

War Diary.16.8.1942.
Sunday.SITUATION REPORT.Mediterranean.Operation
"Pedestal".

US. Consul, Tunis, reports that 39 officers and 523 men of MANCHESTER are interned at Bon Fichta. 87 officers and men of SS. GLENORCHY are also interned there - her Captain and 1st. Officer are missing.

Preliminary estimates show that fleet fighters of Force F shot down at least 39 of the enemy and probably several more. A/A apparently shot down at least 17. Eight of our own aircraft were shot down. (The final total was 66 enemy aircraft destroyed during the operation.)

Destroyer
Striking
Force.

V.A. Malta and C. in C. Med. wish to maintain a destroyer striking force at Malta to operate against the Libyan convoys now that F.A.A. striking force is practically non-existent. In the first instance it is proposed that PENN, LEDBURY and BRAMHAM should be retained at Malta for this purpose, the Hunts to be relieved before the winter and the strength of the force to be eventually 2 Penelope Class cruisers, 2 Tribals and 2 other destroyers. The Admiralty, however, stated that ships for the purpose could not be spared at present.

Tobruk and Matruh harbours were bombed last night; a ship and a lighter are reported to have been hit in Tobruk and a F-Boat at Matruh.

Aircraft attacked 7 enemy transport barges in 32.00 N, 25.24 E at 0630, estimating 2 hits, and again at 0710, estimating 1 hit.

The convoy attacked yesterday evening south-west of Crete by Liberators was attacked again last night by Wellingtons who report one hit followed by a violent explosion.

Australia.

Eight Hudsons attacked Beco (Timor) at 0955Z today. Large fires were seen before the attack.

Twenty four enemy bombers attacked Seven Mile Aerodrome, Port Moresby at 2320Z today and caused some damage.

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HOME COMMANDS.

Policy.

10th C.S. The tenth cruiser Squadron will be administered by F.O. 18th C.S. until further orders.
(C. in C. H.F. 1955A/16.)

CURAÇOA. On completion of present escort duty CURAÇOA is to join Irish sea escort force under operational control of F.O.I.C. Belfast.
(C. in C. W.A. 2242A/16.) *See next page - (A.T. 18)*

Defence of U.K.

Lerwick A/A. In view of anticipated concentration of submarines at Lerwick next month and subsequently it is requested strong representation may be made to Fighter Command to increase H.A.A. guns to approved scale.
(A.C.O.S. 1210/16 to Admty.)

Movements.

H.33. My 0932/15. Code word "Diagram" sailed.
Z.5. (S.7, 0906A/16 to A.I.G. 220, 19 Group, C.C.)

L.27. Your 1403/15. (1) Adjust speed to R/V vicinity Barra Head a.m. 21st with escort as ordered by S.7. (2) H.Q.C.C. is requested to arrange: A. Total bombing restrictions 25 miles either side of line joining 56° 01' N. 22° 40' W. and 56° 30' N. 20° 01' W. from 1200A/16 to 0800A/17.
B. Submerged bombing restrictions 25 miles either side of lines joining 56° 30' N. 20° 01' W. and 57° 30' N. 15° 01' W. from 2200A/16 to 0500A/19 and 57° 30' N. 15° 01' W. and Barra Head from 0800A/18 to 1000A/21.
(F.O.S. 1101A/16 to L.27, repeated Admiralty, C. in C. Western Approaches, S.3, S.7, H.Q.C.C.)

JAMAICA. Sailed JAMAICA to comply A.M. 1347A/9* routed in accordance with C. in C. W.A. 1850A/15. Expected time of arrival anchorage 0800A/18. Code word "Princess".
(F.O.I.C. Greenock 1204A/16.)
* Limited Most Secret distribution (N.T. in W.D.)
JAMAICA 056° 18' 007° 50' to 061° 59' 020° 02' 20.
S.C.L.95 U.S. Destroyer SCHENCK, U.S. ship DUANE 060° 29' 024° 40' to Reykjavik 8.
(C. in C. W.A. 1333A/16.)

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War Diary.16.8.1942
Sunday.HOME COMMANDS.Movements - contd.Situation
report at
2000. A.T. 15.A.T. 18. Fleet Unit, U.S.S. C. F. HUGHES, H. P. JONES, H.M.S. *CURAGO, U.S. Destroyer PLUNKETT, U.S. Destroyers MAYO, NIBLACK, GLEAVES, MADISON, LANSDALE 056° 08' 009° 15' to 056° 05' 008° 45' thence North Channel 14.
(C. in C. W.A. 1323A/16.) * *Review page*

L. 27.

~~Your 1047A/15. P.C. and S. 054° 31' N. 030° 00' W. 071° 10', weather report.
(L. 27 1403Z/15 to F.O.(S) H.Q.C.C., C. in C. W.A. Capt (S) 7th Capt (S) 3rd, Admty.)~~
*Sum p. 490.*Operations.

P. 54.

P. 54 reports (A) patrol maintained approx. 6 miles off the coast in zone K.3 from 2250A. 10th to noon 12th. Weather during the night 10/11th heavy south east sea and swell much rain visibility varying one to 5 miles. Nothing seen or heard of main units. Shore light switched on between 2250/10 and 0300/11.
(B) At 1547/12 in 058° 37' N. 005° 30' E. sighted 3 northbound merchant ships escorted by one trawler. 1606/12 fired 4 torpedoes at 2 rear ships estimated 3000 and 5500 tons range 2500 yards. 3 explosions were heard and observation 18 minutes later revealed only one merchant ship. *GEORGE L.M. RUSSELL (Torp & Black T/sgt)*
(C) No anti-submarine surface or air patrol observed.
(F.O.(S) 1106A/16.)

F.S. MINERVE.

Left Lerwick 1145A/16 for patrol unescorted in K.2 & K.3. (route)
(S.O. S/Ms Lerwick 1149A/16.)Light forces
operation.Operation ordered in my 1643/15th is to be carried out tonight Sunday. Force is to proceed to Portsmouth on conclusion N.O.I.C. Dartmouth to report number of boats code word "Obstacle".
(2) C. in C. Portsmouth is requested to issue any orders required for return route.
(C. in C. Plymouth 1344A/16 to C. in C. Portsmouth, N.O.I.C. Dartmouth, (R) Admty., N.O.I.C. Portland)
C. in C. Plymouth's 1344A/16th. Force should enter by Needles Channel pass to eastward Q.Z.X.766 and entering search channel at N.3 buoy. N.3 buoy should not be passed before 0500/17th. Please inform force that GARTH and BERKELEY will be patrolling within 10 miles position 050° 20' N. 000° 30' W. One R.D/F trawler and two chasers will be patrolling near E.A.5 buoy.
(C. in C. Portsmouth 1627A/16 to N.O.I.C. Dartmouth (R) C. in C. Plymouth, N.O.I.C. Portland, Admty.)
→ Cancel my 1344A/16.
(C. in C. Plymouth 1829A/16.)

/A/S patrol ...

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Sunday.HOME COMMANDS.Operations - contd.

A/S patrol. LIDDESDALE is to be prepared to carry out A/S patrol 8 at 1500/18 with UREDD after arrival with F.N. 788. Orders and S.U.E.S. will be brought out by WOLSEY who will be exercising with you. (C. in C. Rosyth 1723A/16 to LIDDESDALE.)

Light Forces operation. Harwich 16th August, departure M.T.Bs 72, 34, 69. M.G.Bs 58, 64 and 65. (F.O.I.C. Harwich 2017A/16.)

STURGEON. Patrol report. 1548A/12 hit with 1 torpedo leading ship of 2 merchant ships escorted by 1 Trawler in 320° Lister 4 miles &c. (F.O.(S), 2136A/16)
See Lion Copy. *BOLTENHAGEN. (T.M.) & T.L.C. 7/12/42

British Air Operations.

Bombing restrictions. Request following surface bombing restrictions (A) 10 miles either side of line joining Dartmouth and Cap La Hague from 2130/16 to 2359/16. (B) In English Channel between 00° 45' W. and 02° 00' W. from 2359/16 to 0700/17. (C. in C. Plymouth 1347A/16 to H.Q.C.C.)
Cancel my 1347A/16.
(C. in C. Plymouth 1827A/16.)

Bomber Command Operations. Night 15/16 August. 8 Lancasters and 1 Stirling laid mines in enemy waters. (H.Q.B.C. 1400A/16.)

Operation "Knocker" (D) Operation "Knocker" completed today. (T.A.C. Prestwick 1933/16.)

Aircraft at Vaenga. Your 1945/15th. Request further spares be flown direct Vaenga to ensure adequate fighter protection may be available for operation E.U. (C. in C. H.F. 1936A/16 to Admty.)

Enemy Air Operations.

Jan Mayen. Jan Mayen reports Aircraft south of Island at 0700 and 0800/15. (A.C.I.C. 1029A/16.)

MOST SECRET

500A

MOST SECRET

2136A/16th August.
MESSAGE

IN

FROM: F.O. (S)

Date: 26.8.42.
Recd: 2343

NAVAL CYPHER A (1) BY T/F

Addressed: Admiralty C. in C. H.F. H.Q.C.C.

127. H.M.S. STURGEON reports

- (i) Passage to area uneventful
- (ii) whilst in area continuous merchant ship traffic courses 130 degs 310 degs passing close to EGERC and LISTER ships between 500 and 4000 tons in convoys of 2 or 3 mostly escorted by one trawler
- (iii) at 1140A 10th August in position 300 degs LISTER 13 miles one 2 - gun U-boat northbound escorted by DAHME type trawler.
- (iv) Camouflaged Mail Boat Type of ship possibly Flak ship passed northbound at 0905/10 whilst in above position.
- (v) Night of August 10th/11th Patrol within two miles of position 145 degs. Egero 11 miles visibility poor with heavy rainfall storm. Egero and Lister Light burning 2200 to 0230 approximately, seen intermittently.
- (vi) Night 11th/12th Patrol in vicinity 270 degs. Lister 5 miles moderate visibility up to 4 miles.
- (vii) 12th August at 1548A in position 320 degs. Lister 4 miles attacked and hit with 1(one) torpedo the leading ship of 2 merchant ships escorted by 1(one) Trawler course 125 degs. 8 knots 3500 tons. 3 torpedoes fired, Trawler counter attacked with 5 charges not close used form of Asdic. About 30 minutes later, Trawler seen in position of attack Hydrophone effect of 1(one) ship attacking heard fading to South East.
- (viii) No aircraft and anti-submarine surface patrol observed.
- (ix) 2 minesweepers seen working between Feisten and Egero and between Egero and Lister.

*BOLTENHAGEN. (Trawler)
with 1 Trawler

2136A/16.

Advance Copy D.C. D.C.D. (H) D.T.F

1st Lord
1st S.L. (2)
Dep. 1st S.L.
V.C.N.S.
A.C.N.S. (H)
A.C.N.S. (T)
A.C.N.S. (W)
Nav. Sec.
N.A. 1st S.L.
D.C.D. (H) (2)
D. of P. (2)

D.C. (2)
D.N.I. (4)
D.D.I.C. (2)
Hd. of M.
D.D.C.D. (M)
D.P.D.
D.A/S.W.
Ad. Blake
I.P. (3)
W.D.

MAG

War Diary.16.8.1942
Sunday.HOME COMMANDS.Mining.

Operations It is apparent from SCOTT's report of survey and
S.N.3 E. dip trials, conducted in area immediately to
S.N.3 F. South of the centre and Western end of S.N.3,
that these waters are entirely suitable for
mining with 500 fathom units.

B. 2 fields, as follows, are proposed to cover this area
(i) S.N.3 E. with centre line running from 059° 52' 48" N.
006° 32' 12" W; to position 059° 59' 18" N. 007° 14' 42" W.
and (ii) S.N.3 F. with centre line running from 059° 55' 48" N.
007° 18' 12" W. to position 060° 07' 24" N. 007° 48' 48" W.
C. Implement 2333 units to be laid in each field.
(R.A.(M) 1140A/16.)

Needles. Details of 5 mines detonated on 14/8.
(C. in C. Portsmouth 1125/16.)

Future R.A.(M) 1430/29/7 and your 1257/30 neither
operations. to A.C.O.S.
1. Concur that S.N.89 should be laid next.
2. It is however desired to reinforce S.N.65
and S.N.66 as soon as possible and to lay two fields in the
deep water south of S.N.3 as soon as mines on 500 fathom
moorings can be made available.
3. For fields directed primarily against heavy surface units,
it is recommended that moored magnetic mines should normally be
used, and on completion of S.N.73 R.A.(M) is requested to work
to the following programme:- (a) S.N.89. (b) A field backing
up S.N.65 and extending to approx.lat. 61° 25' N. Material
intended for S.N.90 to be used. (c) A field south of S.N.3
with 500 fathom moorings. (d) S.N.90, using M. Mark I mines.
(e) As for (c) above. (f) A field backing up S.N.66 using
material intended for S.N.86. (g) S.N.86 using M. Mark I mines.
4. Reply to your No.983/H.F. 01340/4/51 of 23rd July is being
sent by letter. Present indications are that laying of deep
mines should be deferred.
(A.C.N.S.(H) 1538A/16 to C. in C. H.F.)

Operation Your 1110/10. Intend covering operation S.N.73
S.N.73. with one cruiser and 2 destroyers now at Hvalfiord.
2. DUKE OF YORK is requested to arrange following
programme CUMBERLAND and 2 destroyers to be at one
hour's notice for steaming from 1200/19th. This force to
proceed so as to R/V with minelayer in 066° 51' N.022° 57' W. at
1630/21st and to cover the minelayer during the laying and
during return passage as far as Skagi.
3. Covering force then to return to Hvalfiord and keep steam
at one hour's notice until 0400/24th.
4. A.C.I.C. pass R.A.(M) 1117/10th to DUKE OF YORK.
(C. in C. H.F. 1641A/16 to R.A.M., DUKE OF YORK (R) A.C.I.C.,
C. in C. Rosyth, Admty., R.A.(D) H.F., C. in C. W.A., Air Min.
H.Q.C.C., H.Q.F.C., H.Q.No.14 G., H.Q. No.15 G., H.Q.No.18 G.)

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War Diary.16.8.1942
Sunday.HOME COMMANDS.Mining - contd.

Loch Cairnbawn. Arrangements for sweeping approaches.
(C. in C. H.F. 2008A/16.)

Enemy Intelligence.

Dover Straits. Enemy shipping plotted by R.D.F. in Dover Strait from 0900/15 to 0900/16 track E.10 D. 4 small vessels from Boulogne at 2120 eastbound at 28 knots faded 8 miles N. of Calais at 2155, probably E-boats. Track E.11 D. A number of small vessels from Boulogne at 2125 eastbound at 12 knots entered Calais at 2305 track E.15 D. Three small vessels and one layer from Dunkerque A.W.buoy at 2255 westbound at 9 knots entered Boulogne at 0230. M.T.Bs were unable to make contact in low visibility. Track E.16 D. One large vessel with some escorts from Dieppe at 2313 eastbound entered Boulogne at 0500. Track E.21 D. Two vessels of E-boat size from 10 miles southwest of Dover at 0530 course north-easterly at 25 - 30 knots suspected minelaying in the vicinity of A buoy. Entered Boulogne at 0740.
(V.A. Dover 1059A/16.)

LUTZOW. P.R.U. Swinemunde 1315/16 shows LUTZOW berthed at railway quay with bows pointing north,
NURNBERG at Naval base, LEIPZIG at usual berth
LEIPZIG. at railway quay. P.R.U. Wilhelmshaven 15/8
EMDEN. showed EMDEN present.
(D.D.I.C. 2256A/16.)

U-Boats.

O.S.37. Submarines sighted bearing 090° 9 miles am closing SWALE in company my position 048° 04' N. 022° 59' W.
u 29 (LANDGUARD 1021Z/16 to Admty.)

My 1021Z/16th. Submarine dived at 1026Z. Have carried out search of areano contact obtained. Am now returning to O.S.37 leaving SWALE in the vicinity until 1430 in accordance with instructions from S.O. Escort Group 40.
(LANDGUARD 1231Z/16 to Admty.)

S.C.94. U-boat sighted by F.S. ROSELYS? at 0858Z. Chased but unable to overtake. SENNEN 5 miles astern F.S. ROSELYS did not sight. Submarine dived at 0950Z. Position 055° 51' N. 024° 34' W. Search carried no contact SENNEN left 1400Z to rejoin NIMBLE. F.S. ROSELYS continuing search ordered to rejoin SENNEN by dark. F.S. ROSELYS' R.D.F. out of action and oil fuel remaining 0800Z 89 tons. Following 4 Groups are an uncoded meteorological report 56° 07' 24° 04'.
(SENNEN 1403Z/16 to C. in C. W.A.) *See next page.*

/U/Bs ...

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War Diary.16.8.1942
Sunday.HOME COMMANDS.U-Boats - contd.

U/Bs
attacked by
A/C. Am over Enemy S/M in 46° 58' N. 7° 30' W.
S/M first sighted on surface. Observed to
submerge on a course of 130° speed 12 knots.
(A.O.C. 19 Gp. C.C. 1715/16.)

Am over Enemy Submarine in position 46° 20' N. 11° 57' W.
(A.O.C. 19 Gp. C.C. 1750/16.)
Enemy Submarine has submerged on a course of 100°.
Speed 10 knots.
(A.O.C. 19 Gp. C.C. 1758/16.)
Have attacked enemy with depth charges and estimate one hit.
(A/C 3 AFF 1935A/16.)
Following has been read - Am over enemy S/M in 46° 35' N.
6° 59' W. Enemy S/M previously reported was sighted on
surface and observed to submerge. When first sighted was on
course 120° estimated speed 5 knots.
(A.O.C. 19 Gp. 1942/16.)
Have attacked enemy with depth charges and estimate nil
hits. 1112.
(A.O.C. 19 Gp T.O.R. 1214/16.)
1 submarine bearing 080 - 6 miles course 080. Position
55° 33' N. 14° 27' W.
(Ship using Naval General Call Sign Block I. 2115Z/16.)

U/B
attacked
by O.21. Unsuccessful attack eastbound U-boat at 1725A/16
due to one ex German torpedo running on the
surface position 046° 40' N. 012° 20' W.
(O.21 1725A/16 to F.O.S. 2152A/16.)
See p. 505

U/B sighted
by ROSELYS. My enemy report 2152Z/16. Enemy S/M lost in
darkness at 2202Z in 055° 24' N. 022° 00' W.
When sighted S/M steering 270° but when last
seen course 130°. I am carrying out search
westwards. My position at 2240Z 055° 24' N.
021° 54' W.
(ROSELYS 2240Z/16.) *See previous page.*

Navigational.

Trodday
Light. C.G. Duntulm, Syke reports Trodday Light
extinguished.
(N.O.I.C. Stornoway 1056A/16.)

Casualties and Defects.

DIANTHUS. Arrived your 1624A/14. ^{10.11.42} DIANTHUS.
(F.O.I.C. Milford Haven 0957A/16.) *to whom?*

IRIS
DAFFODIL. Reference your 2024A/15/7 due to defects in
launching gear at bottom slipway and poor
condition of capstans IRIS and DAFFODIL can no
longer be considered fit for operation. Vessels
are available for future commitments but loading and launching
of craft can only be carried out at slow speed and at discretion
of C.O. Request urgent consideration be given to proposals
in my letter S/I and D/510 dated 29th June. Clarke Chapman

/Gateshead ...

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Sunday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Casualties and Defects - contd.:

IRIS.
DAFFODIL
(contd) Gateshead now specify 4 to 5 months delivery for this gear and vessels concerned cannot be guaranteed for that length of time.
(S.O. Assault Ships Craft 1125A/16 to C.C.O.)

BEVERLEY. N.O.I.C. Liverpool 1055/15th. BEVERLEY defective. Request you will sail BLYSKAWICA to *R/V at Bar L.V. at 1700/17 and escort to Clyde.
(C. in C. W.A. 2151A/16.)

*with SIBAJAK. 5 p. 468

Shipping and Convoys.

Escorts to Lerwick. A.C.O.S. 1750/15 is passed for information. Report on practicability of weekly sailings.
(C. in C. Rosyth 1213A/16 to N.O.I.C. Invergordon.)

? Your 1751/15 (N.T. in W.D.)
Concur as no other route appears to be practicable. But for the passage of large convoys this route in the vicinity of and West of the Royal Sovereign Buoy is dangerously close to a known moored minefield the northern limit of which has not yet been determined.
(C. in C. Portsmouth 1633A/16 to V.A. Dover.)

Standard Route instructions. Your 1901/15, paras A (1) (2) and (3) concur. Existing instructions will be amended. Para B. concur. All Admiralty publications in which this term is used will be amended. Above subject to Connav's concurrence which is being requested.
(D.T.D. 1742A/16 to C. in C. W.A.)

S.C.95. If convoy no longer been shadowed detach SNOWFLAKE and WALLFLOWER at daylight to proceed to Londonderry.
(C. in C. W.A. 2057Z/16 to C.T.U. 24.1.3.)
Cancel my 2057/16th pending further instructions.
(C. in C. W.A. 2342Z/16 to C.T.U. 24.1.3.)

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Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic

- P.556 My P.C. and S. 035° 40' 009° 55' (?300° or 095°)
5 on one engine. Further signal will be made
if speed can be increased.
(P.556 0258Z/16 to F.O.C.N.A.)
Trawler LORD HOTHAM sailing at 2130B/16 proceed along your
route S.O.A. 9 knots meet and escort you to Gibraltar.
2. LORD HOTHAM has been informed you will be in 035° 30' 007°
30' W., at 0400B/17, steer for 350° Cape Spartel 5 miles at 5
knots, and she has been ordered to report if not met by 1000B/17.
3. Zone minus 2 being kept by Gibraltar.
(F.O.C.N.A., 1006A/16 to P.556).
Your 1006A/16 acknowledged. Will be in 035° 30' 007° 30'
at 2100Z/16 S. of A 6. Position at 0500Z/17 270° Cape Spartel
30 miles.
(P.556, 1231Z/16 to F.O.C.N.A.)
Your 1231 acknowledged. Cancel my 1006/16 Trawler will
R/V with you in position 350° Cape Spartel 5 at 1200B/17.
(F.O.C.N.A., 1706A/16 to P.556).
- VICTORIOUS, My 1528/15. Sailed R.A.(A) Home Fleet in
RODNEY, VICTORIOUS, RODNEY, ASHANTI, INTREPID, ICARUS,
destroyers. MATCHLESS, ZETLAND, AMAZON.
(F.O.C.N.A., 0318A/16 to Admty, HESPERUS,
C. in C. H.F., C. in C. Plymouth, C. in C. W.A.,
S.O. Force F).
- Operation Sailed for operation "Baritone" FURIOUS,
"Baritone". CHARYBDIS, LAFOREY, LOOKOUT, LIGHTNING, ANTELOPE,
WISHART, DERWENT, KEPPEL, MALCOLM, BICESTER,
ESKIMO, SOMALI, VENOMOUS.
(F.O.C.N.A., 0804A/16 to Admty V.A. Malta,
C. in C. Med).
- S.O. Force V. Flag of S.O. Force V hoisted in SIRIUS 15/8/1942.
(F.O.C.N.A., 0848Z/16 to Admty (R) R.A.W.A.)
My 1832/15 departures 1030 S.O. Force V. in
SIRIUS, PHOEBE, QUENTIN. 1230, PATHFINDER,
VANSITTART.
(F.O.C.N.A., 1352A/16 to Admty, R.A.W.A. (R)
C. in C. S.A., S.O. Force V).
- PINDOS, Ref. 1514B/1 C. in C. W.A. From position
M.L.F.28. N. 042° 01', 016° 00' proceed to O. 036° 25'
009° 59' P. 353° Spartel 12 thence to Gibraltar.
(F.O.C.N.A., 1002A/16 to PINDOS, S.O. M.L. Flot.
28 (R) C. in C. W.A. Admty).
- O.21 From 043° 01' 012° 24' proceed on surface at
distretion through - G. 037° 55' 010° 06' at
2000A/19. H. 225° Dassen Is. 10 miles at 0200A/20
J. 036° 38' 007° 15' at 0900A/20 to R/V with escort in
K. 000° Cape Spartel 5 miles at 1500A/20 for onward escort to Gib.
(2) Total bombing restrictions arranged.
(3) If unable to comply within 2 hours report P.C. and S.
(F.O.C.N.A., 1106A/16 to D.S. O.21).

/Operation...

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FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic. - Contd.

Operation "Pedestal". Arrived JONQUIL, GERANIUM, COLTSFOOT, SPIREA
 Tug JAUNTY R.F.A. DINGLEDALE and BROWN RANGER
 from "Pedestal".
 (F.O.C.N.A., 1144A/16 to Admty (R) V.A. Malta,
 C. in C. Med).

Bombing Restrictions. Request total bombing restrictions in following areas.

Area	From	Until
G.26	1500/18	0600/19.
G.27	1800/18	1400/19.
G.16	0600/19	0001/20.
G.15	1600/19	0500/20.
G.14	2100/19	1000/20.

(F.O.C.N.A., 1208A/16 to Admty H.Q.C.C., (R) F.O.S)

U/Bs Probable dispositions U-boats Western Mediter-
 ranean, Italian 3 south or west of Sardinia, and
 1 or 2 between 000° and 005° E. German, 2 or
 more probably west of Sardinia. Several U-boats
 are probably returning to their bases at
 Cagliari, Trapani and Messina.
 (F.O.C.N.A., 1336A/16 to 8th S.F.)

Air Attack on TALISMAN by own A/C. Your 2112/14 and your 1657/15
 A. Yes. B. Yes. C. No. D. 47 feet.
 E. Across stern at right angles to track probably
 3 port side 1 starboard side.
 F. 5° bow down. G. & H. TALISMAN sighted
 Sunderland at 1411A/9 when in approx. 044°
 20' N., 012° 10' W., mean course and speed 000° 13½ knots Q
 flooded. Aircraft bore west distant 6 miles course south.
 TALISMAN did not identify herself but dived returning to
 periscope depth to observe movement of aircraft. TALISMAN
 involuntary broke surface and then attempted to dive deep and
 altered but was depth charged at 1414. Main ballast subsequently
 blown to regain control. Original oil streak possibly due to
 leak oil fuel filling valve. My 1515 to F.O.S. follows.
 (Capt. (S) 8, 1458A/17 to F.O.S. (R) F.O.C.N.A., Admty, H.Q.C.C.)

Personal. My 1458 primary cause of incidents were C.O.
 underrating efficiency of own aircraft not using flares and,
 thinking he had not been sighted, returning shortly to
 periscope depth to observe aircraft movements. This incorrect
 procedure based on his previous war experience with enemy
 aircraft in Med. C.O. now fully realizes his mistake and only
 his cool handling and considerable experience prevented disaster
 occurring after being depth charged when submarine went to 355
 feet out of control. C.O. is rather shaken and I consider
 further recrimination or enquiry at this stage inadvisable. I
 am in possession of full facts which are being forwarded by air
 mail.

(Capt. (S) 8., 1515A/16 to F.O.S.)

16.8.1942.
Sunday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic. - Contd.

PESCADOR Portuguese PESCADOR from Leixoes to Bilbao intercepted. intercepted off Cape Silleiro and sent Gibraltar under armed guard. Cargo 329 tons rosin in barrels shipped by Mario Silva consigned to order, no Navicert. Evidence indicated ship in Bayonne last September and is provided with German charts, recognition signal, routing instructions for entering and leaving that Port. Record of previous voyages in log book destroyed. Ship detained.
(C.C.S.O. Gib., 1545/16 to M.E.W. (R) Consul Gen, Lisbon).

F.A.A. Your 1550/14 not to R.A.N.A.S. 813 Squadron is to Sqdns. remain at Gibraltar pending further orders. 824 Squadron personnel are to return to U.K. aircraft being allotted to Gibraltar reserve.
(D.N.A.D., 1654A/16 to F.O.C.N.A. (R) R.A.N.A.S.)

Operations A.M. 1159/15. (a) MATCHLESS, BADSWORTH sailed "Pedestal" without examination. (b) RODNEY has sailed and "Ascendant", ship's divers reported that examination of damage to rudders disclosed serial (?serious) defects ships. necessitating immediate docking. Several superheated tubes cracked or split in one super-heater.

(c) NIGERIA. Hull. See NIGERIA 1407/15 Further report will be made after docking. Machinery and electrical (Details).
(d) KENYA. Hull. Damage extending from fore end of stem to 11 bulkhead and between LWL and keel. (details) Remnant of bow plate port side induced outboard, vessel being docked on 17/8 for 24 hours to cut this away. KENYA will then be ready to sail to repair base. Machinery. Vibration and reports heating port outer shaft after near miss. Electrical. Minor damage electric cables by splinters, can be repaired temporarily by ship's staff. (e) ITHURIEL. Vessel docked today 16/8. Separate hull report follows. No machinery defects. S.A. gear flooded probably oscillators broken. ITHURIEL should be ready to steam to repair base in 5 days.
(f) WOLVERINE. Hull. Damage (details) Intend docking shortly for about 8 days to carry out temporary repairs to enable vessel to steam to repair base. Machinery. Port main circulator crank case broken. Electric. A/S gear flooded.
(F.O.C.N.A., 1802A/16 to Admty).

U/B S.L.118 D/F Bearings at 1534Z/16 and at 1810Z/16 indicate U-boat in your immediate vicinity which may be shadowing.
(D.D.I.C., 2027A/16 to Escorts of S.L.118 (R)
F.O.C.N.A., C. in C. W.A., H.Q.C.C.)

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Sunday.

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FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic. - Contd.

Attacks at Sight. A.L. M/051103/42 dated 1/8 contains revised instructions for attack at sight by Air and Naval forces in Atlantic waters. Following are two main points:-
(a) Any merchant ship identified as enemy may be attacked at sight anywhere in Atlantic outside neutral territorial waters.
(b) Bay of Biscay Area N. of 42° 15' N., Movements of all Eire and Portuguese vessels and of Spanish vessels over 2500 tons will be notified. Any ship over 2500 tons encountered N. of 42° 15' N., and E. of 14° W. may be attacked at sight if its voyage has not been notified.
2. Letter should reach you shortly.
(Head of M., 2331A/16 to F.O.C.N.A.)

South Atlantic.

Shipping Routes. Ref. Admty 1956/13. Demarcation lines between North and Southbound traffic. Propose following amendments to my 1824/8 (?1224/8 intended) Para. A. (1) last sentence. Cancel position 026° S., 010° E. and substitute position (A) 027° S., 013° E.
(2) Northbound shipping to West Africa and U.K. is to be routed thence E. of following positions (B) 017° S., 010° E.
(C) 010° S., 011° E. (D) 003° S., 008° E. (E) 002° N., Meridian thence with wide dispersion within limits laid down in M.A.R.I.
(3) Masters are to be warned that eastbound shipping may be met in the vicinity and to westward of position E.
(4) Above instructions are to be brought into force forthwith as a provisional measure pending further instructions from Admty.
(5) Suggest (a) All Cape-bound traffic be instructed to burn dimmed navigation lights from Meridian 015° E. in poor visibility and on dark nights.
(b) Southbound shipping from ports between Capetown and Takoradi be routed to Western side of demarcation line by shortest route, effecting the crossing in daylight if possible otherwise burning dimmed navigation lights in poor visibility and on dark nights.
(C. in C. S.A., 0134B/16 to Admty (R) R.A.W.A., N.C.S.Os. etc).

U/B Your 1815/15 A.M. 1428A/15 reads "One within 250 miles of 008° N., 023° W".
(D.D.I.C., 0225A/16 to R.A.W.A.)

W.S. 21 P. Sailed 16/8 E.T.A. ^{Durban} Capetown 29/8 List and requirements.
(S.S.T.O. Capetown, 0913Z/16 to D.S.T., S.S.T.O. Aden etc).
W.S. 21 P. Sailing telegram. (2) 0901Z/16.
(3) 031° 10' S., 033° 48' E., 1400Z/19 (4) 13½ to R/V 14 to equator 15 on. (Route) (6) SHROPSHIRE to R/V (corrupt group) ORION.
(N.C.S.O. Capetown, 0958Z/16 to Admty C. in C. S.A., C. in C. E.F.)

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Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic - Contd.

W.S.21 P.G. Sailing telegram. 2. 1031Z/16. 3. R/V position (o) 0830Z/20 4. 11 to R/V 11.5 to Equator, 12.5 on (Route).
(?6) DUNCAN to R/V then *ENTERPRISE.
(N.C.S.O. Capetown, 1021Z/16 to Admtly etc).
Movements summary 2000Z/16. SHROPSHIRE with W.S.21 P. 035° 55' S., 018° 48' E. to Durban, 13½.
DUNCAN with W.S.21 P.G. 035° 20' S., 018° (?25') E. to Durban, 11.
(C. in C. S.A., 1445B/16 to S.A.S.)

** See p. 517. (Dispositions)*

BODEGRAVEN, Overdue shipping. BODEGRAVEN due Durban 7/8 from
EMPIRE RIDLEY. Karachi and EMPIRE RIDLEY due Lourenco Marques
8/8 from Aden not arrived.
(S.O.(I) Capetown, 1115B/16 to Admtly etc).

EMPIRE ATTENDANT. Overdue shipping. EMPIRE ATTENDANT due Durban
9/8 from U.K. not arrived.
(S.O.(I) Capetown 1120C/16 to Admtly etc).

KONKAN, Following is repetition of my 1121Z/16 (N.T. in
BANGKOK, W.R.) to B.N.L.O. W. Af. (Begins) KONKAN escorting
MAHAIR. BANGKOK and MAHAIR for (?Cape) will arrive Pointe
Noire to refuel p.m. 23 /8. Onward route
(d) (?20°) 01' S., 09° 30' E. (e) 34° 28' S.,
16° 55' E. to Capetown estimated S. of A 9½ knots.
KONKAN will shift (?W/T) organization at 1200Z/26
(R.A.W.A., 1123Z/16 to Admtly C. in C. S.A.,
F.O.C.R.I.N., KONKAN).

ASTURIAS, ASTURIAS reports at 2030Z/15 that back of
A.F.D. 25 floating dock broke by swell and dock destroyed
destroyed. by explosion in 12.01 N., 40.50 W.
(R.A.W.A., 1141Z/16 to B.A.D. (R) C. in C. U.S.
Fleet, ASTURIAS, C.T. (?23), Admtly).

C.M. 31 Sailing telegram. 2. 1200Z/16. 4. 10½ knots to
Aden. 12 knots to Bombay from vicinity of
position Q. (Route). 6. CARADOC, WORCESTERSHIRE
(N.C.S.O. Durban, 1207Z/16 to Admtly etc).

DESIRADE C.A.F.O. 199/41 (Sabotage Immediate Reports,
(?sabotage). NL/N.I.D./04531/40-30.1.1941) DESIRADE sailed
Birkenhead 29/5 now at East London has reported
sea water found in No. 5 hold on 4/6.
2. Cargo was shifted on 16/6 and search disclosed that
bolts securing inspection cover of storm valves were loose
with gap of about 4 inches between covers of tidal basin seating.
3. Chief Officer states all valves inspected by Supt.
Engineer, Liverpool, and could only have been tampered with
after inspection and before carpenter fitted the insulating
cover of storm valves.
4. All cargo including linen bags thick cardboard containers
consigned to Pretoria Mint badly damaged.
5. No members of crew suspected.
(S.O.(I) Capetown, 1210B/16 to Admtly (R) C. in C. S.A. etc).

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Sunday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic - Contd.

TEMPLE INN S.O.(I) Jamaica has reported TEMPLE INN Overdue at Trinidad. My 2313/3/6 refers.
(D.T.D., 1326A/16 to S.O.(I) Freetown, (R) S.O.(I) Jamaica).

MENDANAU MENDANAU (Du) sunk 3 to 5 days ago in Freetown area position unknown, details follow when available. 16 survivors reached Robertsport p.m.15/8/42.
(R.A.W.A., 1731Z/16 to Admty (R) C. in C. S.A., N.O.I.C. Trinidad, Cominch).

CRIPPLE CREEK. CRIPPLE CREEK (Am.) sunk by S/M attack 04.55 N., 18.30 W., at 0400/13/8. 29 survivors picked up. 1 boat containing 24 men not located yet.
(R.A.W.A., 1733Z/16 to Admty (R) C. in C. S.A., N.O.I.C. Trinidad, Cominch 1859Z/16 to Opnav).

1. U.S. CRIPPLE CREEK sunk by U-boat at 0400/13 in 004° 55' N., 018° 30' W. (?42) survivors from 2 boats picked up 16/8 and proceeding Freetown. 3rd Boat with 24 men still adrift. Opnav informed.

2. 16 Survivors Netherlands MENDANAU Landed Rissfield, Liberia, 15/8. These are part of group on 7 rafts sighted by Clipper 14/8. Search for others proceeding.
(R.A.W.A., 1915Z/16 to Admty (R) C. in C. S.A. S.O.(I) Kingston (Jamaica.)).

Shipping. Your 1015/12. M.A.R.I. Sec. IV para. 8 (1) is intended to apply to all shipping to or from U.K. or West African ports whether from or to South African ports or ports further east. Request you will divert all ships concerned ex O.S.35 to comply.
(D.T.D., 1851A/16 to R.A.W.A. (R) C. in C. S.A.)

W.S.21 My 1645/15. W.S.21 R/V with CHINA MAIL and AMERICAN PRESS should read (Q) 6° 31' S., 13.30 W. at 1400/18.
(N.C.S.O. Freetown, 1857Z/16 to Admty).

Convoy W.S. 21 sailed 15th, 5 ships for Capetown, Durban. List etc.
(S.S.T.O. Freetown, 1901Z/16 to P.S.T.O. Capetown N.L.O. Durban).

M.A.R.I. Amendment No. 67.
(D.T.D., 1909A/16 to C. in C. S.A. etc).

U/B Report. American A/C reports sighting U-boat in 5.20 N., 00. 20 E., course W at 1745Z/16.
Consider doubtful.
(R.A.W.A., 2041Z/16 to Admty (R) C. in C. S.A. as amended 0735Z/17 and 1010Z/17).

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Sunday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic. - Contd.

- U/B position. Your 1347A/16 (U/B approx. positions). Request confirmation that U-boat unfixed in $8^{\circ} 01' N.$, has longitude $33^{\circ} 01' W.$, Your 0225A/16 gives U-boat in $8^{\circ} N.$, $23^{\circ} W.$
(R.A.W.A., 2051Z/16 to Admty).
- Suspicious Ship. Following from BANFF. Unidentified vessel bearing $245^{\circ} 8$ miles. My position $304^{\circ} M$ 318 miles. Unable to overtake.
(EGRET, 2210Z/16 to R.A.W.A.)
My 2210Z/16. Estimated course and speed of unknown ship 270° 18 knots.
(EGRET, 1145Z/16 to R.A.W.A.) (?code time of this or the former wrong).
- SYLVIA DE LARRINAGA, U/B Following received from SAINTONGE at 1840 G.M.T. 14/8. I have heard distress message from SYLVIA DE LARRINAGA torpedoed by S/M position $010^{\circ} 49' N.$, $000^{\circ} 00' W.$ my position is now 045 342 miles from position E. I steer to pass through position E.
(Portishead Radio, 2300/16 to C. in C. W.A. (R) Admty).
- U/B British Overseas A/C reports sighting S/M 16 miles N.E. of Cape Lopez (Gabon) at 1045D/16 S/M submerged on sighting A/C. Report considered very reliable by R.N.O. Lagos.
(R.A.W.A., 2318Z/16 to Admty).
- Mediterranean.
- Situation Report 252. My 2044/11 para. 1. (S/M sunk by ISLAY off Haifa on 10/8) 2 bodies have come to surface from this S/M. Gearing escape apparatus together with identity discs are obviously Italian.
2. Submarines. TRAVELLER at 0914/31 in $44^{\circ} 30' N.$, $14^{\circ} 00' E.$ estimates 2 hits on Ex. Yugoslav DALMACIJA who was escorted by 3 destroyers. At 1045/5 in $42^{\circ} 48' N.$, $14^{\circ} 31' E.$ claims one hit with gun on German 500 U-boat which she had previously missed with torpedoes.
3. PORPOISE torpedoed large ship south-bound in $34^{\circ} 45' N.$, $21^{\circ} 32' E.$, and left it sinking 1923/15.
4. MT.B. 73 on passage from Paphos to Port Said attacked S/M of Argo Class sighted on surface at 0958/14, results not known.
(C. in C. Med., 2326C/16 to Admty).

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FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

Enemy Unit. Enemy has altered course to 360° approx.
Position of enemy is 37.35 N. 12.35 E.
(A/C "G" of M.S.3 Sqn. 0255B/16 to Air H.Q. Malta.)
Have lost touch with enemy. Enemy's last observed position was 37.35 N., 12.35 E. at 0245B.
(A/C "G" of M.S.3 Sqn. 0315B/16.)

Enemy Barges, attacked by A/C. P.C. and S. of 7 enemy transport barges are:-
032° 00' N. - 025° 24' E. 180° 7 knots.
(A/C 'Z' of HZ5 Sqn. 0620/16 to Air H.Q. Malta.)
Have attacked enemy with bombs level and estimate 2 hits. My E.T.A. is 0820.
(A/C Z of ? Squadron 0630/16 to 201 Group.)
My 0620. Have attacked 1 enemy Transport Barge with bombs dive and estimate 1 hit.
(A/C 'K' of HZ5 Squadron 0710/16 to 201 Group H.Q.)

P.34
P.44. Cancel positions in my 1121/15. Resume normal area patrols with most likely focal point P.34 036° 40' 011° 55', P.44 035° 36' 011° 16'.
(Capt. S.10 0930B/16 to P.34, P.44, (R) C. in C. Med. Capt.(S) 1.)

Enemy Units. At 0930/16 A/C report P.C. and S. of 2 large merchant ships, 3 destroyers 32° 23' 20° 02' 35° 14 knots.
(S.O.S. Alexandria 1020C/16 to TAKU, PORPOISE, *TURBULENT, P.43.) * *bp 573 7575*

MANCHESTER (sunk 12/8)
GLENORCHY (sunk ? 12/8) Following from American Consul, Tunis. MANCHESTER lost off Kelibia. 39 Officers and 523 men rescued and interned at Bon Ficha. 87 Officers and men of SS GLENORCHY also rescued off Kelibia and interned at Bon Ficha. Captain and 1st Officer missing. Further details later.
(F.O. No T.O.O. to Admty. Rec'd in W.R. from F.O. at 1110/16.)

DIDO.
EURYALUS. Your 1229/14th. See my 1302/14th.
(C. in C. Med. 1103C/16 to Admty.)

P.42, attack on Italian Cruisers. (A) On return of P.42 to harbour request you will report whether contact or non-contact pistols were used in attack reported in P.42 0914/13.
Muzio ATTENDOLO
& BOLZANO. (B) If non-contact pistols were not used the reason is to be reported.
(1st Sea Lord 1135A/16 to V.A. Malta (R) S.10, F.O.S.)

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Sunday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean - contd.

M/Vs Malta Operation "Pedestal" Request you will report daily state of unloading of ships of convoy. (1st S.L. 1142A/16 to V.A. Malta.) Your 1142/16th. General cargo discharged by 0700 (a) Saturday 15th (b) Sunday 16th. ROCHESTER CASTLE (a) 2015 (b) 33(?57). MELBOURNE STAR (a) 1235 (b) 2319. PORT CHALMERS (a) 1384 (b) 2720. BRISBANE STAR (a) 309 (b) 1546. (2) Total fuel discharged from above ships and OHIO to 0900/16 furnace fuel 1784, kerosene oil 600, diesel oil 460, bagged coal 600, gas coke 60. (V.A. Malta 2003B/16 to Admty.)

TURBULENT. Establish patrol off Navarin forthwith. (S.O.S. Alexandria 1246C/16 to TURBULENT.)
3-4-515.

DERNA. Extract from a Fairmiss Telegram. Departure DERNA, Genoa, Italian. (Barcelona 1316/16 to M.W.T.)

Cositrep No. 483. 2. Air 14/8. In evening American Liberators bombed shipping Tobruk. 1 hit 2 near misses claimed. Night 14/15 Tobruk Harbour bombed. Near misses claimed on shipping. Fires started on shore. 15/8. 2 barges sunk, 3 others hit between Bardia and Matruh. (C. in C. M.E. 1330 G.M.T/16.)

? U/B. Am investigating suspicious oil patch in position ZQJJ 5847 (31.58 N. longitude indecypherable). (A/C of 230 Squad M.E. duty X. 1410/16 to 201 Group.)

INDOMITABLE fighters, Op."Pedestal" "Pedestal". Final score of INDOMITABLE's fighters, 28 destroyed, 6 probables, 10 damaged, total 44. Own losses 8 aircraft, 4 pilots saved. (INDOMITABLE 1531Z/16 to R.A.(A) H.F., (R) Admty., R.A.(A) E.F.)

ROBERTS. C. in C. Med's 2051/15. Delay cannot be accepted. Request you will now sail ROBERTS at best speed for Freetown. 2. C. in C. S.A. is requested arrange for quick docking at Durban if practicable and if this will expedite arrival at Freetown. (D.O.D.(F) 1539A/16 to C. in C. Med., C. in C. S.A., (R) C. in C. E.F., D. C. in C. E.F., F.O.R.S.C.A.)

/Op."Pedestal" ...

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Sunday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean - contd.

Op. "Pedestal" My 2017/15. Add para (42) Preliminary estimate
Force F. enemy aircraft shot down by fleet fighters,
Report. 39 certain, 5 probable, 9 possible. By A/A
8 certain, 2 probable, but reports are still
incomplete and number may be increased.

(43) Own aircraft, 8 shot down, 1 pilot saved.

(44) F.O.10th C.S. is loud in his praises for both Beaufighters
and Spitfires from Malta who seemed to do everything possible
under circumstances of being bereft of their fighter direction
ships CAIRO and NIGERIA. Long range Spitfires were out as
early as possible on D.4 and Force X had a number of Spitfires
overhead for remainder of journey. They shot down a number
of enemy aircraft and undoubtedly greatly reduced scale of attack.

(45) F.O.C.N.A. has copy Admiralty pass to C. in C. H.F., C. in
C. Med. and V.A. Malta.
(S.O. Force F. 1605A/16 to Admty.)

UTMOST (1) UTMOST and P.46 report uneventful passage
P.46. until arrival off Marittimo where daylight 10th
was spent due to time in hand.

(2) At 1830 and 1835 respectively submarines
sighted medium size merchant ship escorted by one flying boat
course westerly, at 1910 enemy altered to 230°.

(3) Both submarines attacked from starboard side, firing 3
torpedoes each on 120 and 155 tracks allowing 15 and 8 knots
at 1921 and 1935, range 4500 and 2500 respectively.

(4) Both S/Ms heard one loud explosion at 1925 followed by 2 at
1929 and 2 at 1946. Enemy last seen by UTMOST at 2030 steering
east toward southern point of Marittimo.

(5) Consider UTMOST possibly secured one hit followed by 2
torpedoes hitting land. P.46 miss, one torpedo Giro failure
followed by 2 exploding at 1946 at end of run.

(6) Regret S/Ms were dangerously close off since they were not
given temporary (corrupt group) after landfall before passage
of Q B B 255.

(7) Nothing to report during "Pedestal".
(Capt. S. 10 1726B/16 to Capt. S.1 (R) C. in C. Med., V.A. Malta)

Malta Air I.578 16/8. C.S.R.
Report. 15th. 1 alert. 1258 hours, 15 plus fighters
including Me.109s crossed Island great height,
also 2 Me.109s on R/C approached to within 5
miles of coast. 16 Spitfires up sighted part of enemy force
but were not near enough to engage.

Night 15/16. 1 alert. 2025, 1 raider approached to within 16
miles of Malta dropped bombs sea and returned. Effective R.D.F.
interference. 1 Beaufighter up sighted nothing. 2115, 1
Beaufighter on patrol sighted nothing. 16th. No alerts. 0758
and 0845 4 and 8 Spitfires respectively up for raids which did
not approach close to Malta. There have been no bombs dropped
on Malta during the unloading of convoy.

Night 15th/16th. Wellington 8 on search same area saw nothing
another Wellington 8 shipping search Cape Bon Marettimo sighted
2150 2 D/Rs 1 M/V 8000 and 2 unidentified vessel 275° Cape
Ranitola 14 miles course 180° 12 knots. Luqa Aerodrome
fogbound so landed Takali where undercarriage collapsed due to
unsuitability Aerodrome, crew unhurt. 1 Special Swordfish 2
Albacores despatched to attack convoy failed to locate due
to bad weather.

/16th ...

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Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean - contd.

Malta Air
Report
(contd)

16th. 0600, 4 Beaufighters 1 P.R. Spitfire on shipping search Lampedusa Area sighted shipping wreckage 35° 12' N. 12° 26' E. Lampedusa 2 M/Vs 1500 and 1000 tons. Since 0610 standing Spitfire patrol over Grand Harbour to protect convoy unloading.
(H.Q. R.A.F. Malta 1757Z/16.)

Damaged
Enemy Ship,
TURBULENT.

See p. 513

Damaged ship in tow of 2 Destroyers, P.C. and S. at 1630/16 035° 07' 021° 21' 005° 4-6 knots, probably making for Navarin. Proceed to intercept at your discretion.
(S.O.S. Alexandria 2025C/16 to TURBULENT (R) PORPOISE.)

Proposed
Malta
Striking
Force.

V.A. Malta 2328/15. I welcome this proposal and fully concur that PENN, LEDBURY and (? SOMALI) should be retained at Malta. Suggest one P. ^{BRAMHAM} class destroyer allocated to Mediterranean may be sent to join PENN as soon as practicable.

2. We (? may) expect initial (? success) with this small force but it will have to be increased as the enemy escorts increase.

3. Furthermore owing to speed limitations Hydras can only be employed for interception within a radius of about 150 miles from Malta. I should therefore like to build up (? force) in following stages:-

- (i) PENN, LEDBURY, BRAMHAM.
- (ii) One P. Class destroyer, PENN, LEDBURY, BRAMHAM.
- (iii) SIKH, ZULU, one P Class destroyer, PENN.
- (iv) 2 Penelope Class cruisers, SIKH, ZULU, one P. Class destroyer PENN.

4. Obviously build up must depend on how situation develops. Ammunition situation for class of ships concerned appears satisfactory except for Oerlikon.
(C. in C. Med. 2150C/16 to Admty. (R) V.A. Malta.)

Enemy
Intelligence.

Photographed p.m. today Sunday. Palermo 3 E-Boats, 5 F-Boats, Messina, 8 inch Cruisers, CORIZIA and TRIESTE, 1 6 inch Cruiser with bow blown off, 7 destroyers 2 torpedo boats, 1 S/M. Cagliari, 3 S/Ms. Pantellaria, 1 M.A.S. Trapani, 3 Destroyers, 2 S/Ms, 7 M.A.S., 5 E-Boats.
(V.A. Malta 2223B/16 to S.O. Force 'F' S.O. Force 'H' Admty. C. in C. Med. F.O.C.N.A.)

See page 511.

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War Diary.16.8.1942
Sunday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean - contd.BRISBANE
STAR
OHIO.

Preliminary report on passage of M/V BRISBANE STAR and Tanker OHIO.

(August 12/13)

1. BRISBANE STAR. Ship hit by air torpedo early night D.3/D.4 and hole blown through ship just abaft stem. Owing to reduced speed master

decided to cruise in Gulf of Hammamet D.4 and cross to Malta by night. Day was spent in territorial waters where ship was boarded by French authorities who after protest behaved well and took seriously wounded man ashore to Susse. In reporting intentions BRISBANE STAR used call sign for S O F and thinking she must be a warship I advised only to come Malta if return Gibraltar impracticable. Fortunately master disregarded this advice and arrived safely at 1508/D.5 having been escorted since a.m. by HYTHE and HEBE and M.Ls from Malta and fighter cover who shot down one torpedo bomber just before release. Consider master showed fine determination and initiative.

(Aug 14)

(Aug 12-13)

2. OHIO torpedoed in pump room early night D3/D4 but made magnificent passage of Tunisian waters in hand steering and without a compass, following LEDBURY at high speed. Ship finally broke down N.W. Linosa having again been hit. PENN, BRAMHAM and LEDBURY all attempted to tow but unwieldy condition of ship and persistent enemy attacks made only slight advance possible during D.4. RYE and M.Ls from Malta joined p.m.D.4. During night D.4/D.5 progress slight due parting of tow and further damage from bomb hits. Commander M/S in SPEEDY with more M.Ls joined at dawn D.5 and HYTHE and HEBE after completing escort of BRISBANE STAR. Progress during day spasmodic but on the whole good although possibly ship had broken back and uncertain whether would remain afloat. Enemy air attacks ceased once short range Spitfire cover was reached. Ship arrived entrance to searched channel shortly after dark D.5 and breakwater an hour after dawn D.6. The night provided most difficult towage problem with two large turns, tired crews, and danger of mines if channel was left, and in addition it was full of alarms of E-boats, but action by coast defence guns and searchlights seems to have frightened them away. Contrary to expectations, Axis Air Force took no part in proceedings and surface plot which disappeared after few rounds of 9.2" was only indication of submarines. OHIO was skilfully manoeuvred into harbour and berthed by 0900.

(Aug 13)

(Aug 13-14)

(Aug 14)

(Aug 15)

3. Remarks (A) Towage was outstanding feat of courage determination and good seamanship on part of all concerned and particularly PENN, BRAMHAM, LEDBURY and RYE, and Commander M/S, who conducted operations from SPEEDY during final day and last critical night. JAUNTY would have been invaluable.

(B) Considering position and extreme value of cargo, weakness of enemy's air attacks and complete absence of surface or submarine attack is remarkable. Seems probable Axis Air Forces had suffered such heavy casualties unable to stage or unprepared to risk full scale attack.

(C) Aircraft from Malta worked ceaselessly and answered every call that was made to utmost limit of their ability.
(V.A. Malta, 2353B/16 to Admty. (R) C. in C. Med., F.O.C.N.A.)

Continuation of C. in C. Med., 1053/22, p.694.

War Diary.16.8.1942
Sunday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies.SONAVATI,
Cocos
garrison.

SONAVATI leaves Colombo a.m./16 arrives Cocos p.m./21 with relief for garrison, provisions and stores for all services and civilians sufficient for 4 months.

(2) Request any available intelligence may be passed.

(F.O. Ceylon 0449Z/16 to C. in C. E.F. (R) Admty., F.O.C.R.I.N.)

NIKOS T.
(attacked
14/8.)

Ref. attack on (Greek) NIKOS T. off Kalingapatam 0455Z/14. (1) Ship arrived Vizagapatam 15th, now discharging cargo for examination of leakage. Master reported near misses by dark coloured 4 engined A/C which dropped 2 large bombs from

about 7000 feet. (2) After attack a cylindrical floating object was reported as a mine but Master now considers this was (damaged?) (reserve?) petrol tank. This is considered more probable.

(F.O.I.C. Ceylon 0605Z/16 to C. in C. E.F., (R) Admty., F.O.C.R.I.N.)

LLANDOVERY
CASTLE.Your 0421/15. Delay cannot be accepted. Request another Hospital ship may be allocated as in my 1156/7.
(D. C. in C. E.F. 0728Z/16 to D.S.T.)

Dispositions.

RAMILLIES left Cape for U.S.A. FORMIDABLE at Kilindini. DEVONSHIRE at Colombo docking.

BIRMINGHAM at Kilindini, FROBISHER to escort

A.P.1. *GAMBIA at Kilindini. *ENTERPRISE to escort W.S.21 P G E. Force A comprising WARSPITE, ILLUSTRIOUS, MAURITIUS, HEEMSKERCK and 4 destroyers arrive Kilindini 18th.

(Dep. C. in C. E.F. 0907Z/16 to C. in C. S.A., C. in C. Med., A.C.N.B. Melbourne, F.O. Ceylon, F.O.C. Red Sea Force, (? N.O.I.C. Simonstown))

** see next page.*

PAN EUROPE.

(i) Estimated position 002° N. 070° (?40') E. at 0900Z/16. Due Abadan 28th.

(ii) Warship (?reports) ship (corrupt group) correct signal letters B N X Y for Yorker but used B N X (?V) (?for) Vinegar when challenged.

(Dep. C. in C. E.F. 0949Z/16 to E. Indies Station.)

R.M. A/A
Bde.

M.N.B. 36526. Lukis assumed appointment Comd. 1 Royal Marine A/A Bde. 11/8. Your 2251D/28/7 refers.

(Overt 1031/16 to Admty. (for A.G.R.M.))

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War Diary.16.8.1942
SundayFOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies - contd.

COLOMBIA. In order to meet and service submarines on passage via the Cape it is considered desirable that COLOMBIA should be stationed temporarily at Simonstown. Intend sailing COLOMBIA 18/8. On arrival request she may be given a suitable berth for this duty.
(D. C. in C. E.F. 1103C/16 to C. in C. S.A. (R) C. in C. Netherlands Forces in East, B.S.O., C. in C. E.F., R.A.W.A., F.O.C.N.A., Admty., F.O.S. COLOMBIA, S.4.)

Enemy A/C, Cocos. Cmdre. W. Australia 0535/16. Military states one Mitsubishi 96 flew over Cocos between 1050 and 1130 local time 16th at about 4000 feet. Manager, Cables and Wireless Ltd., confirms only one aircraft overhead.
(F.O.I.C. Ceylon 1142Z/16 to C. in C. E.F. (R) A.C.N.B. etc.)

Movements summary. GAMBIA. */and see previous page - (Dispos. Form)*
(9) GAMBIA ? (due) Kilindini 16/8. Since leaving Colombo 13/7 she has been at sea 35 days out of 35, covering 13500 miles on escort work.
(D. C. in C. E.F. 1242C/16 to Admty. etc.)

Hankow bombed. A.930 16/8. Intelligence summary No.154 period 24 hours ending 1800 hours 16/8. U.S.A. air force report 2 P.40s bombed Hankow 10/8 using 38 lb. incendiaries. Hits claimed on warehouses, munition dumps and airdrome, fires started in city. No A.A. or fighter opposition.
(A.H.Q. India 1318Z/16.)

R.C.M. Ceylon. Your 0904/7. Paras 1 and 2 concur. Para 3 report not yet received. Request arrangements be made by you for best employment of existing R.C.M. Personnel including Lieut. Hallet now proceeding Kilindini vide S.S.E's 1832/3/7 to F.O. Ceylon only.
2. Admty. 2201/25/5. No details of American R.C.M. effort in East are ascertainable here. Consider close co-operation with American, Australian, and New Zealand R.C.M. important.
3. Request report in due course of action taken and any further facilities required.
(D.S.D. 1540A/16 to C. in C. E.F.)

Shipping Signals. My 2131/9/7 and my 1827/14/8. Propose to discontinue sending reminder signal if you consider C. in C. S.A's Chop Signal satisfies requirement.
(D.T.D. 1733A/16 to C. in C. E.F., C. in C. Med. etc.)

War Diary.

16.8.1942
Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies. - contd.

Operations
by Carrier
Groups.

B.A.D. Washington's 2013/10 remarks on advantages of single large group rather than smaller groups acting in fairly close proximity are concurred in. 2. Admty 1257/8 para 2 was intended to make the point that as far as defence of carrier groups is concerned, primary consideration is concentration of fighter defence. Subject to this, provided carrier groups are a certain minimum strength of, say, 4 or 5 ships, and screens are adequate, the advantages of operating carriers in separate groups in close proximity under concentrated fighter defence may sometimes outweigh advantages of increase in gun density obtained by keeping all ships concentrated in one single large group. (D.T.S.D. approved Deputy 1st S.L. 1757A/16 to C. in C. E.F., C. in C. H.F., B.A.D.)

Note.

P. 255-9

9.7.42

Eastern Fleet

War Diary.

16.8.1942.
Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies.

HAVOCK survivors. Your 1345/12. HAVOCK survivors are plainly within terms of proposed exchange. You will appreciate, however, that enemy are well aware of position at Laghouat and that it will be more difficult for Vichy to hand over any considerable number of Service personnel from there than Merchant seamen and Service personnel in West Africa.
2. Numerous representations have been made through U.S. concerning conditions at the camp. Food and clothing parcels are now allowed and conditions are reported to be improving. (M. Branch, 0038A/16 to B.A.D.)

LETITIA. Your 2151/14. In view of C.O.A.C. Halifax's 2321/15 it is assumed that LETITIA will sail in N.A. 15 and movements control are proceeding with arrangements for embarkation as originally planned. (N.S.H.Q., 0340Z/16 to C. in C. U.S. Fleet, (R) Admty., B.A.D., C.O.A.C., N.M.C.S. Washington.)

Your 2321/15. Request immediate report of arrival of LETITIA. (D.O.D.(H) Approved A.C.N.S.(T), 1320A/16 to C.O.A.C., (R) N.S.H.Q., etc.)

Halifax arrival 1144Z/16. LETITIA. (N.S.H.Q., 1412Z/16 to Admty.)

In view of my 2315Z/16 (0340/16 intended?) please cancel my 1716Z/15.

(N.S.H.Q., 1418Z/16 to Admty.)

Request you will obtain following information from Master of LETITIA and pass to Admty. (A) Did he make an SSS signal T.O.O. 2013/9, and if so brief reasons for same. (B) Did he receive A.M. 0920Z/10 rebroadcast on 11th and A.M. 2155Z/14 instructing him to report position, and if so reasons for not complying. (D.T.D., 1735A/16 to C.O.A.C., (R) N.S.H.Q.)

U/B. W/T intercept from Guantanamo reports S/M sighted 1200 G.M.T. 019° 40' N. 074° 16' W. (S.O.I. Jamaica 0953Q/16 to D.N.I. Admty., B.A.D.)

Puerto La Cruz. Your 1205/15. In view of my 1727/5 and Curacao 1543/6, confirm desirability that Curacao should be keeping watch on Puerto La Cruz. (B.R.O. Trinidad, 1021Q/16 to Admty., (R) S.B.N.O. W.A., S.O.(I) Kingston Jamaica, S.B.N.O. Curacao.)

Movement Summary. 1800 G.M.T. 16/8.
Ship Position Course Speed
ASTURIAS)
LARGS) 11½° N. 37° W. 097° 10
2 Corvettes)
(D.O.D.(F), 1115Z/16 to Opnav, (R) Comnav.)

U/B Spanish Tanker. A/C report S/M position 14° 45' N. 60° 08' W. at 1200 G.M.T/16 and Spanish Tanker CASTILLO ALMENARA in vicinity course 060° speed 8 knots. (F.O.I.C. Trinidad, 1132Q/16 to S.O.(I) Jamaica, (R) Admty., S.B.N.O.W.A.)

/LAWRENCE ...

War Diary.

16.8.1942.
Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies - Contd.

LAWRENCE
KELVINBANK.

Your 1441/15 and S.O.(I) Kingston 01603/15 not to Admiralty. LAWRENCE (U.S. arrived 11/8 in W.A.T.) KELVINBANK (Br) arrived 15/8 in W.A.T. 12.
(B.R.O. Trinidad 1142Q/16 to Admty (R) S.O.(I) Kingston).

Escort
Groups
Time in
Port.

Referring to various messages originated by N.S.H.Q. relating to Trans-Atlantic Convoy Schedules. Assuming that Escort Group B7 will be available as Western Local Escort for SC 102 sailing from New York 19/9 and will also be available as Mid-Ocean Escort for SC.103.

There will be only one C group which will have a quick turn around at St. Johns, namely C2 which will have 4 days at that port. Although change in sailing dates of ON convoys proposed by N.S.H.Q. would have immediate effect of increasing time in port for A and C Groups at Western Terminal, this could not continue to benefit A and C groups when 11th Group rejoins without corresponding disadvantage to B groups. Continuance of present sailings ON and ON3 convoys ensures approx. equal time in port at both Terminals. Either circumstances, do not consider change in sailing ON convoys warranted.

(C.T.F.24 1201Z/16 to C. in C.W.A.(R) C. in C.U.S.Fleet (C & R) Admty, etc).

Trinidad
Tanker
Convoy.

R.A. West Africa's 1701/15. (N.T. in W.D.) Para.3 U.S. Authorities cannot undertake to escort Tanker Convoy from Trinidad.
(B.A.D. 1345Z/16 to Admty, R.A.W.A.(R) C. in C.S.A. F.O.C.N.A., C. in C.U.S.Fleet).

O.N. Convoy
arrangements.

My 1642/12th. Desirable that in order to make arrangements for western local escort decision be given as to 1st O.N. convoy to terminate at New York suggest this be O.N.125 leaving U.K. 29/8

due New York about 12/9. O.N.127 will then arrive about 19/9 and O.N.129 which sails three days earlier will arrive about 23/9 thence O.N. convoys arriving approximately 7 days intervals.

B.A.D. pass plain language copy to N.M.C.S.

(N.S.H.Q. Ottawa 1616Z/16 to C. in C.U.S.Fleet, Admty).

S/M Attack
& Sighting
Summary.

1. EVERELZA torpedoed and sunk in 19.55 N. 73.49.W. at 0800Z/13.
2. At. 0950Z/14, STANDELLA torpedoed in about 21.37 N. 76.08.W.

3. Attack at 2139Z/20/6 and 2145Z/25/6 reported in my 151811, deferred, white C/T and white superstructure respectively.

4. Plane sights periscope wake 47.50 N. 62.45 W. at 2113Z/14.

5. M/V sights periscope 28.50 N. 89.48 W. at 1310Z/13.

6. Approx. 24.19 N. 82.05.W. at 1830Z/14, a sound contact attacked by surface craft.

7. Possible periscope wake in 38°N 70.35 W at 1715Z/15 sighted by Panair plane.

(Comnaveu 1617/16, to Admty.).

/U/B....

War Diary.16.8.1942.
Sunday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America & West Indies - Contd.

U/B Positions (Cominch, 1628, 1629, 1630, 1631/16).
and
U.S.S/M
Notice.

U/B. S/M sighted 1830 G.M.T. today Sunday 024.07 N.
081.50 W.
(S.O.(I) Jamaica 1658Q/16 to B.A.D.etc).

Reporting routes of Merchant shipping. Your 1145/15th request route given in U.S. Ports may continue to be passed N.S.H.Q. Ottawa. N.S.H.Q. Ottawa is now passing onward route from Trinidad to S.O.(I) Jamaica only who include them in his inter station route signals after ships leave Trinidad. Existing system renders it unnecessary for ship whose route does not need modification to enter Trinidad for sole purpose of routeing.
(N.S.H.Q. Ottawa 1715Z/16 to Admty).

Stragglers Route. In order to obviate non-essential breaking W/T silence by escorts and observing that Standard Route is always within 50 miles of convoy route, propose (A) that A.M.1008/7/5 as amended by A.M. 1624/7/5 be cancelled, (B) that stragglers requiring to report their position should do so by reference to lettered positions on original Standard Route. (C) that Standard Route should be re-named Stragglers Route and all publications amended accordingly.
(D.T.D. 1741Z/16 to Connav (R) N.S.H.Q., C.O.A.C., F.O.N.F.)

Australia & New Zealand.

Situation. Digest Serial No.206 15/8.
1 enemy destroyer, 1, M/V reported arrived Buka Passage 2205Z/14 and depart 0030Z/15. R/C aircraft reported 1 enemy cruiser, 1 destroyer (possibly same force) 5° 55' S. 154° 32' E at 0257Z/15, course 170°. Aerodrome Buka reported serviceable for fighters with 4 dispersal track west side runway.
(2) 6 aircraft described at T.97 Kawasaki heavy bombers reliably reported over Buin(Bougainville) 2300Z/14 course S.E.
(3) A/C heard over Marovo Lagoon(Vangunu Is.Solomons) Southerly course at 2315Z/13.
(4) Air R/C reports M/V Koepang 0413Z/13.
(G.H.Q.S.W.P.A.0700Z/16 to Admty etc).

Enemy Intelligence. Cincpac Bulletin 152.1.Desdiv 17 enroute from Truk to Rabaul. Crudiv 7 (2CA) Kaga Maru, DD's of Desron 3 still in East Indies. 2.By D.F.S/M positions all south & east 71° 61° 71° 59° 81° 63°. 3. 1 S/M sighted in 17.30 S. 163.50 E. 4. 2 "Takao" Class heavy cruisers in addition to HAYATAKA, HITAKA, RYUJO (XCVs) estimated operating off the East coast of Honshu. 5. Indications are that all other carriers are in home ports. 6. At Buka Straits in Solomons, indications are that enemy is expanding and strengthening facilities and airfields.

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War Diary.16.8.1942.
Sunday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Australia & New Zealand.- Contd.

Enemy Intelligence. Contd. 7. Suspected that enemy is eyeing Gizo and may try a landing there.

8. Air field at Buna is being expanded. (Comnaveu 1648/16 to Admty).

161717. Cincpac's 160443 addressed to Cdr.S.Pacific Force, Cdr S.W.Pacific Force Cdrs.N.W., W.Panama and Hawaiian Sea Frontiers, All Task Force Commanders under my command for action, repeated to Cdr U.S.Naval Forces in Europe for information by Cominch, informs as follows:- Cincpac Bulletin 153.

1. HITAKA, HAYATAKA, ZUIHO operating in region of Marcus Island. Believed that other carriers still in Japan.
2. 2 divisions of Subron 1 en route New Britain via Truk, KAGA MARU en route Truk from East Indies escorted by destroyers.
3. S/Ms.by D/F. 8° S. 158° E. 13° 160° E.
4. Estimated that Cinc 2nd Fleet at sea in Saipan region. Slight indications that it may be en route South. (Comnaveu 1717/16, to Admty).

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.Submarines Reported.

Estimated positions.

(D.D.I.C. 1343A/16, 1347A/16)

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War Diary.

17.8.1942.
Monday.

SITUATION REPORT.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operation
"Cheese".

French S/M MINERVE sailed from Dundee ^{14/8} today for Lerwick and to carry out a special operation near Lister and subsequently to patrol in zones K.2 and K.3.
~~See p. 530.~~

U.S. Air
Force in
action.

Fortresses escorted by fighters attacked the docks at Rouen, Cherbourg and Dunkirk this afternoon. This is believed to be the first occasion on which the U.S. Air Force has bombed targets on the Continent.

8 Naval Swordfish laid mines last night at Cherbourg. Bomber Command aircraft laid mines in the Baltic and Frisian Is.-Elbe areas.

Several magnetic mines were detonated off Brighton this afternoon and 4 off the Needles. Two mines exploded in fishing vessels' trawls off Berry Head today, and 4 unexplained underwater explosions occurred.

Convoy
S.C. 94.
11 ships
sunk.

The search for RADCHURCH was abandoned today. The losses in Convoy S.C. 94 are thus: SPAR (sunk 5/8), KELSO, TREHATA, ANNEBERG, KAIMOKU (sunk 8/8), MOUNT KASSION (damaged 8/8 presumed sunk), RADCHURCH (undamaged, abandoned 8/8), EMPIRE REINDEER, CAPE RACE, CONDYLIS, OREGON sunk 10/8, total 11 ships lost.

North Atlantic.

Attack on
S.L. 118.

Convoy S.L. 118 was attacked at 1603Z today in 39° 31' N. 22° 43' W. and SS. TRITON was torpedoed and sunk.

Mediterranean.

Operation
"Baritone".

Twenty-nine Spitfires out of 32 flown off from FURIOUS arrived at Malta between 1058B and 1557B today.

/Tobruk ...

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17.8.1942.
Monday.War Diary.SITUATION REPORT.Mediterranean - Contd.

Tobruk and Matruh harbours were bombed last night and attacks on F-Boats continued today off the Libyan coast in bad weather.

Beauforts at 1645 today attacked a merchant ship escorted by 2 destroyers in 285° Lampion 16 miles and left it stopped and down by the stern; the escorting destroyers made off at high speed. P.44 was ordered to search for the vessel; at 0047B/18 she reported that the ship was sunk and that damage caused by the explosion had affected her water tightness and she was returning to Malta.

TURBULENT reports that at 1633 she attacked 2 large (merchant) ships and 3 destroyers in 36° 35' N. 21° 34' E. steering 315° at 14 knots and obtained one hit on each (merchant) ship. Nothing was seen an hour later.

Move "Robertsbridge" consisting of 7000 troops into Cyprus and 4800 out began today, during the course of which PRINCESS MARGUERITE with about 1000 troops on board, escorted by ANTWERP also carrying troops and 3 destroyers, was reported *torpedoed and sunk at 1559 today in 32° 3' N. 32° 47' E. * by U.S. (S.R. 1337)

Owing to drifting mines off Massawa shipping movements have had to be restricted to daylight. C. in C. Med. is taking steps to deal with the matter.

Australia and New Zealand.

The C. in C. of the U.S. Pacific Fleet reported on 21/8 that Marines of his fleet today carried out a raid on Makin Island (Gilbert Is.) which is held by the Japanese and destroyed the seaplane base and caused other damage.

War Diary.17.8.1942.
Monday.HOME COMMANDS.Policy.M Class
destroyers.

My 1130B/26/5/42. Para 4. Intend "M" Class destroyers to form 3rd D.F. under command of Captain I.M.R. Campbell R.N. in MILNE as from today 17/8.
(R.A.D. 1051/17.)

P.552.

It is probable that H.M. S/M P.552 will shortly be required to join the Eastern Fleet for A/S training purposes. Preparation to be made now to this end.
(F.O.S. 1146A/17 to Capt. (S) 7.)

M.M.S.

A.M. 2355A/16. Request you will redistribute remaining M.M.S in your Command as circumstances require.
2. Re-allocation of new construction will be made in due course.
(D.M.S. 1234A/17 to C. in C. Nore, Portsmouth.)

4th.
M.S.F.

Request you will sail 4th M.S.F. to Portland to operate under orders of C. in C. Plymouth temporarily as soon as possible.
(D.M.S. 1311A/17 to C. in C. Nore.)
Your 1311/17. Intend to sail all available ships of 4th M/S.F. for proposed action p.m./18.
(C. in C. Nore 1758A/17 to Admty.)

TUNAHOLM.

Eastbound Swedish vessel TUNAHOLM due to arrive Faeroes a.m./19 for onward passage to Gothenburg. Speed 15 knots. She is not to be molested.
(F.O.S. 1429A/17 to S/Ms operating N of 51° north.)

H.D.M.Ls.

Your 1618/15. No H.D.M.Ls are available at present. Clyde it is presumed will be temporarily augmented from other sources if circumstances permit.
(C. in C. W.A. 1810A/17 to N.O.I.C. Greenock.)

HOWE.

On completion HOWE will come under the orders of C. in C. H.F. and will proceed to Scapa for trials and working up as ordered by him.
(D.O.D.(H.) 1918A/17.)

Defence of U.K.

Lerwick.

In view of anticipated concentration of submarines at Lerwick next month and subsequently the present allocation of 4 H.A.A. guns is considered inadequate. Request A/A defence of submarine base should now be increased to 12 H.A.A. guns as approved by C.O.S.
(A/A) 46th meeting.
(A.C.N.S.(H.) 2320A/17 to Air Min.)

War Diary.17.8.1942.
Monday.HOME COMMANDS.Movements.30
M.L.F.Admty. pass to U.S. and Canadian Authorities.
Admty. 1901/3 and my 1417/14. Sailing delayed
24 hours owing to weather.
(N.O.I.C. Stornoway 1028/17 to A.C.I.C.)RUBIS
GRAPH
Z.5.RUBIS is to be ordered to Falmouth thence direct
to Dundee. Z.5 is available as escort as far as
Clyde area.

(F.O.S. 1147A/17 to S.5.)

(1) Intend sailing GRAPH unescorted at 2100/18 to
R/V with Z.5 at 0800/19 in 180° Lizard Head 10
miles routed as follows - Q Z S 284 to N 3 buoy thence through

- (a) 050° 37' N 001° 37' W.
- (b) 050° 32' N 001° 37' W.
- (c) 180° Start Point 20 miles.
- (d) 150° Lizard Head 19 miles.

(2) Request submerged bombing restriction 10 miles either side
a line joining (a) and (d) from (?21)00/18 to 0600/19 and total
bombing restriction in area with centre Lizard Head radius 40
miles from 0430/19 to 1000/19.(3) Communication in accordance with A.F.O. 2/42 table 2. (3)
(Capt. (S) 5 1325A/17 to C. in C. Portsmouth. (R) Capt. S.3.
Capt. S.7. F.O.S. C. in C. Plymouth. N.O.I.C. Falmouth.
Admty. H.Q.C.C.)
Cancel my 1745/14.(1) From position (B) proceed to R/V with Z.5 and GRAPH in 180°
Lizard Head 10 miles at 0800/19 for onward surface passage Dundee.(2) Request submerged bombing restrictions 20 miles either side
of a line joining (d) to (c) and (c) to (b) from 1800/16 to
0600/18 and (b) to R/V from 1800/17 to 0600/19 and total bombing
restrictions in area with centre Lizard Head radius 40 miles from
0430/19 to 1000/19.

(Capt. S.5. 1356A/17 to RUBIS.)

LANCASTER
SALADIN
SHIKARIHave destroyers proceeding Akureyri sufficient fuel
for return to Hvalfiord.?(A.C.I.C. 1355A/17 to LANCASTER, SALADIN, SHIKARI.)
E.T.A. S.D.31 1100 G.M.T. 18th. Your 1355A/17
destroyers must fuel before proceeding to Akureyri.
(LANCASTER 1740A/17 to A.C.I.C.)

WELLS.

My 1105/16 delayed 48 hours.
(N.O.I.C. Newport 1700A/17 to Commodore WESTERN
ISLES. R.A.M.)

M.M.S.

Two Motor Minesweepers from The London M/S Force
and two from The Harwich M/S Force are to be
sailed to operate from Sheerness. Accounts to be
transferred.(C. in C. Nore. 1740A/17 to F.O.I.C. London.
F.O.I.C. Harwich.)DEVON
CITY.After loading boom and other stores request DEVON
CITY may be sailed for Diego Suarez in the
appropriate O.S. convoy.

(D.B.D. 1842A/17 to C. in C. Rosyth.)

War Diary.17.8.1942.
Monday.HOME COMMANDS.Movements - Contd.4th.
M.S.F.Instructions for passage of 4th. M.S.F. to
Portland.
(C. in C. Nore 1858A/17.)RODNEY.
VICTORIOUS.To give wider berth to S.L.118 which is believed
to be shadowed by U-Boats alter course forthwith
to pass through 42° 30' N 20° 00' W then as
ordered.Estimated P.C.S. of S.L.118 at 0900Z/17 40° 00' N
21° 52' W 041° 7½ knots.

(D.O.D. (H.) 1943A/17 to RODNEY, VICTORIOUS.)

S/Ms.

My 1258/9 ^{/M.T. & N.D.} para (4) for 21/8 read 23/8 para (V)
for 23/8 read 25/8 para (VI) UNIQUE will not
carry out an anti S/M patrol but will proceed to
Lerwick about 30/8.2. Add new para (VIII) F.S. JUNON is to carry out an anti S/M
patrol leaving Dundee about 27/8.
(F.O.S. 1956A/17 to Capt. S. Home.)Operations.Standard
Patrols
Nore.My 1040/30. May para 2 amend patrol as follows:
Number one 57 F to 56 buoy number 2 56 to 57 buoy
number 3 57 to 55 A buoy number 4 55 A to 3 C buoy
number 5 3 C to 3 A buoy number 6 3 A to 54 B buoy.
These amendments are to come into force today Monday
(C. in C. Nore 1100A/17 to Capt. D.16. Capt. D.21.
(R) C. in C. Rosyth. N.O.I.C. Humber. S.E.E.C.C.D.
N.O.I.C. Yarmouth. N.O.I.C. Harwich. N.O.I.C.
Sheerness.)Operation
E U.Following ratings and stores embarked for North
Russia in TUSCALOOSA, ONSLAUGHT, RODMAN, EMMONS.
(C. in C. H.F. 0615A/17.)U.S.S. TUSCALOOSA with two destroyers leaving
Scapa for Seidisfiord at 2100A/17 routed as inmy 1142/17. E.T.A. 1030A/19. Request A/S air escort may be
provided from 1st light 18th.(C. in C. H.F. 1714A/17 to C. in C. W.A. A.C.I.C. (R) A.C.O.S.
H.Q.C.C. U.S.S. TUSCALOOSA. Admty.)Light
Forces
Operation.At 2040/16 R.D.F. plotted about 15 enemy craft
probably R Boats from a position 8 miles N.W. of
Calais on a north-westerly course at 15 knots -
at No.2 Buoy (105 South Foreland 9) enemy split
into two groups which steered N.E. and S.W.
respectively.2. M.G.Bs 10 (Lieut. G.D.K. Richards R.N.) and 6 (Sub. Lt. Barge
R.N.V.R.) were at sea proceeding on patrol from Ramsgate and
steered for the enemy as soon as positions were broadcast despite
defective steering in M.G.B.10. M.G.Bs 330 (Lieut. D.C.
Sidebottom R.N.V.R.) 331 (Lieut. N.R. Weekes R.N.V.R.) and 609
(Lieut. A.D. Mc Ilwraith R.N.V.R.) were despatched from Dover.

War Diary.17.8.1942.
Monday.HOME COMMANDS.Operations.Light
Forces
Operation.
Contd.

3. About 2125 the two M.G.B forces each made contact with and engaged at close range five or six craft of the southwesterly group of the enemy force, our coastal artillery having previously about 2100 fired 26 rounds of 6 inch. (R. 184)
4. As a result of a fierce action one R Boat, was stopped by M.G.Bs 10 and 6 and later boarded and taken in tow by M.G.B.10 but unfortunately an uncontrollable fire broke out so that boarding party with enemy crew had to be taken off.
- M.G.Bs 330, 331 and 609 heavily hit at least three R Boats and one of these which was rammed by M.G.B. 330 may well have been unable to reach harbour.
5. Casualties to our forces which had returned to Dover by 2315 were:-
- M.G.B. 330 considerable damage 2 ratings killed Commanding Officer and 8 ratings wounded.
- M.G.B. 331 some damage C.O. and two ratings wounded.
- M.G.B. 609 considerable damage 2 ratings killed 3 officers and ten ratings wounded.
- M.G.B. 10 considerable damage no casualties.
- M.G.B. 6 some damage one rating wounded.
6. Fifteen enemy prisoners were taken.
7. Enemy forces withdrew towards Calais the Northeastern groups having passed through a position 080 South Foreland 14 before retiring, their object is not altogether clear but the laying of a defensive minefield is suspected advantage of low visibility being taken to commence the operation before dark.
8. Enemy coastal batteries fired about 30 rounds between 2115 - 2315 in counter bombardment of South Foreland area but 2 or 3 rounds fell close to Submarine Basin where M.G.Bs were disembarking casualties.

(V.A. Dover 1104A/17, 1142A/17.)

My 1104. Boarding party reports that enemy craft had a main armament of 3 20-mm Mauser Cannon and no torpedo tubes. It was gathered that mines (number and type unknown) had been carried and been jettisoned when the action commenced. As far as is known explosion and fire was caused by fuel vapour or ammunition and not by demolition charges fired by crew.

(F.O.C. Dover 1734A/17.) *See R. 184 summary. See investigation of Submarine C.B. 4051(49) Sept: 1942.*

Patrols. Night 17/18 August. Two trawlers and one R.D.F. trawler patrolling south of E.A.5 Buoy. (C. in C. Portsmouth 1507/17.)

Sail 3 motor gunboats at last light today Monday to patrol near 050° 10' N 002° 40' W. Report numbers codeword "Obstacle".

- (2) Object to destroy E-Boats which may try to lay in Lyme Bay.
- (3) If no E-Boats reports are received by 0200/18 motor gunboats may investigate vicinity Channel Is. but are to be 20 miles from enemy coast by daylight.
- (4) W/T communication 2300 K/cs usual book to be landed. (C. in C. Plymouth 1509A/17 to N.O.I.C. Dartmouth.)
- Weather permitting establish an M.L. patrol on a line 140° from Lille Dimon distant from 5 to 45 miles from 2200 today Monday until 1200/18 communications as in my 1643/7/8. (A.C.O.S. 1530/17 to N.O.I.C. Faeroes.)

/Your...

War Diary.17.8.1942.
Monday.HOME COMMANDS.Operations.

Patrols. Your 1530/17 weather unsuitable.
Contd. (N.O.I.C. Faeroes 1932A/17 to A.C.O.S.)
Patrol tonight Monday
(1) M.G.Bs. (L) 334, 325 at Z 9.
(2) M.G.Bs. (L) 335, 319 at Z 15.
(C. in C. Nore 1811A/17 to S.E.E.C. Convoy.)
M.Ls. 147 (S.O.) and 151 from Ramsgate patrolling between
Dumpton and North East Spit Buoys. E.T.D. 2115 E.T.R. 0510/18.
M.T.Bs 219, 218 and 38 and M.T.Bs 204, 24 and 43 patrolling near
"V" Buoy E.T.D. 2115 and 2130 respectively. The following
anti-E Boat patrols from 2145 NETSUKIS and SARPEDON at No. 1 Buoy.
LOIS and UT-PROSIM at South West Gate Buoy.
WATERFLY and REVERBERATION at "D" Buoy.
M.G.Bs. 9 and 6 at No. 7 Buoy.
M.Ls. 213, 128 and 103 at No. 10 Buoy.
M.Ls. 210 and 125 at Rye Buoy and M.L. 142 and R.M.L. 518 2 miles
S.W. of C one Buoy.
(V.A. Dover 1922A/17.)

Combined Your 2007/16 not to C. in C. Portsmouth.
Operation. As present suitable periods end on 19/8 request
R.201 and R.154 may be sailed to TORMENTER as
convenient.
2. It is hoped to make a further attempt during
September period starting 10/9. Longer nights
will obviate need for towage. Possibility of providing cover
with M.G.Bs of 14th Flotilla now under C.C.O. will be gone into.
(C.C.O. 1533A/17 to V.A. Dover.)

MINERVE MINERVE sailed for Lerwick and patrol.
Operation (Capt. S.9. 1547A/14.) *Show 13 on p. 425.*
"Cheese".

M.G.Bs. ^{/N.T. 17.21}
76,75,79. My 1945A/17. "Obstacle" sailed.
(N.O.I.C. Dartmouth 2112/17.)

Danish Detach VANITY to reach position 55° 11' N 1° 35' E
Trawlers. by daylight where 5 trawlers with Danish marking
reported stationary and fishing. Hudson detailed
to search area first light and contact VANITY.
Trawlers to be captured and brought into Port if
possible otherwise sunk. MANNELL on 3 patrol has been detailed
by C. in C. Nore to join you.
(C. in C. Rosyth 2145A/17 to VERSATILE.)

