begins) SSSS MORMACSTAR 37° 27' N. 70° 50' W. gunned (ends) (C.in C.Plymouth 0554/29 to Admty.)  
W.D. Note.- Intercept for Freetown W/T portion missed, No T.O.O. gave position as 27.27 N. 70.50 W.

Sub attack and sighting summary. Trawler EBB shelled and sunk 43.20 N. 63.40 W. 0720Z/28. MORMACSTAR 27.27 N. 70.50 W. 0523Z/29. ANDREA BROVIG 2 torpedo hits, 25 shells. EMPIRE EXPLORER, 3 torpedo hits, 25 shells, 2 subs participating. FORT QUAPPELLE, 2 torpedo hits. RAPHAEL SEMMES, subsequent information confirms that C.O. claims to be Lt. Mieber Heidelberg and Coat of Arms with lion on C/T, cupid, mermaid forward starboard quarter. ETNA U-45 Type. Plane attacks sub on surface 28.28 N. 90.55 W. 1510Z/28. M/V reports being followed by Sub 43.10 N. 59.47 W. about 0934Z/29. Plane attacks sub 63.55 N. 24.15 W. 0210Z/29, course 70° speed 10. Patrol craft sights sub 25.12 N. 80.05 W. 0520Z/29. Sub reported 39.05 N. 74.20 W. 0430Z/29. Patrol Craft sights sub 40.07 N. 73.34 W. 1855Z/29.  
(Navcom No T.O.O/29 to Admty. for O.I.C.)

Movement Summary. 1800 G.M.T. 29/7.  
Ship Position Course Speed  
CILICIA 22° 27° W. 013° 13½  
(D.O.D.(F) 0907Z/29 to Opnav (R) Commaveu.)

/ILE D'OUessant ...

War Diary.

29.7.1942  
Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies. - contd.

ILE D'OUessant. Arrival 28.  
(French) (B.S.N.O. Curacao 1055QR/29 to M.W.T.)

Overdue Ship. U.S. WINFIELD SCOTT (?due) San Juan 2nd ex  
W.A.T. (?6) not arrived.  
(S.O.I. Kingston 1157R/29 to Admty. etc.)

STANCLEEVE Received 0936 G.M.T. SSSS STANCLEEVE 43° 10' N.  
U/B. 59° 47' W. followed by sub.  
(Halifax W/T 1233/29.)

U/B attacked by A/C. This is N O B Iceland 0345/29 Cominch action  
(R) U.S.C.G. AIK, Cinclant, Admty. Enemy S/M  
sighted and attacked by P B Y aircraft at 0210Z/29  
63.55 N. 24.15 W. course and speed 070° 10.  
(Cominch 1256/29 to Admty.)

RAMSEY. C. in C. W.A.'s 1320Z/26th\*(?)18th not to C.T.U.  
24.1.4. Intend to sail RAMSEY a.m./30 to  
overtake H.X.200 in 47.46 N. 51.05 W. at 1600Z/30.  
(F.O.N.F. 1310Z/29 to C.T.24, C.T.U.24.1.4 (R)  
N.S.H.Q., Admty., C.O.A.C., C. in C. W.A.,  
B.A.R.M.) \* (Not to Admiralty)  
*See next page (Dispositions)*

AQUITANIA. S.O.(I) Capetown 1732/28. U.S. Authorities were  
expecting AQUITANIA to proceed via Rio de Janeiro  
to New York in accordance with your 0001/11/6  
as amended by your 1659/7. Request clarification.  
(B.A.D. 1429Z/29 to Admty. (R) C. in C. S.A.,  
R.A. W.A., S.O.(I) Capetown.)  
Reply. Admty. 1155B/30.

U/B. S/M reported off Negro Head approx. 045° 11' N.  
066° 08' W. at 1300Z/29.  
(C.O.A.C. 1509Z/29 to Admty.)

Suspected Mine, St. Lucia. U.S. Launch from Air Station was sunk by a violent  
explosion when passing through Boom Defence gate  
at 1440 today. 3 occupants injured not  
seriously. Cause of explosion unknown, but  
severe, and presumably mine placed in position  
to demolish gate when being closed.  
(B.R.O. St Lucia 1517Q/29 to S.B.N.O. W.A. (R)  
F.O. Trinidad, S.O.(I) Jamaica, Admty.)

/My ...

905

War Diary29.7.1942  
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies - cont.

Suspected Mine, St. Lucia - contd. My 1517Q/29. Further investigation seems to indicate explosion was external, probably due to a mine. Boat is being salvaged for examination. Consider port should be closed to shipping for the present. Com.10 informed. (B.R.O. St. Lucia 1831Q/29 to S.B.N.O. W.A. (R) Admty. F.O. Trinidad, S.O.(I) Jamaica.)

Ref. report of sinking of U.S. Launch at St. Lucia presume you will take necessary action regarding closing of port and sweeping of entrance should you consider this desirable. (S.B.N.O.W.A. 2251P/29 to C.C.S.F. (R) Admty., F.O. Trinidad, S.O.(I) Jamaica, B.R.O. Saint Lucia.)

U.S. Forces. My 1654/21. Further dispositions of U.S. Forces in Atlantic. Battleships - ARKANSAS At Norfolk. Due to dep. New York 6/8 escorting A.T.18. TEXAS Arrived Norfolk 28/7. SOUTH DAKOTA at Philadelphia. MASSACHUSSETS at Boston. Aircraft Carriers - RANGER due Hampton Roads 8/8 via Trinidad. 8" Cruisers - AUGUSTA due Hampton Roads 8/8 via Trinidad. TUSCALOOSA at Rosyth. 5" Cruisers - BROOKLYN due to dep. New York 6/8 escorting A.T.18. CINCINNATI left Trinidad 27/7. CLEVELAND arrived Norfolk 28/7. JUNEAU, MEMPHIS at Pernambuco, left Trinidad 27/7. OMAHA at Pernambuco. (D.O.D.(F) 1518B/29 to C. in C. H.F., S.B.N.O.W.A., N.S.H.Q.)

Dispositions. Section North West. S Q (?27) HEPATICA, DRUMMONDVILLE, RACON (?009°) 15' N. 066° 40' W. 8. Q S 22, CLAYOQUOT, CHARLOTTETOWN, Q 065, Q 075, sailed Father Point 2030/29 7.5. WEYBURN, 3 Fairmile, Gaspe Passage (?2nd) ARROWHEAD, VEGREVILLE, due Gaspe from Cabot Strait, S (?B) 16, VISON, 046° 50' N. 060° 00' W. 015° 8.5. (C.O.A.C. 1531Z/29 to Admty.) as amended 2119Z/29.)

Section East O.N.114 Task Unit No. 24.1.3 048° 50' N. 048° 30' W. 229° 8.5 alter in 050° 00' W. to 215° Task Unit 24.18.2 from St. Johns N.F. joining at 1100Z/30 H.X.200 Task Unit No. 24.18.3 046° 00' N. 052° 45' W. 033° 10. Task Unit 24.1.4 from Argentia joining 1600Z/30. O.N.113, Task Unit 24.18.7 043° 35' N. 059° 45' W. 250° 9 altering in 060° 02' W. to 292° in 062° 58' W. to 270° in 063° 26' W. to 222°. S/M P.554 on surface escorted by TRILLIUM due St. Johns N.F. from 047° 30' N. 052° 23' W. 9. C.L.48 GEORGIAN, MALPEQUE, sailing 1700Z (?29th), 7. FOUNDATION FRANKLIN, WASAGA, due St. Johns N.F. from southward. POLYANTHUS due St. Johns N.F. 2100Z/29 from eastward. Q. 057 0.061 046° 30' N. 053° 25' W. to Sydney (C.B) 12.\*RAMSEY (?045°) 40' N. 056° 45' W. 076° 22. G (?N) 3 U.S.S. MOJAVE, ALGONQUIN 050° (?50') N. (?057) 50' W. 218° 10, alter in 049° 28' N. to (?243°, 189°, 107°) \* See previous page

(C.O.A.C. 1535Z/29 to Admty.)

Section South West. O.N.(?112) Task Unit 24.18.8 (?042°) 25' N. 068° 25' W. 259° 1.5. B.X.31 Task Unit 24.18.4 042° (?25') N. 070° 30' W. 058° 7.5 altering in (?043°) 06' N. to 090° (amended, see 0123Z/30)

/B.X.31 F, ...

War Diary29.7.1942  
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies—cont.

Dispositions contd. B.X.31 F, REGINA, CARIBOU sailing 2000Z/29 8, turn towards Broadway 043° 00' N. 068° 30' W. 090° 17 altering in 065° 42' W. to 051°.

5-10-43 1935 → CALDWELL due to sail Boston 29th to Halifax. (amended see 0123Z/30) SS CERAMIC U.S. Destroyer TRIPPE, U.S.S. BRISTOL 040° (755') N. 067° 30' W. 077° 12 altering in 067° 00' W. to 038°. QUAICUM (?QUALICUM) 040° 45' N. 068° 40' W. 256° 13 altering in 069° 35' W. to 302°. H.S.35, MATAPEDIA, NORANDA, MAHONE, 045° 35' N. 060° 10' W.7. H.S.36 CHAMBLY, WANDERER, BARRIE 044° 40' N. 062° 20' W. 7 (?½) BADDECK sail 2100Z/29 to Pictou.  
(C.O.A.C. 1538Z/29 to Admty.)

ZWARTE ZEE. My 1402/28th. Now propose to delay departure ZWARTE ZEE to enable her to join convoy H.A.3 unless there is earlier opportunity for her to proceed with escort? Request N.S.H.Q. confirm no objection to ZWARTE ZEE joining H.A.3.  
(S.B.N.O.W.A. 1533Z/29 to C. in C. U.S. Fleet (R) Admty., B.A.D. N.S.H.Q. Connav, N.O.I.C. Trinidad, Com. Caribbean Sea, S.O.(I) Kingston, N.O.I.C. Bermuda.)

COLUMBIA. Detached from Convoy O.N.113. Now in 043° 10' N. 059° 47' W. carrying out search.  
(COLUMBIA 1559Z/29 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, D. Halifax.)

WEIRBANK (torpedoed 27/7.) Tobago reports 67 survivors landed there from SS WEIRBANK torpedoed 27/7 in approx 012° 10' N. 058° 10' W.  
(F.O. Trinidad 1602Q/29 to Admty. (R) S.B.N.O.W.A. S.O.I. Jamaica.)

Escort of Tankers. Your 1328/26. F.O.N.F's 1557Z/28 is being repeated for your information. However, owing to urgency of oil situation, considered that Canadian Groups must if necessary boiler clean at Londonderry. Request information if U.S. authorities have concurred in reducing Mid-Ocean groups to 10. If so, which group has been selected for tanker convoys and when will it be available at Halifax.  
(N.S.H.Q. 1608Z/29 to Admty. (R) B.A.D., C. in C. W.A., C.O.A.C., F.O.N.F., C.N.A. Washington.)

Navigation. W J A 603. Chesapeake and Delaware Canal is blocked to all traffic indefinitely.  
(C.N.S. Ottawa 1610Z/29 to all S.Os, Admty. etc.)

/Bunkers ...

907

War Diary.29.7.1942  
WednesdayFOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies - contd.

Bunkers,  
Brazil. M.A.R.I. Sec. 4 para 5 Sub.para 2 and para 7  
Sub. para 3 and 4. Canadian Legation Rio de  
Janeiro report Brazilian F.O. state it is now  
impossible for non Brazilian ships to obtain  
bunkers in Brazilian ports and requesting that ships no longer  
be sent to these ports for sole purpose of bunkering.  
(N.S.H.Q. 1617Z/29 to Admty.)  
Reply: Admty. 1729B/31.

U/B 29/7 sub estimate.  
Positions. (Cominch 1713/29, 1715/29.)

Shipping,  
Freetown  
Area. R.A.W.A.F's 1703/28, para 3. Recommend that  
where possible such ships bound from U.S.  
Strategic Area to South African ports or  
beyond should be diverted to conform with  
M.A.R.I. Sec IV para 8 sub-para 2.  
(D.T.D. 1802B/29 to Connav (R) C. in C. S.A.,  
R.A.W.A.)

O.N.  
Convoys. Your signal of 24/7 not to C. in C. W.A.  
relating to "Chop" for O.N. convoys, concur.  
(D.T.D. 1808B/29 to C. in C. U.S. Fleet C and R.  
(R) C. in C. W.A.)

Ice  
Bulletin 29/7 C.T.24 1855/29 to Admty.

Attacks on  
U/Bs. Your 1916B/9. It has been suggested that  
copies of all reports of attacks on U-boats by  
H.M.C. ships should be forwarded to Cominch.  
This would in most cases accelerate assessment  
of result of attacks by these ships. Request this question  
be considered and a definite ruling laid down for all H.M.C.  
ships.  
(N.S.H.Q. 1959Z/29 to Admty. (R) Cominch.)  
Reply: Admty. 1837B/30.

VAN  
KINSBERGEN. Your 1616/24. (1) VAN KINSBERGEN will be  
released from escort duty shortly. (2) She will  
then proceed to U.S.A. to fit refrigerator,  
after which she will be sailed to U.K. for refit.  
(3) Programme will be signalled as soon as  
possible.  
(B.A.D. 2045Z/29 to Admty. (R) S.B.N.O. W.A.)

/EBB ...

908

War Diary.

29.7.1942  
Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies - contd.

EBB  
(sunk 28/7)

Connav Serial 29. EBB U.S. Fishing Schooner shelled sunk 43.20 N. 63.40 W. 28/7 FRANZ KLASSEN Pan Tanker collided with bridge in Chesapeake Delaware Canal. Canal closed by wreck.  
(Connav 2047/29 to Comnav (R) N.S.H.Q., S.O.(I) Kingston, C.E.T.F., C.C.S.F., C.G.S.F., C.P.S.F.)

IRISH PLANE  
suspicious.

F.O.N.F. 1736/28. IRISH PLANE was 200 miles to northward of route suggested by N.C.S.O. Halifax. Observing that number of Eire ships is increasing, suggest pressure to enforce adherence to routes given.  
(N.S.H.Q. 2141Z/29 to Admty.)

R.N.  
Publicity  
in U.S.A.

B.A.D. 2255Z/29 to Admty. See Lion Copy.

WALKER  
U/B attack.

Submarine attack at 2311Z, 043° 31' 060° 38'.  
(WALKER 2312Z/29 to C.O.A.C.)

*O.N. 113. 2 p. 880*

Australia and New Zealand.

Situation. Serial No.188 28/7. Allied aircraft reported large enemy S/M 35° 45' S. 117° 21' E. at 2337Z/27.  
(2) Photo R/C Rabaul harbour 28/7 revealed 1 light cruiser, 8 M/Vs 3000 to 6000 tons, 2 unidentified vessels 2000 tons and 13000 tons respectively, 10 flying boats. 2 6000 ton M/Vs, 2 possible destroyers, also sighted St. Georges Channel, course 170°, 4 cruisers or large destroyers, one small vessel anchored Kavieng area (New Ireland)  
(3) Reliably reported 27/7 Japanese force landed Ilwaki (Wetar Island) from large motor boats.  
(4) 3 Hudsons bombed Koepang aerodrome 1600Z/27.  
(5) Single A/C probably T.97 Kawanisi Flying boat bombed Port Moresby area 0910Z/28 without effect.  
(6) 1 T.97 Kawanisi flying boat dropped bombs off Magnetic Island (Townsville) 1423Z/28, no damage. Intercepting fighters claim several hits.  
(7) Natives report no Japanese Buna but concentration S.E. of Gona. (8) Reliable report 28/7 states Japanese occupied Mamba Mission (16 miles N.N.W. Ambasi.) (9) Kokada reoccupied 28/7 but lost again to enemy during night. (10) 2 attacks Gona area 28/7 by 2 Catalinas, 1 Marauder. Native huts and bungalows hit.  
(A.C.N.B. 0806Z/29 to Admty. etc.)

/WILLIAM DAWES ...

MOST SECRET

**MOST SECRET**

MESSAGE

IN

2255Z/29 July

From B. A. D.

Date 30.7.42

NAVAL CYPHER O.T.P. (AA)  
BY CABLE.

Recd. 0350

Addressed Admiralty

226. For 1st Sea Lord.

(1) Mr. Harold Butler has been to see me in connection with publicity in U.S. concerning Royal Navy. In his view this publicity is so poor that U.S. knows little of our Naval efforts and in consequence fails to appreciate that we are making a major contribution to the war. In fact the public tend think that we are doing very little in this respect as regards our Naval effort.

(2) We have out here no one properly qualified to get this matter on proper footing. An Officer with knowledge, experience and energy such as Commander Kimmins is needed to organize matters. Liout. Commander Downey R.N.V.R. who is coming out for press duties can do routine duties but has not the background and experience to organize the whole of naval publicity. I would strongly recommend that Kimmins should come herefor say 3 months. The matter is of sufficient importance to warrant some dislocation at home if it will achieve result in putting matter in a more satisfactory state.

(3) A further matter raised is that insufficient information is available for Naval publicity. Information is taken primarily now from weekly news (?sections) Veritas and Empax and telegram. The Naval side of these telegrams does not provide sufficient material. Could not some of excellent accounts in W.I.R.'s be used. A weekly message from Admiralty indicating what may be quoted could easily be instituted and we should then be free to provide version of remainder for use by Naval publicity.

(4) Is there any other source we could draw upon or suggestion you could offer to improve matter.

2255Z/29

Advance Copy 1st S.L. with note 1200.

1st Lord.

1st S.L. (2)

V.C.N.S.

A.C.N.S. (H)

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

Secy.

Nav. Sec.

N.A. 1st S.L.

P.A.S. (S)

P.A.S. (O)

D.N.I. (4)

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

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

Hd. of M.

D. of P. (2)

D.P.D. for remarks.

D.D.I.C. (2)

Admiral Blake.

I.P. (2)

W.D.



909

29.7.1942  
Wednesday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.Australia and New Zealand - contd.

WILLIAM DAWES. My 1126Z/22. WILLIAM DAWES. First torpedo struck vessel 1915Z/20 on port side blew rudder off and wrecked stern. Ship caught (?fire) and several explosions occurred. Ship was abandoned 1930Z/20. Shortly before dawn S/M surfaced about 1500 yards from ship and submerged immediately firing further torpedo approx 2115Z/20 and this struck vessel aft. Weather fine and clear. (A.C.N.B. 1043Z/29 to Admty. (R) C. in C. E.F.)

U.S. Forces. My 1722/21. Following changes in disposition of U.S. Forces:- 8" Cruisers - SALT LAKE CITY - Left Brisbane 14/7. 6" Cruisers - RALEIGH - Left San Francisco 23/7. HELENA - Left San Francisco 21/7. BOISE At Pearl Harbour. (D.O.D.(F) 1635B/29 to C. in C. E.F., N.Z.N.B., A.C.N.B., N.S.H.Q.)

Solomon Islands. No.302. My telegram No.293 of 20/7. Following from Resident Commissioner (begins) 27/7. No.180. Further reports on activities since date of my No.174 as follows (begins) Details of R/C of enemy positions and numbers carried out at request of the Navy reveals some 3,000 Japanese in Lunga area of Guadalcanal, where work of consolidating still goes on and considerable defences have been put in, including 46 machine guns mounted on trucks, others alongside shore and at least 12 A/A guns. Outposts with A/A guns and machine guns at Cape Hunter, Cape Esperance and near Taivu. Aola was occupied 26/7 and posts now being established in Marau Sound. Small landing grounds cleared in coconuts at Lunga, and work of clearing grass plains goes on day and night. In Tulagi there is about 1,600 Japanese and A/A and other guns have been set up. Large dugouts constructed. A/C bases here, outposts at Sandfly and east end of Nggela. Enemy ships using Protectorate waters freely and 15 discharged cargo at Livokoom between 6th and 11/7. 4 warships off Ramos 25/7. Air R/C 23/7 revealed establishment of large camp on Island in Maramasiki passage Malaita. Details of R/C now being undertaken. Tatamba, Ysabel occupied 12th to 17/7 and 4 enemy ships in Rekata Bay during working period. No recent reports of Allied activity as observers on Guadalcanal have been instructed to keep wireless silence, although Allied aircraft have been reported frequently elsewhere. Indications that some more active Allied operations are impending. Communications with Intelligence Centres being maintained. All well (Ends.) (High Commr. Western Pacific 1900/29 to S. of S. for Colonies.)

910

War Diary.

29.7.1942  
Wednesday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Submarines Reported.

Approximate positions of U-Boats.  
(D.D.I.C. 1447B/29, 1448B/29.)

911

War Diary.

30.7.1942  
Thursday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

Owing to other commitments, additional destroyers from the Nore Command will not be available for F.N. and F.S. Convoys after F.N.75 and F.S.70 until about 25/8.

Enemy Air Operations.

SS YEWGLLEN shot down one of two Me.109s which bombed and slightly damaged her at 1215 today 2 miles S.E. of Littlehampton.

There was considerable air activity over the Thames Estuary between 0040 and 0255 today. The enemy machines came from the Midlands and it is doubtful whether mines were dropped.

Mining.

Operation  
S.N.82.

R.A.M. left Port Z.A. today with the 5 ships of the 1st M.L.S. escorted by 4 destroyers, to lay mines in the Faroes - Iceland passage. DELHI from Scapa provided A.A. escort. (The operation was completed on 31/7.)

South Atlantic.

With reference to the report of survivors (see R.A.W.Af 1121Z/25) that SS WILLIAM F. HUMPHREY was sunk by a raider on 16/7 in 6° 30' S. 1° E, it is reported today that on 16/7 a U.S. ship intercepted submarine distress messages from Norwegian tanker ARAMIS in 5° 40' S. 0° 40' E. reporting that she was torpedoed (it became known later that she was torpedoed by an E-boat from a raider), and from SS QUIRIGUA (U.S), position and nature of attack unknown.

SS DANMARK was sunk by torpedo and gunfire about 1705 today in 7° 0' N. 24° 19' W., about 650 miles W. by S. of Freetown.

War Diary.

30.7.1942  
Thursday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Mediterranean.

Shipping and harbour installations at Tobruk were bombed last night, apparently with some success, and the harbour and approaches were also mined.

U-boats have sunk 3 schooners north of Damietta in the last two days.

About 8 enemy aircraft operated against aerodromes in the Cairo area last night. Some damage was caused.

East Indies.

Two more ships are overdue at Aden, due 19/7 from Calcutta, viz SS RADWINTER and OLYMPOS.

Operation  
"Stab"

C. in C. E.F. with Force A. (the more modern ships of his fleet) left Colombo this morning for a position 90 miles east of Trincomalee.

America and West Indies.

The first Galveston - Mobile convoy (G.M.1 or G.M.201) sailed today. (Arrived 1/8)

Australia.

There are indications that enemy submarines were operating in the eastern approaches to Bass Strait this morning.

27 heavy bombers escorted by 22 fighters attacked Darwin at 0140Z today; some damage to essential services was caused.

913

War Diary.30.7.1942  
Thursday.HOME COMMANDS.Policy.M.L.  
Striking  
Forces in  
Faroes.Your 1550/29 and 1540/29. 87 Octane fuel will be available in Faroes in about one month. Meanwhile R.A.F. stocks of 100 Octane fuel are available and can be used by M.Ls by arrangement with local R.A.F. authorities pending arrival of 87 Octane fuel.  
(D.D.O.D. (C) 1805B/30 to A.C.O.S.)Movements.P.45.  
STELLA PEGASI.My 1907/29 sailed. E.T.A. 0400/1.  
(A.C.O.S. 0605/30.)MONTROSE.  
WORCESTER.  
WALPOLE.  
→WINDSOR.Take WORCESTER, WALPOLE and WINDSOR under your orders and leave Harwich at 1000/1 for Scapa by searched channel and QZS 287 and 277.  
2. Weather permitting speed on passage is to be 20 knots. S.A. gear is to be operated until 22 Buoy is passed.  
(C. in C. Nore 1116B/30 to MONTROSE.)

SUSSEX.

When ready for sea F.O.I.C. Greenock is requested to sail SUSSEX for Scapa to work up.  
(D.O.D. (H.) 1135B/30.)

UNIQUE.

CLEVELAND on arrival at Dart Buoy is to proceed to R/V with UNIQUE in P.W.194 and take over special escort from C.H.14. CLEVELAND and UNIQUE are to part company with P.W.194 before dark and are to carry out exercise A S P 6 in area D, a.m.31st. CLEVELAND to escort UNIQUE into Plymouth on completion.  
(C. in C. Plymouth 1205B/30.) *5-12-415*ADRIAS  
KANARIS.On completion of satisfactory trials request you will sail ADRIAS and KANARIS for Scapa to work up. 2. Vessels are Hunt class destroyers manned by Royal Hellenic Navy and will subsequently join Mediterranean Fleet.  
(D.O.D. (H.) 1845B/30 to C. in C. Rosyth.)Operations.Cap la Hague  
Patrol.Your 2257B/29. "Obstacle" arrived.  
(N.O.I.C. Dartmouth 0702/30 to C. in C. Plymouth)→ East Coast  
Patrols.Patrol 1 SHEARWATER, 2 GARTH, A/A escort F.N.74 and 3 WINDSOR, 4 SOUTHDOWN, 5 MENDIP, 6 HOLDERNESS.  
(C. in C. Nore 0922B/30.)

/Weather ...

War Diary.

30.7.1942  
Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operations - contd.

East Coast Patrols. Weather permitting carry out offensive patrols tonight. (1) One unit M.G.Bs (L) from 52° 35' N. 4° E. in direction 090°. (2) One unit M.G.Bs (L) from 52° 45' N. 4° E. in direction 090°

If units are shadowed by E/A on outward route they are to shift after dark to :- (1) 52° 13' N. 3° 55' E. and thence in direction 125°. (2) 52° 21' N. 4° 4' E. and thence in direction 125°. Units should proceed in company as long as practicable and start patrol at same time as early as conditions permit. All units to be 30 miles off shore by daylight.

(C. in C. Nore 1136B/30 to MIDGE.)

Weather permitting carry out following patrols and offensive patrols tonight. (1) One unit M.Ls from 6th Flotilla, Patrol M. (2) One combined unit M.T.Bs and M.G.Bs (S) R.B. 4 to R.B.5. approaching centre of patrol from Thornton Ridge direction.

(C. in C. Nore 1138B/30 to BEEHIVE.)

Your 1136. (1) M.G.Bs (L) 320 (S.O), 321, 315, 323. (2) M.G.Bs (L) 335 (S.O), 332, 327. Units depart from No. 4 Buoy 2015 and proceed in company to 52° 40' N. 3° 30' E. Patrol commences at 2359.

(MIDGE 1350B/30 and 1529B/30 to C. in C. Nore.)

Departure M.G.Bs L 320, 321, 315, 323, 335, 332 and 327.

(F.O.I.C. Gt. Yarmouth 1940B/30)

Departure M.T.B.70, 69. M.G.B. 20, 18.

(F.O.I.C. Harwich 2023B/30.)

→ Cherbourg Patrol. Tonight 3 M.T.Bs and 2 M.G.Bs sweeping Cherbourg to Barfleur.  
(C. in C. Portsmouth 1317B/30)

STRAIDE (Cable-laying.) Your 1836B/28. STRAIDE has completed operation at port D. Intend to bunker her at Stornoway, proceeding thence on 1/8 to Belfast.  
(TITANIA 1459B/30.)

Western Channel Patrols. → M.G.Bs 76 (S.O) 78, 80 and 75 are to patrol near line joining position (X) 49° 50' N. 2° 33' W. and position (Y) 49° 40' N. 03° 00' W, leaving last light tonight. (2) Unless engaging enemy M.G.Bs are not to proceed E. of line Cherbourg to Anvil Point, and are on no account to proceed E. of 1° 25' W. to southward of 50° N. (3) M.G.Bs are to return to Dartmouth so as to be not less than 20 miles from French Coast at first light. S.O. has discretion to abandon operation if circumstances require. Codeword "Obstacle". (5) M.T.Bs 53 (S.O)49, 56 and M.G.Bs 317 and 326 will be sweeping from Cherbourg to Barfleur from 0200 to 0300/31.

(C. in C. Plymouth 1535B/30 to N.O.I.C. Dartmouth.)

M.Ls 155 (S.O) 159 and 118 from Dartmouth are to patrol on a line between 50° 10' N. 03° 17' W. and 49° 57' N. 03° 29' W. from 2300/30 till 0500/31. 2. M.Ls 181 (S.O) 179, and 184 from Falmouth, are to patrol on a line between 49° 55' N. 04° 12' W. and 49° 55' N. 03° 50' W. from 2300/30 till 0500/31. 3. Object to intercept and destroy E-boats attempting to attack P.W.194. 4. On completion M.Ls to return to base.

→ 5. M.G.Bs 76 (S.O) 78, 80 and 75 will be on patrol off Casquets.

(C. in C. Plymouth 1549B/30.)

/Your ...

War Diary.

30.7.1942  
Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operations - contd.:

Western Channel Patrols - contd. Your 1535B/30. Intend to sail "Obstacle" at 2245/30. (N.O.I.C. Dartmouth 1651B/30 to C. in C. Plymouth)

Your 1549B/30. Intend to sail M.Ls at 2115/30. (N.O.I.C. Dartmouth 1655B/30 to C. in C. Plymouth.)

My 1651/30. S.O. now in M.G.B. 80. (N.O.I.C. Dartmouth 2046B/30 to C. in C. Plymouth.)

SEAWOLF Patrol. (1) S 3's 1827/27. F.O.S. will be responsible for passing of Intelligence of our Forces and enemy movements to SEAWOLF East of 35° W. Request American Authorities may be asked to carry out parallel duties for SEAWOLF when West of 35° W. (2) Object of SEAWOLF while on passage is to attack and report enemy U-Boats. (F.O.S. 1612B/30 to Admt.)

Exercises.

UNIQUE. UNIQUE and CLEVELAND will be exercising S. and S.E. of Plymouth during night 30/31 and a.m. 31st. (C. in C. Plymouth 1755B/30) (F.O.S. 1851B/30)

*15.9.3.*

British Air Activity.

Bombing restrictions. Total bombing restriction arranged 35 miles either side meridian Greenwich between 063° 30' and 061° 20' till further notice. (Capt. S.9 0951B/30 to P.247, P.51.)

Request surface bombing restrictions (A) between Start Point, Guernsey, St. Catherines and Dartmouth from 2300/30 to 0500/31 and (B) 15 miles either side of a line joining Alderney and Dartmouth from 0500/31 to 0700/31. (C. in C. Plymouth 1317B/30 to H.Q.C.C.)

"Knocker". My 2331/29. Delayed 2 hours at least. (A.C.I.C. 1115B/30)

My 1115/30. Operations cancelled for today. (A.C.I.C. 1612B/30.)

No further movements today. (T.A.C. Prestwick 1855/30)

Weather permitting operation will probably commence 0900Z/31. (A.C.I.C. 2030B/30.)

War Diary.30.7.1942  
Thursday.HOME COMMANDS.Enemy Air Activity.

- A/C over Yarmouth area. Hostile A/C engaged over Yarmouth and district night 29/30. No bombs were dropped. (F.O.I.C. Yarmouth 0901B/30.)
- Jan Mayen. Following received from Jan Mayen. A/C circled over defence area 0605/28. Weather foggy. (A.C.I.C. 1258B/30.)
- Convoy S.L.116. Enemy A/C are operating in your vicinity. (D.D.I.C. 1503B/30 to Escorts S.L.116.)
- A/C off N.E. Iceland. F.W. course 319° sighted by <sup>\*</sup>NORTHROPP in 066° 40' N. 015° W. at 1208B/29 and engaged. Hits claimed on F.W. which escaped in cloud. No special equipment aerial masts observed. (A.C.I.C. 1522B/30.) *\* Not identified as ship.*
- YEWGLEN attacked. One enemy A/C shot down. SS YEWGLEN was attacked by two Messerschmidt 109a at 1215/30 when in position 2 miles S.E. Littlehampton. She was machine gunned, and sustained slight damage from near misses by three bombs. There were two casualties. One enemy machine was shot down by YEWGLEN, the pilot picked up by W.D.L. CORONACH, transferred to S.T..442, and landed at Littlehampton. (R.N.O. Littlehampton 1630/30)
- Thames Estuary. During night 29/30 there was considerable air activity over the Thames Estuary between 0040 and 0255. Only three enemy planes however were definitely known to have passed over the area between B 8 and North Foreland. These were eastward bound and appeared to have come from the Midlands. At 0208 QUEEN EAGLE near B.3 Buoy reported that her hydrophone detected two objects falling, immediately following the passage overhead of a hostile A/C. It is not considered that any reliable position can be given for these objects and it seems doubtful if they were mines. (S.O. T.L.D.F.1746/30)
- H.S.L.147 attacked. At 1855 today H.S.L.147 on air-sea rescue 3 miles off Dungeness was attacked by two enemy fighter A/C. Two airmen slightly wounded. No damage to H.S.L. Air escort was present at the time and engaged the enemy but without result. (V.A. Dover 2121B/30.)



917

War Diary.30.7.1942  
Thursday.HOME COMMANDS.Mining.

PETERHEAD.

Admiralty 1228B/28. PETERHEAD is required to join me at Port Z.A. for operations by p.m.21/8. Request vessel may have completed boiler cleaning by then and be sailed to join me accordingly.

(? 15th M/S F. 1051/30 to WESTERN ISLES.)

Western  
Channel  
Sweep.

Intend sailing ILFRACOMBE, STORNOWAY, FELIXSTOWE at 0520/31 to Portland sweeping ahead of W.P.194.

2. Request you sail ships back to Dartmouth at 0800/1, sweeping route 'A' through usual positions.

(N.O.I.C. Dartmouth 1155B/30 to F.O.I.C. Portland.)

Unknown  
operation.

My 1228/28 and R.A.M's 1122/29. Request you sail 15th M.S.F. so as to arrive on 26/8. (D.M.S. 1204B/30 to C. in C. Rosyth.)

S.N.89.  
S.N.4A  
S.N.3D.

R.A.M's 1430/29. S.N.89 should be laid in view of age of most of field in Faroes-Iceland passage. Consider S.N.4.A is more likely to be effective against U-boats on passage than S.N.3.D.

(C. in C. H.F. 1257B/30 to Admty. R.A.M.)

S.N.82.

Sailed <sup>Port Z.A.</sup> R.A.(M) in SOUTHERN PRINCE, ADVENTURE, AGAMEMNON, MENESTHEUS, PORT QUEBEC, BRIGHTON, LANCASTER, CASTLETON, NEWARK. (TRELAWNEY 1302B/30.)

Firth of  
Forth.

At 1052B/29 one Magnetic Mine exploded by Sweepers. Details.

(Captain, Port Edgar 1807B/30)  
(ALBACORE 2158B/30.)

Enemy Intelligence.

LÜTZOW.  
KÖLN.

Photographic R/C of Trondheim at 0930B/30 shows LÜTZOW in Lofjord. KÖLN under way in Aasfjord, probably exercising. (D.D.I.C. 1810B/30.)

918

War Diary.

30.7.1942  
Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

U-Boats.

U-Boats reported. D/F Bearings at 2220Z/29 indicate U-boat in your vicinity. You may have been reported. (D.D.I.C. 0210B/30 to Escorts O.N.115.)

B. German U-Boat of 1500 tons reported to have loaded torpedoes at ?St. Nazaire. German engineer stated 42 torpedoes embarked whilst French stevedore who loaded them state 72. Graded C.O.

(N.A. Stockholm 1302/30) N.I.D. Comment. Para.B. This might refer to a supply U-boat although the existence of supply boats is not yet established, one boat which could have been modified to serve as such may be operational. N.I.D. grading C.3. W.D. Note. Part A of message is in Mediterranean.

A/C sighted S/M on the surface 67° 32' N. 11° 52' W. at 1535B/30.

(A.C.I.C. 1707B/30.)

S/M on surface 66° 27' N. 11° 48' W. at 1900B/30.

(A.C.I.C. 1926B/30.)

Am over enemy submarine in 49° 36' N. 7° 22' W. Enemy first sighted on surface and then observed to submerge, course 090°, speed 5 knots.

(19 Group H.Q. 2045/30.)

U-Boat attacked. Am over Enemy S/M in 61° 45' N. 13° 15' W. Have attacked enemy with Depth Charges. Estimated hits unknown. (A/C P8EB 0623/30.)

Enemy was sighted on surface and observed to submerge. When first sighted S/M was on course 250°, estimated speed 4 knots.

(A/C P8GB 0623/30 to No.3 Wing.)

Submarine reported by A/C in 061° 45' N. 013° 15' W. at 0623. Close position with all despatch and hunt.

(C. in C. H.F. 0929B/30 to OFFA.)

My 0929B/30. If not in contact or acting on later information proceed destinations at 0600B/31.

(C. in C. H.F. 2254B/30 to OFFA, RODMAN, EMMANS.)

Navigational.

Thames Estuary. Concrete Tower.

On or about 1/8 a Concrete Tower will be placed in approx 51° 33' 40" N., 1° 09' 45" E. The tower will exhibit a flashing white light every five seconds visible 2½ miles. On certain bearings two lights horizontal flashing simultaneously may be seen. In fog a reed fog signal will sound one blast of two seconds every thirty seconds. (Hydrog. 1227B/30.)

Ice.

Following from Jan Mayen. Free from ice for last 14 days. (A.C.I.C. 1258B/30.)

War Diary.

30.7.1942  
Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Casualties and Defects.

HERON. My 1209/11. Intend to sail M.Ls 155, 118 at 1245/30 to Salcombe 1345/30. 2. On arrival M.Ls are to escort N.A.B. HERON from Salcombe to Teignmouth. E.T.A. 1800/30. (N.O.I.C. Dartmouth 1105/30.)

CARTHAGE. Your 1452/29. Request you will report by signal whether all electrical defects in CARTHAGE resulted from gun trials. 2. Delay can be accepted. 3. Thorough work up is essential and it is requested anticipated date when ship will be ready to leave U.K. may be signalled. (D.O.D. (F.) 1401B/30 to F.O.I.C. Greenock.)

GRAPH. GRAPH taken in hand for work arising from trials 30/7<sup>m</sup> Date for completion 5/8. (A.S. Chatham 1615/30.)

BLANKNEY. BLANKNEY when at anchor was run into by Russian patrol vessel number 19 and her stern badly buckled above waterline. Immediate repairs being carried out. { N.T.A.W. } Your 2058B/29. Should she be replaced by MARNE. (S.B.N.O. Archangel 1636B/30 to S.B.N.O. North Russia.)

Suspected Sabotage of A/C. Ref. N.A.S.C.M.103. Two cases of suspected sabotage in 767 dispersal area causing damage to A/C, which consisted of saw-cut in induction pipe Taurus engine and unexplained failure of magneto in a Swordfish A/C. (Arbroath 1820B/30 to Admty.)

Shipping and Convoys.

Convoy F.S.271. In view of LUDLOW'S defects VIVIEN joins you at about 1400 today. (C. in C. Rosyth 0722B/30 to WESTMINSTER.)

P.Q.17. Your 1910B/20\* and your 1865B/20.

Ship	Survivors	Killed	Wounded	Prisoners
EARLSTONE	31	Nil	Nil	27 (includes Master and 3 Russians.)
BOLTON CASTLE	65	Nil	Nil	Nil (?)
AFTON	31	22	Nil	Nil
ALDERSDALE	54	Nil	Nil	Nil
NAVARILASK	55	1	Nil	Nil (?)
HARTLEBURY	20	39	Nil	Nil

War Diary.30.7.1942  
Thursday.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping and Convoys - contd.

P.Q.17 contd.

Ship	Survivors	Killed	Wounded	Prisoners
EMPIRE				
BALLANTYNE	58	9	Nil	1 (Captain)
ZAAFARAN	59	1	Nil	(?Nil)
PAULUS PAC	62	Nil	Nil	Nil
WILLIAM				
HOOPER	(?54)	3	Nil	Nil
FAIRFIELD				
CITY	32	Nil	(?8)	Nil
ALCOA RANGER	40	Nil	Nil	Nil
PETER KERR	48	Nil	Nil	Nil
OLOPANA	35	3	3	Nil
JOHN				
WITHERSPOON	48	Nil	1	Nil
PAN ATLANTIC	23	8	13	Nil
CHRISTOPHER				
NEWPORT	47	3	Nil	Nil
DANIEL MORGAN	51	1	2	Nil
HOOSIER	52	Nil	Nil	Nil
EL CAPITAN	50	Nil	Nil	Nil
PAN KRAFT	45	2	Nil	Nil
WASHINGTON	46	Nil	Nil	Nil
Totals including				
D.E.M.S.	999	92	27	28

Steamer HONOMU not included in above as particulars not yet complete.

(S.N.O. Archangel 0815B/30 to Admty.) \* 1912/20 intended.

*PQ 17: See also Diary 26/2/45 p 462*

W.S.21. 12 ships sailed 0840/30.  
(D.S.T.O. Greenock 0845/30.)  
My 1614B/28. Sailed 12 hours late. SIBAJAK

did not sail.

(N.O.I.C. Greenock 0914B/30.)

Sailed KEPPEL, SALISBURY, WILTON, BRAMHAM, LEDBURY, LAMERTON, BICESTER for W.S.21.

(N.O.I.C. Londonderry 1600B/30.)

Sailed SALISBURY for W.S.21.

(N.O.I.C. Londonderry 2100B/30.)

AMSTERDAM.  
(Transport)

Your 1839/29. Regret no escort available on these dates but one can be provided from a.m. 8th onwards.

(A.C.O.S. 1008/30 to Admty.)

Admiralty 1839B/29. AMSTERDAM will be ready to sail 4/8 which is most convenient date. Later departure might delay routine sailing owing to coaling.

(N.O.I.C. Invergordon 1057/30 to Admty.)

A.C.O.S. 1008/30 and N.O.I.C. Inverdorgon's 1057/30.

Can you provide escort for AMSTERDAM leaving Invergordon on 4/8.

(D.O.D. H. 2001B/30 to C. in C. Rosyth.)

/North ...

War Diary.

30.7.1942  
Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping and Convoys - contd.

North Russian Convoys. Oiler. Hospital for Kola Inlet. Your 0028/10. A Dale Class Oiler is not available at present. Chartered Oiler SAN ADOLFO, capacity 11,000 tons, speed 11/11½ knots, has been fitted for oiling at sea by trough Method using British rubber hose. Ship has been successfully used for oiling at sea abroad. SAN ADOLFO expected ready to leave Tyne in ballast about 31/7. Do you require her for trials at Scapa or should she proceed to Hvalfiord?

(D. of Stores 1020B/30 to C. in C. H.F.)

Report from Medical Officer ASHANTI now being forwarded discloses a deplorable state of affairs regarding treatment and medical care of British wounded and sick in Kola Inlet, particularly in Vaenga Bay and Murmansk Hospitals.

(ii) It is possible that situation has improved if patients have been evacuated to Archangel, but arrangements so far made by British Authorities in U.K. have clearly been totally inadequate.

(iii) I consider it most urgent that additional Medical Officers, Nursing Staff, Stores, Food and Comforts should be sent at earliest possible opportunity to establish a wholly British Hospital to care for British and Allied seamen. On return of MARTIN and MARNE I am prepared to send 2 more destroyers to Archangel for this purpose.

(C. in C. H.F. 2146B/30 to Admt.)

SANDE. Intend to sail SANDE and VEENENBURGH escorted  
VEENENBURGH. by TIREE at 2200/30 for Faeroes. E.T.A. 0600/1st.  
Route.

(N.C.S.O. Kirkwall 1030/30.)

My 1030/30. Sailed.

(N.C.S.O. Kirkwall 2225B/30 to N.O.I.C. Faroes.)

U.R. and R.U. Convoys. Trawler Escorts. The following Group Organisation for Trawler escorts for U.R. - R.U. convoys is now in force:-

GROUP A.	GROUP B.	GROUP C.
KING SOL	DUNKERY	ANGLE
BLACKFLY	ARAB	PORTSDOWN
PAYNTER	DUNCTON	INKPEN
BREDON	HUGH WALPOLE	YESTOR

2. Three Trawlers of A Group will sail with each convoy at least one being fitted with R.D.F.

3. Owing to uncertainty as to sea-keeping qualities of Hill-Class Trawlers it is intended to replace these by the following trawlers as opportunity offers, DANEMAN, CAPE ARGONA, CAPE MARIATO, REIGHTON WYKE, STAFNES.

4. These Trawlers are suitable for ocean work and will be fitted for cold weather.

(F.O.I.C. Belfast 1045B/30 to C. in C. W.A.)

P.W.194.  
W.P.194.