War Diary.17.8.1942.
Monday.HOME COMMANDS.Allied Air Operations.

- S.N.73. R.A.M. 1110/10 Item (E) Request (a) A/S air patrol be established a.m. Friday 21/8 in Denmark Strait North East of Mine Barrier.
(b) A/S air escort for minelayer Squadron throughout the operation.
(C. in C. H.F. 1444A/17 to A.C.I.C.)
- Bombing restrictions. Request surface bombing restrictions 2115/17 to 0700/18 in area Start Point, Cap la Hague, Portland Bill.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 1522/17 to H.Q.C.C.)
- Aircraft at Vaenga. C. in C. H.F. 1936/16 which is being passed to you. Request spare piston rings for Merlin 20 additional to those already embarked in warships may be flown to Kola Inlet as soon as possible to arrive not later than 21/8.
(D.O.D.(H) 1639A/17 to Air Min.)
- AVENGER. Intend following embarkations in AVENGER for P.Q.18.
A. Squadron 802 and Squadron 883 complete with 12 Hurricanes.
B. Three Swordfish, 5 flying crews and necessary maintenance personnel from Squadron 825.
C. Six additional Hurricanes fully equipped and tested to be carried as reserves for assembly on board at destination, stowed slung overhead in hangers less engines air screws and wings which will be stowed separately below.
2. Request provision of Hurricanes for Item C.
3. Request A.S. Rosyth arrange stowages on board for Item C to requirements of ships officers. My 1101/16 refers.
(C. in C. H.F. 1905A/17 to Admty.)
- P R Mosquito to Narvik. Air Ministry please pass to 30 Mission (R) Party A. AC/471 17/8. One P R Mosquito to Narvik landing Vaenga about 1130A/18 to refuel and return U.K.
(H.Q.C.C. 2248A/17 to 30 Mission.)

Mining.

- Harwich. Port now open.
(F.O.I.C. Harwich 0600A/17.)
- Brighton. Positions of 6 red magnetic mines detonated off Brighton East 17/8.
(Lt. C. M/S Newhaven 1416/17, 1423/17, 1444/17, 1531/17, 1650/17, 1749/17.)
- Dartmouth. R.N.O. Brixham reports:- One mine exploded in trawl of Belgian trawler 056 at 1230/17 in position 8 miles S.E. of Berry Head. Horned pieces of mine recovered from trawl.
2. One mine exploded in trawl of Belgian trawler 0208 in

/position...

War Diary.17.8.1942.
Monday.HOME COMMANDS.Mining.Dartmouth.
Contd.

position 9 miles S.S.E. of Berry Head.
Trawler B M 109 reports four underwater explosions
10 miles S by E of Berry Head between 1200 and
1530 nearest being 200 yards distant at 1530.
(N.O.I.C. Dartmouth 1904/17.)

Enemy Intelligence.Altmark
Tanker.

Cancel A.M. 1132B/7. Reference A.M. 1048A/11 not
to all addressees from information now available
vessel sighted by aircraft on 10/8 off Cape
Ortegal is now believed to be an Altmark tanker.
This vessel probably returned to a Biscay port on
11/8 and has since sailed again.
(D.D.I.C. 1554A/17 to 'A' Mge Home and Abroad
177ABI) Cominch, Comnavu, H.Q.C.C.)

U-Boats.Attack
by TRURO.

Have carried out 2 attacks on suspected S/Ms in
044° 16' N 019° 04' W originally reported by
aircraft as suspicious swirl. Contact lost am
searching area with SWALE.
(TRURO 1342Z/17 to Admty.)

Near North
Cape.

Russia reports U-Boats sighted by trawler at
0900A/17 in 069° 30' N 058° 30' E.
(S.B.N.O. North Russia 1715A/17.)
For destroyers proceeding Akureyri. Enemy S/Ms
have been reported N and E.N.E. of North Cape.
(A.C.I.C. 2015A/17 to LANCASTER. (R) SALADIN.
SHIKARI.)

Attack
by A/C.

Am over enemy submarine in 46° 40' N 80° 30' W.
Periscope only sighted. When first sighted was on
a course 130°, speed 6 knots.
(A/C G3MK 1822/17.)

Navigational.

Yarmouth.

Port closed owing to fog.
(F.O.I.C. Gt. Yarmouth 0645A/17.)
My 0645. Port now open.
(F.O.I.C. Gt. Yarmouth 0745A/17.)

Thames
Estuary.

The lights on the following buoys in Thames
Estuary are reported to be working irregularly and
to be some times not showing.
A. Knock John Buoy. B. Letchworth wreck buoy.
C. Venetia wreck Buoy.
Request repairs may be carried out.
(C. in C. Nore 1141A/17 to Admty.)

War Diary.17.8.1942.
Monday.HOME COMMANDS.Casualties and Defects.

SS. COULMORE AVON COAST. Damaged in collision with ship in F.S. No 283 at 20 C buoy. Request tugs. Am standing by. (VICEROY 0220/17 to N.O.I.C. Newcastle on Tyne, 0300A.)

VICEROY 0300 COULMORE was in collision with AVON COAST Cdre. of F.S. 283 near 20 D. AVON COAST not now in convoy is probably damaged making for Tyne or Blyth. VICEROY search for AVON COAST when NIGHT RIDER has COULMORE.

(WALLACE 0505A/17 to N.C.S.O. Tyne. VICEROY. (R) C. in C. Rosyth. NIGHT RIDER.)

My 0300 AVON COAST from F.S. 283 also damaged in collision. Returning at 20 C. Am diverting to Tyne. Request tugs. Am standing by. SS. COULMORE has blundered.

(VICEROY 0542A/17 to N.O.I.C. Newcastle on Tyne.)

My 0542/17. Tug standing by. Am rejoining convoy. (VICEROY 0605A/17.)

My 1454/16. COULMORE returned to Tyne. (F.O.I.C. Tyne 0951/17.)

CHESTERFIELD. ^{/H.T. W.D.} Your 1209A/16. CHESTERFIELD delayed by defects. Further signal will be made. (F.O.I.C. Greenock 0803A/17 to C. in C. W.A.)

H.D.A. Station Duisdale. H.D.A. Station at Duisdale partially out of action due to defect in Training Unit. Request Cable Ship may be sent to effect repairs. Written report follows. (N.O.I.C. Lochalsh 0928/17 to Admty.)

Pile Driver. Regret to report PILEDRIIVER (? Pile driver) sank a.m./16 in 50° 12' 40" N 04° 43' W in 30 fathoms on passage from Fowey to Falmouth. (C. in C. Plymouth 1105A/17 to Admty.)

Search for RADCHURCH. Area searched from position of wreck lat. 55 to 56 N and west to 021° 30' W nothing found. Consider likelihood wreck has been sunk as 2 U-Boats were sighted in area yesterday. Propose detaching ROSELYS to base at 1400Z owing to shortage of fuel. SENNEN and NIMBLE continue search. Position at 1230Z 055° 12' N 023° 00' W. weather report. (SENNEN 1233Z/17 to C. in C. W.A.)

Your 1233Z/17 not to all addressees. SENNEN, ROSELYS and NIMBLE return to base in company. (C. in C. W.A. 1609A/17 to SENNEN.)

RODNEY VICTORIOUS. It is understood RODNEY and VICTORIOUS are to proceed Rosyth for repairs. If so request they may call at Scapa to disembark fuel and embark stores etc. (C. in C. H.F. 1311A/17 to C. in C. W.A.)

/SALADIN...

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War Diary.17.8.1942.
Monday.HOME COMMANDS.Casualties and Defects - Contd.

SALADIN. SALADIN reports her dome and oscillator have been carried away in rough weather and that her starboard wet air pump plunger rod thread is stripped.
Spare pump gear is at No.19 lay-apart store Portsmouth.
SALADIN can still make good 20 knots.
(LANCASTER 1730A/17 to N.O.I.C. Londonderry.)

BRABO. Re salvage.
(Chief Salvage Officer N.E. Area 1900/17.)

Shipping and Convoys.

SIBAJAK. My 1956/9. Sailing date delayed by two days.
LLANSTEPHAN (D.S.T. 0454A/17, 0456/17.)
CASTLE. Sailed BLYSKAWICA to comply with C. in C. W.A. 2151A/16.
(F.O.I.C. Greenock 0908A/17.)

SS. THE My 1002/16 and my 2041/16. Sailing postponed
MARQUIS. further twelve hours owing to weather.
EMPIRE (N.O.I.C. Faeroes 0815A/17.)
CHIFF.

NORLUNA. Aircraft report that NORLUNA was sighted in
59° 48' N 24° 32' W at 1342/16 steering 010° 9
knots.
She had left S.C.L.95 to pick up survivors.
(C. in C. W.A. 1034Z/17 to C.T.U. 24.6.5.)

P.Q.18. Ref. Air Min. AX 148 29/7 and Mission Air 509 10/8.
D.C.N.S. today said they were short of aircraft but
thought requisite long range bombers torpedo
bombers and L.R. Lighters could be made available
when date of sailing P.Q.18 known. Each convoy must be treated as
a separate operation as Russians cannot afford to maintain this
large force of aircraft permanently in north.
2. I gave him provisional date of Sept. 6th but request early
confirmation or amendment.
3. Admty. pass to Air Min.
(Admiral Miles 1246C/17 to Admty. (R) C. in C. H.F. Air Min.)

Search Arrived SNOWFLAKE, WALLFLOWER.
for (Cdre. Londonderry 2330A/17.)
LETITIA.

War Diary.17.8.1942
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic.

- U/B attacked S.L.118. At 2308Z/16 in 037° 50' N. 023° 08' W.
by FOLKESTONE FOLKESTONE and GORLESTON attacked R.D/F and
→ GORLESTON. anti S/M contacts with depth charges. No
visible result. Sweeping back to convoy.
Weather report.
(FOLKESTONE 0235A/17 to F.O.C.N.A. (R) Admty.,
C. in C. W.A.) *p. 537*
- U/B. Have obtained A.S.V. contact in 37.44 N. 1° 40 E.
probably a S/M.
(A/C using call sign TK7B 0546/17 to Gibraltar)
My 0546. S/M when first sighted was on a course of 270°
speed 12 knots. Have lost touch. Last observed 37.44 N.
1° 40' E. at 0550.
(A/C TK7B 0600/17 to Gibraltar.)
Catalina T K 7 B reports A.S.V. contact probable S/M in
037° 44' N. 001° 40' E. at 0546B.
(F.O.C.N.A. 0537A/17 to Force "H" (R) Admty., N.O.I.C.
Malta, C. in C. Med.)
- U/B Sub sighted on surface 085° 8 miles 000°.
→ GORLESTON. My position 038° 37' N. 023° 37' W.
(GORLESTON 0700Z/17 to F.O.C.N.A. (R) C. in C.
W.A., Admty., N.O.I.C. Londonderry, FOLKESTONE.)
U-Boat previously reported presumed lost to view at 0706Z
resighted 238° 10 miles 260° as result of D.F. bearing at 0811Z.
Am chasing S.W. Convoy bears 304° 48 miles. Am 077° 25 miles
from my 0701 position. Weather report.
(GORLESTON 0908Z/17 to F.O.C.N.A. (R) C. in C. W.A.
Admty., N.O.I.C. Londonderry, FOLKESTONE.)
- U/Bs. D/F bearings on Series A at 0207Z, 0209Z and 0238Z
S.L.118. suggest that 2 or more U-Boats remain in your
immediate vicinity.
(D.D.I.C. 0715A/17 to Escorts S.L.118, (R)
F.O.C.N.A., C. in C. W.A., H.Q.C.C.)
D/F bearings at 0810Z/17 indicate U-Boat continues to
shadow.
(D.D.I.C. 0958A/17 to Escorts, S.L.118.) *p. 537*
- Intelligence Your 2307/4/12/1941. Increase in establishment
Area. now effected. (2) Proposed alteration in
Intelligence area therefore acceptable.
(F.O.C.N.A. 1130A/17 to Admty. (R) C. in C.
Med., N.O.I.C. Malta.)
- C.S.10. Admty. 0030/15. Flag of C.S.10 will be struck
at sunset today 17/8. 2. Admty. pass to
C. in C. H.F. and C.S.18.
(F.O.C.N.A. 1134A/17 to Admty.)

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War Diary.17.8.1942
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic - contd.

- P.48. Onward route on surface at C.O's discretion as follows - (l) P.48 through (g) 037° 55' 010° 06' at 0500/22. (h) 225° Cape St. Vincent 10 miles at 1500/22. (j) 036° 38' 007° 15' at 0100/23 to R/V with escort in (k) 000° Cape Spartel 5 miles at 1030/23.
- P.219. 2. P.219 through (l) 037° 22' 010° 02' at 0930/22. (m) 225° Cape St. Vincent 15 miles at 1500/22. (n) 036° 22' 007° 00' at 0130A/23 to (?R/V with) escort in K at 0800/23rd.
3. All times zone minus one.
 4. Total bombing restrictions arranged.
 5. Both S/Ms will be escorted Gibraltar from K.
 6. If unable to comply within 2 hours report position course and speed.
 7. P.48 and P.219 may encounter one another on 22nd and 23rd S/Ms are not to be attacked on these days unless definitely identified as hostile.
- (F.O.C.N.A. 1340A/17 to P.219, P.48 (R) D.S. O.21, Admty., Capt. S.3, F.O.S., C. in C. Plymouth.)

ITHURIEL My 1802/16. Para (E). L.N.No.497 (ITHURIEL) Hull damage extends forward of diagonal line from stem at upper deck to 6 station at keel (details) Temporary repair in hand to complete 21st August. (2) Admty. pass to C. in C. H.F. and R.A. D/H F. (F.O.C.N.A. 1602A/17 to Admty. (R) C. in C. H.F., C. in C. W.A., F.O.C. D.F.H.F.)

~~COET PITCHON.~~ Following extract from Fairmiss Telegram.
~~COETLOGON~~ Entered 17th COET PITCHON.
~~17.8.42.~~ (Barcelona 1630/17 to M. of W.T.)

Disposal of Forces after "Pedestal". A.T. 2005/3 and my 1204/15 (Both Hush, N.T. in W.D.) Following alternatives are proposed.

- A. Based on sailing F.O."F" with INDOMITABLE.
- B. Based on sailing F.O."F" p.m./19 and INDOMITABLE as soon as ready, involving holding MALAYA, RAMILLIES, at Freetown.
- C. Based on sailing F.O."F" p.m./19 and holding INDOMITABLE through full moon period until after MALAYA and RAMILLIES have arrived Gibraltar. INDOMITABLE is estimated to be ready for sea p.m. 23/8.

2. (A) Sail F.O."F" in NELSON with INDOMITABLE, FURIOUS, ARGUS escorted by KEPPEL ?MALCOLM, VENOMOUS, TARTAR, SOMALI, FURY, BICESTER, ESKIMO, ITHURIEL, LIGHTNING p.m. 23/8. CHARYBDIS, LAFOREY, LOOKOUT provide additional escort to 45° N. WISHART to 40° N. On parting LAFOREY, LOOKOUT to proceed to Ponta Delgada for fuel, CHARYBDIS and WISHART return to Gibraltar. LAFOREY, LOOKOUT then R/V MALAYA, RAMILLIES in 22° N. p.m. 31/8 and escort to Gibraltar reinforced by WISHART in 25° N.

/(B) ...

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War Diary.17.8.1942
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic - conts.Disposal
of Forces
after
"Pedestal"
(contd)

(B) Sail F.O."F" in NELSON with FURIOUS, ARGUS escorted by KEPPEL, MALCOLM, VENOMOUS, TARTAR, SOMALI, FURY BICESTER, ESKIMO, ITHURIEL, LIGHTNING p.m.19/8. Sail INDOMITABLE when ready at high speed, escorted by CHARYBDIS, LAFOREY, LOOKOUT to 45° N. thence to Gibraltar (? U.K. intended) holding MALAYA, RAMILLIES at Freetown

until escort available.

(C) Sail F.O."F" in NELSON with ARGUS, FURIOUS escorted by KEPPEL, MALCOLM, VENOMOUS, TARTAR, SOMALI, FURY, BICESTER, ESKIMO, ITHURIEL, LIGHTNING p.m. 19/8.

Sail INDOMITABLE at high speed escorted by CHARYBDIS, LAFOREY, LOOKOUT to 45° N. about 29/8 after MALAYA, RAMILLIES have arrived at Gibraltar.

3. Intend to sail KENYA independently p.m. 18/8.

4. Intend to sail VIDETTE, WRESTLER to Plymouth p.m. 18/8.

Both defective low endurance maximum speed 15 knots.

5. Request I may retain ANTELOPE until arrival of destroyers relieving WESTCOTT, WRESTLER.

6. Admty. pass to C. in C. H.F., R.A.A. H.F., and R.A.D. H.F. (F.O.C.N.A. 1650A/17 to Admty.)

Attacks on
S.L.118
TRITON
torpedoed.

S.L.118. SS TRITON torpedoed and sunk at 1603Z in 039° 31' N. 022° 43' W. Weather. (FOLKESTONE 1710A/17 to F.O.C.N.A. (R) Admty., C. in C. W.A.)

U/Bs.
S.L.118.

Bearings on Series A at 0938, 1122, 1140, 1236, 1255, 1335, 1429, 1445, 1752, 1815 G.M.T. 17th indicate that S.L.118 is being shadowed and reported.

(D.D.I.C. 2004A/17 to Escorts of S.L.118, C. in C. W.A., F.O.C.N.A., H.Q.C.C.)

S.L.118. U-Boat sighted in 039° 55' N. 022° 12' W. at 2149Z. Attacking.

(FOLKESTONE 2302A/17 to F.O.C.N.A.S. (R) Admty., C. in C. W.A., Commodore Londonderry.) p.535

PESCADOR.

Following from M.E.W. Your 1545/16, Portuguese PESCADOR, seize ship and cargo. (D.E.W.D. 1805A/17 to C.C.S.O. Gibraltar.)

LADY HOGARTH
JAUNTY.

Your 1958B/3 para 3. Propose to sail LADY HOGARTH as additional escort (?remaining) in U.K. for refit on completion of escort duties. (2) Intend to sail rescue tug JAUNTY in company

with DURHAM and escort.

(3) Proposed sailing date will be signalled later.

(F.O.C.N.A. 1830A/17 to Admty. (R) C. in C. W.A., N.O.I.C. Greenock.)

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War Diary.17.8.1942
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic.

- DORSETSHIRE
(hospital
ship) In view of D. C. in C. E.F.'s 0728/16, not to P.S.T.O. Egypt, stating that date of readiness of LLANDOVERY CASTLE of 7/9 is unacceptable, propose that DORSETSHIRE be used subject to P.S.T.O. Egypt's concurrence.
(D.S.T. 0052A/17 to P.S.T.O. Simonstown, P.S.T.O. Egypt, (R) D. C. in C. E.F., G.O.C. in C. E.A.)
- U/B. American aircraft reports sighting S/M in 2° S. 6° W. at 1118Z/16, S/M seen to dive.
(R.A.W.A. 0340Z/17 to Admty. (R) C. in C. S.A.)
- U/B
attack. S/M attack 11° 26' S. 37° 10' W. at 2210 G.M.T/16.
(Rio de Janeiro W/T T.O.R. 0420Z/17 to all ships)
(Valentia Radio 0456/17 to Admty.)
(Lands End Radio 0604/17 to Adm. Plymouth.)
Following read by Portishead Radio from STRATHALLAN.
Addressed all ships. S/M attacked IMI in 11.27 S. 37.20 W.
2200 G.M.T./16.
(Portishead Radio T.H.I. 0643/17 to Admty. Adm. Liverpool)
- ARROW. Sailed ARROW to Diego Suarez routed as in my 0456/27/7. S. of A. 14 knots E.T.A. 0530Z/22 (corrupt group) favourable opportunity.
(N.O.I.C. Durban 0552Z/17 to Admty., C. in C. S.A. D. C. in C. E.F., S.O.(I) Colombo, S.O.(I) Kilindini, C. in C. E.F., N.O.I.C. Diego Suarez.)
- U/B
report
(15/8) My 2041Z/16. Latitude should read north and report is considered doubtful.
(R.A.W.A. 0735Z/17 to Admty. (R) C. in C. S.A.)
My 2041/16. For 1745/15 read 1745/16.
(R.A.W.A. 1010Z/17)
- Force V.
SIRIUS,
etc. F.O.C.N.A.'s 1832A/15. Onward route M. 14° 40' N. 19° 26' W. N. 8° 49' N. 16° 18' W. thence Freetown.
(R.A.W.A. 1151Z/17 to S.O. Force V. (R) F.O.C.N.A. Admty., C. in C. S.A.)
- C.M.31 B. Convoy C.M.31 B. sailed 16/8 for Bombay, personnel on board for India, NOVA SCOTIA, INDRAPOERA, E.T.A. 2/9.)
(D.S.T.O. Durban 1155C/17 to S.S.T.O. Bombay, (R) P.S.T.O. India, D. C. in C. E.F., D. of S.T., P.S.T.O. Simonstown.)
- C.M.31 A. Convoy C.M.31 A sailed for Aden 16/8 personnel on board for Middle East ASCANIUS, BANFORA, SALWEEN, KOSCIUSZKO, E.T.A. Aden 1/9.
(D.S.T.O. Durban 1157C/17 to D.S.T.O. Aden, (R) D. C. in C. E.F., P.S.T.O. Egypt, F.O.C.R.S.F. S.S.T.O. Suez, D. of S.T., P.S.T.O. Simonstown.)

/ROBERTS ...

War Diary.

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Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic - contd.

- ROBERTS. Ref. A.M. 1539/16. Request anticipated date of arrival Durban.
(C. in C. S.A. 1216B/17 to C. in C. Med., (R) C. in C. E.F., Dep. C. in C. E.F., Admty.)
p. 541.
- Union Port defences. Your 1231/12. Opinion here is that no Union defended port is suitable for laying indicator nets but final decision can only be made after arrival (?) of Cdr. C.B. Lowe.
(C. in C. S.A. 1225B/17 to Admty. (R) D.C. in C. E.F.)
- W.S.1 P.G. W.S. 1 P.G. sailed 16/8, E.T.A. Shatt El Arab
(?W.S.21 P.G.) 2/9 (details) Master states owners have instructed them to fuel at Bahrein on completion of discharge.
(S.T.O. Capetown 1235Z/17 to D. of S.T., N.O.I.C. Abadan, N.O.I.C. Bahrein, (R) C. in C. S.A., P.S.T.O. Capetown.)
- ATHENE. Sailed ATHENE to Kilindini routed as in N.C.S.O. Durban 1324/14 not to F.O.I.C. East Africa and Zanzibar. 2. S. of A. 13.5 knots E.T.A. 0700Z/23. 3. Shifting to group V at 0215Z/22.
See next page
(N.O.I.C. Durban 1253Z/17 to Admty., C. in C. S.A. C. in C. E.F., D. C. in C. E.F., F.O.I.C. East Africa and Zanzibar, S.O.(I) Colombo, S.O.(I) Kilindini.)
- SANTA CRUZ, W.S.21 P.G. SANTA CRUZ sailed in convoy W.S.21 P.G. 16/8 . Will leave convoy 10° N.
(Simonstown ? S.T.O. 1304Z/17 to Admty. for D. of S.T., S.S.T.O. Aden, (R) C. in C. S.A., P.S.T.O. Capetown, P.S.T.O. Egypt, P.S.T.O. Suez.)
- BAEPENDY (torpedoed 15/8) Brazilian Naval Authorities report BAEPENDY carrying 400 men 7th B. Brazilian Paack Artillery and families was torpedoed 1900 local time 15/8 100 miles N.E. of Bahia and 20 miles off shore. 1 life boat is said to have landed in neighbourhood of Estancia in State Sergipe.
(R.O. Pernambuco 1401Z/17 to Admty. (R) B.A.D. S.O.(I) Montevideo, Rio de Janeiro.)
- CUYABA. BAGE. repatriations. Brazil SS CUYABA and SS BAGE scheduled depart Rio de Janeiro subsequent 16/8 for Lisbon repatriated German and Italian nationals respectively. State has granted safe conduct. Routed along coast to Recife thence on 028° true to Gran Canaria thence 028° to Cabo Razo. Speed 11.2 knots. Word "DIPLOMATUS" name of vessel word Brazil and Brazilian flag painted on sides.
(C. in C. U.S. Fleet 1521/17 to C. in C. Atlantic Fleet U.S., C.T.F. 23, F.O.C.N.A., Admty., C.C.S.F., C. in C. S.A. R.A. W.A., S.B.N.O. W.A.)

/ATHENE ...

War Diary.

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Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic - contd.

ATHENE.

See previous page.

Permission for ATHENE approved.
(N.A. Rio de Janeiro 1524Z/17 to Admty. (R)
B.A.D. S.O.(I) Montevideo, C. in C. S.A.)

A.F.D.25.
(wrecked
15/8)

Your 1114Z/16 (1141Z/16 intended)
1. Main wreckage probably in three parts.
Consider this and scattered wreckage will remain
danger to navigation for some time. Apparent
drifting of wreckage to Westward 1.5 knots.
2. CROCUS detached. 3. Essential to obtain new Brown's gyro
compass controller motor unit for repeaters number 286 also
battery relay cut-out panel type A number 284 from Slough by air.
4. My P.C. and S. are 011° 08' N. 035° 02' W. 097° 12 knots.
(ASTURIAS 1800Z/17 to R.A.W.A.)

CRIPPLE
CREEK.
MENDANAU.
(sunk 13/8)

Your 1731Z/16 and 1915Z/16. Request you will
enquire if CRIPPLE CREEK and MENDANAU received
Connav's diversion signal 1714/1 and 1911Z/3
respectively.
(D.T.D. 1922A/17 to R.A.W.A. (R) S.O.I. Freetown.)
Reply MENDANAU. ho. (R.A.W.A. 1116Z/28/8)

Sunderland
wreckage.

Your 1752Z/17 (N.T. in W.D.) Sunderland aircraft
last sighted at 0800Z/17 010° 40' N. 018° 01' W.
course 090°. At 1900Z/17 in 010° 02' N. 016°
42' W. recovered several inflated inner tubes
Firston heavy duty type. No sign survivors or
other wreckage.
→ (EGRET 2015A/17 to R.A.W.A.)

ARCOLA,
TAIGETE.

Following is a repetition of my (?2101)Z/17*
addressed S.B.N.O. Curacao begins. My 1845Z/15
correct longitude of position M. 026° 26' W.
(R.A. West Africa 2103Z/17 to Admty., B.A.D.
Washington (R) C. in C. U.S. Fleet, (?N.C.S.O.
Freetown S.L.) S.B.N.O. West Atlantic, Comtask
Force 23.) * No trace of former receipt in W.R.

STELLA
LYKES.

/N.T. 21.3.
My 2015A/17 Kapok filled drums marked SS STELLA
LYKES recovered, search completed.
→ (EGRET 2145Z/17 to R.A.W.A.)

RANPURA.

American aircraft reported S/M 002° S. 006° W.
at 1118Z/16.
(R.A.W.A. 2346Z/17 to RANPURA.)

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War Diary.17.8.1942.
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean.

NEBOJSCA. My 1623/3. Yugo-Slav Govt. have agreed to temporary loan of NEBOJSCA to R.N. for A/S training until such time as Yugo-Slav Navy can again provide a crew.

2. Yugo-Slav Govt. would greatly appreciate, if the small number of Yugo-Slav S/M personnel still available can be included in crew to continue their training. They ask that you should work out details with Cdr. Saksida.

3. General conditions of loan will be settled here and reported to you.

(M. Branch Approved A.C.N.S.(F), 0024A/17 to C. in C. Med.,
(R) F.O.S.)

→ ROBERTS. Request you will comply with para. 1 of Admty. 1839/16 (1539/16 intended).
(C. in C. Med., 0024C/17 to F.O.C.R.S.F., (R) Admty., C. in C. S.A., C. in C. E.F., D.C. in C. E.F.)

ALBA JULIA (Roumanian) My 7325C/13. Expected to complete loading valuable cargo (antimony, copper, cotton and oil) and sail for Trieste via Piraeus 20th. B.3.
(S.O.I. Istanbul, 0356C/17 to S.O.I. Med.)

→ ROBERTS. Suez 17/8, departure to South, ROBERTS at 0600C, E.T.A. Aden 0600Z/23. Ship carries full establishment of S.Ps except S.P. 02420 (2).
(F.O.R.S.C.A., 0920/17 to C. in C. Med., (R) Admty., Cmdre. Aden, C. in C. E.F., D.C. in C. E.F., C. in C. S.A., 250 Wing.) *See p. 539.*

Operation "Baritone". Weather suitable but first flight should not be early on E.T.A.
(V.A. Malta, 0100B/17 to FURIOUS, (R) Admty., C. in C. Med., F.O.C.N.A.)

1st flight landing now.
(V.A. Malta, 1058B/17 to FURIOUS, (R) C. in C. Med., F.O.C.N.A., Admty.)

1st 2 flights landed, 3rd and 4th in touch. Numbers later.
(V.A. Malta, 1237B/17 to FURIOUS, (R) C. in C. Med., Admty., F.O.C.N.A.)

29 arrived. Understand 3 did not set course.
(V.A. Malta, 1557B/17 to FURIOUS, (R) C. in C. Med., Admty., F.O.C.N.A.)

/Transports ...

War Diary.17.8.1942.
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean - Contd.

Transports in Operation "Pedestal". Transports MELBOURNE STAR, ROCHESTER CASTLE, PORT CHALMERS arrived 1900/13. PORT CHALMERS no damage or casualties. ROCHESTER CASTLE hit by torpedo starboard side No. 3 hold. Making water Nos. 1 and 2 holds which at present being eased by ship's pumps. Wounded third officer, 1 Cadet. MELBOURNE STAR superficial damage only. (Casualties).

2. BRISBANE STAR arrived 1500/14. Hit by torpedo forward of No. 1 hold forward bulkhead of which is leaking and hold flooded. No. 2 hold leaking slightly. (Casualties).

3. Transport OHIO arrived 1000/15, bomb in boiler and engine room which is partially flooded. Torpedo in port side of pump room. Upper deck in wake of pump room broken across ship. Nos. 13, 14, 25 and 20 tanks open to sea. Master considered vessel will be total loss. (Casualties).

4. Transports DORSET and EMPIRE HOPE, no casualties and all survivors landed Malta. Transport DEUCALION (casualties). All remaining OPUSULAS crew and passengers landed Malta. (D.S.T.O. Malta, 0205B/17 to D.S.T., etc.)

P.34, * P.44. Before complying with my 2011/16 make every endeavour to be in position P.34 036° 34' 011° 53' by 1001, P.44 035° 40' 012° 01' by 1359/17. My 2231/15 refers. (Capt. S.10, 0242B/17 to P.34, P.44, (R) C. in C. Med., Capt. (S) 1.)

** See next page
p. 544*

Enemy barges. Following has been read by Malta W/T. P.C. and S. of 4 enemy transport barges are 32.45 N. 25.45 E. 145° 8. (A/C using call sign HZ5V, 0627/17.)

Wreckage. Following has been read. Wreckage located in 31.42 N. 33.41 E. (A/C using call sign 98T, 0850/17.)

Enemy Unit. My 2025/16 (damaged ship in tow of two destroyers). Dawn search report no sign of damaged ship. (S.O.S. Alexandria, 0921C/17 to TURBULENT, (R) PORPOISE.)

Cositrep No. 484. 3. Air. 15/8 (? in) evening American Liberators attacked convoy S.E. Crete claiming 1 ship hit. Convoy attacked during night by Wellingtons which claim 1 hit followed by violent explosion.

4. Light bombers attacked Matruh Harbour at dusk starting 2 fires.

5. Night 15/16. Tobruk and Matruh Harbours bombed. 1 bomb claimed on ship in Tobruk and second ship straddled. Lighter also hit and fire started on shore. 1 F-Boat hit Matruh and many near misses claimed. 4 Bombers missing.

8. Light bombers attacked F-Boats northwest Sidi Barrani, hitting two. One bomber missing. (C. in C. M.E., 0930 G.M.T./17 to W.O.)

/ U/B ...

War Diary.17.8.1942.
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean - Contd.

U/B. P.C. and S. of 1 enemy S/M are 31° 5' N. 32° 34' E. 320°, 8 knots.
(Med. A/C of 7XG Squad., 1000/17 to 201 Group.)

M/Vs from "Pedestal". Your 1142A/16. Report of unloading.
(V.A. Malta, 1210B/17 to Admty.)

→ Enemy Units. At 1115/17th, aircraft reported P.C. and S. of 1 merchant ship 2 destroyers 39° 40' 18° 25' 120° 14 knots.
(S.O.S. Alexandria, 1211C/17 to ?P.43, PORPOISE, TURBULENT.)

P.44 *See Maritime Page*
If nothing sighted by 1800B/17 proceed to arrive 035° 40' 011° 08' not later than 0159B/18.
2 "Hunt" destroyers may operate South of 035° 35' after that time and will not attack S/Ms west of 011° 59' E. (as received, ?09° intended.)
(Capt. S.10, 1215B/17 to P.44, (R) P.34, C. in C. Med., Capt. (S) 1.)

Red Sea A/S M/S Force. Your 2230/17/6. Request that one of these ships may be released for A/S M/S duties in Gulf of Aden and Southern part of Red Sea.
2. She is required to operate with POOLE now at Aden as A/S striking force vide my 0049/11/8* and carry out a further clearance of minefields to Massawaas the considerable number of drifting mines in this area are a danger to shipping using this port and movements have had to be restricted to daylight thus causing considerable delay.
(C. in C. Med., 1221C/17 to Admty., (R) C. in C. E.F., D.C. in C. E.F., F.O.R.S.C.A.)
*W.R. Note:- See 0852Z/21 Aug. from C. in C. Eastern Fleet (Hush - Most Secret.)

PALADIN, Proceed at 1800 today Monday to join KELVIN before dark. My 1231/17 and 1330/17 refer (N.T. in W.D.)
KELVIN. (F.O. 15 C.S., 1421C/17 to PALADIN, (R) KELVIN, R.A.(D) Med., C. in C. Med., Capt. (D) 14th D.F., N.O.I.C. Port Said, 201 Group Advance & Rear, 815 Sqdn.) *See next page.*

→ Enemy Units. R/C shows (1) 2 merchant ships 4 destroyers 038° 05' 020° 15' 325° 14 knots at 1312.
(2) 1 merchant ship 2 destroyers 035° 26' 022° 32' 320° 13 knots at 1425.
(S.O.S. Alexandria, 1531C/17 to P.43, TURBULENT.)

/Operation ...

War Diary.

17.8.1942.
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean - Contd.

Operation "Robertsbridge" PRINCESS MARQUERITE. *Imp. 525. v* Destroyers laden with survivors are to return with ANTWERP to Port Said keeping clear of U-Boats. Remainder continue hunt. PALADIN sail now. (F.O. 15 C.S., 1645/17 to KELVIN, BEAUFORT, (R) C. in C. Med., F.O.C. D.F. Med., N.O.I.C. Port Said, 201 Group.) *see next pages 543 & 545*

Proposed Malta Striking Force. Your 2328/15. Your desire to have a striking force is appreciated but it is not possible to spare ships at the present moment. 2. PENN and *2 Hunts are not in any case powerful enough. They should be sailed for Gibraltar in company immediately they are ready.

3. Merchant ships are to remain at Malta until further orders. (A.C.N.S.(F), Approved 1 S.L., 1750A/17 to V.A. Malta, (R) C. in C. Med., F.O.C.N.A.) *BRAMHAM & LEDBURY.

Enemy Unit attacked by A/C 1540. Investigate position 295° Lampion 16 miles where A/C attacked successfully at 1540. Warship believed in vicinity. Disregard my 1215/17 until further orders. (Capt. S.10, 1755B/17 to P.44, (R) P.34, C. in C. Med., Capt. (S) 1.) See also 1900B/17.

My 1755B/17. Ship stopped in approx. position 285° Lampion 16. One escort has (?) retired. If not found search N.W. A/C will drop 6 flares over ship at 2 minutes interval at 2230. (Capt. S.10, 2101B/17 to P.44, (R) P.34, C. in C. Med., Capt. (S) 1.) Ship sunk, see P.44, 0047/18.

Malta Air Report. I. 581, 17/8 C.S.R. 16th. 1620 hours, 8 Spitfires up for raid which did not approach close to Malta. Night 16/17. 1850 hours, 1 Beaufighter on patrol but no raider approached close to Island. 17th. 1 alert. 0615 and 0725 hours, total 12 Spitfires up for raids which turned back before reaching Malta. 1006 hours, fighter sweep 15 plus Me.109s crossed coast great height, 8 spitfires up, 4 on harbour patrol 4 covering arrival of delivery Spitfires, another 8 Spitfires ordered to intercept. In spite of partial R.D.F. interference 3 Me.109s destroyed over East coast of Island. 1 Spitfire shot down sea, pilot rescued unhurt by R.A.F. Sea/Rescue launch, 1 Spitfire crash landed, aircraft damaged, pilot injured. (H.Q. R.A.F. Malta, 1800Z/17.)

Wounded landed from U/B. at Valencia. My 1729/17th. My 1222/14th. Ministry of Marine states S/M landed 4 wounded ratings at Valencia. One electrician one Engine room Artificer one Torpedo man and one W/T rating. Believed due to internal explosion. Wounded would be kept until decision as to internment reached by M.F.A. No details yet available. (N.A. Madrid, 1817/17 to Admty.)

/Enemy ...

War Diary.17.8.1942.
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean - Contd.Enemy M/V
attacked.

P.R.U. shows merchant ship attacked by Beauforts in position 180° Pantellaria 70 miles stationary and down by stern. Escort of 2 destroyers retired northward at high speed. Bomber patrol over merchant ship.
(Capt. S.10, 1900B/17 to P.44, (R) P.34.)

5th D.F.

5th D.F. assume following organisation No. 1, forthwith. Previous organisation cancelled.
17th Sub-division DULVERTON and HURWORTH.

18th Sub-division ERIDGE and HURSLEY.

19th Sub-division BEAUFORT and BELVOIR.

20th Sub-division EXMOOR and ALDENHAM.

21st Sub-division CROOME and TETCOTT.

(F.O.C. D.F. Med., 1914/17 to Med. Destroyers, (R) C. in C. etc.)

M/Vs hit by
TURBULENT.

At 1633 P.C. and S. 2 big ships, 3 destroyers 036° 35' 021° 34' 315° 14. One hit obtained on each ship, nothing seen one hour later, am moving to 10.
(TURBULENT, 2001B/17 to Capt. S.1, (R) P.43, S.O. Subs. Alexandria.)

"Robertsbridge"

Request you will sail PRINCESS KATHLEEN with ANTWERP and 3 destroyers to Haifa to carry out serial 3 of move "Robertsbridge". Personnel in ANTWERP are to be disembarked before sailing.
(C. in C. Med., 2007C/17 to C.S.15, (R) N.O.I.C. Port Said, S.N.O.L.A., N.O.I.C. Haifa.)

*See previous page*Attack on
enemy unit.

Beaufort strike reports 2 hits on M/V in position 285° Lampion 16 at 1545B/17. P.R.U. reports ship stopped and down by the stern.
(V.A. Malta, 2119B/17 to C. in C. Med.)

Enemy
Intelligence.

Photograph 17th. My 2223/16. Messina, 2 destroyers and 1 S/M (? sailed) 1 T.B. arrived. Trapani, 2 destroyers 1 M.A.S. and 1 E-Boat sailed 1 S/M arrived. Cagliari, 1 S/M arrived. Pantellaria, no change. Palermo 1 destroyer 2 T.Bs. and 1 E-Boat arrived. Elmas, 17 torpedo bombers. Decimomannu, 42 torpedo bombers. Augusta, 6 E-Boat 2 S/MS.
(V.A. Malta, 2142B/17 to S.O. Force F, S.O. Force H, Admty., F.O.C.N.A., C. in C. Med.)

War Diary.17.8.1942.
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies.KARMOY
OKSOY.

Your 1025/4 KARMOY and OKSOY, with Lt.Cdr. Knutdzen on board sail for Busra p.m./18. (Cdr. R.I.N. 0641Z/17, to F.O.C.R.I.N. (R) S.N.O.P.G. Admty).

A.P.
Convoys.

Your 0949Z/15, para. 1. concur. (D.T.D. 1315A/17 to D.C. in C.E.F.).

COLOMBIA.

My 1103C/16. COLOMBIA requires a berth where submarines can be alongside her and in view of congestion at Union ports Chief of Staff, to G. in C.S.A. has suggested she should be berthed at East London or Port Elizabeth where congestion is not so acute. 2. I am therefore sailing D.S.COLOMBIA to East London and request you will obtain concurrence of Union Authorities (4 groups missing) her requires no repairs and can do all minor repairs of submarines refitting alongside her. If you concur K.15 will be diverted accordingly. (D.C. in C.E.F. 1321Z/17, to C. in C.S.A. (R) C. in C.E.F. F.O.C.N.A. Admty, F.O.S.Capt. (S) 4, B.S.O. COLOMBIA, R.A.W.A.).

LAUNCESTON

My 0949⁷/29. LAUNCESTON is now required in Persian Gulf. Request you will sail her to Colombo when ready. (D.C. in C.E.F. 1328Z/17 to A.C.N.B. (R) Admty, etc)

GERALDTON.

My 1504Z/21/7. (TOOWOOMBA and GERALDTON required at Kilindini) GERALDTON has now been allocated to Persian Gulf (2) F.O.I.C. Ceylon is requested to sail her on completion of repairs to come under orders of S.N.O.P.G. (D.C. in C.E. F. 1335Z/17 to F.O.C.R.I.N., C. in C.E.F., etc).

M/V Positions
Revealed by
W/T Reports.

Suggestion has been made that recent sinking of a British Merchant ship may have been due to ship breaking W/T silence to report 2 enemy Repatriation Ships of whose existence she was unaware. To guard against this possibility, Diversion Authorities of particular area in which any enemy ship with a "Safe Conduct" happens to be are requested:- 1. To broadcast daily in P/L such position by B.A.M.S. Message in Area(s) concerned. 2. At discretion to divert Allied shipping to avoid contact. 3. To pass over responsibility to contiguous Diverting Authority when ship leaves area. Initial broadcast in a particular area should give a short description of ship. Admiralty will assume responsibility for Home and North Atlantic Stations. (Head of M. Approved by A.C.N.S. (F) 1659A/17 to C. in C.E.F.D.C. in C.E.F., C. in S.A. R.A.W.A. (R) N.S.H.Q., Connav, F.O.C.N.A.).

/A/S....

War Diary.

17.8.1942.
Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies - Contd.

A/3 Admiralty and Air Ministry reviewing best counter
Aircraft measures in event S/M attacks developing in area
Persian Persian Gulf - Gulf of Oman. Signal progress
Gulf. provision of facilities for G.R.Landplanes (inc;
A.S.V.) and F.Bs giving stocks depth charges,
fuel ammunition each base. Reply should include
E.L.Gs or slighting areas which can also be used or estimated
date when ready. Repeat reply to A.H.Q.India pass to C. in C.
E.F.
(Air Ministry 1729Z/17 to H.Q.R.A.F.M.E. A.H.Q. India pass to
G. in C.E.F.).

KARANJA. Following is a repetition of KARANJA's 2250/16/8
Addressed D/C in C.E.F. C. in C.S.A.(R) F.O.
East Africa and Zanzibar from KARANJA. Your
1728Z/16/8. E.T.A. Capetown at noon Tuesday 25/8 T. O.O. 2250/16/8
(Ends).
(F.O.E.A. & Z. 1734Z/17 to Admty).

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Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America & West Indies.

QUEEN MARY. New York arrived 16th.
(N.S.H.Q., 0336Z/17 to D. of S.T.)

A.T.20 Agree your 1617/15. Agreed.
(D.S.T., 0452A/17 to B.A.D. (R) N.S.H.Q.,
C. in C. W.A.)

Refit Programme. If you concur with my 1412/2 (?with) respect to
CLARKIA request she (?may) arrive Bermuda 14/9.
(S.B.N.O. W.Atlantic 0942B/17 to Com. Caribbean
Sea Frontier).

DUC D'AUMALE Arrival 16th.
(French). (Willemstad, 1055QR/17 to M.W.T.)

Stragglers Your 1741/16 in effect commencing S.C.97,
Route. H.X.204.
(C.O.A.C., 1210Z/17 to Admty).

U.S. Navy Following from Governor Trinidad (begins)
and Trinidad. "I have been shown telegraphic correspondence
regarding Naval Command methods of dispositions.
I agree that the matter is one for local decision,
but I am of opinion that any arrangement reached here will be
subject to capricious disturbance from Adm. Hoover, and I doubt
if Adm. Oldendorf will offer serious resistance to such interfer-
ence. Unless dispositions are confirmed by some higher authority
or unless some more co-operative commander takes over at San
Juan, position here will be far from satisfactory". (Ends).
2. A.B.C.3 allows for disputes being referred to your and
Comcarib's level in the event of failure to agree locally.
To get this matter settled, therefore, request you take it up
with Adm. Hoover. F.O.I.C. Trinidad's 1631/15 refers.
(Hd. of M.Br. Approved A.C.N.S. (F) 1217A/17 to S.B.N.O.W.A.
(R) B.A.D., F.O.I.C. Trinidad).

U.S. Navy Your 1631/15. This question was discussed with
and Trinidad. D/C.O.S. in Navy Department today. While
personally of the view that your proposals
appeared to be a sound arrangement he felt that
the matter was one for the Commander on the spot, namely
Admiral Oldendorf and for his superior Comcarib and he did not
see how Navy Department could intervene in a matter entirely
within the jurisdiction of an independent Commander. While
quite understanding your anxieties I am afraid that there is
no more to be done from here. As you know the Americans are
always most reluctant to interfere with the affairs of the
man on the spot. When Phillips arrives here I will put him
fully in touch and introduce him to those concerned with
these matters in Navy Department.
(B.A.D. Washington, 2245Z/17 to F.O.I.C. Trinidad).

War Diary.17.8.1942.
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America & West Indies. - Contd.MOUNT PERA,
LOUISIANA.

W/T intercept from Georgetown states (A) Greek MOUNT PERA chased by S/M 1545 G.M.T./17th in 009° 35' N., 053° 06' W. (B) U.S. LOUISIANA torpedoed 1500 G.M.T./17 in 007° 24' N., 051° 33' W. (S.O.(I) Jamaica, 1307Q/17 to Admty B.A.D.)

U/B
Positions.

17/8 S/M estimate.
(C. in C. U.S. Fleet, 1630/17 to Admty).

Reporting
of raiders.

Following message sent from Cominch to C.T.F. 23 and Cinclant. Begins - If not already undertaken desire that local arrangements be made with Air Transport Command at Natal and Belem so that Pilots en route Africa are briefed regarding characteristics of raiders that might be sighted. Pilot to make report on landing.
(B.A.D. Washington, 1625Z/17 to Admty R.A.W.A. and C. in C. S.A.)

U.S. S/M
Notice.

O.7 accompanied by surface escort will operate in base area M.1. (between latitudes 43.30 and 43.38 N., and longitudes 69.30 and 70.00 W) from 18th extending through 23rd 8 hours to 17 hours (?thence) daily.
(Radio Washington, 1901/17 to Admty (R) Com East Sea Frontier Com (?New Guinea) Sqdn. four Com. one (?Carrier) Aviator Destroyers Atlantic Fleet N.A.S. Quonset Point (?Rhode Island) passed by Cominch to all Commands Atlantic Area interested in S/M position).

U/B attack on
WAWALOAM
(U.S.)

(1) Schooner. (3) 2000Z/6 39.16 N., 55.44 W.
(6) Surface F. (7) Sank. (8) Nil. (9) No number, 200 ft. length one 4" forward of C/T.
(10) Shelled first. Fired 3 torpedoes. All missed eventually boarded and set on fire.
(11) Only route and identification signals which were burned by Master.
(N.C.S.O. St. Johns N.F., 1918/17 to Admty.

U.S. S/Ms
recognition
signals.

Details.
(D.S.D., 1924A/17).

P.555

Sailed (?P) 555 Bermuda direct thence
A. 34.15 N., 54.45 W. B. 35.25, N., 40.30 W.
C. 34.55 N., 25.30 W. D. 35.55, N. 14.15 W. thence
Gibraltar. Advise time and S. of A.
(Connav, 1950/17 to Port Director, Philadelphia).

17.8.1942.
Monday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies - Contd.

U-boat activity. Recent experience indicates that U-boats are resuming daylight attacks on convoys. (C.T.24., 1951/17 to T.F.24).

LETITIA. Your 1735/16. (A) No. SSS Signal made by LETITIA. Master states this signal was made by DUCHESS OF BEDFORD who has since arrived Boston. (B) Admty message 0920/10 received from Rugby at 1212/10 and again at 1215/11. Admty message 2155/14 received from Annapolis at 1520/15 and again from Halifax. LETITIA attempted to communicate with Portishead 8290 and 12685 kc/s daily from 0001/10 and as no contact was made messages were broadcast. Attempts were also made to contact Halifax W/T on 6300 kc/s without success. W/T apparatus is apparently in working order. Tuning is being checked. (C.O.A.C., 1957Z/17 to Admty).

In view of your 1100/12 to C. in C. U.S. Fleet convoy and routing there was no reason to doubt Alusna London's 1611/13 stating LETITIA had been sunk.

2. On receipt of latter signal C. in C. U.S. Fleet's 2151/14 was originated and steps were taken to make allowances for non arrival of personnel expected.

3. Her subsequent arrival at Halifax was a pleasant surprise and orders cancelling troop movements have been rescinded.

(B.A.D. Washington, 2035Z/17 to Admty). *See next page*

→ BAEPENDY (Brazilian). Information from Brazilian Authorities report SS. BAEPENDY in 11.5 zero S. 37.zero W. Torpedoed and sunk at zero 21145Z/17. Status of confidential publications unknown. HUMBOLDT and *VP.83 advised. (C. in C. U.S. Fleet, 2001/17 to Admty). *# Not identified.*

U/B Campaign. Connav Serial Number 17. Correct position EMPIRE ARNOLD 10.45 N., 52.59 W., and BRENAS 10.20 N., 37.10 W. LAGUNA British torpedoed 17th 18.47 N., 75.03 W., in convoy P.G.6. LEIKANGER Norwegian torpedoed sunk 27/7 04 N., 18 W. THEOLINA U.S. convoy C.H. lost 29/7 in Caribbean Sea marine causes. BAEPENDY Brazilian → torpedoed sunk 17th 11.50 S., 37.00 W. CARTIERDOC and KINGDOC both British aground 16th 22.29 N., 78.11 W. Salvage possible. (Connav, 2057/17)

KINGDOC, Havana reports ashore 70 miles from Caibarien
CARTIERDOC. 0330/17 G.M.T.
(S.O.(I) Jamaica, 2223Q/17).

Routeing. Following is a repetition of Connav 2000/17 addressed to U.S. addressees concerned for action begins for Atlantic U.S. Routeing Officers. In order minimize risk of sighting by enemy A/C the routing of overseas independents to U.K. shall henceforth be N. and W. of Porcupine Bank Ends. (Radio Washington, 2124/17 to Admty N.S.H.Q. S.O.(I) Jamaica).

War Diary.

17.8.1942.
Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies. - Contd.

- Movements. Bermuda arrivals and departures U.S.S. WAINWRIGHT TRIPPE, RHIND. ? Convoy G.F. (S.B.N.O. W. Atlantic, 2127P/17 to Admty).
- ESSO BELGIUM. Overdue Trinidad. (S.O.(I) Jamaica, 2127Q/17 to Admty. Connav, S.B.N.O. W. Atlantic. B.A.D. Washington).
- N.A.15, A.T.20 LETITIA. My 2110/11 and 2151/14 include LETITIA in N.A.15. Delay departure Boston Section A.T.20 until latest possible time which will insure joining main convoy at or near Halifax 22nd. (Cominch, 2139/17 to C. in C. Lant).
See previous page
- Attack on Convoy T.A.W.12. Havana reports Arrival British STANDELLA damaged attacked in convoy 1000/14 G.M.T. in 021° 37' N. 076° 00' W. 2 other ships sunk at same time survivors landed Cuban Port. 2 ships sunk in convoy 0800/13 G.M.T. in 1947 N. 73.32 W. Survivors at Guantanamo. (S.O.(I) Jamaica 2231Q/17 to Admty S.B.N.O. W. Atlantic, B.A.D., Connav, F.O.I.C. Trinidad, N.S.H.Q.)
- QQQQ message. Urgent following received QQQQ MOUNT PERA suspicious vessel 09.07 N., 52.16 W., at 2118 G.M.T./17. Nothing heard from her since. (BRAJARA No T.O.O./17 to Admty and C. in C. W.A., Recd. 0215/18).

Australia & New Zealand.

- Situation. Digest Serial No. 207 16/8. Air R/C Ambon Koepang areas 15/8 reported nil sightings.
- (2) Indications enemy S/M within 100 miles 26° 30' S., 105° E., at 1430Z/15.
- (3) Air R/C 16/8 reports 1 destroyer 1 tender off S.E. coast Gizo (Solomons) 0115Z/16. 1 8,000 ton cargo vessel 1 torpedo boat Kavieng area, cargo vessel heading Rabaul. 1 cruiser 2 unidentified warships, 1 M/V stationary 2° 45' S., 15° 42' E. at 0045Z/16. 16 medium sized vessels 10 smaller vessels Rabaul harbour 0030Z/16. 6 M.Ls. off shore Buna area 0310Z/16. Possible landing strip observed northern tip Willaumez Peninsula.
- (4) Enemy S/M reported vicinity Milne Bay (eastern tip Papua) 0014Z/16.
- (5) 8 Hudsons attacked Beco (Timor) 0955Z/16. Large fires seen before attack. (G.H.Q., S.W.P.A., 0551Z/17).

17.8.1942.
Monday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Australia & New Zealand. - Contd.

Navigation.

W.F.173. Cleveland Bay. Dangerous area exists within radius of one mile of position 052° 4.5 miles from Platypus Channel. (A.C.N.B., 1451Z/17 to Australian Station).

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Submarines Reported.

Estimated positions.
(D.D.I.C., 1410A/17, 1406A/17).

553

18.8.1942
Tuesday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

VANITY captured today 14 trawlers with Danish markings found near the Dogger Bank in approx. 55° N. 1° 35' E. One was sunk by VANITY after the crew had been taken off. Whilst bringing them in VANITY was bombed at 2035, but was apparently not damaged.

M.T.Bs from Dover attacked an escorted enemy convoy in the early hours of today off Gravelines: the convoy had previously been engaged by our coastal artillery. M.T.Bs 43 and 218 were lost (the latter by a mine) and the C.O. of M.T.B.38 was killed. Damage to the enemy is not known.

Operation
 S.N.73.

R.A.M. sailed from Port Z.A. at 2100 today in SOUTHERN PRINCE with ADVENTURE, AGAMEMNON, MENESTHEUS, PORT QUEBEC, BRIGHTON, CASTLETON, CHARLESTOWN and NEWARK to lay mines in the Denmark Straits. AURORA and 2 destroyers provide A.A. escort. MONTROSE, *DELPHINIUM and IMPULSIVE provide extra escort during laying.

**Impossible - see H.M.S. Haifa 1918
 in Home Command of H.M.S. 21/8/42*

Twelve presumed moored mines have been accounted for off Dartmouth and Start Point from 15/8 to 18/8 inclusive.

North Atlantic.

Operation
 "Baritone"

The forces engaged returned to Gibraltar this morning.

A submarine is reported to have been¹ sighted from the coast in 41° 45' N. 8° 58' W. steering S.W. on the surface at 1330 G.M.T. today. At 1250 PENTSTEMON reported that she was chasing 2 enemy S/Ms in 41° 14' N. 20° 38' W.

Renewed
 attacks on
 S.L.118.
 CHESHIRE
 torpedoed
 2 ships
 sunk.

Convoy S.L.118 was attacked by single U-boats on 3 occasions last night without damage and again at 1703Z in 41° 30' N. 19° 49' W. when CHESHIRE (A.M.C) was torpedoed but was able to proceed with the convoy and SS BALINGKAR was sunk and HATARANA disabled and had to be sunk.

18.8.1942
Tuesday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT.

South Atlantic.

Further
Brazilian
Ships sunk.

It is officially reported that in addition to the Brazilian troop ship BAEPENDY, torpedoed and sunk on 15/8, four other Brazilian ships have been sunk off the coast of Brazil in the last 3 days, viz: ANNIBAL BENEVOLO, ARARAQUARA (both 16/8) ITAGIBA (17/8) and ARARA (17/8). The crew of a Brazilian schooner landed in a boat report that their vessel was stopped at 0500 G.M.T. today about 14° 30' S. 39° 40' W; after interrogation the crew was ordered to abandon ship and the vessel sunk by gunfire.

There are further delayed reports of U-boat attacks on shipping in the Freetown area. Commaveu reports that an aircraft attacked a half submerged submarine at 1620Z today in 13° 52' S. 38° 0' W. The S/M which returned machine gun fire, is reported sunk.

Mediterranean.

PALADIN shot down one of 2 torpedo bombers which attacked her at 1025 today whilst on an A/S hunt 120 miles N.E. of Port Said.

DIDO docked in the Admiralty Floating Dock at Massawa today. She is the first warship to use the base for repairs. Dockyard personnel were sailed with her as a special case, as the repair base is not yet in operation.

East Indies.

Force A. (WARSPITE, ^{VALIANT} ~~ILLUSTRIOS~~, MAURITIUS, HEEMSKERCK and 4 destroyers) arrived at Kilindini today. *10.562 12.000 tons of H.M. Ships.*

Enemy
Cruiser
sighted in
Bay of
Bengal.

An R.A.F. R/C aircraft reports sighting an enemy cruiser at 0310Z today in 19° 33' N. 92° 45' E. (about 25 miles South of Akyab) steering 45° at 15 to 20 knots. Air H.Q. Bengal ordered all available Blenheims and Hudsons to attack. There is no further information. It is not intended to stop shipping in the Bay of Bengal unless further information is received.

/SS. ITINDA ...

War Diary.18.8.1942
Tuesday.SITUATION REPORT.East Indies - contd.

SS ITINDA and CONGELLA were unsuccessfully bombed in the early hours of today in 18° 55' N. 85° 32' E. and 17° 50' N. 84° 24' E. respectively (off the Coromandel Coast).

SS AMERICAN BUILDER reported a suspicious vessel approaching at 0332 G.M.T/ today in 28° S. 33° 30' E. (No further news. The position is about 50 miles off the coast, between Durban and Delagoa Bay.)

American and West Indies.

Attacks on
Convoy P.G.6.
5 ships
torpedoed.

Convoy P.G.6 was attacked by U-boats yesterday and today. SS LAGUNA is reported to have been torpedoed in 18° 47' N. 75° 3' W. (17/8) FORT LA REINE sunk in 18° 20' N. 75° 0' W., (17/8) JOHN HANCOCK sunk in 19° 41' N. 76° 50' W., (18/8) SAMIR sunk (17/8) in 18° 20' N. 75° 0' W. and EMPIRE BEDE torpedoed in 19° 41' N. 76° 50' W. (18/8) (LAGUNA reached Guantanamo, remainder sunk)

SS BLANKAHOLM was torpedoed today in 19° 41' N. 76° 50' W. in Convoy T.A.W. 13 and sank later.

An unsuccessful attack was made by a S/M on a vessel entering Willemstad Harbour at 1805QR today.

Attack on
T.A.W.-S.

Convoy T.A.W. - S. was attacked by U-boat today and SS WEST CELINA was torpedoed at 0240 G.M.T. in 11° 45' N. 62° 30' W. and is presumed to have sunk.

18.8.1942.
Tuesday.War Diary.HOME COMMANDS.Policy.→ RODNEY,
VICTORIOUS.

Your 1311/17. RODNEY and VICTORIOUS are required at Rosyth at the earliest possible date. Request you will make your arrangements accordingly (D.O.D. (H), 0206A/18 to C. in C. H.F.)

Movements.* RUBIS,
SCARRON,
CONCERTATOR,
Z.5,
GRAPH.

* See p. 563

Your 1356/17. Can make R/V at 0800/18. Request permission to enter Falmouth at 1100/18 to await onward escort. Nothing to report.

(RUBIS, 0050A/18 to Capt. (S) 5).
(1) Your 0050/18 (not to H.Q.C.C.) approve trawler will meet you at that time.

(2) Request total bombing restriction in area 51 south of 050° N.E. of 005° 40' W. from 0500/18 to 1000/18. (Capt. S.5., 0215A/18 to F.S. RUBIS, (R) H.Q.C.C., N.O.I.C. Falmouth, F.O.(S))

SCARRON and CONCERTATOR will R/V with RUBIS in 180° Lizard Head 10 miles at 0800/18 and escort her to Falmouth. (N.O.I.C. Falmouth, 0300A/18 to C. in C. Plymouth).

Intend sailing at 0500/19 RUBIS escorted by SCARRON and CONCERTATOR to R/V with Z.5 and GRAPH in 180° Lizard Head 10 miles at 0800/19 trawlers returning Falmouth and D.S. Z.5 proceeding in accordance with Capt. (S) 5's 1356/17. Minesweeping trawlers maintaining continuous wireless watch 2300 k/cs. N.O.I.C. Greenock is requested to arrange onward escort and fighter protection for RUBIS to Dundee.

(N.O.I.C. Falmouth, 1456A/18 to C. in C. Plymouth, (R) Admty. Capt. (S) 5, Capt. (S) 3, Capt. (S) 9, F.S. RUBIS, F.O.(S), N.O.I.C. Greenock, SCARRON, CONCERTATOR).

Your 1803/18 R/V with GRAPH and RUBIS in 180° Lizard Head 10' at 0800/19 for escort duties to Holy Loch. (Capt. (S) 5, 2035A/18 to Z.5).

My 1456/18 not to D.S. Z.5 RUBIS escorted by 2 M/S trawlers will R/V with you in 180° Lizard Head 10 miles at 0800. Codeword Stencil 1. M/S trawlers returning Falmouth. Codeword for passage N. with S/M Stencil.

(N.O.I.C. Falmouth, 2134A/18 to Z.5).

1 high power motor boat patrolling vicinity 051° 25' N., 001° 56' W. Expect to be 2 hours late at R/V.

(GRAPH, 2320A/18 to Admty).

→ RODNEY,
VICTORIOUS,
ASHANTI,
MATCHLESS,
INTREPID,
ICARUS,
ZETLAND,
AMAZON.

F.O.C.N.A., 1528/15 onward route from U to V 052° 15' N., 020° 03' W., and W. 055° 29' 008° 59' Admiralty pass to S.O. Force F. (C. in C. W.A., 0133A/18 to R.A.A. H.F., (R) Admty. C. in C. Plymouth, C. in C. H.F., F.O.C.N.A., S.O. Force F). A.M.0206/18 and C. in C. W.A. 0133/18. Destinations. RODNEY: Rosyth arriving May Island 0800/22. VICTORIOUS: Scapa disembarking aircraft, fuel and stores thence Rosyth.

War Diary.

18.8.1942.
Tuesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Movements - Contd.

RODNEY, (2) Route from position W 55° 29' N., 08° 59' W.
VICTORIOUS, through Minches.
ASHANTI, (3) R.A.(D) H.F. is requested to sail 4
MATCHLESS, destroyers to R/V VICTORIOUS before dark 20/8
INTREPID, and relieve present escort. VICTORIOUS is
ICARUS, expected to pass position W at 0130A/21 approach-
ZETLAND, ing on course 65° S. of A. 16 knots.
AMAZON. (4) ASHANTI, MATCHLESS to Scapa. INTREPID,
Contd. ICARUS, ZETLAND, AMAZON Clyde. All to fuel
Sup. 569 Merville if required.
(5) C. in C. W.A. and C. in C. Rosyth are
requested to arrange A/S air escort accordingly.
(C. in C. H.F., 1237 A/18 to R.A.A. H.F., R.A.D. H.F.,
C. in C. W.A., RODNEY, Capt. (D) 6, (R) A.C.O.S. Admty. C. in C.
Rosyth, N.O.I.C. Greenock, A.S. Rosyth, N.O.I.C. Londonderry).

ADRIAS, Greek destroyers ADRIAS and KANARIS will be
KANARIS. required for escort duty leaving U.K. on 14/9.
2. Request you will sail them for the Clyde
accordingly allowing sufficient time to boiler
clean and be ready by the above date.
3. If necessary working up practices may be
completed in the Clyde.
(D.O.D. (H), 0217A/18 to R.A.D. (H.F.))

LANCASTER, Your 1740/17 acknowledged. Destroyers proceed to
SALADIN, Hvalfjord. Onward escort must fuel and sail
SHIKARI. immediately. Merchant ships anchor Reykjavik.
Admiralty Pilot will attend. My 2015/17 (N.T. in
W.R.) for "report to" read "reported to" and
after word north forecast add Iceland.
(A.C.I.C., 0516A/18 to LANCASTER).

4 M.S.F. Your 1858A/17. Flotilla will leave Harwich at
1330/today. S. of A 10½ knots.
(M.S.4., 0741A/18 to C. in C. Nore).
Sup. 563

AVENGER, Your 1835/17 arrived. *QUIBERON proceeded
QUIBERON. passing May Island at 0748/18.
(C. in C. Rosyth, 0921A/18 to A.C.O.S.)
** Sup. 566*

JAMAICA Reykjavik arrival your 1204/16.
(A.C.I.C., 1005A/18 to F.O.I.C. Greenock).

Disposition Area N. Russia. 2 destroyers. Area Iceland (C)
of operational DUKE OF YORK, CUMBERLAND, LONDON, JAMAICA,
units in North TUSCALOOSA, 2 destroyers (U.S.) 2 destroyers.
Atlantic. Area Scapa. KING GEORGE V, RENOWN, NORFOLK,
AURORA, SCYLLA, SUFFOLK, 2 destroyers.
On passage to U.K. VICTORIOUS, RODNEY 4 destroyers
Area Gibraltar. NELSON, ARGUS, FURIOUS, CHARYBDIS 4 destroyers.
(D.O.D. (H), 1105Z/18).

War Diary.18.8.1942.
Tuesday.HOME COMMANDS.Movements - Contd.

Z.5.
H.33. Following from Capt. (S) 5 pass to H.33.,
CLEVELAND pass to Commodore.
You should join southbound convoy during daylight
hours today Tuesday remaining in company during
dark hours leaving at suitable time to make R/V as in Capt. (S) 5.
1325/17. H.33 continuing with convoy to Dartmouth thence
Portsmouth. Convoy's position at 1315/18 180° Helwick 9 minutes
speed 7 knots.
(N.O.I.C. Falmouth, 1247A/18 to D.S. Z.5 (R) CLEVELAND,
C. in C. Plymouth, F.O.S. Admty, Capt. (S) 5. C. in C. Portsmouth
N.O.I.C. Dartmouth).

ALECTO,
L.27. Request you sail ALECTO to R/V with L.27 in 056°
43' N., 007° 55' W. at 0700A on 21/8 and escort
her thence to Rothesay.
Total bombing restrictions have been requested
within 30 miles radius of R/V position from 0300A
to 1200A on 21st.
(Capt. S.7., 1521A/18 to Cdre. WESTERN ISLES).

AVON VALE. C. in C. Plymouth 1449/18. Swept channels are
not to be entered before sunrise and except
ships fitted with S.A. gear speed in them is not
to exceed 9 knots. Request confirmation or
amendment of your expected time of arrival Bar
light vessel. Berth on arrival at Princes
landing stage.
(F.O.I.C., Liverpool, 1805A/18 to AVON VALE).

BARDOLF. A.M. 1330/8 and my 1554/15. Intend sailing
BARDOLF to Gibraltar with PETUNIA and H.D.M.L.
Flotilla 117.
(C. in C. W.A., 1807A/18 to Admty).

Operations.

M.G.Bs. 76, My 1945A/17 "Obstacle" returned.
75, 79. (N.O.I.C. Dartmouth, 0626/18).

Interception of Danish fishing vessels. My 2145/17 Hudson reports about 15 small vessels
024° 21 miles from original position.
(C. in C. Rosyth, 0641 A/18 to VANITY).
Aircraft report vessels on line 55° 31' N., 1° 52'
E., 55° 21' N., 1° 52' E.
(C. in C. Rosyth, 1025A/18 to VANITY).

If nothing seen leave search at 1400 returning by Gap A to
Rosyth for fuelling.

(C. in C. Rosyth, 1307A/18 to VANITY).

Your 1307A/18. Have made contact. Intend to return by
A/M Q.Z.L. 12.

(VANITY, 1353A/18 to C. in C. Rosyth).

Your 1353 return by Gap. A.

(C. in C. Rosyth, 1507A/18 to VANITY).

Your 1507A have already instructed 10 trawlers with
boarding crews to proceed by Gap. B. My position 55.20 N.,

/2.15 E...

18.8.1942.
Tuesday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operations - 18/8/42:-

Interception of Danish fishing vessels. Contd. 2.15 E. Request permission to return by Gap B. (VANITY, 1555A/18 to C. in C. Rosyth). Your 1555A/18, approved. Follow trawlers through gap which is very narrow. Escort trawlers to Tyne then returns to Rosyth. (C. in C. Rosyth, 1727A/18 to VANITY). Cancel my 1727A/18. Not approved to use Gap B. Collect all trawlers you can before dark and bring them to Rosyth through Gap A. (C. in C. Rosyth, 1929/18 to VANITY) Your 1819*act in accordance with my 1929. (C. in C. Rosyth, 1943A/18 to VANITY) *N.T. in W.R. 3 A/C bearing 180. Course 040. Height unknown. My position 55° 7' N., 1° 26' E. (VANITY, 2015/18). Repeat P.C. and S. number of vessels in company and estimated position at 0500/19. (C. in C. Rosyth, 2135/18 to VANITY). My position 0500/19 55° 48' N., 0° 30' E. 12 vessels in company. 1 other under armed guard has become detached and is thought to be steering west. (VANITY, 2326A/18 to C. in C. Rosyth).

? TULIP. Acknowledge forthwith. (C. in C. Portsmouth, 0957/18 to F.O.I.C. Southampton, N.O.I.C. Newhaven, R.N.O. Shoreham, Admiralty, C.C.O., V.A. Dover, A.O.C. 11 Group) Your 0957/18 TULIP acknowledged. (R.N.O. Shoreham 1252/18).

Light forces attack on enemy convoy. One large and several medium sized vessels with considerable escort thought to consist of M class Minesweepers, trawlers and patrol vessels left Boulogne eastwards at 2235 speed 9 knots. As section of about six craft including one medium sized vessel (E. 15 D) returned to Boulogne when our coastal batteries opened fire. The remainder entered Dunkirk at 0500 Track E16 D. (V.A. Dover, 1113A/18).

Last night 17/18 August in anticipation of Eastward passage from Boulogne to Dunkirk of a 430 ft. enemy vessel two units of M.T.Bs. consisting of M.T.Bs 204 (S.O. Lieut. C.L.G. Philpotts, R.N.) 24 and 43 and M.T.Bs 219 (S.O. Lieut M. Arnold Forster R.N.V.R.) 218 and 38 were sent to patrol at V buoy (115° North Foreland 20 miles).

2. This position was selected to be clear of new mined area Q.Z.X. 785 and M.T.Bs. were to attack in succession between Calais and Gravelines. After previous nights action only two M.G.Bs. were available and these were employed on Anti-E-Boat patrol.

3. Enemy convoy left Boulogne at 2235, and were engaged by coastal artillery with 26 rounds of 15 inch when between Gris Nez and Sangatte. This may have been the cause of the return to Boulogne of a group of about six vessels of the convoy. Enemy counter-bombarded South Foreland area with 14 rounds between 0030 and 0100.

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War Diary.18.8.1942.
Tuesday.HOME COMMANDS.Operations - Contd.

Light forces attack on enemy convoy. Contd.

4. M.T.Bs. attacked according to plan between 0135 and 0240 meeting opposition as fierce as fiercer than ever as could be clearly seen from Dover Castle though composition of enemy convoy was not determined. M.T.Bs. 204 and 38 however were able to get into position to fire torpedoes, the former making two attacks and using depth charges, only damage to enemy claimed is a possible torpedo hit by M.T.B.204 on an escort vessel.

5. Neither M.T.B.43 nor 218 returned from this action. M.T.B 43 was abandoned heavily on fire North of Gravelines, her crew being taken off by M.T.B.24. M.T.B.218 holed and with two engines out of action endeavoured to return across Q.Z.X.785 but hit a mine and sank near No.2 buoy. Survivors were later picked up by M.T.B.219.

6. During search which continued after daylight by M.T.Bs. and other vessels sent from Dover to assist. M.T.B. 204 made prisoner 10 Germans who had been in a dinghy since the M.G.B. action of the previous night, this confirming the destruction of a second R-boat.

7. Casualties were:- M.T.B.43 and 218 lost, M.T.B. 218 C.O. and 4 ratings missing, believed killed, one rating killed. M.T.B. 43 two ratings killed, one wounded. M.T.B. 38 C.O. killed, one rating wounded. (V.A. Dover, 1119A/18).

Patrol in Lyme Bay. Sail M.Ls. 153 (S.O.) 159, 188 and 155 to patrol in Lyme Bay tonight.

2. M.Ls are to be in position (A) 50° 05' N., 03° 00' W. at 2030/18 and patrol on a line between (A) and (B) 50° 10' 30" N., 02° 47' 00" W., for one hour.

3. When they are to leave position (B) and proceed to patrol 10 miles astern of P.W.204.

4. Codeword for M.Ls. Range V.

5. Object. To intercept and destroy enemy surface craft attempting to attack the convoy or lay mines.

6. W/T communications 2300 k/cs. Usual books to be landed. (C. in C. Plymouth, 1551/18 to N.O.I.C. Dartmouth).
Your 1551/18 Range V sailed.
(N.O.I.C. Dartmouth, 1844/18 to C. in C. Plymouth).

M.T.B. and M.G.B. sweep. All available M.G.Bs. and M.T.Bs. are to sail at last light today Tuesday.

(2) Object destruction of any enemy encountered.
(3) Execution 3 M.G.Bs. and 2 M.T.Bs. are to sweep from Cap La Hague round Cape Barfleur towards 049° 27' N. 000° 55' W. They are not to proceed East of latter position unless engaged with enemy if nothing sighted on sweep they are to patrol near Cape Barfleur returning to Dartmouth so as to be 20 miles clear French coast at first light. Codeword "Obstacle one"

(4) 3 M.G.Bs. and one M.T.B are to patrol near Guernsey and Jersey leaving for Dartmouth so as to arrive first light
Codeword "Obstacle 2"

(5) W/T 2300 k/cs usual books to be landed.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 1629A/18 to N.O.I.C. Dartmouth).
Your 1629 sailed. "Obstacle one" M.T.Bs. 234 (S.O.) 233. M.G.Bs. 76, 74, 80. "Obstacle Two" M.G.Bs. 77(S.O.) 78, 75, M.T.B.241.
(N.O.I.C. Dartmouth, 2128/18 to C. in C. Plymouth).

/Operation...

War Diary.

18.8.1942.
Tuesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operations - Contd.

Operation
"Outward".

Operation outward abandoned 1800 owing to local conditions.
(A.B.O. Oldstairs. 1810A/18 to V.A. Dover).

Combined
Operation
against
Dieppe.

(Op: Jubilee)

Position enemy shipping from R/C 1200/18.
Boulogne 20 Aux. Trawlers 4 E-boats 2
Sperrbrecher. Calais 30 R-boats 5 Aux. Trawlers
Dieppe 4 Harbour Defence Vessels. Fecamp 2 P.Vs.
1 R-boat. Havre 2 R-boats 1 Armed Merchant
Vessel 10 Aux. Trawlers. Cherbourg some E-boats.
(C. in C. Portsmouth, 1847A/18 to LOCUST, FERNIE,
CALPE, BERKELEY, BROCKLESBY, ALBRIGHTON, GARTH,
BLEASDALE, SLAZAK, QUEEN EMMA, PRINSES ASTRID,
PRINSES BEATRIX, PRINS ALBERT, PRINCE LEOPOLD,
GLENGYLE, PRINCE CHARLES, DUKE OF WELLINGTON,
INVICTA.)

Dover
patrols.

Dover dispositions for night of 18/19 August.
M.Ls. 146 and 151 from Ramsgate patrolling between
Dumpton and North East Spit Buoys E.T.D. 2115
E.T.R. 0510/19. 4th M.S.F. Westbound E.T.A. off

Dover 2145.

The following anti-E-boat patrols from 2145. Drifters NETSUKIS
and LOIS 1 mile south of D buoy with M.G.Bs. 10, 9 and 6.
M.G.Bs. leave patrol to southward at 0215/19.
M.Ls. 142 and 137 two miles S.W. of C.I. buoy.
M.Ls. 210 and 128 one mile south of Rye buoy.
M.Ls. 213, 125 and 103 at No. 10 buoy.
Trawler BROCK at North Folkestone Gate buoy.
Trawler SARPEDON at No. 4 Buoy.
(V.A. Dover, 1933A/18).

Allied Air Operations.

P.R.U. to
Narvik.

AC.477 18/8 my AC 471. Sortie cancelled for
today.
(H.Q.C.C., 0855A/18 to 30 Mission)
Mosquito net arrived Vaenga. Admiralty pass to
H.Q.C.C. Air Ministry.
(R.A.F. Gryaznaya, 1341A/18).
Your Mosquito not left owing to weather.
(H.Q.C.C., 1825A/18 to R.A.F. Gryaznaya)

Bombing
restrictions.

Request surface bombing restrictions from
2130/18 to 0700/19 in area Start Point, La
Corbiere Light, Cap la Hague, Cape Barfleur,
Portland Bill.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 1544/18 to H.Q.C.C.)
Please add to my 1544A/18 and south of 49° 50' N.
between 00° 40' W., and 01° 30' W.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 1844A/18 to H.Q.C.C.)

18.8.1942.
Tuesday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Allied Air Operations - Contd.

Mining
Operation
S.N.73

Hudson A/C will sweep over track of S.N.73 between 0600A/19 and 1030A/19. Expect escort by Sunderland A/C from 1030A/19 to 1630A/19 and by Fortress A/C from 1630A/19 until dusk.
(C. in C. W.A., 1931A/18 to R.A.M.)

Mining.

LADY ENID,
MULL,
INCHCOLM.

Intend to sail Minesweepers LADY ENID, MULL and INCHCOLM at 0715/18 to R/V with P.W.204 in position VZ 53.93 and sweep ahead via Q.Z.S.293 and temporary route N proceeding to Dartmouth on completion. N.O.I.C. Dartmouth is requested to sail them for Portland at 0800 Wednesday August 19th searching temporary route N on the way.
(F.O.I.C. Portland, 0112A/18 to C. in C. Portsmouth).

Brighton.

Details of mines detonated off Brighton on 17/8. (N.O.I.C. Newhaven, 1002/18, 1020/18, 1124/18, 1151/18).

Operation
Q.K.4 B.

Weather permitting carry out operation Q.K.4 B tonight Tuesday. Covering force one combined unit M.T.Bs. M.G.Bs. vicinity T.R.B.R.2200. Southern route to be used by both units in both directions.
Report boats details and E.T.D.53 buoy.
(C. in C. Nore, 1034A/18 to BEEHIVE).

Portsmouth

Position of 4 magnetic mines red detonated by LL 17/8/42.
(C. in C. Portsmouth, 1042A/18, 1748A/18).

Proposed
Operations.

Your 1140A/16. Concur. Supply of mines has been arranged.
(A.C.N.S. (H), 1204A/18 to R.A.M.)

Mines off
Gravelines.

Add to my 1119 (See Operations)
Mines moored floating were sighted by 2 M.T.Bs. and one trawler from 0555/18. Approx. 1½ hours after H.W. Trawler sighted a very large number estimated at more than 30. Tops of mines were 3 or 4 inches above to just below surface. No positive information about cover plate but all reports agree on three horns unusually close together on top. Amendment to Q.Z.X.785 is being asked for separately.
(V.A. Dover, 1244A/18 to Admty).

18.8.1942
Tuesday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Mining. - Contd.

SS. POLLUX. Press reports Swedish POLLUX 8941 tons mined and severely damaged off German Baltic Coast recently. She had been constantly running with oil supplies from Germany to Oslo.

(2) As far as we know there is only one similar vessel in Sweden not already in service which Germans have repeatedly tried to acquire. There is evidence of Germans being disinterested in larger oil burning tankers some of which are available both in Sweden and Denmark.
 (N.A. Stockholm, 1541/18 to Admty).

Operation S.N.73. Cancel my 1641/16 not to AURORA or A.C.O.S. AURORA is to provide A/A escort during S.N.73 and is to proceed to R/V with R.A.M. at 0500A/19.
 2. DUKE OF YORK is requested to sail 2 destroyers to join the force off Skagi and provide additional A/S escort during laying. Destroyers return Hvalfiord when minelayers pass Skagi on return passage.

3. CUMBERLAND is to be one hour notice for steam from 1200/19 until 1200/24.

4. When detached by R.A.M. AURORA is to return Scapa.

5. Copies of S.N.C.O.S.N.T.I. and R.A.M.1110/10 are being sent to AURORA.

(C. in C. H.F., 1621A/18 to R.A.M., DUKE OF YORK, AURORA (R) A.C.O.S. R.A.D. H.F., H.Q.F.C. A.C.I.C., C. in C. Rosyth, H.Q.C.C., C. in C. W.A.)

Ratings and store for AURORA should be sent to Greenock forthwith.

(C. in C. H.F., 2349A/18 to A.C.O.S., A.S. Orkneys, Comdre. R.N. Barracks, Portsmouth Admty. (R) N.O.I.C. Greenock, AURORA).

Sailed R.A.M. in SOUTHERN PRINCE, ADVENTURE, AGAMEMNON, MENESTHEUS, PORT QUEBEC, BRIGHTON, CASTLETON, CHARLESTOWN, NEWARK.

(N.O.I.C. Port ZA 2100/18).

4th M.S.F. Ref. A.M. 1311A/17. Weather permitting request you will sail 4th M.S.F. a.m./20 to begin clearance of Southern portion of Q.Z.X.782.
 (C. in C. Plymouth, 1744A/18 to F.O.I.C. Portland)

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Humber. Following mine exploded today Tuesday.
 (F.O. Humber, 1910A/18).

RUBIS operation. RUBIS reports: 8 groups of 4 mines laid on 14/8 between 044° 40' N., 001° 39' W., and 045° 04' N., 001° 34' W.
 (F.O.S., 1939A/18). *p.556.*

War Diary.18.8.1942.
Tuesday.HOME COMMANDS.Enemy Intelligence.MAROSA,
Altmark
tanker.

A.M. 1616A/11. (1) MAROSA has now arrived in port.
 (2) Latest evidence indicates that no Altmark Class tanker had left Biscay before 11/8. One has probably left since 11/8.
 (3) No further information concerning German or Japanese raiders.
 (D.D.I.C., 1535A/18).

U-boats.Attack by
HUGH WALPOLE.

Attacked U-boat 062° 49' 021° 53' No result.
 (HUGH WALPOLE 0400Z/18 to A.C.I.C., C. in C. W.A.)
 Your 0400Z amplify report. Was submarine sighted and under what circumstances.
 (A.C.I.C., 0645Z/18 to HUGH WALPOLE).

HUGH WALPOLE attacked sub. in 062° 49' N., 021° 53' W., at 0500A without result. Air striking force despatched. Home Fleet destroyers proceeding to hunt.

(A.C.I.C., 0748A/18 to C. in C. H.F.)

N.T. HUGH WALPOLE 0830Z/18. No contact obtained in vicinity. Am sailing to convoy endeavouring to locate possible shadower. Have not sighted co-operating aircraft.

(VIMY, 1322/18 to A.C.I.C.)

My 0748/18Z. Destroyers returned negative result.

(A.C.I.C., 2325A/18 to C. in C. H.F.)

BALLADIER.

SS. BALADIER in S.C.L.95 torpedoed and lost at 0150Z/15 in lat. 55.23, long. 31 survivors landed Reykjavik 9 Navy and 23 Merchant crew including Master. Missing 11 Merchant crew and 2 Navy.
 (N.O.B. Iceland 0419/18).

When NORLUNA is contacted request it may be confirmed that BALLADIER was sunk and all survivors rescued.

(C. in C. W.A., 0942Z/18 to C.T.G.24.6., A.C.I.C., (R) Adty)

SS. BALLADIER torpedoed and sunk approx. 55° N., 25° W.

All C.Bs. in metal box sank with ship.

(A.C.I.C., 2308A/18)

Attack on
U/B

U-boat was attacked in 062° 49' N., 021° 53' W. at 0500A no result.

(A.C.I.C., 0638A/18 to JAMAICA, Escort D.S.31 Escort S.C.L. 95).

U/B attacks
on S.L.118.
CHESHIRE
torpedoed

Add to my 2302A/17. 3 attacks single U-boats on convoy intercepted and U-boats attacked during the night of 17/18 at 2040, 2302 and 0240. No evidence of success in any case. FOLKESTONE has 15 depth charges remaining. Weather report (FOLKESTONE, 0817A/18 to C. in C. W.A.)

Bearings on Series A including transmissions at 0015Z/18, 0337/18 0619Z/18 and on 5650 k/cs at 0145Z/18 indicate that S.L.118 is being shadowed by at least two U-boats.

(D.D.I.C., 0952A/18 to Escorts of S.L.118). See next page ?

h.568

/Detach...

War Diary.18.8.1942.
Tuesday.HOME COMMANDS.U-boats - contd.U/B attacks
on S.L.118
CHESHIRE
torpedoed
Contd.Detach one destroyer to act under orders of S.O.
Escort of S.L.118. Object to assist CHESHIRE
torpedoed in 41° 37' N., 19° 45' W. at 1800A/18.
Estimated P.C. and S. of S.L.118 at 2000A/18 is
42° N., 20° W., 042° 7½ knots.
(D.O.D. (H) 2021A/18 to RODNEY). *S. p. 568*

U/B report.

D/F bearings on 7825 k/cs at 1211Z indicate U-boat
in area 60° 30' N., to 61° 30' N., 1° 30' E., to
2° 30' E.
(D.D.I.C., 1354A/18 to S/Ms on patrol N. of 51°
N., C. in C. Home Fleet, A.C.O.S., H.Q.C.C.
F.O.S.874).Attack on
U/B.Your 1322/18 (N.T. in W.D.) when sweep is completed
and if no contact obtained return to harbour.
(A.C.I.C., 1807A/18 to MONTROSE)Casualties & Defects.ESEK
HOPKINS.Intercept at 1704 G.M.T. have fire boats sent
to ESEK HOPKINS anchored, ends.
ESEK HOPKINS to GKZ at 1706 begins, HR on fire
please have fire boats assistance sent to us at
once anchored at J2 ends. Humber radiocontrolling
station not re-broadcast should this be done.
(Wick, 1810/18 to Adml. Lyness).Intercept at 1727 G.M.T. on 500 K/cs De Keuo to GPK begins
pse. is assistance coming ends. Controlling station now apparently
Port Patrick radio ends.

(Wick, 1830/18).

Intercept at 1731 G.M.T. on 500 K/cs De Keuo to G.P.K.
begins please cancel our Fire Boat request ends.

(Wick 1834/18).

Russian
Casualties
and sinkings.Soviet S/Ms D.3 and M.176 were lost on patrol
in July. Russian S/M M.173 now 4 days overdue
and presumed lost. K.L. struck antenna type mine
in 71.13 N., 27.35.5 E. on August 12th and returned
with damaged hydroplanes. SHCH 402 had explosion
on board during patrol and returned August 15th with 19 men killed.
L.20 and L.22 undergoing trial in White Sea but reported not yet
in commission. SHCH 403 claims are 6,000 and one 8,000 ton
merchant vessels sunk Varroebrfjord August 8th and August 11th
respectively. Bombers claim one Merchant Vessel set on fire one
escort vessel sunk 7/8 and torpedo bombers one 6,000 ton merchant
vessel sunk 9/8 bomber losses one S.B. one D.B. 2 P.E2's during
past 5 days. Reported state of fighters 6 Tomahawks 9 Hurricane
5 Yaks 6 Laggs and 16 other types serviceable.
(S.B.N.O. North Russia, 1229A/18).

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18.8.1942.
Tuesday.War Diary.HOME COMMANDS.Casualties & Defects. - Contd.Hunt for
RADCHURCH.P.C. and S. at 1940Z 054° 31' N., 012° 44' W.
B. 072° 12 knots. Request instructions for
detaching NIMBLE. Propose ROSELYS proceed
Greenock and SENNEN Merville. Weather Report.
(SENNEN, 1957Z/18 to C. in C. W.A.)Shipping & Convoys.TROIILUS,
ORARI.F.O.C.N.A.'s 1356/15 not to N.O.I.C. Greenock.
Onward route from (E) to (F) 053° 12' 015° 30'
G. 055° 25' 008° 57' thence to Clyde.
(C. in C. W.A., 0153A/18 to WILTON, BADSWORTH)U.S.
WAKEFIELD.My 0438/15 para. 2. Due to late arrival and
bad weather in Clyde programme of vessel delayed
by 24 hours.
(D.S.T., 0324A/18).EMPIRE
FLETCHERPass to N.C.S.Os. Request that immediate
information be signalled of the arrival of
EMPIRE FLETCHER in U.K.
(C. in C. W.A., 0952A/18 to F.O.I.C. Greenock,
F.O.I.C. Belfast, F.O.I.C. Liverpool, (R)
Admty).

H.X. 203.

Sailing telegram.
(D.T.D., 1203A/18).Signals re
Neutrals.It is important that signals made by N.C.S.Os.
concerning sailings and routes of Eire and neutral
ships sailing independently to Iberian Peninsula
or America should always be repeated to F.O.(S)
and H.Q.C.C.
(D.T.D., 1205A/18 to C. in C. W.A.)Convoy W.S.22 Carrying military personnel and stores for the
East will be ready to leave U.K. 28/8.

2. List of ships and embarkation ports.

3. Speeds. 4. Re ships from Avonmouth.

5. Ocean escort will be provided by AURORA and CARTRIDGE from
Clyde. 6. Destroyer Escort.(a) QUIBERON and PARTRIDGE are to provide through escort to
Freetown being detached as requisite to fuel at Ponta Delgada.(b) Two destroyers who are to remain with convoy until
QUIBERON and PARTRIDGE rejoin subsequently proceeding to
Ponta Delgada for fuel and acting as ordered by C. in C. W.A.(c) six destroyers who will return from prudent limit of
endurance.

8. Admiralty will promulgate route.

9. C. in C. W.A. is requested: (1) to provide destroyers
mentioned in para. 6 (b) and (c).

(2) to arrange escort for Bristol Channel ships to Clyde.

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

(D.O.D. (H) 1245A/18).

/Convoy...

18.8.1942.
Tuesday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping & Convoys. - Contd.

- Convoy T.A.18 Carrying military personnel will be ready to leave U.K. for New York on 27/8.
2. List of ships and embarkation ports.
 3. Re ships from Bristol Channel ports.
 4. All ships have a minimum speed of 18 knots.
 5. Admiralty will promulgate route direct to New York.
 6. Escort will be provided by C.T.F.38 consisting of U.S. ships ARKANSAS, BROOKLYN, PLUNKETT, NIBLACK, BENSON, GLEAVES, MAYO, MADISON, LANSDALE, HILARY P. JONES, and CHARLES F. HUGHES.
 8. C. in C. W.A. is requested to:- (a) Arrange escort for Bristol Channel ships to Clyde.
(b) Arrange for destroyer escorts to join convoy from Londonderry as requisite.
 9. F.O.I.C. Greenock is requested to sail ships as requisite. (D.O.D. (H), 1254A/18).

Complements of ships in North Russia Convoys. Request that in future details of complement of each merchant ship sailing in P.Q. and Q.P. convoys be reported to Admiralty in following form (a) officers (b) crew (c) D.E.M.S. personnel (d) Passengers (including service passengers) (e) total complement. (D.T.D., 1310A/18 to A.C.I.C., S.B.N.O. North Russia, S.B.N.O. Archangel).

Broadcasts re enemy ships granted safe conduct. Positions of enemy ships granted safe conduct for special voyages such as repatriation of diplomatic or wounded personnel will be broadcast daily in plain language to BA.M.S. area concerned. Short description of such ships will be included in initial broadcast to each area. (D.T.D., 1640Z/18).

EMPIRE TIDE, HARMATRIS, OCEAN FREEDOM and OCEAN VOICE. These ships are understood to be urgently in need of provisions. Request you will endeavour to provide essential stores for return voyage from those arriving in ships referred to in C. in C. H.Fs. 0615A/17 (D.T.D., 1753A/18 to S.B.N.O. North Russia).

War Diary.

18.8.1942.
Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Precautions
against
Sabotage.

Pass to N.C.S.Os and B.R.Os. Attention is drawn to the necessity for strict observance of precautions against sabotage on board merchant ships in harbour. A.M.S.I. 167/42 and 169/42 refer.
(D.T.D. Approved A.C.N.S. T. 1620A/18 to A.I.G.19 A.I.G.13.)

North Atlantic.

→ FURIOUS.

Request Gate at 0950 today Tuesday. CHARYBDIS, LAFOREY and escort in company. Acknowledge.
(FURIOUS 0716B/18 to F.O.C.N.A.)

U/B attack
on S.L.118.

A/S escort one Catalina U M Nine R.A.F. from 1600B to 2200B.
(F.O.C.N.A. 0815A/18 to Ships escorting convoy S.L.118. (R) Ships escorting convoy O.S.37.)
Am chasing 2 enemy submarines in 041° 14' N

020° 38' W. My present course and speed 348° 15½ knots.
(PENTSTEMON 1250Z/18 to Admty. (R) C. in C. W.A. F.O.C.N.A. N.O.I.C. Londonderry. FOLKESTONE.)

My 1250Z/18 one enemy sub. forced to dive by gunfire in position to 041° 32' N 020° 51' W. Second sub. recorded on surface out of visibility range estimate course 343°. Continuing search in company with WELLINGTON.

(PENTSTEMON 1510Z/18 to Admty. (R) C. in C. W.A. F.O.C.N.A. N.O.I.C. Londonderry. FOLKESTONE.)

Have been struck by a torpedo forward 214° 145 miles from Q.
(CHESHIRE 1700Z/18 to Whitehall W/T.)

S.L.118 attacked by U-Boat at 1703Z in 041° 30' N 019° 49' W. Two ships and CHESHIRE torpedoed, damage to CHESHIRE apparently not serious.

(FOLKESTONE 1812A/18 to C. in C. W.A. (R) Admty. F.O.C.N.A. Cdre. Londonderry.)

My 1700Z/18 to Admty. only. Torpedo hit number 1 hold. Ship about 6 feet down by the head. Number 2 hold dry. Am proceeding with convoy. No casualties.

(CHESHIRE 1930Z/18 to Admty. (R) C. in C. W.A.)

Ref. W A C.I. part 28 or 102 and further to my 1812A/18.

(B) 1. (C) BALINGKAR sunk and HATTARANA disabled. CHESHIRE damaged but able to maintain convoy speed. Merchant crews believed all saved. (D) HATTARANA believed salvable: tugs should be sailed. (E) PENTSTEMON hunting U-Boat, investigating damage to HATTARANA and rejoins convoy as soon as possible.

(F) U-Boat fired from position close ahead of second column.
(FOLKESTONE 2235A/18 to C. in C. W.A. (R) Admty. F.O.C.N.A. Cdre. Londonderry.)

U/B.

One German U-Boat bearing 043° 6 miles approx. course 140°. My position 205° Cusvoli Island 9 miles.
(P.211 0856B/18 to F.O.C.N.A. C. in C. Med.)

→ Arrivals
ex Op.
"Baritone"

Arrivals FURIOUS, CHARYBDIS, LAFOREY, LOOKOUT, LIGHTNING, ANTELOPE, WISHART, DERWENT, KEPPEL, MALCOLM, BICESTER, ESKIMO, SOMALI, VENOMOUS, BURDOCK, ARMERIA and tug SALVONIA from operation "Baritone" (F.O.C.N.A. 1004A/18 to Admty. N.O.I.C. Malta. C. in C. Med.) /KENYA...

War Diary.18.8.1942.
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic - Contd.

KENYA
ITHURIEL. My 1650/17. Undocking of KENYA delayed. Intend sailing KENYA with S.O. Force F. KENYA will then be available for oiling escorting destroyer.
(2) ITHURIEL not available to sail with S.O. Force F. My 1602/17 refers.
(F.O.C.N.A. 1142H/18 to Admty. (R) C. in C. H.F. C. in C. E.F. S.O. Force F.)

U/Bs. D/F bearings at 1112Z and 1125Z indicate two U-Boats in area within 60 miles of 42 N 20 W have made shadowing reports.
(D.D.I.C. 1256A/18 to R.A.A.H.F. Escorts S.L.118. Escorts O.S.37. (R) C. in C. W.A. F.O.C.N.A. H.Q.C.C.)

Situation report
1958B/18. 1. S/M O.21 43° 01' 12° 24' 160° 13. On surface. *RODNEY & VICTORIOUS*
2. Fleet units, ASHANTI, INTREPID, ICARUS, MATCHLESS, ZETLAND, AMAZON, 45° 12' 20° 03' 000° 16. *See p. 557.*
3. SIRIUS, PHOEBE, PATHFINDER, VANSITTART, QUENTIN 25° 42' 15° 38' through 23° 02' 17° 58' thence 185° 15.
4. S.L.118 FOLKESTONE, CHESHIRE, WELLINGTON, WOODRUFF, GORLESTON, PENTSTEMON 41° 42' 19° 57' through 43° 29' 18° 01' thence 000° 7. *See previous page.*
5. O.S.37 LONDONDERRY, BIDEFORD, HASTINGS, LANDGUARD, SWALE, 40° 45' 18° 28' 186° 8½.
11. O.G.88 (e) STORK, MARIGOLD, SAMPHIRE, DEPTFORD, CONVULVULUS 45° 57' 22° 10' through 43° 40' 22° 20' thence 144° 6.
(F.O.C.N.A. 1258A/18, 1330A/18.)

German Supply Ships at Vigo. Please telegraph and repeat to Admty. your opinion of following rumour.
(1) Three German ships at Vigo still supplying German submarines by boats or at least housing spare submarine ratings.
(2) The ships are preparing to leave.
(3) Spanish marines no longer go on board every night.
(N.A. Madrid 1333/18 to Consul Vigo (R) Admty.)
Reply: R.O. Vigo 1918/21.

LISBOA (German) Arr: 18/9 LISBOA.
(Cartagena T.H.I. 1345/18 to M of W.T.)

Ships mined in Gibraltar 14/7. My 1922/16/7. Further mines of similar pattern found in engine room steamship EMPIRE SNIPE today. Mine damaged and appears to have been blown into ship by explosion on 14/7.
(2) Further details follow by Air Mail.
(F.O.C.N.A. 1648A/18 to Admty. (R) F.O.I.C. W.A. N.O.I.C. Malta.)

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Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic - Contd.

- U/B. S/M sighted off coast $041^{\circ} 45' N$ $008^{\circ} 58' W$ steering S.W. on the surface 1330 G.M.T./18. A.O. (B.N.A. Lisbon 1714A/18, F.O.C.N.A. 1927A/18 to S & A, N.A. Station.)
- ABBEYDALE. Your 1701Z/15 para 4. Intend to sail ABBEYDALE and escorts p.m. 19/8.
2. E.T.A. at R/V position Z $21^{\circ} N$ $35^{\circ} W$ p.m. 28/8. (F.O.C.N.A. 1726A/18 to R.A.W.Af. B.A.D. C. in C. S.A. S.B.N.O. W.A. (R) C. in C. U.S. Fleet, Cominch, T.F.23. Admty.)
- French shipping. Gibraltar 0715 Armed trawler L'AJACCIENNE, SS. PROVIDENCE, MAROS, both full, CARIMARE, AUVERGNE both laden deck cargoes motor lorries, trawler MONT CASSEL westbound. (S.O.I. Gibraltar 1821A/18 to Admty. R.A.W.A. S.O.I. Kingston, Jam.)
- U/B. Following has been read: Am over enemy S/M in $41^{\circ} 47' N$ $19^{\circ} 40' W$. S/M on surface and observed to dive on a course 090° speed 8 knots. (A/C of 15 Group 1840/18.)
Following received (Begins) To H.Q. 19 Group. From F/L20. Am over enemy S/M in $41^{\circ} 46' N$ $19^{\circ} 40' W$ enemy S/M was on surface when first sighted on course 090° estimated speed 8 knots. (C.C.O. Plymouth 1848A/18 to Admty.)
S/M has dived in position $41^{\circ} 46' N$ $19^{\circ} 40' W$. (H.Q. 15 Group C.C. 1858/18.)
- ARGUS. Report before sailing whether ship is fit for operational employment for the next 3 months or whether refit is essential. (D.O.D. (H.) 1847A/18 to ARGUS. (R) F.O.C.N.A. C. in C. W.A. R.A.N.A.S. C.D.B.)
- LADY HOGARTH. JAUNTY. Your 1830/17. Para (1) approved. Para (2) JAUNTY is allocated to your command. Para (3) noted. (Admty. 1851A/18 to F.O.C.N.A. (R) C. in C. W.A.)
- BAGE, CUYABA. C. in C. U.S. Fleet's 1521/17. BAGE and CUYABA are not to be molested. (Admty. 2058A/18 to F.O.C.N.A. R.A.W.A. S.B.N.O. W.A. C. in C. S.A.)
- Dispersal of Forces after "Pedestal" Your 1650/17 and 1026/18 and A.T.O. 0130/18. A. (i) It is important that return of RAMILLIES to U.K. should not be delayed. (ii) It is not acceptable that INDOMITABLE should proceed unescorted. (iii) VIDETTE and WRESTLER may be sailed for Plymouth as convenient.

/B. Suggest...

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18.8.1942.

Tuesday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic.

Dispersal
of Forces
after
"Pedestal"
Contd.

B. Suggest you should
(i) Sail INDOMITABLE p.m./23 escorted by LEDBURY
BRAMHAM, LIGHTNING and ITHURIEL.
(ii) Meet MALAYA and RAMILLIES 26/8 with
remaining destroyers at Gibraltar.
(iii) Sail RAMILLIES for U.K. with PENN, ANTELOPE,
WISHART, WESTCOTT. These will return to Gibraltar
if movements of W.A. destroyers escorting W.S.22
allow of their taking over escort.

C. Further signal will be made as to disposal of ANTELOPE and
PENN.

(D.O.D. (F.) Approved A.C.N.S. (F.) 2301A/18 to F.O.C.N.A. (R)
C. in C. Plymouth, C. in C. W.A. C. in C. H.F., C. in C. S.A.
F.O. Force F. R.A.D. H.F. R.A.W.Af.)

CHARYBDIS.

CHARYBDIS reports excessive vibrations during last
operation preventing using speed above 20 knots.

(2) Examination by divers today found rope guards
of port inner propeller missing - loosening and

loss of rope guards probable reason.

(3) Intend carrying out steam trials at sea a.m. tomorrow
Wednesday after which a further report will be made.

(F.O.C.N.A. 2134/18 to Admty. (R) S.O. Force F.)

South Atlantic.

SYLVIA DE
LARRINAGA
torpedoed
14/8.

SYLVIA DE LARRINAGA torpedoed in 010° 49' N 033°
35' W at 1840/14. Keep look out for survivors.
(R.A.W.A. 0924Z/18 to ASTURIAS, CROCUS (R) Admty.
B.A.D. C. in C. U.S. Fleet, C.T.F. 23.)

U/B.

A/C reported sighting S/M 16 miles northeast of
0225 (Group incomplete Cable company taking action)
Cape Lopez (Gabon) at 1045Z/16.

(R.A.W.A. 0936Z/18 to CALEDON. LEOPARD, CHALLENGER.
ORISSA.)

CRIPPLE
CREEK.
(sunk 13/8)

My 1915Z/16 (N.T. in W.D.) CRIPPLE CREEK sunk by
German U-Boat type 740 tons with 2 torpedoes.
U-Boat did not speak survivors. All confidential
documents British and American thrown overboard
by Master.

(R.A.W.A. 0958Z/18 to Admty.)

A.F.D.25.

My 1141Z/16. Main wreckage probably in 3 parts
likely to remain danger to navigation for some time.
Drifting westward at 1½ knots.

(R.A.W.A. 1015Z/18 to Admty. B.A.D. C. in C. U.S.
Fleet.)

/Shipping...

18.8.1942.
Tuesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic - Contd.

Shipping Routes. Your O134B/16. Concur.
(D.T.D. 1115A/18 to C. in C. S.A. (R) R.A.W.A.)

SHROPSHIRE My 1654/25/7. Owing to increased leaking in
W.S.21 SHROPSHIRE (?fuel) tanks it is now essential that
CORFU. ship should be docked for caulking before acting
as escort for Cape to U.K. convoy in mid September.
Quite apart from homeward convoys keeping to date
SHROPSHIRE must dock on (?26th) August if whole
docking programme of Simonstown is not to be thrown out.

2. This will leave RANPURA as only ocean escort for Durban
portion of W.(?S)21. I do not consider one armed Merchant Cruiser
sufficient protection for 7 valuable troop ships. Propose
therefore that CORFU due Capetown 19/8 should be used as
additional escort. Estimate that CORFU would then sail for U.K.
4/9.

3. Intend to retain CORFU until decision is received.
(C. in C. S.A. 1129B/18 to Admty. (R) D.C. in C. E.F.)
Your 1129/18. CORFU. Approved.
(D.O.D.(F.) 1929A/18 to C. in C. S.A. (R) D.C. in C. E.F.)
Your 1129/18 and 1654/25/7. Very desirable SHROPSHIRE
should be kept running for next few months.

2. Request you will report:
A. Extent to which she can be made operationally fit at Durban
or Simonstown and when she would be ready.
B. Effect this work would have on other commitments.
C. Whether you can make alternative arrangements for homeward
escort of SHROPSHIRE's convoy.

(D.O.D.(F.) Approved A.C.N.S. F. 2336A/18 to C. in C. S.A. (R)
D.C. in C. E.F.)

Shipping. O.S.35. A.M. 1851A/16 only received today. Ship's
Chop 16th and 18th request you divert.
(R.A.W.A. 1151Z/18 to C. in C. S.A. (R) Admty.)

Brazilian ships ITAGIBA and ARARA northbound for
torpedoed. Bahia sunk 17/8 about 1000 local time off Morro
de Sao Paulo. Fishermen report explosions and
rapid sinkings of ships. No submarines sighted.
Some survivors reported but stories not yet
available.

(R.O. Bahia 1310Z/18 to Admty. (R) S.O.I. Freetown
S.O.(I.) Montevideo, Rio de Janeiro.)

In addition to torpedoing of Brazilian troop ship*BAEPENDY on
15/8 local press announces following four Brazilian ships have
also been sunk off Brazilian coast in last 3 days: ANNIBAL,
BENEVOLO, ARARAQUARA, ITAGIBA and ARARA. *2-584

S.O.I. Rio de Janeiro please confirm with details of possible.

(S.O.(I.) Montevideo 1505Z/18 to Admty. (R) C. in C. S.A.
B.A.D. S.O.(I.) Freetown. S.O.I. Jamaica. S.O.I. Rio de
Janeiro.)

Ref. S.O.I. Montevideo 1505Z/18. Sinking of 5 ships mentioned
officially confirmed here. No further official confirmation of
details yet obtained.

(S.O.(I.) Rio de Janeiro 2115Z/18 to Admty. C. in C. S.A.
B.A.D. S.O.(I.) Freetown, Jamaica, Montevideo.)

War Diary.

18.8.1942.
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic - Contd.

RAJPUTANA A.M. 1923A/17.
ORISSA. 1. RAJPUTANA is to be sailed as A/S escort to MARUDU to Capetown. Route A 017° 18' S 008° 48' E. B 034° 27' S 016° 28' E thence Capetown.
2. Unless otherwise ordered ORISSA is to be sailed as A/S escort to TREVALGAN and OCEAN VIGOUR to Cape by same route.
3. B.N.L.O. Pointe Noire is to report time of sailing S of A and time of delaying (as received) to area Q W/T organization. Above signal is repetition of my 1323Z/18 addressed B.N.L.O. Pointe Noire.
(R.A.W.A. 1324Z/18 to F.O.C.R.I.N. N.O.I.C. Lagos. C. in C. S.A. Admty. RAJPUTANA. D. of S.T. ORISSA.)

SIMBRA. Sailed SIMBRA and SIGFRA to Kilindini routed as in my 0643/11.
SIGFRA. 2. Continuous wireless watch will be kept between them.
3. S of A 11 knots. E.T.A. 0900Z/25.
(Cdre. Durban 1403Z/18 to Admty. C. in C. S.A. C. in C. E.F. D.C. in C. E.F. S.O.I. Colombo. F.O.I.C. E.A. S.O.I. Kilindini.)

ARCOLA Your 1845/15 and A.M. 2315/11 para 2.
TAIGETE. Before sailing ARCOLA and TAIGETE request you will report.
(A) Work carried out at Freetown.
Whether tankers are in a fit condition to reach Curacao and return with full load to Las Palmas.
2. Information required in anticipation Italian queries.
(D.O.D.(F.) 1435Z/18 to R.A.W.A. (R) C. in C. U.S. Fleet. S.B.N.O. W.A. S.B.N.O. Curacao. S.B.N.O. TAIGETE.)

B.A.M.S. Commencing 24/8, the following additional B.A.M.S.
Falklands. routines from Falklands will be introduced for areas 4 and 8:-
(a) 1300 G.M.T. on 125 K/cs.
(b) 1310 G.M.T. on 8,555 and 17,110 K/cs.
2. This amendment is included in C.A.M.S.I. 145/42 now in course of distribution.
(D.S.D. 1449Z/18 to B.A.M.S. All areas. (R) B.A.D.)

CALEDON Departure from Pointe Noire 16/8 CALEDON escorting
ORONTES. ORONTES to Freetown. E.T.A. 0700Z/23.
(B.N.L.O. W.A. 1533/18 to Admty. (R) R.A.W.A. C. in C. S.A.)

Towing of Your 0947Z/15 and D of S.T's 1923A/17. B.N.L.O.
TEMPLE INN. West Africa is to sail TEMPLE INN in tow FLYING KESTREL for Lagos (Nigeria) accompanied by JAMES E. HUGHES.
2. On completion tow both tugs return Pointe Noire to accompany MARUDU to Capetown. D of S.T's 2311A/13, para 2 refers.
3. EMPIRE FAIRY and EMPIRE GOBLIN are being ordered from Walvis

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Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic.Towing of
TEMPLE INN.
Contd.Bay to Luderitz Bay to tow barges to Table Bay.
D of S.T. 2311A/13 para 4 refers. EMPIRE GOBLIN
will then be available if required to assist
MARUDU.
(Capetown 1653B/18 to Admty.)CLAN
MACNAUGHTON
life-boat
and
wreckage.C.O. HAVSTEN has today reported that at 1300
S A T 3/8 his ships sighted an empty life-boat
marked CLAN MACNAUGHTON and 3 empty rafts as well
as a quantity of floating merchandise resembling
bales of cotton. HAVSTEN cruised around for 1
hour but found no trace of survivors and continued
on her course at speed approx 11 knots for about 6
hours before being torpedoed. Approx. position
of wreckage when sighted was therefore about 70 miles E by N
from position given in 2nd para my 1920Z/13.
(R.O. Pernambuco 1701Z/18 to Admty. (R) S.O.I.s. Montevideo,
Kingston and Rio de Janeiro. N.C.S.O. Trinidad.)Raider
search.This is repetition of C.T.F. 23. 0917/18. Action
Cominch, C. in C. Lant information Opnav, T.F.23
from C.T.F. 23. T.G. A has searched for raider
reported 9/8 from Ilha Trinidad to 17 W on 20 S.
then worked N.W. to 10 S thence to Base F on 13/8
near reported contact point examined 2 empty life-boats apparently
unused and 3 rafts having no identification marks saw lumber over
wide area but no signs of survivors or raider.
(R.D.O. Washington 1820Z/18 to R.A.W.A.)Reporting
Brazilian
M.L.
Flotilla.Ref. vessels of Brazilian Minelaying Flotilla whose
movements are reported by signal, I propose to
report them by their Flotilla number instead of by
name to save time and expense.
Following is key to number and name: C 1 CARIOCA.
C 2 CANANEA. C 3 CAMOCIM. C 4 CABEDELO. C 5
CARAVELAS. C 6 CAMAQUA.
(E.O. Pernambuco 1835Z/18 to Admty. (R) S.O.I.
Montevideo. S.O. Rio de Janeiro.)H.M.S. QUEEN
ELIZABETH.Your 1701/15. Concur in your proposals. QUEEN
ELIZABETH must be escorted throughout passage.
(D.O.D.(F.) 1930A/18 to R.A.W.A. (R) B.A.D. Cominch
C. in C. S.A. C.T.F. 23. S.B.N.O. W.A. F.O.C.N.A.)
p. 585.

W.S.21.

My 1645Z/15. ERRIA E.T.A. St Helena 21/8.
(N.C.S.O. Freetown 1934Z/18 to Admty. (R) C. in C.
S.A. General St. Helena.)AIMWELL
missing.Tug AIMWELL failed to join up night of 16/8.
No answer to W/T messages and search including A/C
failed to locate: possibly proceeding direct to
Freetown. My E.T.A. 1200Z/22.
(ASTURIAS 2100Z/18 to R.A.W.A.)

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Tuesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic - Contd.

Tankers
for
Freetown.

Oil stocks at Freetown are in urgent need of replenishment. Requested that tankers MAJA and ORWELL now at Curacao, KALDFONN and NORVINN at Trinidad, all with fuel oil cargoes may be sailed in pairs as soon as practicable for Freetown under escort to the maximum possible limit.

2. R.A.W.A.F. is requested to sail 2 covettes to R/V with each pair of tankers as far to the westward as possible.

3. Requested that route for these ships may be carefully selected in light of latest U-Boat intelligence and that Masters may be specially warned to expect diversion signals.

4. The safe arrival of these tankers is a matter of the greatest importance.

(D.T.D. Approved A.C.N.S. T. 2348A/18 to Connav. R.A.W.A. (R) F.O.I.C. Trinidad. S.B.N.O. Curacao. C. in C. S.A.)

No escorts available for special convoys - see B.A.D. 2209/21.

18.8.1942.
Tuesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

Damaged M/V sunk, P.44 damaged. Search latitude Kariat between 11.18 and 11.42 thence southward, probable enemy is still stationary.
 (Capt. (S) 10, 0045B/18 to P.44.)
 Your 2101B/17 ship sunk. Damage from explosion affected water tightness. *Am returning Malta. Ref. Capt. (S) 10, 0242B/17, 2011B/16 not received. * *see next page*
 (P.44, 0047B/18 to V.A. Malta.)
 My 2119B/17. Ship sunk later by P.44.
 (V.A. Malta, 0748B/18 to Admty., (R) C. in C. Med.)

Operation "Pedestal". My 0100/15.
see next page Preliminary estimate enemy A/C shot down by Fleet fighters, 30 certain, 5 probable, 9 possible. By ships A/A 8 certain, 2 probable. Reports still incomplete. 8 of our own A/C lost. 4 pilots safe.
 2. RODNEY, INDOMITABLE and NIGERIA arrived Gibraltar p.m./14th, remainder of covering forces p.m./15th. Continuous air attack on Force X from sunrise until 1315/14. Only near misses incurred.
 3. Tanker OHIO arrived Malta a.m./15th after having been towed 100 miles by destroyers and minesweepers.
 (D.O.D.(F), 0200A/18.)

S.O. Force F 1605/16, following A/C shot down by ships indicated after 1900/12 and are presumed not included in above signal.

Ship	Certain	Probable	Possible
PENN	1	2	Nil
BRAMHAM	1	1	Nil
LEDBURY	3	4	1
RYE	Nil	1	1
SPEEDY	Nil	Nil	1
BRISBANE STAR	1	Nil	Nil
OHIO	1	Nil	Nil
SANTA ELIZA	1	Nil	Nil
DORSET	1	Nil	Nil

(V.A. Malta, 0709B/18 to Admty.)

TAKU, PORPOISE. Cancel my 1915/8.
 (Capt. (S) 1, 0931C/18 to TAKU, PORPOISE, (R) C. in C. Med., S/MS on patrol, S.O. S/MS Alexandria.)

Cositrep No. 485. 3. Air. Night 16/17. Tobruk and Matruh Harbours bombed. One lighter hit and near misses on shipping Tobruk. Fires started on shore Matruh. Cloud hampered operations.
 4. 17th. Bad weather curtailed operations. Hudsons bombed F-Boats N. of Sidi Barrani obtaining near misses.
 (C. in C. M.E., 1000 G.M.T./18 to W.O.)

/UNA ...

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Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean - Contd.

UNA,*P.44. 3 friendly destroyers will leave searched channel 2030B/18 on course 285°. UNA to approach end of searched channel from S.W. and P.44 from W. maintaining S.S.T. communication throughout. UNA to surface first when ordered by sweeper about 0959B/19. (Capt. (S) 10th S/M.F., 1051B/18 to P.44, UNA.)

PENN,
BRAMHAM,
LEDBURY. Your 1750/17. Intend sailing PENN, BRAMHAM and LEDBURY for Gibraltar at 2000B tonight. (V.A. Malta, 1055B/18 to Admty., (R) F.O.C.N.A., C. in C. Med.)

Force X consisting of PENN, LEDBURY and BRAMHAM are expected to leave (? Malta) at 2030B/18 proceeding by Tunisian route thence South of Canirock and through Galita Is. Channel thereafter routed as in S.O. Force F 1734/25 para. 7. unless otherwise ordered by you. S. of A. about 23 knots until dark D.2 thereafter maximum speed with oil available. E.T.A. Gibraltar 2200B/20. Force has been given your 1610/14. Request it be informed direct of any other surface or S/M movement W. of 009° E. Ships have been ordered to decode message bearing spare D/G number 15 from S.P.02396 and to shift to Gibraltar broadcast not later than 0001/2nd. Codeword and call sign "Tango".

(V.A. Malta, 1210B/18 to F.O.C.N.A., (R) C. in C. Med., Admty.) Sailed.

(V.A. Malta, 2048B/18 to Admty., F.O.C.N.A., C. in C. Med.)

Operation Your 1142A/16. General cargo discharged by "Pedestal". 0700/18 (details).

(V.A. Malta, 1315B/18 to Admty.)

Your 0005/16 to Admty. Request you will obtain reports from N.L.Os of DEUCALION, DORSET, SANTA ELIZA and EMPIRE HOPE on circumstances attending loss of their ships. Also a similar report from senior surviving officer or rating from WAIMARAMA. Also request extracts of above reports may be signalled giving circumstances, time and position in which these ships were lost and, if applicable, disposal of C.Bs.

(S.O. Force F, 1329B/18 to V.A. Malta.)

Operation 32 Spitfires flown off in approx. position 37.31 "Baritone". N. 02.51 E. between 0730B and 0930B/17. One Spitfire crashed on taking off. Pilot drowned.

Two pilots baled out, one for engine trouble other for under-carriage failure, both of these pilots picked up unhurt. 29 Spitfires arrived Malta. Force unobserved by enemy. Admiralty pass to Air Ministry.

(FURIOUS, 1128A/18 to Admty., F.O.C.N.A.)

Greek Units, Your 2010C/10. Greek Naval Authorities have made Officers' following proposals in London.

status. (a) Where British and Greek Officers are of the same rank, the British officer will always be senior no matter is he is junior in seniority.

/(b) ...

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Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean - contd.

Greek Units, Officers' status. (Contd.) (b) The Greeks will endeavour to arrange that in nearly all cases their C.Os of Escort ships will not be of a higher rank than Lieut. Commander. (c) When it does happen that a Greek officer is senior in rank, he should be supplied with a specially experienced British Liaison Officer. (d) Where a Greek Officer has shown himself not competent in convoy or other duties, the British C. in C. is to inform the Greek C. in C. frankly and to ask that he be replaced. Request your early remarks. (Admty., 1500A/18 to C. in C. Med.) I agree. (C. in C. Med. 1512C/21 to Admty.)

TURBULENT. At your discretion Patrol S.(?E.) part of your area. (? Capt. (S) 1, 1540C/18 to TURBULENT, (R) S/Ms on Patrol.)

Enemy Units. P.C.S. of enemy 1 destroyer, 1 medium vessel not exceeding 10,000 tons, 1 small vessel not exceeding 2000 tons P.C. and S. 35° 00' N. 23° 38' E. 170°, 8. (C. in C. Med., 1555/18 to S/Ms on patrol.)

GLENROY. Your 1819/10. Estimated date of completion mid October for one engine. (A.S. Alexandria, 1604C/18 to Admty.)

Situation Report. Malta. Reinforcements of 29 Spitfires flown in p.m./17th from FURIOUS. (op: "Beiruta. In A. 577) UTMOST and P.46 close to Marittimo fired torpedoes at 1921 and 1935 on 10th at medium sized merchant ship. Estimated one possible hit by UTMOST. Nothing to report during "Pedestal".

TURBULENT in 36° 35' N. 21° 34' E. attacked two large merchant ships escorted by three destroyers at 1633/17~~00~~. Estimated one hit on each merchant ship. Beauforts hit and left stopped merchant ship 285° Lampion 16 miles at 1645/17/8 which was later sunk by P.44. Levant. Move "Robertsbridge" consisting of 7000 troops into Cyprus and 4,800 out began 17th. In serial 1 PRINCESS MARGUERITE with approx. 1000 troops on board, escorted by ANTWERP, also carrying troops, and 3 destroyers, on passage from Port Said to Famagusta was reported*torpedoed and sunk at 1559/17/8 in position 32° 3' N. 32° 47' E. Fire broke out on board, no torpedo track was seen and no explosion heard. Possibility of sabotage exists.* A submarine previously reported could however have been in the vicinity. About 1100 survivors have been picked up by KELVIN and HERO. * by U.83. (In R.R. 1337) PALADIN shot down one out of two torpedo bombers which attacked her 120 miles N.E. of Port Said 1025/18 whilst on A/S hunt. Palestinian schooner on passage Haifa to Cyprus with petrol sunk by gunfire from U-Boat 2330/16 55 miles W. of Beirut. All crew saved. (C. in C. Med., 1616C/18 to Admty.)

* Ship was torpedoed, see p 611.

/Enemy ...

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War Diary.18.8.1942.
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean - Contd.

Enemy Units. Following received from A/C P.C.S. of enemy one large M/V, 2 destroyers is $034^{\circ} 29'$ N. $023^{\circ} 29'$ E. 180° 12 knots. T.O.O. 1556. Ends.
(C. in C. Med., 1631C/18 to S/Ms on Patrol.)
A/C report at 1555/18 one large vessel two destroyers
P.C. and S. $034^{\circ} 50'$ N. $023^{\circ} 29'$ E. 180° , 12.
(Capt. (S) 1, 1642C/18 to PORPOISE, (R) S/Ms on Patrol.)
P.C. and S. of 1 M/V 2 destroyers 33.54 N. 23.47 E.
180, 8 knots.
(QZ7F, 2230/18.)
P.C. and S. of your objective is 33.54 N. 23.47 E. 180
8 at 2230.
(201 Group, 2300/18 to A/C of - Sqdn.)
My 1642/18 A/C P.C. and S. enemy $033^{\circ} 54'$ N. $023^{\circ} 47'$
E. 180° 8.
(Capt. (S) 1, 2311C/18 to S/Ms on Patrol.)

Malta I.584 18/8 C.S.R. Malta. 17th.
Air Report. 1558 hours, 2 plus hostile aircraft approached,
4 Spitfires up but raid turned back when 20
miles E. of Malta.

Night 17/18. 1 Alert. 1850 hours, 1 Beaufighter on patrol
saw nothing. 2118 hours, 3 raiders approached upland but
none crossed coast. Bombs dropped sea, patial R.D.F.
interference.

One Beaufighter up unable to intercept owing to trouble
with special equipment. 18th. 0600 hours, 4 Spitfires up
sighted 5 enemy fighters 35 miles North of Island but enemy
avoided combat and fled home. 0725 hours. 8 Spitfires up for
raid which turned back before nearing Malta.

(H.Q. R.A.F. Malta, 1722/18C.)

17/8. Shipping R/C (Cephalonia Zante) sighted 1450 hours
2 M.T.Bs 304° Cape Papas 32 miles course 360° speed 10 knots.
0945 hours 1 M/V 7000 tons, 2 D/Rs sighted by photo R/C 320°
Pantellaria 4 miles course S. 11 knots. 1344 hours, 6 Beau-
forts escorted by 5 Beaufighters and 8 long range Spitfires
attacked 280° Lampedusa 30 miles. Convoy patrolled by 4 JU.
88s and 2 enemy fighters. 6 torpedoes pistol setting 24 feet
dropped from 70 feet at 600 yards scoring 2 certain hits on M/V
which was left stationary pouring white smoke and down by stern.
2 Beaufighters also bombed M/V from 1500 feet scoring 1 direct
hit on stern. Beauforts and Beaufighters attacked M/V and
surface escort with machine gun and cannon fire. 8 short range
Spitfires covered return of Strike. All A/C returned safely.
Photographic R/C at 1610 hours showed M.T. damaged on deck of
M/V vessel still stationary listing to Port and emitting smoke
from entire length. 4 JU.88s and 6 P.Fighters were patrolling
over M/V 2030 to 2112 hours M/V still stationary illuminated by
Wellington 8 dropping flares.

18th. Spitfires continuing standing Patrol over Harbour to
protect unloading of Convoy.

(H.Q. R.A.F. Malta 1758/18 to Air Min.)

War Diary.

18.8.1942
Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean - Contd.

PROTEUS. Owing to engine defects return to U.K. for refit delayed. Anticipate will be ready to sail 9/9.
(Capt. (S) 1 1941C/18 to C. in C. Med.,
(R) F.O.(S), Admty.)

S/Ms and mines reported. Air Reports 18th. 1500B. One S/M 037° 25' N. 006° 34' E. course 270° Crash dived.
1602B One S/M submerged 037° 42' N. 009° 43' E.
10 Mines 036° 16' N. 011° 35' E. *BALTIMORE will search Galita to Cagliari at dawn.
(N.O.I.C. Malta 2200B/18 to Force X.)

*not identified

SECRET.

MESSAGE.

2:55B/18th August.
IN.

FROM Capt. (S) 10.

DATE. 24/8/42.
RECD. 0401.

Naval Cypher A(2) old by W/T.

ADDRESSED Capt.(S) 1 repeated C.in C. Mediterranean
V.A. Malta.

(1) H.M.S/M P.H2 reports at 2023 6th in position 7 miles south of Capri fired 3 torpedoes at southbound merchant ship similar to BELVEDERE escort one Torpedo boat, range 2000 track angle 65 speed 11 knots, consider attack observed and track (corrupt gp) no hits counter attack 13 depth charges. Part 2 of my 0015B 19th follows.

2255B/18.

Note by War Registry. Pt. II not received.

Advance Copy CPS. O.L. O.I.C.

1st. Lord.
1st.S.I.(2)
4th S.L.
V.C.N.S.
A.C.N.S.(F)

D.of P.(3)
D.A/S.W.(2)
I.P.(3)
N.D.
D.P.D.

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War Diary.18.8.1942
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies.

Protection of Persian Gulf Convoys. Your 0328/7 and S.N.O.P.G's 0845Z/9. Ref. your proposals under para 2 B it is hoped that Inward Tankers as well as Inward Personnel ships can be escorted. Suggest therefore that instead of dispersing at Ras el Hadd aim should be to escort outward bound ships to Gulf of Masirah, inward bound Tankers and other important ships being routed to Gulf of Masirah for onward convoy. Important that consideration should be given when considering Convoy Assembly to (a) avoidance of congestion at Bombay and Karachi, (b) avoidance of delay in off-loading A/C at Karachi. Possibly Salaya or Gulf of Kutch might be considered if proposals in F.O.C.R.I.N. 1037Z/6 are impracticable. Certain suitable Dutch small craft for servicing Merchant Ships in improvised Convoy Assembly ports such as Gulf of Kutch or Masirah can be made available, but early decision is necessary if these craft are required.
(D.T.D. 0046A/18 to C. in C. E.F.)

"S" Report by AMERICAN BUILDER. Intercepted 0446 G.M.T. 500 k/cs from Slangkop W/T. SSSS following received from AMERICAN BUILDER. Suspicious vessel approaching from stern at 28.00 S. 33.30 E.
(Burnham Radio T.O.R. ZSC 0332 G.M.T/18 etc.)

Escort and Liaison Officers. Your 2005/14. Orders for provision of escort and Liaison Officer were issued by Govt. of India.
(P.S.T.O. India 0501Z/18 to Admty.)
Your 2005/14. Govt. of India consider it essential that escort, even if removed from CITY OF PARIS prior to her arrival at Lourenco Marques should return to India in same ship which carries Indian repatriates. This ship will not be under safe conduct. Request this may be arranged.
(F.O.C.R.I.N. 0921Z/18 to Admty.)

B.M.27. Sailing telegram. Details.
(N.C.S.O. Bombay 0834Z/18 to Admty.)

K.11. 1200Z/18. Sailed in accordance with Deputy C. in C. E.F. 1256Z/17 not to Admiralty.
(N.O.I.C. Diego Suarez 1204Z/18 to Admty., C. in C. E.F., C. in C. S.A.)

Enemy cruiser off Akyab. R.A.F. R/C A/C reports sighting enemy cruiser at 0310Z/18 in 019° 33' N. 092° 45' E. steering 45° 15 to 20 knots. Air H.Q. Bengal directly ordered all available Blenheims and Hudsons to attack. No further news. Not intended to stop shipping in Bay of Bengal unless further information received.
(F.O.I.C. Ceylon 1233Z/18 to Admty.)

/Merchant ...

War Diary.

18.8.1942
Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies - contd.

Merchant Vessels bombed off Coromantel coast. At 0423Z/18 ITINDA reported being bombed in 018° 55' N. 085° 32' E. Later reported 4 engine bombers attacked unsuccessfully. At 0458Z/18 CONGELLA reported being bombed in position 017° 50' N. 084° 24' E. No further details received.

(F.O.I.C. Ceylon 1256Z/18 to Admty.)
My 1256/18 para 2. Reported at 0553Z/18 2 near misses proceeded on voyage.
(F.O. Ceylon 1601Z/18 to Admty.)

Routeing Policy. It is important to M.O.W.T. that their representatives in your area should be informed as to effect of changes in routeing policy on bunkering arrangements and length of voyages.
(D.T.D. 1319A/18 to C. in C. E.F., C. in C..S.A.)

Force A. Arrivals a.m.18th, WARSPITE,*VALIANT, HEEMSKERCK, INCONSTANT, NAPIER, MAURITIUS, NORMAN, NIZAM.
(F.O.E.A. and Zanzibar 1315Z/18 to Admty.)

Catalina Squadrons. Your 0710Z/8.
1. C. in C. and A.O.C. in C. both away from India on duty.
2. Agree tentatively to proposed location of squadrons in order of priority. Durban, Diego Suarez, North West India, Mauritius.
3. From para "B" of your signal it is noted you propose to base 2 squadrons in North West India. As an alternative would propose 1 squadron located at Jiwani (S.E. corner of Baluchistan) where flying boat facilities already exist, and where it would be most centrally situated for operations over approaches to Karachi and the Gulf of Oman, and 1 in Calcutta area. Latter location considered most essential in order to meet great demand for long range R/C in Northern part of Bay of Bengal which is very probable approach for an enemy invasion force.
4. If you agree this proposal final location of 12 squadrons would be as follows - Durban 1. Kilindini 2. Indian Ocean Bases (Basym) 2. North Western India 1. Ceylon 4. Madras 1. Calcutta 1.
5. These proposals are subject to confirmation on return of C. in C. and A.O.C. in C. In meantime would welcome your comments on proposal in para 3. above.
(A.H.Q. India 1345Z/18 to C. in C. E.F.)

O.24 In order to affect change of outfit torpedo design (?sail) O.24 as convenient to meet Depot Ship **COLONBIA** and subsequently to Diego Suarez for fuel. Onward passage from Diego Suarez will be ordered by (?Deputy C. in C. Eastern Fleet).
(Dept. C. in C. E.F. 1428Z/18 to C. in C. S.A.)

/VAN GALEN ...

War Diary.18.8.1942
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies - contd.

VAN GALEN. Arrived 1000 G.M.T left 1430 G.M.T.
(N.O.I.C. Seychelles 1442Z/18 to Admty., S.O.(I)s
Colombo, Bombay, Aden, Kilindini.)

San Saldanha Bay Defences. Ref. Admty. Message 1231/12. Request you will
employ GUARDIAN as required for San Saldanha Bay
defences on completion of her refit. Shall be
glad to know date of her return to Indian Ocean
as soon as this can be forecast.
(D. C. in C. E.F. 1445Z/18 to C. in C. S.A.
Station.)

SATURNIA
VULCANIA. Your 0942/15. Repatriation liners at present
in dock at Genoa and Italian Government have
not yet made concrete proposals for second
trip. All Naval Authorities concerned will
be informed immediately information is available.
(Admty. 1450A/18 to Dep. C. in C. E.F.)

V.S.I.S. A.M. 1922/2/7 not to all addressees. Present
position in regard to V.S.I.S. is not satisfactory.
DEMODOCUS is now on passage to Durban to replenish
leaving only RELIANT to serve Fleet at Kilindini. F.O. Ceylon
considers that TAIPING must be reserved for duty in Ceylon
Addu Atoll. Persian Gulf will be catered for if present
negotiations with P.S.T.O. India to take up two ships to run
between India and Persian Gulf are successful. EPUL leaves
the following outlying bases which depend mainly on the visit
of a store carrier with refrigerated space to maintain essential
supplies which will vary according to use made of the bases by
Fleet units Seychelles, Mauritius, Diego Suarez and Diego Garcia.
Request that an additional ship with refrigerated space may be
taken up for this purpose. My 0717/27/6 and F.O. Ceylon's
1635/10/8 not to all addressees refers.
(C. in C. E.F. 1503Z/18 to Admty.)

DAUNTLESS. Escort to M.K.3 sailing about 23rd.
ARROW. (Dep. C. in C. E.F. 1835/18 to N.O.I.C. Diego
Suarez.)

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War Diary.18.8.1942.
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies.BAEPENDY
(Brazilian)Connav serial 17. Torpedoed sunk 17th 11.50 S
37 (90?) W.
(Connav No T.O.O./18 to Commaveu.)S/Ms
sighted.Port Limon reports unknown S/M seen by straggler
(?surfaced) 2200 G.M.T./11 009° 45' N 082° 46' 30"
W. (S.O.(I) Kingston, 0204Q/18 to
Admty. (for D.N.I.) S.B.N.O. W.A. B.A.D. N.O.I.C.
Trinidad. Connav. C.P.S.F.)In 019° 39' N 076° 26' W at 0400 G.C.T./18. In 200° 2 miles
Negril Point Jamaica at 0935Q /18. Course S.E. 10 minutes later
course S.(S.O.I. Kingston (Jam.) 0901Q/18, 1006Q/18 to Admty.)
My 1006/18. A/C failed to locate S/M suggest vessel sighted
was small escort vessel W A T.
(S.O.I. Kingston 1709Q/18 to Admty.)

ADULA.

Your 1215QR/17. Sailed via Panama and Cape Horn.
(D.T.D. 1036A/18 to S.B.N.O. Curacao.)

O.15.

N.S.H.Q. Ottawa's 2304/10. B.A.M.R. Washington
is requested to reply. O.15 should leave Halifax
as soon as convenient after arrival of P.553.
(Admty. 1037A/18 to B.A.M.R. Washington.)

*2 p. 587.

CHURCHILL.
(T.A.W.12)Following paraphrased signals are passed for your
information begins.
To Comgulfseafon from Comcarib. Request thorough
interrogation escort Commander CHURCHILL to
explain absence from convoy. Left convoy
inadequately escorted for 24 hours to land survivors and for a
day to tow S.C.503. 1235/14.
To Comgulfseafon from CHURCHILL. Comcarib 1235/14.
In view of charges made regarding my action as escort Commander
of T.A.W.12 request Court of Enquiry may be held. 1927/17.
(F.O.I.C. Trinidad 1052Q/18 to S.B.N.O. W.A.)BALLADIER
torpedoed.U.S. Flag ARY, NORLUNA and Panama Flag WAR ADMIRAL
arrived from S.C.95 (with?) DUANE and U.S.
Destroyer SCHENCK, escort unit 24.6.5 which is
dissolved. U.S. Flag BALLADIER torpedoed. Opnav
pass to C. in C. Atlantic Fleet, Connav.
(C.T.G. 24.6. 1150/18 to Opnav. C. in C. W.A. (R)
(C.T.24?))U.S. Navy
and
Trinidad.I understand that the question of diversion of
responsibility for local naval defences at
Trinidad has been the subject of recent conver-
sation between Admiral Oldendorf and Admiral
Hodges and that, subject to your covering approval,
agreement was reached the general lines of which
being that all naval defensive measures inside the Gulf of Paria
should be undertaken by British forces and all measures outside
the gulf by U.S. Forces, all forces being of course under Admiral

/Oldendorf...

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Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies.

U.S. Navy and Trinidad. Contd. Oldendorf as S.N.O. I have little doubt that you will agree that such arrangements should generally be settled locally but would be grateful if you would confirm this, and also that the agreement outlined above has your approval.
(S.B.N.O. W.A. 1201P/18 to Com. Caribbean Sea.)

U.S. Dispositions. Atlantic. MASSACHUSETTS due Casco Bay 18th.
NEW YORK at New York.
SOUTH DAKOTA left Philadelphia 16th.
WICHITA left Iceland 16th.
CINCINNATI at Ascension Island.

Pacific. TENNESSEE, PENNSYLVANIA, IDAHO, MISSISSIPPI, NEW MEXICO, COLORADO and MARYLAND at Pearl Harbour.
HORNET, NORTHAMPTON, PENSACOLA and SAN DIEGO left Pearl Harbour 15th.
BOISE departed Pearl Harbour with convoy 15th.
RALEIGH left San Diego with convoy 12th.
CHESTER at San Diego.
CONCORD and RICHMOND due Balboa 19th. and 20th. respectively.
LONG ISLAND and HELENA at Espiritusanto.
PHOENIX at Sydney.
(Comnav 1229/18 to Admty.)

KINGDOC My 2223/17 U.S. Naval Authorities Guantanamo arranging salvage.
CARTIERDOC. (S.O.I. Jamaica 1246Q/18 to Admty. S.B.N.O. W.A. B.A.D. Conn. F.O.C. Trinidad.)

?Escort of R.A. West Africa's 1701/15 (N.T. in W.D.) paras (2) and (4). U.S. Authorities request firm date of R/V now since U.S. destroyers are being held from other duties pending decision.
H.M.S. QUEEN ELIZABETH. (B.A.D. Washington 1419Z/18 to Admty. R.A.W.A.)
Reply: a.m. 30/8 (R.A.W.A. 0907/19.)

S/M attack and sighting summary. From Cominch addressed to Admty. for O.I.C.
At 1620Z/17 U.S. Navy plane sighted S/M in 19.30 N 74.48 W. At 0426Z/17 LAGUNA was torpedoed in 18.47 N 75.03 W. Plane attacked and possibly damaged a U.45 type sub. at 1830Z/16 in 24.00 N 81.50 W. An unidentified ship was attacked in 08.51 N 52.58 W at 1505Z/17.

An unidentified vessel (?LOUISIANA) was attacked at 1501Z/17 in 07.24 N 51.33 W. Potlatch golden serpent or dragon on blue background with crossed broad axes lower part. Number is believed to be 789, but middle figure is doubtful. This number on starboard side of conning tower. WAWALOAM received 25 shells and three torpedo misses at 1 mile after vessel hove to. S/M was sighted by Navy plane at 1545Z/17 in 23.38 N 82.05 W course 170. In 28.30 N 91.17 W at 1630Z/16 a submerged S/M was reported.
(Comnav 1424/18 to Admty.)

HONOLULAN two torpedo hits U.45 type. MALDONADO U.16 or U.19 reported. S/M reported sighted on surface 09.50 N 61.20 W 1240Z/14 course S.W. Panair plane sights S/M 10.50 N 61.45 W 1500Z/15. Plane attacks S/M 18.58 N 67.17 W 1815Z/15. Surface

/craft...

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War Diary.18.8.1942.
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies - contd. -

S/M attack and sighting summary. Contd. craft reports sound contact 28.42 N 90.18 W 1750Z/15. S/M reported 19.00 N 67.17 W 1515Z/15 and 1633Z/15. 19.40 N 74.16 W 1200Z/16. Plane subsequently reports sighting periscope that position. Fisherman sights periscope and conning tower 26.08 N 82.19 W 1750Z/15, course N.W. (Comnavu 1941/18 to Admty.)

TYSA WILLIMANTIC. My 1802/15 TYSA and WILLIMANTIC C.Bs sunk. My 1527/18 to Admty. only are casualties WILLIMANTIC. (S.O.I. Jamaica 1524Q/18.)

O.N.121. Western local escort T.U. 24.18.2 WITCH S.O. HAMILTON, REGINA, ALGOMA, MONCTON sailed St. Johns N.F. 1400Z/21 to join in 044° 39' N 050° 20' W at 0900Z/22. (F.O.N.F. 1548Z/18 to C.T.U. 24.1.13.)

Movements. WANDERER arrived from escort duty. COLUMBIA sailed to rejoin O.N.118. (S.O.I. Halifax 1556Z/18 to Admty. N.S.H.Q. Ottawa)

S/M estimates. C. in C. U.S. Fleet 1704Z/18, 1705Z/18, 1706Z/18, 1707Z/18, 1708Z/18.

A.T.20. Sailing telegram.
(1) 14.2 knots. (2) 0 039° 015° N 069° 048° W. 0200 G.M.T./20.
(3) M.O.M.P. 1200 G.M.T./29. (4) From New York PHILADELPHIA (R.A. Davidson escort Commander) NEW YORK, BUCK, WOOLSEY, LUDLOW, EDISON, WILKES, NICHOLSON, SWANSON, INGRAHAM, BRISTOL. From Boston, ROE (? EBERLE, BRANCH, or CASSIN) ERICSSON.
(5) U.S.A. T. SIBONEY. From New York, 6 ships, from Boston 2 ships.
(6) 4 POLARIS, CHEMUNG, DUCHESS OF BEDFORD, ORMONDE to Iceland of which second ship is Commodore.
(Port Director New York 1742/18 to C. in C. Convoy Routeing.)

Raider Search. Repetition of C.T.F. 23, 0917/18. (R.D.O. Washington 1820Z/18 to R.A. West Africa.) See South Atlantic.

S/M attack at Willemstad. Unsuccessful S/M attack made on vessel entering Willemstad Harbour at 1805QR/18. 2 torpedoes exploded on beach $\frac{1}{4}$ mile N.W. of harbour. (B.S.N.O. Curacao 1915QR/18 to S.B.N.O. W.A.)

JAMES AND STANLEY (Aux. Schooner) Grounded Pennant Island 44° 27' N 63° 40' W in dense fog fear total loss - Master and Crew now at Halifax. (C.O.A.C. 1923Z/18 to Admty. N.S.H.Q.)

War Diary.18.8.1942.
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies - Contd.

ASCANIA. Your 0100/16 not to other addressees. Should arrive Halifax 4th or 5th September. M of W.T. enquire (A) if in time is she to be sailed in HX 206 on 6/9 or (B) held to load full cargo. (C) if held are buoyancy drums as well as ballast to be discharged. My 2118/13 refers. (N.S.H.Q. Ottawa 2046Z/18 to Admty.)

U/B Campaign. SEMIR EGYPT and FORT LA REINE British both torpedoed sunk 17/8 18.20 N 75.00 W convoy P.G.6. JOHN HANCOCK U.S. also sunk same convoy today. (Connav 2056/18 to N.S.H.Q. S.O.I. Kingston, Jam. C.E.C.G.P.S.Fs.)

Navigation, Savannah. W 20 A 615. Entrance to Port of Savannah reopened to shipping. Cancel W 20 A 613. (C.N.S. Ottawa 2126Z/18.)

P.553. Admty. 1037/18. Should be ready to leave New London about 13/9. (B.A.M.R. Washington 2206Z/18 to N.S.H.Q.)

Australia and New Zealand.

Digest Serial No.208. 17/8. Indications enemy R/C. A/C Darwin area 17/8. 24 heavy bombers described as new short nose type attacked Seven Mile Aerodrome Port Moresby at 2320Z/16. A/C made one run over aerodrome at 20,000 ft. in vee of vees formation 8 A/C in each vee. 150 bombs dropped, some eight hours delay. 6 hits both sides runway others dispersal areas causing damage to A/C on ground and destroying fuel drums and building 20 Aircobras failed to intercept. Three cruisers one destroyer sighted in Kavieng Harbour by Fortress on R/C 0040Z/17. R/C of northern most tip Willaumez Peninsula 17/8 failed to confirm recent report possible landing strip. My serial number 207 para 3 refers. Two destroyers 1 4,000 ton merchant vessel reported by air R/C Gizo Harbour noon 17/8 my serial number 207 para 3 refers. G.H.Q. S.W. Pacific area 0630Z/18 to Admty. B.A.D. C. in C. E.F. Concentric Colombo, F.O.C.R.I.N. C.O.I.S. E.F. C. in C. E.I. N.Z.N.B.)

War Diary.

18.8.1942.
Tuesday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Submarines Reported.

S/M estimated positions.
(D.D.I.C. 1349A/18, 1410A/18.)

19.8.1942.
Wednesday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

Operation
"Jubilee".

A combined operation commenced last night against Dieppe, the object of which was the destruction of harbour facilities, local defences, power stations, aerodromes near the town and the destruction or removal of all craft in the port. The crossing was successful except for a chance encounter of part of the flotilla with enemy patrol vessels. Minesweeping was successful and destroyers carried out a preliminary bombardment with simultaneous air attack on the ground defences. Landings were made on 6 beaches, 167 landing craft being employed; 18 tanks were put ashore. The naval vessels remained off Dieppe throughout the 9 hours of the operation.

From 1000 onwards it was clear that the operation would not succeed and embarkation began at 1106. The tanks had to be blown up owing to the grave situation on the beaches.

BERKELEY was disabled by bombing and had to be sunk, and CALPE (S.O's ship), BROCKLESBY, SLAZAK, LOCUST and S.G.B.5 were damaged; all other destroyers sustained minor damage. PRINCESS BEATRIX and INVICTA were damaged in collision. Forty two landing craft are missing. Naval and Marine casualties were about 55 killed and 364 wounded and 224 missing, exclusive of the R.M. Commandos. About a third of the 6,100 troops employed are missing.

R.A.F. made 2653 sorties, giving continuous fighter cover over the area of the operations. Our losses were 98 fighters (30 pilots safe) 3 light bombers and 12 Army co-operation aircraft. Enemy losses 93 aircraft destroyed, 39 probably, 140 damaged. (page 626)

Operation
E.U.

U.S. Cruiser TUSCALOOSA^{CHALLENGER} and 2 U.S. destroyers sailed from Seidisfiord this evening for North Russia with stores and a hospital unit.

See p. 546.

Corvette KINGCUP capsized in dry dock at Newport today whilst the dock was being flooded to admit a second ship.

H.S.Ls. 122, 123 and 147 were destroyed by enemy aircraft p.m. today, whilst engaged on air sea rescue operations, the two former about 175° Dungeness 17 miles and the latter about 170° Dungeness 40 miles.

/Attack...

War Diary.

19.8.1942.
Wednesday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands - Contd.

Attack on
enemy tanker.

Aircraft of 61 Squadron attacked an enemy tanker this evening in 44° 7' N., 8° 8' W., and obtained one hit on the bow with a 500 lb. bomb. A Sunderland attacked the enemy later and also claims a hit. In all, at least 5 different attacks by aircraft were made.

Renewed
attacks on
S.L.118.

Convoy S.L.118 was again attacked by a U-boat at 1430Z in 43° 21' N., 18° 20' W and CITY OF MANILA was torpedoed and sank later. ZETLAND detached by RODNEY last night by orders of the Admiralty joined at 1240Z today.

*This attack took
place at 2010Z/9.
It was on
U 704, which
was undamaged*

SS. DUCHESS OF BEDFORD claims to have sunk a U-boat by gunfire about 610 miles west of Blacksod Bay. DUCHESS OF BEDFORD had no damage or casualties.

118 aircraft of Bomber Command attacked Flensburg last night.

South Atlantic.

The Brazilian Naval authorities report that the schooner JACYRA was torpedoed at 0600 G.M.T. today in 16° 39' S., 39° 5' W at the mouth of the River Itacare between Bahia and Belmonte. Pernambuco has now been closed to the departure of Brazilian ships until further notice but remains open to foreign shipping. All Brazilian ships on the coast have been instructed to make for the nearest port.

Mediterranean.

PORPOISE on patrol north of Ras el Tin was damaged by depth charges following an encounter at dawn today with an Italian destroyer. PORPOISE was unable to dive and was escorted to Port Said by HURSLEY and BELVOIR.

Tobruk was bombed last night and a southbound convoy was attacked and a possible torpedo hit obtained on a 6,000 ton merchant ship north of Tobruk.

War Diary.

19.8.1942.
Wednesday.

SITUATION REPORT.

East Indies.

SS. GAZANA is reported to have been unsuccessfully attacked with torpedo by a U-boat today, 50 miles S.E. of Ceylon. (Apparently considered doubtful by C. in C. E.F. vide his 1316Z/21).

America & West Indies.

Attack on
Convoy
T.A.W. - S

Convoy T.A.W.-S was attacked again today and SS. EMPIRE CLOUD (sank 0620Z/21 in tow) and BRITISH CONSUL were torpedoed in approx. 11° 40' N. 62° 30' W.

The C. in C. U.S. Naval Forces in Europe reports that at 1832Z today an aircraft attacked a submarine in 7° 40' N., 52° W; survivors were reported in the water and the U-boat was considered to have been sunk.

War Diary.

19.8.1942.
Wednesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Movements.

H.33 N.O.I.C. Falmouth's 1247A/18. H.33 and Z.5 unable
Z.5 to maintain speed in present weather conditions and
RUBIS are straggling astern of convoy. GRIMSBY TOWN has
GRAPH. been detached to remain in touch and take over
escort when Z.5 leaves for R/V at daylight.
GRIMSBY TOWN pass to Z.5 and H.33.
(CLEVELAND 0210A/19 to C. in C. Plymouth.)

My 2035/18 (not to N.O.I.C. Falmouth) Amend time of R/V to
read 1000/19. N.O.I.C. Falmouth is requested to sail RUBIS
accordingly.

(Capt. S.5 0332A/19 to Z.5.)

Z.5 escorting RUBIS and 0708 GRAPH sailed from R/V 180°
Lizard Head 10 miles at 1015/19 for Dundee and Rothesay
respectively. Codeword "Stencil".

(N.O.I.C. Falmouth 1120A/19.)

Escort of
VICTORIOUS.

See p. 601

INGLEFIELD with ECLIPSE, WORCESTER, WINDSOR
proceeding to pass Switha at 1500/19 via Minches
to R/V VICTORIOUS in accordance with C. in C. H.F.
1237A/18. (3)

2. Copy C. in C. H.F. 1237A/18 and C. in C. W.A.
0133/18 attached (as received)

(R.A.D. H.F. 1022A/19 to INGLEFIELD. (R) ECLIPSE.
WORCESTER, WINDSOR, RODNEY, A.C.O.S. C. in C. H.F.
R.A.A.H.F. C. in C. W.A. Capt. D.6. Admty.)

P.219.

My (?0406) 19. On reaching lat. 044° N P.219 is
to proceed to her patrol position.
(F.O.S. 1123A/19 to Subs. operating S of Lat 51° N)

See next page

GEORGETOWN.
MANSFIELD.
SALISBURY.

My 1108B/7 and 1008Z/9.

1. GEORGETOWN, MANSFIELD are to arrive Londonderry
by 1200A/21 and sail thence to Hvalfiord at best
speed.

2. After fuelling A.C.I.C. is requested to sail
ships at best speed to St. Johns to join Western
Local Escort Force.

3. SALISBURY delayed by defects.
(C. in C. W.A. 1421Z/19.)

PENYLAN.

N.O.I.C. Barrow's 1556/17 approved.

2. F.O.I.C. Greenock is requested to sail PENYLAN
for Scapa on completion of these trials about 25/8.
to work up before joining Portsmouth Command.

(D.O.D. (H.) 1821A/19.)

A.F.D.
XVII.

Arrangements for towing from Devonport to Iceland
on 1/9.

(C.C.R.T. 1913A/19.)

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War Diary.19.8.1942.
Wednesday.HOME COMMANDS.Movements - Contd.BADSWORTH
WILTON.

Your 1301A/19. Alter course forthwith to pass through J. 180° Fastnet Rock 10 miles. Then by Q.Z. L. 18 to K. 052° 00' N 005° 32' W and to destination.

BADSWORTH may proceed to Milford Haven from K. if necessary Beaufighter escort will be provided a.m. 20th.

(C. in C. W.A. 1921A/19 to *BADSWORTH. WILTON.)

** in p. 604.*Operations.M.L. patrol
in Lyme
Bay.Your 1551/18. Range V arrived.
(N.O.I.C. Dartmouth 0104/19 to C. in C. Plymouth.)Operation
at Dieppe.
"Jubilee"

My 0127/19. 2 craft 302° Treport 10 miles course 190° speed 13 knots at 0226.

(C. in C. Portsmouth 0244A/19 to Force Commander)
Have been engaged by shore batteries. Group 5 disorganised.

(S.G.B. 5 0400/19 to T.P.D. Naval Force Comdr. in Combined Exercises?.)

Am dissembled*in position 350° 15 miles Dieppe 15 casualties.
Am proceeding course 030° 10 knots with mechanical and armament defects.

(S.G.B. 5 0540/19 to Naval Force Comdr.)

Night movements 19/20/8.

1. Landing craft returning from operation on French coast covered by destroyers. Various times of arrival.

(C. in C. Portsmouth 1527A/19.)* As received ? disabled.

P.48.

* P.219.

** See previous page.*

Proceed with despatch to patrol in following positions:

P.48, 044° 01' N 012° 25' W.

P.219, 043° 02' N 011° 01' W.

Passing through 043° 02' N 013° 30' W thence due East to patrol positions. Total bombing restrictions have been arranged.

(F.O.S. 0406A/19 to P.219. P.48. (R) C. in C. Plymouth. H.Q.C.C. Admty. F.O.C.N.A.)

Danish
trawlers.

2 trawlers from each of Aberdeen, Dundee and Leith are to be at 25 buoy by 1800/19. Division to remain in vicinity of 25 buoy until VANITY or her prize crews are met and are then to assist in bringing Danish fishing vessels into Leith.

2. If necessary to proceed eastward of 25 buoy ships are to be careful to remain within 5 miles either side of a line 069° from 25 buoy.

3. The senior trawler from Aberdeen is to take charge of all trawlers at 25 buoy until VANITY is met. Name to be reported.

4. Fighter protection arranged Codeword "Desert 2"

(C. in C. Rosyth 1035A/19 to N.O.I.C. Aberdeen. N.O.I.C. Dundee. N.O.I.C. Leith and Granton. (R) VANITY. E.D.O.)

War Diary.

19.8.1942.
Wednesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operations - Contd.

Danish
Trawlers.
Contd.

4 Danish trawlers number S.476, B.316 and E.353 met at 21 buoy, Lieut. O'Brien and boarding party of VANITY in charge. Am escorting to Tyne. (WESTMINSTER 1452A/19 to C. in C. Rosyth.) as decyphd. WESTMINSTER's 1452 and your 0910 report of (?if) any of trawlers unaccounted for have armed guard on board and if known trawlers distinguishing number. (C. in C. Rosyth 1806A/19 to VANITY.)
Four Danish trawlers S.476 O B 316, E 353 and E 29 with boarding parties from VANITY arrived Tyne 2130/19. (F.O.I.C. Tyne 2155/19.)

CALPE
FERNIE
MACKAY
BLENCATHRA

MACKAY, BLENCATHRA will be patrolling route west of Beachy Head at your disposal. (C. in C. Portsmouth 1227A/19 to CALPE.)
My 1208/19 proceed with all despatch to patrol southwards of Beachy Head. Obey orders of naval force Commander in CALPE or FERNIE if required. (C. in C. Portsmouth 1237A/19 to MACKAY, BLENCATHRA)

Light
forces
off
Boulogne.

Last night 18/19/8 M.G.B. 7, 9 and 6 operated off French coast south of Boulogne from 0330 to 0445 as arranged. Depth charges and smoke floats were dropped. No ships were sighted and there were no searchlights or other activities on shore. (V.A. Dover 1601A/19.)

Operations
of Russian
S/Ms.

Swedish C.LILJEVALCH 8740 tons laden with iron ore was sunk by 3 torpedoes whilst leading southbound convoy in Swedish waters off Vastervik 18/8.
2. C.O.S. informs me that this is first Russian submarine activity for several days and though hunted by all available destroyers most attacks are still restricted to Swedish waters only. The larger surface escort the Swedish wish to provide for their convoy protection is limited by shortage of oil fuel. (N.A. Stockholm 1616/19.)

Operation
E.U.

Seidisfiord departure TUSCALOOSA, RODMAN, EMMONS, ONSLAUGHT in accordance with C. in C. H.F. 1624/15 at 1930A/19. (A.C.I.C. 2214A/19.)

Allied Air Operations.

Operation
"Knocker"

Operations commence 0830Z/19 weather permitting. (A.C.I.C. 0125A/19 C. in C. W.A. 0628A/19.)
My 0125/19 delayed until 1030Z/19. (A.C.I.C. 0725Z/19.)
No operation "Knocker" today due weather. (Prestwick 1603Z/19.)

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19.8.1942.
Wednesday.War Diary.HOME COMMANDS.Allied Air Operations - Contd.A/C shot
down ?by
GULF OF
MEXICO.

A British aircraft crashed near Scarweather about 1130 today. Reports indicate it may have been shot down by U.S. Tanker GULF OF MEXICO request you will investigate if possible.
(F.O.I.C. Cardiff 1704A/19 to F.O.I.C. Milford.)

Enemy
tanker
attacked.

Enemy tanker located and attacked by aircraft of 61 Squadron in approx. 044° 12' N 008° 15' W at 1915 one hit with 500 pound bomb on bow.
(C. in C. Plymouth 2023A/19 to Admty. F.O.S.)
For information (as former) Vessel is being shadowed.
(F.O.S. 2129A/19 to S/Ms operating S of Lat 51° N.)

Mustangs.

As from 18/8 in 10 Group area Mustang aircraft may be used as convoy escort. Mustangs will always be accompanied by one Spitfire in view of its likeness to the M.E.109.
(C. in C. Plymouth 2151A/19 to F.O.I.C. Milford Haven, Admty. F.O.I.C. Portland. C. in C. Portsmouth F.O.S. F.O.I.C. Falmouth. N.O.I.C. Dartmouth. Ships maintaining W/T Watch on broadcast HD and Port Wave in Plymouth Command, Cmr A/P Plymouth.)

Enemy Air Operations.R/C of
Reykjavik.

One enemy A/C carried out R/C of Reykjavik area between 1430A/18 and 1520A from height of 1800 feet. A/C departed North.
Hvalfiord probably reconnoitred. Visibility good cloud 2 tenths.
(A.C.I.C. 1037A/19.)

JOHN
GILLMAN.

Fishing trawler JOHN GILLMAN A 230 attacked by F.W. with machine guns and bombs at 0600A/18 one mile S.S.W. from Langanes.
Five attacks. Trawler returned fire and claims hits
No casualties and superficial damage only. At 1715A/18 Hegranses Lighthouse was machine gunned and damaged Skagata Lighthouse was machine gunned at 1730/18 no damage. Aircraft passed over Kalfshamarnes Lighthouse and was reported from Egalstadir flying east at 1901A/18.
(A.C.I.C. 1054A/19.)

ARKWRIGHT.

Enemy aircraft are bombing - position 103° Cromer 31.
(ARKWRIGHT 1455/19.)

H.S.Ls.122,
123, 147.

Regret to report the loss by enemy action of H.S.Ls. 122, 123 and 147 during air sea rescue operations p.m./19. H.S.Ls 122 and 123 were set on fire during attacks by enemy aircraft in approx. 175 Dungeness 17 miles. Two officers and 15

/airmen...

19.8.1942.
Wednesday.War Diary.HOME COMMANDS.Enemy Air Operations - conts:-H.S.Ls 122,
123, 147.
Contd.

airmen, including seven seriously wounded and one dead airman, were picked up from these boats by H.S.L. 147 and A.R.M.L. and landed at Newhaven. C.O. H.S.L. 122 and seven airmen missing. H.S.L. 147 was last seen at about 1530 in approx 170 Dungeness 40 miles when she appeared to be stopped and on fire after being heavily attacked by enemy aircraft. Two small fast motor boats, presumably enemy, were seen to be coming away from her.
(V.A. Dover 2241A/19.)

Iceland.

1 enemy A/C sighted 15 miles N.E. of Borgarnes flying high course N.E. at 1240/19.
Cloud 2/10 visibility very good. 1 hostile A/C sighted at Hafnarnes in Faskrnds Fiord at 1405/18. Height 4000 feet course south.
(N.O.I.C. Iceland 2231A/19.)

Mining.

Sheerness.

One ground mine detonated 18/8 as follows.
(Capt. M/S Sheerness 1010/19.)

Operation
Q.K.3 A.

Weather permitting carry out operation Q.K.3 A tonight Thursday. Covering force (A) 1, combined unit vicinity T R B R 2200 (b) 1 (one) unit M.T.Bs vicinity Middelkerke Bank buoy. Report boats detailed and E.T.D. 53 buoy.
(C. in C. Nore 1016A/20 to BEEHIVE.)

Prepare to carry out operation Q.K.3 A in 051° 15' 48" N 002° 48' E on 20/8 or 21/8.

Mines (details)

(C. in C. Nore 1712A/19 to BEEHIVE.)

Start
Point.

One mine detonated in sweep by TREVO TERCEIRO at 0923 in approx. 50° 17' N 03° 08' 30" W.
(N.O.I.C. Dartmouth 1022/19 to C. in C. Plymouth.)
TREVO TERCEIRO has cut one mine in approx. 50° 18' 30" N 03° 10' W.
(N.O.I.C. Dartmouth 1255/19 to C. in C. Plymouth.)

Q Z X
782 and
787.

Twelve in number presumed moored mines have been accounted for in Q Z X 782 and Q Z X 787 up to p.m. 8th as follows.

(a) 15/8 one mine exploded in sweep of INCHCOLM in approx 50° 25' 34" N 02° 53' 12" W. Position uncertain owing to bad visibility.

(b) 17/8 two mines detonated by 13th M.S.F. in

(1) 50° 22' 30" N 03° 10' W.

(2) 50° 22' 30" N 03° 12' W.

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War Diary.19.8.1942.
Wednesday.HOME COMMANDS.Mining.Q Z X
782 and
787.

(c) 17/8 TREVO TERCEIRO reported submerged explosion in 50° 17' 12" N 03° 10' 34" W. *See p. 546*
 (d) One mine exploded in trawl of Belgian trawler in position 8 miles S.E. of Berry Head.
 One mine exploded in trawl of Belgian trawler in position 9 miles S.S.E. of Berry Head.

Four underwater explosions reported by trawler in position 10 miles S by E of Berry Head.

(Already reported in N.O.I.C. Dartmouth's 1904/17.)

(e) 18/8 one mine exploded in sweep of FLUELLEN in 50° 16' 12" N.

(Already reported in F.O.I.C. Portland's 2017A/18.)

(f) Shore observer reported heavy explosion east of Berry Head approx. 4 miles between 0410 and 0420/18.

(C. in C Plymouth 1430/19.)

4th.
M.S.F.

Cancel my 1744A/18 proceed direct to Dartmouth sweeping from end of Q Z S 293 through position 50° - 17.0 N 03.00 W to Q Z S 174.

(C. in C. Plymouth 1119A/19 to S.O. 4th M.S.F.)

4th M.S.F. will be employed sweeping ahead of

convoys in Lyme Bay.

2. N.O.I.C. Dartmouth is to sail these sweepers ahead of W.P. convoys towards Portland by route ordered.

3. When W.P. convoy meet the P.W. convoy the 4th M.S.F. are to return to Dartmouth sweeping ahead of P.W. convoy.

(C. in C. Plymouth 1223A/19 to N.O.I.C. Dartmouth. S.O. 4th M.S.F. F.O.I.C. Portland. (R) Admty. C. in C. Portsmouth.)

Your 1119A/19 4th M.S.F. arrived 2136/19 seven ships.

(N.O.I.C. Dartmouth 2234/19 to C. in C. Plymouth.)

S.N.73.

Amend my 1931/18 to read expect escort by Sunderland aircraft from 1400A/19 to 1900A/19 and by Fortress aircraft from 1900A/19 until dusk.
 (C. in C. W.A. 1214A/19 to R.A.M.)

Brighton.

Detonated red magnetic mine in 219° Brighton East Pier 8.4 miles.

(Lt/C M.S. Newhaven 1412/19.)

Great
Yarmouth.

LL Sweeper detonated red magnetic mine at 1355A/19 in 125° South Lemon 2 Cables.

(F.O.I.C. Gt. Yarmouth 1445B/19.)

JULIET.

Intend to sail JULIET at 0600 tomorrow Thursday in company with sweepers from Portland to search Q Z S 293. She will part company on meeting 4th M.S.F. and return with them to Dartmouth. Request MULL, INCHCOLM and LADY ENID may be sailed as convenient to return to Portland.

(F.O.I.C. Portland 1641A/19.) *See p. 600 & 20/8*

p. 622

Harwich.

Details of mine detonated 1257/19.

(F.O.I.C. Harwich 1902A/19.)

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War Diary.

19.8.1942.

Wednesday.HOME COMMANDS.Enemy Intelligence.

Spanish trawlers. N.O.I.C. Fleetwood reports following from Skipper of Trawler NEWLAND. (Begins)
14 Spanish trawlers were observed fishing in pairs from 9th to 15/8 in 54° 00' N 10° 19' W. (Ends)
(F.O.I.C. Liverpool 1556A/19 to Admty. C. in C.W.A)

Swedish ship. My 1616/19 (~~XXXXXXXXXX~~) amend one Swedish merchant ship to read left Skopenfiord 1645 bound eastward.
(A.C.O.S. 1811A/19.)

German Main Units. TIRPITZ, SCHEER, HIPPER, Narvik area 26/7.
KÖLN Left Trondheim area between 3/8 and 8/8, probably for Narvik area. *See pp 341 & 342.*
GNEISENAU, GRAF ZEPPELIN, SCHLESSEN, at Gdynia 1/8.
SCHARNHORST. Left Kiel between 28/7 and 17/8 probably for Eastern Baltic.
LÜTZOW, LEIPZIG, NÜRNBERG, at Swinemunde, 16/8.
PRINZ EUGEN, at Kiel, alongside, 17/8.
SEYDLITZ, at Bremen, completing, 18/8.
EMDEN, SCHLESWIG-HOLSTEIN, at Wilhelmshaven, 17/8.
(D.D.I.C. 1919A/19.)

U-Boats.

Attacks on S.L.118. A.M. 2021/18 which has been repeated to CHESHIRE and escorts of S.L.118 as C. in C. W.A. 2302/18. Amend estimated P.C.S. of S.L.118 at 2000A/18 to read 41° 47' N 19° 48' W speed 7 knots passing through 43° 30' N 18° 00' W and 50° 30' N 18° 00' W. (D.O.D. (H.) 0037A/19 to RODNEY.)
See p. 602

→ Re. A.M. 2021/18 report at next convenient opportunity name of destroyer detached and time of joining you. (C. in C. W.A. 1008A/19 to FOLKESTONE.)
S.L.118. Detached at 0630 in position 042° 30' N 018° 35' W to investigate aircraft estimated 120° 10 miles. Found Liberator over position of U-Boats he estimated damaged at 0633. While rejoining convoy gave Liberator D/F bearings at 0827 and 0835 on 7640 K/cs. Result of cannon attack at 0840 on slow diver in original position. Liberator again reached 1020 but no Asdic contact GORLESTON sweeping back E.T.A. convoy 1500 at 16 knots, aircraft returning to base.
Catalina also sighted sent to convoy 0930. Reason anticipate U-Boat damage (corrupt group) poor W/T efforts at 0734. Expect to be able to fix future movements by D/F bearings being now obtained and when sifted from other convoy shadowers. Weather report.
(GORLESTON 1030Z/19 to C. in C. W.A. (R) Admty. N.O.I.C. Londonderry. FOLKESTONE, F.O.C.N.A.S. A.O.C. in C. C.C.)
S.L.118 attacked by U-Boat at 1430Z in 043° 21' N 018° 20' W.
→ One ship torpedoed. ZETLAND joined 1240Z.
Special weather report.
(FOLKESTONE 1540A/19 to C. in C. W.A.)
Have carried out 4 attacks and FOLKESTONE one attack on firm contact in 043° 24' N 018° 31' W. Loud explosions after first attack but no visible evidence. Lost contact at last

/attack...

War Diary.19.8.1942.
Wednesday.HOME COMMANDS.U-Boats- contd.

Attacks on S.L.118
~~_____~~
Contd.

attack at 1639. Am rejoining convoy. 19 depth charges remaining 9170 2073.
(WELLINGTON 1830Z/19 to C. in C. W.A.)

Air attacks on U/Bs.

Am over enemy S/M in 43° 13' N 17° 47' W enemy S/M previously reported was sighted on surface and observed to submerge, when first sighted was on course 045° estimated speed 12 knots.
(A.C.O.C. 19 Group 0735/19.)
Have attacked enemy with depth charges and estimate 2 hits at 0745.
(A.O.C. 19 Group 0745/19.)
Am over enemy S/M in 43° 12' N 17° 40' W. S/M in sight.
(A.O.C. 19 Group 0936/19.)
My No.6. 0936 U-Boat attacked with cannon fire. submerged but did not crash dive 0936.
(19 Group H.Q.C.C. 0937/19.)
Am over enemy S/M in 44° 6' N 12° 30' W periscope only sighted on a course 080°.
(19 Group H.Q. 1212/19.)
Am over enemy S/M in 44° 3' N 12° 55' W. Enemy on surface. Enemy course was 090°.
(A.O.C. 19 Group C.C. T.O.R. 1443.)

U/Bs in Far North.

Russians report 2 U-Boats sighted by trawlers at 1300A/19 in 071° 22' N 052° 00' E course 225°. Also by D/F a U-Boat in position 070° 34' N 045° 00' E.
(S.B.N.O. North Russia 1550A/19.)

U-Boat near Tuskar.

Subject resembling S/M in near of Tuskar Rock at 13.28 19.
(VXCY Recd. 1558.)

Air attacks on U/B.

Am over enemy S/M in 43° 8' N 18° 10' W enemy S/M was sighted on surface and observed to submerge when first sighted was on a course 090. Estimated speed 7 knots.
(15 group C.C. 1710/19.)
Am over enemy S/M in 43° 32' N 18° 2' W. Enemy sighted on surface and observed to submerge. When first sighted was on course 075 speed 10 knots.
(A.O.C. 15 Group C.C. 1740/19.)
My 1740 have attacked enemy with depth charges and estimate one hit. Not met CHILD.
(A.O.C. 15 Group H.Q. 1755A/19.)

HATARANA.

Keep a lookout for HATARANA torpedoed in 41° 30' N 19° 49' W at 1703Z/18 and possibly still afloat. Tug is being sent from Gibraltar.
(C. in C. W.A. 2208A/19 to STORK (R) Escorts of O.G.88. Admty. F.O.C.N.A.)

600

19.8.1942.
Wednesday.War Diary.HOME COMMANDS.Technical.Smoke
Trials.

Smoke trials for protection of a convoy will not now be carried out till 29/8. Further information will be sent when details are known.
Admty. inform N.A. to 1st. S.L.
(C. in C. W.A. 1537A/19.)

Casualties and Defects.GOLDEN
SUNBEAM.

While proceeding to join C.W.116 tug LYNCH collided with drifter GOLDEN SUNBEAM at 0420 today 19th off Dungeness causing latter to sink in three minutes, of the crew 13 the skipper, coxswain and 5 ratings were lost, one seriously and one slightly injured LYNCH proceeded to Newhaven undamaged.
(V.A. Dover 0855A/19.)