SLAZAK is to pass the Gate at 1900/30 and proceed to relieve BLENCATHRA as S.O. of escort P.W.194. BLENCATHRA on relief with CHASSEUR 05 to proceed Dartmouth and to be sailed as escort of W.P.194.

(C. in C. Plymouth 1125/30.)

War Diary.30.7.1942  
Thursday.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping and Convoys - contd.

- W.S.21 S. Intend to sail Liverpool Section escorted by WOLVERINE for Clyde 1430B/1st, speed 13 knots. E.T.A. Clyde 0630B/2. (N.O.I.C. Liverpool 1234B/30.)
- O.N.Convoys. Ships in O.N. convoys bound to St. John N.B. are to be routed direct to destination. C.O.A.C. Halifax will divert these ships into Halifax if the situation warrants it. (D.T.D. 1242B/30 to C. in C. W.A.)
- P.Q.17. WINSTON SALEM. In accordance with N.S.C.1296 (A) WINSTON SALEM (B) Ship grounded three and a half miles south of South Guisin Lighthouse eventually arrived Archangel (C) Destroyed by fire on shore near South Guisin Lighthouse (D) As in (C) (E) (F) No. (G) Coaler WILLIAM LONGREN. Witness, Gunnery Officer Robert Chiltrin (H) (S.B.N.O.Archangel 1340B/30 to Admty.)
- EL NIL. EL NIL, which returned to port, sailed 1427/30 and expects to make E.T.As as in my 1415/29. (N.C.S.O. Mersey 1501Z/30.)
- F.N. and F.S. Convoy Escorts. It is regretted that additional destroyer escorts from this command will not be available for F.N. and F.S. Convoys after F.N.75 and F.S.70. (2) It is hoped to maintain existing patrols, the destroyers detailed number two or number three patrols escorting F.N. Convoy until dark as at present. (3) It is hoped to resume convoy escort about 25/8. (C. in C. Nore 1506B/30 to C. in C. Rosyth.)
- A.T.19. Following destroyers will be required to leave Londonderry about noon 6/8 to meet A.T.19. BROKE, BEVERLEY, BLYSKAWICA, SARDONYX, LANCASTER, NEWARK. (C. in C. W.A. 2005B/30.)
- F.S.867. STRATHGARRY. Your 2033/30. It is intended to sail STRATHGARRY in F.S.867 tomorrow. (F.O.I.C. Harwich 2054B/30 to Admty.)
- Organisation. Is number 865 A Z/22/4 the organisation still to be ordered (A) between Iceland and United Kingdom (B) for P.Qs. (N.O.I.C. Iceland 2258B/30 to Admty.)

923

War Diary.30.7.1942.  
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic.

Shortage of M.Ls. Your 1021/29 (N.T. in W.D.) A.M. 1930/28 refers to your 1804/24/6. (D.O.D.(H), 0015B/30 to F.O.C.N.A.)

Suspicious Contact. My 1942/29 (N.T. in W.D.) Aircraft reports suspicious unidentified contact approx. 10 miles astern convoy at 0100. (F.O.C.N.A., 0659B/30 to Ships escorting Convoy O.G. 87.)

Situation 2001B/30th. SPIREA, GERANIUM, escorting tanker ORWELL and ALEXIA 30.34 18.18 236° 10 $\frac{3}{4}$ . (2) O.G. 87 BLACK SWAN, FOWEY, CARNATION, STONECROP, CAMPION 39.44 17.27 through 37.49 15.18 thence 109° 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ . (3) ALOUETTE patrolling Horn Bight. (4) SCOTTISH patrolling off Lisbon. (5) LOCH OSKAIG escorting 3 merchant ships off Cape St. Mary coastwise to Lisbon 8 knots. Thence patrolling off Cape Roca. (6) Tug JAUNTY 44.43 16.57 through 42.58 17.01 and 41.02, 17.01 thence 124° 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ . (F.O.C.N.A., 1232B/30 to A.I.G. 63.) ~~COMMANDANT~~ O.S. 35, ROCHESTER, LEITH, SANDWICH, ERNE, D'ESTINNE D'ORVES 40.11 23.37 169° 8. 2. CILICIA escorting one merchant ship 25.31 26.11 through 30.00 25.00 thence 010° 13 $\frac{1}{4}$ . (F.O.C.N.A., 1304B/30 to A.I.G. 64.)

U/B. Following received. Am over enemy S/M in 42.50 N., 18.00 W. (A/C 7XMC, 1724/30.) My 1725, result of attack unobserved. (A/C "C" of X Squadron Malta Command, 1745/30 to Gibraltar M/F D/F (Malta Command)) My 1745. Enemy S/M previously reported was on surface and observed to submerge, when first sighted was on course 065° speed 12 knots. (A/C 7XMC, 1850/30 to Gibraltar M/F D/F Malta Command.)

French Shipping. Gibraltar 0842. Armed Trawler ASPIRANT BRUN, ships MEDIE II laden few passengers, MAURICE DELMAS light, ANDRE MOYRAND full deck cargo lorries, westbound. 1930, armed trawler \*ESTAFETTE, ships ST. MAXIME, MONTE CASSEL, both laden, BONIFACIO, laden deck cargo barrels, eastbound. (S.O.I. Gib., 2019B/30 to Admty., R.A.W.A., S.O.I. Kingston.)  
*\* Survey Ship.*

LAVINGTON. COURT. Tow is to be altered forthwith for (C) 055° 01' N. 010° 02' W. omitting (B) thence N. Channel; destination will be signalled later. (C. in C. W.A., 2132B/30 to F.O.C.N.A., RHODODENDRON, NARCISSUS, HAARLEM, (R) Shore Authorities in U.K. concerned.)

War Diary.30.7.1942.  
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic.

ARAMIS,  
QUIRIGUA,  
distress  
messages. R.A.W.A. 1121Z/25 (Survivors of WILLIAM F.  
HUMPHREY sunk by raider.) U.S. Ship MICHIGAN  
IOKANKA intercepted 16/7 S S S S distress  
messages from (A) ARAMIS (Norwegian) in 005° 40'  
S. 000° 40' E. hit by torpedo, and (B) from  
QUIRIGUA (U.S.) position and nature of attack  
unknown.  
(S.O.I. Capetown, 0235B/30 to Admty., C. in C.  
S.A., R.A.W.A.)

U/B. Sub sighted X331 1° 15' N. 6° 40' W. 0040.  
(Ascension W/T, T.O.R. 0517/30 to Freetown.)

CERES. Sailed CERES by route R.9. S. of A. 17 knots.  
E.T.A. Simonstown 0700Z/1.  
(N.O.I.C. Durban, 0528Z/30 to Admty., etc.)  
*See next page (Movements)*

→ CHESHIRE My 1301Z. From position 001° 00' S. 000° 02' W.  
Presumed steer to position 003° 00' N. 005° 40' W. thence  
Vichy Freetown through Sector T.  
Tanker. (R.A.W.A., 1018Z/30 to CHESHIRE.)

W.S. 21. E.T.A. Boom Freetown 1200Z/11/8.  
(HAWKINS, 1028B/30 to R.A.W.A., (R) N.O.I.C.  
Greenock.)

Dispositions. (Corrupt group) 007° 35' 014° 30' to Freetown 11.  
KELT from Sector T to Freetown 8.  
2 M.Ls on patrol Sector T at 2000Z/30.  
VIMY with O.S.S. 34, 006° 50' 014° 30' 137° 8 $\frac{1}{4}$ .  
WOODRUFF about 007° 35' 022° 30' to 007° 02' 023° 20' to  
Freetown, 10.  
PICT, 003° 50' 004° 10' to Takoradi, 8.  
→ CHESHIRE 001° 45' S. 000° 50' E. to Freetown, 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ .  
SNOWDROP, 000° 31' S. 011° 30' 170°, 8.  
→ CORINTHIAN, 006° 30' S. 003° 10' E., 158°, 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ .  
(R.A.W.A., 1102Z/30 to A.I.G. 150.)

JOHN W.  
→ MACKAY Your 1641Z/28. Following arrangements have been  
escort. made for relief of escort for JOHN MACKAY.  
ALCANTARA leaves Capetown 0800Z/1 S. of A. 18  
knots R/V CORINTHIAN at 1200Z/3 in 022° 00' S.  
009° 30' E. On relief CORINTHIAN proceed to  
Takoradi.  
2. CARADOC leaves Capetown 0600Z/4 speed of advance 17 knots,  
R/V ALCANTARA 0800Z/5 in 029° 00' S. 038° 50' E.  
3. On relief ALCANTARA proceed to Ascension in accordance  
with my 1350/18.  
(C. in C. S.A., 1145B/30 to R.A.W.A., (R) Admty., C. in C. E.F.,  
D. C. in C. E.F., CORINTHIAN, HUNTLEY, N.O.I.C. Takoradi,  
Capt. (D) 18.)

/COMMANDANT ...



War Diary.30.7.1942.  
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic - Contd.COMMANDANT  
DUBOC,  
LEOPARD.

Your 1930/27 para. 5.  
Retention of these two French ships cannot be approved. Vessels at present detached by Admty. will be returned as soon as possible.  
2. A further reply will be sent regarding rest of your signal.  
(D.O.D.(F) Approved V.C.N.S., 1318B/30 to R.A.W.A.  
(R) C. in C. S.A.)

Movements  
Summary  
2000Z/30.

Area Q.  
CERES 34.45 S. 27.00 E. to Simonstown 17. <sup>Sept 424</sup>  
CARNARVON CASTLE with ESPERANCE BAY 34.45 S.  
6.10 E. to (? Falkland Islands) 14 $\frac{1}{2}$ .  
W.S. 19Q, 19.45 S. 9.40 E. 345° 20 $\frac{1}{2}$ .

W.S. 19Y, 36.8 S. 30.35 E. 250° 20.  
VALIANT, ANTHONY, EXPRESS leave Simonstown p.m./30 for Capetown.  
(C. in C. S.A., 1555B/30 to S.A. Stn., (R) Admty.)

AQUITANIA.

Your 2329/2/5 and 0001/11/6.

Owing to condition of ship and engines AQUITANIA fuel consumption has increased from 1.1 tons per mile to 1.4 thereby reducing endurance by nearly 30%. At the same time, a considerable amount of fuel and water has to be carried for stability purposes which is not available for consumption. For these reasons ship cannot make voyage from Capetown to Aden or Madagascar without fuelling and watering at an intermediate port nor can she proceed from Rio de Janeiro to New York. Request these facts may be borne in mind in arranging itinerary for next voyage and recommend that ship may be refitted (? quickly) or ballasted to increase range as necessary.  
(C. in C. S.A., 1615B/30 to Admty., (R) C. in C. E.F., D. C. in C. E.F., R.A.W.A.)

NARINGA.

Sailed for Madagascar 30/7 personnel on board.  
E.T.A. 7/8.  
(D.S.T.O. Durban, 1659C/30 to S.T.O. Diego Suarez, (R) D. C. in C. E.F., D. of S.T., P.S.T.O. Simonstown.)

HONOLULAN  
(torpedoed  
22/7.)

At 2000/28 WINCHESTER CASTLE picked up entire crew of SS. HONOLULAN (Am.) torpedoed 08° 41' N. 22° 04' W. at 1800Z/22.  
(R.A.W.A., 1745/30 to Admty., C. in C. S.A., B.A.D.)

RAJPUTANA.

No order received to proceed to Bathurst. Intend proceeding (? if there is) 20 per cent fuel stocks remaining on arrival. E.T.A. 1800 (? G.M.T.) 2/8.  
(RAJPUTANA, 1752Z/30 to N.O.I.C. Freetown, (R) R.A.W.A.)

/Vichy ...

926

War Diary.30.7.1942.  
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic - Contd.

Vichy Ship. A/C in transit Gibraltar - Gambia 29/7 at 1600/29  
1 Vichy merchant ship 7000 tons 14.45 N. 17.35 W.  
course 250° Dakar.

(Remainder of message undecypherable, repetition called for.)  
(S.O.I. Freetown, 1845Z/30 to Admty. D.N.I., (R) C. in C. S.A.,  
F.O.C.N.A.)

Light  
Signals,  
Brazzaville.

Message received from Adams, Brazzaville, states  
that lamp signals to approaching vessels have  
been made recently from disused lighthouse on  
Indian Point and that there is risk of it being  
taken for Pointe Noire Light. Can this be sub-  
stantiated and should shipping be warned  
accordingly?  
(D.T.D., 1900B/30 to C. in C. S.A., (R) R.A.W.A.)  
Reply: R.A.W.A. 1045/1.

Escort for  
Troops to  
M.E. etc.

Following is repetition of Dep. C. in C. E.F.'s  
1507/29. (Begins) "Your 1111/28. Escort can  
be arranged from 090° E. to Durban and for  
SS. DEVONSHIRE from Colombo to Aden. (Ends)".  
2. If earlier escort from Cape to U.K. sailing  
about 10/8 cannot be provided for a ship carrying Poles, as in  
your 1245/28/7, suggest you make an escorted move for a troop-  
ship in company with WESTERLAND. D. of S.T. states that  
shipping would be available in either case. Request your  
proposals.  
3. P.S.T.O. Simonstown's 1202/29, personnel could if necessary  
remain on board FELIX ROUSSEL or ship substituted by A.C.N.B.  
pending oncarriage to M.E.  
(D.O.D.(F), 1932B/30 to C. in C. S.A., (R) A.C.N.B., C. in C.  
E.F., Dep. C. in C. E.F., R.A.W.A.)

Movements.

Departure 29/7 British Cable ship CAMBRIA,  
departure 30th U.S. Cruisers OMAHA, JUNEAU,  
U.S. Destroyers\* DAVIS, SOMERS.  
(R.O. Pernambuco, 1933Z/30 to Admty., (R) S.O.I.  
Montevideo, Rio de Janeiro.) \* See p. 935 (Disposition)

Independent  
ships,  
Reports of  
Positions.

My 1757/29, para. 2, cancel and substitute "The  
message is to be made in P/L. No passing  
instructions are to be included".  
2. Para. 3, cancel last sentence and substitute  
"No passing instructions are to be included".  
3. Add para. 4. "Ships fitted with H/F trans-  
mission are to make the above reports in addition  
to those called for by my 2252/27."  
(D.T.D., 2129B/30 to C. in C. S.A., R.A.W.A.,  
N.S.H.Q., etc.)

War Diary.30.7.1942.  
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean

- Cositrep No. 466. (4) Air. 28/7. Beauforts from Malta torpedoed escorted southbound M/V 5,000 tons off west coast of Greece. Ship was later seen being towed into Navarino harbour. Liberators despatched from Middle East thus did not find this convoy and bombed alternative target, shipping in Suda Bay, Crete. Hits claimed on shipping and wrecks.
- (5) Night 28/29 July. Halifaxes and Wellingtons bombed shipping and harbour installations Tobruk. 1 ship hit and set on fire. Good fires started in main jetty area and south side harbour. Other bombs burst among ships near jetties. Fires also started near power house and fuel tanks and N.W. of harbour. 3 ships off coast also attacked. No hits. Cloud prevented observation of details of damage. Albacores and Swordfish attacked 3 E-boats off Matruh scoring one direct hit one near miss with bombs. Bostons bombed Matruh Harbour.
- (7) Night 29/30. About 8 enemy aircraft operated against aerodromes Cairo area. (damage).  
(C. in C. M.E., 1056/30).

- SZEGED Hungarian SZEGED taken clearance papers ready to sail for Danube but crew reluctant to risk voyage and causing trouble.  
(S.O.(I) Istanbul, 1109C/30 to S.O.(I) Med., (R) D.N.I.)
- ALBARO, CELENO. My 1650/24 not to N.L.O. Black Sea. ALBARO, CELENO expected transit Istanbul for Aegean August 1/2. B.3.  
(Istanbul, 1119C/30 to S.O.(I) Med., (R) D.N.I., N.L.O. Black Sea).
- P.42, P.43. P.42 will leave searched channel about 1830B/30 and proceed through  $036^{\circ} 05'$ ,  $014^{\circ} 05'$  and  $036^{\circ} 40' 013^{\circ} 56'$ . Anticipate her position about 2100B/31 as  $037^{\circ} 05'$ ,  $013^{\circ} 14'$ . P.43 is not to attack any S/M encountered on opposite course.  
(Capt. S.10, 1137B/30 to P.43, P.34).  
Departure 30/7 P.42.  
(V.A. Malta, 2141B/30 to Admty).
- TASSOS My 1742C/4. TASSOS sailed for Salonika p.m. 29/7.  
(S.O.(I) Istanbul, 1138C/30 to S.O.(I) Med., (R) S.N.O. Levant, Admty).
- HASTY It is not intended to hold a Board of Inquiry into loss of HASTY.  
(C. in C. Med., 1200C/30 to Admty).
- THORN Move to vicinity  $033^{\circ} 10' 020^{\circ} 30'$ . If unable to comply by daylight 1/8 arrive there by 0001/2.  
(S.O.S. Alexandria, 1234C/30 to THORN (R) S/Ms on Patrol, Capt. (S) 1, C. in C. Med).

War Diary.30.7.1942.  
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean

THORN Contd. You will be required to remain on patrol until 6/8, to arrive Beirut 11th.  
(Capt. S.l., 1811C/30 to THORN (R) C. in C. Med., Capt. (S) 10, S.O.S. Malta). *See next page*

Italian Intelligence. A. (a) Destroyer STRALE which grounded on 21/6 7 miles west C. Bon has become total loss.  
(b) Destroyer DUBROVNIK has been renamed PREMODA.  
(c) Small U-boats were being assembled from component parts at Constantza. Displacement 20 tons, length 6-8 metres, speed 14 knots and 8 knots respectively crew 5 infernal machines either side believed similar to those used for attacks port Alexandria.  
(N.A. Stockholm, 1302/30).  
Note. Remainder of message is in Home Commands.

Situation Report 244. Add to my 1958C/28 Para. 1. Egyptian SS. FAWZIA sunk in shallow water off Suez. Salvage may be possible.  
(2) U-boats have sunk 3 schooners North of Damietta in last two days.  
(3) S/M<sup>\*</sup>K.l., CLYDE arrived Malta 29/7 with supplies.  
(4) Beauforts hit M/V 185 Sapienza 10 on 28/7 later seen damaged in Navarin Bay.  
(C. in C. Med., 1308C/30 to Admty etc).

*\*Not identified*

Bi-Weekly Opsum No.42. A.697. Night of 24/25.  
3 Halifaxes, 8 Wellingtons bombed shipping and harbour installations Tobruk, 2 near misses on group of 3 ships, several explosions and fires started dock area believed petrol store hit. 4 Torpedo Wellingtons despatched to attack M/V 1 destroyer located by A.S.V. Wellington east of Bomba. 2 Wellingtons attacked claiming 1 hit, (?1) probable hit on merchant ship, low cloud prevented remainder from attacking. Ship reported stationary after attack 4 A.S.V. Wellingtons with bombs despatched of which 2 returned engine trouble 1 located and attacked with unobserved results.  
(H.Q., R.A.F., M.E., 1645Z/30).

Malta Air Report. I.521 30/7. C.S.R.  
29th. 2 p.m. alerts. 1358 hours, 3 plus enemy fighters approached to 5 miles N. of Gozo R.D.F. interference not effective. 29 Spitfires airborne could not intercept as raiders turned back at high speed. 8 Spitfires up to patrol over captured Cant 506 in tow see my I.517 1550 hours, 7 Spitfires up for raid which proved friendly.  
Night 29/30. 2005 hours, 1 raider approached to West Malta 10 miles. R.D.F. interference partially effective, one Beaufighter up but raider jettisoned bombs in sea and returned.  
30th 2 Alerts. 0610 hours, fighters sweep of 20 Me. 109 and 6 Mc. 202 approached, partial R.D.F. interference, 23 Spitfires intercepted north of Island, 1 Me. 109 destroyed, 1 Spitfire hit by Me. 109 from up sun and is missing, other Me. 109s avoided Spitfires and returned, search for missing Spitfire unsuccessful.  
0755 hours, 8 Spitfires up raid turned back before reaching.

War Diary.

30.7.1942.  
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean - Contd.

Malta Air  
Report Contd.

0914 hours fighter sweep 27 Me. 109 great height partial R.D.F. interference, 23 Spitfires up, Me., 109s had height advantage, 1 Spitfire destroyed another damaged in combat pilots unhurt.  
(H.Q., R.A.F., Malta, 1736/30).

PROTEUS,  
THORN,  
P.35.

Cancel my 1619/29 except as regards \*THORN. P.35 is delayed.  
(Capt. S.l., 1813C/30 to PROTEUS ? (R) S/Ms on patrol). \**See b/p 927 7 928.*

Enemy Units,  
THORN.

A/C report 2 merchant ships 4 destroyers P.C. and S. 034° 28', 022° 14', 200° 10' at 1305/30. (S.O.S. Alexandria, 1816C/30 to THORN).

U/B  
TRAVELLER.

A S/M was sighted in your area at noon/30. (Capt. S.l., 2115C/30 to TRAVELLER).

30.7.1942.  
Thursday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

- PACIFIC cable ship. Arrived Kilindini 29/7, put in to repair cable. (N.C.S.O. Kilindini, 0514Z/30 to S.O.(I) Colombo (R) C. in C. E.F., Admty).
- WEISSENFELS Your No. 29346/28/6. Consider use WEISSENFELS impossible. An informed ship lying in 22 fathoms in strong tideway and was scuttled by means of explosives. (D.S.T.O. Persian Gulf, 0609Z/30 to P.S.T.O. Egypt (R) D. of S.T.)
- B.P.51, B.P.52. My 0729/26 July para. F. Delete ERINPURA. Para. G.B.P.51 now renamed B.P.52. Following extra move has been arranged B.P.51 2 personnel ships from Bombay. CITY OF LONDON, MEURALIA sailing 9/8. (P.S.T.O. India, 0637Z/30 to Dep. C. in C. E.F., (R) F.O.I.C. Ceylon, F.O.C.R.I.N., C. in C. E.F., D. of S.T.)
- FERNCASTLE Your 1235/27. Ship arrived 22nd and sailed 24th for Aden due 3rd reported my 0523/23, my 0524/24, and my 0624/24. (N.C.S.O. Abadan, 0713Z/30 to Admty).
- SUMATRA Admty 1315/20. Netherlands Cruiser SUMATRA should arrive Simonstown about 20/8. B.S.O. requests only those boiler tubes which can be carried without impairing fighting efficiency of ship should be embarked, and that remainder be freighted to Curacao. (C. in C. E.F., 0724Z/30 to C. in C. S.A., (R) Admty, D.C. in C. E.F. F.O.I.C. Ceylon, B.S.O.)
- Japanese intelligence. From Most Secret source. Message dated 21 29th from C. in C. Japanese Second Fleet addresses whole of second Fleet negative Seventh Squadron, Japanese Cruiser ?KUMANO, Japanese Cruiser SUZUYA, and Second Flotilla of Second Destroyer Squadron. Latter force now controlled by C. in C. First Southern Expeditionary Fleet Malaya Force. Comment. Appears probable that Cruisers and Destroyers sighted 005° 32' N., 98° 50' E., course 340° on 28th were Seventh Squadron and Second Flotilla and that these are the only units of Second Fleet in that area. No indication of presence of an aircraft carrier. Passed to C. in C. E.F. as my 0913Z/30 Serial No.4. (C.O.I., S.E.F., 0915Z/30).
- O.23 You are to remain on patrol until after dark on 3/8. (S.O.S. Colombo, 1041Z/30 to D.S. O.23 (R) C. in C. E.F., B.S.O., N.O.I.C. Ceylon).