INVICTA.
PRINSESS
BEATRIX.

INVICTA collided with me last night. My port L C M davit and P S L C A davit wrecked. Ships side and structure damaged above waterline, no major leak. INVICTA has extensive damage to stern requiring docking for repairs.
(PRINSESS BEATRIX 1058/19 to C. in C. Portsmouth.)

Following received begins - (as former)

2. D of P.(Q) has an urgent requirement for PRINSESS BEATRIX.
(C.C.O. 1520A/19 to Admty.)

JULIET.

See p. 597

See p. 632
My 0715A/20 JULIET defect made good and sailed to join P.W.205 for Dartmouth at seaward end of Q Z S 295.

(F.O.I.C. Portland 1134A/20.) *Should be on p. 632
q.v.*

KINGCUP.

KINGCUP capsized in Mount Stuart dry dock Newport at 1100 today. Ship is lying on her side at angle of 70°. Dock was being flooded to admit a second ship. Further report will follow.
(N.O.I.C. Cardiff 1230A/19.)

14 feet of water inside dock covering one third of upper deck and filling ship to this level. No evidence of sabotage at present.

(N.O.I.C. Newport 1300A/19.)

Further to my 1230A/19 no satisfactory cause of ship capsizing can yet be assigned. A Court of Inquiry will investigate. There were no casualties.

(N.O.I.C. Cardiff 1800A/19.)

RAMILLIES.

It is intended that RAMILLIES should be taken in hand at Devonport about the end of the first week in September. R.A. West Africa pass to RAMILLIES on arrival.

(D.O.D. (H.) 1849A/19.) *See p. 614*

CONFIDENTIAL

M E S S A G E

IN

FROM:- F.O.I.C. Great Yarmouth

C931A/19th August
DATE:- 19.8.42.

RECD:- 1640

IN BY T/P

Addressed:- Admiralty Hydrog. C. in C. Nore

The following buoys have been fixed:

3 A 52 degs. 13 mins. 03 secs. N 01 degs. 55 mins.
00 secs. E.3 B 52 degs. 18 mins. 54 secs. N 01 degs. 58 mins.
42 secs. E.7 52 degs. 46 mins. 06 secs. N 01 degs. 57 mins. 00
secs. E.Hearty Knoll 52 degs. 44 mins. 48 secs. N 02 degs.
09 mins. 03 secs. E.54 G. 52 degs. 49 mins. 09 secs. N 02 degs. 10 mins.
12 secs. E.Smiths Knoll 52 degs. 51 mins. 33 secs. N 02 degs.
15 mins. 12 secs. E.57 A 52 degs. 52 mins. 51 secs. N 02 degs. 10 mins.
54 secs. E.57 52 degs. 53 mins. 24 secs. N 02 degs. 08 mins.
18 secs. E.LEOPOLD II wreck buoy 52 degs. 53 mins. 48 secs. N
02 degs. 05 mins. 06 secs. east.54 D 52 degs. 55 mins. 54 secs. N 01 degs. 58 mins.
48 secs. E.Hammond Knoll 52 degs. 55 mins. 36 secs. north 01
degs. 52 mins. 18 secs. east.Newarr 52 degs. 48 mins. 30 secs. N 01 degs. 55 mins.
00 secs. east.8 B 52 degs. 56 mins. 36 secs. north 01 degs. 29 mins.
00 secs. E.57 G 53 02 mins. 00 secs. north 01 degs. 23 mins.
42 secs. E.

C931A/19

Advance copy sent Ops.

C.C.O. (2)

Cps. (3)

C.L. (5)

Hydrog. (5)

D.M.S.

D.M.S. (Citadel)

D. of N.

D.D.O. D. (M)

D.T.D. (2)

D.T.D. (M)

D.T.D. (C)

Staff Charts (2)

T.P. (3)

W.D.

O.I.C.

D.D.T.M.

C. in C. X.F.

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War Diary.19.8.1942.
Wednesday.HOME COMMANDS.Casualties and Defects - Contd.

VICTORIOUS. Your 0206/18. VICTORIOUS is required to complete refit and sail for Scapa by 19/9.
See p 592.
 Defects and alterations and additions which can not be completed in this time must be deferred.
 Request every effort be made to complete defects now impairing seagoing, steaming and fighting efficiency.
 (C. in C. H.F. 1907A/19.)

Shipping and Convoys.

THIRLMERE, My 1401/6. THIRLMERE part company with BELMORCANAL
 BELMORCANAL at*0305Z/16 in 072° 01' N 011° 59' W. No messages received from Captain Chekin for Admiral Kharmaloff.
 (?A.C.I.C. 1213A/19 to Admty.)
**? 19*

Ships in From available information it appears that in the
 convoy last 3 daylight attacks 12 torpedo hits were
 to open out. obtained on the convoys it is for urgent consideration that columns of convoys exposed to U-Boat rather than air attack be immediately open from 3 to 5 cables by day to reduce this high percentage of hits - subject to concurrence of signal to this effect will be made.
 (C. in C. W.A. 1246A/19 to Admty.)

S.C. Revised dates of sailing of S.C. convoys from
 Convoys. Halifax are as follows - S.C.97 22/8. S.C.98 29/8.
 S.C.99 5/9. S.C.100 12/9. S.C.101 19/9.
 (D.T.D. 1300A/19.)

P.Q.18. Following are arrangements for P.Q.18.
 1. Convoy escort force. P.614. P.615 to leave Lerwick 1/9 for Seidisfiord (Iceland) for fuelling thence to join P.Q.18.
 2. Patrol Force. TIGRIS, TRIBUNE, STURGEON, UREDD, P.54 to leave Lerwick 1/9 for patrol in North Lofoten Area.
 3. Covering Force. UNIQUE, P.45, P.221 leave Lerwick 5/9 to arrive in Zone K.61. K.62. K.63 respectively a.m./10/9.
 (F.O.S. 1629A/19.)

T.A.18 and Admty. 1245A/18 and 1254A/18.
 W.S.22. (i) CURAÇOA is to R/V with Bristol Channel portion of T.A.18 and W.S.22 p.m./25 as arranged by N.O.I.C. Cardiff and escort to Clyde.
 (ii) CURAÇOA to Belfast on completion.
 (C. in C. W.A. 1846A/19.)

19.8.1942.
Wednesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

S.L.118 U/B. *See p.598.* S.L.(6). At 0019Z U-boat sighted in 042° 05' N., 019° 05' W. (?Gale Warning). (FOLKESTONE, 0135A/19 to C. in C. W.A. (R) Admty. F.O.C.N.A., Cdre. Londonderry).

My 2235A/18. ?PENTSTEMON now reports possibility salvaging HATTARANA very remote: holed on waterline by gunfire before leaving. Weather report.

(FOLKESTONE, 0902A/19 to C. in C. W.A., (R) Admty. F.O.C.N.A., Cdre. Londonderry).

S.L.118. Ref. FOLKESTONE's 2235/18. Request you will confirm that tug is being sent to HATTARANA. *See p.599*

(D.T.D., 1025A/19 to F.O.C.N.A.)

Numerous enemy transmissions all on Series A since 0720Z and still continuing indicate that you are being shadowed, probably by at least 3 U-boats.

(D.D.I.C., 1351A/19 to Escorts of S.L.118, (R) F.O.C.N.A., C. in C. W.A., H.Q.C.C.)

Tug JAUNTY, COLTSFOOT being sailed to endeavour to salvage HATTARANA.

(2) In view of FOLKESTONE 0902 to C. in C. W.A. request confirmation that tug should proceed.

(F.O.C.N.A., 1444A/19 to Admty (R) C. in C. W.A.)

My 1444A/19 not to S.L.118. Sailed tug JAUNTY and COLTSFOOT to salvage HATTARANA.

(F.O.C.N.A., 1640A/19 to Admty (R) C. in C. W.A., Ships escorting convoy S.L.118)

HATTARANA. Your 1444/19. Tug should not be sent.

(D.T.D., 1845A/19 to F.O.C.N.A. (R) C. in C. W.A.)

Your 1444/19. Tug should proceed.

(D.O.D. H., 2208A/19 to F.O.C.N.A.)

Add to my 2208/19. Cancel A.M.1845/19.

(D.O.D. (H) 2337A/19 to F.O.C.N.A. (R) C. in C. W.A.)

Cancel my 1640A/19. Ships returning to harbour.

(F.O.C.N.A., 2211A/19 to Admty (R) C. in C. W.A., S.E.C.S.L. 118).

Bombing restrictions. AC 489 19/8 Serial G.170. Institute forthwith until further notice total S/M bombing restrictions between parallels of 42° 40' N., and 45° N., and longitudes of 10° 40' W., and 14° 01' W. (H.Q.C.C., 0411A/19 to R.A.F. Gibraltar (R) F.O.C.N.A. S.8).

ARGUS. Ref. Admty 1847A/18. Consider most advisable to refit including fitting of approved barrier before further operational employment. Situation referred to in my 2016B/16 (N.T. in W.R.) and letter No. C. 3153/37 dated 17/7/42 still appertains. (ARGUS, 0941B/19 to Admty (R) F.O.C.N.A., C. in C. W.A. F.O.C.N.A.S. Cmdre. 2nd in C., N.A.S.)

See next page. (4011A/19)

/Force F...

War Diary.

19.8.1942.
Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic. - Contd.

Force F. Intend sailing S.O. Force F. in NELSON with FURIOUS,*ARGUS, KENYA escorted by KEPPEL, MALCOLM, VENOMOUS, TARTAR, FURY, ESKIMO, SOMALI, BICESTER at 0300B/20 routed through (D) 35.42 N., 07.9 W. (E) 36.20 11.02 (F) 38.01 15.02 (G) 39.02 16.30 (H) 45.01 19.59 S. of A 15½ knots.
2. Admty is requested to signal destination and C. in C. W.A. onward route from position (H).
3. All ships will be carrying survivors. (F.O.C.N.A., 1014A/19 to Admty etc).

See next page (Sit: 3/24)
** See previous page.*

BRAMHAM, You were probably sighted by enemy aircraft at
PENN, 0735 G.M.T. and 0835 G.M.T.
LEDBURY. (F.O.C.N.A., 1044A/19 to BRAMHAM, PENN, LEDBURY, (R) C.O.I.S. Alexandria, Admty).

TALISMAN TALISMAN delayed by defects necessitating docking. Further signal will be made when date of sailing is known.
(2) C. in C. Med., pass to Capt. (S) 1.
(F.O.C.N.A., 1108A/19 to C. in C. Med., (R) V.A. Malta, Admty, Capt. (S) 1. Capt. (S) 10 F.O.S)

CLYDE. My 1508/11. Sailing of CLYDE delayed until p.m./22
2. CLYDE passes 037° 58' 008° 59' at 0130B/28 thence as ordered by you.
3. Last message concerns route of Capt. S.10's 1221/7.
4. C. in C. Med., pass to Capt. S.1)
(F.O.C.N.A., 1136A/19 to V.A. Malta, (R) Admty etc)

CHARYBDIS My 2134/18 para. 3. Trials satisfactory.
(F.O.C.N.A., 1144A/19 to Admty (R) S.O. Force F. CHARYBDIS).

PESCADOR Your 1805A/17 ship and cargo seized.
(C.C.S.C.Gib. 1145/19 to M.E.W.)

*ABBEYDALE, Intend to sail ABBEYDALE escorted by BURDOCK and
QUEEN ARMERIA to R/V with QUEEN ELIZABETH and (?escort)
ELIZABETH. in position, Z. 21° N., 35° W.
2. ABBEYDALE and escort have been instructed to arrive in position Z p.m./28 and again at 0830Z /29. 3. On completion of oiling ABBEYDALE and escorts have been ordered to proceed direct to Freetown.
4. R.A.W.A. pass to QUEEN ELIZABETH.
(F.O.C.N.A., 1158A/19 to R.A.W.A., (R) Admty, C. in C. S.A., B.A.D.)
My 1726A/18. All times deferred 24 (?hours). R.A.W.A. 0907/19 refers. (2) Cominch pass to C.T.23.
(F.O.C.N.A., 2130A/19 to R.A.W.A.(R) Admty etc).

See next page. (Sit: 7/24)

/Situation...

19.8.1942.
Wednesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic. - Contd.

Situation Area X 2002B/19.
 Report. 2. S.L.118 CHESHIRE, FOLKESTONE, WELLINGTON, WOODRUFF, (?PENTSTEMON) GORLESTON, 44.01 18.01 360° 7.
 3. O.S.37 LONDONDERRY, BIDEFORD, HASTINGS, LANDGUARD, SWALE, 37.20, 18.51 through 36.25, 18.59 thence 192° 8½.
 10.*Fleet unit, KEPPEL, VENOMOUS, MALCOLM, TARTAR, FURY, BICESTER, SOMALI, ESKIMO sail 0300/20 through 359° Cape Spartel 11 miles and 35.42 07.58 thence 284° 15½. *See previous page.*
 11. BURDOCK, ARMERIA escorting^x1 tanker sail (?23)00 through 350° Spartel 5 and (?34)° 25' (?09°) 28' thence 238° 9. *See p.603*
 (F.O.C.N.A., 1224A/19 to N.A. Stn).
 Situation Report for Area Z. SIRIUS, PHOEBE, PATHFINDER, VANSITTART, QUENTIN 20.30, 18.18, 185° 15.
 (2) S.L.119, ROCHESTER, LEITH (?ERNE) SANDWICH 1752 , 21.34 through 20.25, 22.58 thence 349° 7.
 (F.O.C.N.A., 1402A/19 to N.A. Stn).

*NELSON.

XABDEYDALE

BADSWORTH, Position convoy at noon 048° 49' N., 015° 14'
 ORARI. W. A. Owing to present weather conditions damaged hulls of BADSWORTH and ORARI causing concern. Have altered course of convoy 025° to pass through 054° 30' N., 011° 12' W. Strongly recommend convoy should be brought in south of Ireland in view of endurance of escort. Consumption of BADSWORTH in excess of normal owing to damaged hull. Weather report.
 (BADSWORTH, 1301A/19 to C. in C. W.A. (R) Admty, WILTON). *See p.593.*

Escort for Your 2301A/18 para. B. (1) Intend INDOMITABLE
 INDOMITABLE. proceeds at minimum 20 knots entailing either (a) LEDBURY, BRAMHAM, fuelling from INDOMITABLE, not considered acceptable, or (b) INDOMITABLE proceeding on latter half of passage escorted by LIGHTNING, ITHURIEL only, latter having damaged bows.
 (F.O.C.N.A., 1614A/19 to Admty (R) C. in C. H.F., C. in C. W.A., F.O. Force F).

MALAYA, A.M. 2301A/18. Intend sailing Capt. (D) 19 in
 RAMILLIES, LAFOREY with LOOKOUT and PENN to R/V with MALAYA,
 destroyers. RAMILLIES in 022° N., on 26/8.
 (2) ANTELOPE, WESTCOTT, WISHART will reinforce screen from 027° N., (3) Request R/V.
 (F.O.C.N.A., 1652A/19 to R.A.W.A. (R) C. in C. S.A Admty).

CAUDEBEC Departure 21st 1400. Casablanca.
 (French). (N.C.S.O. Lisbon, 1827/19 to M. W.T.)

CANADA Gibraltar 1040 French Hospital Ship CANADA passed
 (French). eastbound, bound Marseilles.
 (S.O.(I) Gib., 1859A/19 to Admty. R.A.W.A.)

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19.8.1942.
Wednesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic. - Contd.

U/B 1 S/M bearing 220° 19 miles course 190°. My position 042° 17' N., 021° 16' W.
(STORK, 2000A/19 to Admty, C. in C. W.A., F.O.C. N.A.)
My 2000A. U-boat was sighted 19 miles from convoy and on same course by CONVULVULUS who had been sent out with object of intercepting homeward bound U-boat mentioned in Admty's 1421A/19. U-boat was chased out of sight.
(STORK, 2136A/19 to Admty C. in C. W.A., F.O.C.N.A.)

South Atlantic.

W.S. 21 P. Sailed ORION, NEPAL, Dutch TJERK HIDDERS to R/V SHROPSHIRE and convoy W.S. 21 P. in 031° 10' S. 033° 48' E., at 1400Z/19 and to escort convoy in accordance with N.C.S.O. Capetown 0958/16.
2. SHROPSHIRE to Durban, E.T.A. 0500Z/20.
3. ORION, NEPAL, TJERK HIDDERS shift to W/T organisation V at 1415Z/23.
(N.O.I.C. Durban, 0419Z/19 to Admty C. in C. S.A., C. in C. E.F., D.C. in C. E.F., S.O.(I) Colombo, S.O.(I) Kilindini, SHROPSHIRE).

U/B Capt. of Port Santos has reported S/M sighted off Santos. San Sabastiao Channel.
(S.O.(I) Montevideo, 0425Z/19 to Admty (R) B.A.D. C. in C. S.A., S.O.(I) Freetown, Kingston, S.A.S.G., C.T.F. No. 23).
My 0425/19. Inquiring into report Captain of Port now considers report doubtful.
(S.O.(I) Montevideo, 1505Z/19 to Admty (R) B.A.D. etc).

U/B At 0813 German U-boats made first sighting report bearings 282° (correct group) Freetown.
(R.A.W.A., 0842Z/19 to CROCUS, RUMBA (R) PHILANTE, COWSLIP, LARGS).

?Escort of Your 1419Z/18/8 a.m. 30/8.
H.M.S. QUEEN (R.A.W.A., 0907/19 to B.A.D. (R) F.O.C.N.A., ELIZABETH. C. in C. S.A., S.B.N.O. W.A., Admty).

ALCANTARA, Your 1604Z/18 (N.T. in W.D.) ALCANTARA and JAMES PARKER leaving Ascension 1200 G.M.T./19 mean S. of A. 17 knots. E.T.A. Pointe Noire 1000 G.M.T./23 R.A. W.A. please pass to B.N.L.O. Pointe Noire.
(ALCANTARA, 0930Z/19 to R.A.W.A. (R) C. in C. S.A., B.A.D. Admty, C. in C. U.S. Fleet C.T. 23, N.O.I.C. Ascension, B.N.L.O. Pointe Noire).

19.8.1942.
Wednesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic - Contd.

BODEGRAVEN, Overdue shipping. My 1115/16, cancel BODEGRAVEN
EMPIRE and EMPIRE RIDLEY. Both ships arrived.
RIDLEY. (S.O.(I) Capetown, 0934B/19 to Admty C. in C. S.A.
D.C. in C. E.F., S.O.(I) Kilindini, Colombo,
N.C.S.O. Karachi, Aden, (R) Cdre. Durban, C.S.A.
Lourenco Marques).

Training My 1000/19 (Site for training establishment) Owing
Ship Durban. to change of site for personnel centre, provision
of training ship at Durban becomes imperative.
C.O. R.N. camp reports ships refitting have
negligible training value, consequently matter is
also urgent. Request consideration be given to use of EREBUS
temporarily at an early date. Admty pass to R.A.T.E. in Admty.
(R.A.T.E. Durban, 1001/19 to Admty) Reply: 0115/22.

VIMEIRA Overdue ships. VIMEIRA sailed Trinidad 3/8 due
Freetown 16/8 not arrived.
(S.O.(I) Freetown, 1022Z/19 to Admty (R) C. in C.
S.A., S.O.(I) Kingston).

→ MIRLO Norwegian Tanker MIRLO sunk by U-boat in 06.04 N.,
(sunk 11/8). 26.50 W., on 11/8. 26 Survivors picked up.
Search proceeding for 1 lifeboat still adrift
(S.O.(I) Freetown, 1105Z/19 to Admty (R) C. in C.
S.A.)

Defence of Your 1645/14. The threat of circling torpedo
Union Ports. attack at Union ports and anchorages is not
considered to be such as to justify any further
defence measures other than those already laid
or contemplated.
(D. of L.D., 1317A/19 to C. in C. S.A.)

Navigation My 0134/16. Demarcation line between north and
lights, south- southbound traffic etc., instructions in para. 5
bound ships are to be brought into force forthwith.
between Cape- (C. in C. S.A., 1349B/19 to S.O.(I) Capetown,
town and S.O.(I) Freetown, (R) Admty for N.C.S.Os.)
Takoradi.

→ MIRLO Following is a repetition of my 1145Z/17 (received
undecypherable) Overdue ships. S.O.(I) Kingston
1151/17 (N.T. in W.R.) MIRLO (Nor). 3 days overdue
(Ends).
(Freetown C.C.O., 1400Z/19 to Admty (R) C. in C.
S.A. etc).

19.8.1942.
Wednesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic. - Contd.

FLYING
KESTREL,
TEMPLE INN,
MARUDU.

My 1653B/18. In view of your 1324Z/18 FLYING KESTREL after towing TEMPLE INN to Lagos is to proceed Bathurst. D. of S.T's 2311A/13 para. 2 refers.
2. Please confirm that MARUDU does not now require service of tug. If this is so JAMES E. HUGHES should be sailed independent for Cape from Lagos after arrival of TEMPLE INN.
(C. in C. S.A., 1437B/19 to R.A.W.A. (R) Admty. D. of S.T., N.O.I.C. Lagos, B.N.L.O. W. Africa).

Brazilian
Schooner
Sunk.

Crew of Brazilian Schooner landed in boat report schooner was stopped at 0500 G.M.T./19 about 14° 30' S., 38° 40' W. Crew interrogated and ordered to abandon ship which was sunk by gunfire.
(R.O. Bahia, 1555Z/19 as amended 1225Z/20 to Admty. (R) S.O.(I) Freetown, S.O.(I) Montevideo, S.O.(I) Rio de Janeiro).
Brazilian Naval Authorities informs that schooner JACYRA was torpedoed at 0600 G.M.T./19 at mouth of River Itacare between Bahia and Belmonte.
(R.O. Pernambuco, 2021Z/19 to Admty (R) S.O.(I)s Rio de Janeiro, Montevideo).

RAJPUTANA

Comply with my 1323Z/18 (N.T. in W.R.) RAJPUTANA return to Pointe Noire.
(F.O.I.C. W. Africa, 1557Z/19 to B.N.L.O. Pointe Noire, RAJPUTANA).

Light
Signals
Brazzaville.

My 1900/30/7. When may reply be expected please?
(D.T.D., 1838A/19 to C. in C. S.A., (R) R.A.W.A.)

ABBEYDALE.

On completion of operation in your 1701/15 request you will send ABBEYDALE to Trinidad to embark cargo with all despatch.
2. After embarking cargo ABBEYDALE is to be sailed for Freetown or Gibraltar, port will be decided later.
3. Request you will detail 1 corvette to remain with ABBEYDALE until her return to Freetown or as requisite to return to Freetown if she is ordered to Gibraltar.
(A.C.N.S. (F) 1840A/19 to R.A.W.A. (R) F.O.C.N.A. etc).

3 p. 603

Vichy Convoy.

Vichy convoy sighted consisting of 2 merchant vessels, 1 escort vessel (A.7) in 12.43 N., 16.59 W. course 310° 5 knots.
(S.O.(I) Freetown, 1915Z/19 to Admty D.N.I., (R) F.O.C.N.A.)

Pernambuco.

This port has now been closed to departure of Brazilian ships until further notice but remains open to foreign shipping. All Brazilian ships on the coast have been instructed to make for nearest port.
(R.O. Pernambuco, 2045Z/19 to Admty (R) S.O.(I) Montevideo, S.O.(I) Rio de Janeiro).

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19.8.1942
Wednesday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean.

Enemy Units. At 0100C/19 aircraft reported 1 merchant ship 2 destroyers in 033° 51' N. 023° 08' E. (Capt. S.1 0215C/19 to S/Ms on patrol.)

Bi-weekly Opsum No.48 14/8. In evening 12 American Liberators bombed Tobruk claiming 2 near misses on shipping direct hit on building north side harbour. Night 14/15. 37 Wellingtons bombed shipping and harbour installations Tobruk, operation hampered by low cloud near misses claimed on shipping, fire started at petrol installations N.W. of harbour, remainder damage obscured by cloud. 2 Wellingtons unable to reach Tobruk bombed Sollum, starting medium fire among buildings near jetty. 2 Wellingtons off-sensitive R/C for coastal shipping in Gulf of Sollum. 1 Wellington attacked 7 F-Boats north of Bardia results unobserved. 15/8. 4 Hudsons made dawn sweeps for coastal shipping in Gulf of Sollum. 1 Hudson attacked 5 barges north of Bardia destroying 1 by 6 direct hits. Second Hudson attacked single F-boat north east Ras Azzaz. Clouds of smoke resulted and vessel considered sunk. 6 Blenheims escorted by 6 Beaufighters subsequently despatched attacked 16 barges in two convoys east of Sidi Barrani. Total 5 direct hits on 3 barges, many near misses. Formation attacked by 2 Me.109s, 2 Mc202s. Beaufighter shot down 1 Mc202 in flames 1 Beaufighter damaged. In evening 8 American, 8 R.A.F. Liberators were despatched to attack convoy, 2 M/Vs escorted by destroyers previously reported by R/C S.W. of Crete. American Liberators bombed convoy about 105 miles north of Derna claiming 1 hit 4 near misses on large M/V which stopped. R.A.F. Liberators arriving later could not find convoy after extensive search except for 1 Liberator which found damaged M/V apparently on fire. This Liberator bombed ship no hits. 3 A.S.V. 9 bomber Wellingtons despatched during night. A.S.V. Wellingtons found convoy about 65 miles N.E. Derna, attacked after identifying targets by flashes from A.A. guns, bombing caused violent explosion felt by Wellington at 4,000 feet, presumed 1 vessel hit. 1 Wellington sighted 3 destroyed (?destroyers) in vicinity and bombed, no hits. 5 Bostons despatched to make last light attack on F-boat convoys off Matruh previously attacked during day did not find and bombed Matruh harbour, starting fire on jetty and at Railway Station. Night 15/16. 8 Halifaxes, 31 Wellingtons bombed shipping and harbour installations Tobruk, 1 bomb burst either on or very near 1 ship while other bombs straddled large ship on west side of harbour. Fire started at petrol installations N.W. of harbour, remainder damage obscured by low cloud. 2 Wellingtons bombed shipping inshore East of Tobruk results unobserved. 3 Wellingtons missing. 12 Albacores bombed F-boats in Matruh Harbour scoring 1 direct hit and many near misses 1 Albacore missing. 16/8. 1 Hudson attacked 7 F-boats N.W. Sidi Barrani direct hit 1, followed by cloud of smoke. 2 Hudson bombed single F-boat N. of Bardia, direct hit causing explosion. 1 Hudson missing. Spitfires damaged a R/C Ju.88 west of Cairo. 2 Hurricanes, 4 Fulmars shipping protection off Port Said and in Gulf of Suez. Night 16/17/8. 38 Wellingtons bombed shipping and harbour

/installations ...

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Wednesday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean - conts.

Enemy installations Tobruk. Near misses claimed on
Units shipping, 1 lighter hit remainder results
(Contd) obscured by low cloud. 2 Wellingtons unable
to reach Tobruk bombed Sollum, results unobserved.
1 Wellington missing. 10 American Mitchells

B.25s bombed Matruh Harbour starting fire at tank workshops
3 Albacores illuminated with flares, 1 Albacore missing.
A Swordfish on offensive night R/C bombed 5 barges off Matruh
results unobserved by cloud. 1 Swordfish missing from A/S patrol
off Delta. 17/8 4 Hudsons offensive R/C for enemy coastal
shipping between Bardia and Sidi Barrani. 1 Hudson attacked
4 F-Boats N.E. of Bardia scoring near misses on 1. Second
Hudson attacked F-Boats off Sidi Barrani bombs overshoot *
Of 9 Liberators which bombed Navarino August 11 7 were American.
(H.Q. R.A.F. M.E. 1001/19.)

* A part of the message has not yet been received in War
Registry.

Part 5 my A.674 19/8. T.O.O. 1001Z/19. ? 17/8. At dusk
5 Bostons attacked 6 barges Matruh Harbour, no hits claimed but
large fire started on Quay. 1 Boston hit by A.A. fire forced
landed east of Matruh.

Night 17/18. 9 Halifaxes 37 Wellingtons bombed shipping and
harbour installations Tobruk. Results mainly obscured by 8/10
low cloud but 3 fires started in docks later spread into 1 good
fire. 2 good fires started at petrol installations N.W. of
harbour. Wellington bombed large ship east of Tobruk, no hits.
1 Halifax unable to reach Tobruk bombed Light south of Duka
starting a small fire. A Swordfish on patrol off Delta attacked
large submarine 100 miles N.E. Damietta with depth charges and
machine gun fire. 2 depth charges fell within 10 feet but
vessel continued on course.

18/8. 17 Kittyhawks 12 Hurricanes offensive patrols battle area
1 Kittyhawk formation jumped by Me.109s, 1 Kittyhawk shot down
2nd damaged. 3 Hudsons, 4 Beaufighters offensive sweeps at
dawn for coastal shipping between Matruh and Bardia, no sightings,
1 Hudson missing.

(H.Q. R.A.F. M.E. 1133Z/19.)

Operation Request brief report on passage of Force Y
"Ascendant". particularly events and sights if any during day 2.
(V.A. Malta 1033B/19 to F.O.C.N.A. (R) Admty.)
Reply: F.O.C.N.A. 0900A/21.

Operations How many Spitfires found it necessary to jettison
"Bellows" long range tanks in operations "Bellows" and
"Baritone". "Baritone"?
(S.O. Force F. 1103B/19 to V.A. Malta (R) FURIOUS,
F.O.C.N.A.)

Operation "Bellows" and "Baritone". 1. Total number of
Spitfires embarked 71, total number of Spitfires flown off 70,
total number of Spitfires reaching Malta 66.
2. Disposal of remaining 5 Spitfires. EP 698 and EP 703 to
Gibraltar temporarily unserviceable. EP 152, EP 606 and EP 194
crashed in sea and written off.
3. Disposal of reserve of other pilots.
(FURIOUS 1722B/19 to Air Min. (R) Admty.)

War Diary.

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Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean - contd.

P.34. Leave patrol as necessary through 035° 13' 012°
RORQUAL. 31' and 035° 37' 014° 08' to R/V with sweeper
at end of searched channel 0959B/23rd. RORQUAL
will arrive R/V same time from N.W. Establish

S.S.T. communication and maintain until surfacing which P.34
is to do first.

(Capt.S.10 1140B/19 to P.34 (R) RORQUAL, C. in C. Med.,
Capt.(S) 1, S/Ms on Patrol.)

Adjust speed to proceed by Q B B 255 route to arrive 036°
36' 013° 40' at dusk 22/8. Sam signal will be made later.

(Capt. S.10 1221B/19 to RORQUAL (R) F.O.C.N.A., C. in C.
Med. Capt.(S) 1, Capt.(S) 8, P.34.)

*P.43 Leave 038° 24' 019° 45' p.m./21 and proceed
* PORPOISE. through 035° 22' 015° 13' 035° 22' 014° 12'
P.35. 035° 32', 014° 12' to arrive end of searched
* See next page channel 1001B/25. PORPOISE is expected same
time approaching from S.E. P.35 leaves 035° 39' 015° 49' dusk
21/8 direct for 037° 47' 019° 59' and may proceed on surface
during daylight between 017° and 019°.
(Capt. S.10 1146B/19 to P.43 (R) PORPOISE, Subs. on Patrol,
C. in C. Med. Capt.(S) 1.)

Operation Your 1142A/16. General cargo discharged by
"Pedestal" 0700/19 (details).
(V.A.M. 1308B/19 to Admty.)

Damaged U/B, My 1817/17. Following is a repetition of
Valencia. R.O. Valencia's 1149/18 to me and Gibraltar.
"S/M was number*47 damaged by depth charge from
aeroplane, holed amidships underwater by splinters,
water tank out of action through (corrupt group) Crew kept
afloat by pumping and plugholding. 3 men's bodies wounded.
S/M only entered harbour to land wounded but took advantage of
delay arrival of authority to have minor repairs effected." (ends)
(N.A. Madrid 1616/19 to Admty.) * U.47 was sunk R by VOLYERINÉ 8/3/41

Hungarian Reported 2 Hungarian vessels will transit
M/Vs. Bosphorus for Greece in near future. S.O.(I)
Med. informed.
(S.O.I. Istanbul 1648C/19 to S.N.O. Levant Area,
(R) D.N.I.)
Graded B.4.
(S.O.I. Istanbul, 0935C/20.)
My 1648C/19, graded B.4. S.O.(I) Mediterranean informed.
(S.O.I. Istanbul 0935C/20 to S.N.O. Levant Area, (R)
D.N.I.)

/Malta ...

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War Diary.19.8.1942
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean - contd.

Malta I. 591 19/8. C.S.R. 18th. 1200 hours and
Air Report. 1325 hours, 4 Spitfires and 8 Spitfires up
respectively for raids which turned back before
reaching Malta. 1 alert 1454 hours, 12 plus
enemy fighters including Me.109s crossed coast great height.
8 Spitfires up sighted part of enemy force but had insufficient
height to intercept.
Night 18/19. 2 alerts. 1855 hours, 1 Beaufighter on patrol
2030 hours 1 raider proved to be friendly aircraft approaching
partial R.D.F. interference. 2228 hours, 2 raiders approached
to 20 miles N.W. Malta dropped bombs sea and returned, serious
R.D.F. interference, 1 Beaufighter up failed to catch fleeing
enemy.
19th. 1 alert, 0755 hours, 18 plus Me.109s in 2 raids of 9
aircraft crossed coast great height, partial R.D.F. interference,
20 Spitfires up sighted enemy who avoided combat and fled home.
2 Spitfires up to cover minesweepers. 0920 and 1030 hours, 5
and 6 Spitfires up respectively for raids which turned back
before reaching Malta.
Part 2. Sec. 1. My O.584, 17th. After Wellington illumination
M/V successfully torpedoed by friendly submarine. 18th photo
R/C 0510 shows wide patch oil on surface where M/V sank also
rafts or pieces of floating wreckage. Standing harbour patrol
by 4 Spitfires continued to protect unloading of convoy.
(H.Q. R.A.F. Malta 1759/19.)

-p 578
Situation My 1616C/18 para 5. Finding of board of enquiry
Report 254. established PRINCESS MARGUERITE was torpedoed.
2. Ref. para 6. PALADIN picked up entire crew
of five from Savoia 79.
3. Submarines. P.42 at 2244/8 attacked south bound goods train
North of Longbardi (Gulf of Eufemia). Result, train cut in
half, engine destroyed and coaches set alight, for expenditure
of 10 rounds of 12 pounder ammunition.
4. Massawa. DIDO docked in A.F.D. 18/8. She is first warship
to use base for repairs.
(C. in C. Med. 1937C/19 to Admty.)

P.43. Leave Patrol as in my 1146/19 p.m./22 */Mention page* to arrive
a.m./26.
(Capt. S.10 2240B/19 to P.43 (R) PORPOISE,
Submarines on Patrol, C. in C. Med., Capt.(S) 1.
(S.O.(S) Alexandria.)
Cancelled, see his 0943B/20.

* TURBULENT, Unless you are in pursuit of good target concen-
* PORPOISE. trate on Suda Bay - Tobruk Supply route.
(Capt. S.1 2251C/19 to S/Ms named.)

* *See previous page*

19.8.1942.
Wednesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

Persian Gulf Minesweepers. In order to provide early reinforcement to M/S Forces in P.G., request you will consider obtaining consent of Govt. of India to use of M.M.S.129 and 130 in this area when complete. This assistance would be much appreciated.
(C. in C. E.F., 0535Z/19 to F.O.C.R.I.N. (R) Admty).

Danger Areas. Your 1652/13 (re broadcasts of notice declaring waters of Indian Ocean dangerous to shipping) Concur in broadcasts from Colombo.
(C. in C. E.F., 0538Z/19 to Admty).

Defence Seychelles, Mauritius, Diego Suarez. A.M.1417/16. (1) In present circumstances importance of underwater defences of Seychelles is (?greatly) above (?that) of either Grand Port or Diego Suarez.
(2) Each time Force A proceeds to operate in Ceylon area, the anchorage at Seychelles is used and all short endurance vessels fuel there whenever they cross (?the) ocean.
(3) The canal is, furthermore, well placed strategically to harbour oilers required to proceed Mozambique east or west to meet Fleet requirements.
(4) By closing these back door entrances, the danger of attack is very greatly reduced and makes it possible for the small anti S/M force available there to keep a fairly satisfactory patrol when ships are inside oiling.
(5) Moreover, it is not clear why it should be necessary to utilize the anti-submarine boom designed for Kilindini at Grand Port or Diego Suarez, since Admty 2246/3/7 and 0013/15/7 state all equipment required for these booms had been shipped in TREVORIAN and DEVON CITY.
(6) In view of these considerations I intend to proceed in accordance with programme proposed in my 1433/12.
(C. in C. E.F., 1408Z/19 amended 0811Z/20 to Admty (R) F.O.I.C. E.A. and Z. N.O.I.C. Seychelles).

Air Report. Intelligence Summary No. 157 period 24 hours ending 1800 hours 19.8.42
Hudson R/C reported enemy cruiser 25 miles south Akyab 0840 hours 18/8. Separate searches 18/8 for merchant vessels ITINDA and CONGELLA unsuccessfully bombed aircraft 17/8. Remainder routine sea R/C and shipping escort - negative.
(Air H.Q. India, 1420/19 G.M.T.)

Repatriations. Japanese repatriation ships may be met in Indian Ocean en route from Sunda Strait to Lourenco Marques and return. Probable dates of arrival at Lourenco Marques, one about 27/8, one about 7/9 (Details).
(Adm. Mombasa, 1449Z/19 1456Z/19 to B.A.M.S.)

/Troops...

War Diary.

19.8.1942.
Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies. - Contd.

Troops
for M.E.

It will probably be necessary for A.C.N.B. and D.C. in C. E.F. to arrange escort to Suez for approx. 5,000 troops leaving New Zealand at end of September.

2. Request N.Z.N.B. will keep Admty and other addressees informed of dates and numbers. (D.O.D. (F), 1655A/19 to D.C. in C. E.F., A.C.N.B., (R) N.Z.N.B., C. in C. Med.)

War Diary.19.8.1942
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies.

WEST CELINA SS WEST CELINA 011° 45' N. 062° 30' W.
(torpedoed torpedoes 0240 G.M.T/18.
18/8) (S.O.I. Kingston 0048Q/19 to Admty., (for
D.N.I) B.A.D., Connav, Comcaribsea, N.O.I.C.
Port of Spain (Trinidad)
My 0048/19 has been passed to Bermuda and Ottawa.
(S.O.I. Jamaica 1541Q/19 to Admty. etc.)

* RAMILLIES, RAMILLIES cannot now be made available to refit
ROYAL in U.S.A. A.M.0015/15 to B.A.D. refers.
SOVEREIGN. 2. Request report whether ROYAL SOVEREIGN can,
* *in p. 600 & 616* therefore, be taken in hand for refit in U.S.A.
arriving mid-October, and that refit yard may be
allocated. 3. Main items are refit, extensive boiler repairs,
fitting all deck armour and patching inner bottom. All tubes
and headers required for repairs to boilers are available in
U.S.A. or can be sent direct from U.K. to refitting yard.
(D.O.D.(F) 0050A/19 to B.A.M.R. (R) C. in C.E.F. etc.)

U/Bs. Submarine attacking 012° 02' N. 068° 56' W.
at 2232 C T/18.
(S.O.I. Kingston 0052Q/19 to Admty., D.N.I.
LADY ROCHEY, N.O.I.C. Trinidad.)
U.S. Authorities San Juan report submarine sighted 018°
14' N. 078° 25' W. at 1335 C T/18.
(S.O.I. Kingston 0104Q/19 to Admty., D.N.I., S.H.A.8,
B.A.D. S.B.N.O. W.A., N.O.I.C. Trinidad.)
U-Boat estimated in your vicinity by D/F has made sighting
report of convoy or important unit at 0149Z/19th.
(C. in C. U.S. Fleet, 0421/19 to C.T.U. 92.1.6, CLARKIA (R)
C.C.S.F., C.P.S.F., C. in C. Atlantic Fleet (U.S) C.O.A.C.
N.S.H.Q., S.B.N.O. W.A. Admty.)
U-Boat by D/F made a sighting report of a convoy or
important unit at 0342Z/19. Locality 11.15 N. 61.45 W.
(C. in C. U.S. Fleet 0456/19 to CLARKIA, U.S.C.G. ANTIETAM
(R) C.C.S.F., C. in C. Atlantic Fleet, C.O.A.C. Admty.,
N.S.H.Q., S.B.N.O. W.A.)

S/M Cominch 182114 addressed you and Commaveu,
Attack and information Naval District Commanders, 1 to 10,
Sighting less 9, plus 15, N.O.B. Trinidad, Commander U.S.
Summary. Force Aruba, N.O.B. Guantanamo, Commanders East,
Caribbean, Gulf and Pacific Seafrontiers, informs
as follows: A. Schooner (Colombian) ROAMER sunk
22/7 in 12.24 N. 81.28 W. WEIRBANK 1 torpedo hit. JOHN HANCOCK
and EMPIRE BEDE torpedoed while in convoy at 0716Z/18 and 0415Z/18
in 19.41 N. 76.50 W. SAMIR and FORTIA REINE sunk by torpedoes
0430Z/17 in 18.15 N. 75.08 W. Identify attack 1501Z/17 as
torpedoed LOUISIANA. CRONFORD sunk by torpedo 1818A/30/7 in
12.17 N. 55.11 W. BAEPENDY sunk by torpedoes 2100Z/15 in 11.51 S.
37.20 W.
B. Following attacks by planes: 1940Z/17 in 12.00 N. 58.10 W.
2025Z/12 in 07.15 N. 53.12 W, 2115Z/17 in 06.47 N. 52.31 W.
Destroyer reports submerged U-boat 0415Z/18 in 19.39 N. 76.26 W.

War Diary.19.8.1942
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies - contd.

S/M attack and sighting summary. C. Panair reports one surfaced 2107Z/17 in 12.50 N. 79.23 W. Sound contact by patrol craft 2100Z/17 in 28.40 N. 90.47 W. D. Swirl attacked by patrol craft 39.35 N. 74.06 W. at 0510Z/18. Part submerged submarine reported by Eastern Airlines plane at 1020Z/17 in 04.21 N. 51.33 W. Sound contact by patrol craft 29.00 N. 94.07 N. at 0255Z/17. Plane sights periscope at 2320Z/17 in 40.21 N. 73.41 W. Plane sights one at 1330Z/18 in 42.51 N. 68.00 W. Comnavcu 0721/19 to Admty.)

CHURCHILL conduct of C.O. T.A.W.12. My 1052/18. Following is complete text of Comcarib's 1235/14 (begins) Congulfseafron repeat N.O.B. Key West N.O.B. Trinidad from Comcaribseafron. Upon arrival W.A.T.12 request you commence thorough interrogation escort Commander in CHURCHILL. Was absent convoy about 24 hours 13th to 14th in order to land 50 survivors Guantanamo. Large convoy inadequate escort. This officer appears to lack proper sense of responsibility. Left his convoy 31/7 for about (corrupt group) days to tow S.C.503. T.O.O.1235/14 (ends) (N.O.I.C. Trinidad 0901Q/19 to S.B.N.O. W.A. (R) Admty., B.A.D. HAVELOCK)

Com. Caribbean Sea 1235/14. Request result of interrogation as early as possible in order that I may take any further action required.

(S.B.N.O.W.A. 1012P/19 to C.G.S.F. (R) Admty., N.O.I.C. Trinidad, Com. Caribbean Sea, B.A.D. HAVELOCK, CHURCHILL.) Your 1235/14. Grateful in future for early information when conduct of British Officers under your operation and my administration is in question.

(S.B.N.O.W.A. 1022P/19 to Com. Caribbean Sea (R) Admty., B.A.D. N.O.I.C. Trinidad)

Ships Damaged. Sailed ROODE ZEE and Tugs CONFIDENT and BUSY escorted by 5 M.T.Bs to tow in 2 ships torpedoed and damaged in 012° 06' N. 062° 46' W. (N.O.I.C. Trinidad 0942Q/19 to S.B.N.O.W.A., C.C.S.F., (R) Admty. etc.) W.D. Note.- EMPIRE CLOUD, WEST CELINA. See his 1252/21. p. 672.

U.S. Dispositions. Cinclant's 2013/18 to Admty. (delivery by Comnavcu) and Cominch, informs as follows: Atlantic Fleet Location Sheet No.32 19/8. Taskforce 22 (RANGER, AUGUSTA and 4 Destroyers) at Hampton Roads. After 22/8 in Narragansett Bay. Taskforce 37 (NEW YORK, PHILADELPHIA and Destroyer Squadron 13 - BUCK, WOOLSEY, LUDLOW, EDISON, BRISTOL, WILKES, NICHOLSON, SWANSON and INGRAHAM) departs New York City, 19/8, for U.K. via Halifax escorting A.T.20 and N.A.15. Taskforce 38 (ARKANSAS, BROOKLYN and Destroyer Squadron 7 - PLUNKETT, NIBLACK, BENSON, GLEAVES, MAYO, MADISON, LANSDALE, HILARY P. JONES and CHARLES F. HUGHES) now in U.K. Due to return to New York with T.A.18. Movements of Taskforce 37 and 38 will not be included in future sheets because it is intended that they shall escort routine troop convoys to U.K. in rotation. (Comnavcu 1026/19 to Admty.)

/LETITIA ...

War Diary.19.8.1942
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies - contd.

LETITIA. Your 1957/17. If practicable request you will arrange for LETITIA to carry out test with Portishead or other W/T Station before sailing and report results.
(D.S.D. 1256A/19 to C.O.A.C. (R) N.S.H.Q.)

ESSO BELGIUM. Your 2127Q/17. ESSO BELGIUM arrived Carapito 17th. (Cominch C. and R. 1439Z/19 to S.O.(I) Jamaica, (R) Admty., S.B.N.O. W.A., B.A.D.)
(S.O.I. Jamaica 2316Q/19 to Admty. etc.)

Shipping, Chesapeake, Delaware. W.J.A. 616 Chesapeake and Delaware traffic will be restored to normal working a.m. 19/8. Cancel W.J.A. 603 and 611. (re Canal in working order for ships with maximum draught 15 ft)
(C.N.S. Canada 1541Z/19 to S. and E. etc.)

U/B. Submarine sighted 1400 G.C.T./19th in 20.00 N. 81.3 W.
(S.O.I) Jamaica 1556Q/19 to Admty., S.B.N.O. W.A., B.A.D.)

DEMERARA. My 0859/10. 1 Chinese, 2 Javanese additional survivors arrived St. Vincent, 18th.
(S.O.I. Jamaica 1606Q/19 to Admty., S.B.N.O. W.A. Connav, B.A.D. N.S.H.Q., (R) N.C.S.O. St. John N.B.)

Escort for Q.E. My 2041/13, delete RAMILLIES. Provide escort 3 destroyers for H.M.S. QUEEN ELIZABETH from M.O.M.P. to Norfolk. Position and date of M.O.M.P. not changed. Exact time of M.O.M.P. on 30/8 will be forwarded later.
(C. in C. U.S. Fleet 1617Z/19 to C. in C. Atlantic Fleet (U.S) (R) C.T.F. 23, C.E.S.F., U.S.N.O.B. Bermuda, Com.4., Com.5, R.A. W.A. S.B.N.O. W.A.)

Atlantic Escort Groups. For purposes future planning following is submitted from C.T.F.24. Experience indicates that 11 Midocean Escort Groups will be unable to maintain present schedule North Atlantic Trade Convoys during winter months due expected increase voyage repairs resulting from heavy weather normally prevailing during that season. Anticipate that provisions to meet this situation will be necessary approximately 1/11. (2) Apparent solutions to foregoing are 1. Return of group B.5 to Midocean escort operations. 2. Increase sailing interval North Atlantic Trade Convoys to 8 days. Former more desirable from point of view simplification Midocean Escort arrangements. However, latter alternative acceptable in view probable necessity retaining group B.5 in protected employment.
(Halifax 1631/19 to Action Cominch (R) Cinclant, F.O.N.F., N.S.H.Q., C. in C. W.A.)

/ARTHUR W. ...

19.8.1942
Wednesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies - contd.

ARTHUR W. SEWALL. (torpedoed 8/8) ARTHUR W. SEWALL Norwegian sunk by torpedo and gunfire 0045 G.M.T/8 in 008° 27' N. 034° ? 21' W. Master and all crew picked up by ATHINA LIVANOS and landed Bridgetown today. (N.O.I.C. Trinidad 1632Q/19 to Admty. (R) S.B.N.O. W.A., S.O.(I) Kingston.)

Shipping standard route. Your 1741/16 affirmative. Recommend authority ordering radical diversions in same dispatch amend stragglers route to be within 30 miles of new ocean route. (Cominch C. and R. 1650/19 to Admty.)

U/B Positions. S/M estimate 19th. (Cominch 1701Z/ 1702, 1703, 1704, 1705/19.)

U/Bs. 3 submarines reported submerging 045° 08' N. 065° 06' W. at 1619Z/19 235°. (C.O.A.C. 1731Z/19 to Admty.)

DASHER. B.A.D's 2045/6 and C. in C. U.S. Fleet's 2110/11. If DASHER has sailed request she may return to New York as she may be required to transport Martlets to U.K. (D.O.D.(H) 1800A/19 to B.A.D. C. in C. U.S. Fleet)

Identifications. Your 1958/7. Criticism is justified. A new merchant ship recognition procedure embodying a challenge from both warship and merchant ship, will be promulgated within the next few months. (D.S.D. 1844A/19 to N.S.H.Q.)

GENERAL ALESHIRE. Your 1143Z/19 (re sailing of tug GENERAL ALESHIRE with C.L.51) GENERAL ALESHIRE has not arrived and not sighted by R.C.A.F. (N.C.S.O. Sydney C.B. 1917Z/19 to N.C.S.O. St. Johns N.F. (R) Admty. N.S.H.Q.)

U.S.Forces My 1308/12. Further dispositions of U.S. Forces in Atlantic. Battleships - MASSACHUSETTS Due Casco Bay 18/8. NEW YORK at New York. SOUTH DAKOTA left Philadelphia 16/8. 8" Cruiser - WICHITA left Iceland 16/8. 6" Cruiser - CINCINNATI at Ascension Island. (D.O.D.(F) 1928A/19 to C. in C. H.F., S.B.N.O.W.A., N.S.H.Q.)

War Diary.19.8.1942
WednesdayFOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies - contd.

GLASGOW. Sail GLASGOW when ready direct Bermuda thence to Portsmouth via

(A)	032° 50' N.	048° 10' W.
(B)	041° 10' N.	039° 10' W.
(C)	043° 45' N.	027° 30' W.
(D)	050° 25' N.	025° 15' W.
(E)	050° 10' N.	014° 30' W.
(F)	049° 40' N.	006° 20' W.

thence to destination. Advise sailing time and S. of A.
(Connav 2030/19 to R.O. Norfolk (Virginia) (R) C.E.S.F., Cinclant, C.T.24, Admty., N.O.B. Bermuda, S.B.N.O.W.A., F.O.C.N.A., C. in C. W.A. VENDETTA.)

Tankers, QUEEN ELIZABETH. British authorities request that tankers named in A.M. 2348/18 be escorted from Trinidad 2 or 3 days to sea by destroyers en route to M.O.M.P. with H.M.S. QUEEN ELIZABETH in accordance with my 1617/19. 2 tankers now at Trinidad, other 2 arrive there 24/8. Speed of first pair 11.5, second pair 9.5. Advise whether either or both pairs of tankers can be so escorted.
(Cominch 2045/19 to Cinclant (R) Admty., B.A.D., C.C.S.F.)

U/B Campaign. Connav Serial 19. Serial 17 include 16. Additional 4 Brazilian ships reported torpedoed sunk. ANNIBAL BENEVOLO and ARARAQUARA both 16/8 12.00 S. 37.00 W. ARARA and ITAGIBA both 17/8 13.20 S. 38.40 W. WEST CELINA U.S. Torpedoed 19/8 11.45 N. 62.30 W., Convoy T.A.W.15. BLANKAHOLM Swedish torpedoed 18/8 19.41 N. 76.50 W., Convoy T.A.W.13.
(Connav 2113/19 to Comnav (R) N.S.H.Q. S.O.(I) Kingston C.E.S.F., C.C.S.F., C.G.S.F., C.P.F.)

S.C.94. No report from Commodore available. SPAR torpedoed and sunk 5/8, KELSO, TREHATA, ANNEBERG and KAIMOKU torpedoed and sunk 8/8, MOUNT KASSION damaged in same attack and presumed sunk, RADCHURCH undamaged but abandoned by crew same day, subsequent search unsuccessful. EMPIRE REINDEER, CAPE RACE, CONDYLIS and OREGON torpedoed and sunk 10/8.
(D.T.D. 2115A/19 to Connav, N.S.H.Q., (R) C. in C. W.A., C.O.A.C. N.O.I.C. Sydney C.B.)

EMPIRE BEDE survivors. Havana reports 43 survivors British EMPIRE BEDE landed Santiago de Cuba 18 by PIMPERNEL, further details awaited.
(S.O.(I) Jamaica 2124Q/19 to Admty., S.B.N.O. W.A. B.A.D., Connav, N.S.H.Q., F.O.C. Trinidad.)

SAN SIMEON. Panamanian SAN SIMEON not arrived Trinidad in W.A.T.13.
(S.O.(I) Kingston 2134Q/19 to Admty., S.B.N.O.W.A. Connav, B.A.D. S.O.(I) Freetown, S.O.(I) Capetown.)

/Shipping ...

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19.8.1942
Wednesday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies - contd.

Shipping Signals. Ref. my 1356/27/6. As British Vescas and route signals now satisfactorily received by U.S. action addressees this despatch discontinues Mercos and route signals.
(Connav 2149/19 to Aluslo (Kingston Jamaica?) Amcon Belsize, Alusno B Georgetown Amcon Barbados, Aluslo Antigua (R) Admty., N.S.H.Q. S.B.N.O. W.A., C.G.S.F., C.C.S.F., C.E.S.F.)

M/V Position Signals. Your 1848/13 Para 2 (Passing instructions of position signals from M/Vs) Navy Dept concur. (B.A.D. 2301Z/19 to Admty. (R) N.S.H.Q.)

MAURETANIA Connav's 1611/19 to all Commands concerned with S/M reports in Atlantic Ocean between 26° and 55° W. and south of 25° N. informs as follows:
Estimated P.C. and S. of MAURETANIA at 1900/19 23.30 S. 43.04 W. 287° 20.
(Commaveu 2331/19 to Admty.)

Danger area. Special warning No.188. U.S. Naval Authorities announce that a dangerous area has been established northward of Key West Florida between the parallels of 25° 10' N. and 24° 36' N. and the Meridians of 82° 10' W. and 81° 23' W. Vessels should not enter this area unless under the control of U.S. Naval Authorities. This cancels special warning No.176. (U.S. Navy Dept. Washington 2350/19 to All U.S. Warships.)

Australia and New Zealand.

Dispositions. Major naval units S.W. Pacific area 18/8.
Brisbane. ACHILLES, ATREUS, U.S. ship GRIFFIN, U.S. Patrol Gunboat TULSA. Departures. Sydney N.S.W.
U.S. MIZAR. Repairing, U.S. Cruiser PHOENIX, U.S. VICTORIA, F.S. LE TRIOMPHANT. Melbourne, repair U.S. GOLDSTAR. Fremantle
Dutch Cruiser TROMP, U.S. Seaplane Tender CHILDS, U.S. Sub Tender HOLLAND, U.S. TRINITY, ERLING BROVIG, ISABEL, LANAKIA. Albany,
U.S. PELIAS. Departure Fremantle 17/8 for Albany U.S. W.B.
PRESTON. Exmouth Gulf, U.S. Seaplane Tender HERON.
(A.C.N.B. 0319Z/19 to F.O.C.A.S. etc.)

/Situation ...

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War Diary.

19.8.1942
Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Australia and New Zealand. - contd.

Situation. Digest serial No.209, 18/8.
Air R/C 18/8 reported 11 unidentified vessels
(one very large) Rabaul Harbour, 1 M/V St.
George's Channel, 1 Destroyer, 1 small cargo vessel Steffin
Strait approaching Kavieng. 1 Destroyer, 1 8000 ton cargo
vessel 3° 55' S. 154° 10' E. course 170° 0030Z/18. 1 light
cruiser possibly YUBARI, 1 sloop 2 M/Vs 8° 13' S. 156° 28' E.
0215Z/18 course 330° 15 fifteen fighters, 11 bombers Lae
Aerodrome 18/8, 1 M/V Ambon area.
(2) Reliably reported one warship off Shortland Island 1700Z/17.
(3) 8 enemy single engined aircraft reported landed and
assembled Buka Aerodrome 0625Z/18.
(4) Approx. 2000 Japanese troops equipped light artillery with
native troops reliably reported Atsabe (24 miles south of Dilli)
16/8.
(5) Air R/C reports 1 light cruiser, 1 other vessel (light
cruiser or transport) 2 destroyers, 6 floatplanes anchored
6° 55' S. 156° 5' E. 2125Z/18.
(G.H.Q., S.W.P.A. 0546Z/9 to Admty. etc.)

U.S.Forces. My 1253/12. Following changes in dispositions
of U.S. Forces in Pacific:
TENNESSEE, PENNSYLVANIA, IDAHO, MISSISSIPPI,
NEW MEXICO, COLORADO, MARYLAND at Pearl Harbour. HORNET,
NORTHAMPTON, PENSACOLA, SAN DIEGO left Pearl Harbour 15/8.
BOISE left Pearl Harbour with convoy 15/8. RALEIGH left San
Diego with convoy 12/8. CHESTER - San Diego. CONCORD,
RICHMOND due Balboa 19th, 20/8 respectively. LONG ISLAND,
HELENA at Espiritusanto. PHOENIX at Sydney.
(D.O.D.(F.) 1909A/19 to C. in C. E.F., N.Z.N.B., A.C.N.B.,
N.S.H.Q.)

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Submarines Reported.

Approx. positions.
(D.D.I.C. 1421A/19, 1433A/19.)

20.8.1942
Thursday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

HAMBLEDON and MALLARD engaged E-Boats near Smith's Knoll in the early hours of today. One E-boat is considered to have been seriously damaged. No damage or casualties to our forces are reported.

S/M P.48 on patrol in 44° 1' N. 12° 15' W. reported at 1338A today that she was unable to dive and is making for Vigo. (P.48 arrived at Gibraltar at 1602A/23, escorted by ALOUETTE.) A little earlier P.48 had been ordered to attack an 8000 ton merchant ship with funnel aft sighted by aircraft at 0303A today in 43° 31' N. 9° 19' W. steering 300° at 8 knots. This appears to be a second tanker, and not that which was attacked and damaged yesterday and was last seen at 0004 today in 43° 57' N. 8° 0' W. steering 130° and may now possibly be anchored in a bay of the Spanish coast. 16 Lancasters took off to attack the enemy today but failed to find it.

American flying boat R. of 73 Squadron this morning destroyed a U-boat 280 miles S.E. of Iceland (C). Fifty three survivors were captured by CASTLETON. (U. 464)

A further 9 moored mines were found yesterday and today in the Start Bay area.

Thirty two ratings from the French manned corvette ROSELYS mutinied at Greenock this afternoon and were arrested.

North Atlantic.

S.O. Force F. in NELSON with FURIOUS, ARGUS, KENYA and 8 destroyers, sailed from Gibraltar at 0230A today for the U.K.

War Diary.

20.8.1942
Thursday.

SITUATION REPORT.

South Atlantic.

H.M. Trawler CANNA reports a light collision with a U-boat at 2200 today in 7° 41' N. 14° 3' W. The U-boat dived and CANNA subsequently attacked contacts. Search with air co-operation continues. The position is about 50 miles from the coast S.W. of Freetown. CANNA's hull was undamaged and unmarked.

East Indies.

The first convoy from Aden to the Persian Gulf (A.P.1) sailed today escorted by FROBISHER.

America & West Indies.

It is reported that after carrying out sweeps en route from Quonset to Trinidad the first 17 aircraft of 53 Squadron Coastal Command commenced operations from Trinidad on 10/8.

The entrance to the port of Savannah was reopened to shipping today.

Unless the contrary is specifically stated ships arriving in the Panama Canal from the Atlantic side and bound for South Africa are to be routed via Magellan or Cape Horn.

After the unfortunate experience with S.C.94, in which 11 ships were sunk, N.S.H.Q. Ottawa considers that no S.C. Convoy should contain more than 40 ships whilst the escorts remain at 5 for western local and 6 for mid ocean respectively. This will entail shutting out about 40 ships from S.C.97 unless special escort groups can be found to move these ships.

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20.8.1942
Thursday.War Diary.HOME COMMANDS.Policy.

8th M.G.B.F. From the fact that 2 groups of E-Boats were operating on the East coast war channel last night it appears probable that a number of these craft are now based at Dutch harbours again.

2. Motor gunboats (L) and Motor gunboats (S) in this command have been very depleted. Request consideration may be given to the early return of 8th M.G.B. Flotilla now lent to Plymouth. (C. in C. Nore 1108A/20 to Admty.)

1st C.S. My 1955/16. C.S.18 will also administer 1st C.S. temporarily. (C. in C. H.F. 1528A/20.)

THAMES QUEEN THAMES is allocated to Harwich as an Eagle ship. Request she be sailed as convenient. (C. in C. Nore 1731A/20 to Com. Sheerness.)

5th M.T.B.F. Your 1411/27/6. Only 5 M.T.Bs are at present available for operation. Request approval to retain M.T.B.48 until about 27/8 when situation should facilitate her release. (V.A. Dover 1921A/20 to Admty.)

ADRIAS. Your 0217A/18 17/9 is (?the) earliest date in
KANARIS. which (ADRIAS?) and KANARIS can be worked up and ready for action.
(ii) Experience to date has shown it would be inadvisable to interrupt working up by sending them to Clyde.
(iii) Boiler cleaning will be necessary on completion before proceeding.
(R.A.D. H.F. 2352A/20 to Admty.)

Movements.

MARNE and MARTIN sailed Dvina Bar 083?0A/20th for R/V. Admiralty pass to TUSCALOOSA. (S.B.N.O, Archangel 0854A/20 to S.B.N.O. North Russia.)

AVON VALE. Estimate that you will meet escorted fleet unit at about 2000A/20th in 054° 54' N. 011° 12' W. steering 065° S. of A. 16 knots. You are to keep well clear to the northwards. (C. in C. W.A. 1014A/20 to AVON VALE, (R) F.O. A/C Carriers, RODNEY, Admty.)

30 M.L.F. Admty. pass to U.S. and Canadian Authorities. My 1028/17th owing to weather sailing further delayed 24 hours. (N.O.I.C. Stornoway 1058A/20 to A.C.I.C.)

War Diary.

20.8.1942
Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Movements - contd.

- P.228. 1. Arrangements for sailing at 2000/21st unescorted diving by day to R/V F.S. LA CAPRICIEUSE for passage to Holy Loch. (Capt. (S) 5, 1101A/20)
- LA CAPRI- Arrangements for sailing to R/V P.228.
CIEUSE. (Capt. (S) 3 1121A/20)
- Cruiser Intend following: 24/8 sailing C.S.18 in
movements. NORFOLK with SUFFOLK to Hvalfjord and LONDON to Scapa. 2. 28/8 sailing CUMBERLAND to Scapa.
(C. in C. H.F. 1159A/20)
- VICTORIOUS, My 1237/18th. R.A.(D) H.F. is requested to
RODNEY, detail following escorts.
NELSON, A. 3 of VICTORIOUS escorts to continue to Rosyth
→ JAMAICA, with RODNEY. Escort part company Eyebroughy
HOWE. buoy and return to Scapa.
B. 3 destroyers to escort VICTORIOUS to Rosyth
leaving Scapa p.m. 22nd. If possible MATCHLESS
to be one and proceed Tyne after parting company. Remaining
2 of escort return to Scapa.
C. Sail one destroyer to Clyde to arrive p.m. 24th. This
destroyer with ICARUS and INTREPID to escort NELSON to Scapa.
D. Details of destroyers to proceed from Scapa with JAMAICA
p.m. 25th to R/V H.M.S. HOWE off Eyebroughy buoy at 0815 26th
and escort to Scapa.
(C. in C. H.F. 1422A/20.)
- JAMAICA. On completion of present duty request you will
sail JAMAICA for Scapa.
(C. in C. H.F. 1441A/20 to N.O.I.C. Londonderry.)
- MALLOW. Trials MALLOW unsatisfactory. Proceed inde-
pendtly in accordance with my 0952/20 (0959/20
intended re MALLOW and MYOSOTIS to proceed to
Tobermory). 2. Acknowledge and report E.T.of A.
(C. in C. Rosyth 1626A/20 to MYOSOTIS.)
- Chasseurs A.M. 1505/9. Destination is Pointe Noire.
42 and 43. Arrangements for them to be towed out by tug
EMPIRE WARLOCK leaving Milford Haven about 31/8.
(D.O.D.(H) 1743A/20.)

War Diary.

20.8.1942
Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operations.

E-boats One E-boat. My position 085° Cromer 23
off Smiths miles.
Knoll. (HAMBLEDON 0059/20)
 One E-boat. My position 085° Cromer 20 miles.
 (HAMBLEDON 0124/20)
Enemy's course is 330, my position 080° 18 miles from Cromer.
(HAMBLEDON 0130/20)
Enemy's course is 050°.
(HAMBLEDON 0135/20)
Am closing.
(SOUTHDOWN 0231/20 to HAMBLEDON.)

Preliminary report of E-boat operations early this morning Thursday. Special Intelligence indicates two groups were operating close together between Smiths Knoll and 56 buoy and volume of traffic that personnel were inexperienced. No indication of minelaying. It is possible this was preliminary run by new boats to learn convoy route. HAMBLEDON on No.2 patrol had three engagements at 0053 0124 and 0228. In first two E-Boats made much smoke and scattered subsequently reforming and returning to convoy route. First engagement was between 55B and 54D buoys second between 55B and 56 buoys. MALLARD on No.1 patrol also took part in second engagement. Third was between 54D and 57 buoys. In this, E-boats appeared to be running out of smoke and HAMBLEDON successfully engaged rear boat with all guns. Hits were seen and E-boat was undoubtedly damaged. Reports from HAMBLEDON and MALLARD will be signalled when received.

(C. in C. Nore 1210A/20.)

My 1240/20 (?1210/20 intended) HAMBLEDON reports that in third engagement 2 E-boats were engaged at close range with all armament numerous hits being observed on rear boat which was considered to be seriously damaged. This is substantiated by headache interception when one E-boat reported wounded on board. No damage or casualties in HAMBLEDON.

(C. in C. Nore 1556A/20)

Operation	Report following arrivals.		
"Jubilee"	Portsmouth	Newhaven	Shoreham.
	CALPE	ALRESFORD	M.L.344
	FERNIE	M.L. 343	CH. 10
	GARTH	" 120	" 14
	BLEASDALE	" 187	" 43
	ALBRIGHTON	" 190	
	BROCKLESBY	" 230	
	SLAZAK	S.G.B. 8	
	LOCUST	M.G.B. 312	
	M.G.B. 50		
	" 51		
	" 52		
	" 57		
	S.G.B. 9		
	CH.42.		

(C. in C. Portsmouth 0247A/20)

/Report

War Diary.20.8.1942
Thursday.HOME COMMANDS.Operations - Contd.Operation
"Jubilee"
(contd)

Report following arrivals:- Portsmouth - BANGOR, BLACKPOOL, BRIDLINGTON, BRIDE, RHYL, SIDMOUTH, TENBY, BLYTH, CLACTON, EASTBOURNE, FELIXSTOWE, ILFRACOMBE, POLRUAN, STORNOWAY, BRIDPORT, QUEEN EMMA, PRINCESS ASTRID, BEATRIX, INVICTA, PRINCE ALBERT, GLENGYLE, PRINCE CHARLES, PRINCE LEOPOLD, DUKE OF WELLINGTON.
Newhaven - S.G.B.5, M.L.123, M.L.246, M.L.346.
(C. in C. Portsmouth 0533/20)

In reviewing this operation the military aspects will naturally predominate so I wish at this stage to place on record that Naval commitment of embarkation, transport and despatch of the large body of troops to various beaches to an exact time programme as planned and executed faultlessly by Captain Hughes Hallett.

(C. in C. Portsmouth 1507A/20.)

Preliminary report on operation "Jubilee" based on incomplete information is as follows. Passage was carried out according to plan with the exception that Group 5 had a chance encounter with armed trawlers at about 0340. One trawler set on fire. L.C.Ps dispersed and about 5 effected landing. Results unknown, but there was no firing from their objective throughout the operation. Other landings in general effected according to plan with following exceptions :-

1. Blue Beach about 15 minutes late, through difficulty in locating beach.
2. Main landing tanks about 20 minutes late cause not yet known.
3. Group 6 also late, but landing successful. Evidence that complete tactical surprise achieved, but garrison reported to have been reinforced a few days before operation. Little interference from shore batteries at outset of operation, but this gradually increased during the day. 6 L.C.Ts from Groups 8 and 9 sunk in vicinity of beach. Opposition ashore considerably greater than had been expected, and all beaches continued to be dominated by batteries in enemy strongpoints through the operation. Impossible for landing craft to remain in shore, and all had to be withdrawn about 2 miles to seaward and screened continuously by smoke throughout the operation. Destroyers, LOCUST and L.C.Fs gave more or less continuous support whenever it was necessary for landing craft to approach the beach. Similar support for troops continuously given, but less effective as F.O.Os were at no time able to operate. Military positions ashore remained obscure through operation, and naval beach party organisation also unable to function. Landing of tanks in groups 10 and 11 were cancelled, when it became clear that no progress could be made and that withdrawal of personnel only could be attempted. Latter operation was begun at about 1100 with an improvised plan. Number of troops withdrawn not yet known, but was small and included high proportion of wounded. Only armed landing craft could be used and casualties to craft and personnel heavy. Enemy's air opposition developed late, and serious bombing only began during withdrawal phase. BERKELEY disabled and sunk after crew had been taken off. All remaining destroyers and LOCUST sustained damage, and casualties from near misses or shellfire return passage accomplished without incident. Fighter cover was most efficient throughout operation. Lessons learned appear to include.

* UJ 1404 sunk, see Interrogation of Survivors, CB. 4051 (49)

/1. ...

War Diary.20.8.1942
Thursday.HOME COMMANDS.Operations - conts:-

Operation "Jubilee" (contd)

1. Tactical surprise feasible even for so large an operation.
2. Initial landing still possible even in face of modern weapons.
3. Absolute necessity of capturing positions which dominate beaches from outset of operation again clearly proved.
4. Completely revised methods of providing support for ships in early stages of landing will be necessary in future operations of this kind. The behaviour of naval personnel under difficult conditions was exemplary.

(Naval Force Commander, Fort Southwick 1827A/20)

My 1917/20 para 2. Following craft are believed missing from H.M.S. GLENGYLE L.C. M.56, L.C.A. 97, 92, 52, 37, 94, 102. From H.M.S. PRINSES BEATRIX L.C.S 9. L.C.A. 215. From H.M.S. INVICTA L.C.A. 251, 262, 317. From H.M.S. QUEEN EMMA L.C.A. 209. From H.M.S. PRINCE CHARLES L.C.A. 192. 284. From H.M.S. PRINSES ASTRID L.C.A. 314. 237. Total L.C.M. one. L.C.S. one. L.C.A.16 (?should be 15) (2) L.C.P. (L) 80 and 4 now reported returned.

(C. in C. Portsmouth 2307/20, 2044/21.)

Danish Trawlers. Danish Trawler L.148 with boarding party from VANITY arrived Tyne 0800/20.
(F.O.I.C. Tyne 0845/20)

My 2145/17th 14 Danish fishing vessels captured by VANITY on 18/8. One sunk by VANITY for reason not yet known after crew had been taken off. Remainder sent or brought in under armed guard. 6 arriving Leith, 5 arrived Tyne, 1 at Berwick and 1 at Aberdeen. Full written report will be forwarded as soon as possible.

(C. in C. Rosyth 1115A/20.)

Seven Danish motor fishing boats CHR. S. MED (S204) GURLIE (E478) C. RISAGER (FN 405) EVY (E400) TINNE (E 500) and MARITANA (S209) each about 38 tons gross with prize crews on board arrived at Leith afternoon and evening 20/8. These vessels are some of those boarded by officers and men from VANITY north of the Dogger Bank on 18/8. Seventeen of the Danes are proceeding to the London Reception Centre under police escort by the train leaving Edinburgh at 2140 this evening while the crews of EVY TINNE and MARITANA twelve in number with the crew of an additional Danish vessel reported to have been sunk when resisting arrest will proceed to London tomorrow Friday evening under escort.

(N.O.I.C. Leith and Granton 2131/20)

Crews of Danish Fishing Vessels have been removed by Security Control. Ships are being kept under guard. Request instructions as to whom they should be turned over to. Fish has been sold.

(F.O.I.C. Tyne 1835/20.)

/Shetlands ...

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War Diary.20.8.1942
Thursday.HOME COMMANDS.Operations - contd.

Shetlands, Weather permitting patrol as in my 1530/17 is
Faroes, to be established from 2200 today Thursday until
M.L.Patrol. 1200/21.

(A.C.O.S. 1126/20 to N.O.I.C. Faroes.)

Amend my 1643/7 (Communication instructions for M.Ls when
operating against U-Boats) to read "Set watch on 1570 k/cs.
at 20 mins. past each hour for 10 mins" etc.

(A.C.O.S. 1135/20 to N.O.I.C. Lerwick, Faroes.)

P.48 to
intercept
tanker.

Proceed with despatch to position 044° 38' 012°
00' W. Aircraft report P.C. and S. of 8000 ton
merchant ship with funnel aft was 043° 31' N.
009° 19' W. 300° 8 knots at 0303A/20. Total
bombing restrictions arranged.
(F.O.(S) 1257A/20 to P.48)

West Channel
M.G.B.
patrol.

Weather permitting sail 3 M.G.Bs at last light
today Thursday to patrol near 050° 00' N. 002°
45' W. Codeword "Obstacle".

(2) If no enemy reports have been received by
?0200/21st Motor Gunboats may investigate vicinity

Channel Is. but are to be 20 miles clear at first light.

(3) W/T 2300 k/cs. Usual books to be landed.

(4) Reference P C W O 303 if E-Boats are reported Motor Gunboats
are to assume state D within 30 miles of English coast.

(C. in C. Plymouth 1555A/20 to N.O.I.C. Dartmouth.)

Your 1555/20. M.G.Bs 77 (S.O) 78. 79 sailed. Codeword
"Obstacle".

(N.O.I.C. Dartmouth 2130A/20 to C. in C. Plymouth.)

Operation
E.U.

LEDA, HALCYON and BRITOMART passed Dvina Bar
1820C/20th to sweep channel to Cape Gorodetski in
daylight 21st. A/S patrol off Cape Gorodetski
during the night of 21/22 and sweep Cape Gorodetski
to Svyatoi Nos and back on (? 22nd) then return
to Archangel.

(S.B.N.O. Archangel 1714A/20.)

Sighted by enemy R/C A/C at 1930A/20th.

(TUSCALOOSA 2010A/20 to C. in C. H.F.)

Dover
patrols.

Dover dispositions for night of 20th/21st August.
M.Ls 147 and 151 from Ramsgate patrolling between
Dumpton and North East Spit buoys. E.T.D. 2110,
E.T.R. 0510/21. The following anti-E-Boat
patrols from 2130. M.Ls 139 and 137 2 miles
southwest of C.1 buoy. Trawler ADAM and ALEXANDRITE one mile
south of D buoy. Trawler LOIS 1 mile East of No.4 Buoy.

(V.A. Dover 1756A/20.)

Tonight Thursday. Motor Launches 2 near Dumpton Buoy 2
2 miles south west of D buoy trawlers one 1 mile east of number
4 buoy 2 1 mile south of D buoy.

(V.A. Dover 1801A/20 to ELGIN.)

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War Diary.20.8.1942
Thursday.HOME COMMANDS.Allied Air Operations.A/C shot
down by
GULF OF
MEXICO.F.O.I.C. Cardiff's 1704/19. Request confirmation that U.S. Merchant vessels are in possession of rules governing approach of friendly aircraft. Full report of incident will be forwarded in due course.
(C. in C. W.A. 1253A/20 to Admty.)Operation
"Knocker"My 1920/20 operations cancelled today.
(A.C.I.C. 1504A/20)Bombing
restrictions.Request surface bombing restrictions from 2115/20 to 0700/21 between Start Point, Portland Bill, Cap La Hague and La Corbiere Light.
(C. in C. Plymouth 1549A/20 to H.Q.C.C.)Blaze seen
by CLAPHAM.Master of SS CLAPHAM reports that at 0030A/19 whilst bound independently from Mersey to Newport and when in position Skerries 270° 8 miles a large red blaze was observed on horizon S.W. of ship. Blaze appeared suddenly and died out after 3 minutes. Aircraft were heard on same bearing flying towards Holyhead and some were seen with navigation lights burning.
(N.O.I.C. Newport 1700A/20.)Attacks on
enemy
tankers.My 2023/19th August. From Aircraft reports received sequence of sightings and attacks on enemy tanker appear to have been as follows -
(1) A.61 Squadron attacked at 1645 in 044° 15' 008° 09' no hits.
(2) T.61 attacked at 1822 in 044° 12' 008° 17' no hits.
(3) O.61 attacked at 1859 in 044° 07' 008° 08' 1 hit.
(4) F.51 Squadron sighted at 1923 in 044° 28' 008° 02'. Driven off by Flak.
(5) Sunderland T of 10 Squadron sighted at 2113 in 044° 10' 008° 20' and made 3 attacks. Left enemy at 004 20th in 043° 57' 008° 00' 1 hit.
(6) N.61 sighted tanker at 2120 in 043° 15' 009° 05' did not attack.
(7) F.58 Squadron sighted at 0315 20th in 043° 33' 010° 05'. Some positions doubtful, all North and West. Reports (6) and (7) clearly referred to a second enemy vessel for which search continues to westward. 3 Lancasters have not returned and may have attacked first tanker. No reports received from them.
(C. in C. Plymouth 1741A/20)

AVENGER.

Your 1905/17 para 2. This is being arranged.
(D.N.A.D. 1858A/20 to C. in C. H.F.)

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War Diary.20.8.1942
Thursday.HOME COMMANDS.Mining.Operation
S.N.73.

C. in C. H.F. 1621A/18 para 2. MONTROSE,
*DELPHINIUM, IMPULSIVE have been instructed to
R/V with you in 064° 02' N. 023° 08' W. at
0001Z/21st.
(DUKE OF YORK 0917A/20 to R.A.(M))

**Impossible - DELPHINIUM was Halifax, E. 19/8. See
Notes at H.F. 1621A.*

13th M/S F.

Intend to sail 13th M/S Flotilla (less STORNOWAY)
from Needles 1000/11 for Plymouth. Routed QZS
293 and route N. Speed 12 knots. E.T.A.
2000/21 to carry out sweeping en route as ordered
by you. Codeword "Object". 2. SLAZAK for
Plymouth will sail in company.
(C. in C. Portsmouth 1243/20 to C. in C. Plymouth.)

Your 1243/20/8/42. Request 13th M.S.F. be ordered to
sweep route N. from QZS 293 to Seaward End of QZS 174.
2. ROTHESAY and CLACTON are then to enter Dartmouth, remainder
proceed to Plymouth.

(C. in C. Plymouth 1605A/20 to C. in C. Portsmouth.)

Operation
Q.K.3A.

My 1016/20 postponed 24 hours due to weather.
(C. in C. Nore 1701A/20.)

4th M.S.F.

Cancel my 1223A/19/8 4th M.S.F. will be employed
clearing QZX 787. 2. Available A/S M/S Trawlers
are to be sailed ahead of convoys in Lyme Bay.
(C. in C. Plymouth 1721/20 to N.O.I.C. Dartmouth)

Enemy Intelligence.

Pauillac.

Further examination of sortie S.533 shows at
Pauillac vessel newly arrived described as M/V
330' to be in fact Spar 340' last seen at
Bordeaux on 6/8/42 and now no longer present. The tanker 230'
also new arrival seen to be self propelling hopper.
(R.A.F. Medmenham 0135/20)

PRINZ EUGEN.

1345/19 shows Kiel partly photographed. PRINZ
EUGEN moved from alongside in Die Horn to South
Floating Dock since 17/8/42.
(R.A.F. Medmenham 0510A/20)

Tanker.

By D/F on 12700 k/cs at 0720Z/20 position of
enemy unit, probably surface craft, was anywhere
within 40 miles of 44° 30' N. 8° 00' W.
(D.D.I.C. 0920A/20)

Enemy
Unit.

Bearings of enemy unit - probably surface ship
at 1500Z/20. T.O.O.1415 86 Groups 4 letters.
(D.D.I.C. 1649A/20 to S.B.N.O. North Russia.)

War Diary.

20.8.1942

Thursday.HOME COMMANDS.U-Boats.CITY OF
MANILA.

My 0057/20th. Sailed SCHELDE escorted by MAN-O-WAR to assist CITY OF MANILA torpedoed at 1430Z/19th in 043° 21' N. 018° 20' W. now proceeding at slow speed course 000° escorted by GORLESTON.
(C. in C. W.A. 0105A/20.)

Your 0105A/20th. CITY OF MANILA has sunk. Fortunately no casualties. Am rejoining convoy in advertised position.
Weather report.

(GORLESTON 1406Z/20 to C. in C. W.A.)

Cancel my 0105A/20. Ship has sunk. Recall SCHELDE.
(C. in C. W.A. 1841A/20 to F.O.I.C. Milford Haven.)

SS BALLADIER.

At 0150Z/15 in 55.23 N. 24.32 W. SS BALLADIER in S.C.L 95 was torpedoed and sunk. Survivors 23 merchant crew including Master and 9 Navy landed Reykjavik. Missing two Navy, 11 merchant crew.
(C.T.F. 24 0145Z/20.)

Attacks
on U/Bs.

Following has been read. S/M damaged request help.
(A.O.C. 15 Gp to H.Q.C.C., A.C.I.C. 0547A/20.)
Enemy submarine previously reported is still on surface. When first sighted was on course indicated.

(A.O.C. 15 Gp. C.C. T.O.R. 0550/20 to H.Q.C.C., F.O.S. From Iceland W/T.)

Following has been received. Am over enemy S/M in 61.25 N. 14.40 W.

(A/C of 15 Group Hq. 0646/20.)

Proceed to hunt S/M reported by A/C in 61° 25' N. 14° 40' W.
(A.C.O.S. 0751/20 to NORTHERN GIFT.)

My 0751/20 (██████████) Return to patrol.

(A.C.O.S. 1310/20 to NORTHERN GIFT.)

HATARANA.

Your 2208A/19th 4 of HATARANA lifeboats and much Flotsam in position 041° 18' N. 019° 31' W. consider ship has sunk.
(STORK 1001A/20 to C. in C. W.A.)

U/B
reports.

D/F on 7640 k/cs at 0810Z indicates that U-Boat may be in your vicinity.
(D.D.I.C. 1020A/20 to Escorts O.G.88.)

For information. Aircraft report U-boat in 045° 37' N. 009° 52' W. at 1140A/20th course 220° speed when first sighted 15 knots. Sub dived.

(F.O.S. 1258A/20 to Subs operating south of Lat. 51° N.)

Following has been read from A.O.C. 15 Group C.C. Am over enemy S/M in position 63° 15' N. 22° 1' W. Enemy S/M previously reported was sighted on surface and observed to submerge. When first sighted was on course 096° estimated speed 8 knots.

(Iceland W/T 1840/20 to F.O.(S) H.Q.C.C.)

/My 1840 ...

20.8.1942
Thursday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

U-Boats - conts.

U/B
reports
(contd)

My 1840 no attack 33" submerged.
(A.O.C. 15 Gp. 1850Z/20.)
My 1840 amended position 63° 15' N. 21° 51' W.
(A.O.C. 15 Gp. 2020Z/20)

U/B
sunk by
73 Sqn.
(U.464)

Following from 1st Lord 1st Sea Lord.
Hearty congratulations on the destruction of a
U-Boat this morning by aircraft R. of 73 Squadron,
resulting in the capture of 53 survivors.
(1st S.L. 2311Z/20 to Commandant, U.S. Naval
Operating Base, Reykjavik.)

Casualties and Defects.

JULIET.

My 1641A/19 ^{15.547} JULIET did not sail with sweepers
owing to defective steering gear.
(F.O.I.C. Portland 0715A/20) _{52 p 600}

GOLDEN
SUNBEAM.

Position of sinking.
4. 50° 53.6' N. 01° 00.9' E. Position
approximate based on position given by drifter
that recovered survivors.
(V.A. Dover 0955A/20.)

P.48.

Auxiliary machine space flooded, water entering
through ventilating trunk. Unable to dive.
Am making for Vigo. Request immediate assistance.
My S. of A. is 9 knots.
(P.48 1338A/20 to F.O.(S))

My 1338A/20th Auxiliary Machinery space inlet flood through
log tube. Water ceased to enter. Unable to dive. Proceeding
to Gibraltar through positions G.H. and K. in (?016°) 1340A/17th.
Assistance not now required. My position 044° 01' 012° 15'
speed 9 knots. Shifting North Atlantic W/T organization at
2200A/20th.

(P.48 1455A/20 to F.O.C.N.A.)

Note:- Message passed C. in C. W.A. and C. in C. Plymouth.
Your 1338. Immediate assistance impossible. What tank
is damaged. Can you not shut off or block ventilating trunk.
Report P.C. and S. Prefix reply immediate.

(F.O.(S) 1552A/20 to P.48.)

My 1552. Estimated P.C. and S. of P.48 at 1400 044° 01'
012° 25' W. proceeding towards Vigo 9 knots. Request a
destroyer may be directed to close P.48.

(F.O.(S) 1614A/20 to Admty. (R) F.O.C.N.A., C. in C.
Plymouth.)

Cancel my 1614/20.

(F.O.S. 1711A/20.)

Your 1455/20 acknowledged. Cancel my 1552.

(F.O.S. 1712A/20 to P.48.)