War Diary.

30.7.1942.  
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies. - Contd.

KEREN,  
KARANJA,  
SOBIESKI.

KEREN, KARANJA and SS. SOBIESKI are to be sailed forthwith to U.K.  
2. C.O.S. (E.A.) Telegram 4 of 29/7 refers. (D.O.D. (F), 1426B/30 to F.O.C.R.I.N. P.S.T.O. India, C. in C. E.F., D.C. in C. E.F., C. in C. S.A.)

Movements,  
Force "A".

Colombo departures 30/7. 1145Z WARSPITE, ILLUSTRIOUS, FORMIDABLE, BIRMINGHAM, MAURITIUS, NAPIER, NORMAN, NIZAM, INCONSTANT, VAN GALEN, JACOB VAN HEEMSKERK. Arrival 0125Z, TRUSTY. (S.O.(I) Colombo, 1541Z/30 to Admty S.O.(I)s. Kilindini, Aden, Bombay).

BLACKHEATH,  
STEEL  
TRAVELLER.

N.O.I.C. Vizagapatam reports that BLACKHEATH\* has arrived having been attacked by U-boat on surface. Message also received from STEEL TRAVELLER but not yet decyphered as it is in American Merchant Navy Code. (N.O.I.C. Colombo, 1554Z/30 amended 1644/30 to C. in C. E.F. (R) F.O.C.R.I.N., F.L.O. Delhi). \*Arrived Madras 18/7. My 0554Z/30. STEEL TRAVELLER is alright. (N.O.I.C. Colombo, 1630Z/30).

RADWINTER

Have you any news of RADWINTER and OLYMPOS (Greek) both due Aden 19/7 from Calcutta? (D.T.D., 1706B/30 to S.O.(I) Aden, (R) S.O.(I) Colombo).

Mayotta I.  
anchorage.

- (1) Mayotta Island COMORO (013° S., 045° E) has recently been captured by British Forces and Dzaudzi or Pamanzi anchorage may be used for fuelling when an oiler is stationed there.  
(2) Ships with stores etc. to unload should anchor in Pamanzi Bay (Chart 27 41 inset).  
(3) Several aircraft mooring buoys have been laid in Pamanzi Bay, and Armed Escort Ships may operate from there.  
(4) There are Port War Signal Stations and no shore defences but one company of K.A.R. are at present stationed there.  
(5) Attention is drawn to Q.C.A. Msg. shortly to be issued. (D.C. in C. E.F., 1717Z/30 to E.I. Stn).

M/S Craft.

Ref. A.M.1900B/20/5/42. All gear including spare parts for HATSUSE and MOONSHINE have been shipped in BORDE with exception of sweep reel of MOONSHINE. The sweep reel will be shipped separately and consigned to Kilindini. BORDE in absence of other instructions should off-load spare gear for these vessels at Kilindini. C.O. is requested to obtain local movements of these vessels and act accordingly. (D.M.S., 1851B/30 to C. in C. E.F., (R) C. in C. S.A., etc).

War Diary.

30.7.1942.  
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies. - Contd.

Aerodromes  
Ceylon.

My 1913/5, your 0547/30/6 and 1312/24/6, para 5.  
(a) Approved to cease work at Ratmalana and commence work at Katakurunda forthwith. Katakurunda to be developed as six squadron station with night flying facilities, bombing and air firing ranges. (b) No objection. (c) Refers to personnel  
2. Concur in proposals for accommodation for 3 squadrons at China Bay subject to Air Ministry concurrence.  
3. Request report on disposal of maintenance personnel and facilities ex R.N. Air Section, China Bay, and whether Puttalam has been taken over by R.N.  
(Hd. of Air Branch, 2156B/30, to F.O. Ceylon, (R) C. in C. E.F., etc).



War Diary.

30.7.1942.  
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies.

Convoy System, Conference.

Cominch 2145/28 is warmly welcomed and should result in a great speeding up of shipping generally.

2. On proposed schedule of convoys we have no comments to offer. They give everything we could ask. Should be glad if you would confirm that reference in E. to alternate O.N. convoys means that all O.N. fast convoys would terminate at New York.

(A.C.N.S. (T) 0101B/30 to C. in C.U.S. Fleet, (R) N.S.H.Q. B.A.D.)

Your 0101B/30. Your interpretation para. E. my 2145/28 confirmed.

(C. in C. U.S. Fleet 1546Z/30 to Admty., (R) N.S.H.Q., B.A.D.)  
Connav's 2145/28. Subject to your concurrence propose

Capt. Morey should represent Admty. at Conference on 1/8.

(A.C.N.S. (T) 1030B/30 to B.A.D. (R) Connav).

Your 1030B/30. Gladly concur.

(C. in C. U.S. Fleet C. and R., 1619Z/30 to Admty.)

Dispositions. Section southwest. My 1538Z/29. Delete B.X.31 24 18.4 sailing delayed. PENNYWORT sailed Boston 1800Z/29 to Halifax, delete CALDWELL. *see p. 935*  
(C.O.A.C. 0125Z/30 to Admty.)

? Following has been read incompletely. 5° 35' N. 80° 00' W. 0553/30.  
(Freetown W/T, T.O.R. 0554/30).

U/B. U-boat by D.F. in your vicinity has made a first sighting report of a convoy or important unit at 0250Z/30.  
(Cominch 0608/30 to C.T.U. 24.1.17 (R) U.S.S. MUSKEGET, C.T.U. 24.1.3., U.S.S. MATTOLE, C. in C. U.S. Atlantic Fleet, C.T. 24, Admty., N.S.H.Q., C.O.A.C.)

Movement Summary. 1800 G.M.T./30.  
Ship. Position. Course. Speed.  
*see p. 923* CILICIA 24½° N. 26½° W. 013°. 15.  
(D.O.D.(F) 0933Z/30 to Opnav (R) Comnav.)

TAMANDARE (sunk 26/7). SS. TAMANDARE torpedoed and sunk 26/6 (?26/7 intended) 0600 G.M.T. 11.34 N. 60.30 W. 48 survivors including Master landed here 4 killed. Routeing instructions left in cabin drawer. Master states no other confidential papers carried. Request confirmation as compromise seems probable. (F.O. Trinidad 1152Q/30 to B.R.O. Pernambuco (R) Admty.)

/AQUITANIA.....

War Diary.30.7.1942.  
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies-Contd.

AQUITANIA. Your 1429/29. Following is repetition of C. in C. S.A.'s 1159/27 to Admty. (R) R.A.W.A. and N.O.I.C. Capetown (begins). Your 0001/11/6. Master SS. AQUITANIA states ship is unable to undertake the passage Rio to New York for reasons of stability. Intend to route her via Freetown. (Ends.)  
2. Regretted it was not noticed that signal was not repeated to U.S. Authorities.  
(D.O.D. (F) 1155B/30 to B.A.D.)  
Presume communication arrangements for AQUITANIA will be arranged direct between C. in C.S.A. and Cominch.  
(D.S.D. 1445B/30 to B.A.D. (R) C. in C.S.A., Cominch).

PACIFIC PIONEER sunk, O.N. 113. O.N. 113 (corrupt group) leaving scene of attack for South America. QUINTE (?handicapped), CALGARY proceeding. CALGARY reported PACIFIC PIONEER sank in 43.32, 60.38. Wreck not marked, may be danger to navigation. 27 ships present. P.C. and S. at 1200Z 44.21 62.49 (a) 265° 8½. Weather report.  
(C.T.U. 24.7.18.7. 1159Z/30 to Connav (R) C.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, Capt. (D) Halifax, (?CODECK))

Enemy Unit, Malacca Straits. F.O.I.C. Ceylon 1705Z/29 (Re P.C. and S. of 2 Japanese Cruisers and 4 Destroyers) has been passed to you for information.  
(D.D.I.C. 1209B/30 to B.A.D.)

STAN CLEMENT. My 0958/29 (N.T. in W.R.) SS. STAN CLEMENT arrived Halifax undamaged.  
(C.O.A.C., 1310Z/30 to N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, Admty., Cominch, (R) C.T.U. 24.18.7.)

U/B. Sighted enemy S/M in 51.50 N. 34.40. Observed to submerge.

(SKEENA 1400Z/30 to C.O.A.C.)

U-boat sighted by (? SKEENA or U.S. Destroyer CONNER) at 1400Z/30. Position 052° 27' N. 034° 11' W.  
(C.T.U. 24.1.13, 1425Z/30 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.)  
My 1400Z/30, correct position to read 052° 35' N. 033° 47' W. (?Searching the vicinity) with GALT.

(SKEENA 1634Z/30 to C.O.A.C.)

Am rejoining O.N. 115 having searched vicinity 052° 30' N. 034° 52' W. for U-boat sighted 1347Z. GALT remaining in area until dark.

(SKEENA 2106Z/30 to Connav (R) C.T.U. 24.1.13, 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.)

V 164

/POTLACH.....

War Diary.30.7.1942.  
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies-Contd.

POTLACH. My 1621/10 (N.T. in W.R.) Ship now reported sunk. (N.S.H.Q. Ottawa 1444Z/30 to S.O's (I) Freetown, Capetown.)

Convoy Your 1849/29th.  
A.H.1. (A) PRESIDENTE DE VOGUE ready to sail 12th July held for A.H.1 which did not sail until 27/7 when this ship was taken out to make room for a Canadian Petroleum Board vessel. Sailed T.A.W.9 on 29/7.  
(B) THORSHOVDI ready for sea 19th/7 held for A.H.1 and taken out on reduction of convoy from 12 to 8 ships. Sailed T.A.W.9 on 29/7.  
(C) FERNCOURT ready for sea 25th/7 and taken (group omitted) of A.H.1 on reduction. Sailed T.A.W.  
A.H.1. was expected to sail 16th but on arrival on the 14th escorts were diverted to Trinidad for 7 days. This delay was not anticipated here or ship (A) would have been sent by T.A.W. A.H.1 was again delayed on representations from Canada for 3 days from 24th to 27th. Orders to reduce convoy from 12 to 8 ships also affected programme arrangements. It is submitted convoy sailings should be as regular as possible in order that Routing Officer can make sailing allocations in advance. (N.C.S.O. Curacao 1501QR/30 to Admty.)

TOULOUSE. Your 2129/28 TOULOUSE Norwegian no information.  
PELEUS. PELEUS Greek arrived Halifax 27th. BENVANNOCH put back to Capetown engine defects as per Connav 1805/29 to Bermuda Trinidad and N.S.H.Q. Ottawa only.  
BENVANNOCH. (N.S.H.Q. 1504Z/30 to S.O.(I) Kingston. (R) Admty. Connav, S.B.N.O. W.A., B.A.D.)

Dispositions. My 0846Z/30 (N.T. in W.D.) Section., S.W. O.N. 64 (E) (?O.N. 113 intended see amendment 1812Z/30) Task Unit 24.18.7, BADDECK, QUINTE, 044° 45' N. 064° 10' W. 222° 8.5 altering in 065° 17' W. to 259°. B.X. 31 F. REGINA 043° 25' N. 065° 05' W. 052° 8. CARIBOU due Halifax from St. John N.B.  
(C.O.A.C. 1532Z/30 to Admty.)  
PENNYWORT E.T.A. Halifax 2100Z/30th from Boston, \*CALDWELL sailed Boston 1300Z/30th to Halifax through 043° 15' N. 064° 37' W. 20 U.S. Destroyer TRIPPE, U.S.S. \*DAVIS vicinity Cape Sable en route Boston. MELVILLE patrolling South of Cape Sable.  
(C.O.A.C. Halifax 1537Z/30).  
Section South West: My 1537Z/30th.  
O.N. 113 correct latitude to read 043° 45' N.  
(C.O.A.C. Halifax 1812Z/30). \* See p. 933  
X See p. 926. ? DAVISON.

Attacks on U/Bs. Your 1516/25. Appreciated if further details of any promising attacks which are tactically and technically interesting could be signalled, say once a week. We are anxious to know what you consider best height for A/C on A/S patrol to fly and whether depth bombs are dropped in a stick or salvo.  
(D.A/S. W. 1614Z/30 to Connaveu)

/U.B.....

War Diary.30.7.1942.  
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies-Contd.

U/B Positions. S/M force 30/7.  
(C. in C.U.S. Fleet 1730Z/30 to Admty.)

U/B. O.N.115. D/F Bearings at 1210Z/30, 1322Z/30 and 1457Z/30 indicate at least one U.boat probably reporting convoy O.N. 115. (D.D.I.C. 1743B/30 to Escorts of O.N. 115, Cominch, N.S.H.Q., (R) C. in C.W.A.) U 164

Escort vessels, production. Personal for 1st S.L. Escort vessels. Am proceeding on lines of your 1356/26. Our estimates show that we should get 14 B.D.E. between now and March 1943 as compared with your figure of 3, but the correct figure can be decided on a plans level.  
2. We have as yet no news of U.S. Chiefs of Staff proposals for making good deficiencies given in C.C.S. 80/2. I will take this up at first opportunity.  
(B.A.D. 1743Z/30 to Admty.)

Ice Bulletin 30/7. (Halifax 1801Z/30 to Admty.)

Attacks on U/Bs. Your 1959/29. It was hoped that U.S. Committee would assess all attacks by all ships operating in American strategic areas.  
2. Requested that ships of R.N., R.C.N., or R.N.Z.N. when so operating should forward reports of attacks to Cominch irrespective of nationality of S.O. of particular group in which they operate.  
(D.A/S.W. 1837B/30 to N.S.H.Q. (R) Cominch, B.A.D., F.O.N.F. C.O.A.C., S.B.N.O. W.A. C. in C.S.A., C. in C.W.A., N.Z.N.B.)

WEIRBANK. (sunk 27/7). My 1602/29/7. SS. WEIRBANK torpedoed and sunk 2235Z/27 in 11° 29' N. 58° 51' W. Master and 65 men arrived Trinidad today. Junior 3rd Eng. killed by explosion of torpedo. (F.O.I.C. Trinidad 1902Q/30 to Admty. (R) S.B.O. W.A. S.O.(I) Kingston Jamaica.)

Navigation, Nantucket. Pass to N.C.S.O's. N.S.H.Q. Ottawa states Masters of several ships bound for U.S.A. ports have reported inability to locate Nantucket Light Vessel. N.C.S.O.s. should call attention of Masters to Admty. Notice to Mariners No. 627/1942.  
(D.T.D. 1920B/30 to F.O.I.Cs. etc.)

War Diary.30.7.1942.  
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies-Contd.

AWATEA. S.B.N.O. W. Atlantic 1346/28. U.S. Authorities agree to making a special case of AWATEA. In view of her high speed she may embark passengers for Halifax including Women and Children.  
2. They have been told that total number of passengers would be about 350.  
(B.A.D. 1933Z/30 to D.S.T. S.B.N.O.W.A. (R) N.S.H.Q., Cdr. I/C Bermuda.)

Transport of Personnel. Movement Control report numbers which will be ready for N.A. 15 total 9750 Navy, Army, Air Force and miscellaneous personnel. This is 3350 short of total accommodation in ships allocated.  
AWATEA. 2. S.B.N.O.W.A. 1346/29. If AWATEA diverted to Bermuda and passengers embarked there Movement Control point out necessary to re-berth passengers and perhaps re-allocate some to other ships of N.A. 15. on arrival at Halifax.  
3. Noted from S.B.N.O.W.A. 1046/16 that there are a large number of women and children awaiting passage at Bermuda. AWATEA has only 216 first and second class accommodation, balance being hammocks.  
4. If a ship is to be diverted or allocated specially to take care of S.B.N.O.W.A. requirements, suggest it be one suitable to accommodate in addition those civilians men, women and children in U.S. and Canada waiting passage to U.K. M. of W.T. reports 504 of which 95% are women and children now in Canada. Numbers in U.S. could be supplied by B.M.W.T. New York.  
5. Request particulars of accommodation in ships for N.A.15. (N.S.H.Q. 1935Z/30 to D. of S.T. (R) B.A.D. S.B.N.O.W.A., B.M. W.T., New York, Cominch, C.O.A.C.)

U/B. Following has been read:- 1 S/M 43.18 N. 64.00 W. 1944Z/30.  
(Halifax 2003Z/30 to Admty.)

A.T.19. Sail "Crown" convoy A.T.19 2/8 as convenient to arrive R/V 056° 50' N. 014° 30' W. at dawn 7/8 via following route:-  
(P) 039° 10' 062° 50'. (Q) 045° 35' 052° 45'. (R) 051° 10' 048° 50'. (S) 054° 58' 039° 05'. (T) 057° 10' 028° 03'.  
(U) 057° 14' 020° 10'. (V) 056° 50' 014° 30'.  
C. in C.W.A. will provide onward route. Advise sailing time and S.O.A. Instruct Master report 24 hours prior E.T.A. R/V if more than one hour early or late. Com 3 pass to Port Director New York.  
(Connav 2010Z/30 to Port Director New York (R) C.E.S.F., C.T. 24, N.S.H.Q., C.O.A.C., C.C.N.F. Admty., Cinclant, C. in C.W.A.)

P.556. Leave Bermuda p.m./31 and proceed to Gibraltar through following positions:-  
(e) 034° 28' N. 052° 58' W. (f) 035° 27' N. 039° 18' W. (g) 034° 055' N. 025° 10' W. (h) 035° 58' N. 013° 25' W.  
Proceed submerged by day and on surface during dark until 300 miles from Bermuda, thence on surface, diving at your discretion. Your speed is estimated at 9 knots surface and 2 knots submerged.

/(ii).....

War Diary.

30.7.1942.  
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies-Contd.

P.556  
- Contd.

(ii) F.O.C.N.A. is requested to issue instructions whether P.556 shall proceed on surface or submerged by day after leaving position (H).  
(iii) N.O.B. Bermuda is requested to arrange bombing restrictions in vicinity Bermuda.  
(iv) Wireless watch.  
(S.B.N.O.W.A. 2032Z/30 to P.556 (R) Admty. etc.)

S/M attack  
and sighting  
summary.

PACIFIC PIONEER attacked and sunk 43.30 N. 60.35 W. 2311Z/29. MORMACSTAR shelled but not yet reported sunk. TACHIRA apparently U.88 Type. MARIA DA GLORIA later information indicates position as 50.14 N. 30.12 W. 1730Z/5/6. Apparently U.45 Type. Survivors report 100 rounds fired. Surface and aircraft attack periscope approx. 26.50 N. 80 W. 1125Z/11/7. Patrol craft attack possible S/M approx. 30.42 N. 81.19 W. 22/7. Doubtful. Plane sights submerged C/T and P/S 35.47 N. 73.46 W. 1705Z/28. Doubtful. Plane sights submarine on surface 18.50 N. 94.28 W. 2055Z/29. Surface craft attacks sound contact 36.58 N. 75.35 W. 1408Z/29. Panair plane sights S/M 24.40 N. 79.40 W. 2100Z/29. Plane sights S/M 26.04 N. 97.01 W. 0544Z/30 course W. plane sights S/M 35.32 N. 73.52 W. 1747Z/30 course 260°. S/M reported 25.35 N. 80 W. 0535Z/30 course S. (Cominch 2038/30 to Admty. for O.I.C.)

AGWISTAR.

My 2044/24. U.S. AGWISTAR overdue. Connav reports ship arrived Hampton Roads 27th. (S.O.I. Jamaica 2111R/30 to Admty. S.B.N.O.W.A.) N.S.H.Q., B.A.D.)

CRANFORD.  
MISSISSIPPI.

Overdue Trinidad, U.S. ships CRANFORD, MISSISSIPPI. (S.O.I. Jamaica 2116R/30 to Admty., S.B.N.O.W.A. B.A.D., N.S.H.Q., Connav.)

U.S. Navy  
and Trinidad.

Your 1001/28. See B.A.D.s. 1933/24 which has crossed your telegram. (M. Branch 2124B/30 to S.B.N.O. W.A.)

L.27.

My 1754/15. L.27 is delayed at New London with torpedo tube firing system trouble. A further signal will be made when matter has been investigated. (B.A.M.R. 2130Z/30 to Admty. (R) C. in C. U.S. Fleet, N.S.H.Q. S.B.N.O. W.A. F.O.(S), Capt. (S) 7, L.27, C.O.A.C.)

PRESCODOC.

PRESCODOC (British) torpedoed and sunk 0840 G.M.T. 30/7 in approx. 8° 50' N. 59° 05' W. 5 survivors landed Port of Spain total crew 20, probably no further survivors. (F.O.I.C. Trinidad, 2132Q/30 to Admty. (R) S.B.N.O. W.A., S.O.(I) Jamaica.)

War Diary.

30.7.1942.  
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies-Contd.

BROOMPARK  
(torpedoed  
25/7)

Forward boiler room bulkhead BROOMPARK now leaking ship has 30° list. 2 pump places on board pumping operations impossible till weather moderates. AMHERST P.C. and S. at 1930Z/30 48.30 N. 47.00 W. 260° 5. Wind W.S.W. force 6. My present P.C. and S. 48.16 N. 48.00 W. 257° 11. (COWICHAN 2330Z/30 to F.O.N.F.)

VERITY  
attack on  
U/B.

Attacked contact in 048° 56' N. 049° 50' W. between 2130Z/ and 2230Z, no result seen. Am searching area. Visibility 2 cables. (VERITY 2332Z/30 to F.O.N.F. (R) C.O.A.C. Connav, N.S.H.Q., C.T. 24.)

SEVERN.

Your 1742/25 and your 2356/25, (Proposing to sail SEVERN without reload salvo of torpedoes on board. Concur. My 1859/26 refers. (F.O.S. 2346B/30 to B.A.M.R. (R) Admty.)

War Diary.30.7.1942.  
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Australia & New Zealand.

- Situation. Serial No. 189 29/7.  
Enemy S/M sighted 37° 25' S., 150° 22' E., by Allied A/C 1858Z/28.
2. Reports 29/7 indicate total enemy Force 9 vessels including probably 4 destroyers 5 merchant ships 1 possible landing craft carrier in 2 convoys off Ambasi, Gona area, between 0435Z and 0545Z, heading Gona.
  3. 2 Catalinas attacked installations barges Gona area 1600Z/28.
  - 7 A.24s escorted by 7 Aircobras attacked convoy approaching Gona 0600Z/29 scoring 1 direct hit on Destroyer. Interception by at least 3 Zeros, 1 possibly destroyed.
  4. Air R/C 29/7 reported 4 warships including probably 2 cruisers 2 destroyers 15 merchant ships 1 Minesweeper approx. 25 Launches 5 flying boats in Rabaul Harbour. Also 4 destroyers 1 Gunboat 1 large barge, 2° 40' S., 150° 38' E. Latter force probably same as reported my serial No. 188, para.2.
  5. Reliable report 28/7 states reconstruction Buka aerodrome completed. Troops, stores, guns, Sohana Island, no enemy installations Kessa but indications fortifications Kieta.
  6. 6 Zero Fighters reported Kukum (Guadal Canal).
  7. Enemy party reported landed Coleridge Bay (Malaita Island) 27/7 from destroyer and small craft which departed following day.
  8. Now reported no Japanese Mamba Mission, my Serial No. 188 para. 8 refers.
  9. Air R/C Ambon area 29/7 reported 1 Destroyer 1 small M/V several small craft.
  10. 3 heavy bombers attacked Moresby 29/7, no damage or casualties.
  11. Air attack by probably 1 T.97 Kawanisi flying boat Horn Island 1612Z/30. Air Raid reported Thursday Island same time but no details received.
  12. 5 heavy bombers raided Darwin 1930Z/28 effecting only slight damage. 3 aircraft dropped 9 bombs same area 1850Z/29. (A.C.N.B., 1200Z/30 to Admty etc).

Movement

Departure Auckland LEANDER and U.S.S. CUMMINGS escorting U.S. PRESIDENT COOLIDGE E.T.A. Suva 1800/2/8.  
(S.O.(I) Wellington, 2035Z/30).

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.Submarines Reported.

Approximate positions of U/Bs.  
(D.D.I.C., 1421B/30, 1422B/30).



941

War Diary.

31.7.1942.  
Friday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

At 0315 today M.G.Bs. 10, 13 and 6 which were patrolling off Boulogne attacked with R. mines several enemy vessels which had been plotted west-bound off Gris Nez. No damage is reported on either side.

M.G.Bs. 335 (S.O.) with M.G.Bs. 332 and 327, and M.G.Bs. 320 (S.O.) with M.G.Bs. 315, 323 and 321 whilst on offensive patrols south of Ymuiden had engagements with 5 heavily armed trawlers at 0220 and 0307 today respectively, the force engaged being almost certainly the same in both cases. M.G.B. 332 was damaged and had some casualties and was towed home, and one enemy ship was set badly on fire. Both units were ineffectually engaged by aircraft and shore batteries.

British Air Operations.

HAWKINS escorting Convoy W.S.21 reports that a ship in the convoy shot down their Sunderland escort at 1025Z in 55° 23' N. 14° 15' W. in very low visibility. There was only one survivor.

North Atlantic.

The escorts of Convoy O.S.35 report seeing wreckage of German origin after attacking a U-boat S.S.E. of the Azores this afternoon. *T.L. considers that the U-boat was destroyed (see 26/9/42)*

South Atlantic.

SS. RED JACKET reported a suspicious vessel closing at 1526 G.M.T. today in 30° 0' S. 31° 38' E. (No further information received).

War Diary.

31.7.1942.  
Friday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Mediterranean.

During July the R.A.F. destroyed 140½ enemy aircraft over Malta, their highest number so far. A.A. brought down 8½. (The A.A. record is 102 in April).

The progress of repairs in Malta Dockyard is described in a message from A/S Malta today.

Halifaxes, Fortresses and Wellingtons bombed shipping and harbour installations at Tobruk last night. A large fire was started at the naval fuel tanks. Bostons and Albacores bombed and hit a merchant ship in Matruh and caused other damage. Baltimores made a dawn attack on Matruh harbour but damage was not seen.

A small number of enemy bombers operated near Alexandria and Cairo last night; 5 were shot down by night fighters.

Air photographs up to today show no effective damage from air bombing at Tobruk. The use of the port by the enemy is increasing.

China.

It is reliably reported that the Japanese have got the oil wells at Miri (Borneo) into production.

A cruiser, 2 destroyers and a flying boat were sighted by Allied Air R/C at 0500Z today in 4° 35' S. 130° 20' E. The cruiser was attacked and probably hit.

America and West Indies.

During July there has been a considerable diminution in losses from U-boat attacks in the western Atlantic, particularly tankers.

U.588.  
(U-588 both the - of Cape Race.)  
1 cmk 6843.

H.M.C.S. SKEENA and WETASKIWIN sank a U-boat today in 49° 59' N. 36° 36' W. (675 miles E.N.E.

Port Castries has been closed (see 29/7).

943

War Diary.31.7.1942.  
Friday.HOME COMMANDS.Policy.Flag of  
C.S.10.Intend to transfer my flag from KENYA to NIGERIA  
at colours tomorrow.  
(C.S.10 1001B/31).North  
Atlantic  
dispositions.A.M. 0947Z/27.  
Area Iceland (C): Delete 2 Destroyers (U.S.)  
Add 1 Destroyer.  
Area Scapa: Delete KENYA, MANCHESTER.  
Add 2 Destroyers (U.S.) 1 Destroyer.  
Area Clyde: Delete HAWKINS, Add NIGERIA, KENYA,  
MANCHESTER.  
Add Passage to S. Atlantic: HAWKINS.  
(D.O.D.H. 1002/31 to C. in C.U.S. Fleet.)M.L. A/S  
Striking  
Force.Ref. A.M. 1554/28 and my 1550/29. 4 M.L.s.  
will be sailed for Thorshavn on 1/8. A.C.F.O.  
No. 403/42, para. 3. Anticipate 4 M.Ls will  
be temporarily based on Faroes for about 8 weeks  
having a total complement of 9 Officers and  
50 men upper deck. Request Admiralty inform War  
Office.  
(A.C.O.S. 1058/31 to Admty.)Flag of  
C.S.18.Your 1917/30. If NORFOLK proceeds to sea intend  
shifting my flag to SHEFFIELD until NORFOLK  
returns to harbour.  
(C.S.18 1125B/31 to C. in C.H.F.)Movements.H.32.  
Z.5.Intend to sail my 1524/27 at 1900B/31.  
(Capt. S.7 1048B/31).  
My 1048B/31. Sailed.  
(Capt. S.7 1901B/31). (C. in C.W.A. 1906B/31).

PINDOS.

Proceed passing Switha at 0800/1, to Liverpool  
by Standard route via Minches and North Channel  
for boiler cleaning.  
2. On completion act in accordance with Admty.  
1930B/28 and 1523B/29.  
(R.A.D. H.F. 1130B/31 to PINDOS).

LAVEROCK.

Your 0937B/31. Boom not available at 2200.  
Request reason for inshore routeing.  
(N.O.I.C. Lochalsh 1141/31 to N.O.I.C. Oban).  
Your 1141/31. LAVEROCK already sailed. Routed inshore at  
request of N.O.I.C. Ardrossan as no boats or other life saving  
equipment carried.  
(N.O.I.C. Oban 1156B/31 to N.O.I.C. Lochalsh).

/CALPE.....

War Diary.

31.7.1942.  
Friday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Movements-Contd.

- CALPE. Intend to sail CALPE from Needles 1030/1 to R/V with target in 110° Portland Bill 6 miles at 1230/1. Routed south of Q.Z.X. 766, speed 20 knots. CALPE will escort target to Portland by Q.Z.S. 295 on completion of firing and then return to Needles passing south of Q.Z.X. 766. E.T.A. about 2000/1.  
(C. in C. Portsmouth 1313B/31).
- SEAWOLF. SEAWOLF is routed through.  
(C) 59° 03' N. 28° 30' W. (D) 55° 59' N. 41° 04' W.  
(E) 51° 01' N. 49° 58' W. thence to St. Johns  
N.F. crossing 35° W. at 0200B/6.  
2. Object on passage is to attack and then report enemy U-Boats.  
3. F.O.S. will be responsible for passing intelligence of our own forces and enemy movements to SEAWOLF east of 35° W. Request you will carry out parallel duties whilst SEAWOLF is west of 35° W.  
(D.O.D.(H) 1321B/31 to Opanv.)  
Sailed SEAWOLF escorted by LA CAPRICIEUSE in accordance with S.3's 1713/27.  
(F.O.I.C. Greenock 2058/31).
- FERNMOOR. After loading Boom and other stores request FERNMOOR may be sailed as convenient for Saldanha Bay.  
(D.B.D. 1402B/31 to C. in C.W.A.)
- OPHELIA. Intend sailing OPHELIA, THIRLMERE, WOODBRIDGE and THIRLMERE. SPERANZA for Reykjavik at 2200 today. Route. WOODBRIDGE. E.T.A. 2205/5. Request codeword. SPERANZA. (N.O.I.C. Faroes 1531B/31 to A.C.O.S.)  
Your 1531B/31 requesting codeword. Air escort is not being arranged.  
(A.C.O.S. 1919B/31 to N.O.I.C. Faroes).
- CHOUANG HI. <sup>/N.T. & W.D.</sup> Your 1414B/31. CHOUANG HI can sail as soon as crew arrives. A.M. 1352B/25. When may crew be expected. <sub>\N.T. & W.D.</sub>  
(C. in C. Plymouth 1649/31 to Capt. S.5).
- P.311. My 1040B/30/7. P.311 delayed 24 hours. Now sailing 0645/5.  
(P.S.O. Barrow 1751B/31 to Admty.)
- 13th M/S Request you will sail 13th M.S.F. to Portland by Flotilla. P.M. 4th to operate under orders of C. in C. Portsmouth.  
(D.M.S. 2011B/31 to C. in C. Plymouth.)

War Diary.31.7.1942.  
Friday.HOME COMMANDS.Operations.

East Coast Arrivals M.G.Bs. 20, 18. M.T.B. 69.  
Patrols. (F.O.I.C. Harwich 0046B/31).  
Weather permitting carry out following patrols and offensive patrol tonight.

(1) One unit M.Ls. from 6th Flotilla Patrol N.  
(2) One combined unit M.T.Bs. and M.G.Bs. (S) R.B.4 to R.B.5 approaching centre of patrol from Thornton Ridge direction. (C. in C. Nore 1210B/31 to BEEHIVE).  
Departures M.T.Bs. 70, 72, 69. M.G.Bs. 17, 21, 18, 20. (F.O.I.C. Harwich 2010B/31).  
Departures M.Ls. 152, 145. (F.O.I.C. Harwich 2038B/31).  
Departure GUILLEMOT at 1955 for patrol 1. (F.O. Humber 2013B/31).

Attack on At 0315 this morning M.G.Bs. 10, 13 and 6, who  
Enemy Force were patrolling off Boulogne, attacked with R-mines  
off several enemy vessels which had been plotted  
Boulogne westbound from 7 miles N.E. of Gris Nez at 25  
knots. The lay of R-mines was immediately ahead  
of enemy's course and shorewards from the inner  
edge of the Bassine de Baas off Ambleteuse. It was not completed  
before enemy sighted and challenged M.G.Bs. in the moonlight.  
Damage to the enemy was not observed and M.G.Bs. retired  
engaging the enemy who kept up a heavy fire including what was  
estimated to be 3" Fused Shell. Enemy Force is thought to  
have consisted of torpedo boats or M. Class accompanied by  
E/R boats and they turned back to Boulogne after following the  
M.G.Bs. to Colbart Ridge where M.G.Bs. 41, S.2, and S.3. were  
patrolling. Efforts to contact the enemy again during his  
withdrawal were unsuccessful.  
(V.A. Dover 0951B/31).

Dover At 2345/30 enemy coastal battery fired one round  
shelled. which fell harmlessly in old bomb crater on  
Marine Station Dover Harbour no casualties.  
(V.A. Dover 0953B/31).

Channel MEYNELL, ALBRIGHTON, and EGLINTON will patrol  
Patrols. in area within 10 miles of position 050° 15' N.  
001° 10' W. during night 31/1st.  
(C. in C. Portsmouth 1237B/31).

3 destroyers patrolling South of St. Catherine's Point.  
2 Chasers and ADONIS patrolling South of E.A.5 buoy. 4 Coastal  
craft exercising between Portland and Saint Alban Head between  
2300/31 and 0100/1.  
(C. in C. Portsmouth 1527/31).

Engagement Following is a summary of Coastal Force Activity  
with 5 30/31st July.  
Armed M.G.B. 335 (S.O.), with M.G.Bs. 332 and 327 and  
Trawlers. M.G.Bs. 320 (S.O.) with M.G.Bs., 315, 323, and  
One enemy 321 were ordered to carry out offensive patrols  
Trawler south of Ymuiden.  
damaged. At 0220/1 M.G.Bs. 335, 332, and 327 sighted five  
M.G.B.332 heavily armed trawlers in 52° 16' N. 04° 13' E.  
damaged. and immediately attacked. They were met with

/concentrated...

War Diary.31.7.1942.  
Friday.HOME COMMANDS.Operations - conts:-

Engagement with 5 Armed Trawlers. One enemy Trawler damaged. M.G.B. 332 damaged. - Contd.

concentrated fire and M.G.B. 332 was repeatedly hit having her steering gear and all engines put out of action. After ten minutes M.G.Bs. 335 and 327 broke off engagement and took M.G.B. 332 in tow. By this time the last ship of the enemy's line was on fire.

At 0307/31 what was almost certainly the same enemy force was sighted and attacked in 52° 11' N. 04° 06' E. by M.G.Bs. 320, 315, 323, and 321. The action was broken off after fifteen minutes due to the approach of daylight, one engine in M.G.B. 320 having seized up. The rear ship of the enemy line was then badly on fire.

Both units were ineffectually engaged by A/C and shore batteries. M.G.B. 332 sustained some damage and the following casualties, three ratings killed, one Officer and three ratings wounded. Only superficial damage and no casualties in remainder of force.  
(C. in C. Nore 1530B/31).

Dover Patrols. M.L.s 140 and 142 at C one buoy. Trawlers MARETTA and BROCK at D. buoy. M.Ls. 220 and 207 from Ramsgate patrolling between Dumpton and N.E. Spit Buoy, E.T.D., 2245, E.T.R. 0535/1.

M.G.Bs. 41 and S.3 from Ramsgate at South Varne, E.T.D., 2200, E.T.R. 0430/1.

M.T.Bs. 48, 44, 45 and M.G.Bs. 329, 331 and 324 between N.E. Varne and number two Buoy, E.T.D. 2330, E.T.R. 0130/1.  
(V.A. Dover 1853B/31).

Exercises.

UNIQUE. UNIQUE will be exercising in vicinity of Eddystone from 2300/31 till 1800/1.  
(C. in C. Plymouth 1723B/31)(F.O.S. 2153B/31)

British Air Activity.

"Knocker". Operation will probably commence 0900Z/31, weather permitting.  
(C. in C.W.A. 0735B/31 to R.A.M.)

My 2030/30. Operations postponed until 1230Z today.  
(A.C.I.C. 1120B/31).

Operation in progress.  
(T.A.C. Prestwick 1340/31).

Operation "Knocker" nil.  
(Reykjavik 1538/31 to Air Ministry.)

Last planes airborne at 1540Z/31.  
(A.C.I.C. 1752B/31).

My 1620/31 and 1752/31. All planes returning owing to weather.  
(A.C.I.C. 1850B/31).

Weather permitting operations will commence 0900Z tomorrow.  
(A.C.I.C. 2330B/31).

/One.....

947

War Diary.31.7.1942.  
Friday.HOME COMMANDS.British Air Activity-Contd.

One 15,000  
Ton ship  
sunk.  
Tankers  
and  
Auxiliary  
Craft  
sunk.

2 hits with torpedoes from Russian D.B.5  
aircraft claimed 15,000-ton ship entrance  
Porspror Fjord 70° 55' N. 26° 10' E. Ship seen  
to sink 30/7.  
Battery on Ribachi Peninsula hit and set fire  
to enemy tankers and sank auxiliary craft.  
(S.B.N.O. North Russia 1656B/31 to Admty.)

Own A/C  
shot down.  
(W.S.21.)

Your Sunderland escort missing. Report forthwith  
whether it arrived and if so its time of  
departure.

(C. in C.W.A. 2328B/31 to HAWKINS).

Your 2328/31st. Regret to report Sunderland  
shot down in very low visibility by ship of convoy at 1025Z  
in 055° 23' N. 014° 13' W. Only survivor P.S. Wheatley.  
(HAWKINS 2249Z/31 to C. in C.W.A.)

A/C in  
FURIOUS.

Spitfires now embarking have propeller blades  
6 to 4½ inches longer than Seafire that carried  
out trials. Anticipate some danger of propellers  
fouling deck on taking off.  
(FURIOUS 1909B/31)

Enemy Air Activity.

Yarmouth.

Hostile A/C engaged by Yarmouth ground defences  
night 30/31. No bombs were dropped.  
(F.O.I.C. Yarmouth 0825B/31).

Rosta  
Depot  
bombed on  
30/7.

Raid on Rosta Fuel Depot 30/7. 34 H.E. and  
2000 incendiaries. Damage repaired. Fires  
extinguished.  
(S.B.N.O. North Russia, 1656B/31).

Polyarno  
bombed  
on 22/7.

Following is repetition of my 1306/23/7  
addressed Admiral Miles repeated S.B.N.O.  
Archangel begins. Air attack on Polyarno  
2100/22. 106 bombs and some incendiaries. Slight  
damage to W/T Station and A/S School. No  
British casualties. Russian attempt to bomb  
shipping in Vardo area prevented by fog ends.  
Russian W/T Station now repaired.  
(S.B.N.O. North Russia 1701B/31 to Admty.)

War Diary.31.7.1942.  
Friday.HOME COMMANDS.Mining.Norway.  
Folden  
Fiord  
dangerous  
areas.

Area enclosed by lines joining following positions have been declared dangerous in Norwegian Press.

- (1) A.  $64^{\circ} 36.2' N. 10^{\circ} 58' E.$   
 B.  $64^{\circ} 36.9' N. 10^{\circ} 57.4' E.$   
 C.  $64^{\circ} 38.2' N. 11^{\circ} 2.5' E.$   
 D.  $64^{\circ} 35.9' N. 11^{\circ} 2.6' E.$   
 E.  $64^{\circ} 35.9' N. 11^{\circ} 0.6' E.$

Then to A.

(2) Area limited by meridian  $11^{\circ} 28.6' E.$  westward to the Otteroen coast between  $64^{\circ} 31.7'$  and  $64^{\circ} 31.4' N.$   
 Vessels proceeding through Lokkaren must proceed Eastward of Levra light through Nordraasa and Sorraasa.  
 (Hydrographer 1200B/31).

Western  
Channel  
Sweep.

Sweep completed in accordance with N.O.I.C.  
 Dartmouth's 1155B/30. No mines.  
 (ILFRACOMBE 1229B/31).

Portsmouth.

At 1152/30 one Magnetic Mine exploded by Sweepers  
 Details. (C. in C. Portsmouth 1236B/31.)

Harwich.

At 1058/31 one Magnetic Mine exploded by Sweepers  
 Details.  
 (F.O.I.C. Harwich 1607B/31)

Bay of  
Biscay.

Following from Lands End Radio. Intercept  
 1715 G.M.T./30.

- A. C. Q from ISLA DE TENERIFE. 1850 hours  
 drifting mine seen lat.  $47^{\circ} N.$   
 B. From Ferrol. 20 miles north of Llanes,  
 drifting mine.  
 (C. in C. Plymouth 1613B/31).

Operation  
S.N. 82.

Completed.  
 (R.A.(M) 1934/31).

Sweep ahead  
of BEACON  
on 3/8.

Your 1615/31. It is considered desirable that  
 two fast minesweepers of 4th M.S.F. should  
 sweep in G. formation ahead of BEACON when out-  
 side the searched channels during programme for  
 3rd. Request you will arrange with F.O.I.C.  
 Harwich accordingly, amending programme if  
 necessary.  
 (C. in C. Nore 2258B/31 to F.O.I.C. Yarmouth.)

Enemy Intelligence.

Petsamo.

On 31/7, two 10,000-ton Tankers, 2 Minesweepers,  
 3 Escort Boats, and 6 unidentified Ships  
 entered Petsamo Gulf.  
 (S.B.N.O. North Russia 1656B/31.)



War Diary.31.7.1942.  
Friday.HOME COMMANDS.Navigational.East  
Coast.

Light on Wreck Buoy 1 mile S.E. of 7.A. Buoy extinguished.  
(VERSATILE 0235B/31).  
SAPPHIRE reports wreck buoy in 52° 47' 30" N. 01° 50' 30" E. extinguished and lantern and cage missing.  
(F.O.I.C. Harwich 1147B/31 to C. in C. Nore).  
Buoys now reported missing.  
(C. in C. Nore 1507B/31 to Admty.)

U-Boats.U-Boats  
attacked.