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War Diary.20.8.1942
Thursday.HOME COMMANDS.Casualties and Defects - contd.:P.48
(contd)

ALOUETTE sent to R/V and escort to Gib.
(F.O.C.N.A. 1730A/20 and 1736A/20)
See North Atlantic.
Not met by ALOUETTE (ALOUETTE 1700A/21)
P.C.S. of ALOUETTE and R/V on 22/8.
(F.O.C.N.A. 1906A/21)
See North Atlantic. p.636

PETUNIA.

PETUNIA has arrived Londonderry with defects.
Approx date of completion p.m./27.
(Cdre. Londonderry 1501A/20)

M.M.S.174
sunk 12/7

R.N.O. Brixham reports that M.M.S.174 will be
raised on 22/8 and ready for docking for
temporary repairs on 23/8.
(N.O.I.C. Dartmouth 1801/20)

Shipping and Convoys.

Q.P.14.

Your 0041A ?19th. Following ships will be
available for Q.P.14. For U.K. OCEAN FREEDOM,
EMPIRE TIDE, OCEAN VOICE, HARMATRIS, MINOTOUR,
ALCOA, BANNER, WEST NILUS. For U.S.A. BELLINGHAM, IRONCLAD,
TROUBADOUR, SAMUEL CHASE, SILVER SWORD, BENJAMIN HARRISON,
DEERLODGE and WINSTON SALEM, which completes repairs about 1/9.
Probably for U.K. TOBRUK if repairs are completed Kola Inlet
to time would require 5 days to load at Archangel. All Russian
ships mentioned have sailed Eastward in Arctic Convoy.
(S.B.N.O. Archangel 1049A/20)

P.Q.18.

Your 1629A/19. In order that I may arrange
extra fighter strength at Sumburgh request you will
inform me the date on which the submarines will
commence to arrive at Lerwick.
(A.C.O.S. 1114A/20 to F.O.S.)

Sailings of
Portuguese
& Spanish
vessels.

N.A. Madrid has been instructed to report to
you all sailings of Spanish ships of over 2,500 tons
North of Vigo. N.A. Lisbon has similar instruc-
tions in regard to Portuguese vessels of 1000 tons.
(D.N.I. 1335A/20 to C. in C. W.A., F.O.S.)

Routeing.

Your 1901A/15 and A.M.1742/16 following received
from Connav "Affirmative. Recommend authority
ordering radical diversions in same despatch
amend stragglers route to be within 30 miles
of new ocean route."
2. Propose to concur and take necessary action
if you agree.
(D.T.D. 1831A/20 to C. in C. W.A.)

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War Diary.20.8.1942.
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic.

Force F. My 1014A/19. Force F sailed.
(F.O.C.N.A. 0230A/20 to Admty. C. in C. W.A. (R)
C. in C. H.F. S.O. Force F. C. in C. Plymouth.)

S/Ms. Request information (A) As to probable date of
arrival of REGENT, SEVERN at Gibraltar.
(B) Whether OTUS. P.31 are to be sailed (1) for
Devonport and Portsmouth respectively or (2) both
to Portsmouth.
(Capt. S.8. 0842A/20 to F.O.S.)

HATARANA. Cancel my 2211/19. (Re sailing of JAUNTY to salvage
HATARANA.) Ships proceeding in accordance with
your 2208/19. (F.O.C.N.A. 0855A/20 to Admty. (R) C. in C. W.A.
etc.)

French Shipping. Passings 19/8. Eastbound 1940 HOGGAR, OUED TIFLET,
both laden CHEF MECHANICIEN ARMAND BLANC, full,
covered deck cargo, CONGO light deck cargo.
(V.A.C.N.A. 0859A/20 to Admty. for M.E.W.)
1910/19 Armed trawler TOULONNAISE, ships HOGGAR laden
CHEF MECHANICIEN ARMAND BLANC full, covered deck cargo, OUED
TIFLET full, CONGO light deck cargo cork, Eastbound.
(S.O.I. Gib. 0933A/20 to Admty.)
1046. Destroyer FOUQUEUX, Tanker RHEA westbound.
(S.O.I. Gib. 1753A/20 to Admty. R.A.W.A.)

VIDETTE. Intend to sail VIDETTE, WRESTLER to Plymouth at
WRESTLER. 0400B/21 routed through
(K) 35.56 N 05.48 W. (L) 36.48 N 09.59 W.
(M) 42.01 N 14.30 W. (N) 45.01 N 14.30 W.
S of A 13½ knots.
2. C. in C. Plymouth is requested to signal onward route from
position (N)
3. Hours endurance remaining from position (N) both ships
limited to 15 knots, VIDETTE 55, WRESTLER 52.
(V.A.C.N.A. 1046A/20 to Admty. C. in C. Plymouth. (R)
C. in C. W.A. VIDETTE. WRESTLER. Cdre. Sheerness.)
Your 1046/20. Route from position N through O. 049° 30' N
011° 00' W. P. 180° Bishop Rock 10. Q. 180° The Lizard 6½
thence by Q Z S 278 to Plymouth.
2. Adjust speed to arrive at position P at 0600/25.
3. Bishop Light will be showing for 5 minutes at 0400, 0430,
0500 and 0530.
4. Fighter co-operation arranged for daylight 25th.
Codeword "Occasion".
(C. in C. Plymouth 2127A/20 to F.O.C.N.A. (R) Admty. F.O.S.
C. in C. W.A. VIDETTE. WRESTLER.)

PENN. V.A. Malta's 1210B/18. 8 hours late.
LEDBURY. (PENN 1056B/20 to F.O.C.N.A.)
BRAMHAM. Have given LEDBURY 20 tons and he now has sufficient
at present speed. My P.C.S at 1200B, 036° 46' N
000° 01' E 246° 15 knots.
(PENN 1330B/20 to F.O.C.N.A.)

/INDOMITABLE...

War Diary.20.8.1942.
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic - Contd.

- INDOMITABLE. Your 0001/15. Details of damage. Intend undocking and completing temporary repairs 22/8. As far as possible in time available the compartments adjacent to damage which were flooded will be made watertight. (Ad. Supt. Gibraltar 1216A/20 to Admty.)
- GIL EANES. Your 2320/1. Ministry of Marine expressed gratitude to all facilities accorded GIL EANES recent visit to St. Johns N.F. They request this vessel may again visit St. Johns N.F. middle of September and inform me that local authorities have no objection. (N.A. Lisbon 1251A/20 to Admty.)
- PINDOS
M.Ls.
(25th N.L.F.) Arrival Greek PINDOS with Motor Launches 307, 341, 443, 493. (F.O.C.N.A. 1254A/20 to Admty. (R) C. in C. W.A. N.O.I.C. Milford Haven, R.A.W.A. C. in C. S.A. C. in C. Med.)
- U/B. U-Boat sighted in 035° 29' N 008° 22' W at 1110A/20. (F.O.C.N.A. 1515A/20 to S & A, N.A. Stn.)
- FORMOSA
EROS
CAMELIA Swedish ships, FORMOSA 5656 tons, EROS 3182 tons and CAMELIA 1687 tons, left Gibraltar 1600B/20 routed 20 miles south of Cape Spartivento to Piraeus.
2. (Description)
3. Ships are not to be molested if following this route. (F.O.C.N.A. 1536A/20 to 8 S.F. (R) V.A. Malta etc.)
- P.31. My position 038° 50' N 002° 32' E making 95 miles per day. (P.31 1630B/20 to F.O.C.N.A. (R) 8 S.F.) P.31's 1630/20 acknowledged. P.31 is to proceed by route ordered in my 1610/14 to arrive Gibraltar 1500B/24. P.211 will probably overtake P.31 on 23rd. (F.O.C.N.A. 1808A/20 to 8 S/M.F.)
- P.48. The following signals are in Home Commands. (Casualties and Defects.) P.48 1338A/20. Reporting damage and making for Vigo. Asking for assistance. P.48 1455A/20. Cancelling his request for assistance. F.O.S. 1552A/20. Reporting that immediate assistance is impossible and giving technical advice. F.O.S. 1614A/20. Asking Admty to send a destroyer. F.O.S. 1711A/20. Cancelling his 1614A/20. F.O.S. 1712A/20. Acknowledging P.48's 1455A/20.

/P.48 1455...

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War Diary.20.8.1942.
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic- conts:-

P.48. Contd. P.48 1455/20. ALOUETTE being sent to R/V in daylight 21st and escort to Gibraltar. (F.O.C.N.A. 1730A/20 to Admty. (R) F.O.S.) Your 1455/20. Trawler ALOUETTE is proceeding from vicinity of Lisbon to R/V with you in daylight tomorrow 21st and escort you to Gibraltar.
2. ALOUETTE has been informed of your movements.
3. Total bombing restrictions arranged. (F.O.C.N.A. 1736A/20 to P.48 (R) P.219.) *See p. 633.*

BESSEL (German) Consul Vigo's 1216/8 your 1222/25/6 and your 1333/18. Have you verified that guards are placed BESSEL in view of M of M's statement? Presume you will take action on A.M. 1830/13/3, as soon as you suspect movement of BESSEL is imminent or at any time you consider favourable. (N.I.D.20 1908A/20 to N.A. Madrid.) Reply 1116/24.

U/B at Valencia 13-14/8. Your 1222/14, F.O.C.N.A.'s 1216A/14 Consul Valencia 1149/18 to Gibraltar. Confirm that nationality of submarine is Italian and that number is 47. It is not the custom for Italian submarines to carry numbers and U 47 is known to have been sunk. (D.N.I. 1916A/20 to N.A. Madrid (R) Consul Valencia. F.O.C.N.A. S.O.I. Gibraltar.)

O.21 unsuccessful attack on U-Boat. O.21's 1725/16 4 German torpedoes fired 2 of which ran on surface. 2 torpedoes set 3 metres 2 torpedoes set 2½ metres. Matter is being investigated. U-Boat was (?burden) 500 tons, firing range 3000 yards. (Capt. S.8. 2024A/20 to F.O.C.N.A. (R) F.O.S. Admty.)

P.219. Proceed forthwith towards Cape Villano remaining outside neutral waters. Further instructions follow. (F.O.S. 2129A/20 to P.219. (R) Admty. C. in C. Plymouth. F.O.C.N.A. H.Q.C.C. Submarines S of 51°.)

Bombing restrictions damaged U/B. H.Q.C.C.'s 0411/19 to R.A.F. Gibraltar. Suggest western limit of total bombing restrictions be amended forthwith to 012° 01' W to enable aircraft from Gibraltar to operate tomorrow Friday, against damaged U-Boat reported in 043° 00' 017° 00'. (F.O.C.N.A. 2240A/20 to Admty. (R) F.O.S. H.Q.C.C.)

ABBEYDALE QUEEN ELIZABETH. My 1158/19. Sailed R.F.A. ABBEYDALE escorted by BURDOCK, ARMERIA, Q.G.A.96, Q.G.B.124, R.A.W.A. pass to H.M.S. QUEEN ELIZABETH. (F.O.C.N.A. 2241/20 to R.A.W.A. QUEEN ELIZABETH (R) Admty. B.A.D. C. in C. S.A.) See also South Atlantic. *p. 638*

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20.8.1942.
Thursday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic *events:*

- OXFORDSHIRE. Is it intended that OXFORDSHIRE should return to Freetown after repair in U.K. to resume duty as base Hospital Ship?
(C. in C. S.A. 0933/20 to Admty. (R) R.A.W.A.)
Reply: Yes. (M.D.G. 1720A/21.)
- ARAMIS (Raider attack 16-17/7.) R.A.W.A's 1056/6. ARAMIS survivors further report and sketch raider indicates raider H, broadside six guns, over 20 knots. ARAMIS torpedoed by E Boat 2045/16/7 but continued westerly course at full speed. At 1000/17/8 (17/7 intended) sighted two ships now believed raider and supply ship. At 1930/17/8 (17/7 intended) raider approached and gunned. E Boat from supply ship boarded ARAMIS and believed captured Master 3 Executive Officers, W/T Operator and Chief Steward. Sketch of supply ship shows tanker flush decked. Thin funnel aft high bridge amidships, 3 masts. Structures, possibly E Boat housing, 2 forward of bridge, 1 abaft. Survivors number 4 Norwegian, 3 British D.E.M.S. ratings and 11 Chinese. (S.O.I. Freetown 1000Z/20 to Admty. (R) C. in C. S.A.)
- SYLVIA DE LARRINAGA. (sunk 14/8) SS. PORT JACKSON bound U.K. from Montevideo rescued 23 survivors of SS. SYLVIA DE LARRINAGA in about 009° 00' N 033° 48' W on 18/8. 2 other boats known to be steering S.W.
(R.A.W.A. 1045Z/20 to C.T.F.23. (R) Admty.)
- Cable repairs. Request LADY DENISON PENDER may proceed to Accra to repair Accra-Freetown cable. On completion proceed to Freetown to repair another break in same cable. On completion to Bathurst for repairs to Bathurst-Freetown and Bathurst-St. Vincent cable. On completion to Pointe Noire.
(R.A.W.A. 1113Z/20 to C. in C. S.A. (R) Admty.)
- Vichy Convoy. Vichy convoy consisting of 2 merchant ships and 1 escort vessel sighted in 012° 43' N 016° 59' W p.m./18. Course 310° speed 5 knots.
(R.A.W.A. 1128Z/20 to *SIRIUS,* PHOEBE (R) Admty. F.O.C.N.A.)
** Same next page*
- LEIKANGER (torpedoed 27/7.) My 0925/15. LEIKANGER hit by 2 torpedoes and sank in 30 seconds. Survivors rescued from 2 rafts, no boats lowered and doubtful if remaining 18 members of crew including master survived.
(S.O.I. Capetown 1135B/20 to Admty. R.A.W.A. etc.)

/Dispositions...

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War Diary.20.8.1942.
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic - Contd.

Dispositions. SIRIUS, PHOEBE, 3 destroyers, 014° 20' 019° 10' 152° 15.
Allied naval unit 010° 50' 017° 45' to Bathurst thence 269° 13.
(R.A.W.A. 1147Z/20 to A.I.G. 149.)
Fleet unit 2 destroyers 006° 01' 013° 40' to Freetown 14.
(R.A.W.A. 1217Z/20 to Ships in Area 1 of S.A. Station south of 8° N, Admty. etc.)

ARCOLA
TAIGETE.

Neither ARCOLA or TAIGETE has any defect which affects seagoing efficiency but leakage in tank of TAIGETE will require repairing before reloading. Both vessels have been discharged at Freetown and will sail in ballast in accordance with my 1845Z/15.
(R.A.W.A. 1155Z/20 to Admty. S.B.N.Os. Curacao and W.A.)

JACYRA
(Brazilian)

Ref. my 1555Z/19, position should read 14° 30' S 38° 40' W.
(R.O. Bahia 1225Z/20 to Admty. (R) S.O.I. Freetown S.O.I. Montevideo. S.O.I. Rio de Janeiro.)
(Position Amended.)

PATRICK J.
HURLEY.

Overdue shipping. PATRICK J. HURLEY due Capetown 11/8 from Delaware not arrived.
(S.O.I. Capetown 1620B/20 to Admty. etc.)

QUEEN
ELIZABETH,
VIMY.
BRILLIANT.
ABBEYDALE.

Intend to sail H.M.S. QUEEN ELIZABETH for Norfolk escorted by VIMY and BRILLIANT at 1000Z/25.
(ii) Route V. 008° 31' N 014° 31' W.
W. 013° 00' N 025° 00' W. X. 020° 35' N 032° 56' W. Y. 020° 35' N 034° 18' W. Z. 021° 00' N 035° 00' W. A. 024° 00' N 040° 00' W. B. 032° 00' N 062° 00' W thence as ordered by Cominch, S of A 14 knots.

(iii) Tanker ABBEYDALE proceeding Gibraltar escorted by BURDOCK, ARMERIA will R/V in position X at 1400Z/29/8 and position Z at 0830Z/30. VIMY and BRILLIANT will refuel from ABBEYDALE. ABBEYDALE and corvette escort then proceed in accordance with separate orders.

(iv) QUEEN ELIZABETH, VIMY, BRILLIANT will arrive at position A at 1030Z/31 when U.S. destroyer will take over escort of QUEEN ELIZABETH. VIMY and BRILLIANT will then return to West Africa.

(v) QUEEN ELIZABETH will keep W/T watch as follows:

(vi) Anticipated QUEEN ELIZABETH can reach Norfolk with about 20% oil fuel remaining.

(R.A.W.A. 1645Z/20 to B.A.D. (R) Admty. etc.)

Request ABBEYDALE and escort may be ordered to comply with my 1645Z/20 para 3.

(R.A.W.A. 1705Z/20 to F.O.C.N.A. (R) Admty.)

(See also North Atlantic.) p. 636

/RAMILLIES...

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20.8.1942.
Thursday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic - Contd.RAMILLIES
MALAYA
destroyers.

Intend to sail RAMILLIES and MALAYA at 1500Z/23 to (?Gibraltar) escorted by WIVERN, BOREAS, VELOX.
2. Route. A. 008° 31' N 014° 31' W.
B. 010° 29' N 018° 12' W. C. 015° 00' N 020° 00' W. D. 022° 00' N 019° 00' W. E. 023° 00' N 018° 55' W thence as ordered by F.O.C.N.A.

S of A 14 knots.

3. Request Freetown escorting destroyer may be relieved by Gibraltar destroyer at 1700Z/26/8 at position D.

4. Authority will shift to North Atlantic W/T organization at 0900Z/26.

(R.A.W.A. 1735Z/20 to F.O.C.N.A. (R) Admty. etc.)

U/B
MINISTER
WEDEL.

Norwegian ship MINISTER WEDEL at 1430 G.M.T. 9/8 in 08° 52' N 52° 30' W sighted U-Boat on surface distant 4 miles. At 1600 with this U-Boat still in sight a periscope sighted on Port beam 2 cables. Ship zig-zagging. No attack made. In both cases ship used gun.

(S.O.I.) Freetown 1842Z/20 to Admty. (R) Opnav.)

Brazil,
black-out.

Captain of Port states black out including navigation lights now in force on Brazilian coast from Rio de Janeiro to Para including islands (e.g.) Fernando de Noronha. He promises fuller details as soon as possible.

(R.O. Pernambuco 1951Z/20 to Admty. (R) S.O.I. Montevideo, Rio de Janeiro.)

Shipping
routes.

M.A.R.I. Sec. IV para 8 (2) and (6). There is a tendency for routes of ships from South African Ports to Trinidad to be insufficiently spread when west of the line Cape St. Roque/St.Pauls Rocks.

2. There is no northern limit, consistent with bunker endurance, in this area, and a proportion of shipping should be kept well north before turning west.

3. Wide dispersal of routes is essential in view of intensive U/B activity in area west of 45° W between 15° N and S. American Coast.

(D.T.D. 2048A/20 to C. in C. S.A. (R) N.C.S.Os. etc.)

ASTURIAS.

My 2100/18. My E.T.A. 5 hours earlier.
(ASTURIAS 2157Z/20 to R.A.W.A.)

20.8.1942.
Thursday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean.

Malta. Military Sit. Rep. for W/E 15/8/42 (Govr. Malta, No T.O.O./19 Recd. from W.O.1650/20). See Lion Copy.

TAKU. Your 1135/19. My position at 0500C/20, 033° 30' 030° 16'. Intend to proceed on surface during daylight 20th to arrive Beirut dawn 21st. (TAKU, 0145C/20 to Capt. S.l. (R) C. in C. Med., EURYALUS, 235 Wing).

PORPOISE (damaged). Your 0402/20. Pass through 033°10' 026° 47' and 032° 50' 029° 01' thence direct to Alexandria. Fighters will be with you about 0900. (S.O. S/Ms Alex. 0652C/20 to PORPOISE (R) Capt. (S) l. R.A. Alexandria).

Following is a repetition of my 0959 (begins)
HURSLEY (R) BELVOIR R.A. Alexandria, R.A.(D) Med., Capt. S.l., PORPOISE, 201 Group, 252 Wing from C. in C. Med.
My 0859/20, not to all addressees. PORPOISE damaged unable to dive. Estimate her position at 1200 33° 10' N., 26° 47' E. routed to Alexandria through 32° 50' N., 29° 01'E. speed 12 knots. Join PORPOISE with all despatch passing through latter position. 201 Group is requested to provide A/S air protection after dark. Codeword "Market". (Ends).
(C. in C. Med., 1001C/20 to PORPOISE).
2 Hunts being sent now. They should join you at about 1700 on route in S.O. S/M Alexandria's 0652/20.
(C. in C. Med., 0901C/20 to PORPOISE, (R) N.O.I.C. Alexandria, Capt. (S) l., BELVOIR, 201 N.C.Gp. HURSLEY).

Following is a repetition of my 1710C/20. (Begins).
Addressed HURSLEY, 252 Wing (R) PORPOISE R.A. Alexandria, 201 N.C.Group, BELVOIR, Capt. (S) l. N.O.I.C. Port Said. P.C. and S. of PORPOISE at 1330 033° 01' N., 026° 23' E., 094° 13.5 knots. HURSLEY, BELVOIR escorting PORPOISE to Port Said through 032° 50' N., 029° 01' E., and 031° 44' N., 031° 51' E. Request 252 Wing provide fighter protection during daylight 21st. (Ends).
(C. in C. Med., 1716/20 to PORPOISE).

Cositrep No. 487. 2. Air. Night 18/19. Tobruk Harbour bombed. Possible hit on ship. Fires started on shore 1 Wellington missing. Southbound convoy attacked North of Tobruk. Possible torpedo hit on 6,000 ton M/V, followed by smoke and sparks. (C. in C. M.E., 0915G.M.T./20).

P.43
See p 642
(S.F. 7/43)
Cancel my 2240/19. Return by route previously ordered to arrive 1001B/24.
(Capt. S.l., 0943B/20 to P.43 (R) PORPOISE, S/Ms on patrol C. in C, Med., Capt. (S) l, S.O. S/Ms Alex.)
You may have been sighted early this morning.
(Capt. S.l., 1920C/20 to P.43 (R) C. in C. Med., Capt. (S) 10).

MOST SECRET

MOST SECRET M E S S A G E No T.O.O. IN

From Gov. and C. in C. Malta. Date 19.8.42.
Recd. 1915.

Cipher.

To C. in C. Middle East, repeated The War Office.
068639.

Malta Situation

G/3212/R cipher 19th August.

Military situation report for week ending
15th August, 1942.

One. Four merchant vessels and one tanker arrived ex convoy from U.K. out of original 14 ships. Only one of these unscathed. Approx. gross tonnage 47000 mixed cargoes essential foodstuffs ann. Black and white oils. Supply situation will be considerably easier. General relief at arrival though cost fully realised. Two M/V's and two D/R's slipped away from here under cover of operation taking with them 44 German and 15 Italian prisoners from P. of W. cage. Arrived Gibraltar safely.

Two. Army carrying out bulk of unloading operations as few naval personnel to assist. Total 3000 men working in three shifts day and night with civilian assistance are unloading 5000 tons per day and dispersing to field dumps and near consignees. Further 1500 men being provided assistance to R.A.F. servicing refuelling aircraft and ensuring maintenance aerodromes. All available tpt. in use. 150 R.A. personnel working smoke screen. Operation proceeding satisfactorily.

Three. Other than attacks on convoy enemy air activity over Island has consisted of fighter sweeps only and slight night bombing. Total of 32 night bombers few of which crossed coast. Total R.A.F. claims 23 destroyed three probables ten damaged including three destroyed by night fighters. A.A. no claims and few engagements. R.A.F. offensive against Sardinian and Sicilian aerodromes to protect convoy also providing permanent umbrella. Further reinforcement of Spitfires arrived.

640^B

- 2 -

Four. Military casualties nil except 6 O.R.'s wounded on convoy. Reinforcement 31 all ranks details arrived on convoy also 90 carrier pigeons.

War Office Circulation. No T.O.O. Received from War Office 1650/20.

S. of S.	Lt. Col. Rolleston
C.I.C.S.	(Colonial Office)
V.C.I.G.S.	C.N.S. Admiralty.
D.C.I.G.S.	Head of War Reg.
D.M.C.	(Admiralty)
D.D.M.C. (O)(H)	C.A.S. Air Ministry.
M.O. 1, 5, 7.	A.M.C.S. Air Ministry
D.P. (2 copies)	Col. Jacob
D.M.	(Cabinet Offices.)
D.D.M.L. (I)(P/W)	S. of S.
M.I. 3, 9, 14.	Foreign Affairs.
D.R.	
D.D.P.A. (R)	
R.	
D.S.D.	
D.D.S.D.	
S.D. 2.	
D.P.V.	
D.D.P.W.	
P.W. 1.	
D. Air	
Air 1.	
D.Q.M.G.	
Q. (Ops) (6 copies)	
<hr/>	
1st S.L. (2)	
4th S.L. (5)	
V.C.N.S.	
A.C.N.S. (W)	
A.C.N.S. (O) (2)	
C.N.S.	
N.C.M.S. (1)	
N.C.M.S. 1st S.L.	
D.O.D. (F) (2)	
D.D.I.C. (2)	
D. of P. (2)	
D.C. (2)	
Head of M.	
D.N.I. (4)	
D. of P. (1)	
I.P. (2)	
D.P.D.	
W.D.	
Admiral Blake.	
D. of L.D. (2)	
D.N.A.D.	
D.A.C.D.	

20.8.1942.
Thursday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean - Contd.

Operation "Pedestal". Your 1329/18. (Requesting circumstances attending loss of ships and disposal of C.Bs.)

Ship's Name	Circumstances	Time	Position	Disposal of C.Bs. etc.
DEUCALION	Bombed and aerial torpedoed. Abandoned and settling at	2130/12.	Canirock Lighthouse 345° 6 miles.	Thrown over-board in perforated and weighted box and seen to sink in deep water.
DORSET	Bombed and sunk after being on fire	2000/13	Off Lampedusa Island.	As for DEUCALION.
SANTA ELIZA	E-boats, torpedoed, ship abandoned and sunk by bombs from A/C.	0710/13	036° 48' N. 011° 23' E.	In locked and perforated box and sank with ship.
EMPIRE HOPE	Bombed set on fire and abandoned, sunk by PENN.	2100/12	Off Galita Is.	As for DEUCALION except that N.L.O. brought portion of his set to Malta. Enquiry being made re disposal of the others but N.L.O. has left Malta.
WAIMARAMA	Bombed and blew up immediately.	0805/13.	036° 00' N. 012° 00' E.	No reliable information compromise very unlikely.

(V.A. Malta, 1034B/20 to S.O. Force F., (R) Admty F.O.C.N.A.)
Your 1142/16. General cargo discharged by 0700 /20.
(Details).
(V.A.M., 1330B/20 to Admty).

A/S Measures.

I should be glad if you would forward details of any A/S measures which you employ in Straits of Gibraltar and which you consider would apply to Straits of Bad El Mandeb whose defence is now under consideration.
(C. in C. Med., 1410C/20 to F.O.C.N.A. (R)
Admty. F.O.R.S.C.A.)

/Malta...

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20.8.1942.
Thursday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean - Contd.

Malta Air Report. I. 594 20/8. C.S.R. 19th. 1549 and 1707 hours 7 and 8 Spitfires up respectively for raids which turned back before reaching Malta. Night 19/20. 2 alerts. 2110 hours, 1 raider proved to be friendly aircraft approaching without showing I.F.F. 1 Beaufighter made contact but discovered identity of aircraft in time. 0018 hours 2 raiders approached to within 5 miles N. of Gozo, dropped bombs in sea and returned. R.D.F. interference partial for 1 raider, effective for second. 1 Beaufighter up but unable to catch departing enemy. 20th. 2 alerts, 0836 hours and 0858 hours, total of 7 Me. 109s crossed coast at great height, 8 Spitfires up failed to intercept through lack of height. Part 2. 19th. Spitfires continued standing patrol over harbour to protect unloading of convoy. 1400 hrs. delivery aircraft sighted 1 D/R 240° Cape Bon, 11 miles stationary. R/C sighted 0700 hours Tanker 8,000 tons possible tanker under 1,000 tons 4 D/Rs 055°. Cape Spartivento 10 miles, course 035° 10 knots. 12 Beauforts escorted by 12 Beaufighters despatched to attack, (?reports) not yet available. (H.Q., R.A.F., Malta, 1631/20).

ALBA JULIA. My 1256C/17 (?refers to message circulated as (?356/17) re ALBA JULIA). Loading interrupted by (Gr. Mut.) now reported steamer will sail p.m. 21/8. B.3 (Istanbul, 1730C/20 to S.O.(I) Med., (R) D.N.I.)

TURBULENT. You will be required to remain on patrol until 23/8. (Capt. S.1., 1752C/20 to TURBULENT (R) C. in C. Med., S.O.(S) Alexandria).

Situation Report 255. Casualties in PRINCESS MARGUERITE Army 44 missing 56 injured, Merchant Service, 3 injured, 5 Chinese missing. 2. My 1937/19 para. 4 Dockyard personnel were sailed with DIDO as special case. Repair base* not yet in operation. 3. Submarines. P.43 estimates one hit on southbound 5,000 merchant ship off Paxos Island 0343/20. (C. in C. Med., 1948C/20 to Admty) (*W.D. Note - DIDO docked at Massawa).

War Diary.20.8.1942.
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies.

TRUANT, Your 0519/25/7. TRUANT and TRUSTY will be
TRUSTY. fitted with type 291 on return to U.K. Probable
that only one of the two submarines to relieve
TRUANT and TRUSTY will be fitted with R.D.F.
To provide for the second relief and also to provide spares
two complete sets of 291 including aerials will be despatched
to Eastern Fleet in September. To which base should these
stores be sent?
(D.S.D., 0436A/20 to F.O.I.C. Ceylon, (R) D.C. in C. E.F.,
F.O.S., Capt. S.4.)

Indian Following received from F.L.O. Delhi under T.O.O.
Repatriates. 1152Z/19 (begins) C. in C. E.F., (corrupt group)
from F.L.O. Delhi. F.O.C.R.I.N's 0921Z/18
to Admty., (R) D.C. in C. E.F. (re return passage
of CITY OF PARIS.)
It is particularly desired to keep Indian repatriates under
observation during return passage to India, for security
reasons. (Ends).
(C. in C. E.F., 0817Z/20 to Admty.)

K.15, K.14. Your 1317/19 and my 1321/17.
Request you will divert K.15 and K.14 to East
London for servicing by COLOMBIA before onward
passage to U.S.A.
(C. in C. E.F., 0937Z/20 to C. in C. S.A., (R) K.14, K.15,
C. in C. Netherlands Forces in East, Admty., etc.)

IRONCLAD. It may be desirable to change the name of
GENERAL trawler IRONCLAD back to GENERAL FOCH.
FOCH. 2. (a) Is there a suitable British Craft who
can be re-christened IRONCLAD?
(c) Free French state GENERAL FOCH was
originally requisitioned by French Navy and had
status of man of war. Can you confirm her back history?
3. Future status of GENERAL FOCH is not yet determined.
(A.C.N.S. F. 1317A/20 to D.C. in C. E.F. (R) C. in C. E.F.
C. in C. S.A. N.O.I.C. Diego Suarez.)

Convoy 1. A.P.1 (2 ships) 2. 1100Z/20. 3. 0400Z/24
A.P.1. in 22° 40' 61° 30'. 4. 13½ knots.
5. Route. 6. FROBISHER. 10. 13½ TAKLIWA,
15 BERGENSFJORD. 12. TAKLIWA E.T.A. Rooka
Float 0300Z/27. BERGENSFJORD E.T.A. Rooka Float
2000Z/26.
(N.C.S.O. Aden 1432Z/20 to Admty. S.N.O.P.G. etc)

War Diary.20.8.1942.
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies - Contd.Air
Report.

Intelligence summary No. 158 period 24 hours ending 1800 hours 20/8.
 1 Catalina detailed search S/M which unsuccessfully torpedo attacked Allied Merchantman GAZANA 50 miles S.E. Border Ceylon 19/8. Hudson escorting SS. ITINDA unsuccessfully attacked enemy 4 engined Flying Boat 18/8, enemy aircraft similar lines Catalina believed Navy 97 Flying Boat. Turret. Side guns position similar Sunderland. Nose gun on scarf ring. All guns opened fire from 600 to 700 yards. Raid poor, only Hudson aerial shot away. Remainder sea R/C negative.
 (Air H.Q. India 1503/20.)

C.O.
(Fortress)
Diego
Suarez.

For M.O.5 Sitrep 12/8 to 18/8.
 121 Force. Diego Suarez fortress. Maj-Gen. Smallwood assumed command 13/8.
 (G.O. C. in C. E. Africa 1525/G.M.T./20 to W.O.)

ANTHONY.

My 1314Z/15. ^{1/N.T.A.H.D.} Request confirmation ANTHONY has sailed.
 (C. in C. E.F. 1614Z/20 to C. in C. S.A.)

War Diary.

20.8.1942.
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies

U/Bs Weak interception from unknown ship report S/M 022° 20', 077° 46' 0342 G.M.T. 20/8. (S.O.(I) Kingston, 0016Q/20 to Admty. B.A.D., C.G.S.F., C. C.S.F., Opnav). Key West reports S/M 1820Q/19 23.28, 82.38. (S.O.(I) Jamaica, 0021Q/20 to Admty, B.A.D.)

53 A/C Sqdn. Your A.917 17/8 (N.T. in W.R.) After carrying Trinidad, out sweeps en route from Quonset to Trinidad, A/S attacks. first 17 aircraft of 53 Sqdn. commenced operations from Trinidad on 10/8. 2. On 15/8 and 16/8, 4 attacks on submarines were made. Details will be forwarded as soon as available. 3. Signal has been sent to Squadron asking for comments on white paint in tropics. (Rafdel, 0100Z/20 to H.Q.C.C.)

SS. QUEEN This is repetition Port Director New York 0018/20 ELIZABETH. "Eastseafron, Connav, (R) Com. 3, Admty, N.S.H.Q., 0018/20. New York, 19 /8. H.M.T. QUEEN ELIZABETH arrived Ambrose Light vessel 2015Z". (Connav, 0220/20 to N.S.H.Q. Admty).

SYLVIA DE PORT JACKSON has reported rescue on 18/8 of 23 LARRINAGA. survivors from SYLVIA DE LARRINAGA position (sunk 14/8). 09.00 N., 33.50 W., 2 other boats known to be in vicinity steering S.W. (D.T.D., 1113A/20 to Connav (R) C. in C W.A., R.A.W.A.)

B.R.O. Owing to altering routeing situation in Caribbean Caribbean. it has been decided to transfer British Routeing Officer from San Pedro de Macoris to Ciudad Trujillo. B.A.D. and U.S. Navy Dept. agree. Minister Ciudad Trujillo's telegram 119 of 10/8 to F.O. refers. Date of transfer will be reported (S.B.N.O.W.A., 1134P/20 to Admty).

S/M Attack Cominch's 1922/10 to Admty (delivery by Comnav), and sighting informs as follows:- Summary. Para. (A). ANNIBAL BENEVOLO, and ARARAQUARA torpedoed and sunk about 11.50 S., 37.00 W., 0200Z/15 and 0030Z/16. IAGIBA and ARARA torpedoed and sunk about 13.20 S., 38.40 W., 1330Z and 1350Z /17. BLANKAHOLM torpedoed and sunk about 19.52 N., 76.32 W., 18/8. WAWALOAM (Vessel boarded and set afire. Probably U.45 type). CRANFORD (U.88 type No. 117 in large letters on C/T, also shield of City of Hamburg and circular plate with letters VK). Plane attacked half-submerged S/M 13.52 S., 38.00 W., 1620Z/18, S/M returns M/G fire, possibly damaged.

/Para. (B)....

20.8.1942.
Thursday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies - ConTs:-

S/M attack
and sighting
summary.
Contd.

Para. (B). CHILORE and BAEPENDY 2 torpedo hits each. R.M. PARKER, JR., 2 torpedo hits 5 shells. Later information indicates following corrected positions of attacks on S/Ms: 06.42 N., 52.31 W., 2025Z/17, 12.00 N., 64.10 W. 1940Z/17 possibly damaged. Plane attacks S/M on surface 11.50 N., 60.38 W., 0410Z/11/7. S/M reported 22.30 N., 77.57 W., 0800Z/19. Plane sights S/M on surface 41.40 N., 69.52 W., 1310Z/19. Plane attacks submarine on surface 06.50 N., 52.20 W., 1115Z/19. Plane sights S/M 20.31 N., 81.03 W., 1745Z/19. Plane attacks S/M on surface 11.38 N., 67.42 W., about 2030Z/19.

Para. (C). Later information indicates attack on sound contact at 2359Z/2 reported my 032058. Surface craft attacks sound contact 33.00 N., 76.33 W., 1514Z/16/7; 27.19 N., 64.24 W., 1550Z/16/7; 11.54 N., 60.30 W., 0300Z/9/8. Surface craft attacks S/M 24.03 N., 82.10 W., 0129Z/5. S/M sighted twice 11.44 S., 37.23 W., 17/8. (Comnav, 1137/20 to Admty).

St. Lucia
Mines.

My 2105Q/3 (Positions of mines swept, in reply to A.M.1456/3) After correlating all available evidence, following amended positions are considered more accurate.

Bearing and Distance.	From Tapion Rock Light.
88°	360 yards
338°	240 yards
339°	575 yards,
44°	170 yards.

Full report will be forwarded to B.A.D. and Admty by Bureau of Ordnance, Washington. Lieut. Killion of this department has just completed visit.

(B.R.O. St. Lucia, 1220Q/20 to Admty)

Convoy
Formation.

During recent daylight attacks on convoys a large number of hits have been scored from what appear to be single salvos of torpedoes.

It is proposed if you concur that columns of convoys exposed to U-boat rather than air attack should be opened from 3 to 5 cables by day to reduce the density of the target. Request very early reply.

(A.C.N.S. (T) 1222Z/20 to Connav).

This is restricted. Your 1222Z/20 concur. (Connav, 1853/20 to Admty).

U/B

U-boat estimated your area by D/F at 0956Z/20th has made sighting report of a convoy or important unit. Uncertain. 11068.

(Cominch, 1236/20 to C.T.U. No. 24.1.13 (R) U.S. Cruiser, WICHITA, C.T.U. No. 24.1.16. C.T. 24. C. in C. Lant, C.O.A.C., N.S.H.Q.)

War Diary.20.8.1942.
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America & West Indies - Contd.

O.15

Your 1428Z/7 ^{18T. 24D.} proposing sailing N. S/M O.15 to Halifax about 18/8. Request information as to date of this sailing as supplies are running low. Carrying out engine repairs, anticipate completion 23/8.
(S/M O.15 1340Z/20 to C.O.A.C., (R) Admty. N.S.H.Q. Capt. (D) Halifax).

Towage of
A.F.D. 24.
BOLD.

My 2125/3 para. 2 and 3. As a preliminary move am asking U.S. Authorities to sail BOLD in convoy from Norfolk (Virginia) to Trinidad on completion of working up about 27/8.

(2) Suggest BOLD either (a) proceeds thence to Far East independently via Freetown or (b) carries out salvage duties at Trinidad until arrival of 1st group B.Y.M.S. about early October and proceed in company with them to Freetown.
(B.A.D., 1545Z/20 to Admty. (R) C. in C. E.F., D. C. in C. E.F., C. in C. S.A., R.A.W.A., S.B.N.O.W.A., N.O.I.C. Trinidad).

VANQUISHER,
VANOC,
VERITY.

Your 1421/19. In view of delay to SALISBURY which 2 ships of VANQUISHER, VANOC, and VERITY should be sailed on arrival of GEORGETOWN and MANSFIELD?
(C.O.A.C., 1548Z/20 to C. in C. W.A. (R) Admty. N.S.H.Q., F.O.C.N.A., F.O.N.F. C.T.F. 24).

*for reply see 21/8 - p. 652.*SHIPPIGAN,
QUALICUM.

Admty. 1714A/6. (1) Intend to sail SHIPPIGAN and QUALICUM in company on 21/8 by great circle from St. Johns N.F. to Londonderry.

(2) Speed $11\frac{1}{2}$ knots. (3) W/T Watch broadcast "L". QUALICUM shifts to B.N. in 042° W., and SHIPPIGAN in 028° W. (4) Corvette establishment of S.P.'s including current tables.
(5) Cdre. Londonderry is requested to arrange onward routing to Scapa.
(F.O.N.F., 1606Z/20 to Admty. A.C.O.S. C. in C. Londonderry, (R) C. in C. W.A., C. in C. Rosyth, Canadian High Commr, in London. Cmdre. WESTERN ISLES. Connav, SHIPPIGAN, QUALICUM C.T. 24.7).

U/B
Positions.

S/M estimate 20/8 and U.S. S/M notices.
(Cominch, 1621/20, 2009/20).

Routeing,
Cape Horn.

Unless the contrary is specifically stated ships arriving in Panama Canal bound for South Africa are to be routed via Magellan or Cape Horn.
(D.T.D., 1622A/20 to B.R.O. Cristobal, (R) N.S.H.Q., S.O.(I) Jamaica). Amended See 1623A/22.

/Reporting...

War Diary.

20.8.1942.
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies. - Contd.

Reporting
Routes of
Merchant
Shipping.

Your 1715/16. It is understood that all ships proceeding beyond Trinidad call at that port for inclusion in E convoy and are given onward route from dispersal point by Trinidad. It appears therefore that original onward route issued by U.S.A. port is always modified by Trinidad and is unimportant to Admiralty and S.O.(I) Jamaica. (D.T.D., 1728A/20 to N.S.H.Q. (R) Connav, S.O.(I) Jamaica).

U/B
Campaign.

Connav Serial No. 20. JACYRA Brazilian Sch. torpedoed 19/8 16.39 S., 39.5 W. EMPIRE CLOUD and BRITISH CONSUL both torpedoed 19/8 approx. 11.40 N., 62.30 W., in convoy T.A.W.-S WEST CELINA Serial No. 19 also this convoy, not T.A.W. 15. DODOC Serial No. 17 refloated. BLANKAHOLM sunk.
(Connav, 2106/20 to Comnav (R) NS.H.Q. S.O.(I) Kingston, Coms. E.S.F., C.S.F., G.S.F., P.S.F.)

Indian Ocean
Danger Area.

Your 1652Z/13. Adm. King is in personal agreement of action proposed.
(B.A.D., 2119Z/20 to Admty. (R) C. in C. E.F., C. in C. S.A., Navy Office Melbourne, F.O.I.C. Ceylon).

U/B

Paramaribo reports 1410 G.M.T. S/M sighted 007° 45' N., 054° 00' W., U.S. fighter bombers sent out. (S.O.(I) Kingston, 2155Q/20 to Admty for D.N.I., S.B.N.O. W.A., B.A.D., N.O.I.C. Port of Spain, Com. Carib., Connav).

Size of
S.C. Convoys.

C.O.A.C. Halifax's 1316Z/20 and C.T.F.24 's 1625Z/20 (N.T. in W.D. of either). In our opinion no S.C. convoy should contain more than 40 ships with present strength of western local and mid ocean escorts which are 5 and 6 escorts respectively. Factors consider are (A) Present strength of U-boats in mid Atlantic (B) Difficulty in effecting diversion of slow convoys (C) Our bitter experience with S.C.94 and other slow convoys.
2. At the same time with average S.Cs. recent running at 35 to 40 ships the shutting out of about 40 ships from S.C.97 will produce a block in shipping which will take a long period to clear unless special escort group can be found to move these extra ships.
(N.S.H.Q., 2225Z/20 to C. in C. U.S. Fleet (R) C.T.F.24., C.O.A.C., Admty B.A.D., N.M.C.S. Washington, N.O.I.C. Sydney C.B.) Reply of Admiralty: 1637Z/21.

War Diary.

20. 8. 1942.
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Australia & New Zealand.

CANBERRA
(sunk 8/8).

My 0532Z/15. General MacArthur is announcing loss of CANBERRA in G.H.Q. communique being issued at 0200Z/20.
(A.C.N.B., 0056Z/20 to Admty (R) B.A.D.)

Situation.

Digest Serial No. 210 20/8.
2. R/C Shortland Is. Area 19/8 indicated minimum enemy force including 2 light cruisers, 2 destroyers, 1 converted seaplane tanker 2 M/Vs 6 floatplanes and possibly 6 flying boats operating Faisi Fauro Area. Latest reports indicate force operating principally Faisi.
3. 5 B.17s attacked shipping Faisi 0450Z/19 without effect.
4. Enemy heavy cruiser 2 funnels reported arriving Buka Passage from west 2112/18 and departing to west 0200/19.
5. 17 fighters 6 bombers reported on Lae Aerodrome 0800/19.
6. 3 Hudsons attacked Beco 18/8, buildings hit.
(G.H.Q., S.W. Pacific, 0642Z/20 to Admty).

Escort
Vessels.
Minesweepers
production.

Your 0318B/8, concur. It is assumed that any allocation of Australian construction which might become necessary would be arranged through Governmental channels.
(A.C.N.B., 1301Z/20 to Adty. (R) C.N.S. Ottawa, N.Z.N.B., F.O.C.R.I.N., B.A.D.)

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Submarines Reported.

Approx. positions.
(D.D.I.C., 1419A/20 1421A/20).

21.8.1942.
Friday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

S/M P.219 was ordered at 0024A today to proceed to a position off Cape Ortegal, to attack the enemy tanker which was attacked by aircraft on 19/8 and 20/8.

44 aircraft of Bomber Command laid mines last night in enemy waters in the Baltic and off the west coast of France.

Several ground mines were detonated in the Sheerness area yesterday and today.

Revised instructions for reporting by merchant ships fitted with H/F were issued by the Admiralty today.

South Atlantic.

At 0603 G.M.T. today SS. NARBO reported that she was shelling a submarine which was following her in 24° 51' S 5° 18' E (about 500 miles W by S of Walvis Bay.)

SS. CITY OF WELLINGTON was sunk by a submarine at 2049Z today in 7° 29' N 14° 52' W (about 120 miles S.W. of Freetown.)

Mediterranean.

Operation
"Pedestal"

C. in C. Med reports that UNA landed a sabotage party near Catania on the night 11/12 August. The operation (apparently at the aerodrome) was carried out according to plan. Three officers and 3 other ranks are missing.

At 1618 today a large tanker escorted by 5 destroyers was attacked and stopped by 9 Malta Beauforts who fired 12 torpedoes at it in 39° 21' N 20° 14' E (10 miles S.E. of Corfu) and the escort was shot up by Beaufighters and one of the destroyers was hit by a 250lb bomb.

/The 'convoy...

21.8.1942.
Friday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT.

Mediterranean. - Contd.

The convoy later proceeded at 10 knots and P. 35 on patrol was warned. The tanker was located beached at Corfu on 24/8 where it was unsuccessfully attacked on that day. The Air Ministry on 22/8 inquired the reason for the failure of so many torpedoes to score hits.

It is reported that 2 or possibly 3 ships were hit when Tobruk was bombed last night. Aerodromes in Crete were bombed today. This evening, British and U.S. Liberators attacked a convoy believed to consist of a tanker, 2 merchant vessels and a destroyer 125 miles N.N.E. of Tobruk and possibly hit the two merchant vessels.

21.8.1942.
Friday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Policy.

WARWICK
CASTLE,
BATORY,
LLANGIBBY
CASTLE,
REINA DEL
PACIFICO.

To be taken in hand for fitting as L.S.I (L).
Port. Glasgow, Greenock, Greenock, Liverpool.
3. Ships will remain under red ensign.
(D. of S.T., 0316A/21).

H.F.
Cruiser
Squadrons.

(1) Cancel my 1955/16 and my 1528/20. Ships of the 10th C.S. will now form integral part of 18th C.S. for all purposes.
(2) As a temporary measure ships of 1st C.S. will be under the orders of F.O. 18th C.S. Routine administrative matters will continue to be dealt with in office of F.O. 1st C.S. but papers which require personal attention of a F.O. should be sent to F.O. 18th C.S.
(C. in C. H.F., 1239A/21).

M.T.B.48

Your 1921/20 approved.
(D.D.O.D. (C), 1526A/21 to V.A. Dover).

Defence of United Kingdom.

Iceland
A.A. defence.

Consequent upon the coming into service of GRAF ZEPPELIN, possibly this winter, question has recently been raised with U.S. Army authorities in London of the necessity to review A.A. defences of Iceland (C) in light of this new threat. Tip and run raid during the winter appears an attractive proposition for enemy. Information has been received from Americans that Lieutenant Colonel Henricks U.S. Army is flying to Iceland (C) tomorrow Saturday to discuss A.A. layout with General Bonesteel.
(A.C.N.S. (H), 1951A/21 to A.C.I.C.)

Movements.

30 M.L.F.

Admty. pass to U.S. and Canadian Authorities. My 1028/17. Will not sail owing to weather.
(N.O.I.C. Stornoway 1034A/21).

13th M.S.F.

My 1243/20 sailed Needles 1005/21.
(C. in C. Portsmouth, 1038A/21).

VANQUISHER,
VERITY.

Your 1548/20*^{1p.447}VANQUISHER and VERITY.
(C. in C. W.A., 1107Z/21 to C.O. Atlantic Escort vessels).
*Presumably C.O.A.C. Halifax is intended re 2 ships to be sailed on arrival of GEORGETOWN and MANSFIELD.

/Escort...

War Diary.21.8.1942.
Friday.HOME COMMANDS.Movements.- Contd.

- Escort of
RODNEY. C. in C. H.F. 1422A/20 para. A. INGLEFIELD, ECLIPSE and WINDSOR are to continue with RODNEY to escort her to Rosyth, parting company at Eyebroughy 2 buoy and then returning to Scapa. (R.A.(D) 1131A/21 to INGLEFIELD).
- Burner
Group. Weather delays sailing of Burner Group conditions permitting intend sailing Groups as follows. (F.O.I.C. Milford Haven, 1233A/21).
- Force F. F.O.C.N.A's 1014/19. Onward route from (H) to (J) 051° 25' N., 018° 01' W. (K) 055° 28', 008° 35' thence to Clyde. (C. in C. W.A., 1250A/21 to S.O. Force F).
- P.247 Arrangements for sailing escorted by WHITE BEAR at 1000A/23 for Gibraltar. (Capt. (S) 3 1430A/21).
- 8th M.G.B. F. Cancel A.M.1958/10/7. C. in C. Plymouth is requested to sail the 8th M.G.B. Flotilla to Felixstowe as soon as possible. (D.D.O.D. (C), 1537A/21 to C. in C. Plymouth).
- WHITEHALL WHITEHALL is urgently required for escort duty Request she may be sailed to arrive Tobermory 7/9. (C. in C. W.A., 1559A/21 to C. in C. Nore).
- NELSON,
escort. C. in C. W.A. (?1002) 20th. Cancel para. (C) of my 1422/20 not to WILTON. WILTON, INTREPID and ICARUS will escort NELSON to Scapa. (C. in C. H.F., 1755/21 to R.A.D. H.F., (R) Admty. C. in C. W.A., N.O.I.C. Greenock WILTON, NELSON).
- M.M.S.90
203, 212. C. in C. W.A. is requested to sail M.M.S 90, 203 and 212 to arrive Reykjavik 2/9 A.C.I.C. is requested to sail these vessels to join the next P.Q. convoy. Endurance 2,500 miles at 9 knots, 3,250 miles at 7 knots, with extra fuel; this is being carried in drums on upper deck. This fuel is to be used first. (A.C.N.S. (H) 1825A/21)
- A.F.D. XVII Admiralty's 1913/19. Consider it is essential to hold a conference with tug masters before sailing. Request therefore that tugs arrive on day before A.F.D. XVII.
2. Request information as to provision of escorts. C.O. of ships detailed should also attend conference. (C. in C. Plymouth, 1929A/21 to Admty).

21.8.1942.
Friday.

War Diary.HOME COMMANDS.Operations.

- P.219 Cancel my 2129/20.
1. Proceed diving by day to position 360° Cape Ortegat 10 miles.
 2. Altmark class Tanker was attacked by aircraft and hit twice during night 19/20 and was last seen in position 43° 57' N., 08° 00' W., at 0004/20 steering 130°
 3. At 2019/20 D/F of signal placed an enemy surface ship (Which may have been the Altmark class tanker) within 50 miles of 43° 40' N., 08° 20' W., possibly indicating that ship is anchored in a bay.
 4. Sunderland aircraft are searching tonight and air search will continue tomorrow.
(F.O.S., 0024A/21 to P.219).
 1. Leave patrol after dark tonight 21st proceeding through (A) 043° 20' N., 010° 02' W., thence position (L) in F.O.C.N.A. 1340A/17 unless otherwise ordered by F.O.C.N.A. Proceed dived by day North of 043° N.
 2. Shift wireless watch at 0800A/22 to A.F.O. "S" series one/42 section N.A. Table 2 (1) line 10.
 3. Bombing restrictions on home station are being arranged.
(F.O.S., 1721A/21 to P.219). *See p.662.*

Operation Hospital unit will be distributed between Kola
E.U. Inlet and Archangel. Disposal of personnel
and stores.

(S.B.N.O. Polyarno, 0825A/21 to TUSCALOOSA).
Russian Hurricanes and Tomahawks will escort you for final 60 miles. Two Hunts and four Minesweepers E.T.A. Kola Inlet from Archangel 2100A/23.
(S.B.N.O. North Russia, 1043A/21).

Danish My 2131/20. The report that the crew of one
Trawlers. vessel resisted arrest is now known to be
incorrect.

(N.O.I.C. Leith and Granton, 1051/21).
Ref. my 0928/20 and N.O.I.C. Leith and Granton's 2131/20/8 (S)
Name of vessel STAUSHOLM. Re disposal of crew.
(F.O.I.C. Aberdeen, 1215/21).

"C" Type A.M. 1346/6. Request you will arrange for one of
M.G. Bs. these "C" Type M.G. Bs. to be sailed so as to arrive
Falmouth by 23/8 for special operation.
Remaining three "C" Type M.G. Bs. to be sailed to
Yarmouth as soon as possible.

On completion of the special operation referred to above. C. in
C. Plymouth is requested to sail the MG.B. detailed to Yarmouth.
(D.D.O.D. (C), 1538A/21 to C. in C. Portsmouth).

Western Arrived "ORACLE."
Channel (F.O.I.C. Milford Haven, 1639A/21).
M.T.B.
patrol.

21.8.1942.
Friday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operations. - Contd.

Dover For night of 21/22 August.
Patrols. M.Ls. 146 and 151 from Ramsgate patrolling between Dumpton and North East Spit Buoys E.T.D. 2110. E.T.R. 0515/22.
The following Anti E-boat patrols from 2130.
M.L. 139 and R.M.L. 513 from Newhaven at C. one Buoy.
FYLDEA and SARPEDON at "D" Buoy.
ADAM and ALEXANDRITE at No. 4 Buoy.
M.G. Bs. 41, S. 2, 46, and M.Ls. 210 and 125 at 15 minutes notice in Dover in readiness to patrol at South Varne and No. 7 buoys respectively if weather moderates.
(V.A. Dover, 1712A/21).

Enemy Tanker SS. ERMLAND. A.M. 1554A/17/8. This tanker was confirmed by photographic R/C to be in 44° 12' N., 08° 17' W. at 1822A/19 course 240° and after being attacked by aircraft was last seen in position 43° 57' N. 08° 00' W., at 0004A/20 steering east at high speed. It is therefore considered this vessel has again put back to a Biscay port.
2. At 1750A/19/8 a vessel resembling SS. ERMLAND 6,500 tons and believed to be an outward bound blockade breaker which according to photographic intelligence had left Bordeaux by 17/8 August was photographed in 43° 58' N., 07° 48' W., course 260°. This vessel is believed to have been still in the vicinity of Cape Ortegal at 2019A/20 but may have since continued its outward passage.
(D.D.I.C., 1841A/21).

Operation "Outward". Terminated 2015 owing to local conditions.
(A.B.O. Oldstairs, 2015A/21).

Operation "Jubilee". Amendment.
(GLENGYLE, 2044/21 to C. in C. Portsmouth).

Allied Air Operations.

Enemy tanker. Request you will forward a report on the steps taken to locate and destroy the enemy tanker against which aircraft were operating on 19/8 in the Bay of Biscay.
(1st S.L., 1016A/21 to C. in C. C.C.)

Aircraft in North Russia. Request information of date when Hampdens and Catalinas will be able to operate from North Russia.
(C. in C. H.F., 1109A/21 to Admty).

Operation "Knocker". First plane airborne 1050Z.
(A.C.I.C., 1200A/21).
Operation cancelled for today aircraft are being recalled.
(A.C.I.C., 1310A/21).

War Diary.21.8.1942.
FridayHOME COMMANDS.Allied Air Operations - Contd.811 and
819
Squadrons.Re employment.
(R.A.N.A.S., 1208A/21, 1210A/21).Bomber
Command
report.

Day 20/8. 16 Lancasters set off to make a further attack on the tanker off Cape Ferrol damaged on the previous day but failed to locate their target. 6 Whitleys of 10 O.T.U. were engaged in anti-submarine patrol W. of the Bay of Biscay the patrol was completed without incident. 3 Lancasters were engaged in anti-shipping over the Bay of Biscay, their task was completed but no targets were found.

Night 20/21 August. During the night 60 aircraft took off on minelaying operations which extended over a very wide area. Out of these aircraft 14 Wellingtons of 1 Group, 8 Stirlings and 12 Wellingtons of 3 Group and 10 Lancasters successfully laid mines in enemy waters.
(H.Q.B.C., 1600A/21).

P.R.U.

Request photographic R/C at earliest opportunity of Nantes, St. Nazaire, La Pallice, Royan, Pauillac, Bordeaux, Ferrol and Corunna to locate Altmark class tankers and other shipping.
(D.D.I.C., 1708A/21 to H.Q.C.C.)

RODNEY

Expect escort by one section of Fulmars from first light 22nd until vicinity Montrose of one section of Spitfires until arrival May Island.
(C. in C. Rosyth, 2325A/21 to RODNEY, INGLEFIELD, ECLIPSE, WINDSOR).Mining.Operation
S.N.73CASTLETON sailed 0804/21.
(A.C.I.C., 1001A/21)Operation
Q.K.3 A.My 1016/20. Operation cancelled.
(C. in C. Nore, 1155A/21).

Start Bay

Ref. my 1430/19. A further 9 moored mines have been accounted for on 19/8 and 20/8 in Q.Z.X. 787 and Q.Z.X. 793 as follows.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 1514/21).Operation
"Tincture."Request you will repeat Operation "Tincture" by p.m./22, in the manner described in my 1207/10/9/41.
(D.M.S., 1700A/21 to F.O.I.C. Milford Haven).

War Diary.21.8.1942.
Friday.HOME COMMANDS.U-boats.

- U/B Report. Bearings on 8470 k/cs at 2040Z indicate U-boat in area within 30 miles of 58° 20' N., 20° W. (D.D.I.C., 0008A/22 to A.C.I.C., C. in C. W.A., H.Q.C.C.)
- Air attacks on U/Bs. Am over enemy S/M in 60° 13' N., 19° 12' W. (15 Group, 0454Z/21). Enemy submarine previously reported was on surface and observed to submerge on a course 180° speed 8 knots. Have attacked with depth charges. My position 60° 15' N., 19° 12' W. (15 group, 0505Z/21). Am over enemy submarine in 60° 15' N., 15° 15' W. (A.O.C. 15 Gp. C.C., 0811/21). Enemy submarine previously reported periscope only sighted. Submarine has dived in 60° ? N., 15° 15' W. (corrupt group) (A/C 15 Gp. 0813/21).
- Informing P.219. An outward bound U/B may be in your immediate vicinity today. (D.D.I.C., 1009A/21 to P.219).
- U/B report. D/F bearings on 7640 k/cs at 1058Z indicate U-boat within 30 miles of 59° 20' N., 19° 30' W. (D.D.I.C., 1241A/21 to A.C.I.C., C. in C. W.A., H.Q.C.C.)
- Off Strathie Pt. Unconfirmed report from Police of submarine 2 miles off shore neighbourhood of Strathie Point surfacing westerly course. Air and surface search carried out with negative result. (A.C.O.S., 1408A/21 to VICTORIOUS, RODNEY, (R) C. in C. H.F.)
- U/B report. D/F bearings on 4412 k/cs at 1418Z indicate U-boat within 45 miles of Stadtlandet. Probably bound for Atlantic. (D.D.I.C., 1611A/21 to S/Ms on patrol N. of 51° N., C. in C. H.F., A.C.O.S., H.Q.C.C., F.O.S.)
- Air attacks on U/B. Have attacked enemy with depth charges and estimate nil hits. (A/C P. of P.B.O. Sqn. 1730Z/21). Am over enemy submarine in 59° 20' N., 21° 16' W. enemy on surface and observed to submerge. (A/C 15 Gp. No T.O.O./21-). Intercept at 1851 G.M.T. 500 k/cs de Port Patrick Radio begins:- SSSS following received from GKO at 1802 G.M.T./21. At 1751 NERK V73L submarine sighted and attacked lat. 59° 20' N. lon. 21° 16' W., at 1655 G.C.T., 1845 G.M.T./21. Port Patrick Radio controlling station. (Wick Radio, No T.O.O./21). Dropped remaining two bombs on suspicious Wake. No hits observed. (A.O.C. 15 Group., 2040/21).

/Carry...

21.8.1942.
Friday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

U-boats - contd.

Air Attacks on U/B. Contd. Carry on search. No strike. (39 Sqdn. 2058/21 to A/C "C" of Q.27 Sqdn.)

U/B report. Bearings on 11068 k/cs at 2012Z indicate U-boat in area within 30 miles of 48° 30' N., 17° 30' W. (D.D.I.C., 2355A/21 to CHESHIRE, Escorts of S.L.118).

Miscellaneous.

Mutiny in ROSELYS. 32 ratings from F.S. ROSELYS mutinied at about 1530/20. Cause of mutiny is apparently a complaint about punishment awarded by C.O. to one of crew and the 32 men left ship with intention of going to London to H.Q., F.N.F.L. to place grievance before Admiral Auboyneau. The matter is being dealt with by C.O. F.S. ROSELYS and F.R.N.O. Greenock who have sent 3 ringleaders to Portsmouth and remainder are under arrest in H.M.S. CARRICK at their request. Admiral Auboyneau has been informed and agrees with action taken. Written report follows. Movement of F.S. ROSELYS up river tomorrow Saturday will take place 22nd. (N.O.I.C. Greenock, 1826/21 to C. in C. W.A.)

Casualties & Defects.

CHESHIRE. My 1930/18. Damage on port bow exposes hole to existing north westerly swell. Cannot maintain speed of convoy on this course as number 2 lower hold is now full ship drawing about 30 feet forward. Bulkhead between 1 and 2 holds may go. To avoid further damage am leaving convoy and proceeding with (corrupt group) 060° 6. Even if weather moderates consider inadvisable to proceed west of position to destination.

(CHESHIRE, 0801Z/21 to Admty (R) C. in C. W.A. FOLKESTONE).

FOLKESTONE's 1140/21. Decode my B.N.304 and comply with my 1918 estimated position CHESHIRE at 1500A/21 047° 37' N., 017° 18' W. thence (V) and as routed.

(C. in C. W.A., 1515A/21 to BLYSKAWICA).

In accordance with your 1515A/21 parted company SKATE, SABRE in 51° 27' N., 17° 06' W., at 1615A/21 their course 216° 7 knots. My expected position at 0330A/22 48° 54' N., 14° 14' W. course 236° 10 knots. Anticipating meeting CHESHIRE 0700A/22. Weather report 6165 1968.

(BLYSKAWICA, 2004A/21 to C. in C. W.A.) *See next page.*

EAGLE survivors. My 1126A/21. ICARUS and INTREPID arrived each with 2 Officers and 20 ratings survivors from EAGLE. Total 44. (N.O.I.C. Greenock, 1228A/21)

659

War Diary.21.8.1942.
Friday.HOME COMMANDS.Casualties & Defects. - Contd.

ARGUS ARGUS is required to be ready for service by 28/9
2. It is essential that the ship should be docked
and as many defects remedied as possible. No As.
and As can be undertaken.
3. Ship can be taken in hand by Messrs. Palmers, Hebburn-on-
Tyne on arrival and is to be ready to sail for working up port
on 19/9.
4. F.O.I.C. Tyne is requested to give the necessary priority
to the work.
5. C. in C. W.A. is requested to arrange with C. in C. H.F.
and C. in C. Rosyth for A/S Escort to the Tyne as soon as
possible after the ship's arrival in the Clyde.
6. C. in C. W.A. is requested to sail ARGUS accordingly.
(A.C.N.S. (H) 1325A/21).

SS. HEIRE, Commodore F.S.85 reports SS. HEIRE ex Tyne
SS. FLAMMA. reported being in collision with unknown vessel
at about 2330/19 approx. position 19 D buoy
SS. FLAMMA ex Tyne reported missing from convoy
next morning. HEIRE arrived Southend and proceeded to London
with damage to stem and making water. Confirmed that FLAMMA
returned Tyne damaged.
(N.C.S.O. Thames, 1516A/21).

P.228 Cancel my 1101/20. Sailing postponed owing to
defect.
(S.5., 2045A/21 to C. in C. Portsmouth).

Shipping & Convoys.

Diversions Your 1831A/20. Concur.
(C. in C. W.A., 1033A/21 to Admty).

Disposition It has been agreed with Connav that when Atlantic
of ships convoys are exposed to U-boat rather than air
in convoys. attack columns are to be opened from 3 to 5 cables
by day as well as by night.
2. I.C.O.C. 30 will be amended accordingly.
(D.T.D., 1244A/21).

Unless specially ordered or threatened with imminent air attack,
columns of convoys are to be deployed at 5 cables during daylight
when west of 007° W. It should be borne in mind that when West
of 007° W. a blue warning normally indicates shadowing aircraft
in your vicinity and that U-boats may be homed on to the convoy.
(C. in C. W.A., 1834A/21 Gen. Mge.)

S.L.118 S.L.118 detain ZETLAND and BLYSKAWICA to escort
CHESHIRE south of Ireland routed through (V)
180° Fastnet Rock 10 miles thence by Q.Z.L.18
to (W) 052° 00' N., 005° 32' W. *See previous page.*
On relief PENTSTEMON is to rejoin convoy.
(C. in C. W.A., 1320A/21 to FOLKESTONE).
Your 1140A. Expect to join before dark. Nothing seen of
CHESHIRE. 8170. 2265.
(GORLESTON, 1430Z/21 to FOLKESTONE).

/ORARI...

21.8.1942.
Friday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping & Convoys - Contd.

- ORARI SS. ORARI escorted by WILTON arrived Clyde.
(N.O.I.C. Greenock, 1504A/21).
- Convoy P.W.D. My 1425/20 postponed 48 hours on account of
205. weather.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 1715/21).
- S.C. 97 Your 2310/19. Owing to distance between route
of S.C. 97 and O.N.S. 124 and as S.C. 97 is a
large convoy of which at least 11 ships are for
Iceland (C) consider it preferable that T.U. 24.6.3
should proceed to join S.C. 97 immediately after
effecting I.C.O.M.P. with O.N.S. 124.
(C. in C. W.A., 1743Z/21 to C.T.G. 24.6).
- Stragglers The route to be followed by a ship which becomes
Route. separated from a convoy and is unable to reach
the rendezvous in time is in future to be known
as the "Stragglers Route" instead of the
"Standard Route". All Admiralty publications will
be amended in due course.
(D.T.D., 1758A/21 to A.I.G. 44).
- Daily R/V In future daily R/V positions signalled by
positions. Commodores should be the positions at which
the convoy would be expected to arrive at its
normal speed instead of 25 miles short of such
positions. These R/V are required by individual ships that have
straggled owing to defects etc., and are endeavouring to rejoin.
If the convoy has been scattered by enemy action, bad weather or
fog, ships should R/V in a position 25 miles short of the
signalled R/V.
2. C.B. 04024 (41) article 83 (g) and C.B. 03058 (2), I.C.O.C. 11
will be amended.
(D.T.D., 1757A/21 to A.I.G. 44).
- Reporting D.T.D. 1905A/21. This message co-ordinates the
by ships contents of several formers. See Lion & Tiger
fitted with copies only.
H/F.

660A

1905A/21st August

CONFIDENTIAL

MESSAGE

OUT

To: C.in C. Western Approaches. Date 21.8.42
 C.in C. South Atlantic.
 C.in C. Eastern Fleet. 740.
 Deputy C.in C. Eastern Fleet. 28.
 Vice Admiral Commanding North Atlantic.
 Rear Admiral, West Africa. 798.
 N.S.H.Q. Ottawa. 364.
 C.O.A.C. Halifax.
 S.B.N.O. Western Atlantic. 615.
 Australian Commonwealth Navy Board. 833.
 New Zealand Navy Board 1.
 Repeated: CONNAV.
 B.A.D. Washington. 343.

NAVAL CODE (X)

RECIRCULATION

From Admiralty

Reports by Ships fitted with H/F

BASEGRAM

Pass to N.C.S.O's.

Masters of all merchant ships fitted with H/F (except those specified in para 6) are to report by night every three days after leaving harbour their position by W/T as follows:-

- (A) If on their route in form laid down in C.A.M.S.I 52.
- (B) If off their route as a bearing and distance from the nearest lettered position on their route.

2. Messages are to be in plain language. They are to contain in preamble passing instructions "Pass to Admiralty" (except for messages from ships in the Pacific) also in plain language. No other passing instructions are to be included. Passing instructions for messages from ships in the Pacific are to be "Pass to CONNAV."

3. The time for origin of a position message is to be the time at which the ship was in the stated position.

4. Admiralty will originate a daily signal to diversion authorities giving summary of all positions.

5. As temporary measure merchant ships are to use their War W/T call sign. It is hoped shortly to introduce a new system for varying these call signs.

6. The following ships are not repetition not to comply with the above instructions :-
 QUEEN ELIZABETH, QUEEN MARY, MAURETANIA, ILE DE FRANCE, NIEU AMSTERDAM, AQUITANIA and PASTEUR.

7. Orders are to be given to the Masters of all the ships named in para 6 to break W/T silence and report 24 hours beforehand their revised expected time of arrival at destination or rendezvous if they expect to be more than one hour different from original expected time of arrival.

8. The provisions of M.A.R.I. Section II paras 9, 12 and 16 are not to be applied to these ships.

/9.....

660^B

9. N.C.S.Os are requested to assure Masters of ships affected that before these instructions were issued every possible resulting danger was fully investigated and the risk was considered to be so slight as to be far outweighed by the risk involved in a ship's position not being accurately known. A careful watch is kept and at the first indication that these transmissions are in any way hazardous the instructions will be cancelled or amended as necessary.

10. This signal supersedes the following Admiralty messages which are hereby cancelled :-
2252B/27/7, 2038A/9/8, 1221/11/8, 1619/19/8,
1712B/16/7, 1837B/16/7 and 1131B/7/8 (not all to all addressees).

1905A/21

for D.T.D. (983)

- V.C.N.S.
- A.C.N.S. (H)
- A.C.N.S. (F)
- A.C.N.S. (T)
- N.A. 1st S.L.
- Capt. Pim,
- Ops. (3)
- O.D. (5)
- O.I.C. (2)
- D. of S. 2A
- D.T.D. (4)
- D.T.D. (M)
- D.T.D. (C)
- D. of S.T. (2)
- I.P. (3)
- D.A/S.W.
- W.D.
- U.S.N. (3)
- D. of P. (3)
- D.S.D. (2)
- D.N.I. (5)
- H.I.D. 10 (2)
- M. (2)
- H.W.R. (2)

WE

War Diary.

21.8.1942
Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic

Force Y.
Operation
"Ascendant".

Your 1033B/19. All reports Force Y held by S.O. Force F.
2. Understand MATCHLESS fired 2 rounds at French Minesweeper by Bon Cape who returned fire. Firing ceased on ships identifying each other. *shadowed*
3. Force (~~corrupt group~~) on D.2 otherwise uneventful passage.
(F.O.C.N.A. 0900A/21 to V.A. Malta Admty.)

PENN,
LEDBURY,
BRAMHAM.

PENN, LEDBURY and BRAMHAM arrived 0730B/21 being delayed on latter part of passage by shortage of fuel in LEDBURY.
2. Force shadowed from dawn to 1600 on D.2. otherwise uneventful passage.
3. PENN transferred 20 tons fuel to LEDBURY on D.3.
4. All ships seaworthy but require minor repairs.
(F.O.C.N.A. 0938A/21 to V.A. Malta, (R) Admty., F.O.F.)

IMPERIALIST.

Your 1055A. Am proceeding full speed. Have been investigating Spanish trawler in distress. Trawler taken in tow by Spanish trawler. My position 1134B, 094° Cape St. Vincent 75'.
(IMPERIALIST 1045A/21 to F.O.C.N.A. (R) S.O.W.P)

Situation
1959B/21.

Area X. S/M P.48 escorted by ALOUETTE 39.57 10.47 through 37.55 10.06 and 225° Cape St. Vincent 10' to Gibraltar, 9 knots. *GATA. See next page.*
2. Fleet units, KENYA, KEPPEL, VENOMOUS, MALCOLM,
TARTAR, FURY, BICESTER, SOMALI, ESKIMO 39.40 16.50 336° 15'.
(F.O.C.N.A. 1242A/21.)

INDOMITABLE.

Your 1614A/19. 20 knots is too fast for escort & speed. efficient asdic operations and too slow for passage without a good A/S screen.
2. Request you will sail INDOMITABLE with 4 destroyers at S. of A. of 16 knots. If Hunts have to be detached, she should then steam at high speed, if necessary detaching one or both the remaining destroyers and proceeding independently.
3. Destroyers after being detached may be routed South of Ireland (R).
(A.C.N.S.(H) 1501A/21 to F.O.C.N.A. (R) C. in C. H.F., C. in C. W.A., F.O. Force F.)

CLYDE.
P.212.

CLYDE leaves Gibraltar for Malta 1900B/22nd routed South of Alboran Island. P.212 leaves Gibraltar 0815B/22nd for exercises East of Rock, returning to harbour on completion.
(F.O.C.N.A. 1606A/21 to 8 S/M F.)

War Diary.

21.8.1942
Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic - contd.

BURDOCK
ARMERIA
ABBEYDALE.

A.T.1840/19 and your 1705/20. Following is extract of para 6 of my 1256/19 sailing orders to BURDOCK, ARMERIA, ABBEYDALE (begins) Having oiled escorts of QUEEN ELIZABETH you are to proceed direct to Freetown (ends)
(2) Presume you will issue necessary amendment.
(F.O.C.N.A. 1618A/21 to R.A. W.A.F. (R) Admty. C. in C. S.A.)

ALOUETTE
P.48.

Your 1738A (?1836A/20 intended) Not met on or near track given by your 1709A. My position 1800B, 037° 45' N. 009° 55' W. M.L.A. 165° speed 12 knots. Sea 45 visibility 8 wind N.N.E. Force 6.

(ALOUETTE 1700A/21 to F.O.C.N.A. (R) S/M P.48)
ALOUETTE in 037° 45' N. 009° 55' W. at 1800B/21 has been informed your estimated position at 2000B/21 was 039° 57' 010° 47' proceeding through G and H at 9 knots, has now been ordered to R/V you in daylight tomorrow 22nd and to report if not met by 1200B.

(F.O.C.N.A. 1906A/21 to P.48.) *See previous page (Situation?)*

KAULDI.

Spanish 59 arrived 20th to load iron ore.
(Consul Bilbao 1755/21 to Admty. (R) M.E.W. etc.)

OTUS.

OTUS has one coil open circuited on port main motor armature A end. In view of unreliability of her engine, intend cut coil and bridge commutator risers of this coil before sailing OTUS to U.K. for refit. Charging on port motor and at reduced rate to be carried out only in emergency. OTUS not expected ready to leave Gibraltar till 28/8.
(Capt. S.8. 1818A/21 to F.O.C.N.A. (R) A.S. Gibraltar, Admty., F.O.S., Capt.(S) 5.)

P.219.

^{1/p.654.}
F.O.S. 1721/21 (route and instructions for P.219)
Proceed so as to pass through L at 0500A/24
thence through position M and N to arrive at R/V

K at 0700A/25.

(2) If unable to comply within 2 hours report P.C.S.
(3) Total bombing restriction arranged.
(F.O.C.N.A. 1910A/21 to P.219.)

German
Supply
Ships,
Vigo.

Your 1333/18. 1. Possible that BESSEL assists but no evidence. 2. Admty. already advised of grade C reports that tankers might leave early September. 3. Guards reported to be still going on board at night.
(R.O. Vigo 1918/21 to B.N.A. Madrid (R) Admty. (For D.N.I.))

War Diary.21.8.1942
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic - contd.

Bombing Restrictions. Request total bombing restrictions in following area:-

Area	From	Until
G.27 and 28	1600/22	1800/23
G.15 and 16	1000/23	1400/24
G.19	0600/24	2200/24

All times zero minus 2.

(F.O.C.N.A. 1936A/21 to Admty., H.Q.C.C. (R) F.O.S.)

Serial G.177, AC519, 21/8. From 2200/21 until 2359/22 institute submerged bombing restrictions within 25 miles either side of line joining 43° 15' N. 10° 20' W. and 43° 36' N. 09° 01' W.

(H.Q.C.C. 1941A/21 to R.A.F. Gibraltar (R) F.O.C.N.A. S.8.)

P.211. Your 1808A/20 (re sailing P.31) Please inform
P.31. P.31 anticipate overtaking her 0500A/22 off Palos Cape.

(P.211 2105A/21 to F.O.C.N.A.)

P.211 expected to overtake P.31 at 0500A/22nd off Cape Palos.

(F.O.C.N.A. 2306A/21 to 8 S.F.)

Enemy Report. Rome rebroadcast sighting report of British submarine in Western Mediterranean at 2010B/21.
(F.O.C.N.A. 2106A/21 to 8 S.F.)

Mine, Algiers. Intercepted 2226 G.M.T. from Algiers Admiralty Radio. Mine warning. Naval Office Algiers N2 0515/3. Airplane wreck dangerous to navigation in 37.02 N. 05.38 E. at 1930 G.M.T/21. 2110/21/8. (Portpatrick Radio 2329/21 to Navycharge, Greenock.)

Damaged U/B. One Catalina call sign T V 5 B till 0100A, thereafter T K 7 B will search vicinity 043° 13' N. 016° 25' W. from 0445A to 0945A/22 for damaged U-Boat.
(F.O.C.N.A. 2345A/21 to C. in C. W.A. (R) Admty., C. in C. Plymouth, VIDETTE, WRESTLER.)

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War Diary.21.8.1942
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic.

SEATRIN,
TEXAS. Army transport SEATRIN, TEXAS sailing route R.6. S.O.A. 13.5 knots E.T.A. (? outer) end Durban searched channel 14 (? 10)Z/24. Endurance (? 25) days. Admty. 1838B/31 refers. (N.C.S.O. Capetown 0920Z/21 to Admty., Cominch, C. in C. S.A., N.O.I.C. Durban, C. in C. E.F., Dep. C. in C. E.F., S.O.(I) Capetown.)

Light Signals
Brazzaville. Your 1838/19/8. Yes this can be substantiated. QGB 117 refers. (R.A.W.A. 1007Z/21 to Admty. (R) C. in C. S.A.)

CRIPPLE
CREEK.
MENDANAU. Your 1922/17. CRIPPLE CREEK (U.S.) did not receive Connav's Diversions. MENDANAU (Dutch) survivors not yet interrogated. (R.A.W.A. 1040Z/21 to Admty. (R) S.O.I. Freetown.)

TEMPLE INN. Departure from Pointe Noire 21/8 TEMPLE INN towed by FLYING KESTREL accompanied by JAMES E. HUGHES for Lagos. S. of A. approx 4 knots. (B.N.L.O. W.A. 1045/21 to R.A. (?W.A.) (R) C. in C. S.A., R.N.O. Lagos, Admty., D. of S.T.)

U/B. By D/F AT 0409Z/21 enemy unit, probably U-Boat within 60' of 7° 30' N. 14° 30' W. (D.D.I.C. 1101A/21 to S. and A., S.A.)

ELMWOOD
(sunk 27/7) U.S. DAVY CROCKETT landed Capetown 19 survivors ex British ship ELMWOOD sunk by U-boat, 27/7 in 006° N. 025° W. No casualties during attack, (?balance) of crew in 2 boats unaccounted for. Chief Officer reported U-boat which appeared (?new) and painted grey surfaced and Commander spoke boat and gave course Freetown. Crests seen on C/T consisted of castle device on one side and Knight's visor on the other. (S.O.I. Capetown 1246Z/21 to Admty., R.A. W.A., B.A.D., S.O.(I) Kingston (Jamaica) S.O.(I) Montevideo, S.O.(I) Persian Gulf, S.O.(I) Med. (R) C. in C. S.A.)

CANNA,
attack on
U/B. CANNA reports light collision with U-Boat at 2200/20 in 7° 41' N. 14° 03' W. U-Boat clearly sighted astern, then dived. 3 attacks subsequently made on good contacts. Search with air co-operation continues. (R.A.W.A. 1500Z/21 to Admty. (R) C. in C. S.A.)

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War Diary.21.8.1942
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic - contd.

- AMARANTHUS. (?Aircraft) from East London will carry out practise interception on you p.m. today Friday. (C. in C. S.A. 1520B/21 to AMARANTHUS (R) N.O.I.C. East London.)
- Vichy M/V. At 0855/20 aircraft sighted 1 Vichy M/V of 5000 tons in 30° 15' N. 11° 40' W. course 030° speed 12 to 15 knots. At 1030 two M/Vs of 1000 tons probably Spanish in 27° 25' N. 13° 40' W. course 300° 6 knots. (S.O.I. Freetown 1544Z/21 to D.N.I. (R) S.O.(I) Gibraltar.)
- GEORGE
CLYMER
wreckage. Ref. Freetown's 1400B/13/6 (Addressed N.C.S.O. Pernambuco) Q & A number 85, following information has been received today from secret and trustworthy source. Police delegation at village Barra dos Coqueiros near Aracaju in state of Sergite early today 21st informs Aracaju Port Authority of finding of a ship's lifeboat bearing name SS GEORGE CLYMER containing a portable machine gun and ammunition, a signal rocket, 3 compasses, food for 30 days, 2 water casks certain seamen's documents, a piece of eyeleted canvas marked SS GEORGE CLYMER, and various articles of clothing some bearing American labels. This Purser has been communicating U.S. Naval Observers. (R.O. Pernambuco 1806Z/21 to S.O.(I) Freetown (R) Admty., B.A.D. S.O.(I) Montevideo, Rio de Janeiro.)
- M.A.R.I. Pass to F.Os. I.C. and N.C.S.Os. Amendment No. 68 to M.A.R.I. (D.T.D. 1814A/21 to C. in C. S.A., R.A.W.A. etc.)
- ROCKROSE.
O.24. Simonstown departure 1730B/21 ROCKROSE for escort D.S. O.24. R/V D.S. O.24 in 032° 04' S. 012° 12' E. at 0800B/23 thence to Simonstown. (C. in C. S.A. 1835B/21 to Admty. Neth. Sub.O.24 (R) Cde. Simonstown.)
- ? CITY OF
WELLINGTON. (?Am investigating) gunfire bearing 150° 6 miles. My position 007° 31' N. (? 014°) 54' W. (VELOX 2049/21 to R.A.W.A.)
CITY OF WELLINGTON sunk by S/M in 007° 29' N. 014° 52' W. at 2049Z/21. (R.A.W.A. 2359Z/21 to Admty.)
- U/B. Unconfirmed report from Rio de Janeiro states Condor plane reported sighting S/M in 028° 50' S. 048° 53' W. p.m. today 21st. Cerrito W/T Station has broadcast report to shipping. (S.O.I. Montevideo 2355Z/21 to Admty. (R) B.A.D. etc.)

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War Diary.21.8.1942
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic - contd.

HYDRANGEA. Your 1427Z/19 (N.T. in W.D.) Not met, my position is 003° 08' N. 013° 58' W. Escort returning to Freetown. J maximum. (HYDRANGEA 2359Z/21 to R.A.W.A.F. (R) Capt. (D) 18)

Mediterranean.

P.35. If you concur request P.35 may proceed on surface daylight 21st patrolling in position 10 miles South Strovathi Island by daylight 22nd.
(Capt. S.1 0020C/21 to Capt. S.10 (R) P.35 C. in C. Med., TURBULENT.)
Steer 071° at full speed, orders follow.
(Capt. S.10 0220B/21 to P.35 (R) Capt. (S) 1, C. in C. Med.)
Make every endeavour to be in 037° 06' N. 021° 02' E. at dawn tomorrow 22/8. Full power with no restriction should be used. Daylight R/C report will be passed.
(Capt. S.10 0330B/21 to P.35, (R) Capt. (S) 1, C. in C. Med. P.43.)
See also 1756/21, 2205/21. *pp 668 7669*

Cositrep No.488. 2. Air. Night 19/20. Tobruk Harbour bombed. Fire started on or near small ship at jetty, other fires along docks. Near misses claimed on shipping.
(C. in C. M.E. 0930/21.)

ALBA JULIA My 1730C/20. ALBA JULIA completed loading. BALCIC Clearance papers taken this forenoon. Fact. (Roumanian) S.O.(I) Med. please inform Malta.
(S.O.I. Istanbul 1050C/21 to S.O.(I) Med. (R) D.N.I.)
A. My 1050C/21. There are indications that on this occasion vessel may delay in Dardanelles. B. 3.
B. Roumanian BALCIC expected to arrive here shortly from Italy. B.4.
(S.O.I. Istanbul No T.O.O. to S.O.(I) Med. (R) D.N.I. Recd. 1345/21.)

RORQUAL. My 1215/28/7 para 6. S A M.
See p 669
(a) Blank. (b) 0429B/23rd. (c) U L.
(d) 1001B. (e) Marsaxlokk. (f) Will be (?passed) on entering harbour. P.34 expected to enter sanctuary 0330B/23 see my 2140/19.
(V.A. Malta 1216B/21 as amended 1535B/21 to RORQUAL (R) S/M P.34, C. in C. Med., F.O.C.N.A. Capt. (S) 1, Capt.(S) 8.

/Op "Pedestal" ...

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War Diary.21.8.1942
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean - contd.

Op. "Pedestal" (1) Your 1142/16. Cargo discharged (?by) 0700/21 (details) (V.A. Malta 1233B/21 to Admty.)

Greek Units, Officers Status. Your 1500/18 I agree. (C. in C. Med. 1512C/21 to Admty.)