Your 2254B/30. RODMAN and EMMONS proceed destination.  
(RODMAN 0531Z/31 to C. in C.H.F.)  
Am over enemy S/M in 60° 30' N. 17° 50' W. Enemy was sighted on surface and observed to submerge. Have attacked with depth charges and estimate one hit.  
(A/C 6 T.F.K. 0605Z/31).  
Enemy when first sighted was on course 200°, speed estimated 3 knots.  
(A/C 6 T.F.K. 0620Z/31).  
Proceed with all despatch to hunt S/M attacked and possibly damaged by A/C in 060° 30' N. 017° 50' W. at 0605Z.  
(A.C.I.C. 0646Z/31 to SKATE, SALADIN, SABRE).  
Am over enemy S/M in 60° 15' N. 17° 6' W.  
(A/C 6 T.F.Y. 0726Z/31).  
Enemy was sighted on surface and observed to submerge. Have attacked enemy with depth charges.  
(A/C 6 T.F.Y. 0731Z/31).  
Am over enemy S/M in 60° 5' N. 17° 10' W.  
(A/C 6 T.F.Y. 0900Z/31).  
With SALADIN and SABRE proceed forthwith to attack S/M sighted and believed damaged by A/C at 0805B/31 in 60° 30' N. 17° 50' W.  
(C. in C. W.A. 0906B/31 to SKATE).  
My 0646Z. Periscope of S/M sighted and depth-charged in 060° 15' N. 017° 06' W. at 0931B.  
(A.C.I.C. 0955B/31 to SKATE).  
My 0906B/31. U-boat was sighted at 0805B/31 on surface, then observed to submerge, attacked with depth charges, estimate 1 hit.  
A second A/C reports sighting periscope at 0931B/31 in 060° 15' N. 017° 06' W.  
(C. in C.W.A. 1001B/31 to SKATE, ENCHANTRESS, SALADIN, SABRE).  
A/C reported over S/M in 060° 05' N. 017° 10' W. at 0900Z/31.  
(C. in C.W.A. 1140B/31 to SKATE).  
Report situation.  
(C. in C.W.A. 1628B/31 to SKATE.)  
Your 1628B/31. Position 059° 42' N. 016° 54' W.  
Commenced sweep 16 knots to south and west.  
(SKATE 1800B/31 to C. in C.W.A.)  
SKATE's 1800/31. Unless in contact return to Reykjavik at 0500B/1.  
(C. in C.W.A. 2350B/31 to SKATE, SALADIN, SABRE).

/At.....

950

War Diary.31.7.1942.  
Friday.HOME COMMANDS.U-boats - conts.

U-boats attacked - Contd. At 1445 in 051° 45' N. 017° 58' W. asdic contact obtained ahead of convoy. Counter attack 1458. Contact lost (ahead?) convoy and regained 1535. 4 Hedgehog and 2 depth-charge attacks by SENNEN and 4 depth-charge attacks by ABERDEEN. Projectile exploded in three of Hedgehog attacks otherwise no results observed. Contact lost after last attack at 1852 and hunt abandoned at 1950 in order to rejoin convoy. (SENNEN 1957Z/31 to C. in C.W.A.)

U-boats reported. One unidentified S/M bearing 270°, distant 8 miles. My position 49° 47' N. (245°) 23' W. (SKEENA 0643Z/31 to Connav).  
Am over enemy S/M in 45° 46' N. 12° 14' W. Enemy was sighted on surface and observed to submerge. When first sighted was on course 280°, estimated speed 10 knots. (A/C I.C.K.U. 1631/31 to 19 Group.)  
Estimated U-boat dispositions. 6 inward bound between 044° 01' and 045° 59' N. and longitudes 005° 31' and 013° 29'. (F.O.S. 1702B/31 to S/Ms.)  
A/C report U-boat on surface at 1631 in P.C.S. 045° 48', 012° 14', 280°, 10. U-boat was observed to submerge. (F.O.S. 1839B/31 to RORQUAL).  
Boeing Fortress in transit Iceland to U.K. sighted S/M approx. 60.07 N. 110 W. at 1625 G.M.T. steering course approx. 330° true. (T.A.C. Prestwick 1948/31).  
Am over enemy S/M in 68° N. 17° 55' W. Periscope only sighted and observed to submerge. (A/C A.7.R.Z. 2220Z/31).

Casualties and Defects.

LAMERTON. ALMENARA. LAMERTON collided with Merchant Ship in convoy B.B. 86 in fog in 055° 24' N. 011° 55' W. at 0625/31. LAMERTON bow set back to Capstan but watertight. Ordered to join B.B. 86. (KEPPEL 0745B/31 to C. in C.W.A.)  
KEPPEL's 0745/31. Have sent LAMERTON to Londonderry direct, maximum speed 12 knots. ALMENARA not seriously damaged. (STORK 1000B/31 to C. in C.W.A.)  
KEPPEL's 0745B/31. Am proceeding alone at 12 knots. E.T.A. Fairway Buoy 2100B/31. Will be unable to anchor. Oil tank intact and full. Intend proceeding alongside oiler pending further instructions. (LAMERTON 1220B/31 to Cdre. Londonderry).  
Proceed to Liverpool. (C. in C.W.A. 1844B/31 to LAMERTON).

CARTHAGE. A.M. 1401B/30. Electrical defects in CARTHAGE are not attributable to gun trials. Subject to satisfactory report by representative of E. in C. on full power trials on 1/8, it is anticipated ship will be ready for service by 17/8. (F.O.I.C. Greenock 0954B/31).

/YORKSHIRE.....

War Diary.

31.7.1942.  
Friday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Casualties and Defects-Contd.

- YORKSHIRE.  
LASS. YORKSHIRE LASS damage to stern when entering Canal. Repairs will necessitate her being delayed at Inverness for some days.  
(R.N.O. Inverness 1026/31 to VALKYRIE).
- Unknown  
Vessel. Following from Lands End. Intercept 0924 G.M.T. De unnamed Station. S.O.S. of N.R.19.  
(C. in C. Plymouth 1144/31 to Admty.)
- MEADOWSWEET. Arrived MEADOWSWEET for fitting of new pump.  
(N.O.I.C. Oban 1259B/31.)
- M.L.245. Your 1710B/28. You should appoint usual Board of Inquiry and in addition invite Fighting French Naval Authorities to nominate one Executive Officer and One Engineer Officer as members.  
(Hd. of N.L. 2134B/31 to F.O.I.C. Portland).

Shipping and Convoys.

- BART. Your 1645/28. Arrived.  
(N.O.I.C. Faroes 0828B/31 to N.C.S.O. Kirkwall).
- North  
Russian  
Convoy  
C.A.M  
Ships. Request all C.A.M. ships detailed for North Russian convoys be fitted with stowage and barrels to carry 800 gallons of Octane fuel.  
(M.S.F.U. Speke 0830/31 to D.T.D.)
- Q.P.14.  
DVINA. S.B.N.O. Archangel's 1053/30. Concur in sailing of DVINA with Q.P.14. Interim employment of destroyers will be decided when (?decision) on above is made.  
(S.B.N.O. North Russia 0854B/31 to Admty.)
- W.S.21S. My 1557/28, para. 5. Amend reference to DERWENT. DERWENT is to sail direct to Clyde and is to attend convoy conference, subsequently joining main convoy from Londonderry.  
(C. in C.W.A. 1053B/31 to N.O.I.C. Liverpool).  
Intend sailing DERWENT 2000B/1 direct to Clyde. E.T.A. 0630B/2 to attend convoy conference.  
(N.O.I.C. Liverpool 1232B/31).  
Sailed EMPIRE HOPE escorted by WISHART for Clyde.  
(N.O.I.C. Cardiff 2356B/31).
- EL NIL. Diplomatic steamer EL NIL position 56° 00' N. 09° 19' W. at 1235 G.M. T.  
(Master 1240/31 to Admty.)

War Diary.

31.7.1942.  
Friday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping and Convoys-Contd.

- R.U.54. (P.Q.18). R.U.54. Intend sailing at 1800B/3. HINDSHOLM, HEL (Polish), and 27 ships ex P.Q.18 all for Clyde. E.T.A. 7th. Routed as in C. in C.W.A. 1636B/30.  
(N.C.S.O. Iceland 1351B/31 to Admty.)
- Your 1217/31. This convoy should not be sailed until arrival of escorting destroyers at present hunting U-boat.  
(C. in C.W.A. 1655B/31 to A.C.I.C.)
- H.X.199. Average speed 9.97 knots fog for first five days otherwise fine weather.  
No stragglers all ships now arrived.  
(D.T.D. 1608Z/31 to Connav.)
- Anchorage in Novaya Zemlya. C. in C.H.F. 1717B/23, your 2001B/25, and S.B.N.O. Archangel's 1809B/25. Request guidance approx. dates ice conditions will permit use of anchorages.  
(D.T.D. 1830B/31 to S.B.N.O. North Russia).
- Oiler for North Russian Convoys. Your 1020/30. Oiler now will not be required before end of August. Oiler detailed should have speed of not less than 11 knots and must be capable of handling and oiling at sea by bouyant hose over stern in addition to being fitted for trough method. Heating of oil in tanks is essential. SAN ADOLFO unless modified to meet above requirements is not suitable.  
(C. in C.H.F. 1902B/31 to Admty.)
- A.T.19. Connav's 2010/30. Request you will provide onward route from position (V).  
(D.O.D.(H) 1902B/31 to C. in C.W.A.)
- BELOMORCANAL. A.M. 1908/25.  
F. ENGELS. Soviet Naval Mission have requested, and the Admiralty have concurred in, the following arrangements:-
- (a) Captain Chekin will arrive Iceland (C) on 7/8 to give instructions to BELOMORCANAL and F. ENGELS to sail separately from Hvalfiord to North Russian ports, routed via Jan Mayen, thence along the ice edge.
  - (b) Soviet Naval Officers will be accommodated in each ship, Captain Chekin himself embarking in the 2nd ship to sail.
2. It is requested that you will:-
- (a) Provide a close escort of one trawler for each of the two ships from Hvalfiord to the vicinity of Jan Mayen.
  - (b) Provide air cover for both ships.
  - (c) Provide ammunition as necessary for the Soviet merchant ships for their own protection.
  - (d) Provide each merchant ship with a few ordinary depth charges with settings blanked off to operate not less than 250 feet depth. This should make release safe at speeds greater than 5 knots.
  - (e) Provide British A/C Recognition signals.
  - (f) Give latest news of ice conditions and weather, and own forces likely to be met.

/(g).....

953

War Diary.31.7.1942.  
Friday.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping and Convoys.

BELOMORCANAL. (g) Provide charts as required.  
 F. ENGELS. (A.C.N.S.(H.) 1938B/31 to A.C.I.C.)  
 - Contd.

Atlantic  
 Convoys.

Concur with F.O.N.F. that with present sequence of escort Group sailings sufficient time would not be available for boiler cleaning at Base ports. B.7 is due to arrive Argentinia about

August 11th and should it be decided to detach this group in accordance with Admty.'s 1328/26 the following readjustment of sailings would allow the remaining 10 escort Groups approx. 8 days for boiler cleaning at their Base port and about 4 days in harbour away from home. Action proposed is as follows:-

1. B. Groups to escort O.N. Slow and H.X. Convoys.
2. A. and C. Groups to escort O.N. Fast and S.C. Convoys.
3. B.1 escorting O.N. 119 to change over in mid ocean with C.2 escorting H.X. 201 and O.N. 119 to be sailed two days earlier.
4. B.3 escorting O.N. 121 to change over in mid ocean with C.3 escorting H.X. 202 and O.N. 121 to be sailed two days earlier.

5. Order of sailing would be as follows:-

(A) from U.K.	(B) from WESTOMP.
O.N. 117 B.7	S.C. 94 C.1.
118 B.2	H.X. 201 C.2 and B.1.
119 B.1 and C.2.	S.C. 95 A.3.
120 B.4.	H.X. 202 C.3 and B.3.
121 B.3 and C.3	S.C. 96 C.4.
122 B.6.	H.X. 203 B.2.
123 C.1.	S.C. 97 C.2.
124 B.1.	H.X. 204 B.4.
125 A.3.	S.C. 98 C.3
126 B.3.	H.X. 205 B.6.
127 C.4.	S.C. 99 C.1.
128 B.2	H.X. 206 B.1.
129 C.2.	S.C. 100A.3.
130 B.4.	H.X. 207 B.3.
131 C.3.	S.C. 101 C.4.
132 B.6.	H.X. 208 B.2.

6. In order to allow A. and C. Groups a long lay over in Canadian Ports propose S.C. Convoys to be sailed 4 days later. Institution of the above scheme will cause slight dislocation in the initial stages but it has the merit of placing the escort system on an evenly balanced routine ensuring maximum efficiency from each group and more even distribution of maintenance work at Base Ports.

Groups will sail on a permanent schedule and during winter conditions extension of the convoy cycle to compensate for longer sea time can be introduced without any disturbance of the order of sailing then in force.

(C. in C. W.A. 2055Z/31 to Admty.)

Independent  
 Ships,  
 Reports of  
 Positions.

Amendments to Admty. 1757/29.  
 (D.T.D. 2129B/30) See South Atlantic.

War Diary.

31.7.1942  
Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

AZALEA  
Corvettes. N.O.I.C. Cardiff 1232 27K. The prolonged absence AZALEA places severe strain on remaining 4 corvettes. Request a temporary relief be sent to Gibraltar with next O.G. convoy. (F.O.C.N.A. 0912/31 to Admty.)

? W.S.21. Your 1648/22. 2 anti-sub trawlers will be detailed to R/V in position (Y). Necessary instructions will be issued. (F.O.C.N.A. 1012B/31 to Admty. (R) C. in C. W.A., N.C.S.O. Mersey.)

HALLANGER. Nor. HALLANGER delayed about 11 days machinery defects. (F.O.C.N.A. 1104B/31 to Admty. (R) D. of S.)

Situation, 1959B/31, Area X. → 1. O.G.87 BLACK SWAN, FOWEY, CARNATION, STONECROP, CAMPION 037° 14' 013° 14' 109° 8.  
→ 2. SPIREA and GERANIUM 28.19 22.25 escorting 2 tankers 236° 10 $\frac{3}{4}$  until 2200/31 then part company and return to Gibraltar 056° 12.  
3. Tug JAUNTY 40.16 15.32 124° 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ .  
4. LOCH OSKAIG and SCOTTISH on patrol off Lisbon.  
5. ALOUETTE on patrol off Huelva. (F.O.C.N.A. 1150B/31.)

Situation, Area 'Y' 1959B/31. → (1) O.S.35 (E) ROCHESTER, LEITH, SANDWICH, ERNE, COMMANDANT, D'ORVES } 36.56 22.51 169° 7 $\frac{3}{4}$ .  
→ (2) SPIREA, GERANIUM 28.19 22.25 escorting 2 tankers 236° 10 $\frac{3}{4}$  until 2200/31 then part company and return Gibraltar 056° 12.  
(3) CILICIA escorting one merchant ship 30.42 24.51 010° 13 $\frac{1}{4}$ . (F.O.C.N.A. 1244B/31.) *See p. 956.*

AFRICANA. Italian 58 still at anchor in outer harbour fully loaded. (H.M.C. Bilbao 1247/31 to Admty.)  
Note:- Passed to H.Q.C.C. and C. in C. Plymouth.

Situation Area 'Z' 1959B/31. S<sup>h</sup> 117 (E) PELICAN, ROTHER, SPEY, AUBRETIA (E) 21.02 22.42 344° 7. (F.O.C.N.A. 1256B/31.)

U/B ROCHESTER. One S/M on surface bearing 183° 9 miles. My P.C. and S. 037° 20' N. 022° 47' W. 183° 15 $\frac{1}{2}$  knots. (ROCHESTER 1230Z/31 to F.O.C.N.A. (R) Admty., C. in C. W.A. LEITH, CHALLENGER.)  
*U.213 destroyed 26/9 - p. 762.*  
My 1230Z/31. S/M has dived in 036° 21' N. 022° 51' W. (ROCHESTER 1607Z/31.)

31.7.1942  
Friday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic - contd.

- A/C. 1 Aircraft unknown bearing 270° course 180°. My position 313 Espichel 8. (SCOTTISH 1258B/31 to Gib. W/T.)
- RORQUAL. Onward route from 043° 01' 012° 08' on surface at your discretion passing through J.037° 22' 010° 04' at 1115B/4. K. 036° 33' 008° 46' at 1830B/4. L. 036° 22' 007° 12' at 0130B/5 to R/V escort in M. 000° Spartel Cape 5 miles at 0800B/5 for onward escort to Gibraltar.  
 2. If unable to comply within 2 hours report P.C. and S.  
 3. T.B.R. arranged accordingly.  
 (F.O.C.N.A. 1440B/31 to RORQUAL (R) Admty., F.O.S., N.O.I.C. Falmouth, Capt.(S) 5, Capt. (S) 3, C. in C. Plymouth.)
- MITIDJA Your 2216/27. Concur that A.T.0056/27 was the interception cause of the misunderstanding. 27/7. (D.O.D.(F) Approved First Lord 1607B/31 to F.O.C.N.A.)
- GIL EANES N.A. Lisbon 1627B/31. (Portuguese) See America and West Indies.
- Bombing Request total bombing restrictions in following restrictions. areas.
- | Area. | From (August) | Until. |
|-------|---------------|--------|
| G.26  | 0001/3        | 0900/3 |
| G.27  | 0001/3        | 2300/3 |
| G.16  | 1700/3        | 1430/4 |
| G.15  | 0730/4        | 1730/4 |
| G.14  | 1100/4        | 0130/5 |
| G.01  | 2200/3        | 1830/4 |
| G.02  | 1230/4        | 0430/5 |
- All times zone minus 2. (2) Submarines will not use identification flares.  
 (F.O.C.N.A. 1616B/31 to Admty., H.Q.C.C. (R) F.O.S.)
- D.S.O.24 Intend sailing D.S.O.24 p.m./3/8 for Freetown for fuelling and onward passage to Capetown, routed East of Canary Islands and pass position (F) 019° 57' N. 018° 50' W. at 2000B/7.  
 (2) R.A.W.A. is requested to communicate onward route and arrange bombing restrictions.  
 (3) S. of A. 12 knots.  
 (4) Only S.P.02373/74 and S.P.02319 (28) are carried.  
 (5) Wireless watch.  
 (6) Admiralty pass to B D Z.  
 (F.O.C.N.A. 1640/B/31 to R.A. West Africa, (R) Admty., C. in C. S.A. C. in C. E.F., B.D.Z. D.S. COLUMBIA, Capt.(S) 4.)

956

War Diary.

31.7.1942  
Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic - contd.

Air  
Report.

Gib. Ops. 149. Resume for 31/7. 2 Hudsons hunt U-Boat reported by Hurricane A/C from EAGLE in 35.55 N. (9044) W. 0930 - 2030. 3. Swordfish A/S cover to EAGLE 0705 - 1055 or (?0715 - 1055)  
(A.H.Q. Gib. 1720Z/31.)

CILICIA.

My position 2000Z/31 026° 19' N. 025° 27' W. S. of A. 12.  
(CILICIA 2102Z/31 to C. in C. W.A. (R) F.O.C.N.A. Admty.) *See p. 954 (Sit: 7) up: also Y)*

South Atlantic.

Suspicious  
Flares.

SSSS Following received from ?WIAP (cannot be identified) 0035 unread sighted suspicious red flares 07.40 N. 20.50 W. From St. Helena W/T. (Slangkop W/T T.O.R. 0152Z/31 to Freetown W/T.)

Intercept Sierra Leone Radio De WIAP SSSS 0035/31, sighted suspicious red flares 07.40 N. 20.50 W. 0140 G.M.T/31.  
(Ends)  
(Valentia Radio 0200/31.)

Movements.

Sailed H.M.S. QUEEN ELIZABETH, DUNCAN, ARROW, HOTSPUR to Capetown by route R.5 S. of A. 18 knots. E.T.A. 1200Z/2.  
(Care i/c Durban 0359Z/31 to Admty. etc.)

W.S.21 P.  
Escort.

*See next page.*  
Your 1542Z/28. Owing to loss of stern shaft packing H.M.H.S. OXFORDSHIRE must dock at Capetown 4/8 thereby delaying ANTHONY approx. 48 hours. ARROW and EXPRESS will therefore be sailed with (?VALIANT) should W.S.21 P be ready to sail before 11/8.  
(C. in C. S.A. 1000B/31 to D. C. in C.E.F. (R) C. in C. E.F. Admty., F.O.I.C. Ceylon (?R.A.3 B.S.)

U/B.

Admty. pass to Navy Dept. Washington. American A/C reported sight of S/M which crash dived in 006° 21' S. 016° 00' W. at 0820 G C T.  
(N.O.I.C. Ascension 1023Z/31 to Admty., C. in C. S.A., R.A.W.A.)

/W.S.21 P. ...



957

War Diary.

31.7.1942  
Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic - contd.

W.S.21 P. Intend to sail convoy W.S.21 P escorted by ORION, TJERK HIDDES, NEPAL, at 1000Z 1/8.  
2. VIMY, BOREAS will join escort until about 010° S.  
3. W.S.21 P routed (A) 007° 50' N. 014° 06' W. (B) 001° 33' N. 009° 35' W. (D) 008° 45' S. 011° 20' W.  
4. W.S.21 P will R/V with convoy A S 4 at position D at 0900Z/5.  
5. Onward route for combined convoy (E) 010° 10' S. 008° 22' W. (F) 034° 40' S. 017° 30' E. thence Capetown. S. of A. about 11.  
6. Escort fuel from oiler RAPIDOL in vicinity of position E.  
7. E.T.A. Capetown a.m./14/8. E.T.A. will be corrected if required by signal passed through VIMY about 6/8.  
(R.A.W.A. 1046Z/31 to Admty. (R) B.A.D. D.C. in C. E.F., C. in C. S.A., ORION, C. in C. U.S. Fleet, C.T.23.)

Collier Convoy. My 0816/28. Colliers LYROS and UNITA will be included in convoy. 2. HARTLEPOOL will not sail with convoy, expected date of sailing 2/8. (N.O.I.C. Durban 1123C/31 to D. C. in C. E.F. (R) Admty., C. in C. S.A., C. in C. E.F.)

RAJPUTANA LEOPARD. Situation report for ships in Area P. RAJPUTANA 014° 25' 019° 15' to Bathurst 11 at 2000Z/31. LEOPARD 011° 01' 017° 10' to Bathurst 14. *west*  
(R.A.W.A. 1151Z/31.)

Dispositions. ST. WISTAN off Freetown to Sectors 7 8. 2 M.Ls on patrol Sector T. \*VELOX 008° 00' 013° 50' to 007° 48' 014° 04' thence to ?13° 0' ?51'. WOODRUFF 007° 40' 020° 50' to Freetown 9 at 2000Z/31. VIMY with O.S.S. 34 004° 20' 012° 18' 137° 8½. COPINSAY 003° 35' 010° 55' to join O.S.S.34, 7½. CHESHIRE 001° 25' 003° 25' to (?Freetown) 12½. SNOWDROP 003° 30' S. 011° 01', 170° 8. CORINTHIAN 010° 20' S. 004° 40' E. 158° 10½. W.S.19 Q. 011° 30' S. 007° 35' E. to 005° 15' (?S) 004° (?40') E. thence 298° 19.  
(R.A.W.A. 1212/31 to A.I.G.150.) \* *Ship 959*

Troop Movements. Further to my 1303/29. So as to make full use of accommodation in NIEUW AMSTERDAM it is now intended that ship will also embark all East Africa personnel at Durban, approx. 2400, and proceed to land them at Mombasa after discharging East Africa brigade at depot. Ship will then return Capetown and embark Mid-East personnel at Capetown and Durban.  
2. Convoy C.M.21 will be ready to leave Durban about 16/8 consisting of following ships:- BANFORA, SALWEEN, KOSKIUSZCO, ASCANIUS with 7000 personnel for Mid-East, INDRAPOERA, NOVA SCOTIA, SONTA COURT, with 6300 for India.  
3. After the moves outlined in paraas 1 and 2 (?there will remain in Union about 6000 troops for Mid-East who will be on carried in ILE<sup>de</sup> FRANCE and 2600 for India who will have to await 1st available ship.

War Diary.

31.7.1942  
Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic.

Troop Movements - contd. Deputy C. in C. E.F. is requested to inform D. S.T.O. Mombasa.  
5. S.S.T.O. Durban is requested to report S. of A. of C.M.31 to D. C. in C. E.F.  
6. CAP PADARAN date of completion further delayed and as ship cannot be used without docking it is now intended that she will proceed to west coast when ready and not to Indian Ocean.  
(P.S.T.O. Simonstown 1257B/31 to D.S.T. (R) D. C. in C. E.F. etc.)

WORCESTER-SHIRE. Deputy C. in C. E.F. 0807/31. E.T.A. 1500Z/5. Intend shifting to Group S advancing 0400Z/3. (WORCESTERSHIRE 1415Z/31 to N.O.I.C. Durban (R) D. C. in C. E.F. FROBISHER, C. in C. S.A.)

RED JACKET "Q" Report. Following has been read. QQQQ RED JACKET suspicious vessel closing 30° 00' S. 31° 38' E. (Simonstown W/T T.O.R. 1526/G.M.T/31.)

Amalgamation of R.N.V.R. (S.A) and S.D. F.to form S. African Naval Forces. My 1203/19/7, comes into force 1/8/42. Anticipate that details will be telegraphed during course of next week. (C. in C. S.A. 1548B/31 to Admty.)

AQUITANIA (W.S.19 Q.) My 1615/30th (?161530 from C. in C. S.A. intended) Defects. Details. Estimated time required six weeks including 14 days in dry dock. Master requests repairs be undertaken in U.S.A. (P.S.T.O. Simonstown 1734B/31 to Admty.)

LÉOPARD COMMANDANT DUBOC. Intend following programme for LÉOPARD, (see Medicine page)  
COMMANDANT DUBOC:  
Arrive Place Leave  
- Freetown 5/8  
13/8 Duala 14/8  
17/8 Pointe Noire 20/8  
27/8 Capetown -  
(R.A.W.A. 1817Z/31 to Admty. (R) B.N.L.O. W. Africa, N.C.S.O. C. in C. S.A. C. in C. E.F., C. in C. Med. D. C. in C. E.F.)

Reporting by ships for plot purposes. Your 1608/1. In view of importance of weather reports in this connection request approval for ships mentioned in para 4 to add a weather report in the form used in the North Atlantic to the report of their position. A.L. J. ?HB 1720/30 October 1941 refers. (C. in C. S.A. 1841B/31 to Admty.)

S.L.118. ? Sailing 1030/4/8. (N.C.S.O. Freetown 1917Z/31 to Admty.)

959

War Diary.31.7.1942  
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic - contd.DANMARK  
(torp.30/7)DANMARK (British) torpedoed 007° N. 024° W.  
at 1700/30. All crew safe.  
(R.A.W.A. 2000Z/31 to Admty., C. in C. S.A.  
F.O.C.N.A.)

S.L.118.

Intend to sail one Corvette as additional  
escort to FOLKESTONE, WELLINGTON and GORLESTON  
with convoy S.L.118. This corvette will  
transfer to O.S.35 in Bathurst area. It is for consideration  
that S.L.118 escort may be augmented after she leaves.  
(R.A. West Africa 2111Z/31 to Admty. (R) F.O.C.N.A., C. in C.W.A)CHESHIRE  
VELOX.(1) CHESHIRE amended route as follows:  
X 000° (?34') N. 002° 16' W.  
Y 001° 15' N. 012° 24' W.  
Z 005° 26' N. 014° 06' W.  
Q 007° 38' N. 014° 10' W. S. of A. 12½ knots.(2) VELOX amend previous orders. After COLOMBIA has joined  
convoy VELOX proceed to R/V with CHESHIRE in 003° 33' N.  
013° 21' W. at 1200Z/3. VELOX escort CHESHIRE to ? Freetown.  
(R.A.W.A. 2337Z/31 to CHESHIRE, VELOX (R) Capt.(D) 18.)Mediterranean.

PARTHIAN.

Temporary repairs to PARTHIAN satisfactory,  
she will sail p.m./31. Advisable to fit spare  
fourth stage barrel on arrival at Gibraltar.  
(Capt. (S) 10 0037B/31 to F.O.C.N.A.) *See p 960*

P.34.

Estimated position at 0325B/31 was 237°  
Delimara Light 11 miles.  
(V.A. Malta 0453B/31 to P.34.) *See p. 960*

TAKU.

TAKU will leave Haifa 2000/31 to proceed on  
patrol in accordance with Capt. (S) 1, 1615/  
{?29th).  
(N.O.I.C. Palestinian Ports 0942C/31 to C. in C.  
Med. (R) (S) 1, TAKU, (?V.A.Malta) (S)10,  
Group 201, C.S.15, S/Ms on patrol, S.O. S/M  
Alexandria.)

**MOST SECRET**

**MOST SECRET**      **M E S S A G E**      0900Z/31st July      **IN**

From Mideast.

Date 31.7.42.

Recd 1231.

Cipher

Addressed Air Ministry.

MOST IMMEDIATE.

CC/90 IZ 1009

Following for Chiefs of Staff from Commanders in Chief.

We are faced with immediate important decisions in which the correct appreciation of the actual Russian position must play a most vital part. It would be most helpful therefore if the latest information available could be cabled out.

0900Z/31.

1st Lord  
1st S.L. (2)  
V.C.N.S.  
A.C.N.S. (H)  
A.C.N.S. (F) (2)  
A.C.N.S. (W)  
N.A. 1st S.L.  
D.O.D. (F) (2)  
D.O.D. (H) (2)  
D.N.I. (4)  
D. of P. (2)  
Duty Capt. (2)  
D.D.I.C. (2)  
D. of P. (Q)  
P.A.S. (S)  
Hd. of M.  
I.P. (2)  
W.D.  
Secretary.

Air Ministry Distribution:-  
Col. Jacob.  
Foreign Secretary  
First Sea Lord Admiralty  
C.6. Tels. War Office  
C.A.S.

War Diary.

31.7.1942  
Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean - contd.

Malta.

Present state of dockyard.  
(A.S. Malta 1006/31.)  
See Lion Copy.

Alexandria.

0430/31. One intruder plane dropped 73  
Italian anti personnel bombs of which 51  
exploded killing 4 persons and injuring 13.  
(R.A. Alexandria 1009/31.)

THORN.

My 1234/30 (N.T. in W.R. Copy sent to Ops.O.D.)  
During daylight hours patrol at your discretion  
nearer the coast. At night operate in the  
vicinity position given. Volume of shipping to  
Benghazi may be expected to increase.  
(S.O. S/M Alexandria 1011C/31 to THORN (R) TAKU,  
Capt. (S) 1, C. in C. Med.)

Cositrep  
467.

4. Air. 29/7. Liberators made dusk attack on  
shipping in Navarino harbour Greece. No hits  
claimed.

5. Night 29/30 July. Halifaxes, Liberators and  
Wellingtons bombed shipping and harbour installations Tobruk.  
Low cloud over harbour hampered attack. Several near misses  
two possible hits on shipping outside harbour. Short-lived  
fire on one ship in harbour. Many fires one explosion along  
docks. Several explosions widespread fires at petrol  
installations N.W. of harbour. Wellingtons also mined harbour  
and approaches. 1 Wellington missing.  
(C. in C. M.E. 1110/31.)

RECORDER.

Your 1510/26. RECORDER arrived 31st for bunkers  
water and minor repairs sailing for Kilindini 1st.  
(Cdre Aden 1145Z/31 to D. C. in C. E.F.)

\* PARTHIAN  
CLYDE  
P.44  
P.31.

\* See p. 959

S/Ms will leave end of searched channel at  
approx. times given routed through 180° Filfolia  
Is. 4 miles 035° 48' 013° 55' and 037° 11' 013°  
12' PARTHIAN 2001B/31, CLYDE 0929B/1 astern of  
sweeper(s) and dived in first position.  
Probably P.44 2002B/1/8. P.31 to keep clear to  
South east until H.M.S. CLYDE has passed.  
Sweepers may pass orders by S S T on 15 k/cs.  
(Capt.(S) 10, 1155B/31 to H.M. S/M P.31, H.M.  
S/M P.45 (R) 10th S.F.)

P.34  
(10th S/M F)

Arrival.  
(V.A. Malta 1215B/31.)

See p. 959

MOST SECRET

MESSAGE

1106/31st July

IN

From A.S. Malta.

**MOST SECRET**Page 1 of 8.42.  
Recd. 0655.~~NEW J. CENTER (X D) BY W/T~~Addressed Admiralty. Repeated C.in C. Mediterranean,  
V.A.M. *Malta Dockyard.*

680. My 1701/14/4.

The present situation is summarised briefly as follows:

No.1 Dock in use and has power supply and welding facilities.

No.2 Dock. Repairs to Caisson in hand. Hope soon to be able to pump out. Pumping serviceable.

No.3 Dock. Work almost completed making Caisson watertight. Will then pump out and put Coral and Lighter in hand. Pumping serviceable.

No.5 Dock. Intend attempting to repair breach in Dock wall with steel piles driven in puddle clay backing. Should this prove successful Dock would be available. One pump serviceable.

2. Restoration of electric power and light progressing satisfactorily and sufficient machines, etc., are in operation to meet current requirements. Installation of supply cables led through excavated rock passage is proceeding and will obviate much damage when next blitz comes. Restoration of power and light to Armament depot, St. Angelo, Rinella, etc., is limited and no restoration of H T supplies has yet been possible owing to extent of damage. Many motors for driving machine tools have been repaired and others are in hand. Installation of limited number of supply and telephone cables are proceeding steadily but slowly.

3. No.1 ship fitting shop power restored and in limited operation. Saw Mills, though to outward appearance a wreck, is in limited operation and will expand. The dangerous portions of structure have been removed leaving a vast tangle of girders, wood flooring, etc., overhead. Some machines have been repaired and are in use with power, others are under repair and a few remain yet to be dug out of the debris. Some machines from Joiners shop and Smithery have been salvaged and repaired and more are in hand. The former have been set up in extempore sheds and the latter on original site. All these are in use. Other shops are similarly progressing.

4. Underground Compressor and Oxygen plant in full operation. Compressed air available in Nos. 4 and 5 Docks and factory area. Being extended to No.1 Dock. Underground tool room, gun mounting and fitting shops in full operation. Underground drawing Office in use. Underground foundry and coppersmiths shop erection of plant proceeding. Boiler work proceeding with limited output. Tube Shop, welding shop and temporary smithery in full operation. Many damaged machines have been repaired and others in hand. Eight fixed and travelling cranes restored to operation.

5. The Extempore mains, Yard machinery and telephone workshops near 'A' Substation and main Electrical shop in frequency changes and switch gear vaults are in full operation.

6./

960<sup>B</sup>

6. Recovery of Naval Stores proceeding very satisfactorily. Boxol and two barges have been repaired, one of the latter now reserved for Diesel damage to exposed oil fuel pipe line system repaired and system in operation.

7. Armament Depot has light and limited 440 volts D C power. One two ton Derrick and two one and a half ton hand cranes operable. Road and single rail facilities restored. All workshops functioning in improvised accommodation without machinery. Above ground stores and laboratory in partial use. Recovery of buried material progressing. 18 Lighters now in service.

1106/31.

1st Lord		
1st S.L. (2)		
Controller	Dep. Controller	} Bath by Courier
Vice Controller	D. of D.	
4th S.L.	D. of V.	
V.C.N.S.	D.N.O.	
A.C.N.S. (F) (2)	D.A.S.	
A.C.N.S. (T)	C.E. in C.	
A.C.N.S. (W)	D.E.E.	
Civil Lord	Hd. of S.W.R.	
Parl. Sec.		
Sec.		
Nav. Sec.		
Fin. Sec.		
N.A. 1st S.L.		
P.A.S. (S)		
N.A. to A.C.N. S. (T)		
P.A.S. (O)		
A.S. (C)		
A.S. (C L)		
D.C. (2)		
D.O.D. (F) (2)		
D.D.I.C. (2)		
D.N.I. (4)		
D. of P. (2)		
D. of L.D.		
D. of D.		
D. of V.		
D. of S.		
D.N.O.		
D.A.S.		
D.S.D.		
Hd. of M. (3)		
I.P. (2)		
W.D.		

DIC

War Diary.

31.7.1942  
Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean - contd.

- Liberators. Your 1254/27 para 2. (1256/27 intended)  
(A) Very limited opportunities so far due to  
absence of submarines from patrol after  
"vigorous" but every reason to expect  
good result. (B) Yes. (C) Yes.  
(C. in C. Med. 1419C/31 to Admty.)
- OLYMPUS Your 1760B/13 (1706/30 intended) OLYMPUS  
RADWINTER. arrived 29th RADWINTER arrived 31st. Both  
delayed by exceptionally heavy weather.  
(S.O.(I) Aden 1503Z/31 to Admty.)
- Enemy M.V. Aircraft report one Merchant ship, one  
& destroyer. Destroyer P.C. and S. 034° 37' (737') 022° 10'  
220° 8 at 1455/31.  
(S.O. S/Ms Alexandria 1654C/31 to THORN.)  
My 1654/31. Air striking force at about 0100/1.  
Flares may be used.  
(S.O.(S) Alexandria 1914C/31 to THORN.)
- C.S.R. 30th. 1356 hours 6 enemy fighters crossed coast  
Malta 31/7. great height. Partial R.D.F. interference and  
inadequate R.D.F. warning. 4 Spitfires on  
protective patrol over captured Cant 506 saw  
nothing.  
1626 hours 3 Me.109s approached to within 15 miles of Malta  
partial R.D.F. interference. 4 Spitfires airborne but Me.109s  
turned back without approaching coast.  
1943 hours 4 Ju.88s approached 2 crossed coast. In spite of  
partial R.D.F. interference one Ju.88 destroyed by Beaufighters  
before bombs dropped. Bombs from other Ju.88 caused civilian  
damage and casualties.  
31st. 1 alert. 0410, 0535, 0730 hours total 12 Spitfires up  
raids turned back before reaching Malta.  
0826 hours fighter sweep six Me.109s crossed coast great  
height 8 Spitfires up. No R.D.F. interference but Spitfires  
had insufficient height for interception, one Me.109 destroyed  
by Spitfire up on test flight.  
1020 hours 4 Spitfires up raid turned back before reaching  
Malta.  
(H.Q. R.A.F. Malta 1810/31.)
- UNA. V.A. Malta 1131/28. E.T.A. 1001B/2/8.  
(UNA 2146B/31 Capt.(S) 10.)



962

War Diary.

31.7.1942.  
Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

W/T at  
Lourenco  
Marques.

Your 0936/19. Foreign Office have agreed provided that Consul General has no local objections.  
(M. Branch, 1417B/31 to C. in C. E.F., (R)  
C. in C. S.A.)

Scuttling.

Following received from A.C.N.B. begins. In order to prevent Allied shipping falling into enemy hands it is for consideration whether a change of policy from that in D.M.S. Part One Para. 62 and A.M.S.I. 178 should be promulgated regarding scuttling of merchant ships when capture appears imminent in Indian Ocean. Ends.  
Consider D.M.S. Part One Para. 62 and A.M.S.I. 178 should remain in force for Atlantic when captured vessels have to run the gauntlet before reaching Germany but in view of the comparative ease with which those captured in the Indian Ocean can be got back to Japan or Japanese possessions it is suggested that amendment for the area desirable.  
(Dep. C. in C. E.F., 1816Z/31 to Admty.)

War Diary.

31.7.1942.  
Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies.

O.N.113 23 ships. C.O.A.C.s 2109/30 (N.T. in W.R.)  
Estimated 7 hours early. P.C. and S. at 0001Z/  
31 043° 18' N., 065° 14' W., (A) 223° 10' alter  
to 259° at 0400Z/31. QUINTE and BADDECK in  
company. Weather report.  
(C.T.U., 0026Z/31 to Commander 1st U.S. Naval  
District Boston. C.E.S.F. Connav (R) C.T.F.24  
Admty etc).

Escort of Tankers. Your 1608Z/29. Please see C. in C. U.S. Fleet's  
2145/28.

2. We are awaiting recommendations as a result  
of conference to be held in Washington on 1/8.  
(D.T.D. 0109B/31 to N.S.H.Q.)

Your 0109/31. Details of H.A. A.H. organisation during  
August is not affected by conference. Cominch 2145/28 refers.  
2. Recommend to use mid ocean group forthwith for at least  
one round trip with unlimited numbers, bringing back from Aruba,  
Curacao, all ships taken down plus other ships ready.

3. Presume the 6 Canadian Corvettes will continue existing  
service until such time as they are required for new duties  
as decided by conference.

(B.A.D., 2253Z/31 to Admty (R) N.S.H.Q., C. in C. W.A.,  
F.O.N.F., C.O.A.C.)

U/B Campaign. Connav Serial 30. Ref. Alusna NR 29th  
MARYMAR and AGWISTAR both arrived U.S. Atlantic  
Coast. WEIRBANK British torpedoed 27/7 12.00 N.  
58.00 W. PACIFIC PIONEER British torpedoed sunk  
in convoy O.N.113 29/7 43.30 N., 60.35 W., TELCOVEON (?TELAMON)  
Du. torpedoed sunk 09.15 N., 59.54 W. 24/7.  
(Connav, 0300/31 to Comnav (R) N.S.H.Q. etc).

?U/B C.T.U. 2307Z/30 53.00 N., 36.30 W., kc/s 4540,  
ENIGMA. 10 Group. Origin 2306Z. Position  
uncertain.  
(C. in C. U.S. Fleet, 0449/31 to C.T.U., 24.1.13  
C.T.U. 24.1.17, C.T.U., 24.1.14 C. in C. U.S.  
Atlantic Fleet, N.S.H.Q., C.O.A.C., F.O.N.F.)

U/Bs Sighting reports continue. Latest at 0444Z/31  
on 4796 kc/s vicinity of 50.30 N., 38.00 W.  
(C. in C. U.S. Fleet, 0710/31 to C.T.U., 24.1.13  
(R) C.T.U. 24.1.17 C.T.U. 24.1.14 C.T.F.24,  
Admty C. in C. U.S. Atlantic Fleet, N.S.H.Q.  
C.O.A.C.)

My 0710/31. Further bearing at 0444Z/31 changed position to  
53.00 N., 32.30 W. Another at 0710/31 in same locality. Another  
at 0732Z/31 in vicinity 52.00 N., 29.00 W.  
(C. in C. U.S. Fleet, 0938/31 to C.T.U. No. 24.1.14 (R)  
C.T.U. 24.1.13, C.T.U. 24.1.17, C.T. 24, C.O.A.C., Admty,  
C. in C. Atlantic Fleet (U.S.) (?N.S.H.Q.)

964

War Diary.31.7.1942.  
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America & West Indies. - Contd.

- L.27 F.O.S.1124/17 which is being passed to you. Request you will issue route for L.27 to 30° W. (C. in C. W.A., 1007B/31 to C.O.A.C. (R) Admty F.O.S., S.7).
- F.O.S. 1124/17 and C. in C. W.A. 1007/31 being ? passed to you. Request you will take necessary action. (C.O.A.C., 1115Z/31 to F.O.N.F. (R) Admty C. in C. W.A., F.O.S., Capt. (S) 7).
- U.S. Minefields. Your 1349Z/27/6 last sentence. Information relating to U.S. minefields which has been made public should when necessary be promulgated by W message. (Hydrographer 1227B/31 to N.S.H.Q.)
- ST. FRANCIS defect. ST. FRANCIS returning with defective generator. Requires new armature. (C.T.G. 24.7., 1229Z/31 to F.O.N.F. (R) ST. FRANCIS).
- Mines, St. Lucia. Mines located St. Lucia. Vessels must not enter harbour St. Lucia without prior approval from Commander Caribbean Sea Frontier. (C.C.S.F., 1229Z/31 to B.A.M.S. Area 2B).
- O.N.115 (1) AGASSIZ sailed St. Johns N.F. 1330Z/31 to join before dark 1/8 to provide additional cover to Halifax.
- (2) Western local escort T.U. 24.18.3 VERITY (S.O.) WITCH, HAMILTON, RIMOUSKI, LA MALBAIE sails St. Johns 1030Z/2 to join in 044° 13' N., 050° 41' W., at 0800Z/3. (F.O.N.F., 1234Z/31 to C.T.U. 24.1.13 (R) C.O.A.C., C.T.24., N.S.H.Q., Admty Connav).  
My 1234Z/31. para. (II). In view of Connav's 1510/31. Task Unit 24.18.3 will now sail at 1430Z/2 to join in 044° 12' N., 050° 45' W., at 1200Z/3/8. (F.O.N.F., 1828Z/31 to C.T.U. 24.1.13).  
F.O.N.F.'s 1243Z/31 (?1234Z intended) SAGUENAY and SKEENA will have to leave O.N.115 on night 1/8 due to shortage of fuel. P.C. and S. 48.(?26) N., 39.13 W.
- (a) 202° 9.5 knots at 2330Z/31. Weather report. (?C.T.U., 24.1.13 1959Z/31 to C.T.F. 24., (R) Opnav, Admty. C. in C. W.A., N.S.H.Q. F.O.N.F., C.O.A.C., C.T.G. 24.7).  
My P.C. and S. 048° 45' N., 038° 46' W., D/R 263° 14 knots proceeding direct to St. Johns N.F. WETASKIWIN rejoining convoy by 0600Z/1. Weather report. (SKEENA 2301Z/31 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., C.T.U. 24.1.13). *S - 10 942.*

965

War Diary.