U/B. P.C. and S. of enemy S/M are 31° 50' N. 34° 10' E. 270° 8. (A/C Using Call Sign QZ7U (via Malta W/T) 1600/21 to 201 Group.)
Following has been read: Enemy S/M previously reported was sighted on surface and observed to submerge. (Malta W/T 1610/21.)

TAKU, enemy air patrol. (?TAKU) reports encountering night air patrol ahead convoy. (Capt. S.1 1604C/21 to S/Ms on patrol (R) C. in C. Med., Capt. (S) 10.)

Air Patrol, PALADIN, COVENTRY etc. My 1655/21 Part 1. My A.410 of 1259/21 not to all. One Swordfish takes off 0250/22 to provide A/S air co-operation with PALADIN sailing from Port Said at 0300/22 to R/V with COVENTRY, BEAUFORT, TETCOTT in 032° 15' N. 032° 50' E. at 0600/22 thence to Port Said. Aircraft to be relieved so as to land 3½ hours after taking off, 2nd aircraft continuing patrol after daylight to land 3½ hours after taking off. Part 2 follows. (201 Rear 1655/21 to 815 Squadron Port Said, (R) 201 Advanced D Port Said, 250 Wing, F.O.C.15 C.S. PALADIN, COVENTRY.)
W.R. Note:- No other parts of this message have been received in War Registry.

Malta Air Report. I. 596 21/8. C.S.R. Malta. 20th. 1 Alert, 1309 hours, 12 plus enemy fighters including Me.109s crossed coast great height. 16 Spitfires up failed to sight while enemy approaching unable to intercept while enemy withdrawing owing to partial R.D.F. interference. 1355 and 1515 hours, 8 and 4 Spitfires up respectively for raiders which turned back before reaching Malta. 1755 hours dusk patrol by 2 Spitfires over island no incident. Night 20th/21. No alerts. 0027 hours 1 Beaufighter up saw nothing but 2 raiders approached to within 35 miles of Malta dropped bombs in sea and returned. 21st - No alerts.

/Part 2 ...

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War Diary.21.8.1942
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean - conts:-Malta Air
Report
(contd)

Part 2. 12 Beauforts escorted by 12 Beaufighters despatched to attack tanker and D/R escort sighted 0700 hours, see my I.594 part 2. 1 Beaufighter returned early pilot ill, another returned early - engine trouble crashed in sea near Malta.

Beauforts and remaining Beaufighters attacked 0856 hours in position 180° still (?Spartivento intended) 4 miles convoy consisting of 1 tanker 8000 tons, 4 D/Rs, 1 M/V less than 1000 course 040° 3 knots patrolled by Cant Z 501 and about 6 single engine fighters. Beauforts dropped 12 torpedoes pistol setting 26 feet from 70 feet at 700 yards armed A.C. tanker. No hits seen but photos by Baltimore show one possibly 2 torpedoes exploding some distance to port of convoy* 4 Beaufighters dropped bombs, 0.12 seconds delay from 1000 feet scoring 1 possible hit on stern of D/R. Beauforts and 5 Beaufighters attacked tanker and surface escort with cannon fire and machine guns. 1 Beaufighter sank small pilot vessel by cannon fire ¼ mile ahead of convoy. Beaufort damaged 1 Mc.200 and Beaufighter damaged Cant.Z 501. 2 Beauforts and 1 Beaufighter shot down during attack. 2 Beauforts damaged by A/A fire, 1 observer slightly wounded. 8 Spitfires provided cover for returning strike.

(H.Q. R.A.F. Malta 1708/21.)

* Air Ministry questions about this, see 1110Z/22.

Enemy
Units.

Following has been read: P.C. and S. of enemy 1 large M/V 2 small M/V 4 aeroplanes 34.22 N. 24.35 E. 180° 8.
(A/C Call Sign 7XGZ 1738/21 to Malta.)

Enemy
Units,
TURBULENT.
P.35. See pp 666-7
669

At 1634C/21, aircraft report 1 large merchant ship 1 medium merchant ship and 3 or 4 destroyers, P.C. and S. 039° 19' 020° 16' 170° 9 knots. TURBULENT establish patrol 15 miles S.W. of Cape Matapan. P.35 move 7 miles 090° from position ordered in Capt.(S) 10 03 (?30)/21. (Capt. S.1 1756C/21 to TURBULENT, P.35 (R) C. in C. Med. Capt.(S) 10, 201 N.C.Group)

U/B.

Following has been read:- P.C. and S. of 1 enemy S/M are 31.48 N. 34.04 E. 270° 3.
(A/C using call sign 1 LQF (via Malta) 1840/21 to 201 Group.)

UNA,
landing
operation
Catania.

Operation "Pedestal". UNA landed sabotage party near Catania night of 11-12/8. Operation carried out according to plan though 1 Folbot was smashed by sea and 3 other ranks could not land. Aerodrome was in use and flare path lit; no firing occurred when party landed. Party did not leave beach that night and no signs to R/V following day. UNA considered they were already prisoners. 3 Officers and 3 other ranks missing. No results observed. R/C 9/8 shows total 170 aircraft present.
(C. in C. Med. 1857C/21 to Admty. (R) F.O.C.N.A., S.O. Force F in NELSON.)

/Operation ...

War Diary.

21.8.1942
Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean - contd.

Operation
"Pedestal"
MANCHESTER
sinking,
Italian
losses.

U.S. Consul at Tunis reports that on 17/8 he talked to Captain of MANCHESTER who stated that his ship was sunk by a torpedo from an Italian E-Boat. This and one other E-Boat was sunk. MANCHESTER sunk in 20 fathoms about 4 miles off Kelibia. All documents burnt, nothing compromised, R.D.F. gear destroyed. There are 130 survivors from GLENORCHY and CLAN FERGUSON

at Tunis. (Tunis 17/8 C.3)

(2) Estimated that about 40 aircraft were shot down at Bizerta and off Kelibia about 50. 7 Axis planes were forced down in Tunisia. Known Italian Naval losses, 1 Cruiser, 1 S/M, 2 E-Boats. In spite of demands for their release by the French, Italian Vedette picked up 8 British survivors less than 1 mile from the coast.

(B.A.D. 2051Z/21 to Admty.)

P.35.

*Sum. p. 666 7
668*
My 0330/21. Your target large tanker escorted by 5 destroyers was stopped by aircraft attack at 1618/21 in 039° 21' 020° 14' and escort well shot up by Beaufighters. Maximum speed was 10 knots and cannot pass your patrol position before 1400B/22. Advance destroyer A/S sweep must be expected, therefore, necessary to fully charge batteries tonight. Further R/C hoped about dawn which will be passed by me but you are now under operational control of Capt. (S) 1.

(Capt. S.10 2205B/21 to P.35 (R) C. in C. Med., Capt (S) 1, S.O. S/Ms Alexandria.)

PORPOISE
RORQUAL.

Your 1330/7. Request latest instructions to PORPOISE and intentions for RORQUAL future movements. Owing to number of S/Ms in harbour propose RORQUAL move on quickly. *Sum p. 666*
(Capt. S.10 2315B/21 to Capt. S (1) C. in C. Med. S.O.(S) Alexandria.)

War Diary.

21.8.1942.
Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies

ROBIN
WENTLEY.

Overdue shipping ROBIN WENTLEY (U.S.) due Aden 8/8 from Capetown not arrived.
(C. in C. E.F., 0414/21 to Admty)
(S.O.(I) Colombo, 0433Z/21 to Admty)
Reported in error, should read ERNEBANK. See S.O.(I) Capetown 1104B/22.

NARBO
attacked by
U/B

Following has been read from SS. NARBO.
SSSS 24.51 S., 5.18 E. SS. NARBO shelling submarine following us.
(0603 G.M.T./21, 0607 G.M.T./21)

SEATRIN,
TEXAS.

Your 1526/20. Consider it preferable for SEATRIN TEXAS to proceed unescorted so as to make best use of her speed. Request she may be routed through Mozambique Channel and reported by signal prefixed immediate. Ship should be warned that flying boat patrols may be encountered in Mozambique Channel.
(D.C in C. E.F., 0914Z/21 to C. in C. S.A., (R) Com I/C Durban, Admty, N.C.S.O. Capetown).
Your 0914/21. SEATRIN TEXAS is to be given A/S escort through Mozambique Channel.
(A.C.N.S. (F) 2331A/21 to D.C. in C. E.F., (R) Cdre. Durban, C. in C. S.A.)

Catalina
Squadns.

Your A.248 (T.O.O. 1345/18, re allocation of Catalina Squadrons).
Consider that until there are more positive indications that invasion of India is contemplated allocation of a Catalina Squadron to Calcutta must be deferred. The small part of this area that cannot be covered by Catalina from Madras is in any event so close to enemy flying bases as to make it unsuitable for Catalina operations.
(2) Submarines and raiders are quiescent at the moment but a recrudescence of attacks on our Middle East and Indian lines of communication might have very serious results owing to our limited resources in A/S escorts.
(3) As soon as Squadrons are available intend allocating a second Catalina Squadron to Persian Gulf Approaches, where protection of Tankers is of first importance.
(4) No objection to this Squadron being located at Jiwani as proposed by you.
(5) Order of priority for 4 Squadrons unallocated by A.M.2114/2 therefore remain Durban, Diego Suarez, N.W. India, Mauritius.
(C. in C. E.F., 1248Z/21 to A.H.Q., India).

Raiders.

Situation number 3. (1) Raider E and Japanese raiders, no further information. (2) Raider H and J, no further information, latest QQQQ

/message...

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21.8.1942.
Friday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies - 20-175:-Raiders
Contd.

message 17/8 005° N., 052° W.
(3) My 1229/14. Raider situation number 2,
cancel para. 5. An Altmark type tanker (?has)
probably left Bay of Biscay since 11/8.
(C. in C. E.F., 1314Z/21 to E.I. Stn. Admty etc).

U/Bs

Japanese U-boats. Estimated at least 1 off the
coast (east?) Australia. 1 possibly south of
Madagascar on 16th. 1 doubtful S.E. coast Ceylon
(C. in C. E.F., 1316Z/21 to E.I. Stn).

REVENGE.

My 505/4405 of 21/7/1942 recommends removal of
2 forward 6" guns each side from "R" Class Battle-
ships in order to provide very urgently required
additional messing and sleeping accommodation.
In anticipation of Admty approval, I have
approved for this to be done in REVENGE during
current refit.
(C. in C. E.F., 1444Z/21 to Admty (R) V.A.3)

FROBISHER
A.P.1.

My 1507/19 not to Admiralty. (i) Unlikely that
A/S escort will be available to relieve you.
If no further signal is received ships of A.P.1
are to be dispersed p.m./24 with orders to
proceed independently at best speed to destination
(ii) After dispersal of convoy proceed Colombo so as to arrive
a.m./29 passing through 9° channel.
(iii) On arrival at Colombo condenser defects are to be
undertaken estimated duration 14 days, during which time ship
may be at extended notice to give leave.
(C. in C. E.F., 1507/21 to FROBISHER (R) S.N.O.P.G., F.O. Ceylon,
Admty. Cdre. R.I.N., C.S.4).

Red Sea
Minefields.

C. in C. Med., 1221/17. Request you will sail
one of 14th M/S Flotilla to Aden to comply
(A.C.N.S. (F) 1827A/21 to C. in C. E.F., (R)
D. C. in C. E.F., C. in C. Med., F.O.R.S.C.A.)

War Diary.21.8.1942.
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies.

- DUC D'AUMALE. Extract from a Fairmiss telegram:
French Ship DUC D'AUMALE.
(B.S.N.O. Curacao, 1025QR/21 to D.S.T.)
- U/B. St. Vincent reports S/M sighted 0030/18 between
St. Vincent and St. Lucia travelling S.E.
(S.O.(I) Jamaica, 1054Q/21 to Admty., B.A.D.,
Connav.)
- ALDEBARAN (French) Following received (begins) Following broadcast
on 500 K/cs at 0004 G.M.T./21st by ALDEBARAN
position at 2200 G.M.T. 19° 34' N. 52° 54' W.
Sigs. no good for QTE and QRN. Bermuda radio.
(Ends.)
(S.B.N.O.W.A., 1107P/21 to Admty.)
- Guantanamo - B.A.R.M. 1806/19 (N.T. in W.D.)
New York Comcarib states in letter dated 10/8, copy just
Convoys. received, not to any British authority, Cdr.
Eastern Sea Frontier will establish Guantanamo -
New York convoys. Following British and (?Dutch)
escorts report to C.E.S.F. for duty on dates shown:-
D.S. JAN VAN BRAKEL 1/9, HAVELOCK, LAVENDER, GODETIA 2/9,
WARWICK, BUTTERCUP, COLUMBINE 3/9, CHURCHILL, PIMPERNEL,
SAXIFRAGE 7/9.
(B) CLARKIA (corrupt group) reports to C.E.S.F. for duty 1/9
but thence Guantanamo for Guantanamo - Aruba - Trinidad convoy
(G.A.T.1). This seems to conflict with your 0942/17 (Request
CLARKIA may arrive Bermuda 14/9.)
(N.O.I.C. Trinidad, 1212Q/21 to S.B.N.O.W.A., (R) Admty., B.A.D.,
B.A.R.M.)
- EMPIRE CLOUD, My 0942/19th. ROODE ZEE tugs and escort arrived.
WEST CELINA. SS. EMPIRE CLOUD sank in tow at 0620Z/21 in 010°
54' N. 062° 10' W. 2nd ship probably SS. WEST
CELINA not sighted, presumed sunk.
(N.O.I.C. Trinidad, 1252Q/21 to S.B.N.O.W.A.,
C.C.S.F., (R) Admty., B.A.D., S.O.(I) Kingston,
Jamaica, N.O.B. Trinidad.)
- U/B. S/M sighted 1405 G.T.C. 20 miles West of Mole
Saint Nicholas course North.
(S.O.(I) Kingston, 1333Q/21 to Admty., S.B.N.O.W.A.)
- Tankers for Sail KALDFONN and NORVINN (Nor.) tankers in
Freetown. company for Freetown in next eastbound convoy.
Same applies to MAJA (British) and ORWELL (Nor.)
upon arrival Trinidad. Your attention directed
to Admty. 2348A/19 (2348/18 intended, re oil stocks at Freetown
read replenishment.) particularly para. 3. Vessels should be
routed between 12° and 15° N. when in longitudes 50° to 35° W.
(Connav, 1515/21 to N.O.B. Trinidad, (R) C.C.S.F., R.A.W.A.,
Admty.) See also B.A.D. 2209/21.

/Shipping ...

21.8.1942.

Friday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies - Contd.

Shipping, Your 2252/13 (Control of ships loading sugar.)
Antigua. Following is an extract from operations memorandum
4 (? (7)) issued by Combined Local Defence Force,
Antigua. (Begins). In accordance with orders
from Commander Brazilian Frontier all ships will anchor in
Parham Sound unless otherwise directed. (Ends.)
(R.N.O. Antigua, 1600/21 to Admty., (R) F.O. Trinidad.)

U/B S/M estimate 21/8 and U.S. S/M notice.
Positions. (C. in C. U.S. Fleet, 1618/21, 1619/21, 1620/21,
1621/21, 1622/21 to Admty.)

Size of S.C. 97. C.O.A.C. Halifax 1316Z/20 and
S.C. Convoys. 1949Z/20 and N.S.H.Q. Ottawa 2225Z/20.
Recommend 65 ships be sailed, this will give 13
columns of five ships.
(A.C.N.S.(T), 1637Z/21 to Connav, N.S.H.Q., (R) C.T.F.24, etc.)
Cancel my 1416/20* C.O.A.C. Halifax's 1949/20 refers.
(N.S.C.O. Sydney Cape Breton, 1743Z/21 to Admty., (R) N.S.H.Q.,
C.O.A.C.)
* S.S.C.97 advance sailing telegram. No trace of 1949/20 in
W.D.

U/B. S/M reported by aircraft in 047° 30' N. 064° 00'
W. at 1140Z/21 course 210°.
(C.O.A.C., 1657Z/21 to Admty.)

A.T. 20. A.T.20 arrived consisting of 5 transports escorted
by 1 battleship, 1 cruiser, 9 destroyers.
(S.O.(I) Halifax, 1722Z/21 to Admty., N.B.
Melbourne, Opnav, F.O.N.F., C.E.S.F., C.T.F.24,
B.A.D., Com. 3.)

Distress. Following is received from Tيرة Radio Class 4
292° distress 73 L (SSSS signal made to NERK
which is "Any U.S. Warship".)
(Port Patrick Radio, 1752 G.M.T./21 to N.O.I.C.
Greenock, (R) Admty. for information.)

DASHER. Admty. 1800/19 and 1912/19 not to all addressees,
and your 2051/20, not to all addressees. It is
essential that DASHER should arrive in U.K. by
15/9. If necessary she must be sailed in a H.X. convoy.
(D.O.D. (H), 1843A/21 to B.A.D., (R) C. in C. U.S. Fleet,
C. in C. W.A., F.O.I.C. Greenock, R.A.N.A.S.)

Escort of My 19/1617. Time and date of M.O.M.P. changed to
H.M.S. QUEEN 1030Z/31. Position M.O.M.P. confirmed 024° N.
ELIZABETH. 040° W.
(C. in C. U.S. Fleet, 1859/21 to C. in C. A.F., (R)
B.A.D., R.A.W.A.F., C.T.F.23, S.B.N.O.W.A., C.E.
S.F., N.O.B. Bermuda, Com. 5, Admty.)

/ U/Bs ...

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War Diary.21.8.1942.
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies - Contd.

U/Bs.

2 S/Ms reported in 054° 14' N. 058° 04' W. at 1420 by Commerical Pilot. U.S. Army plane is investigating.
(C.O.A.C., 1931Z/21 to SHAWINIGAN, (R) N.S.H.Q., C. in C. U.S. Fleet.)

Operation
"Pedestal".

B.A.D. 2051Z/21.
See Mediterranean.

S/M attack
and sighting
summary.

Connav's 2111/20 addressed to Admty. (delivery by Comnavu), etc., informs as follows:
(a) Plane attacks S/M 07.40 N. 52 W. 1832Z/19, survivors reported in water, considered sunk. Plane attacks S/M 11.38 N. 67.42 W. 2030Z/19.
(b) Schooner JACYRA torpedoed 16.39 S. 39.05 W. 0600Z/19. ANNIBAL BENEVOLO later information indicates time attack as 0705Z/16th. LEIV EIRIKSSON 2 torpedo hits, U.88 type, woman and heart C/T. Possibly Italian. Plane attacks S/M on surface 62.53 N. 24.52 W. 0540Z/30/5. Plane attacks S/M 20° N. 81° 03' W. 1400Z/19. Plane sights S/M on surface 23.28 N. 82.26 W. 1800Z/19 and 23.28 N. 82.38 W. 2200Z/19. Surface craft sights S/M on surface 22.20 N. 77.46 W. 0250Z/20.
(c) S/M attacked 66.22 N. 25.38 W. 1445Z/7/5. Surface craft attacks S/M 62.30 N. 19.10 W. 2030Z/8/5. Surface craft attacks sound contact 52.20 N. 44.18 W. 1615Z/8/7. Later information indicates S/M contact reported my 0620Z/6 at 1330Z as an attack, time 1730Z/6. Surface craft attacks sound contact 32.05 N. 79.30 W. 1930Z/9. Panair sights S/M presumably on surface, course 205° 05.57 N. 53.55 W. 1110Z/12. Surface craft attacks S/M 62.49 N. 21.53 W. 0400Z/18. Surface craft attacks sound contact 12.35 N. 63.10 W. 1330Z/19. Plane sights S/M on surface 25.49 N. 79.52 W. 2203Z/19. Surface and aircraft attack sound contact 38.46 N. 74.45 W. 1821Z/19. Surface craft sights periscope 40.43 N. 71.58 W. 2110Z/19. M/V sights S/M 24.25 N. 82.35 W. 1210Z/20. Aircraft attacks S/M 42.18 N. 69.57 W. 1855Z/20.
(Comnavu, 2111/20 to Admty.)

Tankers for
Freetown.

Admty. 2348/18.
U.S. Authorities regret no escorts available to run special convoys for these tankers. Comcarib has been ordered to escort them in local convoys to 300 miles east of Trinidad and to give necessary orders to comply (? generally) with Admiralty messages.
(B.A.D., 2209Z/21 to Admty., R.A.W.Af., (R) S.B.N.O. Curacao, N.O.I.C. Trinidad, C. in C. S.A.)

War Diary.21.8.1942.
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Australia and New Zealand.

Situation. Digest Serial No. 211, 20/8. Further indications enemy activity Faisi (Shortlands) area. 5 vessels reported operating between Faisi and Ballale Is. (Shortlands) at 0500Z/20 including one probable heavy cruiser, 3 other cruisers or destroyers, one tanker. Examination photographs this area 19/8 indicates vessels reported my Serial 210 para. 2 include one probable minelayer.

(2) No evidence enemy occupation Kieta at 0700Z/20.

(3) Air R/C reported NPL activity Buka 0055Z/20.

(4) Analysis photographs Kavieng 18/8 reveals development new runways, 2 A/A gun positions, 1 Zero type floatplane, 21 small craft in harbour, also supply dump in area. 5,000 ton unidentified vessel reported this area air R/C 0001Z/20.

(5) Air R/C 20/8 reports landing strip Madang.

(6) 6 Hudsons dropped bombs and strafed Maobisse (17 miles south Dilli) 0035Z/20. 2 large explosions observed, native huts destroyed.

(7) Possible enemy S/M reported 9° 20' S. 126° 05' E. at 0915Z/20 course 315°.

(G.H.Q., S.W. Pacific, 0543Z/21 to Admty., etc.)

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.Submarines Reported.

Approximate positions.
(D.D.I.C., 1516A/21, 1556A/21.)

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

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

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

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

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

War Diary.22.8.1942.
Saturday.SITUATION REPORT.Home Commands.

S.O. Force F is to transfer his flag to RODNEY, NELSON and INDOMITABLE (latter to leave Gibraltar 0300B/24) are to come under the orders of C. in C Home Fleet.

Needles
Channel.

Certain of the restrictions on use of the Needles Approach Channel to Portsmouth, which were imposed on 17/7 were removed today.

R.A.M. reported Operation S.N.73 completed at 2048A today.

Minelaying by enemy aircraft off the Lincolnshire coast is suspected between 2215 and 2330 today.

South Atlantic.

Brazil declared war on Germany and Italy today. The 15 Axis merchant ships, totalling 86000 tons taking refuge in Brazilian ports had already been taken over by Brazil before her declaration of war. It is reported that Swedish SS. HAMMAREN was sunk by a submarine by gun fire and torpedo at 0800 G.M.T. today 6 miles from Itapoan Light (13° S 38° 15' W, close to Bahia)

Survivors of Norwegian trawler MALMANGER report that their ship was sunk by a U-Boat on 9/8 in 7° 13' N between 26° W and 27° W.

Mediterranean.Operation
"Pedestal"

The U.S. Consul at Tunis reports to the U.S. Department of State in Washington that Captain Drew states that MANCHESTER was sunk by an E-Boat which was lying in wait in French waters close to the wreck of the HAVOCK (near Kelibia Light) MANCHESTER destroyed this and another E-Boat. Italian light craft picked up at least two groups of survivors in French waters; in one case Admiral Durrien removed them from the Italian vessel. The Italian losses are "known" to include a cruiser.

/With ...

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22.8.1942.
Saturday.War Diary.SITUATION REPORT.Mediterranean - Contd.

With the capture of Maikop and possibly Tuapse it is estimated that the Germans will be in a position to ship oil across the Black Sea within 2 months. To do this, it is believed that tankers will have to be withdrawn from the Mediterranean and the Admiralty have asked C. in C. Med to give special consideration to attacking these tankers.

In view of the fact destroyers cannot be spared to constitute a striking force at Malta and on other grounds C. in C. Med asks that the decision not to maintain 828 and 830 Naval Air Squadrons at Malta should be reconsidered. The Admiralty replied (on 29/8) that they had insufficient Albacores to permit maintaining 9 in Malta. A Wellington A/S patrol round a convoy west of Haifa attacked a submarine at dawn today with depth charges and obtained a direct hit and some near misses. The stem of the submarine was forced out of the water, after which the vessel surfaced and opened fire. The Wellington silenced the gun with machine gun fire and the submarine slowly settled in the water and was completely submerged after an hour.

America and West Indies.

It is reported that an enemy warship, probably a cruiser was torpedoed and probably sunk in the Aleutians area on 14/8.

Australia and New Zealand.

Ocean Island was bombed by 9 twin engined bombers today and shelled at 1205Z by it is believed a cruiser. Nauru was shelled by a 6 inch cruiser from 1110Z to 1300Z today.

U/B Sunk

U.S.S. S.41 torpedoed and sank a Japanese submarine of I.61 type in about 7° 30' S., 151° 20' E. today. (Solomon Is. area).

War Diary.22.8.1942.
Saturday.HOME COMMANDS.Defence of the U.K.Pembroke
Dock.

Four Bofors guns have been mounted in Pembroke Dock area and are ready for action. 11 Rolls Royce 2 pounder guns are now mounted and ready for action in sites round convoy anchorage. (F.O.I.C. Milford Haven, 1819A/22.)

Movements.HARRIER,
GLEANER and
SHARPSHOOTER.

Are to proceed to Aberdeen for boiler cleaning returning to Scapa on completion.
2. Report E.T.A. to F.O.I.C. Aberdeen. (R.A.D., 0955A/22 to M.S.6.)

"Burner",
"Bucket"
groups.

My 1233A/21. "Burner" groups postponed further 24 hours and in consequence "Bucket" postponed 24 hours. (F.O.I.C. Milford Haven, 1003A/22.)

WINDSOR.

Your 0030A/22 not to A.C.O.S. Expect to be ready by 2200. Intend to sail at 0700A/23. E.T.A. Scapa 1730A/23. (WINDSOR, 1150A/22 to R.A.D.) *See p 683.*

North
Russia.

BRAMBLE, HAZARD, SEAGULL, and SALAMANDER passed Dvina Bar 1100C/22nd. BLANKNEY and MIDDLETON at 1530C/22nd for Kola Inlet. (S.B.N.O. Archangel, 1333A/22.)

30th M.L.F.

Admiralty pass to U.S. and Canadian authorities. My 1028/17 sailed, E.T.A. 0800Z/25. (N.O.I.C. Stornoway, 1418A/22 to A.C.I.C.)

Escort of
VICTORIOUS.

MATCHLESS, OFFA and PARTRIDGE proceed to pass Switha at 1730A today and escort VICTORIOUS to Rosyth.
2. On being detached MATCHLESS proceed to Tyne by Standard Route for refit at Jarrow by Palmers, OFFA and PARTRIDGE return to Scapa.
3. Mails for MATCHLESS have been diverted. (R.A.(D).H.F., 1443A/22.)

JUNON.

My 1956/17 para. 2.
1. F.S. JUNON is to carry out her A/S and working up patrol in area K.104 bounded latitude 061° 20' N. 060° 50' N. the meridian 002° 45' E. and Norwegian coast.
2. Northbound U-Boats are believed to keep about 30 miles off coast.
3. C.O. F.S. JUNON is to use his discretion in approaching coast until his S/M is sufficiently worked up. (F.O.S., 1538A/22 to Capt. (S) 9, (R) Admty., C. in C. H.F., S.O. S/Ms Lerwick, H.Q.C.C.)

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22.8.1942.
Saturday.War Diary.HOME COMMANDS.Movements - Contd.

Desron 7. On arrival Desdiv 13 at Merville about 0830 Monday 24th Desron 7 proceed Greenock. (C.T.G. 24.7, 1617A/22 to C.D.S. 7.)

DASHER. My 1843/21. C. in C. U.S. Fleet has given orders for DASHER to be sailed for U.K. in H.X.205, due to leave Halifax on 30/8. (D.O.D.(H), 1628A/22 to C. in C. W.A.)

BROKE. O.N. 123. *See p.702.*
BROKE is required to arrive Reykjavik if possible 4/9 subsequently acting under orders of C. in C.
H.F. Request destroyer of local escort force may relieve BROKE in time for her to arrive St. Johns Newfoundland 31/8 and after completing to maximum quantity of provisions and stores she may be sailed to Iceland. (C. in C. W.A., 1716Z/22 to C.T.F.24, F.O.N.F., BROKE.)

V.A. 2. *N.T. in W.D.*
A.C.O.S. 2103/21. V.A.2's flag was not transferred from ANSON to RODNEY although V.A.2 was temporarily accommodated in the latter ship. (V.A.2, 1819A/22 to Admty.)

Operations.

P. 221. P. 221 is to leave patrol so as to arrive Lerwick 26/8. (F.O.S., 1142A/22 to S.9.)

Danish Trawlers. VIVIEN 1105/21 (N.T. in W.R.) the 3 Danish trawlers found 5 miles to seaward 17 buoy have been brought into Grimsby and placed in charge of Admiralty Marshal. Names KARINA, PEDERNYBORG, NEPTUNE. Propose to seize them in prize. Approval has been given for immediate sale perishable cargo fish. Charts (etc.) are being forwarded D.N.I. by courier. Crews have been sent to central reception depot 12 by security control. (N.O.I.C. Humber, 1421A/22.)

Operation "Jubilee". Following L.C.P (L)s were lost during Dieppe operation 45, 42, 81, 157, 164, 174, 210, 212. (TORMENTOR, 1455A/22.)

Exercise "Cole II". Intend to carry out on 29/8. (C. in C. Plymouth, 1605A/22.)

/Dover ...

War Diary.22.8.1942
Saturday.HOME COMMANDS.Operations - contd.

Dover patrols. For night of 22nd/23rd August M.Ls 146 and 147 from Ramsgate Patrolling between Dumpton and N.E. Spit Buoys E.T.D. 2100 E.T.R. 0515/23. M.L.139 and R.M.L.521 from Newhaven near C.1 Buoy. The following anti E-boat patrols from 2115. MARETTA and LOIS 1 mile south of D. Buoy. M.Ls 213 and 103 at No. 10 Buoy. FYLDEA and SARPEDON 1 mile E. of No.4 Buoy. (V.A. Dover 1758A/22.)

M.S.1 Operation E.U. Russian destroyer GREMYASHCHI will R/V with TUSCALOOSA 20 miles North of Cape Teriberski at 1845C/23 and lead her into harbour. Russian destroyer SOKRUSHITELNI will R/V with M.S.1 5 miles North of Cape Teriberski at 1945C/23. (S.B.N.O. Polyarno 2210A/22 to TUSCALOOSA, M.S.1.)

West Channel Patrol. My 2251/21 and Admiralty's 2013/22. "Obstacle" postponed 24 hours. (N.O.I.C. Dartmouth 2301/22.)

Allied Air Operations.

Operation "Knocker" 1st plane airborne 0840Z/22nd. (A.C.I.C. 0950A/22.)

Air patrol. SY 198 22/8. Following repeated to you begins to R.A.F. Iceland repeated 15 18 Groups from H.Q.C.C. A.C. 517 21/8 appears possible U-Boats are taking a more Northerly course to avoid Flora patrols. Importance of Ports 13 14 15 and even further North appears now considerable. Suggest increased flying by your Aircraft in this area. Will endeavour also to extend Floras further North ends time of origin 1920A/21. (H.Q.C.C. 1020A/22 to Admty.)

Operation "Knocker" In progress. (T.A.C. Prestwich 1053/22.)

GULF OF MEXICO. Your 1253/20. U.S. Merchant vessels are supplied with A.M.S.I. and C.A.M.S.I. which contain rules for opening fire and rules governing approach of friendly aircraft. N.C.S.O. Swansea reports GULF OF MEXICO held current A.M.S.I. and C.A.M.S.I. (D.T.D. 2103A/22 to C. in C. W.A.)

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War Diary.22.8.1942
Saturday.HOME COMMANDS.Mining.

- Dover.** Mines swept yesterday Friday in Q Z X 780:-
(1) Blue 50° 48' 9" N. 00° 46' 25" E.
(2) Red 50° 49' 36" N. 00° 50' 13" E.
No. 2 was a sensitive mine and exploded between the Bridges of the Sweepers.
(V.A. Dover 1002A/22, 1114A/22.)
- Sheerness.** Details of 7 ground mines detonated on 21/8.
(Capt. M/S Sheerness 0930/22, 0935/22, 0938/22, 0942/22, 0945/22, 0947/22, 0950/22.)
This was the 100th mine detonated by ARCTIC HUNTER.
(Capt. M/S Sheerness 0942/22.)
Details of two ground mines detonated 20/8.
(Capt. M/S Sheerness 1020/22, 1025/22.)
One ground mine 22/8 detonated as follows.
(Capt. M/S Sheerness 1600/2.)
- Operation S.N.73** My 1621/18th. Amend para 4 to read AURORA is to be detached on return journey off Skagi and is then to proceed independently direct to Clyde.
(C. in C. H.F. 1049A/22 to R.A.(M))
Operation completed.
(R.A.M. 2048A/22.)
- Brighton.** Positions of two magnetic mines detonated in 220° Brighton East Pier 7.7 miles and 219° Brighton East Pier 7.6 miles respectively.
(L.T/C M/S Newhaven 1138/22, 1219/22, 1547/22, 1615/22, 1627/22.)
- Needles Approach Channel.** My 1913B/17/7. Traffic may now move uncontrolled by day in Q Z S 284 364 and that portion of Q Z S 293 that passes through Q Z X 766. The route through Q Z X 766 is marked by a black conical buoy (see Q Z H 730 and by dan buoy) and the use of this portion of Q Z S 293 is subject to visibility being good enough to enable ships to see the dan buoys.
(C. in C. Portsmouth 1253A/22.)
- 9th M/S F.** Your 1233/21 arrived Newhaven.
(N.O.I.C. Newhaven 1605/22 to C. in C. Portsmouth)
- Minelaying off Lincs. Coast.** Ref. 332A/41/P of 3/10/41.
Between 2215 and 2330 22/8 20 enemy A/C operated over the Humber area. 10 A/C passed in over the Lincolnshire coast, the other 10 operated off the coast between Donna Nook and Skegness.
- Plotting indicated minelaying between the coast and inshore route and out towards but not on the main channel. A/C were flying between 2000 and 8000 ft. No mines seen to drop.
Weather fine with bright moonlight.
(F.O. Humber 2355A/22.)

War Diary.22.8.1942
Saturday.HOME COMMANDS.Enemy Intelligence.

Altafiord. A 'B.2' report states no German Main Units were at Alta on 19th August, 1942.
(D.D.I.C. 1812A/22 to A.I.G. 21, S.B.N.O. North Russia, Admiral Miles, H.Q.C.C., F.O.S., Cominch, Comaveu, H.Q.B.C., N.A. Stockholm.)

U-Boats.

U/B Report. Following has been read. Am over enemy submarine in 63° 0' N. 21° 29' W.
(Iceland 0410/22.)

Following has been read. Sub on surface and observed to submerge course 280° speed 8 knots.
(Iceland 0418Z/22.)
Corrected position 62° 37' N. 21° 22' W.
(A.O.C. 15 Gp. 0520Z/22.)

? U/B Hunt. Continue to hunt for further half (? hour) if not in contact then rejoin.
(R.A.(M) 1551A/22 to CASTLETON.)

Navigational.

Loch Striven. Intend to commence X craft training on 30/8. Request approval for exclusive use of Loch Striven area between 055° 57' 50" and 055° 59' 50" N. Further request action may be taken to prohibit anchorage in this area of vessels understood to be at or visiting Loch Striven Head in connection with I.C.I. establishment.
(Cdr. Ingram H.M.S. CYCLOPS, 1235A/22 to F.O.I.C. Greenock.)

Casualties and Defects.

WINDSOR. My 1131/21. On completion of escort duties proceed to Rosyth and effect repairs to starboard condenser. (2) Report estimated time to complete defect. (3) On completion return to Scapa Flow.
(R.A.(D) H.F. 0030A/22 to WINDSOR.) *See p. 679*

8th M.G.B.F. Your 1537A/21. Owing to defective Dynamo Regulators in all Boats request sailing may be deferred 24 hours.
(R.A.C.F. 1129A/22 to Admty.)

R.A.C.F.'s 1129/22. 8th M.G.B. Flotilla have been operating for at least four weeks with defective dynamo regulators. In view of this intend to carry out orders ref Admiralty's 1537/21 and my 2251/21 unless orders are received to contrary.

(N.O.I.C. Dartmouth 1605/22 to C. in C. Plymouth.)

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Saturday.HOME COMMANDS.Casualties and Defects - contd.

- WELLS. Cancel my 1805/20. , Ship further delayed.
(N.O.I.C. Newport 1230A/22.)
- M.M.S.203 A.M. 1825A/21 (See Movements) ^{p. 653} Defect in M.M.S. 203 found. 14 days will probably be required to carry out work. Request information as to whether remaining two boats should be sailed and held to await M.M.S. 203.
(F.O.I.C. Greenock 1737A/22 to Admty.)
- WILTON. Sailing may be delayed due to severe cracks in Upper Deck, D.N.C. is being informed.
(Capt. D. Greenock 1846/22.)

Shipping and Convoys.

- S.L.118. When SABRE and SKATE have joined detach ships of 11 knots and over to proceed as S.L.118 fast escorted by one destroyer and one sloop. Name of ships detached and escort to be reported by FOLKESTONE. Codeword for S.L.118 fast "Child".
(C. in C. W.A. 1008A/22 to Ships escorting convoy S.L.118 for Condr. (R) S.P. in U.K. concerned, SKATE, SABRE.)
- F.N.794 Hydrographers H.O. 27722. FRANKLIN is to leave Sheerness as instructed by VIVIEN and proceed to Humber in company with F.N.794 due to sail 0730.
Sunday 23rd. N.C.S.O. Thames is requested to arrange for routes and convoys instructions to be passed in Barrow Deep. Notwithstanding relative seniorities of commanding officers VIVIEN is to remain S.O. Escorts.
(C. in C. Nore 1022A/22 to FRANKLIN.)
- S.C.97. Your 1743Z/21 concur. Orders will be issued accordingly. SCHENCK will augment escort unit 24.6.3 at Icomp for S.C.I.97.
(C.T.F. 24.6 1035/22 to C. in C. W.A.)
- Swedish Ships. If trading in interests of United Nations, Swedish ocean-going merchant ships fitted with W/T, are, when routed independently or sailing in ocean convoys, to be supplied with one copy of A.M.S.I. and two copies of C.A.M.S.I. in addition to books normally held by neutral ships.
2. N.C.S.I. 83/42, section (C), in course of distribution, will be amended.
(D.T.D. 1711A/22 to A.I.G. 19, 26.)

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Saturday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping and Convoys - contd.

S.D.31. S.D.31 sailed 1300A 22nd QUEEN OF BERMUDA,
BATORY, LEINSTER, carrying (details)
(D.S.T.O. Iceland 2111A/22.)

Convoy T.A.18 a.m. 1254/18. Route to New York.
T.A.18. (D.O.D.H. 2306A/22.)

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Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic.

ALRESFORD ashore. British Ship ALRESFORD reported ashore by Punta del Sabinal. Sailed 0045/22, rescue tug SALVONIA escorted by JONQUIL to assistance. E.T.A. 2000B/22 approx. SALVONIA has been instructed to wear white ensign. (F.O.C.N.A., 0720A/22 to B.N.A. Madrid (R) Admty, 0732A/22 to Admty).
Return to harbour. Ship refloated and proceeding. JONQUIL pass to SALVONIA and acknowledge forthwith. (F.O.C.N.A., 1349A/22 to JONQUIL, SALVONIA).
My 0720/22. Ship refloated under own power and proceeding. SALVONIA and JONQUIL returning to harbour. (Gibraltar, 1414A/22 to B.N.A. Madrid, Admty F.O.I.C. Gibraltar).
Report P.C. and S. and whether SALVONIA in company. (F.O.C.N.A., 1841A/22 to JONQUIL)

LIMA Ref. Funchal's report to M.E.W. only that Portuguese LIMA sailed 21/8 with mail and recommended they be removed. Should this be done? (F.O.C.N.A., 0904A/22 to Admty).

P.556 Owing to defects, time required to fit anchor and cable and amount of action damage in hand on other vessels, it is not expected P.556 will be ready to leave Gibraltar for Freetown until mid September. (F.O.C.N.A., 1008A/22 to R.A.W.A. (?S).O.S., E.F., (R) Admty. F.O.S., S.O.S., Simonstown).

Madrid, U/B Incident. In private conversation Spanish D.N.I. stated (a) Italian Naval Attache had called on him saying farewell as he was going to Italy but said he would return early December (my 1617 (?3/8)) D.N.I. does not think he will return. (b) Captain and Assistant Captain Port Santander have been posted elsewhere. D.N.I. thinks he may also lose his job, as Minister of Marine feels any person connected with this incident no matter how guiltless (?must) suffer consequences. (Madrid, 1109/22 to D.N.I.)

PENN, Gibraltar torpedoes. PENN is being sailed with only 6 torpedoes on board, 2 in number having been expended. (2) There are no mark IX 2 Star Torpedoes available at Gibraltar. (3) If a complete outfit of Mark IX to IX 1 Star Torpedoes are issued, then reserves of this type at Gibraltar will be reduced to 2 in number. (F.O.C.N.A., 1112A/22 to Admty). *See next page (MALAYA Jc.)*

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Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic - Contd.

P.51 Intend P.51 to proceed from Chatham to Gibraltar via Portsmouth.
(F.O.S., 1141A/22 to Capt. (S) 3 (R) C. in C. Nore, C. in C. Portsmouth, Capt. (S) 5 Admty).
My 1216/26 (List of Subs. leaving U.K.)
Owing to damage P.51 will probably not arrive Gibraltar before late September. F.O.C.N.A. pass to Capt. S.8.
(F.O.S., 1143A/22 to C. in C. Med., (R) Admty etc)

CLYDE S/M CLYDE leaves harbour 1900B today Saturday through 035° 42' N., 002° 48' W., at 0600B/23 on surface at 12 knots.
(F.O.C.N.A., 1431A/22 to JONQUIL).
My 1136/19 sailed CLYDE.
(F.O.C.N.A. 1828A/22 to N.O.I.C. Malta, (R) Admty, Capt. (S) 10, C. in C. Med., F.O.S., Capt. S.1.)

P.247. 1. P.247 passes Bishop Rock at 2200A/24 and will cross 043° 01' at 012° 30' at 0015A/31 shifting wireless watch at that time, proceeding thence as ordered by F.O.C.N.A. surface S.O.A. 10 knots.
2. Wireless watch. 3. P.247 is painted grey with light grey figures on C/T.
(Capt. S.3., 1435A/22 to F.O.C.N.A. (R) F.O.S., Admty etc).

MALAYA, R.A.W.A.F., 1735Z/20. Onward route from (E) to
RAMILLIES, (F) 028° 02', 013° 27' (G) 33.01, 10.03 (H)
PINDOS, 35.41 06.34 thence Gibraltar.
etc. (2) Freetown destroyers will be relieved by
*2-7-690 LAFOREY, LOOKOUT, *PENN in position (D) *See the Signal Page*
(3) MALAYA pass to escorting destroyers.
(4) WESTCOTT, WISHART, ANTELOPE R/V during daylight 27th.
(F.O.C.N.A., 1546A/22 to MALAYA, RAMILLIES (R) Admty, C. in C. S.A., R.A.W.A., C.T.F.23).
My 1546A/22. Intend to sail G.S. PINDOS 1200/24 for Bathurst with WESTCOTT, ANTELOPE, WISHART.
(2) G.S. PINDOS will part company on meeting MALAYA, RAMILLIES, on 2200B/27 whichever is earlier.
(3) Route (R) 22.01, 18.02 (S) 19.02, 18.50. S. of A. 13½ knots.
(4) R.A.W.A. is requested to signal onward route from position (S).
(5) C. in C. Med., pass to C. in C. H.H.M. Navy.
(F.O.C.N.A., 1716A/22 to R.A.W.A. (R) Admty. C. in C. S.A., C. in C. Med., C. in C. H.H.M. Navy).
W.D. Note. Amended by F.O.C.N.A., 1030A/24, q.v.

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Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic. - Contd.

- INDOMITABLE. Intend sailing INDOMITABLE for Liverpool 0300B/24 escorted by LIGHTNING, ITHURIEL, BRAMHAM, LEDBURY, routed through K.035° 51' N., 006° 55' W.
- L. 36.18, 10.02. M. 39.01, 16.30. N. 45.02 19.58 S. of A. 16 knots.
2. BRAMHAM, LEDBURY will probably have to part company at dark 26th due to shortage of fuel. INDOMITABLE escorted by LIGHTNING ITHURIEL will then proceed at high speed, A.M.1501A/21 refers.
3. Admty is requested to signal ultimate destination for destroyers.
4. C. in C. W.A. is requested signal onward route from position N.
5. LIGHTNING due for refit. ITHURIEL docking for action damage. LEDBURY requires minor repair.
(F.O.C.N.A., 1552A/22 to Admty, C. in C. W.A., (R) R.A.A. H.F.etc)

South Atlantic.

U/B Following has been read. Hora 1830 G.M.T./ S/M in 28.50 S., 48.53 W.
(Cerrito Radio, T.O.R., 0030Z/22).

Training Facilities, Durban. Your 1000C/19. As it is essential that trainees should have opportunity for instruction on board H.M. Ships you are to report on following points before taking further action (A) what accommodation can be made available near Durban for personnel undergoing instruction on board H.M. Ships and undergoing courses at A.A. range (b) what will be the facilities for transit between the camp now proposed and Durban.
(Admty. 0115A/22 to R.A.T.E. Durban, (R) C. in C. S.A., S.C.E. S.A., Commodore, Durban).

My 1000/19 and C. in C. South Atlantic's 1450/21. Primary consideration is speed with which training can be brought into full operation. Eastern Fleet are already pressing for increasing numbers of non substantive rates to relieve ratings on home service rosters. Estimate new site will accelerate training by 3 to 5 months. (Details).
(R.A.T.E., Durban, 1900C/22 to Admty (R) C. in C. S.A., S.C.E.S.A., N.S.O. Durban).

SEATRIN
TEXAS.

U.S. Army transport SEATRIN TEXAS sailed route R.6 S.O.A. 13 - 15 knots, E.T.A. outer end of Durban. searched channel 1430Z/24 daylight 25(19) - (20) S.O.02413 No. 202. S.B. 02413 No. 1539 withdrawn. Admty 1838/31 refers.
Above is repetition of my 0920Z/21.
(N.C.S.O. Capetown, 0545/22 to Admty etc).

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Saturday.

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FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic.- Contd.

LÉOPARD, F.S.*LÉOPARD is to be sailed for Capetown as A/S
MENELAUS. escort to MENELAUS due off Pointe Noire A.M. 26/8
Route. A. 020° 00' S., 009° 30' E. B. 034° 30' S
016° 20' E. thence Capetown estimated S. of A.
13½ knots. Report time of sailing and time of shifting to area Q
W/T organization.
(R.A.W.A., 0915Z/22 to B.N.L.O. Pointe Noire (R) C. in C. S.A.
Admty, C. in C. E.F., F.S. LÉOPARD) *But see p. 492-

FLYING My 1437B/19. Destination FLYING KESTREL is Suez.
KESTREL. On completion of tow she is to be sailed for Cape
with minimum delay N.O.I.C. Lagos acknowledge.
(C. in C. S.A., 0928B/22 to R.A.W.A. N.O.I.C.
Lagos (R) B.N.L.O. W.A., Admty. for D. of S.T.)

EGRA Overdue shipping. EGRA due Durban 14/8 from
Addu Atoll not arrived.
(S.O.(I) Capetown, 1033B/22 to Admty S.O.(I)
Colombo, C. in C. S.A., D.C. in C. E.F.,
S.O.(I) Kilindini (R) Com. i/c Durban).

TAIGETE, Italian tankers TAIGETE and ARCOLA bound
ARCOLA. Curacao. (Description) Position 1200/22, 08°
30' N., 013° 30' W. Ships have safe conduct.
(R.A.W.A., 1042/22 to B.A.M.S. 3 A).
Following is a repetition of my 1313Z/22 addressed
S.B.N.O. Curacao (begins) sailed ARCOLA and TAIGETE 0900/22.
routed as in R.A.W.A.'s 1845Z/15 speed 9.8 knots. E.T.A. Curacao
7/9.
(N.C.S.O. Freetown 1314Z/22 to Admty, C. in C. U.S. Fleet
B.A.D. (R) S.B.N.O.W.A., C.T.F. 23, R.A.W.A.)

ERNE BANK. Your 0433/21 to Admty. My E.S. 361 C, ROBIN
WENTLEY reported in error. Should read
ERNEBANK.
(S.O.(I) Capetown, 1104B/22 to S.O.(I) Colombo,
(R) Admty D.C. in C. E.F., S.O.(I) Aden).

ELMWOOD Your 2132Z/14 (re sending 19 survivors of SS.
survivors. ELMWOOD to Bathurst) SS. GUINEA sails 23/8
due Bathurst 24th with 6 Officers, 13 men
survivors of SS. ELMWOOD, Plus one man U.S.
SS. STELLA LYKES who is stretcher case for hospital.
Captain requests he may be met. Please clear vessel with
utmost despatch as making special call at my request.
(R.O. Bissau 1408/22 to S.O.(I) Freetown for R.A.W.A. (R)
Admty and N.O. Bathurst).

/RAMILLIES...

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Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic - Contd.

- RAMILLIES, At 0050Z/21 RAMILLIES in 07.14 N., 14.07 W.
WIVERN, M.L.A. 342° S. of A. 13.2 knots ? maintains
U/B contact. R.D.F. contact down moon bearing 050° range
13,200 yards with type 273. Contact maintained
steady range and bearing till 0130 then altered
course to intercept RAMILLIES. 0218Z RAMILLIES altered away.
0240Z contact passed 5,000 yards astern. Search by WIVERN
with type 286 failed to locate target. Consider this may
possibly have been U-boat attacked BOKANNA (as received ?
BOCAINA) at 2200/21 and fixed by Admty at 0409Z/21.
(R.A.W.A., 1515Z/22 to Admty).
- B.R.O. I have registered Broutof as telegraphic address
Montevideo. of British Routeing Officer, Montevideo.
(B.R.O. Montevideo, 1533/22, to Admty (R)
C. in C. S.A., S.O.(I) Freetown, Montevideo).
- SANTA PAULA, O.S. Transport SANTA PAULA reports following
flares. (A) 14/8 sighted undefined object in 020° 18'
S., 060° 40' E. (B) At 2019/14 a green flare in
021° 44' S., 059° 33' E. (C) At 0400/15 second
green flare in 022° 30' S., 058° 18' E.
(S.O.(I) Capetown, 1535B/22 to D.C. in C. E.F.,
N.O.I.C. Mauritius, (R) Admty. C. in C. S.A.,
Cmdre. Durban).
- HATSUSE. ^{N.T. W.D.}
Sailing HATSUSE to Kilindini routed as in my
0643/11. (2) W/T Watch on 500 k/cs in single
operator periods. (3) S. of A. 7 knots.
E.T.A. 2/9.
(N.O.I.C. Durban, 1542Z/22 to Admty C. in C. S.A.
C. in C. E.F., D.C. in C. E.F., F.O.I.C. East
Africa and Zanzibar, S.O.(I) Colombo, S.O.(I)
Kilindini).
- *ALCANTARA, ALCANTARA escorting JAMES PARKER arriving Pointe
JAMES Noire 1230Z/23.
PARKER. (2) ALCANTARA is then to be sailed for Freetown
passing through 002° 00' N., 014° 00' W.,
ALCANTARA is not to be fuelled unless essential.
* See 10.692 (3) JAMES PARKER will be sailed ~~for~~ Pointe Noire
to U.S. unescorted. Route orders will be sent.
(R.A.W.A., 1559Z/22 to B.N.L.O. Pointe Noire (R)
Admty. C. in C. S.A., ALCANTARA).
- HAMMEREN Swedish ship HAMMEREN sunk by S/M 0800 G.M.T./22
sunk. 6 miles off Itapoan Light 13° S., 38° 15' W.
Ship hit by 6 gunshots and one torpedo, S/M last
seen on easterly course. 5 missing feared killed.
26 survivors including wounded landed here.
(R.O. Bahia, 1601Z/22 to Admty (R) S.O.(I)
Freetown, S.O.(I) Montevideo, S.O.(I) Rio de
Janeiro).

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

- MAURETANIA Rio de Janeiro 1615Z/22. See America and West Indies.
- VIMEIRA British VIMEIRA sunk by U-boat 11/8 in 10° 03' N.,
(sunk 11/8). 28° 55' W., U-boat appeared Italian. 4 Officers, 16 seamen picked up. One other boat adrift steering eastwards has W/T transmitter.
(S.O.(I) Freetown, 1715Z/22 to Admty (R) C. in C. S.A., Opanav).
- MALMANGER Norwegian MALMANGER sunk by U-boat 9/8 in 007°
(sunk 9/8). 13' N., between 026° and 027° W. Survivors 9 Norwegian 5 British landed proceeding Freetown. 1 lifeboat still adrift.
(S.O.(I) Freetown, 1716Z/22 to Admty pass to U.S.N.D. Washington, (R) C. in C. S.A., Opanav, B.N.L.O.W. Africa).
- TURKISTAN S.O.(I) Jamaica reports British TURKISTAN sighted
U/B periscope 0709/3/8 in 00° 43' S., 18° 10' W., and took evasive action.
(S.O.(I) Freetown, 1755Z/22 to Admty).
- U/B Sao My 0425Z/19. 2 fishermen have advised local
Sebastiao. authorities Sao Sebastiao Is. that they had sighted submarine 5 miles from Sao Sebastiao Channel. Date not given.
(S.O.(I) Montevideo, 1855Z/22 to Admty (R) S. A. Stn. G., B.A.D., C. in C. S.A., C.T.F.23., S.O.(I) Freetown, S.O.(I) Kingston (Jamaica)).
- Convoy When route of a convoy is altered after sailing
Stragglers the Authority ordering diversion should where
Route. necessary amend stragglers route so as to conform, provided that it is not so amended as to cause stragglers to proceed South of Ireland (R) If no change in stragglers route is considered necessary, diverting Authority should so indicate in his signal. Amended stragglers route positions should be lettered differently from the original positions.
2. I.C.O.C. 12 will be amended.
(D.T.D., 1948A/22 to C. in C. S.A., R.A.W.A. etc).
- "Q" Report My 2350Z/11 (Re intercepted distress signal
DALHOUSIE picked up by Brazilian Radio) SS. DEFENDER
9/8. reported intercepted following message at 1500 ships time 9/8 "QQQQ suspicious vessel following DALHOUSIE 020° 22' S., 024° 40' W" and at 1520 "QQQQ opened fire".
(S.O.(I) Montevideo 2201Z/22 to Admty (R) C. in C. S.A. etc).

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FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic. - Contd.

U-boat Following has been read by Falkland Isles W/T SE AVISTO Submarine en lat. 28° 50' S., 48° 53' W. (Cerrito, T.O.R. 2204Z/22).
Note: Passed to Cominch by W.R.

Reported U/B Supply Ship. Supply ship reported fuelling U-boat in 004° 18' S. 010° 38' E. at (907)30Z/22. Proceed with all despatch to search vicinity. LEOPARD will join you from Pointe Noire. Report fuel remaining Report may refer to TEMPLE INN being towed by FLYING KESTREL to Lagos. (R.A.W.A., 2255Z/22 to ALCANTARA (R) B.N.L.O. Pointe Noire, Admty C. in C. S.A., N.O.I.C.Lagos).

LEOPARD *NT in W.D.*
See p. 689. *ALCANTARA in 004° 18' S., 010° 38' E. at 0800Z/23. My 2255Z/22 refers. Report endurance of LEOPARD (R.A.W.A., 2301Z/22 to B.N.L.O.WA. (R) Admty. C. in C. S.A., N.O.I.C. Lagos, ALCANTARA, F.S. LEOPARD.

Supply ship fuelling 2 U-boats reported in 004° 18' S., 010° 38' E., at 0800Z/23. ALCANTARA and LEOPARD proceeding to investigate. Request air assistance if possible. (R.A.W.A., 2335Z/22 to C.O. U.S. Troops Ascension pass to N.O.I.C. Ascension B.A.D., (R) C. in C. U.S. Fleet C.T.F.23).

**See p. 690*
Vichy R.A.W.A., 2331Z/22. See America & West Indies.
Signal,
Martinique.

Mediterranean.

Sinking of MANCHESTER. Substance of telegram sent Dept. of State in Washington by Consulate at Tunis 17/8/1942. Report from Tunis. Please repeat following to London for Admty as our No. 18. Report of Capt. Drew of MANCHESTER states he was sunk on 12/8 about midnight G.M.T. by torpedo from Italian E-boat lying in wait in French waters close to wreck of HAVOCK. This E-boat and one other were destroyed by him. MANCHESTER sank in 20 fathoms about 4 miles off Kelobiaen front of minefield. He reports nothing compromised, all documents burned and R.D.F. gear dismantled. Latter he states failed to detect E-boats. Over 200 survivors, in addition to those listed by Consulate were put on board PATHFINDER and 2 destroyers of Tribal class were later observed picking up others from the sea. Sub. Lieut. Frankland and about 12 ratings killed in engine room blast are among known casualties. It is the belief of Capt. Drew and Cdr. Johnston that the convoy was

/compromised...

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FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean-~~conts.~~

Sinking of
MANCHESTER.
Report from
Tunis.
Contd.

compromised from the start; that passage of ships through these waters means 90% loss, the waters being too narrow for manoeuvres and the enemy free to concentrate attacks and make use of French territorial waters. Attackers cannot be wholly driven off in spite of the best air defence. Capt. Drew and Cdr. Johnston report they saw 5 merchantmen sunk. So far there are about 130 survivors from GLENORCHY and CLAN FERGUSON with us. According to other information received, Bizerta estimates about 40 planes shot down near there and some 15 off Kelibia. 7 Axis planes were forced down in Tunisia and a German pilot who landed near Tunis said he had never seen such A/A fire. It is known that Italy lost 1 cruiser, 1 submarine and 2 E-boats. An Italian vedette picking up 2 British officers less than a mile from the coast has caused a nasty incident. Their release was demanded by Adm. Durrien who sent gendarmes on board and took them which infuriated Italina Adm. Salza who gave order on any French attempting interference in similar cases. 6 British survivors are known to have been picked up in same vicinity by another vedette. Their names are known and will be reported. We will cable further details as they are received. (Comnavu, No T.O.O./22). Note: See also 2051/21 from B.A.D. Washington).

U/B P.C. and S. of 1 enemy S/M are:- 040° Port Said
80 miles 260° 3 knots .
(A/C W. of Q.Z.7 Squad.0615/22 to 201 Group H.Q.)
I have fuel for 2 hours remaining. Enemy S/M previously reported has surfaced. Enemy has altered course to 020° 3 m.
(A/C W of Squadron (M.E.) 0630/22 to 201 Group)
My (?2054)/21 When detached join EXMOOR and search for (?U-boat) reported damaged by aircraft (corrupt Groups) at 0615.
(F.O.S 15 C.S., 0720C/22 to BEAUFORT, TETCOTT (R) COVENTRY, EURYALUS, C. in C. Med., EXMOOR, Wing 56 Group Rear).

Force I I am being heavily attacked by enemy aircraft,
A/C attack. 35.30 N., 11.32 E.
((?S.O. Force I) 0847B/22 to Malta W/T).

Enemy Tanker My 2205/21 not to TURBULENT. No claim R/C
P.35 *see p. 696* made.
TURBULENT. (Capt. S.10., 0927B/22 to P.35. TURBULENT, (R)
see p. 697 Capt. S.1., C. in C. Med., S.O. Subs Alexandria.)
On arrival in patrol position steer 225° submerged
(Capt. S.1., 1001C/22 to TURBULENT (R) C. in C. Med., Capt. S.10., P.35).

ALBA JULIA. My 1233C/21. Vessel is likely sail p.m. today
22/8.
(S.O.(I) Istanbul, 1033C/22 to S.O.(I) Med.,
and S.1. (R) D.N.I.)

/Enemy...

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22.8.1942.
Saturday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean - Contd.

Enemy Tankers. Black Sea. With the capture of Maikop and possibly Tuapse it is estimated that Germans will be in a position to ship oil across Black Sea within 2 months. To do this it is believed that tankers from Mediterranean will have to be withdrawn. Request you will give special consideration to attacking these tankers. (A.C.N.S. (F) (P.D. 058/42) 1046A/22 to C. in C. Med).

Operation "Pedestal". BRISBANE STAR OHIO, V.A. Malta's 2353B/16. It is considered that widest possible publicity should be given to these achievements as an inspiration to other ships and a tribute to Merchant Navy. Approval is requested to issue a suitably censored local handout. (C. in C. Med., 1053C/22 to Admty for Press Div. (R) V.A. Malta). Reply 1235A/24.

Failure of A/C attack on Tankers 21/8. A.X.101. 22/8. Your I. 596. 21/8. Part 2. Torpedo Attack on Tankers. Request further details
A. Type of attack carried out.
B. Reason for using depth setting of 26 ft.
C. Number of torpedoes set to contact only and depth setting used.
D. State of sea. E. Wind. F. Amount of cloud and base.
G. Visibility. H. Type of avoiding action taken by target.
I. Any suggestions for failure to score hits, and reasons for torpedoes exploding clear of target, with distance from target. (Air Ministry, 1110Z/22 to H.Q., R.A.F., Malta (R) H.Q., R.A.F. Middle East).

AX. 101 22/8. Secret. (a) 4 flights of 3 in line astern attacking on port beam. (b) Tankers draft estimated 22 to 24 feet (c) Nil (d) calm (e) 5 m.p.h. from W.N.W. (f) Nil (g) 15 to 20 miles slight heat haze. (h) Nil (i) Several pilots allowed 7 knots stated as speed. Actually 1 to 2 knots at time of attack, also now believed tanker not fully laden may have been drawing 20 ft. No evidence that explosions seen were not bombs. I explosion took place approx. 300 yards from tanker. (H.Q., R.A.F., Malta, 1540/22 to Air Min) See also Air Ministry 1601Z/23).

Enemy Units P.C. and S. of enemy 3 (?destroyers) 1 tanker 1 medium vessel (not exceeding 10,000 tons) 6 (?Transport Barges) M.D.?R ?826 180° 6 knots 5' Aircraft 1123. (A/C Call Sign 7XC Duty S., 1125/22 to 201 Group)

/B1...

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22.8.1942.
Saturday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean. - Contd.

Bi-weekly
Opsum No. 49
(?).

Night of 18/19. 31 Wellingtons bombed shipping and harbour installations Tobruk, possible hit on ship west side of harbour followed by smoke and flames fires started on docks near Main Jetties and near Naval fuel tanks and petrol installation North west of harbour. 2 Wellingtons attacked shipping outside harbour no hits. 3 Wellingtons unable reach Tobruk bombed Sollum and Daba respectively results unobserved. 2 A.S.V. Wellingtons, 5 bomber, 5 torpedo Wellingtons despatched to attack southbound convoy, 1 M/V 10,000 tons 2 destroyers previously reported by R/C Maryland S.W. of Crete. 1 A.S.V. Wellington located convoy N.W. Tobruk but homing was hampered by considerable interference, 1 torpedo 3 bomber Wellingtons located and attacked no hits. Second torpedo Wellington attacked 2 M/Vs escorted by 2 destroyers 100 miles N.E. Derna claiming possible hit on 1 vessel 6,000 tons followed by smoke. 1 bomber Wellington attacked gun positions Tobruk, results unobserved. Remainder returned. 4 Albacores made offensive R/C for enemy coastal shipping West of Matruh, no sightings. 1 Albacore bombed Sidi Barrani landing ground starting a small fire, second Albacore bombed Galal railway station results unobserved.

Night 19/20/8 6 R.A.F. Liberators 14 Halifaxes, 25 Wellingtons bombed shipping and harbour installations Tobruk. 1 fire 3 explosions caused on or near small ship at Jetty, near misses on other shipping in harbour, fires started on docks and large fire at naval fuel tanks. 2 Liberators 2 Wellingtons bombed shipping outside harbour claiming near misses on 1 vessel. 3 Wellingtons unable to reach Tobruk. 1 bombed Sollum starting small fire among buildings, 2 bombed M.T. west of Bardia and Matruh respectively.

20/8. in afternoon 16 Beaufighters provided cover for damaged friendly S/M N.W. of Alexandria, 1 Beaufighter missing. 2 Spitfires intercepted Ju.86 which reconnoitred Canal Zone and Alexandria area at about 40,000 feet, first Spitfire attacked at long range but had to break off.

Owing to oxygen failure second Spitfire closed to within 10 yards but guns jammed pilot attempted to ram enemy but lost height in slip. 21 Hurricanes 5 Fulmars shipping protection of Delta and in Gulf of Suez. A Maryland bombed S/M believed German on surface about 40 miles off S.W. corner Crete, no hits.

Night 20/21. 32 Wellingtons bombed shipping and harbour installations Tobruk, claiming 1 hit on each of 2 ships, possible hit on third ship, several near misses on other shipping and lighters. 1 explosion on docks near main jetties and small fire started near petrol installations N.W. of harbour.

21/8. 5 Beaufighters offensive sweep at dawn for enemy Coastal shipping west of Matruh no sightings. 32 Hurricanes 4 Fulmars shipping protection off Delta and in Gulf of Suez. 2 Hurricanes shot down a R/C Italian aircraft in flames over Cyprus. Evening 6 R.A.F. Liberators attacked convoy consisting 1 believed tanker 2 M/Vs 1 destroyer about 125 miles N.N.E. of Tobruk, no hits claimed but some bombs burst near 1 ship. 10 American Liberators subsequently attacked claiming possible hits on 2 M/Vs. Formation attacked by enemy fighters and 1 Liberator landed in sea.

Night 21/22 About 12 enemy aircraft operated against Delta objectives apparently being landing grounds south of Alexandria. No details yet available damage or casualties 12 Beaufighters up, 1 He. 111 shot down.

(H.Q., R.A.F., M.E., 1141Z/22, 1210Z/22, 1243Z/22, 1340Z/22).

- /Malta...

War Diary.22.8.1942.
Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean - Contd.Malta Air
Sqdns.

Your 1557B/15/7. On representations made to me by V.A. Malta and concurred in by A.O.C. Mediterranean request decision ? not to maintain 828 and 830 squadrons at Malta be reconsidered

on following grounds:-

- (a) Destroyer striking force cannot be provided.
- (b) Beauforts cannot strike at night.
- (c) T.B.R. requires less than 50 (?per cent) fuel and maintenance as compared with Beaufort, both now important advantages.
- (d) Combination Beauforts and T.B.R. imposes maximum difficulty on enemy timing of convoys west of Malta.
- (e) Previous Swordfish operations from Malta forced enemy to keep outside range. Not only is Albacore range greater but if enemy convoys are driven eastward, task of Beauforts, S/Ms and R/C is reduced accordingly, and Egyptian based Liberators can also take a hand.

Albacores in Middle East experienced no overheating which prevented last attempt made by EAGLE, and I trust this is no obstacle. Malta is now able to resume offensive and T.B.R. A/C cannot be flown from Alexandria.

Request 9 Albacores from those allotted to Mediterranean may be flown Malta in time to play an early part in present stage of our effort against enemy supplies and that some at least may have A.S.V. For similar reasons Malta should have first claim to Barracuda or Avenger A/C allotted to F.A.A. Mediterranean.

(C. in C. Med., 1306C/22 to Admty (R) V.A. Malta, A.O.C. in C. M.E., 201, N.C.G.)

Oil Track.

A/C on landing reports oil track 20 miles direction 320° centre ½ hour Port Said 78 at 1119.
EURYALUS passing to 235 Rear.
(C.S.15, 1302C/22 to BEAUFORT (R) EURYALUS, EXMOOR)

Op.
"Pedestal".
unloading.

Your 1142/16. General cargo discharged by 0700/22 MELBOURNE STAR 8213 tons. BRISBANE STAR 8895 tons. Discharge completed except for 400 tons general cargo and coal under water in number 1 hold.
PORT CHALMERS discharge completed except for

200 tons coal. ROCHESTER CASTLE discharge completed except for 450 tons general cargo under water in number 3 hold.

2. Fuel discharged from above ships and OHIO to 0900/22. (details).

(V.A. Malta, 1422B/22 to Admty).

Unloading of general cargo from ships of convoy complete except for about 400 tons in each of one flooded hold of BRISBANE STAR and ROCHESTER CASTLE where work proceeding. Expect discharge of coal and fuel oil except for some small bunkers will be completed p.m./25. Estimated total stocks of latter 12,000 tons furnace fuel, 3,600 tons diesel.

(V.A.M., 2203B/22 to C. in C. Med., (R) Admty etc).

P.35

You have freedom of action in areas A and S. South end of Zante channel may be good focal area. (Capt. S.1., 1600C/22 to P.35, (R) TURBULENT, C. in C. Med., Capt. (S) 10).

War Diary.22.8.1942.
Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean. - Contd.

Enemy Convoy P.C. and S. of enemy convoy 34.10 N., 23.25 E. (?10°) 7 knots. (A/C No. Sqdn. (M.E.) Duty B., 1701/22 to 201 Group H.Q.)

KIPLING,
JACKAL,
LIVELY,
(sunk 11/5).

A board of enquiry has not been convened into loss of KIPLING, JACKAL and LIVELY as it was considered no useful purpose would be served. Report of operation during which these vessels were lost has been forwarded under Mediterranean 2671/0021Z/42 of 26/7/1942. (C. in C. Med., 1812C/22 to Admty).

Malta Air
Report.

I.601 22/8. C.S.R. 21st and night 21/22. No alerts.
22nd. 2 alerts 0809 hours 18 Plus enemy fighters of which 9 Plus turned back 25 miles N.E. of Malta, remainder approached to within 5 miles and withdrew. Partial R.D.F. interference. 15 Spitfires up unable to overtake withdrawing enemy. 1100 hours, 13 plus enemy fighters, some approached to within 5 miles N. of Malta 9 Spitfires up but enemy avoided combat and fled home.
21st. R/C sighted 1015 hours 1 tanker 8,000 1 small M/V, 5 D/Rs. 085° Fane Isle 21 miles entering Corfu Channel 7 knots. 1400 - 8 Spitfires airborne as diversion sweep over Southern Sicily thick cloud encountered and no enemy aircraft seen, 1 Spitfire damaged landing, pilot unhurt. At same time 9 Beauforts, 5 Beaufighters carrying bombs and fighter protection of 9 Beaufighters despatched to attack convoy. 1 Beaufighter burst tyre on take off, damaged, crew unhurt, another returned early mechanical trouble. Beauforts and remaining Beaufighters attacked convoy and 8 enemy aircraft over the convoy 1418, 003° Paxos 12 miles course 170° 6 knots. Beauforts dropped 9 torpedoes pistol setting 20 feet from 70 feet at 700 yards, scoring 3 hits on tanker. Photos taken by Baltimore show tanker stationary and long stream of oil flowing from both sides. 4 Beaufighters dropped 6 250 lb. G.P. bombs 12 seconds delay from 200 to 2000 ft. scoring 2 near misses on tanker and direct hit on 1 D/R. All aircraft attacked tanker and surface escort with cannon and machine guns. * Beaufighters destroyed 2 Piaggio 32s. 1 Ju.52 2 Br. 20s probably destroyed, 1 Ju.88. 1 Beaufighter, 1 Beaufort shot down sea near Corfu, crews seen in dinghy. 2 Beauforts 5 Beaufighters damaged by flak, one of Beauforts crew wounded.
(H.Q., R.A.F., Malta, 1848/22) * Tanker seen beached on 24/8, see 1830/25.

TURBULENT.

(Corrupt group) 27 miles S.W. of Cape Matapan until 0300/23 then if nothing is sighted proceed through (i) 035° 39', 023° 12' (ii) 034° 50', 023° 26' (iii) 031° 58' 032° 41' thence direct arriving outer end Port Said search channel 0530C/28. (Capt. S.l., 1850C/22 to TURBULENT (R) P.35, C. in C. Med., 201 N.C. Group, Subs on Patrol S.O. Subs. Alex.)

/KELVIN...

War Diary.

22.8.1942.
Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean. - Contd.

KELVIN

Request you will sail KELVIN to Port Said p.m. tomorrow Sunday on completion of structural repairs. She may be used for escort if required. (C. in C. Med., 2047C/22 to R.A. Alexandria, KELVIN Capt. (D) 14, R.A.D., Med., C.S.15, N.O.I.C Port Said).

Enemy
Units.

Following received. P.C. and S. of enemy 1 destroyer 7 M/Vs WKEX 80.45 120° 6. (position indecypherable). (Malta, 2320/22).

22.8.1942
Saturday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

Dispositions. My 1005/12/7 Eastern Fleet weekly disposition summary No.7.
 A. Battleships. WARSPITE, VALIANT, RESOLUTION, ROYAL SOVEREIGN at Kilindini. *REVENGE refitting at Durban. RAMILLIES on passage to U.K. *see below.
 B. Aircraft Carriers. ILLUSTRIOUS at Kilindini. FORMIDABLE detached. INDOMITABLE joining Home Fleet.
 C. 8" Cruisers. DEVONSHIRE at Colombo.
 D. 7" and 6" Cruisers. FROBISHER escorting convoy in Arabian sea. BIRMINGHAM, *HOBART, GAMBIA at Kilindini. NEWCASTLE (temporary repairing) at Bombay. ENTERPRISE escorting convoy off East Africa.
 E. Majority of forces to be employed on local operations. (C. in C. E.F. 0853Z/22 to C. in C. S.A. etc.)

ROYAL SOVEREIGN A.M. 0050/19. Intend sailing ROYAL SOVEREIGN to Durban leaving Kilindini on 1/9, arriving Durban 6/9, escorted by 2 destroyers.
 RAMILLIES, ILLUSTRIOUS, WARSPITE, REVENGE, RESOLUTION. 2. On arrival at Durban, ROYAL SOVEREIGN to dock. On conclusion of docking ROYAL SOVEREIGN will proceed to Cape and thence to U.S. to whatever port is ordered by Admty. This should ensure her to arrive about late October.
 3. Request I may be informed reason for change of programme for RAMILLIES. This is particularly important as her executive officer is now in command as acting Capt., her complement is reduced and a proportion of her stores and spare gear has been used to create a reserve on station.
 4. Docking of other battleships and ILLUSTRIOUS. Following programme is intended and will be adhered to as far as operational circumstances will allow, and provided C. in C. S.A. can arrange:

Name	Date at Durban.
ILLUSTRIOUS	21/9 - 27/9
WARSPITE	29/9 - 6/10
REVENGE <i>see above.</i>	7/10 - 14/10
RESOLUTION.	18/10 - 24/10.

(C. in C. E.F. 0905Z/22 to Admty. (R) V.A.3, C. in C. S.A.)
 Reply to para 3, Admty. 1459A/23.

Escort Vessels, Minesweepers, production. Your 0318/8. Assume that scheme envisaged applies to ships not yet laid down and not to new construction, for which crews are already being provided. If this is accepted it is presumed that Indian present new construction will not be interfered with. Under these conditions Govt. of India is prepared to accept principle referred to in para. 4.
 (F.O.C.R.I.N. 0906Z/22 to Admty.)

War Diary.22.8.1942
Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies - contd.

Japanese Repatriations. Following received from CITY OF PARIS for Swedish Consul General, Bombay. (Begins) 19 repatriated wish to go to (?) Durban, 388 Malaya, remaining Gocnu Japan. Please ask Japanese Govt. to arrange landing facilities. Signed Thaolm, Swedish representative, Exchange Vense. (Ends)

2. Message has been passed to addressee.

3. Govt. of India is strongly opposed to any safe conduct to Burma.

(F.O.C.R.I.N. 1010Z/22 to Admty.)

P.S.T.O. India 0501/18, F.O.C.R.I.N. 0921/18, and C. in C. E.F. 0817/20. It has been decided not to attempt removal of escort at sea. If is important that escort should not go ashore at Lourenco Marques. Request CITY OF PARIS be informed accordingly.

(M. Branch 2035A/22 to D. C. in C. E.F.)

K.15. Estimate positions of S/Ms at 1200Z/22nd.

K.14. A. K.15 on S.A. Station having entered station at 1800Z/21.

B. K.14 025° 40' S. 047° 40' E. through 033° S. 032° E. to East London, 9 knots.

(Capt. S.4, 1030Z/22 to C. in C. E.F., D. C. in C. E.F., B.S.3. F.O.I.C. E.A. and Zanzibar, 246 Eing, Cdre Durban, N.O.I.C. Diego Suarez, F.O.I.C. Ceylon, C. in C. S.A.)

Air Report SIRSA. Intelligence Summary No. 160 period 24 hours bombed. ending 1800 hours 22/8. Enemy flying boat bombed SS SIRSA in (? Vizagapat) Harbour 21/8. 2 Hurricanes intercepted PA no claim.

(A.H.Q. India 1520/22.)

Air Sqdn. Equipment. Your 0612/9. Resumption of flow of Beaufort aircraft to Ceylon is under active consideration. Further signal will be made. Albacore supply position does not warrant re-equipment of 814 Squadron at present. Eastern Fleet T.B.R. position under examination. Further signal will be made.

(D.A.C.D. Approved A.C.N.S.(F) 1716A/22 to C. in C. E.F.)

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War Diary.22.8.1942
Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies.

Navigation obstruction. Submerged object with approx 12 feet of water over it reported 4.9 miles 84° from Standpipe Nahant Mass 21/8.
(Commaveu 0330/22 to Admty.)

MAURETANIA. (1) Alusna Rio de Janeiro reports impracticable to dock MAURETANIA at Rio de Janeiro due to prisoners on board who cannot be landed.
Only alternative is for ship to fuel at Trinidad en route to U.S. which is most undesirable with present submarine situation.
(2) Since Admiralty and Navy Dept. are most anxious that ship should dock at Rio de Janeiro request you endeavour to arrange that prisoners may be accommodated in some other vessel or that they remain on board during docking in spite of difficulty of sanitation.
(3) Request you report if you consider diplomatic action necessary.

(B.A.D. 0447Z/22 to N.A. Rio de Janeiro (R) Admty.)
Maximum distance which MAURETANIA can steam today is 3,800 miles plus 10% for zigzag and even if present defective boilers and foul bottom were made good maximum radius would still not exceed 4,200 miles plus 10% for zigzag plus 2 days safety margin. In view of present U-Boat situation on coast of Brazil and in West Indies, I feel that there is absolutely no alternative but to send ship to Freetown for bunkers.
(Rio de Janeiro 1615Z/22 to Admty. (R) B.A.D.)
Request Vesca information MAURETANIA. My 2039/12 refers.
(N.S.H.Q. 1737Z/22 to Admty.) Reply: Admty 1227/24.
Alusna Rio de Janeiro now states you recommend MAURETANIA should be sent to Freetown for fuel. Vide his 1540/22.
2. Understand fuel at Freetown extremely short. Request therefore every effort be made to expedite action suggested in my 0447/22.
3. The ship is urgently required for special service.
(B.A.D. 1915Z/22 to N.A. Rio de Janeiro (R) Admty.)

DASHER.

Sail DASHER when ready to Halifax via Long Island Sound, Cape Cod Canal and BX convoy. Destination U.K. Important this ship sails in HX.205. Provide adequate protection.
(C. in C. U.S. Fleet 0556/22 to C.E.S.F. (R) Cinclant, C.T.24. Com.1, Com.3. N.S.H.Q. C.O.A.C., Admty.)
Your 1843/21. See Cominch 0556/22.
(B.A.D. 1301Z/22 to Admty.)

U/B.

S/M sighted by NBLZ (U.S. Yacht OPAL) Unlisted in $012^{\circ} 44' N.$ $059^{\circ} 40' W.$ 0235 G.M.T/22.
(S.O.I. Kingston 0957Q/22 to Admty., B.A.D. etc.)

S/M Attack ...

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War Diary.22.8.1942
Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies - contd.

Cominch's 2021/21.

S/M Attack and Sighting Summary. Para B. RAPHAEL SEMMES U-45 type. FAIRPORT 2 torpedo hits. Plane attacks S/M on surface 34.28 N. 75.31 W. 1034Z/21. Plane attacks S/M 24.28 N. 83.13 W. 1352Z/21 possibly damaged. Para C. Surface craft attacks sound contact 22.30 N. 78.06 W. 0800Z/20. Plane sights S/M on surface 22.28 N. 77.50 W. at about 0600Z/21. S/M sighted 19.50 N. 73.50 W. 1405Z/21, course N. Plane sights 2 S/Ms on surface 54.14 N. 58.04 W. 1420Z/21. Para D. Surface craft attacks sound contact 33.03 N. 65.12 W. 0845Z/27/7. 61.34 N. 23.53 W. 2015Z/4. 62.16 N. 23.22 W. 0134Z/5.
(Commaveu 1052/22 to Admty.)

BURWELL Your 1227/21 (N.T. in W.D.) Regret BURWELL and READING. READING will not be ready for service before early October. Difficulty of providing adequate escorts with these old ships is thoroughly appreciated and though owing to present commitments there is very little prospect of providing substitutes. I will inform you at once should relief become available.
(C. in C. W.A. 1052Z/22 to F.O.N.F. (R) Admty., C.T.F.24.)

O.N.123 C.T.U. 24.1.11 in BROKE plus ORILLIA, CHILLIWACK, escort. EYEBRIGHT, BATTLEFORD* sailed for O.N.123. BROKE, rescue ship BURY, and CAIROVALONA fitted H/F/D/F. Latest Q J A 134. In view of weakness of escort and limit of radius of BROKE strongly recommend destroyer reinforcement in Western Atlantic if available.
(C.T.G. 24.7 1215A/22 to C.T.F.24, (R) Connav, Admty., C. in C. W.A., N.S.H.Q., F.O.N.F., C.O.A.C., etc.) *London delivery.

A.T.20. Departures. 1 U.S.S. battleship, 1 U.S.S. Cruiser, 9 U.S.S. destroyers escorting A.T.20. (S.O.I.) Halifax 1224Z/22 to Admty. etc.)

VISCOUNT S/M bearing 185° distance 30 miles course U/B. 200° my position 052° 24' N. 026° 25' W. 12. S/M made sighting report. (VISCOUNT 1415Z/22 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.)

U/B. Enemy S/M sighted course 240° (corrupt group) 052° 01' 026° 57' at 1600. (EGLANTINE 1451Z/22 to C.T.24 (R) U.S. C.N.O. C. in C. W.A.)

/Navigation ...

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War Diary.22.8.1942
Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies - contd.

- Navigation. U.S. restricted Notice to Mariners No.27 dated 17/6/1942, forwarded by bomber mail is cancelled. Authority 1565Z/17 from Hydro Washington to N.Z.H.Q. A.C.N.B. and N.Z.N.B only. (N.S.H.Q. 1519Z/20 to Admty.)
- B.Y.M.S.& M.Ls. Port Royal. In order to afford increased berthing facilities for B.Y.M.S. and M.Ls at Port Royal approval is requested to repair the sub-mining and old dockyard piers at an approx cost of £350 and £1,380 respectively. Garrison pier and sub-mining piers would then be used entirely for naval purposes and the old dockyard pier would be used by the military. (Capt. I/C Jamaica 1521Q/22 to S.B.N.O. W.A. (R) Admty.)
- REGENT. Request anticipated date for REGENT leaving U.S.A. for Gibraltar via Bermuda. (F.O.S. 1536A/22 to B.A.R.M. Washington (R) F.O.C.N.A., Capt. (S) 8.)
- CHURCHILL T.A.W.12 Escort. Your 1012/19. C.O. H.M.S. CHURCHILL interrogated. He has submitted detailed report of escort T.A.W. 12 to information addressees. Convoy Commodore submitted report to same authorities. Recommend no action until reports are received. (C.G.S.F. 1548/22 to S.B.N.O. W.A. (R) C.C.S.F., F.O.I.C. Trinidad, CHURCHILL.)
- U/B Positions. S/M estimate 22/8. (Cominch 1601/22, 1602/22, 1603/22, 1604/22, 1605/22 to Admty.)
- Routeing, Cape Horn. Cancel my 1622/20 and substitute. Unless the contrary is specifically stated, tankers arriving in Panama Canal from the Atlantic side and bound for South Africa are to be routed via Magellan or Cape Horn. (D.T.D. 1623A/22 to B.R.O. CRISTOBAL (R) N.S.H.Q. S.O.(I) Jamaica.)
- P.555 Your 1355/15. P.555 delayed probably 3 weeks due to leaking oil fuel tank. (B.A.D. 1645Z/22 to Admty., C. in C. Atlantic Fleet, Cdr. S/Ms Atlantic Fleet, R.A.W.A., F.O.C.N.A., F.O.(S) C. in C. S.A., N.S.H.Q. S.B.N.O. W.A.)

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War Diary.22.8.1942
Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies. - contd.FRIMAIRE
(French)

Your 0155/22. Cominch informed Cinclant, C.C.O. Caribseafon, Cafac, Ans, Alusio, Aruba, that message from Vichy Radio Station (FFS) had been intercepted at 1711/19 directing FRIMAIRE proceed Martinique. No truth in report of her arrival. Whereabouts still unknown.

(B.A.D. 1801Z/22 to Admty.)

B.A.D. Washington's 1817/29/6. Following code signal transmitted by ST. MARIES DE LA MER at 2135/22:- NUMERO 7972 FPZX SAINT FRANCOIS JE repete FPZX SAINT FRANCOIS FINUMERO 7972 FPZX SAINT FRANCOIS JE repete FPZX SAINT FRANCOIS.

(R.A.W.A. 2331Z/22 to Admty. for D.N.I. (R) B.A.D. F.O.C.N.A.)

N.I.D. Comment. According to B.A.D.'s 1817/29/6 the above signal would indicate that Vichy was planning "a closer approach to Axis". Apart from reports of possible Franco-German announcement of the formation of a National Socialist Party for France and consequent closer political collaboration, there is nothing to point to military action by Vichy. It is possible that Vichy may be nervous of Anglo-American reactions to Petain and Laval's congratulatory messages addressed to German C. in C. France on "Clearing France of British Troops". It is peculiar that Martinique should have been chosen as it is practically under American control. British Consul, Willemstad, reported 20.8.42 "American Naval Authorities had stated that FRIMAIRE had been ordered by Vichy to proceed to Martinique and is now there". B.A.D. has now reported 1801Z/22/8 that there is no truth in report of her arrival at Martinique and that her whereabouts are still unknown. (see Admiralty's 0321A/11/8 to N.A. Madrid.)

Sub attack
and
sightings
summary.

Para (A) Plane attacks sub on surface course 190° 23 - 50 N. 83 - 55 W. 0430Z/22, possibly damaged.

Para (C) Fisherman sighted sub on surface bearing number 720 about 20 25 N. 96 45 W. 1400Z/20.

Sub sighted 15 51 S. 38 55 W. 1700 to 1800Z/21 course N. Sightings and attack about 36 52 N. 75 47 W. 1505 to 2321Z/21. Plane attacks 34 - 30 N. 75 W. 1330Z/21. Army observer sub course W. 10 53 N. 60 57 W. 0020Z/22. (Cominch 1946/22 to Admty., for O.I.C.)

S.C.95.

Average speed 7.3 knots. BALLADIER in S.C.L. Section torpedoed and sunk 15/8. SUEOIA straggler p.m. 12/8 not yet reported. All other ships arrived. (D.T.D. 1947Z/22 to Connav N.S.H.Q.)

/Brazilian ...

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War Diary.

22.8.1942
Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies. - contd.

Brazilian A/S Trawlers. Your 2013/21/7 and B.N.A. Rio de Janeiro 2106/10 to D.N.I. Letter from Navy Dept. states Brazilian Govt. have re-affirmed intention of requisitioning trawlers and have plan for fitting them out as A/S vessels. Navy Dept. have been pressing Brazil for some time to utilize all means available to escort their own Merchant ships, insuring that if any attempt is made to interfere with Brazil in taking trawlers, result will be further demands for escort vessels to be diverted from U.S.A. naval force. In view of this Navy Dept. requests negotiations should not be opened with Brazilian Govt. and have expressed intention, without being able to guarantee a high state of efficiency in operations of trawlers, to assist in every practicable way in fitting them out and training crews.
(B.A.D. 1959Z/22 to Admty. (R) N.A. Rio de Janeiro.)

HAMMAREN sunk. Cr. No.1110. Connav Serial 22. HAMMAREN (SW) torpedoed sunk 22/8 12.57 S. 38.14 W.
(Connav 2055/22 to Commaveu.)

Convoy Dates. Your 1642/12 and Admty. 0956/14. No objection to arrival and convoys New York at approx same time. In view C.T.F.24 1201/16 request you advise most acceptable sailing dates for convoys. (C. in C. U.S. Fleet 2158/22 to N.S.H.Q. (R) Admty., Cinclant, C.T.F.24, C. in C. W.A., F.O.N.F.)

Australia and New Zealand.

Situation Reports. Maori number 26. (1) Enemy air R/C Gilbert Islands continues.
(2) Ocean Island bombed by 9 twin engined bombers 22/8 and shelled at 1205Z/22 by cruiser. Nauru shelled by 6-inch cruiser from 1110Z/22 to 1300Z/22.
(3) Dutch BLOEMFONTEIN made SSSS followed by "gunned" in 33° 40' S. 164° W. 0545Z/18, ship has since arrived at Bora Bora. (N.Z.N.B. 0411Z/22 to Admty. etc.)
Digest Serial 212, 21/8. 1 Cruiser, 1 Destroyer reported Faisi 0245Z/21. Indications other vessels operating in vicinity.
2. Photographs Buna Aerodrome 20/8 show runway being resurfaced new runways dispersal area constructing.
3. Air R/C 21/8 reports (A) Indication recent building activity including small wharf Unea Island 04° 34' 149° 10'. (B) 2 probable Cruisers, 2 Destroyers, 8 vessels 5,000 to 10,000 tons, 10 to 15 small Launches Rabaul Area. (C) Enemy S/M on surface 7° 56' S. 150° 54' E. (D) 1 6,000 ton M/V, 3 smaller vessels off Buna 0600Z/21. Enemy reported using Dododuca

/Aerodrome ...

War Diary22.8.1942
Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Australia and New Zealand--conts:-

Situation Aerodrome (12 miles S.W. Buna) also constructing
Reports new aerodrome Buna Area.
(contd) 4. 5 Hudsons attacking Maobisse (Timor) 21/8
shot down one of 3 Zeros intercepting. Fires
started.
(? G.H.Q. S.W.P.A. 0630/22 to Admty.)

Dunedin. Dunedin will acquire status of a defended port
with examination service at 1900Z/26.
(11) Following are amendments to (a) C B 01618 (Q)
41. (1) part 3 N. Zealand station, Dunedin, delete asterisk.
Insert N.O.I.C. 11½ hrs. fast on G.M.T. (11) part 4 list one
Dunedin. (A) Insert (N). On Tairaroa Head. Arc of view from
296° through 000° to 116° (B) C B 01618 (R) 41. Appendix 1
Dunedin, delete asterisk.
(11i) Limits of examination anchorage. From a position 009°
9½ cables from Tairaroa Head the Southern limit extends 271°
7½ cables thence 259° 5 cables then parallel to Southern limit
for a distance of 7½ cables, thence to first named position.
(N.Z.N.B. 1140M/22 to Admty. (R) A.C.N.B. etc.)

Intelligence. Summary No.30 to 1400Z/21.

- (1) 4 Enemy heavy cruisers, 1 destroyer reported
04° 22' S. 158° 38' E. 2144Z/20 course 010°. 2
Enemy destroyers 6° 40' S. 158° 30' E. course N. 2132Z/20.
(2) Enemy force landed E. of Tenaru River (Guadalcanal) 1700Z/20
from 2 ships which departed before dawn.
(3) Allied patrol met 20 Japanese near Taivu Point (Guadalcanal)
19/8, 18 Japanese killed.
(4) B.17 shot down T.97 ? Flying Boats, 7° 45' S. 158° 40' E.
2210Z/19.
(5) Photographs indicate vessel reported Summary Number 30 para
4 not more than 700 tons.
(6) Air R/C 21/8 reports indications recent building activity
including small wharf Unea Island 4° 45' S. 149° 10' E.
(7) Aircraft sighted following enemy shipping Rabaul harbour
21/8: 2 probable cruisers, 2 probable destroyers, 7 M/Vs
(6/10,000 tons) 10/15 launches, also 1 M/V Talili Bay.
(8) S/M reported on surface 0048Z/21 07° 56' S. 150° 54' E.
(9) Natives report 200 Japanese by land and 2 barges arrived
Biamu (12 miles South Buna) 13/8 departed next day. Eroro
Mission (14 miles South Buna) also recently visited. Enemy
operated Dobodura aerodrome (12 miles S.W. Buna)
(10) 4 M/Vs (largest 6000 tons) sighted off Buna 0600Z/21.
(11) 5 Hudsons attacked Maobisse 21/8. 3 Zeros intercepted,
1 shot down.
(12) Serial 30 para 8 report now discounted.
(13) Floating mines reported 37° 09' S. 150° 12' E. at 0340Z/21.
(14) Enemy warship, probably cruiser, torpedoed probably sunk
Aleutians area 14/8.
(G.H.Q., S.W.P.A. 1255Z/22 to A.C.N.B., Adm. Coster.)

War Diary.

22.8.1942
Saturday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Submarines Reported.

Approx. positions.
(D.D.I.C. 1425A/22, 1438A/22.

23.8.1942.
Sunday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

C.T.U. 24.1.14 escorting Convoy S.C.96 reports that he has picked up when about 600 miles west of Malin Head 20 survivors from SUECIA a straggler from Convoy S.C.95, which was sunk by a U-boat on 16/8 in approx. 55° 40' N., 22° 30' W. HARTLAND, escorting convoy O.S.38 picked up other survivors.

TIRPITZ, HIPPER, KÖLN and 5 destroyers were seen and photographed in Bogen this morning. The berth previously occupied by SCHEER was vacant. There were 3 destroyers at Tromso.

Two blocks of the R.M. Infirmary, Deal were rendered uninhabitable by air attack at about 0540 today.

Further magnetic mines were detonated off Brighton today.

S.B.N.O. North Russia reports that during the past week U-boats have been sighted on 6 occasions at widely separated points along the west coast of Novaya Zemlya and engaged by patrol vessels without decisive results. A U-boat set fire to a Russian tug off Yugorshot Strait on 17/8.

Mediterranean.

A successful air attack was made on harbour installations of Tobruk at dusk today.

Torpedo and bomber Wellingtons last night attacked a southbound convoy consisting of a tanker, a merchant vessel and several barges escorted by 3 destroyers, north of Tobruk. Possible hits are claimed.

East Indies.

A submarine was reported in 9° 32' N., 81° 54' E. (about 50 miles N.N.E. of Trincomalee) at 1135Z today. A Catalina attacked a U-boat (possibly the same) 70 miles N.E. of Trincomalee at a time unspecified today; the result was not seen.

MOST SECRET.

!! 709

War Diary.

23.8.1942.
Sunday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Australia.

Hughes Aerodrome, Darwin was raided at noon today by 27 heavy bombers escorted by fighters. The enemy caused some damage and had themselves severe losses.

710

23.8.1942

Sunday.War Diary.HOME COMMANDS.Policy.

Sinking at sight. My 1048A/15. The attention of all C.Os is to be drawn to new instructions regarding sinking at sight. The implications of these new instructions will be seen compared between orders containing Submarine Warfare Memorandum 19 dated 1st May 1942 and the new issue dated 21st August 1942 now in process of distribution.
(F.O.C. S/Ms 1042A/23 to Capt. (S) Home.)

PIORUN ESCAPADE. C. in C. H.F. 1927/22. Request exchange may be deferred until PIORUN returns from next escort duty about 26/9 otherwise B.3 will sail with only one destroyer. If this is approved ESCAPADE would be required about 3/10.
(C. in C. W.A. 1128A/23 to Admty.)

Destroyers for Home Fleet operation. Admiralty 2003/22/8. As only 2 serviceable Vee Class Destroyers remain in this command at present it is necessary to detail the 2 Flotilla Leaders. 2. It is most undesirable that both Captains (D) should be away particularly as QUORN and WHITSHEED will be worked up from Harwich during this period. 3. Intend therefore to transfer Capt. (D) 21 and Capt (D) 16 to command Hunt Class Destroyers and C.O. of Hunt Class destroyers to command of CAMPBELL and MACKAY for this period. Flotilla staff will be landed.
(4) Destroyers detailed CAMPBELL, MACKAY, VESPER, VIVACIOUS.
(C. in C. Nore 1234A/23 to Admty.)

Fitting Overlikons. U 18 54/19. All River class corvettes which are based at Londonderry should be fitted. Following Flower class are nominated.
(C. in C. W.A. 1240A/23, 1730A/23.)

1st S.G.B.F. Cancel A.M. 1539/23/7. Request you will sail S.G.Bs to Newhaven as they become available. On arrival at Newhaven the 1st S.G.B. Flotilla is to come under the operational control of V.A. Dover. Until S.G.Bs have been fitted with additional armour plating they should normally be used in a defensive role.
(D.D.O.D. (C) 1635A/23 to C. in C. Portsmouth.)

Movements.

VICTORIOUS & escort. Arrived R.A.(A) H.F. in VICTORIOUS. MATCHLESS for Tyne, OFFA and (?PARTRIDGE) for Scapa, proceeded passing May Island 0640/23.
(C. in C. Rosyth 0755/23.)

/LONDON

War Diary.

23.8.1942.
Sunday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Movements - contd.

- LONDON. A.C.I.C. 1547/22 and my 1159/20 A.C.I.C. is requested to embark C.S. One in LONDON 26/8. After arrival at Hvalfjord C.S. 18 is requested to sail LONDON for Scapa as convenient. (C. in C. H.F. 0958A/23 to A.C.I.C., C.S. 18.)
- RENOWN. RENOWN is to proceed Greenock leaving Scapa 26/8. Home leave to be granted at discretion of C.O. RENOWN is to be ready for service again at Greenock a.m./7/9. RENOWN report intended time of sailing and E.T.A. Greenock. R.A.(D) Home Fleet requested to detail 3 destroyers as screen. (C. in C. H.F. 1059A/23 to RENOWN, R.A.(D) H.F.)
- TRIBUNE. Reference ^{from 7347} F.O.C. Subs 1629/19. Intend sailing TRIBUNE escorted by LOCH MONTEITH for May Island by latest searched channel at 2000A/26. Thence TRIBUNE to Aberlady Bay and LOCH MONTEITH to Dundee S. of A. 9 knots, E.T.A. 0700A/27th and 0730A/27th respectively. C. in C. Rosyth is requested to arrange
A. Medium frequency direction finding calibration for H.M.S. TRIBUNE in accordance with R.C. C.O. 18 Set F M 4.
B. Escort on completion of calibration for H.M.S. TRIBUNE to Dundee.
C. Fighter protection throughout.
H.M.S. TRIBUNE in accordance with A.F.O. 2/42 Table 2.
(3) H.M.S. LOCH MONTEITH in accordance with A.F.O. 2/42 table 2
(1) Line 5.
(S. 6. 1105A/23.)
- P.221. 1. Leave patrol night of 24th/25th August and proceed on surface at C.O. discretion through position 091° Muckle Flugga 10 miles and 089° Out Skerries 5 miles to Lerwick adjusting your speed to arrive 0900A/26th.
2. H.Q.C.C. is requested arrange total bombing restrictions for 25 miles on either side of a line joining 060° 05' N. 001° 02' W. and 062° 30' N. 000° 01' E. from 0900A/25th until further notice. (Capt. (S) 9, 1141A/23 to P.221 (R) A.C.O.S., C. in C. Rosyth, H.Q.C.C.)
- Escort of NELSON. My 1755/21st cancel reference WILTON. On arrival Force F, ESKIMO is to remain at Clyde with INTREPID and ICARUS to escort NELSON to Scapa.
2. SOMALI, TARTAR and FURY are required at Scapa as soon as possible for boiler cleaning N.O.I.C. Greenock is requested sail them accordingly. (C. in C. H.F. 1212A/23.)

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23.8.1942
Sunday.War Diary.HOME COMMANDS.Movements - contd.

INDOMITABLE. F.O.C.N.A. 1552/22nd. In order to reach No.1 float Mersey by 0745 A/28 and in accordance with Admiralty instructions. From M proceed to R 046° 01' N. 016° 59' W. S. 054° 25' N. 010° 50' W. omitting N. Proceed at high speed when BRAMHAM and LEDBURY part company at dark 26th.
(C. in C. W.A. 1313A/23 to INDOMITABLE, F.O.C.N.A. (R) Admty., H.Q.C.C., H.Q.F.C., H.Q. 15 Group C.C., C. in C. H.F., R.A.(A) H.F., ITHURIEL, N.Os I/C L'pool, Londonderry, LIGHTNING, LEDBURY, BRAMHAM.)

Burner Group. C. in C. W.A. 1504A/12 and my 1911A/17 and 1233/21. Sailed. Details.
(N.O.I.C. Milford Haven 1659A/23.)

Operations.

Shetlands M.L. Patrol. Weather permitting establish an M.L. patrol on a line 000° distant from 10 to 50 miles from Muckle Flugga Light from 2200 today Sunday until 1000/24. Communications (details)
(A.C.O.S. 1158/23 to N.O.I.C. Lerwick.)
Your 1158/23. M.Ls 494 and 345 sailed at 1930A and 473 and 465 at 2050 from Balta.
(N.O.I.C. Lerwick 2053A/23 to A.C.O.S.)

Portsmouth Patrols. 23/24th August. 1. 2 A/S trawlers and 1 R.D.F. trawler patrolling to south of E.A.5 buoy.
2. FERNIE and SOUTHDOWN patrolling to southward.
(C. in C. Portsmouth 1457/23.)

Operation "Outward" Completed 2030.
(A.B.O. Oldstairs 2035A/23.)

Operation "Jubilee" The following are numbers of killed and wounded in Dieppe operation On 19/8. Officers K 7, ratings K. 46, Officers W. 45, ratings W. 300. These numbers are approximately accurate so far as is known at present and include Royal Marines but not R.M. Commandos. Numbers of missing will be reported as soon as final check can be completed.
(C. in C. Portsmouth 2247/23.) *[Revised figures: p. 770.]*

Operation E.U. Arrivals Kola Inlet 1900A. TUSCALOOSA, RODMAN, EMMONS, ONSLAUGHT, MARTIN, MARNE.
(North Russia 2240A/23.)

War Diary.23.8.1942
Sunday.HOME COMMANDS.Allied Air Operations.Wreck
position to
be watched.A.C. 534 23/8 a careful watch is to be kept on
a wreck in 50° 00' 00" N. and 01° 02' 30" E.
and any activity in that position is to be
reported immediately and photographed.
(H.Q.C.C. 1035A/23 to 16 Group, P.R.U. Benson.)~~Vaenga~~
~~Vaenga~~Mosquito Aircraft took off Vaenga Bay for Leuchars
at 1430C/23rd.

(S.B.N.O. North Russia 1156A/23, 1157A/23.)

A Mosquito Aircraft arrived at Vaenga Bay 1010A/23 and
was heavily engaged by Russian Batteries in Polyarno, as no
warning of its arrival had been received and it was not in
Corridor. Aircraft not damaged.

(S.B.N.O. North Russia 1211A/23.)

841
Squadron.A.T. 1536A/14 para 3. The Dover area.
(D.O.D.(H) 1236A/23 to H.Q.F.C.)Operation
"Knocker"In progress.
(T.A.C. Prestwich 1530A/23.)
Operation cancelled.
(T.A.C. Prestwich 1740A/23.)Enemy Air Operations.

CHESHIRE.

You were probably sighted and reported by enemy
aircraft at 0730A/23.
(D.D.I.C. 1006A/23 to CHESHIRE, ZETLAND,
BLYSCAWICA, (R) C. in C. W.A., H.Q.C.C., C. in
C. Plymouth.)Attack
on Deal.Marines Deal report A and B Block R.M. Infirmary
uninhabitable. Approx time of attack 0540/23.
(C. in C. Nore 1151A/23)Mining.

Rosyth.

Both sides of A.Z. S.175 and 152 are now open
to traffic.
(C. in C. Rosyth 0758A/23.)

Brighton.

Positions of 3 magnetic mines detonated 7.3 -
9.1 miles from Brighton.
(N.O.I.C. Newhaven 0907/23, 0924/23, 0937/23,
1601/23, 1622/23, 1644/23.)

714

War Diary.23.8.1942
Sunday.HOME COMMANDS.Mining - contd.

S.N.73. Detach MONTROSE and IMPULSIVE if in company
MONTROSE to return to Hvalfiord carrying out an
IMPULSIVE. A/S sweep through the following positions.
(A) 062° 35' N. 021° 30' W.
(B) 063° 12' N. 024° 31' W.
(C) 063° 48' N. 024° 31' W. thence to Hvalfiord.
(C. in C. H.F. 0952A/23 to R.A.M.)

Falmouth. Details of one mine detonated at 0840/23/8.
(F.O.I.C. Falmouth 1533A/23.)

U-Boats.

O.N.122. D/F transmissions at 2310Z/22 on 0067 K3cs and
at 0118Z/23 on 7770 k/cs suggest that you are
being shadowed.
(D.D.I.C. 0513A/23 to Escorts of O.N.122 (R)
C. in C. W.A., H.Q.C.C., C.T.G.24.7 Cominch.)

U-boats off U-Boat set fire to Russian tug off Yugorshot
Novaya Strait 17/8. U-Boats sighted on 6 occasions
Zemlya. during past week at widely separated points
along West coast Novaya Zemlya and engaged by
patrol vessels without decisive results.
DIRECTOR 21 returned today claiming 1 minelayer and 2 escorts
sunk in Lopen Sea August 20th. D B - 3 F torpedo bombers
claimed 5,000 ton M/V set on fire and seen to sink off Uzikalomo.
(S.B.N.O. North Russia 1145A/23.)

SUECIA 20 survivors picked up from SUECIA at 1330Z/23.
survivors. 2 other boats escaped 16/8. 26 persons unaccounted
for. Ship straggled from S.C.* convoy, torpedoed
*SC 95 and sunk. As other boats may be in area request
A/C be despatched to search. My position 56° 8'
17° 15' at 1330Z/23rd. Weather report 5781 9942.
(T.U. 24.1.14 1524Z/23 to C. in C. W.A. (R)
Connav, C.T.F. 24, Admty., N.S.H.Q. Ottawa,
F.O.N.F., C.O.A.C. Halifax, C.T.G. 24.7.)

Your 1533/23 (N.T. in W.D.) SUECIA stopped 45 hours with
engine defects until 1800Z/15. Continued on standard route
until 1230Z/16 when stopped by U-Boat in approx 055° 40' N. 022°
30' W. Given half hour to abandon then sunk. Another small
U-Boat surfaced later. Possibility of another lifeboat afloat
steering E. by S. originally from above position. Aircraft
informed.

(HARTLAND 1621Z/23 to C. in C. W.A., Admty., ENCHANTRESS.)
SABRE is to proceed forthwith to overtake O.S.38 estimated
P.C. S. 0601A/24th 053° 10' N. 017° 25' W. 234 ° 7½ knots.
SABRE is to embark survivors from SS SUECIA which have been trans-
ferred from HARTLAND to DAGOMBA and return Londonderry.
(C. in C. W.A. 2113A/23 to FOLKESTONE, HARTLAND, ENCHANTRESS,
OSPREY, Admty., N.O.I.C. Londonderry, SABRE.)

/HATARANA ...

War Diary.

23.8.1942
Sunday.

HOME COMMANDS.

U-Boats. - contd.

HATARANA
sunk 18/8
in N.A.

S.L.118. On arrival PENTSTEMON is to report by Signal (1) The circumstance which led to the attempted sinking of HATARANA (2) The state in which ship was left. (C. in C. W.A. 1813A/23 to Capt. (D) L'pool)

Attacks on
S.L.118.

The following procedure was used by U-Boats making day attack on S.L.118 on 17th, 18th, and 19th August. (FOLKESTONE 2059A/23.)

Enemy Intelligence.

TIRPITZ
HIPPER
SCHEER
KOLN.

Mosquito pilot report (A) TIRPITZ and HIPPER in same berths Ofot Fiord. (B) Large unit possibly SCHEER and 2 destroyers also there. (C) All ships surrounded by torpedo nets. (D) That he is returning today with photographs. (S.B.N.O. North Russia 1227A/23.)

Photographic R/C of Narvik at 0750A/23 shows TIRPITZ, HIPPER and KÖLN in Bøgen - 5 destroyers seen. Berth previously occupied by SCHEER vacant and SCHEER not present. (D.D.I.C. 2348A/23.)

Navigational.

Loch
Striven.

Commander Ingram's 1235/22. Concur. This area should be spared. (S.7. 1127/23.)

Technical.

Signals for
preventing
accidents
to friendly
A/Cs.

Repetition of A.C.N.S.(T) 0103A/21. (A.C.N.S. (T) 0025A/23 to C. in C. W.A., (R) Cdre Londonderry, 15 Group R.A.F., Capt. D. L'pool, Capt. D. Greenock, F.O.I.C. and N.O.I.C. in W.A. N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, B.A.D. Washington, F.O.C.N.A., R.A. W.A.)

Casualties and Defects.

LARISTAN.

Sailed SS LARISTAN in tow of rescue tugs AMSTERDAM and SEINE E.T.A. at R/V position 270° Skerries 13 miles 1500A/24th E.T.A. Cardiff 0700A/26th codeword "Sultan". Tugs have been instructed to report amended E.T.A. at R/V if time differs by one hour. (N.O.I.C. Greenock 1236A/23.)

F.O.I.C. Greenock's 1236/23. Request you will sail P.C.74 to meet tow as soon as possible and escort to destination.

(C. in C. W.A. 2033A/23 to F.O.I.C. Milford Haven.)

War Diary.23.8.1942.
Sunday.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping & Convoys.

A.T.20, Connav's 1722/14. 3 S. Class destroyers will
N.A.15. be required to meet combined convoy A.T.20 and
D.S.32. N.A.15 at 1200Z/29 in 056° 05' N., 018° 05' W.
and escort ship of N.A.15 to Iceland. Request
destroyers may be sailed accordingly to meet
signal follows.

(C. in C. W.A., 1026Z/23 to A.I.G.137 954,
except A.C.I.C., C.T.F., 24., C.E.S.F., Com.1,
Connav).

A.T.20 C.O.A.C. Halifax 1420Z/22. Route from Halifax.
Through position T. 42.15 N., 60.05 W., U. 42.45 N., 44.45 W.
V. 48.01 N., 31.30 W. W. 52.59 N., 26.20 W. X. 56.30 N.,
16.10 W., Y. 56.10, 08.30. M.O.M.P. in 56.05 N., 18.05 W., at
1200Z/29. Chop 1200Z/28.

(D.O.D. H., 1743A/23 to C. in C. W.A., A.C.I.C.)

Convoy A.T.20 (C) A.M.1722/23.

C. in C. W.A. is requested to sail 4 destroyers to meet convoy
A.T.20 at M.O.M.P. in 56° 05' N., 18° 04' W., at 1200Z/29.

August and provide escort for Iceland (C) portion to Reykjavik.

2. After destroyers have fuelled DUCHESS OF BEDFORD escorted
by 2 destroyers will proceed to Akureyri Seidisfiord and
Reydarfiord and thence to U.K.

3. After disembarkation ORMONDE escorted by 2 destroyers will
proceed to U.K. CHEMUNG and POLARIS will remain at Reykjavik
for the time being.

4. Destinations in U.K. of both troopships Liverpool.

5. A.C.I.C. is requested (a) to arrange fuelling of destroyers
as requisite in Iceland (C). (b) to expedite the disembarkations
and re-embarkations of both ships as much as possible.

(c) to sail and route the ships to U.K. as soon as each is ready.

6. Convoy D.S.32 will be ready to leave U.K. about 14th/9.

(D.O.D. (H), 1758A/23 to C. in C. W.A., A.C.I.C., C.T.F.37).

Meaning of
(P)

In future in 1000 daily signal, giving A/S
trawler and tug escorts for convoy, escorts car-
rying portable pumps will be designated by (P)
after their names.

(F.O.I.C. Harwich, 1042A/23 to C. in C. Nore,
(R) C. in C. Rosyth, Admty N.C.S.O. Southend
D.16 D.21 F.O.I.C. Humber S.O. Corvettes).

P.W. and W.P.
Convoys.

In view of the varying threat to coastal convoys
which alters according to dispositions of enemy
surface and air forces and constant changes in
our own forces the system on which P.W. and W.P.

convoys are run must be elastic.

2. The various types of schedule are as follows:-

(a) Straight through cycle. Sailing direct between Bristol
Channel ports and Portsmouth and vice versa.

(b) P.W. and W.P. convoys or one of them spending a night in
Dartmouth. (c) Day hopping. All convoys entering Falmouth
and Dartmouth and spending a night in each.

3. C. in C. Plymouth will order alterations in the schedule
as necessary and will make a signal such as "all convoys to call
at Dartmouth from tomorrow Tuesday" these signals will apply to
all convoys at sea as well as to future sailings unless
otherwise ordered.

(C. in C. Plymouth, 1227A/23).

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War Diary.23.8.1942.
Sunday.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping & Convoys. - Contd.

Reporting

Independent ships A.M.1730B/8 July 1942 first sentence it was not the intention to cancel A.M. 2046/29 April, 1941, amended by A.M.2112/30 April 1941 regarding reports by telephone to Admty. extension 1240. (D.T.D., 1602A/23).

W.S.22
LEINSTER.

W.S.22. My 1245/18. Route. R/V in position L. 270° Oversay Light 6 miles at 0500Z/29.

Thence through M. 55° N., 15° W., N. 52° N., 22° W. O. 46° N., 23° W. P. 40° N., 21° W.

Q. 34° N., 25° W. R. 25° N., 22° W. S. 14° N., 21° W. T. 09° N. 18° W. thence to Freetown.

2. LEINSTER will part company from position P through X. 35.30 N., 12.01 W., thence to Gibraltar.

3. Estimated S. of A. 12½ knots. 4. Fighter protection codeword DAMSON. 5. H.Q.C.C. and H.Q.F.C. have been informed.

6. Stragglers route A. 55.25 N., 10.00 W. B. 54° N., 18° W. C. 51° N., 23° W. D. 44° N., 22° W. E. 39° N., 21° W. F. 35° N. 25° W. G. 28° N., 23° W. H. 21° N., 22° W. J. 15° N., 21° W. K. 09° N., 18° W.

(D.O.D. (H), 2312A/23).

W.S.22 A.M. 1245/18. SS. LEINSTER speed 16 knots carrying personnel for Gibraltar will leave Clyde with W.S.22.

2. She will part company in position "P " 40° N., 21° W., at 1600Z/2/9.

3. F.O.C.N.A. is requested to detail two corvettes to R/V in this position and escort to Gibraltar.

(D.O.D.(H), 2313A/23).

War Diary.23.8.1942.
Sunday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic.

- P. 211. Sub P. 211 is not to cross 005° W. before 0730B/24.
(F.O.C.N.A., 0840A/23 to 8 S.F.)
- P. 212. P. 212 leaves Gibraltar 0845B/24 for time shooting in position 090° Europa Point 4 miles at 1000, returning to Harbour on completion.
(2) Time kept at Gibraltar is zone minus 2.
(F.O.C.N.A., 1036A/23 to 8 S.F.)
See next (P. 31.)
- LAFOREY,
LOOKOUT,
PENN. My 1546A/22 (Freetown destroyers to be relieved by ships named on escort duty). Sailed LAFOREY LOOKOUT, PENN.
(F.O.C.N.A., 1242A/23 to Admty., (R) R.A.W.Af., MALAYA, RAMILLIES.)
- A/C attack on British Convoy. Attack by aircraft on British Convoy of 8 ships escorted by Men of War reported off coast approx. 037° 02' N. 008° 40' W. 1000A/22. Result not known. (B.3.)
(Consul Lisbon, 1300A/23 to S.O.(I) Gibraltar, (R) Admty.)
W.D. Note - Firing practice, no attack, see 1148/24.
- MONBALDO. Consul Bilbao's 1300/23 reports MONBALDO loading 7000 tons ore probably completing 24/8 or 25/8.
(Madrid, No. T.O.O. to Admty.)
- U/B at Valencia 13-14/8. Your 1916A/20. No confirmation that submarine's number was 47. R.O. Santander reports Italian sub. LUIGI TORELLI recently there was referred to as S.69.
Valencia please report source of information re 47.
(N.A. Madrid, 1334/23 to Admty (for D.N.I.), (R) S.O.(I) Gibraltar, R.O. Valencia.)
- U/B. A U-Boat was reported by aircraft in 40° 50' 08° 55' at 1132A/23. Probable course N.
(F.O.C.N.A., 1436A/23 to P. 219.)
Transit A/C reports S/M in 040° 50' N. 008° 55' W. at 1132A, course N.
(F.O.C.N.A., 1445A/23 to S. and A N.A.S., etc.)

/Bombing ...

War Diary.23.8.1942.
Sunday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic - Contd.

Bombing A/C/539 23/8. Serial number G/181.
Restrictions. Institute submerged bombing restrictions as follows:-
From 2100/24 to 1400/25 25 miles either side of a line joining 290° Bishops Rock 5 miles and 49° 59' N., 09° 01' W. Serial number G/182. From 0800/25 to 0400/27 25 miles either side of a line joining 49° 59' N., 09° 01' W., and 49° 16' N., 12° 32' W.
(H.Q.C.C., 1620A/23 to R.A.F. Gibraltar (R) F.O.C.N.A. S.8).

French Shipping. Gibraltar 1515/23, trawler LA SERVANNAISE escorting liner MARECHAL LYAUTEY full of civilian passengers, and fishing trawler KERPAPE eastbound. (S.O.(I) Gib., 1909A/23 to Admty) See Admty 1151/25.

ANTELOPE, Your 1716/22 and A.M. 2301/18. ANTELOPE is to join
PINDOS, S.A. station. She should continue with PINDOS
PANTHER, to Freetown.
DERWENT, 2. PANTHER will be available if required for
AVON VALE. escort of RAMILLIES to U.K.
3. DERWENT and AVON VALE will be required to
escort W.S.22 on from Freetown and should be used
to escort SIBAJAK and LLANSTEPHAN CASTLE on from
Gibraltar.
(A.C.N.S. (F) 1929A/23 to F.O.C.N.A. (R) R.A.W.A.,
C. in C. S.A.)

P.31 Your 1036A/23 E.T.A. Europa Point 1100B keeping
well clear of P.212. *See Maritime Page*
(P.31, 2215B/23 to F.O.C.N.A. (R) 8 S.F.)

LEINSTER F.O.C.N.A. to detail 2 corvettes to R/V in
position P. 40° N., 21° W., at 1600Z/2/9 and
escort to Gibraltar.
(D.O.D. (H) 2313A/23) See Shipping. (Home Commands
p.717)

South Atlantic.

ALCANTARA, Proceeding in accordance with your 2255/22.
search for Fuel stocks remaining 41%.
supply ship (ALCANTARA, 0030Z/23 to R.A.W.A.)
fuelling (?Have not) contacted F.S. LEOPARD. Am
U/Bs. searching to North West. R.A.W.Af. pass to
B.N.L.O. Pointe Noire.
(ALCANTARA, 0900Z/23 to R.A.W.Af. (R) F.S.
LEOPARD, B.N.L.O. Pointe Noire).

/Am...

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War Diary.23.8.1942.
Sunday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic - Contd.

ALCANTARA, Am proceeding from Pointe Noire at 1600Z.
search for Request your P.C. and S.
supply ship (LEOPARD, 1100Z/23 to ALCANTARA).
fuelling Departure from Pointe Noire 1600Z/23 F.S. LEOPARD.
U/Bs. Contd. (B.N.L.O. W.A., 1751/23 to Admty (R) C. in C.
S.A., R.A.W.A.)
Your 0100Z/23 not to R.A.W.A. R/V at 0700Z/24 in
004° 00' S., 008° 00' E., ALCANTARA will keep to northward
of 004° (05') S., during dark hours.
(ALCANTARA, 1517Z/23 to LEOPARD (R) R.A.W.A.)
Your 2255/22 Pilot considers TEMPLE INN in tow quite
possible; range was about 6 miles bad visibility.
(R.N.O. Lagos (Nigeria) 1531Z/23 to R.A.W.A. (R) Admty.
C. in C. S.A.)
Your 2301Z/22. F.S. LEOPARD sailed at 1600Z/23 to join
ALCANTARA. 2. Endurance 3200 miles 15 knots.
(B.N.L.O.W.A., 1755/23 to R.A.W.A. (R) R.N.O. Lagos Admty).
Report of supply ship fuelling S/M not substantiated.
2. ALCANTARA located ORESTES and escorted to Freetown through
002° 00' N., 014° 00' W.
3. ORESTES routed from position S. 002° 50' S., 005° 38' E., to
position T., 000° 20' N., 000° 50' W. S. of A knots 14.
Estimated to be at position S., at 2359Z/23.
4. F.S. LEOPARD return to Pointe Noire to comply with my 0915Z/
22.
(R.A.W.A., 1919Z/23 to ALCANTARA, LEOPARD (R) C. in C. S.A.
Admty, N.O.I.C. Lagos, B.N.L.O. Pointe Noire.)
Following is a repetition of my 1929Z/23 to N.O.I.C. Ascension
My 1321Z/22. Report not substantiated. Search abandoned.
(R.A.W.A., 1931Z/23 to B.A.D. Washington (R) C. in C. U.S.
Fleet, C.T.F. 23).

ROBERTS. Ref. Admty. 1839/16 (1539/16 intended). ROBERTS
will require 5 days in South Africa for boiler
cleaning. If docked onward passage will be
reduced by 4 to 7 days dependent on route.
(ROBERTS, 0948Z/23 to C. in C. S.A., (R) Admty).

MALMANGER My 1716Z/22/8. U-boat German, 500 ton type, took
(sunk by Master and Chief Engineer prisoner. Torpedo
U-boat 9/8). killed 2 men. 14 survivors including Second
Officer arrived Freetown. One lifeboat with
First Officer and 13 crew adrift.
(S.O.(I) Freetown, 1144Z/23 to Admty (R) C. in C.
S.A., Opnav).

U/Bs 2 S/Ms sighted 1140 G.M.T./23 016° 34' S., 038°
56° W. steering North.
(R.O. Bahia, 1415Z/23 to Admty (R) S.O.(I) Freetown
S.O.(I) Montevideo and Rio de Janeiro).

/MIRLO...

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23.8.1942.
Sunday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic - Contd.

MIRLO (sunk 11/8). Norwegian MIRLO sunk by German U-boat 500 tons type at 1045 S.A.T. 11/8 in 6° 4' N., 25° 53' W. Crew of U-boat included 6 or 7 Italian ratings. Gull's Head device both sides C/T. Remark of U-boat rating in Norwegian to Master indicates this U-boat sank Norwegian MALMANGER. 11 MIRLO survivors, 1 boat picked up. 2 boats with remainder of crew still adrift. MIRLO missed by torpedo at 1445/3 and at 1545/6 chased by U-boat and evaded in rain squalls.
(S.O.(I) Freetown, 1441Z/23 to Admty (R) C. in C. S.A., S.O.(I) Jamaica).

RAJPUTANA, MARUDU. Departure from Pointe Noire 23/8 RAJPUTANA escorting MARUDU for Capetown. E.T.A. 1500B/3 S. of A 7½ knots. Shifting W/T organization to area Q 0200Z/27.
(B.N.L.O. W.A., 1601/23 to Admty (R) C. in C. S.A., R.A.W.A.)

Experimental Marine Craft. Your 2017B/3. and 0940/20. Mr. Hook should not be given facilities for experimenting with models or provided with financial aid.
2. A similar idea was tried out for 3 years prior to the War without success.
(Head of M. Approved by Controller, 1833A/23 to C. in C. S.A.)

U/Bs off Uruguay.. Local newspaper tonight head lines report of 2 submarines 180 miles N.W. of Chuy, Uruguay. Report is completely unconfirmed and without details.
(S.O.(I) Montevideo, 2345Z/23 to Admty (R) B.A.D., C. in C. S.A., S.O.(I) Freetown, Ultra Rio de Janeiro, B.N.A. Buenos Aires, C.T.F.23 S.A. Station G.)

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War Diary.23.8.1942.
Sunday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean.

ZULU D/F bearing U-Boats 279° 1st Class strength 4
U/B. sense frequency 4444 k/cs. My position 032° 40' N
032° 53' E at 2111 G.M.T.
(ZULU 0011A/23 to C.O.I.S. Alexandria. (R) R.A.
15 C.S., BEAUFORT.)

Enemy P.C.S. of 1 destroyer 7 M/Vs, 33.18 N 23.48 E. 135.
Convoy. (A/C using QZ7W via Malta W/T 0012/23.)

U/B A/C attacked S/M with depth charges 5 miles 230°.
attacked GLOXINIA and SOUTHERN MAID detached to search.
by A/C. (ERICA 0839C/23 to R.A. 15 C.S. S.N.O. L.A.
N.O.I.C. Palestinian Ports, Haifa, N.O.I.C. Beirut.
EURYALUS.)

EURYALUS My 1438/12. Intend EURYALUS to proceed to Massawa
DIDO as soon as DIDO has arrived in Canal area about
30/8.
DIDO report intended programme as soon as known.
C.C.O. Massawa pass to DIDO.
(C. in C. Med. 1111C/23 to F.O.R.S.C.A. DIDO.
EURYALUS. C.S.15. (R) C.C.O. Massawa. A.S.
Alexandria. R.A.D. Med.)

Operation Your 1142/16. Unloading of general cargo at
"Pedestal" 0700/23 completed except as follows.
unloading. PORT CHALMERS 100 tons coal, MELBOURNE STAR 50
tons coke and 200 tons coal, BRISBANE STAR 450
tons cargo underwater including 200 tons coal,
ROCHESTER CASTLE 450 tons general cargo underwater.
(2) Fuel discharged from above ships and OHIO to 0900/23;
furnace fuel 10970 tons, diesel fuel 2337 tons, kerosene 1412
tons, gas coke 201 tons, foundry coke 150 tons, bulk coal 704
tons, bagged coal 940 tons.
(3) There is no diesel fuel in OHIO, the whole cargo of that
fuel having been lost at sea.
(V.A. Malta 1347B/23 to Admty.)

Enemy Following has been received 201 Group from A/C K.
M/V One M/V 1000 tons 33.12 N 22.50 E, no details
T.O.O. 1225.
(C. in C. Med. 1412/23 to Med Fleet.)

A/C attack AX. 185 23/8. Ref. torpedo attack by 9 Malta
on Tankers Beauforts on 21/8 against tanker when 3 hits were
21/8. scored, state if pistols set contact only or
non-contact. In future torpedo attacks to be
reported by signal as follows:-
(A) Time and date. (B) Weather conditions -
sea wind, cloud, visibility. (C) Target P.C.S. (D) Number of
aircraft and types. (E) Number of torpedoes dropped. (F) Type
of attack. (G) Target avoiding action. (H) Opposition.

/(J) Height...

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War Diary.23.8.1942.
Sunday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean - Contd.A/C attack
on Tankers
21/8.
Contd.(J) Height and range of release. (K) Depth setting. (L) Pistol setting, contact only or non-contact. (M) Number of hits and result. (O) Own casualties and cause. (P) Any special features.
(Air Ministry 1601Z/23 to H.Q. R.A.F. Middle East.
(R) H.Q. R.A.F. Malta.)

BLANKENESE.

German Yacht or motor vessel BLANKENESE, about 30 tons, passed southward bound in transit from Varna 1330 G.M.T. All grey, small funnel, 2 masts. (S.O.I. Istanbul 1641C/23 to S.O.I. Med.)
Amplified by ?157C/24, q.v.Malta Air
Report.

I. 604 23/8. 22nd. p.m. No alerts. 1245, 1350 and 1515 hours, 9, 6 and 10 Spitfires respectively up for raids which did not approach close to Malta. Night 22/23. No alerts, 1 Beaufighter up 1845 hours but no enemy approached island.

23rd. Alert 0707 hours, 6 plus enemy fighters approached island great height, some turned back early, 3 Me.109s crossed coast and withdrew, slight R.D.F. interference, 10 Spitfires up unable overtake departing enemy. 1250 hours, 3 Spitfires up for raid which did not approach close to Malta.

22nd. 2 further R/Cs for tanker Tripoli area sighted a.m., see my 1601, saw only 2 tugs 100° Tripoli 30 miles course 270° speed unknown.

(H.Q. R.A.F. Med. 1746/23.)

Situation
Report
256.PORPOISE on patrol north of Ras el Tin depth charged for 2 hours following dawn encounter 19/8^x with Italian destroyer. Batteries extensively damaged and minor hull defects..S/M was unable to dive and was escorted to Port Said by BELVOIR and HURSLEY with fighter protection.
2. RORQUAL has arrived Malta with petrol and other stores.
(C. in C. Med. 1937/23 to Admty. (R) V.A. Malta. etc.)Haifa
facilities.

Your 1133/12/8. Existing facilities are being improved as rapidly as possible and 4 cruisers, 9 destroyers and light craft can be berthed in the Harbour on the assumption that berths for Merchant Ships will be no longer required. Military Authorities will be approached as regards coast and A.A. defences. Boom and underwater defences are being improved now. R.D.F. installation is adequate. Sufficient stores on a generous scale to maintain the force envisaged for six months are already there. Ample supplies of fuel are available and also submarine diesel oil. Stowage for armament stores is under construction and will be completed next month when it will be full to six months capacity.

/Repair...

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23.8.1942.
Sunday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean-~~cont.~~

Haifa
facilities.
Contd.

Repair facilities are being rapidly improved, but are limited by the absence of a dock and the fact that all materials have to be supplied. Accommodation for increased Base personnel already arranged. Communication arrangements already improved and are considered adequate. The only requirements from U.K. are as follows. (C. in C. Med. 2359C/23 to Admty.)

War Diary.23. 8. 1942.
Sunday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies.

- Danger Zone, Indian Ocean. Your 0538/19 and B.A.D. Washington's 2119/20 (re broadcast of notice declaring waters of Indian Ocean dangerous to shipping). Test of broadcast will be signalled to you. (M. Branch, 0052A/23 to C. in C. E.F.)
- EGRA Overdue shipping. Your 1033B/22 EGRA arrived Diego Garcia from Addu Atoll 14/8. (S.O.(I) Colombo, 0413Z/23 to S.O.(I) Capetown (R) Admty. C. in C. S.A., D.C. in C. E.F., S.O.(I) Kilindini, Cdre. i/c Durban).
- Base Ship Diego Suarez. Many of the administrative and communication problems of Diego Suarez would be solved if a base ship similar to EDINBURGH CASTLE or HAITAN could be (?established) there. (C. in C. E.F., 0930Z/23 to Admty (R) F.O. E.A., and Zanzibar. C. in C. S.A., N.O.I.C. Diego Suarez, Cdre. i/c Durban).
- Base Defences. ^{/N.T.K.H.D.} Your 1225/17 C.O. GUARDIAN is qualified to advise on Indicator nets. Boom Defence officers claim is fully employed at Indian Ocean base at present. (C. in C. E.F., 0932Z/23 to C. in C. S.A., (R) Admty).
- U.S. 16, U.S.17. My 1435/17 and your 1130/6 para. 2. Routes on East Indies Station as follows U.S.16, D. 027° 10' S., 093° 25'. E. 017° 35' S., 085° 55'. F. Equator 078° 30'. G. 005° 58' N., 079° 05'. thence to outer end Colombo searched channel. U.S.17 W. 029° 08' S., 093° 20' X. 026° 41' 085°27'. thence by Great Circle (?Track) passing through approx. 031° 30' S., 060°. (C.in C. E.F., 1007Z/23 to A.C.N.B., (R) Com. W. Australia, F.O. Ceylon).
- U/B Following has been read. 1 S/M submerged bearing 360° distance 1 mile course 315° position 9.32 N., 81.54 E. (C/S K6SG. (C/S not understood) 1135Z/23). Ref. Admty message A.F., position 009° 32' N., 081° 54' E. (C. in C. E.F., 1313 G.M.T./23 to B.A.M.S. 7 A). Following has been received (begins) F.O.I.C. Ceylon from N.O.I.C. Trincomalee. My 1135/23. China Bay report that after attack Catalina circled for 15 minutes but observed no signs of S/M; T.O.O. 2107 (?)Q/23 (ends). (F.O.I.C. Ceylon, 1558Z/23 to Admty (R) C. in C. E.F., F.O.C. R.I.N., Air H.Q., India).

/RAMILLIES...

War Diary.

23.8.1942.
Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies. - Contd.

RAMILLIES. Your 0905/22. RAMILLIES has been diverted to U.K. for refit because of shortage of personnel. 2. She will be taken in hand at Devonport early in September.
(A.C.N.S. (F) 1459A/23 to C. in C. E.F., (R) V.A. 3., C. in C. S.A.)

Air Squadrons. My 1716A/22, first sentence. Chiefs of Staff have decided that No. 22 Beaufort Squadron be brought up to full strength in Ceylon, but that aircraft and crews of Nos. 42 and 217 Beaufort Squadrons be retained in Middle East until further orders. Instructions for resuming flow of other types of R.A.F. aircraft to India Command are contained in Air Ministry's A.X.154 22/8, T.O.O. 1900Z/22 which A.O.C. in C. India will pass to you.
(D.A.C.D. Approved A.C.N.S. (F) 1734A/23 to C. in C. E.F., (R) C. in C. Ceylon, F.O.I.C. Ceylon, R.A.A.E.F.)

ATHELDUKE ATHELDUKE was due Durban 21/8 by route given in N.C.S.O. Abadan 0325/25/7. Ship was diverted to Capetown from position A by my 0807Z/13/7 but no acknowledgement received. Cdre. i/c Durban requested to confirm that ship has not arrived.
(C. in C. E.F., 1935Z/23 to C. in C. S.A., (R) Cmdre. i/c Durban).

War Diary23.8.1942.
Sunday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America & West Indies

- U/B P.B.T. S/M sighted 52.01 N., 26.57 W., at 1600 G.C.T./22.
(Cominch, 0018/23 to Admty).
- ST. FRANCIS, Your 1716Z/22 (Re O.N.123 re escort to relieve BROKE) (in Home Commands). ST. FRANCIS will be sent out to relieve BROKE so that BROKE may arrive St. John's N.F. 31/8.
BROKE. (F.O.N.F., 0115Z/23 to C. in C. W.A., (R) C.T.24 etc).
- O.N. Convoys. Admty. 1110/22 (Requesting decision as to sailing date of O.N.129) Conference between representatives of C.T.F.24, F.O.N.F., C.O.A.C., and N.S.H.Q., at St. Johns on 22/8 agreed that when B.7. Group returns to Mid Ocean Force, presumably in time to escort S.C.102 from New York and subsequently S.C.103 from Westomp to U.K. it will be unnecessary to advance sailing of O.N. convoys by 3 days as recommended in N.S.H.Q., 1642/12.
(F.O.N.F., 0135Z/23 to Connav (R) C.T.F.24., Admty etc).
Your 1110/22. In view F.O.N.F. 0135/23 no change in sailing dates of O.N. convoys is necessary.
(C. in C. U.S. Fleet, C. and R. 1912Z/23 to Action Admty. info. N.S.H.Q., C.T.F. 24., C.O.A.C., C. in C. W.A., F.O.N.F.)
- B.5. Your 0942P/17 (re refit programme of B.5 Group) Group. affirmative.
(C.C.S.F., 0504/23 to CLARKIA (R) S.B.N.O. W.A., Admty. N.O.I.C. Trinidad, N.O.I.C., Bermuda, Connav).
- U/Bs C.E.S.F. despatch of 2018/22 addressed to KS and K.N. Escort Commanders, informs as follows Estimate 0800Q/23. 1 off Cape Henry, 1 off Cape Hatteras 1 Jupiter to Miami, 1 Key West to Havana.
(Comnaveu, 0801/23 to Admty).
- Stragglers Your 1650/19. Concur A.M.1948A/22 refers. route. (D.T.D., 1017Z/23 to Connav).
- Tankers, B.A.D. Washington's 2209/21. In view length Trinidad- unescorted voyage entailed and difference in Freetown. speeds should tankers be sailed from dispersal point to R/V in company or on separate routes? KALDFONN cargo, ex SAN GAHPAR thought to contain salt water. Analysts report awaited 24, and part cargo may have to be discharged. If this is found necessary should NORVINN be held in port to accompany KALDFONN or sailed with other two?
(F.O.I.C. Trinidad, 1422Q/23 to Admty (R) R.A.W.A., B.A.D., C. in C. S.A.)

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War Diary.23.8.1942.
Sunday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America & West Indies. - Contd.RIO NEUQUEN
aground.

My 1436/22. RIO NEUQUEN Argentina grounded 20/8 East (of) Magdalena river channel North of buoy 3, not obstructing navigation, believed no damage operations proceed to float. Request Admiralty inform Lloyds.
(S.O.(I) Kingston, 1432Q/23 to Admty etc).

? MAURETANIA.

See next page

Navy Dept. consider it of highest importance to avoid Trinidad area even if escort could be arranged and as preliminary measure have ordered ship to dock Rio de Janeiro.

(2) Object is to make every effort so as to increase endurance that ship can reach Bermuda.

(3) Request report (a) Time required in dock (b) Total endurance after dock without any allowance for zigzag etc. (c) Whether boiler can be repaired at Rio de Janeiro (d) How long repairs will take.

(B.A.D., 1539Z/23 to N.A. Rio de Janeiro (R) Admty S.B.N.O.W.A.)
My 1539Z/23. I concur with Navy Dept. view that every effort should be made to avoid taking this valuable ship into Trinidad area.

(B.A.D., 1543Z/23 to Admty).

Dispositions. Section East.

A.T. 20 U.S. Task Force No. 37 042° 27' 054° 10' 088° 13.5.

O.N.120 Task Unit No. 24.18.3 045° 15' 052° 05' 201° 6.5 alter in 044° 30' N., to 257°.

O.N.121 Task Unit No. 24.18.2. 044° 05' 055° 10' 257° 9'.

C.L.53, WASAGA, LOUISBURG 047° 05' 052° 45' 7'.

J.H.12 GEORGIAN 047° 20' 052° 35' 194° 5, alter in 046° 23 N., to 266°.

(C.O.A.C., 1540Z/23 to Admty).

Section South West. S.C.97 Task Unit No. 24.18.5 045°

(?) 10' 059° 45' 073° 7. alter in 057° 33' W., to 079°.

H.X. No.204 Task Unit No. 24.18.6. 044° 30' 063° 30' 085° 6.

X.B. 35 Task Unit No. 24.18.4 043° 50' 064° 10' 224° 7.5 altering in 042° 45' N., to 266°.

(C.O.A.C., 1548Z/23 to Admty).

A.N.D. Depots. Pass to N.C.S.Os. and D.E.M.S., S.Os. A.M.1146/6/6 para. 4 as amended by A.M.1420B/24/6, cancel last sentence and substitute "In addition A.N.D. depots have been installed at Portland, Maine, and San Francisco".

(D.T.D., 1610A/23 to A.I.G. 12 etc).

GLASGOW.

This is N.R.O. Norfolk 1725/22 action C.E.S.F. information Connav C.in C. U.S. Atlantic Fleet, S.B.N.O. W.A., Admty, N.O.B. Bermuda (begins) 1200/24. GLASGOW Bermuda 25/8 route swept channel

to X.M. to pass at 1600Z. Thence through 32.47 N., 65.00 W., Code letter X. Thence outer end Bermuda swept channel. Maintain W/T watch on 4155 k/cs from time of passing Cape Henry to destination. S. of A. 22 knots.

(Radio, Washington, 1620/23 for Information C. in C. U.S. Atlantic Fleet. S.B.N.O.W.A., Admty, N.O.B. Bermuda).

/U/B...

729

23.8.1942.
Sunday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies - Confs. -

U/B 23/8 S/M estimate and U.S. S/M Notice.
Dispositions. (Cominch, 1635Z/23 to Admty).

N.A.15 Convoys N.A.15 and A.T.20 sailed from Halifax on
A.T.20. 22/8.
2. Destinations of ships of Combined convoys are as follows:-
(A) Clyde. WINCHESTER CASTLE, SIBONEY, AWATEA, LETITIA.
(B) Liverpool STRATHMORE, REINA DEL PACIFICO. (C) Iceland (C) ORDMONDE, DUCHESS OF BEDFORD, POLARIS, CHEMUNG.
3. Escort will be provided by T.F.37 consisting of U.S. S. PHILADELPHIA, NEW YORK, BUCK, WOOLSEY, LUDLOW, EDISON, WILKES, NICHOLSON, SWANSON, INGRAHAM, and BRISTOL.
4. Ships for Iceland (C) will part company at 1200Z/29.
5. U.S.S. PHILADELPHIA and NEW YORK will proceed to Clyde to await convoy T.A.20.
6. On completion of escort duty destroyers are to proceed to Londonderry, in accordance with C.T.F.37 2330Z/21.
7. C.T.F.37 is requested to detail destroyers to escort Liverpool and Clyde portions of convoy.
8. E.T.A. of different portions of convoy at U.K. ports should be signalled 24 hours before arrival at North Channel.
9. H.Q.F.C. is requested to provide maximum fighter protection. (D.O.D. (H) 1722A/23 to C.T.F., 37, C. in C. W.A., (R) Cominch, N.S.H.Q. etc).

MAURETANIA It appears probable that whatever is final
AQUITANIA. decision regarding MAURETANIA she will be considerably delayed. *See Maritime Page.*
2. First flight of U.S. Air Corps sufficient to fill AQUITANIA will be ready by 5/9 and a second flight by 25/9.
3. Propose therefore to embark first flight in AQUITANIA which M. of W.T. New York says can be ready by 15/9 and that MAURETANIA should be reserved for second flight. (B.A.D., 1731Z/23 to Admty D.S.T.)

DASHER Ref. C. in C. U.S. Fleet 0556/22 DASHER departs New York en route for Boston via Long Island Sound 1200/24. Arrives Race 0230/25 west end Cape Cod Canal 0730 east end Canal 0930, Boston 1300. All times G.M.T. Request all practicable coverage Point Judith to (?west) end canal and from east end canal to Boston. (Com, 3., 2219/23 to C.E.S.F. (R) Cdr. 1st U.S. Naval District, Boston, N.O.B., Newport, Port Director, Boston, Connav C. in C. Atlantic Fleet, N.S.H.Q. C.O.A.C., Admty).

VISCOUNT Am attacking S/M 050° 30' N., 032° 01' W.
attack on (VISCOUNT, 2301Z/23 to Connav (R) C.T.F. 24.,
U/B. Admty, C. in C. W.A., N.S.H.Q., F.O.N.F., C.O.A.C., C.T.G.26.7).

U/B St. Lucia reports S/M sighted 8 miles West of
St. Vincent. Troumaca, St. Vincent 1830 (G.M.T.) course South. (S.O.(I) Kingston, Jamaica, 2345Q/23 to Admty, for D.N.I., B.A.D., Connav, C.C.S.F. San Juan).

/H.X...

War Diary.23.8.1942.
Sunday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies - Contd.

H.X.204.

C.T.U. 24.1.18 in HIGHLANDER H.F. D.F. plus
WINCHELSEA, ASPHODEL, ANEMONE, CLOVER, PENWORTH,
ABELIA designated escorts H.X.204. PENNYWORT,
(C.T.24. 2357Z/23 as amended 1831Z/24 to
C. in C. U.S. Fleet, (C.R.) (R) C.T.U. 24.1.18,
C. in C. W.A. C.T.U. 24.18 (?1) N.S.H.Q.
C.T.G. 24.7. C.O.A.C. F.O.N.F. Admty.)

Australia and New Zealand.

Situation. Digest serial no. 213, 22/8. Air R/C 22/8 reports
2 9000 ton merchant ships 2 probable destroyers,
4 flying boats anchored Faisi area 0010Z/22 also
1 9000 ton M/V 1 escort vessel 7° 30' S 155° 20' E at 0550Z/22
course 30°.

2. Examination photographs Buka Aerodrome indicated 8 dispersal
lanes, 2 new machine gun positions.
3. Air R/C Rabaul Area 22/8 reports 2 unidentified vessels
6/10000 tons 4° 10' S 151° 05' E course E. 15 to 20
unidentified vessels Rabaul Harbour.
4. 4 Enemy vessels including 1 warship sighted off Rooke Island
(Vitiaz Strait) at 0715Z/22 course N.E.
5. 4 Fortresses attacked Vunakanau 22/8, fires started.
6. 1 Fortress bombed Lae Aerodrome 22/8. Photographs show 38
fighters 19 damaged, 11 in blast pens 8 dispersed. Also 5 heavy
bombers including 4 damaged on aerodrome.
7. Possible S/M reported by air R/C 9° 26' S 146° 53' E.
0535Z/22*.
8. One cargo vessel sighted off Lae 0625Z/22.
9. Indications natives Hollandia (North Dutch New Guinea) pro
Japanese. Frequent visits by enemy.
(G.H.Q. S.W.P.A. 0545Z/23 to Admty. etc.)

* Discounted, see 0756/24.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.Submarines Reported.

Approx. positions.
(D.D.I.C. 1428A/23. 1439A/23.)

War Diary.24.8.1942.
Monday.SITUATION REPORT.Home Commands.

Early this morning a large number of E/R. boats from Boulogne carried out another minelaying operation in mid Channel near the Varne. Our light forces intercepted and engaged considerably superior numbers of the enemy and report hits on several of them and one set on fire. M.L.103 was sunk by a mine 3 miles eastward of N.E. Varne buoy, and M.G.Bs 6 and 7 suffered some damage. There were some casualties to personnel. The coastal batteries on each side fired. Aircraft were unable to attack on account of low visibility. It is thought that the enemy was able to carry out the major part of their operation and a danger area has been declared.

F.O.C. Dover reports that the laying of enemy minefields in mid Channel in which 2 coastal craft have already been lost has further prejudiced the operation of M.T.Bs against enemy shipping between Boulogne and Dunkirk, and he considers that the most suitable forms of attack against enemy coastal shipping are now by aircraft and by minelaying by M.G.Bs, and he asks that faster and more efficient minelaying craft may be provided.

A suspected case of sabotage occurred on board S/M P.54 at Dundee during last night.

12 U.S.A. Bomber Command Fortresses with fighter escort attacked the shipbuilding yards at Le Trait today.

Two Hampden T/B squadrons are to be operational in north Russia by 7/9 at which time it is estimated that convoy P.Q.18 will be near Jan Mayen.

Archangel city was attacked by aircraft for 5 hours from 1830A today and considerable damage appears to have been caused. British naval stores were destroyed.

C. in C. Home Fleet sends today a message to the Admiralty regarding the serious state of the Russian fighter aircraft in the Kola Inlet area where TUSCALOOSA will be without adequate protection. (TUSCALOOSA and 5 destroyers arrived Kola Inlet 1900/23 and sailed again at 0900 today)

24.8.1942.
Monday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands - Contd.

Operation
S.N.73.

R.A.(M) in SOUTHERN PRINCE with 4 minelayers and 3 destroyers arrived at Port ZA at 1956 today from Operation S.N.73.

North Atlantic.

INDOMITABLE sailed from Gibraltar at 0212A today for the U.K. escorted by 4 destroyers.

Convoy O.N.5122 was attacked by U-Boats today and 4 ships were sunk (See 25/8.)

Mediterranean.

On return to Gibraltar from patrol P.211 reports that on 18/8 he sank a 10000 ton empty tanker south of Cavoli Island, and on 17/8 a 250 ton ammunition schooner and on 16/8 a 50 ton sailing vessel, both in the Gulf of Crosei, Sardinia.

East Indies.

It is reported that as the result of floods the railways serving Karachi are all breached and the port is isolated from inland points. This will probably necessitate the diversion of the greater number of ships elsewhere.

Australia and New Zealand.

Papua.

A Japanese landing is reported at Fona (approx. 9° S 149° 12' E) from seven barges at 0645Z today.

The U.S. report that a Japanese cruiser and a transport were set on fire by their aircraft today in the Guadalcanal area.

24. 8. 1942.
Monday.War Diary.HOME COMMANDSMovements.

Operation E.U. Kola Inlet departure 0900A TUSCALOOSA, RODMAN, EMMONS, MARTIN, MARNE, 1100A ONSLAUGHT. (S.B.N.O. North Russia, 1025A/24).

Force F. Intend to detach KENYA off Tory Island about 0030A /25 to proceed to Scapa via Minches S.O.A. 15 knots
2. KENYA has no P.V. or S.A. gear, cannot anchor and has only 3 shafts working. Tugs required to assist in berthing. Small quantity of fuel will be required before proceeding South Shields.
3. MALCOLM will be detached to L'pool E.T.A. 1600A/25 and KEPPEL, and VENOMOUS to Londonderry E.T.A. about 0530A/25.
4. NELSON, FURIOUS, ARGUS, BICESTER, ESKIMO, TARTAR, SOMALI (?FURY) E.T.A. Clyde 1030A/25. Gate 1145. Italian prisoners of war 4 officers 36 ratings. Passengers and survivors approx. 120 officers and 1115 ratings and other tanks (sic). (S.O. Force F., 1043A/24).

NORFOLK C.S.18 1502/22 request A/S air escort may be provided during daylight codeword Drover.
SUFFOLK, firing practices. (C. in C. H.F., 1547A/24 to C. in C. W.A., A.C.I.C (R) C.S.18, H.Q.C.C., NORFOLK, N.C.S.O. Great Yarmouth, A.C.O.S.)
Your 1502/22 to C. in C. H.F. Regret no air escort available.
(C. in C. W.A., 1609Z/24 to R.A.18 C.S. (R) C. in C. H.F., A.C.O.S., A.C.I.C., NORFOLK, SUFFOLK).

CHESTERFIELD W.S.22.F.O. Liverpool 1236A/24. CHESTERFIELD is to arrive Bar L.V. 1215A/26 and after escorting convoy to Clyde is to return to Liverpool to complete with fuel.
(C. in C. W.A., 1612A/24). *p. 741 (H.S.22)*

FARNDALE, PARTRIDGE, PUCKERIDGE. Proceed passing Switha 0545/26 to R/V RENOWN at Hoxa Boom and provide escort to Greenock.
2. On being detached FARNDALE and PUCKERIDGE return Scapa PARTRIDGE proceed Greenock and act according to A.M.1245A/18. ** p. 741 (H.S.22)*
(R.A.D. H.F., 1709A/24 to FARNDALE, PARTRIDGE, PUCKERIDGE).

INDOMITABLE, BRAMHAM, LEDBURY, LIGHTNING, ITHURIEL. F.O.C.N.A's 1552/22 para. 3. After parting company BRAMHAM and LEDBURY are to proceed to Londonderry for fuel.
2. Commodore Londonderry is requested to investigate defects in LEDBURY on arrival and report as soon as possible whether in his opinion repairs can be effected by depot ship or whether repair yard is essential in view of ship being urgently required for further service.

War Diary.24. 8. 1942.
Monday.HOME COMMANDS.Movements.INDOMITABLE,
BRAMHAM,
LEDBURY,
LIGHTNING,
ITHURIEL.
Contd.

3. After escorting INDOMITABLE to Liverpool F.O.I.C. Liverpool is requested to sail LIGHTNING and ITHURIEL to Chatham and Portsmouth respectively for refit and repairs.

4. If conditions make it necessary to part company South of lat. 52° N., LIGHTNING and ITHURIEL should proceed to their destinations via Plymouth reporting intentions when well clear of INDOMITABLE.

(D.O.D. (H), 1834A/24 to INDOMITABLE, Comdre. Londonderry, F.O.I.C. Liverpool).

Operations.MONTROSE,
WALPOLE.

MONTROSE, WALPOLE soon due for boiler cleaning and are required for protracted operations on 3/9.

2. Owing to lack of time and unforeseen boiler cleaning commitments it is impossible to take them in hand at Scapa.

3. Request MONTROSE, WALPOLE may be boiler cleaned by BLENHEIM.

4. 2 relief destroyers can be sailed to arrive at Hvalfjord 27/8 and 29/8.

5. A.C.I.C., pass to BLENHEIM, WALPOLE, MONTROSE.
(R.A.D., H.F., 0111A/24 to A.C.I.C.)West Channel My 2251/21 "Obstacle" sailed 0604/24.
M.G.B., Patrol. (N.O.I.C. Dartmouth, 0604/24).Coastal force
operation.

Early this Monday morning a large number of E/R boats from Boulogne carried out another minelaying operation in mid Channel near the Varne between Q.Z.X. 786 and 788. Available M.G.Bs. were on patrol with primary object of defending our Channel against E-boats and secondarily to attack R-boats engaged on just such an operation as was carried out. Enemy were detected leaving French coast North of Gris Nez at 0410 and positions were passed out. At 0420 M.G.Bs. 6 (Lieut. N.K. Cale, R.N.V.R., embarked as S.O.) and 7 at "D" buoy and M.G.B.s 41 (S.O. Lieut. R. King, R.N.) and S.2 at No. 10 buoy proceeded to intercept. Each force sighted and engaged considerably superior numbers of enemy craft, claiming numerous hits in several and setting one on fire. M.L. 213 (S.O. Lieut. R. Knudsen R.N.N) and 103 on patrol at No. 7 buoy also proceeded to intercept but were unable to make contact and M.L.103 hit a mine 3 miles eastward of N.E. Varne buoy. Crew was taken off by M.L.213 and Trawlers FYLDEA from patrol near No. 4 buoy stood by until boat sank. Reports show that E-boats were probably covering the R-boats and an M. Class Minesweeper may have been present. It is thought that enemy were able to carry through major part of their operation before returning towards Boulogne at 0515. Both forces of M.G.Bs. would have included 3 boats but for last minute defects.

/Our...

24.8.1942.
Monday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operations - reports -

Coastal force operation. Our Casualties. M.L.103 lost. 2 ratings missing, 4 injured.
Contd. M.G.B.6. Lieutenant Cale killed C.O. and 1 rating wounded. M.G.B.7. 1 rating wounded. M.G.B.41 2 slightly wounded.

M.G.Bs. 6 and 7 suffered some damage. M.G.Bs. 41 and S.2 no damage. Prior to engagement by M.G.Bs. Coastal Artillery fired 12 rounds of 6 inch and 3 of 8 inch. Enemy batteries replied with 20 rounds mostly in South Foreland area, no damage having been reported. Aircraft were unable to attack owing to low visibility. (V.A. Dover, 1104A/24). *See also 2006A/24, p.736 - 2/30 p.738.*

M.T.B. sweep. Weather permitting carry out following offensive sweep tonight Monday.
One Unit M.G.Bs. and one unit M.T.Bs. are to proceed together to vicinity of R.B. 4 M.T.Bs. are then to investigate Flushing Roads, M.T.Bs. remaining within supporting distance to Northward. Report boats detailed and E.T.D.53 buoy. (C. in C. Nore, 1216A/24 to BEEHIVE).

Danish Trawlers. My 1835/20 Ref. K.R. and A.I. 891. Request instructions may be forwarded. (F.O.I.C. Tyne, 1221A/24 to Admty).

Shetlands M.L. patrol. My 2053/23 have returned from patrol. Nothing to report. (N.O.I.C. Lerwick, 1558/24).

S/M patrol. My 1629/19 and my 1434/24. (1) Submarines are allocated to zones as follows K.150 TRIBUNE, K. 151 TIGRIS. K. 152 P.54. K. 153 STURGEON, K. 154 UREDD. (2) S/Ms are to sail so as to arrive in their zone during 6/9. They may proceed on surface at C.O.'s discretion to within 100 miles Western limit of their zone thence they are to proceed diving by day.
(3) Whilst on passage patrol submarines may attack U-boats provided they are definitely identified as hostile and full salvo is kept for heavy ships.
(4) Whilst in patrol zone the object of submarine is cruisers and above.
(5) The zones have been designed to cover likely exits of enemy main units from Narvik area and following patrol positions have been selected as providing best possibilities:

Zone	Designed to Cover.	Best Position.
K. 150	Gimsostrmm	(Except) to North Westwards 068° 25' 30", 014° 03'.
K.151 K.152	Gavlfjord	069° 11', 015° 28' and 069° 19', 015° 46' 124°.
K.153 K.154	Andersen Fiord.	069° 36', 016° 12' and 069° 30', 016° 43' respec- tively.

(6) It is vital that submarines should remain unseen both when approaching and when in the patrol position.

(7)...

War Diary.24.8.1942.
Monday.HOME COMMANDS.Operations - conts:-

S/M patrol. (7) In the event of Patrol Position being
Contd. compromised or A/S activity becoming excessive
Submarines may at their discretion and without
breaking W/T silence withdraw as follows:

A. TRIBUNE in direction 316° from her tracing position.
B. TIGRIS to position A.A. $070^\circ 29' 019^\circ 40' E$.
C. Norwegian Sub. UREDD to position B.B. $070^\circ 29', 019^\circ 06' E$.
F. P.54 to position C.C. $070^\circ 20' 018^\circ 28' E$.
G. STURGEON to position D.D. $070^\circ 20', 017^\circ 54' E$.

(8) In event of main units moving north from Narvik area the
patrol force will be ordered to reinforce covering forces.
(9) Special intelligence which is not to be taken to sea in S/Ms
is being sent to Capt. (S) 3 Capt; (D) 9, and S.O. Subs. Lerwick
for information of commanding officers.
(F.O.S., 1859A/24 to Capt. (S) 9. (R) Admty, Capt. (S) 3
R.A.D. H.F., A.O.O.S., C. in C. H.F., S.O. Subs. Lerwick).

Proposals
for
operations
against
Coastal
Shipping.

My 1104/24. ^{pp 734, 735 & 736} They laying of enemy minefields
in mid channel in which 2 coastal craft have
already been lost has further prejudiced the op-
eration of M.T.Bs. against enemy shipping between
Boulogne and Dunkirk, the obtaining of satisfac-
tory results being already much hampered by
provision of powerful escort and assistance from
shore batteries with star shell.

(2) Pending clearance of enemy minefield which is under
consideration but likely to prove a difficult matter or their
dispersal by winter gale, the most suitable forms of attack
against enemy coastal shipping now are
(a) by aircraft on light nights and in good visibility.
(b) By minelaying including R mines from motor gunboats.
Minelaying craft should avoid action with enemy and be able to
keep sufficiently accurate navigational plotting to use the gap
through enemy mid channel minefield. This is not so in the
case of M.T.B. after close action (c) By coastal artillery.
(3) Further minelaying by enemy may be to extend A.M. Q.Z.X. 788
to North Eastward and to close the gap between A.M. Q.Z.X. 786
and 771 but in former case he may be relying on protection of
shoal water off Dunkirk and in latter he may wish to leave gap
for hit E-boats.
(4) The necessity for faster and more efficient minelaying craft
has often been stressed and it is requested that this matter
may be given early reconsideration.
The provision and maintenance of suitable aircraft in this comm
also becomes an urgent matter.
(F.O.C. Dover, 2006A/24 to Admty).

Operation
"Jubilee".

It is possible that up to three L.C.P.(L)'s
may have fallen into enemy hands in a damaged
but repairable condition during recent operation
off Dieppe.
(TORMENTOR, 2030/24 to C. in C. Portsmouth).

War Diary.24.8.1942.
Monday.HOME COMMANDS.Allied Air Operations.Aircraft
for North
Russia.

Request you will arrange for the two Hampdens T/B Squadrons to be operational in North Russia by 7/9 at which time it is estimated that Convoy P.Q. 18 will be in the vicinity of Jan Mayen. (A.C.N.S. (H), 1010A/24 to Air Min).

Air Escorts.

A.A. Practice firings or extensive air practice such as A.L.T. attacks in which formations of aircraft take part are not to take place whilst ships are being escorted by short range or long range fighter aircraft.

2. Arrangements have been made for fighters to be provided for escort duty outside the practice area only. (C. in C. H.F., 1047A/24 to H.F. 84 Z).

Bomber
Command
report.

Day 23/8. 6 Wellingtons of 3 group took off to attack Bremen, but 2 were recalled and 2 returned early owing to lack of cloud. Two aircraft alternatively attacked Emden, bursts being seen on large buildings between Binnehaven and

Industrie Haven. 1 Mosquito attacked Westerland aerodrome from 6,500 feet at 1230 hours. 4 Whiteleys of 100TU carried out an A/S patrol. A U-boat was sighted but submerged before an attack could be made.

Night 23/24 August. No operations. (H.Q.B.C., 1130A/24).

A/Cs with
S.Ls.

Friendly aircraft equipped with searchlight will be operating during hours of darkness on A/S patrol in Shetlands Faeroes and South Coast Iceland (C) Area till further notice. (C. in C. H.F., 1219A/24 to H.F. 85 Z).

Fighter
aircraft at
Kola Inlet.

My 1103/23. First intimation I received of serious state of Russian Fighters in Kola Inlet area was A.M. 1945/15. I now understand from S.B.N.O. North Russia monthly report for July that this situation has been developing for some time and that R.A.F. escorts in North Russia were aware of it. 2. Strong fighter cover is essential if Kola Inlet is to be used by British forces. It is particularly regrettable that spares have not been flown out as suggested in S.B.N.O. North Russia 1714/14 and my 1936/16 to ensure adequate protection for U.S.S. TUSCALOOSA. (C. in C. H.F., 1537A/24 to Admty).

AVENGER

C. in C. H.F., 1905/17 not to R.A.A. H.F., 6 reserve Hurricanes 1 B embarked in AVENGER. (Cdre. 2 1/c N.A.S., 1615A/24).

War Diary.

24.8.1942.
Monday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Enemy Air Activity.

- Torpedo Bombers. There is possibility of attack by torpedo bombers. (C. in C. Plymouth, 1011A/24 to CHESHIRE, VETCH, Ships escorting W.P.207, W.P. 206, WHITE BEAR, Ships escorting P.W.206. (R) N.O.I.C. Milford Haven N.O.I.C. Falmouth, N.O.I.C. Dartmouth, C. in C. W.A.)
- T/Bs Pass to all concerned and N.C.S.Os.,. My 1325B/13 /7. Attacks by torpedo bomber aircraft are now to be expected. (C. in C. Plymouth, 1325A/24).
- Dittisham Three barges sunk by bomb and cannon fire from two hostile aircraft at Dittisham 1530 today. Three slight casualties. (N.O.I.C. Dartmouth, 1915/24).
- VORDUR attacked. Enemy A/C passed over Alphakalar at 0830/24 course west and was sighted from Raufarhofn at 0840. At 1045 Icelandic fishing vessel VORDUR BA 142 was attacked with machine guns and bombs by F.W. 20 miles west of Bardi Onundar Fiord. One of the crew killed and superficial damage by machine gun fire. (A.C.I.C., 1943A/24).

Mining.

- Sheerness One ground mine detonated 0117/24 as follows:- (Capt. M/S Sheerness, 0920/24).
- Near Varne. At least 15 E/R boats from Boulogne at 0325/24. Suspected minelaying to the North Eastward of the South Varne Buoy. Engaged by Coastal Craft and returned to Boulogne at 18 knots, entering at 0600. Coastal Batteries fired 15 rounds on these vessels between 0437 and 0442. (V.A. Dover, 1011A/24).
- My 1104A/24 request area enclosed by line joining the following positions and which has been drawn from R.D.F. plot should be declared dangerous to vessels including those of light draught owing to enemy mines A. 051° 03' 30" N., 001° 28' 30" east. B. 051° 00' 45" , 001° 33' 30". C. 050° 53' 18", 001° 21' 42" D. 050° 56' 18", 001° 17' 42". (V.A. Dover, 1106A/24 to Admty). 10/2 734, 735, 736
- Start Bay. C. in C. Plymouth's 1514/21. Further two mines have been accounted for in Q.Z.X. 787 as follows (N.O.I.C. Dartmouth, 1646/24).
- Operation S.N.73 Arrived R.A M., in SOUTHERN PRINCE, ADVENTURE, AGAMEMNON, MENESTHEUS, PORT QUEBEC, BRIGHTON, CASTLETON, CHARLESTOWN. (TRELAWNEY, 1956/24).

War Diary.24.8.1942.
Monday.HOME COMMANDS.Enemy Intelligence.R/C of
Tromso.A.M. 2348A/23. Photographic R/C of Tromso at
0800A/23 showed 3 destroyers present.
(D.D.I.C., 1015A/24).

SCHARNHORST.

SCHARNHORST was observed at Kiel on 14/8. She
had been exercising at sea and then secured to
buoy. apparently for (?rest of week). She was
newly painted and had one A/C on catapult. Only
one anchor was now visible (?port side). A.2.
(N.A. Stockholm, 1240/24).
O.I.C. Comment. SCHARNHORST left Kiel between
28th July and 17th August, and was seen at Gdynia
on 20/8.U-boat.U/B near
S.C.96.Bearings on 7640 K/cs at 0850Z/24 indicate U-boat
in vicinity of S.C.96.
(D.D.I.C., 1138A/24 to Escorts of S.C.96,
C. in C. W.A., H.Q.C.C.)SUECIA
survivors.Your 2113/23 complied with. My P.C. and S. at
1400A 053° 17' N., 016° 40' W., 066° 14 knots.
17 survivors on board. (?weather report)
2865 0554.
(SABRE, 1406A/24 to C. in C. W.A.)O.N.5.122
reported.D/F bearings on 12260 k/cs at 1305Z indicate
convoy has been reported by U-boat.
(D.D.I.C., 1515A/24 to Escorts O.N.122 C. in C.
W.A. Cominch, H.Q.C.C., N.S.H.Q. Ottawa).

U/B report.

Am over Enemy Submarine in 63° 35' N., 11° 28' W.
When first sighted S/M was on surface and observed
to submerge on a course 270 speed 10 knots.
(N.O. 15 Group, 1700A/24).

Force F.

Have detached MALCOLM and BICESTER to hunt
confirmed S/M contact obtained at 1816A in 054°
40' N., 010° 15' W.
(S.O. Force F., 1917A/24 to C. in C. W.A.)
Cancel my 1917. Search abandoned. Contact
considered fish.
(S.O. Force F., 2059A/24).

Convoy

4 U-boats sighted in vicinity of convoy.
(C.T.U., 24.1.4., 2021Z/24).

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24.8.1942.
Monday.War Diary.HOME COMMANDS.Casualties & Defects.

WALLFLOWER

Arrived WALLFLOWER with defects.
(Cdre. Londonderry, 0040/24).

MANCHESTER

3- p. 751
b. 753C. in C. Portsmouth is requested to convene a Board of Enquiry into the loss of MANCHESTER. Arrangements.
(A.C.N.S. (H), 0123A/24).

CHESHIRE

With O.R.P. BLYSKAWICA and ZETLAND in company E.T.A. Milford Haven 1200Z/24. Draught forward 33.
(CHESHIRE, 0545Z/24).
Your 0545Z/24 not to all addressees. Proceed to Belfast.
(C. in C. W.A., 0919A/24 to CHESHIRE).
E.T.A. Belfast 0800Z/25.
(CHESHIRE, 1900Z/24).
Detach BLYSKAWICA to Barry Roads repeat Barry Roads forthwith.
(C. in C. W.A., 2209A/24 to CHESHIRE).

KINDIESEL

Intercept at 0518 G.M.T. Require tow position 155° 7 miles South Stack Wilkins Master. Bearing from Port Patrick Radio 177° 2nd class. (Port Patrick Radio, 0618/24 etc).

P.54

C.A.F.O.199/41. Suspected case of sabotage occurred aboard P.54 during the night 23/24 August, minor damage to gunsights being sustained. Local Board of Enquiry is being held.
(Capt. (S) 9., 1550A/24).

RODNEY

Taken in hand 24/8/42 for docking for repairs to tanks and rudder and minor defects. Date for completion not yet available.
(A.S. Rosyth, 1805/24).

BOADICEA

My 1556/1/8. Every effort will be made to advance completion date. It is hoped to complete all items vital to seagoing and fighting efficiency by 21/9, ex trials provided certain sub-contractor's dates can be accelerated, regarding which action is being taken.
(F.O.I.C. Glasgow, 1838/24).

ASHANTI

5. On return from Operation "Pedestal", ASHANTI reports that blast effect from 4.7 inch guns using N.H. propellant was very much greater than when using S.C. and resulted in considerable minor damage to ship's structure which has not previously

/been...

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War Diary.24. 8. 1942.
Monday.HOME COMMANDS.Casualties & Defects - *contd.*ASHANTI
Contd.

been experienced. Effect on bridge personnel was also so much increased as greatly to reduce their efficiency. Ship was engaged under similar action conditions while escorting convoy P.Q.16 when S.C.cordite was carried and effect was not comparable.

2. No previous reports of this blast effect have been received up to date from ships so outfitted but remarks from other ships in Operation "Pedestal" will be obtained as soon as possible.

3. Written report is being forwarded.
(R.A.D., 2203A/24).

CURAÇOA

INT. W.D. *INT. W.D.*
Cancel my 1050A/23 and my 1519A/21 Codeword Liquid. CURAÇOA has sustained damage to propeller.
(N.O.I.C. Belfast, 2207A/24). *See next page.*

Shipping & Convoys.? SS.
STEEL
WORKER.

Intend sailing from Kola Inlet 1000C/24 STEEL Seidisfjord with 5 destroyers.
(TUSCALOOSA, 0820B/24 to C. in C. H.F.)

AMSTERDAM and
PRAGUE.

N.O.I.C. Invergordon's 1135A. 22nd. In view of periodical full moon consider it desirable convoy should be delayed sailing so as not to be north of Noss Head until daylight, when effective fighter protection can be provided. Suggest time of sailing be amended to 0100/25 E.T.A. Lerwick 1200/26.
(A.C.O.S., 1140A/24 to C. in C. Rosyth).
My 1135/22 amend time of sailing to 0100/26 and E.T.A. Lerwick 1200/26.
(N.O.I.C. Invergordon, 1821A/24 to C. in C. Rosyth)

W.S. 22

Ref. A.M.1245/18 and 2312/23. W.S. 22.
Sailing Liverpool Bar 1230Z/28. Cdre.'s noon R/V 29/8 055° 28' N., 009° 13' W., 30/8 054° 01' 017° 19' first 2 letters W/T call signs are XP Outcon 278.
(N.C.S.O. Mersey, 1220Z/24).

W.S. 22 A.M.1245A/18, 2312A/23.

1. Ocean escorts from Clyde. AURORA S.O. CARTHAGE.
2. A/S escort. (a) From Liverpool, *CHESTERFIELD. (b) From Clyde, QUIBERON, *PARTRIDGE. (c) From Londonderry to join in position (L) BULLDOG S.O. *BLYSKAWICA, KEPPEL, VENOMOUS, BICESTER ZETLAND, BEVERLEY.
3. BEVERLEY, CHESTERFIELD are to fuel Ponta Delgada. Orders for their subsequent movements will be given. N.O.I.C. Greenock arrange fuelling.
4. Remaining W.A. destroyers are to be detached to respective bases to arrive during daylight September 3rd.
5. All C.Os. except CHESTERFIELD are to attend main convoy conference at Greenock a.m./28. Destroyers in para. 2 (c) to be sailed from Clyde to Londonderry as requisite.
6. Request you will sail ships accordingly.
(C. in C. W.A., 1604A/24 to N.O.I.C. Liverpool, N.O.I.C. Greenock N.O.I.C. Londonderry).

/W.S....

24. 8. 1942.
Monday.War Diary.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping & Convoys - contd.

- W.S. 22 W.S. 22 Ocean Escort.
Contd. A. AURORA will not accompany convoy beyond
 Freetown.
 B. Ocean escort to Cape where convoy is expected
 about 24/9 is to be provided by CARTHAGE, DERWENT,
 AVON VALE and PINDOS.
C. C. in C. E.F. is requested to provide onward cruiser escort
from the Cape.
D. DERWENT, AVON VALE and PINDOS may continue with the convoy
as required.
(A.C.N.S. (F), 1959A/24).
- H.X. 203 H.X. 203 P.C. and S. 056° 22', 024° 06' (A) 122°
 9 for position Y. All ships present (38) weather
 report 3481 0514.
 (HESPERUS, 1659Z/24 to A.I.G. 303).
 confirmed by Group Captain
- S.P. 25 (2) S.P. 25 is cancelled.
 (C. in C. Portsmouth, 2213A/24).
- T.A. 18 T.A. 18 and W.S. 22. O.R.P. BLYSKAWICA is to
W.S. 22 escort Bristol Channel portions to Clyde instead
 of CURACOA.
 (C. in C. W.A., 2229A/24). *See previous page*

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War Diary.24.8.1942
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic.