31.7.1942.  
Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies - Contd.

Vesca  
Reports to  
Connav  
and  
N.S.H.Q.

(1) Your 1822/2/7. Duplication of reports to Connav and N.S.H.Q. is imposing additional strain on already overloaded communication system and we are most anxious to discontinue reports to Ottawa area by area as soon as practicable.  
(2) Request information if Vescas and Route Signals (where applicable) from each of following areas are now being received satisfactorily and if not in what respects they are deficient.  
(a) Mediterranean Station, Red Sea Section only, Suez to Aden inclusive. (25/4). (b) Freetown Intelligence Area (22/6) (c) Capetown Intelligence Area (22/6) (d) Melbourne Intelligence Area (22/6) (e) Wellington Intelligence Area (22/6) (f) Gibraltar and Spanish Ports (10/7).  
(3) Dates shown in brackets indicate approx. dates on which direct reports to Connav commenced.  
(D.T.D. 1243B/31 to Connav C & R. (R) N.S.H.Q. B.A.D.).

U/B.                    1 S/M 43° 02' N. 64° 52' W.  
(Halifax T.H.I. 1255/31 to Admty.).

Estimated  
U/B  
Positions

In order to enhance value of daily S/M estimates from Cominch following system of indicating accuracy of various S/M radio D/F positions is established. When used in describing a D/F fix.  
(a) At mean within 20 miles of position given.  
(b) near within 40 miles. (c) vicinity within 75 miles. (d) locality within 150 miles. (e) uncertain or poor over 150 miles radius. Unless otherwise indicated all S/M positions (? are at) 1200Z. The term "One by D/F" means that the position and time as received is being used. The term "One homebound 40 N. 60 W. from D/F at 0630Z/11th" means that the position given is the 1200Z position and the sub. has been estimated ahead from D/F fix at time supplied. When sub. is given an accurate position and time group it indicates that the position and time is that of a sighting, contact or attack as received. The term "1 westbound 38 N. 40 W. from sighting or attack at 0520Z/15th" means that sub. has been advancing to 1200Z position from indicated sighting or attack. All Sea Frontier Commanders are expected to insure that all subordinates who need to know receive pertinent parts of sub. estimate.  
(Cominch 1428Z/31, to All Commands Atlantic Area interested in S/M position reports (R) All Navy Districts, Atlantic).

TRIGLAV,  
departures  
from Lobito.

Request that departures vessels from Lobito for area U.S. control be passed direct to Connav as well as Ottawa. Although routeing of TRIGLAV (Y.S.) had been received there had been no indications departure Lobito until receipt N.S.H.Q. Ottawa 2109Z/23 reporting vessel overdue. Vessel should have been diverted to Trinidad.  
(Connav 1442/31 to Admty (R) N.S.H.Q.).

Your 1442/31. TRIGLAV movements took place before date on which direct reporting to Connav commenced from Capetown Intelligence Area. 2. Regret Lobito did not report departure on 19/6 to N.S.H.Q. Ottawa by Vesca.  
(D.T.D. 1714B/1 to Connav).

/U/B.....

966

War Diary.31.7.1942.  
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America & West Indies -Contd.

- U/B. Submarine sighted Z3 (?23) miles North of Bocas de Ceniza Barranquilla 1130/30 course W, U.S. authorities informed.  
(S.O.(I) Jamaica 1508R/31 to Ottawa B.A.D., F.O.C. Trinidad, Admty.).
- SAINTONGE. Your 1915/9 (ships due Trinidad 12th, 18th, 17th, 29th July) SAINTONGE, British, has not arrived.  
(B.R.O. Trinidad 1536Q/31 to Admty (R) S.B.N.O.W.A. etc.).  
Master of GREYSTONE CASTLE reports having picked up at 1613 G.M.T./22 following faint message not repeated from ship or shore station 17953 - - - TONG. 11° 30' N. 23° 04' W. - - Pedroed (Ends). Suggest may be SAINTONGE due Trinidad 29/7 not arrived.  
(F.O.I.C. Trinidad 1622Q/31 to Admty).  
W.D.Note. SAINTONGE returned to Lagos 14/7 - see S.O.(I) Freetown, 1240Z/3/8.
- AGWISTAR. Ref.2044/24 Kingston Jamaica AGWISTAR (U.S.) arrived Norfolk 27th.  
(N.S.H.Q. Ottawa 1548Z/31).
- GIL EANES. My 1751/6/6 GIL EANES now off St.Johns N.F. urgently requires water and provisions for assistance of Charlottetown fleet Greenland waters. Portuguese Consul St.Johns N.F. informed Charlottetown Guild that authorities St.Johns N.F. have agreed to offer facilities. In view of objection to use of St.Johns N.F. I have suggested she should enter Bulls Bay until confirmation received she may enter St.Johns N.F.  
(N.A.Lisbon 1627B/31 to Admty),
- A.T.18. Sail convoy A.T. 18 to U.K. via Halifax and ocean route. (R) 044° 30' N. 059° 55' W. (S) 046° 20' N. 052° 20' W. (T) 052° 15' N. 044° 30' W. (U) 055° 50' N. 032° 45' W. (V) 056° 45' N. 019° 40' W. (W) 056° 05' N. 008° 44' W. Momp. 056° 45' N. 019° 30' W. at 0915Z/15/8. Com 3 pass to Port Director New York.  
(Connav, 1642/31, to Port Director, New York, (R) C. in C. Atlantic Fleet, C.T.24. C.E.S.F.Cmdr. 1st U.S. Naval District, Boston, Admty, N.S.H.Q. C.O.A.C. C.C.N.F.).
- Norwegian P.C.Boat. C. in C.Royal Norwegian Navy informs me one American P.C. boat has been taken over from U.S.Navy. He proposes if Admty and N.S.H.Q. approve that she should be employed on Escort duty out of Halifax in group with R.N.N.S. LINCOLN.  
(C.C.C.S. 1650B/31 to N.S.H.Q. (R) C.O.A.C. Admty, C. in C.R.N.N.).

/BROOMPARK.....

967

War Diary.31.7.1942.  
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America & West Indies - Contd.

BROOMPARK.. My 1655/29. Tug FOUNDATION FRANKLIN sailed St. Johns 0300Z/31 to assist U.S. Tug CHEROKEE with BROOMPARK now listing 26°. Working party and pumps on board.  
(F.O.N.F. 1655Z/31 to Admty (R) C.T.F. 24, C.O.A.C, N.S.H.Q.)

Reporting W.I.M.R.I amendment No.223. New para.53. W/T  
by report to be made by merchant ships.  
Merchant "(1) Masters of independently sailed British managed  
Ships. ships bound for U.K, including those dispersing or separating for any reason from convoy, are to be instructed that, whether or not fitted with H/F transmission they are to report their position on crossing 018° W. in form laid down C.A.M.S.I.52 or in case of ship dispersing or separating (?from) convoy, by reference to A letter position on Standard route (a) the message is to be made in P/L and is to be contained in preamble the passing instruction 'pass to Admiralty and Admiral Liverpool', also in P/L. No other passing instructions are to be included. (b) In addition, to facilitate an escort and port arrangements, such ships whether or not fitted with H/F transmitter are to signal their position on crossing 008° W., followed by their estimated time of arrival at Clyde Boom, Liverpool Bar Light Vessel or Belfast as case may be. Time of arrival only, not destination, is to be signalled. This message is to be made in S.P. 2405 recoded by S.P. 02272 series. Passing instructions "Pass to Admiralty and Admiral Liverpool" to be inserted in preamble in P/L.  
(2) Master of all British managed ships bound Freetown or Gibraltar from Gulf of Mexico or Caribbean Sea are to be instructed.  
(a) if fitted with H/F transmission, to report their position in accordance with Admiralty message 2252 /27th in the night after crossing 026° West or  
(b) if not fitted with H.F. transmitter, and if not already met by an escort, to report their position (i) if bound for Freetown, on crossing 022° West or (ii) if bound for Gibraltar, on crossing 015° West."  
(C. in C.A.W.I. 1703B/31 to A.I.G. 129, 130, (R) Admty. B.A.D.).

S/M This is C. in C.U.S.Fleet 1557/31, action Lantfleet,  
Notices. Seafrontant, Naval districts 1, 3, 4,5 6, 7, 8. 10 and 15, information Admty N.S.H.Q., F.O.N.F., C.O.A.C., S.B.N.O. W.A. Commencing 5/8, C. in C.U.S Fleet will include U.S. and Allied Nation Submarine notices for Atlantic promulgated in accordance with para 3 0 2 B S/M sanctuaries and notices in C. in C.U.S.Fleet daily S/M estimate. Timely movements information direct to C. in C.U.S.Fleet from Officers originating S/M movements will be required. Para 3 0 2 A C D and E S/M sanctuaries and S/M notices remain in effect during trial of NYM (As received) system in Atlantic.  
(C. in C.U.S.Fleet 1705Z/31 to Admty etc.).

/Bunkers.....

968

War Diary.

31.7.1942.

Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America & West Indies. - Contd.

Bunkers Brazil. Your 1617Z/29 has been referred to M of W.T. as a matter of urgency. (D.T.D. 1729B/31 to N.S.H.Q.).

U/B. U-Boat estimated in your vicinity by D/F has made sighting report of a convoy or important unit at 1635Z/31. (C. in C.U.S.Fleet 1740/31 to C.T.U.24.18.4. C.T.U.24.18.7. (R) C.T.24, C.E.S.F., C. in C.Atlantic Fleet (U.S.) Admty, C.O.A.C. C.C.N.F., N.S.H.Q.).

O.N.115. My 1234Z/31st 71 (2). In view of Connav's 1510 31st T.U.24.18.3. will now sail at 1430Z/2nd to join in 044° 12' N. 050° 45' W. at 1200Z/3/8. (F.O.N.F. 1828Z/31 to C.T.U. 24.1.13).  
U-Boat estimated your vicinity by D/F has made sighting report of a convoy or important unit at 1557Z/31st. (C. in C.U.S.Fleet, 1834/31 to C.T.U.24.1.3. (R) C.T.24, C. in C.Atlantic Fleet, C.O.A.C., N.S.H.Q. F.O.N.F. Admty.).

Ice Bulletin 31/7. Newfoundland and Greenland Areas. (Halifax 2021/31).

Explosion at Port Castries Harbour. 29/7 My 1517 expert is of opinion explosion due to Acoustic Mine. Weather permitting divers will examine area tomorrow - meanwhile port is temporarily closed to ships under power. (B.R.O. St Lucia 2031Q/31 to B.S.N.O.W.A.).

S/M Attack and sighting Summary. ROBERT E.LEE torpedoed and sunk 28.40 N. 88.42.W. 2142Z/30. S/M reported attacked approx. 10.57 N. 60.47 W. 1435Z/29. Plane attacks S/M 61.45. N. 13.15. W. 0623Z/30. Surface craft attacks S/M contact 48.56 N. 49.50 W. about 2200Z/30. Plane sights S/M on surface 35. 30 N. 74.25 W. 2345 Z/30. Surface craft attacks propeller sound contact 32.39 N. 79. 50 W. 2200Z/30. Plane reports sighting S/M 28.25 N. 80.20 W. 1740Z/30. Surface craft attacks S/M 34.24 N. 76.03 W. 2250Z/30. Sighting about 0600Z/31 used in estimate before correction received changing position to 49.59 N. 36.36.W. (C. in C.U.S.Fleet 2051/31 to Admty for O.I.C.).

Expediting movements of tankers. C. in C.Western Approaches 2055Z/31. See Home Commands.

FERDINAND BOL. NORSE KING. FERDINAND BOL(Du.) sunk by collision with NORSE KING (Nor.) 45.21 N. 59.28 W. in convoy H.S.35 on 30/7. (N.S.H.Q. Ottawa 2124Z/31).

/ROBERT E LEE....

969

War Diary.31.7.1942.  
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America & West Indies - Contd.

ROBERT E LEE. BARBACENA. Cannav Serial 31. ROBERT E LEE U.S. torpedoed sunk 30/7 028° 40' N. 088° 42' W. 4 dead 19 missing, 381 rescued. Ship was escorted. BARBACENA, Brazilian torpedoed sunk 28/7 013° 10' N. 056° 00' W. (Connav 2121/31 to Comnav (R) N.S.H.Q.etc).

Midway Is. Battle. Further to my 1915/28. Personal for 1st S.L. C. in C. Pacific Fleet's covering report has now been received and will be forwarded to Admiralty. Additional remarks and recommendations from this report are forwarded herewith.

(2) 6 T.B.F. one (All that were available) attacked 2 enemy carriers in conjunction with 4 B 26s also armed with torpedoes. 5 were shot down and the 6th badly shot up. C. in C. Pacific Fleet remarks "Although the T.B.F is a well armed plane it is obvious it cannot go through fighter opposition without fighter protection."

(3) U.S.A/C Carrier YORKTOWN before being attacked drained her petrol system and filled it with CO2 and had no petrol fire although badly damaged.

(4) C. in C. Pacific Fleet recommends immediate adoption by U.S. Army and Navy of British system of lettered co-ordinate S.P. 02274.

(5) C. in C. Pacific Fleet reports that the A.A. fire of screen was again very effective against torpedo A/C. We are endeavouring to ascertain what screening diagram was in use at time.

(6) He again asked for V H F. for fighters. (B.A.D. 2145Z/31 to Admty, C. in C.E.F.).

A/C  
attack  
on U/B.

A/C attacked S/M at 2143Z/31, 42° 17' N. 66° 43' W.  
(C.O.A.C. 2150Z/31).

QUEEN  
ELIZABETH  
RAMILLIES.

Your 1438/26. In view of scarcity of destroyer escorts U.S. Authorities would prefer H.M.S. QUEEN ELIZABETH and RAMILLIES to proceed in company. 2. In view of U-Boat situation and difficulty of providing escorts in Southern area they would also prefer them to avoid Trinidad-Caribbean approach to U.S. coast and suggest ships should proceed from Freetown to Bermuda, being met by a U.S. escort in 40° W. who would take them via Bermuda to destination.

(B.A.D. 2155Z/31 to Admty. (R) C. in C.S.A. R.A.W.A.F. S.B.N.O. W.A.).

ATHENE.  
Martlets  
for E.F.

Admty 1312/27. C. in C.U.S. Fleet will not agree to ferrying these A/C to Santos and is unable to supply a special escort for ATHENE. 2. Alternative appears to be: (a) Sailing ATHENE unescorted to San Juan (b) Sail ATHENE to Freetown to join movement envisaged in para. 2. b. of Admty. 1438/26. (c) sailing ATHENE (group missing) in (a) and ENGADINE to join up with movement referred to in (b).

/(c)....



970

War Diary.31.7.1942.  
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America & West Indies.

ATHENE,  
Martlets  
for  
E.F.  
Contd. (c) Latter alternative is recommended as transport of Martlets to Far East as quickly as possible and also helping to ease a potential shipping bottleneck in September.  
F.O.Ceylon pass to Comnas E.T.  
(B.A.D.2251Z/31 to Admty. C. in C.E.F.(R) C. in C. S.A. Comnas E.T.).

O.N.113. (?Returned to) ships. Dispersed position Y. at 2245Z/31.  
(C.T.U. 24.18.7. 2247Z/31 to A.I.G.301? Com.1st U.S.Naval District Boston C.E.S.F.(R) Capt.(D) Halifax).

U/Bs. D/F bearings at 1818Z and 1955Z indicate one or two U/Boats in area within 90 miles of 50° N.38° W. (D.D.I.C.2259B/31 to Escorts O.N.115, Cominch, N.S.H.Q., (R) C. in C.W.A.H.Q.C.C.).

P.556. Left Bermuda at 2245Z/31 in accordance with my 2032Z/30th. Last Q.K. Message held No.64.  
(S.B.N.O.W.A. 2302Z/31 to Admty.(R) N.S.H.Q. Ottawa.B.A.D. C. in C.U.S.Fleet, C. in C.Atlantic Fleet, F.O.C.N.A. F.O.(S) S.O.(I) Jamaica, P.556.)

U/B Menajice and Shipping Routes. M.A.R.I. Sec.1 Para.9. The presence of U.Bs in and on passage to Freetown area suggests desirability of adjusting present Chop line in this area to enable the controlling authority to divert ships entering the area in sufficient time to avoid danger. Therefore proposed for your consideration that Chop line in this vicinity should coincide with dividing line between B.A.M.S. areas 3A and 2B, namely, direct from position X (20° N. 40° W.) to position Y (00° 35' N.26° 00'W). This would simplify routeing of diversion signals to ships in the triangular area between existing and proposed Chop lines and would lessen risk of route signals from Freetown being received by you after ship had entered your area.  
2. If you concur we would also propose to cancel the exceptions referred to in sub. paras.4 and 5 of para.9 and to amend sub. para.3 to conform with new Chop line as suggested above.  
(D.T.D. 2305B/31 to Connav (R) B.A.D.).

971

War Diary.31.7.1942.  
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Australia and New Zealand.BURNIE  
TOOWOOMBA  
BALLARAT.

My 1200Z/23/6. On completion of refit about mid-August BURNIE is to be sailed to Kilindini. TOOWOOMBA who is recommissioning will proceed at later date.

(A.C.N.B. 0401Z/31 to N.O.I.C. Fremantle (R) C. in C.E.F. D.C. in C.E.F., C. in C.E.I. D.N.O. South Australia, Port Adelaide, TOOWOOMBA, BURNIE).

My 1200Z/23/6 Owing to defects TOOWOOMBA will not depart for Eastern Fleet for about one month. (?BALLARAT) will sail on completion of present refit about mid-August for (?Kilindini).

(A.C.N.B. 0419Z/31 to Admty (R) C. in C.E.F. D.C. in C.E.F. C. in C.E.I. F.O.C.R.I.N.).

"Schooner B" Convoy "Schooner B" sailed 0730Z/30 consisting of DEVONSHIRE, RAJULA, WESTERNLAND, ARONDA, CLAN MACDONALD, EKMA, for Melbourne. E.T.A. 0600Z/7/8. CREMER, and VAN HEUTSZ for Port Pirie, E.T.A. 7/8. (CC.F. 0750Z/31, to Admty.)

Digest  
Serial No.  
190. July  
30th.

Sightings 30/7 indicate no increase enemy forces Buna Gona Area. Vessel hit 0680Z/29th my serial 189 Para 3 now believed Merchant Vessel and observed morning 30/7.

(2) Eight Fortresses attacked one Destroyer one Merchant Vessel 07° S. 148° 45' E. 0800Z/30.

Five direct hits on Merchant Vessel which took fire.

(3) Enemy reported landed Katuna (10 miles North Gona) from six launches 29/7.

(4) Photos show 4 vessels Kavieng area reported as destroyers my serial No. 189 Para. 4 actually light Cruisers. Four vessels probably same units and one medium Merchant Vessel reported in Kavieng Area Recc. 30/7.

(5) Indications enemy submarines operating Eastern Approaches Bass Strait morning 30/7.

(6) Floating mine reported 30° 03' S. 101° 30' E. 0900Z/24th.

(7) Reliable report indicates Oil Wells Miri (Borneo) productive.

(8) Three heavy bombers attacked Seven Mile Aerodrome, Moresby 1700Z/29th without effect.

(9) 27 Heavy Bombers escorted by 22 Zeros attacked Darwin 0140Z/30 scoring hits on cables and water main and destroying two Fuel Dumps. Interception by 36 Kittyhawks 7 Zeros two Bombers reported destroyed.

(10) 9 heavy bombers attacked aerodrome at Hedland (W.A.) 2300Z/29. Runway slightly damaged.

(11) Beach Florida Island opposite Gavutu reported base for seven Zeros two Twin Engine Biplane Float planes engaged on patrols.

(G.H.Q. S.W.P.A. 0840Z/31).

/Pacific....

972

31.7.1942.  
Friday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.Australia & New Zealand - Contd.

No. 304

Pacific Islands Evacuation. I see very strong objections to policy of evacuation of British officers from Islands of Western Pacific High Commission. I need not enlarge to you on figure we cut before the world and natives if we clear out in face of danger. We may lose some officers but that cannot be helped. Officers themselves are strongly opposed to leaving and there is no doubt that Marchant in Solomon Islands, Holland in Gilbert Islands and other similar cases have had admirable effect on morale. I propose therefore, as general rule, no more evacuation and return to place of duty whenever possible.  
(High Commr. Western Pacific No. T.O.O. to S. of S.. Recd. 1005/31).

Troops for M.E. My 1102Z/27 and Admty 1932B/30 Australian reinforcements increased by 2,000. Total A.I.F. and N.Z.E.F. now 4,500.  
(2) Propose using ARONDA and RAJULA in addition to DEVONSHIRE, do you concur?  
(3) Ref. para. 3. my 2102Z/27 foregoing will delay sailing from Melbourne until about 15/8.  
(A.C.N.B. 1006Z/31 to Admty. etc).

STIRLING CASTLE. Your 1015C/27. Request total number of personnel on board STIRLING CASTLE for New Zealand.  
(2) Anticipated arrival Melbourne 14/8.  
(3) Request D. of S.T. message re future employment of STIRLING CASTLE.  
(A.C.N.B. 1106Z/31 to S.S.T.O. Durban (R) N.Z.N.B. D. of S.T.).

Movements. CHEVREUIL and CAP DES PALMES departed Sydney (N.S.W.) 0755Z/30th for Noumea. U.S. Seaplane tender WILLIAM B. PRESTON arrived Exmouth Gulf A.M. 29th, and U.S. Seaplane Tender HERON departed 0700Z/29th for Fremantle. ARUNTA arrived Brisbane 1210Z/30th. LITHGOW arrived Thursday Is. 1000Z/29th and departed 1820Z/29th for Darwin. MORESBY departed Newcastle 2128Z/29th for Melbourne. DOOMBA departed Melbourne 0641Z/29th for Newcastle. Arrivals Melbourne 2217Z/30th U.S. Ship OTUS. Departures. Sydney (N.S.W.) 2102Z/30th. GEELONG and WHYALLA for (?Bisbane).  
(A.C.N.B. 1653Z/31).

U-Boat Campaign.Submarines Reported.

Approximate positions of U/Boats.  
(D.D.I.C. 1431B/31, 1433B/31.).