INDOMITABLE. My 1552A/22. Sailed INDOMITABLE, LIGHTNING, ITHURIEL, LEDBURY, BRAMHAM. INDOMITABLE E.T.A. I.1 buoy 0745A/28. (F.O.C.N.A. 0212A/24 to Admty. (R) C. in C. H.F., R.A.A. H.F., C. in C. W.A., N.O.I.C. Liverpool, Cmdre. Londonderry.)

Destroyers My 1716A/22. Cancel para 1 and insert new para 1. Intend to sail ANTELOPE and PINDOS for Bathurst with WESTCOTT, WISHART.

Escorting MALAYA. 2. Para 2 insert "and ANTELOPE" after PINDOS.

RAMILLIES. 3. R.A.W.Af pass my 1035A/24 (?1030A intended) and my 1716A/22 to N.O.I.C. Bathurst. (F.O.C.N.A. 1030A/24 to R.A.W.Af. (R) Admty., C. in C. S.A., N.O.I.C. Bathurst.)

Sailed WESTCOTT, WISHART to R/V and escort MALAYA, RAMILLIES to Gibraltar. ANTELOPE, PINDOS to Bathurst for fuel and onward routing to Freetown. (F.O.C.N.A. 1742A/24 to R.A.W.Af. (R) Admty., Capt. (D) 19 RAMILLIES, C. in C. S.A., MALAYA.)

P.211, P.211, Cdr. Bryant, reports: 1 50 ton sailing sinkings. vessel sunk by gunfire on 16/8, 1 250 ton ammunition schooner blown up by gunfire on 17/8, both in Gulf of Crosei, Sardinia.

(2) One 10,000 ton empty tanker sunk by torpedo south of Cavoli Island on 18/8.

(3) One Italian U-Boat unsuccessfully attacked Gulf of Cagliari on 18/8.

(4) 2 other U-Boats were sighted out of range during patrol.

(5) Of 6 torpedoes fired with C C R pistol it appears 2 misses, 1 possible miss or just possible failed, 1 fired either under or in contact (?1) fired in contact, 1 fired under (?keel)

(6) Admty. pass to Cdr. W. C. in C. Med. pass to Capt (S) 1st S/F. (Capt. S.8, 1058A/24 to F.O.C.N.A. (R) C. in C. Med., Admty., F.O.S. Capt. (S) 1, Capt. (S) 10, VERNON (Cdr.W))

BESSEL. Your 1908A/20. I was later informed by Minister (German) that guard had been placed on board BESSEL. Regret I have not yet confirmed actual imprisonment on board but have assumed it. Am confirming now. Action according to your 1830/13/3 will be taken as soon as I receive confirmation or otherwise. (N.A. Madrid, 1116/24 to Admty., for D.N.I.)

Convoy Your 1300/23. Convoy consisted of 4 merchant firing ships and 1 trawler escorted by 1 H.M.T. Firing report, 22/8 practice carried out in positions stated. No attack. (S.O.I. Gibraltar 1148A/24 to B.C. Lisbon (R) Admty.)

24.8.1942
Monday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic - contd.

WOLVERINE. It is anticipated WOLVERINE can be sailed for U.K. early in September. Request following stores may be sent to her refitting port. Further requested that Capt. D. Liverpool will (A) Inform refitting port of modification to boilers and of number and position of boiler tubes to be replaced. (D) Forward new port circulator advised in Admty. 1753B/18/7/42. (F.O.C.N.A. 1534A/24 to Admty. (R) C. in C. W.A., Capt.D. Liverpool, WOLVERINE)

OMEGA. Admty. 1559A/19. Will sail OMEGA p.m./25 if possible. Request escort both surface and air. (?For information) It is certain late owner will inform Germans. Will you keep you informed. Except 4 Roumanians all crew allies. (N.C.S.O. Lisbon 1649/24 to F.O.C.N.A. . (R) Admty)

French ship. Freighter 8 to 9000 tons said to be flying French flag passed between Deserta Island and Madeira 1700 G.M.T/24 proceeding N.E. (Consul Funchal 1715/24 to F.O.I.C. Gibraltar Admty.)

Ships at Las Palmas. Your 1841/19 (Request report re ships ay Las Palmas) (A) 3 Danish, LINDA, THYRAS, SLESVIG anchoring buoy C Harbour and 5 German and Italian berthed alongside breakwater as follows: 300 metres from point of breakwater, CORRIENTES, stern southward; 1000 metres from point KERSTEN MILES; followed by ORATA, TROBATORE, CHERCA, these 4 bows southward. (B) No tugs or boats may move in harbour during night without Bona-Fide permit from Marine authority. (C) Harbour badly lit, only few lights on breakwater and on Santa Catalina quay. No entrance allowed to breakwater and any movement at night alongside breakwater cannot be seen from shore. (Las Palmas 1715/24 to Admty.,)

LEINSTER. Your 2313/23 para 3. All corvettes will be escorting tankers. 2. LAFOREY and LOOKOUT' overdue for boiler cleaning and only ship available will be sent. (F.O.C.N.A. 1820A/24 to Admty. (R) C. in C..W.A. N.O.I.C. Greenock, AURORA.)

B.D.Vs. C. in C. W.A. 1305A/19 (re routes for IMLA LAYTERI and escort to Azores) Code word "Bucket" E.T.A. Horta 31/8. Estimated coal requirements B.D.V. BARDELL 165 tons, B.D.V. BARBRAKE 165 tons, submarine attendant motor vessel IMLA LAYTERI will not require to fuel Diesel oil at Ponta Delgada. (F.O. Milford Haven 1845A/24 to B.C. Horta for C.S.S. (R) Admty. etc.)

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War Diary.24.8.1942
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic - contd.

GERANIUM. Cancel Capt. (D) 13, 1617/24 ^{/N.T.N.W.D.} proceed forthwith to meet tanker DAVILA in 031° 53' N. 015° 20' W. at 2045Z/24 routed through L. 035° 53' N. 006° 22' W. S. of A. 10½ knots and escort to Gibraltar.
2. Use codeword "Catgut" in accordance with para 5(e) of A.F.O. S.1/42 section N.A.
(F.O.C.N.A. 2258A/24 to GERANIUM (R) Admty.)

South Atlantic.

U/Bs Reported off Uruguay. My 2345Z/23. (Report 2 Subs. 180 miles N.E. of Chuy, Uruguay) On enquiry report apparently given to newspapers concerned by Ministry of Foreign Affairs.
(S.O.I. Montevideo 0220Z/24 to Admty., (R) B.A.D. etc.)
My 2345Z/23. Local authorities at Porto Alegre (Brazil) have informed R.O. of S/M sighted 1900 G.M.T/23 12 miles east of Rio Grande.
(S.O.I. Montevideo 0229Z/24 to Admty. (R) B.A.D. etc.)

COLOMBIA. Arrived 0853 G.M.T/24 Netherlands Depot Ship COLOMBIA.
(N.O.I.C. E. London 0859Z/24 to Admty. etc.)

Movements summary. 2000Z/24 Area Q. HAWKINS, RANPURA, PETARD, CATTERICK with W.S.21 (?028° 018°) 15' S. 010° 10' E. 135° 12½ knots.
(C. in C. S.A. 1230B/24 to S.A. Stn. (R) Admty.)

Force V. S.O. Force V in SIRIUS with PHOEBE in company
SIRIUS intends to sail from Freetown for the Cape at
PHOEBE. 1900/24.
2. Route (a) 08.30 N. 13.39 W. (b) 070° 38 N. 14.19 W. (c) 02.01 N. 11.21 W. (d) 075.8 S. 01.59 E. (e) 33.24 S. 16.59 E. thence as ordered by C. in C. S.A.
3. S. of A. to 05° N. 18 knots from 05° N. to Cape 15 knots.
4. The force will shift to area Q W/T organisation at 2359Z/29.
5. Ships have sufficient fuel for passage to Cape but insufficient margin should search raider be necessary en route. Request that tanker may be made available at Walvis Bay if possible from 30/8.
6. On arrival South Africa PHOEBE and SIRIUS will have had steam continuously for over 30 days. S.O. Force intends to carry out boiler cleaning and make good engine room defects on arrival. Hoped dockyard assistance will not be required.
7. Very desirable that both ships be tested on D G range.
(R.A.W.A. 1257Z/24 to C. in C..S.A. (R) Admty. etc. and 1731Z/24 to C.T.F.23, (R) Admty., Cominch, B.A.D. etc.)
/LARGS ...

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War Diary.24.8.1942
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic - conts:-

LARGS. LARGS, M.L.296 and M.L.209, escorting THYSVILLE arrive Bathurst about daylight 27/8. E.T.A. will be signalled.
 (ii) LARGS is required to embark gold coins taken in prize for U.K. without delay and is to be sailed without refuelling to join convoy S.L.120 R/v will be signalled later.
 (iii) M.L.296 and M.L.209 are to be shipped for routine examination.
 (R.A.W.A. 1319Z/24 to N.O.I.C. Bathurst (R) Admty. LARGS.)
 Gold already sent by air, see 1020/25.

H.M.S. QUEEN My 1645Z/20th. 1. Escort destroyers to M.O.M.P. ELIZABETH, with U.S. escort will be PATHFINDER, VIMY and escort. QUENTIN. 2. Transport VICEROY OF INDIA and MOOLTAN will leave Freetown midnight, VICEROY OF INDIA being detached in (?015°) 54' N. 028° 00' W. to proceed independently to U.K.
 3. Transport MOOLTAN will be detached at position B or earlier if desired by C. in C. U.S. Fleet to proceed independently to New York.
 (R.A.W.A. 1445Z/24 to B.A.D. Admty. (R) C. in C. S.A. C.T.F.23, C. in C. U.S. Fleet, QUEEN ELIZABETH.)

CALEDON. Intend to sail CALEDON for Gibraltar at 0900Z/25 routed as follows.
 (V) 08° 31' N. 14° 31' W.
 (R) 10.02 N. 18.00 W.
 (C) 15.00 N. 19.30 W.
 (D) 23.00 N. 18.00 W.
 (E) 30.00 N. 11.37 W.
 (F) 33.00 N. 10.00 W.
 (G) 35.53 N. 06.35 W. thence Gibraltar S. of A. 14 knots to position Q and subsequently 13 knots. E.T.A. a.m. 1/9.
 (2) CALEDON will shift to North Atlantic W/T organisation at 0700Z/28.
 (3) CALEDON carries bullion.
 (R.A.W.A. 1525Z/24 to F.O.C.N.A. (R) Admty., CALEDON, C. in C. S.A., C. in C. Plymouth, C. in C. Nore.)

Brazil, lights, U/Bs. Following report received from B.R.O. Santos (begins): Captain of Port informs me that all lights are extinguished in State of Sao Paulo and as far south as Rio Grande inclusive. He also states S/M sighted by 2 small craft off Paranagua date doubtful. Also S/M sighted off Santa Catherina Island at 1100 G.M.T/23 confirmed. 1300 G.M.T. (ends)
 (S.O.I. Montevideo 1531Z/24 to Admty., (R) B.A.D., C. in C. S.A., S.O.(I) Freetown.)

/My 1531/24 ...

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24.8.1942
Monday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic ~~---~~

Brazil,
lights,
U/Bs.
(contd)

My 1531/24 2nd Para. Report now amplified as follows: Brazilian Collier GUARAHU at Santos reports sighting S/M on 21st at 2300 G.M.T. between Paranagua and Figueira Island and later at 0210 G.M.T/22 between Figueira and Castilho Island. Conditions clear, distance of S/M stated as 1½ to 3 miles to seaward of ship. (S.O.I. Montevideo 1945Z/24 as amended 2251Z/24)

RAMILLIES,
MALAYA,
Escort.

My 1735Z/20. Escort destroyers to position D individually WIVERN, BRILLIANT, VANSITTART. (R.A.W.A. 1607Z/24 to F.O.C.N.A. (R) MALAYA, Admty., WIVERN, Capt.(D) 19 in LAFOREY, C. in C. S.A.)

CECILE
MAPLESON.

N.O.I.C. E. London's 0844/22/8 (Arrival of CECILE MAPLESON at 2158Z/21) not understood. Intention is to retain CECILE MAPLESON to maintain Table Bay and Saldanha Bay loop systems vide A.M. 2213/20/7. Request vessel be recalled to assist EMILE BAUDOT in laying systems unless required for other more urgent duties. (D.A/S W. 1612A/24 to C. in C. S.A.)

U.S. Fleet Intelligence. N.A. Rio de Janeiro 1445/22 (Exchange of Intelligence) Para 1 (C) At present I receive no information of identity or movements of U.S. Naval Forces West of 26° W. I understand this is because Task Force 23 had no shore base from which to send signals but now that Brazil has entered the war position is changed.
(2) In order that plans to hunt raiders may be co-ordinated and that where possible shipping may be diverted towards warship cover it is suggested that C.T.F. 23 should issue a daily movement summary similar to the signal issued for areas P. and Q in Anglo U.S. Cypher.
(C. in C. S.A. 1737B/24 to R.A.W.A. Admty. B.A.D.)
Reply: R.A.W.A. 1525/26.

BANTAM.

SS BANTAM, due Capetown 29/8, is reported to be carrying an important cargo of guns for Middle East. 2. If she arrives in time and is suitable she should be included in W.S.21 from Capetown.
(A.C.N.S.(F) 1742A/24 to C. in C. S.A., D. C. in C. E.F. (R) C. in C. Med. etc.)

Aircraft for Brazil. U.S. Naval observer informs me as follows. U.S. Vice Adml. Ingram has requested immediate dispatch to Pernambuco of 18 aeroplanes with American crews and gun crews with view to their eventual delivery to Brazilian force when trained. Request has strong support U.S. C. in C. North Atlantic.
(R.O. Pernambuco 1847Z/24 to Admty. (R) B.A.D., S.O.(I) Montevideo, Rio de Janeiro.)

/RIO SEGUNDO ...

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War Diary.24.8.1942
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic - contd.

RIO SEGUNDO. My 1357/12/7. Argentina RIO SEGUNDO refloated today 24th and proceeding Buenos Aires. (S.O.I. Montevideo 2103Z/24 to Admty.)

VELOX, My 2359Z/21 (Re CITY OF WELLINGTON sunk by S/M)
Attack At 2049/21 VELOX 3 miles to westward observed
on U/B. CITY OF WELLINGTON torpedoed and closed. 2103
VELOX sighted U-Boat wake, obtained R.D.F.
contact, range 4500 yards, and opened fire.
2105, U-Boat dived. 2108 VELOX obtained A/S contact, range
400 yards, and attacked with 5 charges set to 100 feet.
3 Doubtful contacts then attacked. 2310 unconfirmed contact
attacked with 14 charges. Oil pitch smelt and observed by
CITY OF WELLINGTON survivors. No other visible results.
(R.A.W.A. 2247Z/24 to Admty. (R) C. in C. S.A.)

CANNA, CANNA reports being struck at 2047/20 in 7° 41' N.
attack 14° 03' W. by a U-Boat believed to be surfacing.
on U/B. Firm contact then obtained. First attack with
2 charges produced 5 explosions, second attack
5 charges. Third attack with 4 charges
produced 3 additional explosions 90 seconds later.
No convincing visible result. Diver reports
hull undamaged and unmarked.
(R.A.W.A. 2337Z/24 to Admty.)

Mediterranean.

BLANKENESE Cancel my 1641C/23. A. German Yacht BLANKENESE
DORA. arrived 23/8 from Varna. Sailed ?1200 G.M.T/24
destination given as Volo. Description: White
hull, 2 masts. (exceptionally tall mizzen)
fitted with W/T, tonnage about 30, length 50 feet, auxiliary
diesel engine.
B. Roumanian motor boat DORA passed from Constanza for
Palestine with 15 Jew Refugees. S.N.O. L.A. please inform
Syrian and Palestine authorities.
(S.O.(I) Istanbul 157C/24 (?) as coded to S.O.(I) Med. (R)
D. N.I.)

Cositrep Air. Night 22/23.
No.491. (5) Matruh bombed by American aircraft. Large
explosion claimed at tank workshop.
(6) Torpedo and bomber Wellingtons attacked south-
bound convoy 1 tanker, 1 medium M/V several barges 3 destroyers
north of Tobruk. Possible hit with torpedo and bomb claimed
on destroyer and M/V respectively.

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Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean - contd.Cositrep
No.491
(contd)

7. Small number of enemy aircraft operated against landing grounds south of Alexandria. Damage slight.

10. British and American liberators bombed Tobruk at dusk. Jetty hit and one fire started. American B.25s and Halifaxes bombed later.

11. Night 23/24. Small number enemy aircraft operated over Delta. One He.111 destroyed by night fighter. (C. in C. M.E. 1030 G.M.T/24.)

P.46.
UTMOST.

P.46 will leave (?035°) 32' 014° 12' about 2101B/24 for 033° 01' 015° 29' to operate in area M. 031° 10' 014° 59' - 000° - 110 - 80.

UTMOST will leave 035° 22' 015° 06' about 0429B/26 for 037° 38' 020° 01' proceed on surface during daylight between 017° and 019° at C.O.'s discretion to operate in Ionian Sea area A Z L and C under your orders. (Capt. S.10 1045B/24 to Capt. (S) 1 (R) C. in C. Med., P.35, S.O.S. Alexandria.)

Proceed to vicinity 038° 42' 019° 34' 038° 42' 019° 34'. Further orders will be given by Capt. S.1. (Capt. S. 10 2207B/24 to UTMOST (R) Capt. (S) 1, C. in C. Med., S/Ms on patrol, 201 Group, S.O.S. Alexandria.)

Op. "Pedestal" Your 1142/16. At 0700/24 PORT CHALMERS completed, Unloading. ROCHESTER CASTLE no change. Remaining in

MELBOURNE STAR 150 tons of coal, BRISBANE STAR 350 tons of wet cargo including 200 tons of coal, 575 fuel. Discharged from convoy including OHIO by 0900/24, furnace 11199, diesel 2337, coal 1980, coke 494 tons. (V.A. Malta 1144B/24 to Admty.)

My 1244/15 para 7 and my 2222/14 para 1. Unloading of cargo from these ships completed 22/8 except for a small percentage in BRISBANE STAR and ROCHESTER CASTLE in flooded holds.

(C. in C. Med. 1244C/24 to C. in C. E.F., C.S.15, R.A. Alexandria, R.A.(D) Med., F.O.C. Red Sea Force.)

Op "Pedestal" Your 1053C/22, concur in proposed local issue publicity for of handout regarding convoy, generally and SS M/Vs. OHIO. For the present no specific reference should be made to BRISBANE STAR or her tactics. (D.P.D. Approved by V.C.N.S. 1235A/24 to C. in C. Med. (R) V.A. Malta.)

LISBOA.

Extract from a Fairmiss Telegram:- German ship LISBOA. (Cartagena THI 1245/24 to M.W.T.)

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War Diary.24.8.1942
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean - contd.

P.35. Proceed forthwith diving by day to patrol within
See next page -50 miles of Southern Approach to Antikithera
 Channel.
 (Capt. S.I. 1305C/24 to P.35 (R) C. in C. Med.,
 S.O.S. Alexandria, Capt. (S)10, No.201 N.C.
 Group.)

ALBA JULIA. My 1035C/22. ALBA JULIA still here. Has been
 on point of sailing since Saturday and has twice
 renewed her clearance papers, second time this
 forenoon.
 (S.O.I. Istanbul 1535C/24 to S.O.I. Mediterranean,
 (R) D.N.I.)

Malta I. 609 24/8. C.S.R. Malta 23rd. 1454 hrs.
 Air Report. During our fighter bomber sweep over Gela (see
 part 2) 8 plus Me.109s approached Malta, 8
 Spitfires up, majority of raiders turned back 5
 miles N. of Island. 2 swept across coast avoided combat and
 fled home. 2 Spitfires up on enemy shipping search sighted
 nothing.
 Night 23/24. 1820 hrs. 1 Beaufighter on patrol but no raiders
 approached Malta.
 24th. 0705 and 0925 hrs. Total 13 Spitfires up for raids
 which turned back before reaching Malta.
 Part 2. 23rd. 1340 hrs. 3 Hurricanes each carrying 2 x 250lb
 bombs escorted by 12 Spitfires airborne on offensive sweep
 against Gela aerodrome and district. Owing to partial engine
 failure 2 bombs jettisoned. Hurricanes dived from 17,000
 to 10,000 feet and dropped 2 bombs on Military buildings N.E.
 of Gela Town and 1 bomb on Biscari aerodrome. Results
 unobserved owing dense cloud patches. Spitfires saw 1 enemy
 fighter over Gela which avoided combat and 2 Me.109s 20 miles
 N.W. of Malta which fled home. All our aircraft returned safely.
 (H.Q. R.A.F. Malta 1558/24.)

Black Following is a repetition of message from N.L.O.
 Sea. Black Sea. No T.O.O. (begins)
 My 1617C/12. Am temporarily out of touch with
 situation. Sukhum Wireless Station wrecked by
 bomb on 16/8. Telegraphic communication also put out of
 action. Communication with Piti re-established but not as yet
 with Tuapse. Hope to be in touch again shortly.
 2. Sukhum bombed by small groups 15/8, 16/8, 17/8 and con-
 siderable civilian and some military damage. Town poorly
 prepared for defence. (Ends)
 (Adm. Miles, Moscow, 1600C/24 to Admty.)

/TURBULENT ...

24.8.1942
Monday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean - contd.

TURBULENT.
P.35.

*See previous
page*

Cancel my 1850/22. Patrol within 60 miles
035° 45' N. 023° 24' E. TURBULENT in sector
160° to 210°. P.35, 210° to 260°. Regret
delay but hope it will be worth while.
(Capt. S.1 1750C/24 to TURBULENT, P.35, (R)
C.in C. Med., 201 N.C.Group, S/Ms on patrol,
Capt. (S) 10, S.O. S/Ms Alexandria.)

MANCHESTER.

*See p.7407
A 751*

Re list of survivors in Tunis.
(N.A. Madrid, 1924/24) See East Indies.

War Diary.24.8.1942
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies.

Personnel in M.T. Ships. Ref. Admty. 2320/18/7 (re maximum number of passengers to be carried by merchant ships) Military advise that for forthcoming movements of 22nd Brigade it will be essential to embark personnel in M.T. ships to approx. 250 per vessel. Additional leading (corrupt group) can not be provided. Personnel will be mixed European and non-European and accommodation is main problem as they will be self supporting. Still consider however, that approval essential for purpose of movements.
(S.T.O. Diego Suarez 0737Z/24 to D.S.T. (R) Fort H.Q.)

P.W.S.S. Addu Atoll. Your 0702/13 (0602/13 intended, re when personnel will be able to man P.W.S.S. at Addu Atoll) to F.O.C.R.I.N. P.W.S.S. will be manned by 15th.
(Cdre. R.I.N. 1025Z/24 to F.O. Ceylon, (R) Admty. F.O.C.R.I.N., C. in C. E.F.)

Air Report U/B attacked. Intelligence summary No. 162 period 24 hours ending 1800 hours 24/8. Catalina attacked enemy S/M 70 miles N.E. Trincomalee 23/8 - result not observed.
(A.H.Q. India 1455/24.)

Repatriations. My 1456Z/19 TATUTA MARU due Lourenco Marques 27/8. KAMAKUBA MARU leaves Singapore p.m. 22/8 E.T.A. Lourenco Marques 7/9. Both ships routed through Sunda Strait via South of Mauritius via Madagascar.
(C. in C. E.F. 1528Z/24 to E.I. Station 781 C.)

DRAGON. Sailed DRAGON 1100Z/24 (?E.T.A.) Durban 0900Z/28. Knots $17\frac{1}{2}$ routed $011^{\circ} 47' 047^{\circ} 50'$, $017^{\circ} (748')$ $040^{\circ} 44'$, $025^{\circ} 00' (?026^{\circ})25'$.
(N.O.I.C. Diego Suarez 1109Z/24 to C. in C. E.F. Admty., Cdre. in Charge, Durban, D.C. in C. E.F. S.O.(I) Kilindini, S.O.(I) Capetown, S.O.(I) Colombo.)

Port Defences. Your O.44998* of 15/8. Amended priority for defence of ports in East Africa, Mauritius and Seychelles is as follows:- Mombasa, Seychelles Mauritius; then as in W.O. telegram 82578 of 16/4.
(W.O. 1745/24 to G.O.C. in C. E.A.)
* 1545/15.

/Diego ...

War Diary.24.8.1942
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies - contd.Diego
Suarez,
Vichy
Prisoners,
MANCHESTER
survivors.

French N.A. has given me Aide Memoire on behalf of French Admiralty.

(1) Protocol capitulation of Diego Suarez Article 5 signed by Adml. Syfret stated that prisoners would be repatriated to France. Can French Govt. send ships for them?

(2) Believed that 1200 prisoners arrived U.K. July. French Govt. has not received any list of them

which has caused useless and inhuman distress to many families. Particularly is there no mention survivors of submarine HEROS or if anyone was saved of French Submarine MONGE.

(3) Large number of survivors of MANCHESTER were landed at Tunisia. Until Admty. announce names of prisoners from Diego Suarez French Admty will not communicate names of MANCHESTER survivors. Request material for prompt reply. (N.A. Madrid 1924/24 to Admty.) * *See pp 740 751*Reply: Admty. 2346A/28. *p. 891.*Karachi
port
isolated.

As a result of floods, railways serving Karachi are all breached and the Port is isolated from inland points. This will probably necessitate diversion of greater number of steamers elsewhere. (Masson, Bombay T.H.I. 1940/24 to Shipminder.)

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War Diary.24.8.1942
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies.

- U/B. S/M sighted 50.30 N. 32.01 W. at 2300 G.C.T./23.
(C. in C. U.S. Fleet 0623/24 to Admty. B.A.M.S.
1A, B.A.M.S. 2A.)
- Air Report. Operations 23/8 all times G.M.T.
North Sydney. 1 Canso 117 Sqdn. on search for
crippled vessels from A.T.20, search hindered
by fog conditions. On patrol 1205, off 2145, located damaged
U.S.S. BUCK being towed by freighter and escorted by U.S.S.
BRISTOL in 42.58 N. 60.29 W. at 1506. *See 10756 - Disposition.*
(H.Q. E.A.C. Halifax 0625/24.)
- S/M. Cominch 2313/23 informs all commands concerned
O.7. with submarine reports in Eastseafron that U.S.S.
O.7 with surface escorts will be operating from
1200Z/24 until 2100Z/24 in the area 43 - 30 to
43 - 38 N. and 69 - 30 to 70 00 W.
(Comnav 0641/24 to Admty.)
- Sub Attack & Sighting Summary. Cominch 2133/23 to Comnav and Admty. (R) N.O.B.
Trinidad, Guantanamo etc., informs:
Para A. Plane attacks sub on surface 23.10 N.
83.48 W. 2140Z/22. Escort vessel sights sub
course 200, 52.01 N. 26.57 W. about 1400Z/22.
Para B. Plane attacks sub. 12.10 N. 79.50 W. 1920Z/22.
Surface craft attacks sound contact 35.21 N. 75.03 W. 0350Z/23.
Aircraft attack on sub 1620Z/18, reported my 192210* Red band
on C/T, reported sunk. *(See Comnav 1137/20)*
Para C. Surface craft attacks sound contact 53.51 N. 32.40 W.
1227Z/24/4. Surface craft attacks echo and propellor sound
contact 47.02 N. 28.50 W. 1300Z/20/6. Fishing Trawler sights
sub on surface 29.05 N. 92 W. 1700Z/22/6, course W. M/V
sights sub 29.25 N. 86.10 W. 25/6. Shore watcher sights sub
29.30 N. 84.27 W. 1830Z/29/6. M/V attacks periscope about
30.11 N. 88.02 W. 1548/17/7. Surface craft attacks sound
contact 29.56 N. 63 W. 0546Z/17/7. Plane attacks sub 22.30 N.
78.20 W. 2040Z/20/8. Sub reported course N. 13.06 S. 38.32 W.
1800Z/21/8.
Para D. Surface craft attacks sound contact 59.09 N. 23.18 W.
1348Z/9/7. M/V attacks periscope 29.41 N. 88.29 W. 2015Z/14/7.
Surface craft attacks sound contact 50.23 N. 58.10 W. 2345Z/17/7.
(Comnav 0719/24 to Admty.)
- BERING Overdue Trinidad U.S. BERING and British
DALHOUSIE. DALHOUSIE.
(S.O.I. Jamaica 0947Q/24 to Admty., Connav,
S.B.N.O. W.A., N.S.H.Q., B.A.D.)
- U/B. R.C.A.F. reports S/M 049° 47' N. 129° 05' W.
at 0918/24.
(C.O.P.C. 1030Z/24 to Admty. etc.)

/Drifting ...

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War Diary.

24.8.1942
Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies - contd.

Drifting Tank. Following has been received from Hydrographic Office, Washington, addressed to any or all U.S. Men-of-War and is passed to you for information. Drifting square tank apparently of metal construction surmounted by staff with yellow flag reported 42.36.5 N. 69.28 W. 23/8. (Commaveu 1036/24 to Admty.)

Movement Summary.	1800 G.M.T./24.			
	Ship	Position	Course	Speed.
	A.T.20	42½° N. 47° W.	087°	13½
	GLASGOW	Approaching Bermuda from Westward		
		22 knots.		
	(D.O.D.(F) 1124Z/24 to Opanav (R) Commaveu)			

MAURETANIA. Your 1737/22. MAURETANIA now at Rio de Janeiro Radius 3800 miles due to fouling and one dead boiler. Further movement under discussion with Connav. (D.T.D. 1227A/24 to N.S.H.Q.)

U/B. Guantanamo W/T reports submarine attack 1330 G.M.T/24 in 019.27 N. 074.56 W. (S.O.(I.) Jamaica 1314Q/24 to Admty., B.A.D. Connav.)

U/B. Master of IRISH ELM reports that at approx 0400/23 while bound for Saint John off Old Proprietor Buoy in 44° 30' N. 66° 32' W. he observed S/M about three-fourths submerged bound on (IYL PITE) (as received) course, speed about 10 knots. States that himself and 3 officers watched S/M for approx. 10 minutes. Colour of S/M dirty rusty grey apparently medium sized with wash and spray showing from what was apparently one gun forward. No distinguishing marks visible. (N.O.I.C. St. John N.B. 1500Z/24 to C.O.A.C. (R) N.S.H.Q. Admty.)

SUECIA. S.C.95. My 1947Z/22. SUECIA torpedoed and sunk 16/8. (D.T.D. 1503A/24 to Connav, N.S.H.Q.)

AWATEA. Report as soon as possible if repairs to AWATEA can be completed in time for her to sail in N.A.16. (N.S.H.Q. 1537Z/24 to C.O.A.C. (R) Admty., B.A.D., C. in C. U.S. Fleet, D. of S.T.)

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War Diary.24.8.1942
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies - contd.

Dispositions. Section East. A.T.20 Task Force 37 042° 40' 047° 00' 088° 13.5 altering in 044° 45' W. to 060°.

S.C.97 Task Unit 24.18.5 ? 045° 54' 055° 50' 079° 7 altering in 052° 33' W. to ? 022°.

O.N.120 Task Unit 24.18.3 044° 14' 054° 00' 257° 5.5.

H.X.204, Task Unit 24.18.6, 044° 50' 059° 00' 085° 9 altering in 057° 10' W. to 130.

(C.O.A.C. 1545Z/24 to Admty.)

Section South West.

O.N.121 (E) T.U. 24.18.2, 043° 060° 15' 292° 9, alter in 044° 20' N. to (? 349° or 270°) and in 063° 24' W. to 220°.

X.B.T., T.U. 24.18.4, 042° 38' 067° 40' 266° 10 alter in 068° 47' W. to Cape Cod Bay.

X.B.T.F., SHEDIAC 043° 42' 066° 30', 7.5.

(? S) H.37, QUINTE, GRADMERE, UNGAVA, 2030Z/24 GRADMERE to Sydney (corrupt group). U.S.S. CHENUNG, U.S. destroyer BUCK, CHEROKEE, escorted by U.S.S. BRISTOL. C.S. BRANTFORD 043° 05' 062° 22' (? 270° or 349°) 6. ✓ Tug and NIPIGON, U.S. destroyer TILLMAN, joining LARAMIE U.S. destroyer OSMOND INGRAM.

(A) U.S.S. KATOURA 045° 03' 061° 10' coastwise 9 altering in 060° 20' 060° 05' to 084°. LARAMIE detaching to Sydney.

PRESHAYT (?PRESCOTT) 044° 35' 062° 35' 075° 13.

(C.O.A.C. 1551Z/24 to Admty.)

Section South West, my 1551Z/24 delete PRESCOTT amend U.S.S. BRISTOL due Halifax 2130Z/24.

(C.O.A.C. 2100Z/24 to Admty.)

** See p. 754 (see Report)
* complete T.U. in West Indies.*

U/B
Positions.

S/M estimate 24/8. Hatteras. U.S. submarine notice. Until 2100Z/24th 0 - 7 for surface escorts within area 43 30/43 38 N. 69 30/70 00 W. then returns Casco Bay.
(Cominch 1551/24, 1552/24, 1553/24, 1554/24, 1555/24.)

BLANKAHOLM
(sunk 18/8)

Swedish BLANKAHOLM torpedoed 18/8 0405 G.M.T. 019° 35' N. 076° 25' W. Ship sunk immediately. C.Bs went down with ship in 2000 fathoms in perforated boxes, except 02272 (20) copy number 11675 which Master brought ashore at Port Hamilton and handed to U.S. Routeing Officer today. Master, name Eric Lundberg, assured me this recoding table 20 has been safely locked up in leather, case in his personal keeping since he came ashore 18/8. Master appeared trustworthy.
(B.R.O. Havana 1612/24 to Admty. as amended 1145/25.)

H.X.202.

Average speed 9.31 knots. Fog 10th to 13/8 followed by good weather. No stragglers, all ships now reported.
(D.T.D. 1619A/24 to Comnav, N.S.H.Q.)

/SEAGULL ...

War Diary.24.8.1942
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies - contd.SEAGULL
(sunk 19/8)British Schooner SEAGULL shelled sunk 1400QR/19
in 011° 38' N. 067° 42' W. 45 survivors at
Curacao.(S.O.I.) Jamaica 1637Q/24 to Admty., S.B.N.O.
W.A., B.A.D., Connav, F.O.I.C. Trinidad.)Tankers
Trinidad -
Freetown,
Escort.F.O.I.C. Trinidad's 1422Q/23. R.A.W.A. has been
instructed to sail 2 corvettes to meet each lot
of tankers. Very early information is desired
as to dates of sailing in order that R/V may be
arranged and that best use can also be made of
destroyers returning from escorting H.M.S. QUEENELIZABETH. If KALDFONN has contaminated cargo, NORVINN should
proceed without her. Intention is that MAJA and ORWELL should
be sailed in company 3 or 4 days later.

(D.T.D. 1715A/24 to B.A.D. (R) F.O.I.C. Trinidad R.A.W.A.)

O.N.122,
U/B Report.U-Boat estimated your area by D/F at 1506Z/24
has made sighting report of a convoy or important
unit, 13768 k/cs, ENIGMA. Another at 1437Z/24
over 150 miles 50.45 N. 34° W, 10510 k/cs., B.T.Another at 1304Z/24 over 150 miles 50.45 N. 30° W., 12260 k/cs.
Another at 1254/14 over 150 miles 50° N. 33° W. 12260 k/cs. B T.
(C. in C. U.S. Fleet 1270/24 to C.T.U. 24.1.4 (R) U.S. Destroyer
BERNADOU, C.T.24. C.O.A.C., C. in C. Atlantic Fleet, Admty.,
N.S.H.Q.)D/F bearings between 1346Z and 1620Z indicate at least
3 U-Boats in contact with Convoy.(D.D.I.C. 1808A/24 to Escorts O.N.122, C. in C. W.A.,
Cominch, N.S.H.Q. H.Q.C.C.)2 U-Boats sighted on surface in positions 50.06 N. 34.17 W.
at 1445 and 49.48 N. 34.27 W. at 1525. Being kept down by
escort.(C.T.U. 24.1.4, 1815Z/24 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.)

T.A.W.13.

Ref. my 1429/23 (re T.A.W.13 dispersed) Add:
Less SAMIR, Egyptian, PORT LA REINE, EMPIRE BEDE,
both British, JOHN HANCOCK, U.S., all sunk.
LAGUNA, British, torpedoed but proceeded into
Guantanamo.
(B.R.O. Key West 1739A/24 to Admty. (R) S.B.N.O.W.A.
etc.)Atlantic
Convoy
Schedule.Assuming that mid-ocean escorts will continue
operate in 11 groups, following schedule is
proposed, commencing with new trans-atlantic
convoy schedule Eastbound convoys in sequence of
departure commencing with H.X.208 sailing fromNew York 17/9 order of escort groups B-2, C-2, B-4, B-7, C-3,
B-6, C-1, B-1, MA-3, B-3, C-4 and repeat: Westbound commencing
with O.N.131 sailing 18/9 order of escort groups C-3, B-6, C-1,
B-1, A-3, B-3, C-4, B-2, C-2, B-4, B-7 and repeat. Note
foregoing schedule provides (1) Balanced time at sea for all
groups (2) Approx equal layover period East and Western terminals.
(3) Staggers arrivals B-Groups Argentinia thus permitting more

/efficient ...

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War Diary.24.8.1942
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies.Atlantic
Convoy
Schedule
(contd.)

efficient repair service. (4) Simplification escort schedule. Assume will be necessary to open convoy sailing interval to 8 days commencing about 1/11 in order meet winter operating conditions. Request comments action addressee. (C.T.F. 24, 1941/24 to C. in C. W.A., Info. C.O.A.C. F.O.N.F., N.S.H.Q. Cominch (C and R) C.T.G. 24.7.)

BOLD.

Request early reply to para 2 of my 1545/20. (B.A.D. 2049Z/24 to Admty.)

EMPIRE
BREEZE.

EMPIRE BREEZE is reported sunk 24/8 in convoy O.N.S.122. Your 1511/18 convoy sailing Telegram made no mention of this ship. (N.S.H.Q. 2054/24 to N.C.S.O. Mersey (R) Admty.)

ARLETTA
AGWIDALE
collision.

N.C.S.O. St. Johns N.F. reports ARLETTA was in collision with AGWIDALE U.S., date not stated. On arrival St. Johns N.F. Master of AGWIDALE stated ARLETTA apparently all right after collision. AGWIDALE recommissioned for sea. (N.S.H.Q. 2143Z/24 to Admty. Connav., (R) N.C.S.O. St. Johns N.F., Halifax, Montreal, New York.)

Report date of collision ARLETTA and AGWIDALE (U.S.) and obtain all details possible.

(N.S.H.Q. 2147Z/24 to N.C.S.O. St. Johns N.F., (R) Admty., Connav.)

GLASGOW.

AGM. 2217/3/10 1941. GLASGOW reported on sabling all provisions satisfied. In addition all gunnery control positions can be fully manned. Sufficient R.D.F. ratings on board to man all sets. Full power can be maintained by depleting fire and repair parties to 50% of normal complement. (B.A.R.M. 2154Z/24 to Admty. (R) GLASGOW.)

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24.8.1942.
Monday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.Australia and New Zealand.

Situation Maori No. 26. (1) Enemy Air R/C Gilbert Islands
Reports. continues. (2) Ocean Island bombed by 9 twin
engined bombers 22/8 and shelled at 1205Z/22 by
cruiser. Nauru shelled by 6 inch cruiser from

1110Z/22 to 1300Z/22.

(3) Dutch BLOEMFONTEIN made "SSSS" followed by "gunned" in 33°
40' S. 164° W. 0545Z/18 ship has since arrived at Bora Bora.

(N.Z.N.B., 0411Z/24 to Admty., etc.)

Digest Serial No. 214, 23/8. Reports 23/8 indicate enemy
force including 2 heavy cruisers, 5 destroyers 1 converted
seaplane tender 1 large tanker, 1 supply ship 1 submarine or
torpedo boat, 2 other vessels operating in Faisi - Buin -
Tonolei Harbour area, 5 large flying boats observed Mored Faisi.

(2) 1 cruiser described Nachi 6" class, 2 M/Vs 10/15,000 tons,
2 gunboats 04° 10' S. 150° 20' E. sighted by R/C aircraft
0230Z/23 course 90°.

(3) Further analysis photographs shows 40 fighters (6 damaged)
Lae aerodrome 22/8, 8 small vessels at wharf - serial 213 para.
6 refers.

(4) Indications enemy S/M 13° 30' S. 154° 00' E. 0430Z/23.
Report para. 7 serial 213 now discounted.

(5) Reliably reported 22/8 indications enemy withdrawing
towards Aileu and Remexio (Timor).

(6) Hughes aerodrome Darwin raided noon 23/8 by 27 heavy bombers
approx 20 zero fighters at 25,000 feet. Four bombers 9 zeros
believed destroyed, some ammunition and fuel dumps, 2 training
aircraft destroyed, 3 hits on runway.

(7) Air R/C reported no activity Kieta 23/8.

(8) 1 B.17 attacked Buka 23/8. No activity seen.

(G.H.Q. S.W.P.A., 0756Z/24 to Admty.)

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.Submarines Reported.

Approximate positions.

(D.D.I.C., 1407A/24, 1424A/24.)

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25.8.1942
Tuesday.War Diary.SITUATION REPORT.Home Commands.Raider in
Arctic
Ocean.

In the early hours of today an enemy raider shelled and destroyed the Meteorological Station on Cape Zhelaniya (north side of Novaya Zemlya); the W/T station is still working.

The Russians report that a vessel variously reported as an icebreaker *SIBERYAKOV and an unarmed transport *SIBIYAKOV eastward bound was fired at at 1317 today in 76° 12' N. 91° 30' E. by an *unidentified ship (also reported as an enemy auxiliary cruiser). The SIBIYAKOV later made S O S and has not been heard of since.

* ADMIRAL SHEER

A raider passed Cape Chelyuskin bound east at high speed at 2340A today and was not seen to return by 1040A/27. *Should be ALEXANDER SIBIRYAKOV. (Unhatched. L.A. 1945)*

ULM
sunk.

ONSLAUGHT returning from Kola Inlet with TUSCALOOSA, RODMAN, EMMONS, MARNE and MARTIN reports that German minelayer ULM was sunk at 2234A today (position believed to be about 100 miles East of Bear Island), the captain, 3 officers and 57 ratings being picked up. MARNE was hit and slightly damaged and had some casualties. At 0448A/26 ONSLAUGHT was in 74° 49' N. 19° 20' E. steering 271° at 20 knots.

S.O. Force F. in NELSON with FURIOUS, ARGUS, ESKIMO, SOMALI, TARTAR and FURY arrived at the Clyde at 1214A today and KENYA arrived at Scapa at 1758 today from Gibraltar.

CHESHIRE (torpedoed 18/8) arrived at Belfast at 1125A today.

Coastal forces of the Nore Command had an encounter last night off Flushing with enemy coastal forces. M.T.B.72 was damaged and M.G.Bs 61 and 65 were slightly damaged. One enemy vessel is reported to have been torpedoed.

Two U-boats, probably seriously damaged are believed to have been for the last 4 or 5 days within 60 miles of 42° 30' N. 17° 30' W. Air search was carried out, to locate them.

It is reported that P.219 was bombed by Hudson aircraft, at 1432A/19 in 43° 44' N. 11° 41' W. P.219 was undamaged. *See next page*

/A large ...

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25.8.1942
Tuesday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands - conts. -

A large number of mines were found about 12 miles east of Lowestoft today after E-boats had been operating there in the early hours. SS KYLOE in Convoy F.S. 289 was mined here in 52° 27' N. 200' E. during last night and was towed to Yarmouth Roads and beached (afterwards refloated and towed to repair port). The E-boats were engaged by MENDIP and M.G.Bs, but they all escaped.

Five mines were swept today in 50° 49' 44" N. 0° 40' 15" E. (Hastings area).

North Atlantic.

P.219 arrived at Gibraltar today (see 21/8).

See previous page

South Atlantic.

SS VIKING STAR was torpedoed and sunk at 1745Z today. The position is not given, but 12 survivors on a raft were seen on 26/8 in 6° N. 14° W.

East Indies.

SS TANDA reports weak signals from a ship in 1° 3' N. 77° or 78° 18' E. (about 300 miles E. of Addu Atoll, Maldives Is.) at 0420Z and 1300Z today, indicating that the ship had been sunk by a submarine.

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25.8.1942
Tuesday.War Diary.SITUATION REPORT.America and West Indies.Convoy
O.N.122
attacked.

C.T.U. 24.1.4 reported at 0131Z today that Convoy O.N.122 was heavily attacked by U-boats at 2347Z and 4 ships had been sunk: these were apparently EMPIRE BREEZE, TROLLA, (INGERFIRE or) KATVALDIS and SHEAF MOUNT. The report that EMPIRE BREEZE was sunk was incorrect, however, for at 0945Z/26 HURRICANE reported that she had intercepted signal from EMPIRE BREEZE stating that she was drifting in approx. 49° 45' N. 35° 10' W. with engine room flooded. A tug was sent to bring her in, but she was not found. Connav gives the date of sinking of the four ships as 24/8 and position 48° 55' N. 35° 10' W. C.T.U. 21.1.4 estimated there were 5 U-boats round the convoy. POTENTILLA claims to have sunk one *on 25/8* *U-boat during the night and VISCOUNT to have *sunk or severely damaged another, whilst POTENTILLA shelled and hit a U-boat on the surface, and also depth charged it. **Not confirmed. See pp 788-790*

At 1456Z C.T.U. 24.1.4 reported that he estimated 8 to 10 U-boats were operating near the convoy, of which 3 were possibly damaged; he had altered course to evade them. The Admiralty asked Admiral King if he would consider detaching a destroyer from Convoy A.T.20 to go to the assistance of O.N.122 (Cinclant sent BRISTOL) and F.O.N.F. sailed corvettes ROSTERN and LUNENBURG on 26/8 to augment the escort.

SS AMAKURA, a straggler from Convoy W.A.T.15 was torpedoed and sunk at 0835 G.M.T. today in 17° 40' N. 75° 52' W. (S.E. of Jamaica)

SS GLOXINIA in O.N.122 was attacked by a U-boat at 0350 convoy time but drove off the enemy by gunfire. GLOXINIA lost the convoy during the engagement.

Australia and New Zealand.

Papua.

The enemy landed at 1540Z today at Hioma Beach, Milne Bay (eastern extremity of Papua) from a convoy of 2 or 3 cruisers, 5 or 4 destroyers, 2 gunboats and 2 8000 ton transports which had been sighted approaching. 6 Aircobras attacked Buna Aerodrome at 2125Z today, destroying several enemy aircraft.

Ocean Island was shelled for a few minutes at 1530Z today.

/Solomon Is. ...

25.8.1942
Tuesday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT.

Australia and New Zealand - contd.

Solomon Is.

An unknown number of enemy troops landed at Gizo (Solomon Is) today. U.S. Army bombers report having damaged 2 aircraft carriers, one battleship, and several cruisers today.

Large Japanese naval reinforcements reached the South-west Pacific today.

764

25.8.1942.
Tuesday.War Diary.HOME COMMANDS.Policy.

M.M.S. Your 1825/21st. The endurance of these craft will just allow them to make the passage. If convoy is delayed by bad weather they will run out of fuel.

(2) If heavy weather or fog cause them to lose touch with convoy it is doubtful whether M.M.S have sufficient navigation facilities to enable them to complete passage alone.

(3) I have grave doubts whether a voyage this length in Arctic waters is a justifiable undertaking. Loss of Norwegian whalers and their crews when engaged in similar attempt earlier this year must be remembered.

(C. in C.H.F. 0042A/25 to Admty).

NORLAND In view of considerable E-boat activity now being experienced on the east coast and shortage of patrols which will be caused by requirement of Admty 2003/22. request consideration may be given to early return of NORLAND and ADONIS to Harwich.
ADONIS.
(C. in C.Nore. 1146A/25 to Admty).

PIORUN. On completion of next escort duty about 26/9.
ESCAPADE. PIORUN is to join Home Fleet.
2. On completion of refit at Belfast on 18/9 ESCAPADE is to join W.A.Command.
3. ESCAPADE should be fitted for 10 D/C pattern in accordance with A.L.T.O. 5819/40 as amended by A.L.M.A./S.W.246/41 subject to no delay in date of completion of refit.
(D.O.D.(H) 1254A/25.).

Destroyers My 1234/23, para.3. Commanding Officers will be for Home as follows. VIVACIOUS, Lieut. Cdr. R. Alexander. Fleet CAMPBELL, Lieut Cdr. W.H. Farrington, MACKAY, Lieut Operation. J.B. Marjoribank. VESPER, Lieut. D.H.R. Bromley.
2. Flotilla Anti-Sub. Officer will be embarked in MACKAY, Flotilla Torpedo Officers and Sub. Detection

Instructors in CAMPBELL.
(C. in C.Nore 1516A/25).

Flag of A.M. 2042/22. Propose to transfer my flag at 0800 S.O. Force (?Thursday) (?27th) and retain NELSON at Greenock F. until a.m. that day.
(2) C. in C.Rosyth pass to RODNEY.
(S.O. Force F. 1616A/25).

DURBAN. DURBAN and ^{*}DESPATCH are required for service about DESPATCH. 25/9. Request working up programme may be arranged accordingly.
(D.O.D.(H) 1740A/25). * 10.766

VIENNA. In addition to spares and stores for 7th and 8th M. T.B. Flotillas, arrangements are being made to embark in VIENNA base maintenance staff, stores and spares for two flotillas of "B" type M.Ls. Working up and embarkation of stores should be completed by 1st October.
(D.D.O.D.(C) 1804A/25). 10.786

/CHELSEA...

765

25.8.1942.

Tuesday.War Diary.HOME COMMANDS.Policy. - Contd.

CHELSEA. F.O.I.C.London's 1744A/25. Request CHELSEA may be sailed 31/8, to Londonderry for short work-up before joining Western local escort force at Halifax.
(C. in C.W.A. 2209A/25 to C. in C.Nore).

Movements.

30th M.L.F. Reykjavik arrival your 1418/22nd at 2325/24th.
(A.C.I.C. 0036A/25 to N.O.I.C.Stornoway).

MINERVE
P.221. F.S.*MINERVE E.T.A.Lerwick 1200/26 and P.221 due same port 0900/26 both from Northward.
(.F.O.(S) 0451A/26 to Submarines operating N. of latitude 51° North). # 768

MANSFIELD. (?054 degs or 059 degs) 19' 036 degs 48' weather report.0945 1347.
(MANSFIELD,0700Z/25 to Admty).
059° 19'. 036° 48'. Weather report. 0945, 1247.
(MANSFIELD 1700Z/25.).
057° 43' 040° 44' 9080 1865.
(MANSFIELD 1800Z/25).

? Following signals are not to all addressees.
(A) My 1629/19th add one day to all dates mentioned.
(2) My 0958/23rd for 31st August read 1st September.
(3) My 1859/24th Paragraph (2) for 6th September read 7th September (N.T. of formers in W.D.)
(F.O.(S) 1034A/25 to Admty, (R) C. in C.Home Fleet, A.C.I.C.
Capt.(S) 3, Capt.(S) 6, Capt.(S) 9, R.A.D. Home Fleet, A.C.O.S.
H.Q.Coastal Command.).

Force F. Clyde arrival S.O. Force "F" in NELSON with FURIOUS ARGUS, ESKIMO, SOMALI, TARTAR, FURY, Codeword "Crown"
(N.O.I.C. Greenock 1214A/25).

HOWE. Leave harbour at 0600/26 taking JAMAICA and 3
JAMAICA. Home Fleet destroyers under your orders when met at 0815/26 at (?Eyebary) (?Eyebroughty- W.D.).
buoy proceed by searched channel to Scapa carrying out 14-inch gun trials and other trials proposed in your 0020/633 of 10th August 1942 on passage adjusting your speed so as to pass Hoxa Boom at 1830/26th approx.
(C. in C.Rosyth 1221A/25 to HOWE).

AVENGER. Leave harbour p.m./26 so as to R/V with one H.F. destroyer at 2200/26th at Eyebroughy Buoy take under your orders and proceed with all despatch by Searched channel to Scapa.
(C. in C.Rosyth 1223A/25 to AVENGER).

/VIDETTE...

766

War Diary.25.8.1942.
Tuesday.HOME COMMANDS.Movements - Contd.VIDETTE,
WRESTLER.Arrived.
(C. in C.Plymouth 1227A/25).ALGERINE.
ALBACORE.
ALARM.Request you will sail ALGERINE, ALBACORE, and ALARM to Harwich to operate with 9th M.S.F. under C. in C. Nore as soon as possible.
(D.M.S. 1245A/25 to C. in C.Rosyth).

9th M.S.F.

Request you will sail four ships of 9th M.S.F. including SIDMOUTH to Harwich as soon as possible to operate under C. in C.Nore.
(D.M.S. 1246A/25 to C. in C. Portsmouth).

BERMUDA.

Sailed BERMUDA in accordance with my 2156A/24th.
Code Word "Eager."
(F.O.I.C.Greenock 1308A/25). *H.T.M.W.D.*

MANXMAID.

Intend to sail MANXMAID independently to Rosyth at 0800/27. E.T.A. May Island 1300/27. E.T.A. Rosyth Basin 1600/27.
(F.O.I.C.Tyne 1325/25).

DESPATCH.

*See p. 764*Cancel my 1835/24th intend sailing to Rosyth for onward routeing to Scapa at 1230/26. E.T.A. May Island 1745/26th Request fighter protection.
(N.O.I.C.Newcastle-on-Tyne 1330/25 to C. in C.Rosyth) *H.T.M.W.D.*

ONSLow.

Intend to sail ONSLOW at 0600/26 by searched channel to Scapa speed 25 knots carrying out 2 hours full power trial on passage E.T.A. Scapa 2000/26.
(F.O. Humber 1340A/25).Situation
Report at
2000.INDOMITABLE
Fleet Unit LIGHTNING, ITHURIEL, BRAMHAM, LEDBURY, 040° 25' 016° 38' to 046° 01' 016° 59' 16. *See p. 768*
H.X.203 (E)*HESPERUS, VANESSA, CAMPANULA, CLEMATIS, MIGNONETTE 054° 33' 018° 10' to 055° 41' 008° 03' 9.
(C. in C.W. A. 1355A/25). * *See p. 776.*

NELSON.

*See next page
for
secret.*If convenient to S.O. Force F. request you will sail NELSON escorted by ESKIMO, INTREPID, and ICARUS for Scapa on 27/8.
(C. in C.H.F. 1554A/25 to F.O.I.C.Greenock).

OFFA.

*See p. 768*On return to Scapa and after being detached proceed through position 058° 50' N. 007° 02' W. thence through Reykjanes passage to Hvalfjord to act as one of DUKE OF YORK screen.
(2) Report E.T.A.Hvalfjord to me before finally leaving Scapa.
(R.A.(D).H.F. 1631A/25 to Offa).

/FOLKESTONE.....

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25.8.1942.
Tuesday.War Diary.HOME COMMANDS.Movements. - Contd.

From S.L. 118
 { FOLKESTONE.
 GORLESTON.
 SABRE.

Arrived.
 (Cdre.Londonderry 1640A/25).

ST.CROIX.

Arrived.
 (Cdre.Londonderry 1700A/25.).

ULSTER
 QUEEN.
 ALYNBANK.
 ACHATES.

P.Q.18 C. in C.W.A. 1121A/23rd. Intend sailing
 ULSTER QUEEN, ALYNBANK, 0600A/30th. R/V for
 ACHATES and corvettes in position 000° Altacarry
 6 miles at 1130A/30th. Ships proceeding direct to
 Hvalfjord S. of A. 9.5 knots.
 (N.O.I.C.Belfast.1753A/25.).

KENYA.

Scapa arrived KENYA.
 (A. C.O.S. 1758/25).

Proceed so as to arrive Tyne 1745/27th.

(2) Report intended time of sailing.

(3) R.A.(D) H.F. is requested to (?detail) one destroyer to
 escort from Scapa until daylight 27th then return to Scapa.

(C. in C.H.F. 2338A/25 to KENYA, R.A.(D) H.F.).

Trawlers to
 accompany
 Q.P.14.

Your 1215/15/7 propose sailing AYRSHIRE, LORD
 AUSTIN, LORD MIDDLETON, NORTHERN GEM to U.K.
 on return from North Russia with Q.P.14 for refit,
 fitting Arctic and Oerlikon guns.
 (A.C.I.C. 1816A/24 to Admty).

TARTAR
FURY.

Sailed in accordance with my 1604A/25. *17.8.42*
 (F.O.I.C.Greenock 1826A/25)

ARGUS.

→ NELSON. *see**Missing page*

Request you will sail ARGUS escorted by INTREPID
 and ICARUS for Tyne 26/8. PUCKERIDGE and FARNDALE
 with ESKIMO will provide escort NELSON.

(C. in C.H. F. 1843A/25 to N.O.I.C.Greenock (R)
 ARGUS, INTREPID, ICARUS, ESKIMO, PUCKERIDGE,
 FARNDALE, C. in C.W.A. Admiralty, N.O.I.C.Newcastle-
 on-Tyne, R.A.(D) H.F. R.A.N.A.S., A.C.O.S., C. in C.
 Rosyth, NELSON.).

FERNIE.
BLENCATHRA.

A.M. 2003/22. FERNIE can be sailed on 30/8 and
 BLENCATHRA on 1/9 after boiler cleaning.
 (C. in C.Portsmouth 1847A/25 to C. in C.Nore).

FARNDALE.
 PUCKERIDGE,
 PARTRIDGE.

My 1709A/24. Para.2. FARNDALE and PUCKERIDGE enter
 harbour with PARTRIDGE.
 2. Subsequently act as ordered by F.O.I.C.Greenock.
 (R.A.(D) 1852A/25).

/Archangel...

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War Diary.25.8.1942.
Tuesday.HOME COMMANDS.Movements. - Contd.

- Archangel. Arrival MIDDLETON, BLANKNEY, BRAMBLE, SEAGULL, HAZARD, (?and) SALAMANDER. (S.B.N.O.Archangel 1911A/25).
- WRESTLER. Sailed 1936 WRESTLER E.T.A. 1930/26. (C. in C.Plymouth 1959/25).
- JAMAICA *See p. 765.* Scapa departure.
INGLEFIELD (A.C.O.S. 2015A/25).
ECLIPSE
OFFA. *See p. 766.*
- AFD. *11.7.23* My 1448/22 and F.O.I.C. Milford Haven 1217/23.
XVII. Delete "CHERBOURGEOIS III" and substitute "SCHELDE" SCHELDE to remain with A.F.D.XVII replacing ST. OLAVES for 2nd stage of passage, thence returning Campbeltown. (C.C.R.T. 2026A/25). *11.7.23*
- INDOMITABLE. My P.C. S. are 041° 01' N. 016° 38' W. 357° 23
LIGHTNING. knots.
ITHURIEL. LIGHTNING and ITHURIEL in company.
See p. 766 "Hunts" ordered to proceed to Londonderry. Weather report 4016 5284. Weather report 0215, 8695. Special weather report 0076 7401. Weather report 3118. (INDOMITABLE 2101A/25).
- H.34 H.34 escorted by D.S. Z.5. sailed Clyde 1600A/25 for
Z.5. Minches. (C. in C.W.A. 2125A/25 to CELANDINE).
- ?MINERVE. E.T.A. midday/26. Position 2359A/25th 061° N. 002° East (Weather report) 8370 3000. (?MINERVE 2345A/25 to Capt.(S)9). *See p. 765*

Operations.

- E-Boats The following has been received:- 5 E-boats my
off East position 090° from Lowestoft distant 12 miles.
Coast. (MENDIP 0010/25 to Yarmouth W/T).
See Capt 2 Number of groups of E-Boats operating appears
pages to be 2.
(MENDIP 0023A/25).
- ? Motor Gunboat leaving Lowestoft now for R.B.26.
See p. 770 (C. in C.Nore 0103A/25 to S.E.E.C.C.D.).
CATTISTOCK's 0119 am taking (? direct route)
1 mile west of channel as far as 3 B visibility suitable.
(WHADDON 0210A/25 to C. in C.Nore, S.E.E.C.C.D.).
On completion patrols proceed Yarmouth Roads.
(C. in C.Nore 0431A/25, to VESPER, MENDIP, HAMBLEDON).

/Operation....

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War Diary.25.8.1942.
Tuesday.HOME COMMANDS.Operations - Contd.

Operation After fuelling Seidisfjord destination as follows:-
EU. TUSCALOOSA, RODMAN, EMMONS - Clyde. ONSLAUGHT, MARNE,
MARTIN - Scapa.

(C. in C.H.F. 0956A/25 to TUSCALOOSA).

If still east of longitude 028° east and unsighted by enemy detach 3 British destroyers to pass through position. 075° 20' N. 028° 31' E. and then steer 225° until latitude 074° 30' N.

(2) If nothing encountered by then the destroyers to alter course to pass north of Bear Island and regain original route.

(3) No (?friendly) M/Vs are at sea in Barents Sea.

(C. in C.H.F. 1352A/25 to TUSCALOOSA, ONSLAUGHT, (R) S.B.N.O. North Russia, Admty, MARTIN, MARNE.).

Coastal Following is preliminary report of C/F activity
force on enemy coast on 24th - 25th August.

activity. M.T.Bs 34 (Lt. H.L.Lloyd. D.S.C. R.N.) and 72 with
M.G.Bs 58 (Lt. D.W.Worthing R.N.V.R.) and M.G.Bs 61
and 65 were detailed to investigate Flushing Roads

if conditions were suitable if not to patrol in vicinity of 51° 27' N. 03° 04' E.

Visibility proved to be too good to enter Flushing, and at 2303/24 in 51° 32' N. 03° 07' E. Starshells were fired over the units.

Enemy were identified as 4 Steam Trawler type steering N.E. in subsequent action.

M.G.Bs carried out diversionary attacks from up moon while M.T.Bs attacked from other side. M.T.B.34 carried out two runs firing one torpedo on second run. A hit is claimed on second ship from 700 yards M.G.Bs confirm seeing explosion. M.T.B.72 (Lt. H.Gardner R.N.V.R.) carried out three runs firing torpedoes on second and third runs, but only claims a possible hit from about 800 yards. M.G.Bs expended ready use ammunition, withdrew to reload and attacked again.

Casualties and Damage. M.T.B.72 damage to engine room and fore peak.

M.G.B.61 slight damage, one rating slightly wounded.

M.G.B.65 slight damage.

(C. in C.Nore 1240A/25).

E-Boat Preliminary report of E-Boat activity early this
activity morning Tuesday.

E.of (1) Possibly three E-Boat groups operating. No.1
Lowestoft. on a bearing 072 from Gorleston No.2. between 4 and
3 C buoys. No.3 between 3C and 3B buoys. Minelaying
See Memoirs
page
suspected.

(2) No.1. Group not contacted by patrols and only carrier detected. Consider presence of this group is doubtful.

(3) No.2. Group at 0010 MENDIP on No.4 patrol engaged 5 E-Boats steering West 2½ miles south of 4 buoy. Enemy retired N.E. at high speed and may have split into two groups. Moonlight and visibility prevented MENDIP getting close enough to use range weapons. No definite hits claimed by MENDIP who considers boats were larger and faster than those met last E-Boat season. MENDIP also considers boats were driven off before they laid mines. M.G.Bs 334 and 319 stationed in intercepting position east of 55A buoy acting on MENDIP's enemy reports heard E-Boats on hydrophone and engaged two or more steering N.E. at 700 yards range. M.G.Bs hit second E-boat with first burst and reduced its speed but owing to their greater speed E-Boats broke off engagement and retired to eastward behind smoke.

/(4).....

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War Diary.25.8.1942.
Tuesday.HOME COMMANDS.Operations - Contd.

E-Boat activity. E.of Lowestoft. Contd. (4) No.3.Group at 0012 CATTISTOCK at southern end of No.5 patrol sighted MENDIP's starshell and turned north. At 0034 when 2½ miles south of 3C buoy 2 E-Boats were sighted steering east at high speed and engaged at long range. It is evident No.3 Group laid mines before being sighted.

(5) Six M.G.Bs were sent out from Lowestoft at 0100 to southern end of Brown Ridge but sighted nothing.

(6) At about 0245 steamship KYLOE in F.S.889 struck a mine 1½ miles 357° from 3C buoy (P.A.) crew abandoned ship but vessel reached Yarmouth Roads in tow of KROOMAN, SUPERMAN and NESSUS, and has been beached. No casualties. *next page.*

(7) Since daylight Oropesa trawlers have detonated some ten mines in their sweeps in the channel near 3C buoy. Sweeping proceeding. (C. in C.Nore 1254A/25.).

Operation "Jubilee" My 2247A/23. The following are now considered to be final casualty figures for Dieppe operation on 19th August and include R.Marines but not R.M. Commandos - Officers - killed 7, wounded 46, missing 37, Ratings - killed 48, wounded 318, missing 187. (C.in C.Portsmouth 1507A/25).

Allied Air Activity.

P.219. bombed. F.O.S. 0406/19th, 0446/19th and 1123/19th H.M.S/M P.219 was bombed by Hudson A/C in position 043° 44' 011° 41' at 1432A/19th.

(2) 3 bombs were dropped, all fell short, no damage caused.

(3) In accordance with S.W.M.para.7 identification flares were not used. (S.8. 1322A/25 to F.O.C.N.A.).

Bomber Command operations. Day 24th August. No operation. Night 24/25th August. 5 out of 6 Wellingtons of 3 Group laid mines in enemy waters. (H.Q.B.C. 1250A/25).

Enemy Air Activity.

Archangel attacked. Air attack on Archangel City as opposed to shipping began at 1830A/24th and lasted for 5 hours. Incendiaries which started fires were followed up by H.Es. No British casualties but naval stores at Norway (?House) burnt out and for a period W/T and Cypher Office(s) seriously threatened. A.A.defences pitiful. Power and water supply failed but thanks to rain early today most fires appear to be under control. My 1519B/21st.May to Admiralty, have trailer pumps been shipped. Admiralty pass to Ministry of War Transport. (S.B.N.O. Archangel 0733A/25).

/Richborough...

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War Diary.25.8.1942.
Tuesday.HOME COMMANDS.Enemy Air Activity. - Contd.

Richborough Dover letter 709/149 U/42 of 14th July. Yesterday Monday afternoon low flying enemy aircraft dropped bombs on and damaged a part of Kitcheners Camp Richborough which is being reconditioned for Naval accommodation purposes. There are no defences at present in position and it is requested that provision of some light A/A defences may be expedited.
(F.O.C.Dover 1128A/25 to Admty).

Orkneys. Enemy A/C eighteen miles off Mull Head 1608A course S.W. Three of our fighters endeavouring to engage.
(A.C.O.S. 1622A/25).

My 1622 hostile A/C plotted 70 miles 100° A Buoy at 1529 flew in a westerly direction altering course and height continually to a point two miles 090°. Old Head south Ronaldsay at 1623 then N.E. passing over Fair Isle at 1648. Insufficient G.L. plots to make a track. Maximum height plotted 12000 feet minimum 3000. No visual reports. Fighters did not intercept. View of flow doubtful.
(A.C.O.S. 1734A/25).

Mining.

Dover Mines swept yesterday Monday in QZX.780.
Area. 3. Red. 50° 49' 33" North. 00° 47' 29" East.
4. Red. 50° 49' 25" North. 00° 50' 46" East.
(V.A. Dover. 0058A/25).

SS.KYLOE. Master SS.KYLOE fears back broken. Entire crew 33 aboard H.M.S.SAPPHIRE standing until dawn when situation can be reviewed. Water increased from 16 to 24 feet in an hour.
(SAPPHIRE 0314A/25 to C. in C.Nore).

SS.KYLOE appears to be sinking a.m. standing by with SAPPHIRE, SUPERMAN.

(PUFFIN 0350A/25 to C. in C.Nore).

SS.KYLOE abandoned am rejoining Convoy SAPPHIRE, SUPERMAN standing by.

(PUFFIN 0415A/25 to C. in C.Nore).

Your 0250 to C. in C.Nore only. Order to SUPERMAN to tow ship to Yarmouth. Report if another tug is required and type of mine.

(C. in C.Nore 0417A/25 to SAPPHIRE).

Great Yarmouth departure Tug KROOMAN at 0601, salvage tug NESSUS at 0701 for SS.KYLOE in position vicinity 3C Buoy.

(F.O.I.C.Great Yarmouth 0837A/25).

Great Yarmouth arrival SS.KYLOE in tow of tugs SUPERMAN and KROOMAN Salvage tug NESSUS and A/T SAPPHIRE in company. SS.KYLOE has been beached.

(F.O.I.C.Great Yarmouth 0930A/25).

Ref.C.A.F.O.1968/40 para.11.L.0230A/25.4.52°27' N.02° 00' E. position reported by H.M.S.SAPPHIRE. 5.In convoy F.S.89 Port Column 5th ship.

(F.O.I.C.Gt.Yarmouth 1559A/25).

/Lowestoft...

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War Diary.25.8. 1942.
Tuesday.HOME COMMANDS.Mining - Contd.

Lowestoft Positions of 12 mines exploded today in Oropesa
area. sweep $\frac{1}{2}$ to $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles from 3 C Buoy.

(Cdr.M/S and P.Lowestoft. 0750A/25, 1105A/25,
1145A/25, 1210/25, 1237/25, 1407A/25).

One moored mine swept in position 5 cables 320° 3C Buoy
at 1130.

(Cdr.M/S & P Lowestoft 1201A/25).

R.Mine sinker with length of mooring wire attached recovered
today vicinity 3 C buoy and will be landed p.m. today. Request
instructions for disposal.

(Cdr.M/S and P. Lowestoft. 1252A/25).

My 1407 T.O.O. confirmed as 1136. 2 R Mines fouled sweep in
position 3 cables 260° 3 C Buoy at 1230 and later sunk. 1 mine
exploded in sweep 6 cables 290° 3 C Buoy at 1402.

(Cdr.M.S. and P. Lowestoft 1537A/25, 1535A/27).

Operation
S.N.89.

Intend to carry out operation S.N.89 as follows

(A) Surface minefield from South to North.

(D) (i) 1st M.L.S.screened by BRIGHTON, LANCASTER,
NEWARK, CHARLESTOWN.

(ii) C. in C.H.F. is requested to detail one cruiser. *See p 541*

(E) A/S air escort is requested when outside the North Minch
initial R/V 090° Butt of Lewis 15 miles at 1100/1/9.

(F) From $63^{\circ} 28.0' N. 10^{\circ} 47' W.$ to $64^{\circ} 22.5' N. 11^{\circ} 32.0' W.$

(G) 0430/1/9.

(I) 090° N. Rona 5 miles at 1400 Tuesday 1st Sept.

(J) Through position. (a) $059^{\circ} 45' N. 005^{\circ} 30' W.$ (b) $060^{\circ} 30' N.$
 $005^{\circ} 30' W.$ (c) $062^{\circ} 22' N. 006^{\circ} 00' W.$ (d) $063^{\circ} 33' N. 009^{\circ} 20' W.$

(K) $12\frac{1}{2}$ knots.

(L) 1710/2/9.

(N) Through. (e) $064^{\circ} 04' N. 010^{\circ} 00' W.$ to (c) $062^{\circ} 22' N. 006^{\circ}$
 $00' W.$ thence the reverse of outward route.

(O) and (P) Port Z.A. 1400/4/9. ADVENTURE to Scapa for L.A. and
H.A. firing returning to Port Z.A. on completion.

(W) 58 mile at 13 knots.

(X)(Y) (Z) Technical details.

(R.A.(M) 1104A/25, 2305A/25, 0941 /31).

My 1104A/25th. Intend detaching ADVENTURE to Scapa practice
area so as to arrive position A.A. at 0800/4/9. Low angle F.C.
and high angle 3 and short range firings are required commencing
at that time. ADVENTURE is to arrange details direct.

(R.A.(M) 1106A/25. to A. C.O.S.ADVENTURE).

Brighton.

Detonated red magnetic mine in 225° Brighton
East Pier 8.3 miles.
(Lt/C M/S 1120/25).

Off
Brighton.

Detonated Red Magnetic mine in 227° Brighton East
Pier 8.4 miles.
(Lt/C M/S 1144/25).

Detonated Red Magnetic Mine in position 227° Brighton East
Pier 9.1 miles.

(N.O.I.C. Newhaven 1547/25).

Sweeping at
Invergordon &
Cromarty.

Ref.E.D.O.Cromarty No 11B/136 of 18th August, 1942
and N.O.I.C. Invergordon number 1112/55 of 20th
August 1942. 2 S.A.L.L. Minesweepers are to sail as
soon as possible for Invergordon to carry out L.A.L.
/Sweeps.

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25.8.1942.
Tuesday.War Diary.HOME COMMANDS.Mining - L.M. 75.Sweeping at
Invergordon
& Cromarty.
Contd.Sweeps over C.M. Field at Cromarty and O.M. Fields
at Fort George.
(C. in C. Rosyth 1203A/25 to N.O.I.C. Leith &
Granton, Minesweeper Granton.)9th
M/S.F.Propose sailing 0830/26 running taut wire from
vicinity of St. Catherines Point at 1100 to
establish N.W. Datum Dan of Q.Z.X. 776 in position
189° 12.8 miles from St. Catherines Point Lighthouse.
Then commence sweeping from Northern Edge of area returning to
harbour about 2000. Request fighter protection anticipate
considerable difficulty with Dans submerging owing to abnormal
spring tides.
(M/S 9th 1223/25 to C. in C. Portsmouth).
Cancel my 1223A/25.
(M/S 9th 1922/25 to C. in C. Portsmouth).Operation
Q.L.8.1. Prepare to carry out operation Q.L.8 with
three M/Ls of 51 Flotilla on first suitable night
between 31st August and 5th September.
2. Position of lay. Centre 051° 43' 30" N.
003° 26' E. general direction 360° - 180°.
3. Mines. 15 mark XIX, 3 foot depth settings 70 day sterilizers.
4. If operation cannot be completed by 6th September mines are to
be disembarked and traps removed.
(C. in C. Nore 1836A/25 to BEEHIVE).Operations
Q.L.4.A.
Q.L. 4.B.Join in carrying out operation Q.L.4A. and Q.L.4B.
with 3 M/Ls of 51 Flotilla each operation during
dark period commencing 6th September. Mines
required 36 A.S.Y. 34, clock settings will be
signalled later, intention is that mines should
"ripen" in next moonlight period.
(C. in C. Nore 1840A/25 to BEEHIVE).Swedish
Mined.
Area.Swedish mined area is bounded on the west by a line
which runs .5 miles east of, and parallel to, the
Neutrality Channel. For boundary of Neutrality
Channel see. Notice to Mariners. (German) 331/40
1154/40 and 1854/41.
(Humber Radio 2244B.S.T./25).Enemy Intelligence.

Dover.

Details of enemy shipping plotted by R.D.F. in
Dover Strait from 0900/24 to 0900/25.
(V.A. Dover 0928A/25)."Altmark"
Tanker."Altmark" Class tanker reported in La Pallice
by P.R.U. on 24/8 is considered to be a Class I
target i.e. an important naval unit.
(D.O.D. (H) 1348A/25 to H.Q.C.C.).

/Raiders....

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War Diary.25.8.1942.
Tuesday.HOME COMMANDS.Enemy Intelligence.

Raiders. My 1535/18.
1. An "Altmark" tanker was leaving Biscay on 19th August but was sighted and attacked. It is considered that she has returned to a French port.
2. My 1616/11 para.3. This ship is now four days overdue.
3. No further information concerning German or Japanese raiders. (D.D.I.C. 1810A/25).

Portsmouth. Details of enemy shipping plotted by Portsmouth R.D. F.night of 24th/25th. August.
(C. in C. Portsmouth 1827A/25).

U-Boats.

O.N.122. D/F bearings on 4796 Kc/s at 0323Z indicate Convoy reported. has again been reported by U-Boat. Since 1620Z a number of transmissions have been made from vicinity of convoy.
(D.D.I.C. 0505A/25 to Escorts O.N.122. C. in C.W.A. Cominch, N.S.H.Q. Ottawa. H.Q.C.C.).

U/B. By D/F on 4796 K/Cs at 0057/26 G.M.T. U-Boat was Report. probably anywhere within 40 miles of 63° 00' N. 24° 00' W.
(D.D.I.C. 0508A/26 to A.C.I.C.).

Air Attacks Am over enemy S/M in 64° 0' N. 8° 30' W. when first on U/Bs. sighted was on course 225 estimated speed 15, Have attacked enemy with depth charges.
(A.O.C. 15th Gp.C.C. 0540Z/25.).
Am over enemy submarine in 62° 6' N. 14° 30' W. Enemy submarine was sighted on surface and observed to submerge. When first sighted was on a course 240°. Estimated speed 10 knots.
(A/C 6 T.F.L. 0850/25).
Following has been read:- Have attacked enemy with depth charges.
(A/C 15th Gp.C. C. 0852/25).
Proceed to hunt U-boat reported by aircraft in position 062° 06' N. 014° 30' W. at 0850/25th first sighted on surface course 240° 10 knots then seen to dive.
(F.O.C.O.S. 1058A/25 to KINGSTON AMBER, (R) N.O.I.C. Iceland, C. in C.H.F. S.O.N.P. Trawlers Kirkwall.)

Attack by C.A.F.O. 834/41. (A) TARTAR (B) 1215B/20 (C) TARTAR 20/8. 35.40 N. 8.45 W. (D) 11 (E) 1236B/20.
(TARTAR 1246/25).

U/B in Reliable fix and D/F bearing of probable U-Boat far North. 1400. 071° 50' N. 032° 00' E.
(?S.B.N.O. North Russia 1548/25).

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War Diary.25.8.1942.
Tuesday.HOME COMMANDS.Technical.CURACOA
(V/HF)
Trials.

C. in C.W.A. is requested to make CURAÇOA available for V/HF trials until required for special escort about 2/9.

2. Ship will be required for a further period of trials later in September if these have not been completed by 2/9.

3. CURAÇOA can be taken in hand for fitting necessary equipment at Harland & Wolff, Belfast on 29/8.
(D.O.D.(H) 1307A/25, to C. in C.W.A.).Smoke
Trials.My 1537A/19. Smoke trials for protection of a convoy will be carried out on O.N.125 on the night of August 29/30. Re officers witnessing. My 1113A/21 to N.E.O. Porton is cancelled.
(C. in C.W.A. 1609Z/25).Casualties & Defects.

CHESHIRE.

At 0055A your position by ADF is 053° 48' and ½ N. 005° 03' W. to Westward of shipping lane. Estimate you may encounter S.L.118 Fast as 0230A.
(N.O.I.C.Liverpool 0113A/25 to CHESHIRE).Arrived CHESHIRE Code word "Loose".
(N.O.I.C.Belfast 1125A/25).

BICESTER.

My 1043/24th para.4. BICESTER has been detached to Londonderry.
(S.O. Force F. 0801/25).

ARGUS.

Reference A.M. 1325A/21. Request consideration be given to undertaking following approved alteration and addition which would greatly increase efficiency as operational carrier without involving extensive reconstruction or delaying completion.
(2) Only 2 Oerlikon are as yet fitted and no guns in ship will bear ahead from green 040° to red 040°
(ARGUS 1101A/25 to Admty).

BOMBAY.

Grimsby Fishing Trawlers RUSSELL(GY.192) and BOMBAY (GY.247) sailed from Scrabster on 26/7 for Icelandic Fishing grounds. Owing to unfavourable weather RUSSELL returned Scrabster having lost touch with BOMBAY but sailed again with another fishing section. RUSSELL fished off N.E. Coast of Iceland but did not sight BOMBAY and subsequently returned to Grimsby. BOMBAY now considerably overdue. Request any information available.
(N.C.S.O.Grimsby 1556A/25).Your 1556A/25 no further information available at Scrabster.
(N.C.S.O.Thurso 1840/25 to N.C.S.O.Grimsby).

PENYLAN.

My 1302/23 and 1556/24. PENYLAN returned to make good engine defects.
(N.O.I.C.Barrow.2015A/25).

/ADRIAS.....

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War Diary.25.8.1942.
Tuesday.HOME COMMANDS.Casualties & Defects. - Contd.

ADRIAS. Proceed passing Switha at 0900 to-morrow Wednesday to Tyne via Swept Channels for repairs at Wallsend Slipway Newcastle.
2. Fighter protection has been arranged - codeword "Farthing."
3. Report E. T.A. to me before sailing.
(R.A.D. 2207A/25 to ADRIAS).

Shipping & Convoys.

T.U. 24.1.14. My 2000Z/24th. For E. T. A. 053° 35' N. 007° W. read 1830Z.
(T.U. 24.1.14. 1043Z/25 to C. in C.W.A. etc).

T.A. 18. Intend sailing convoy and escorts as in A.M. 1254A/18. passing Clyde boom 2200A/27 thence as in Admiralty message 2306A/22. Codeword "Profit."
(N.O.I.C. Greenock 1058A/25).

T.A. 18. Add to my 1058A/25. Commodore 1300A R/V 28/8. 055° 30' 010° 12' 29/8. 053° 03' 021° 40'. First two letters of wireless call sign W.M.
(F.O.I.C. Greenock 1638A/25 to Admty).

Signal letters. Independently Routed Ships. 1. To guard against errors which are occurring in addressing United Nations ships of new construction and ships with changed names or changed signal letters, N.C.S.Os and B.R.Os are to obtain from the Masters of all independently routed ships the signal letters for the current voyage and include them in the route signal immediately prior to the ship's name.
(D.T.D. 1340A/25 to A.I.G. 19 (R) Connav).

H.X. 203. HESPERUS 1659/24. On arrival HESPERUS is to report the reason why her position was 75 miles ahead of our plot, which was based on Connav's situation report. Speed plotted was 9 knots and presumably her position was more than 40 miles in error at 1900/23. This has caused numerous incorrect diversions to Independents and prevents shore authorities appreciating the situation with regard to other convoys.
(C. in C.W.A. 1509Z/25 to Capt.(D) Liverpool (R) C.T.F.24).

EL CIERVO. Tanker EL CIERVO towed by SEA GIANT, and one CLEVELAND. dockyard tug is to be sailed a.m./ 27th to Falmouth escorted by CLEVELAND.
Codeword "Sapper."

(2). Captain M/S is requested to detail two minesweepers to sweep ahead to Falmouth.

(3). C.D. is requested to detail a tug.

(4). N.C.S.O. is requested to inform Captain M/S of the route.
(C. in C. Plymouth 1557A/25).

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25.8.1942.
Tuesday.War Diary.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping & Convoys - Contd.P.W.M.207.
P.W.B. 207.

My 1203/25. (Relief trawlers from Plymouth not yet sailed owing to fog). Plymouth trawlers still unable to sail.

2.P.W.M.207 is to be escorted by KRAKOWIAK and

LORD STANHOPE.

P.W.B.207 is to be escorted by RUSKHOLM to Swansea and LORD HAILSHAM and OLVINA to Barry.

(C. in C. Plymouth 1707/25 to Escorts of P.W.207).

Q.P.14.
Air Escort
withdrawn
owing to
weather
conditions.

C. in C.H.F. letter No.927/HF. 1230/112 dated 13th July para.7 and A. C.I.C. 0125/19th July, propose for Q.P.14.

(a) Trawler acting as D/F beacon to be in 000° Cape Horn (North Cape) 1 mile. (Technical details) Signalling period 6 minutes, at the hour and half hour. Accurate, bearings only to be expected from 300° to 120°

(b) Hrisey Island R.A.F. M/F D/F beacon T. (Technical details). Signalling period 5 minutes at 15 and 45 minutes past each hour. Accurate bearings only to be expected from 325° to 010°.

(c) Trawler only to transmit when in above position and when visibility is less than 4 miles.

(d) Hrisey to transmit when convoy is within approximately 8 hours steaming of a line drawn due North from beacon.

(e) If approved request details in (1a) and (b) above be communicated by Admiralty to all concerned.

(A.C.I.C. 1801A/25 to Admty, C. in C.H.F.).

War Diary.

25.8.1942.
Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

U/B D/F bearings at 0017Z indicate U-boat in area within 60 miles of 42,30 N., 18° W. Transmission of 237 groups was made. (D.D.I.C., 0437A/25 to F.O.C.N.A. (R) C. in C. W.A., etc).

P.31 Intend sailing P.31 for U.K. p.m./27 passing 043° 02', 013° 29' at 0030A/31 shift wireless watch at that time F.O.S. is requested signal onward route.

- 2. P.31 is painted dark blue.
- 3. Wireless watch.
- 4. F.O.S., 1149/8/1. (A) 2 Mark 4, 2 Mark 2. (B) (1) 8 knots (2) 90 miles A. 642 dive (C) Unfit except in emergency (D) (1) Nil (2) 3. (F.O.C.N.A., 1006A/25 to Admty (R) F.O.S., etc). *See next page*

P.212, Intend sailing P.212 for working up patrol off Almeria p.m./27 and P.37 for working up patrol P.37. off Melilia p.m./29. ? 2/6 - *See 2/9/45* (F.O.C.N.A., 1036A/25 to C. in C. Med., (R) Admty. V.A. Malta, Capt. (S) 10).

P.219 Arrived. (F.O.C.N.A., 1054A/25 to Admty).

2 damaged Two U-boats probably severely damaged believed U/Bs. to have been within 60 miles of position 42° 30' N. 17° 30' W., for last four or five days. Last D/F at 0017/25 on 9967 k/cs. (D.O.D. (F), 1123A/25 to INDOMITABLE, (R) F.O.C.N.A. C. in C. W.A.)

Situation Area X. Situation 2003B/25.
Report. 1. AVON VALE, PANTHER 2 merchant ships 036° 24' 009° 10' to Gibraltar, 12.
2. S.L.119 ROCHESTER, *LEITH, ERNE, SANDWICH, 033° 45' 021° 41' 044° 7½. * *See next page*
3. Fleet Units LIGHTNING, ITHURIEL, BRAMHAM, LEDBURY, 040° 11' 016° 33' through 46.01, 16.59 thence 026° 16.
4. WESTCOTT, WISHART (?ANTELOPE) PINDOS, 32.20, 10,32 through 28.02, 13.27 thence 223° 13½.
5. SPIREA 030° 47' 020° 32' to R/V tanker ESSO GETTYSBURG 2200/25 thence 075° 12.
6. LORD NUFFIELD 37.52, 09.12 to R/V with 5 merchant ships off Lisbon, 0100/26 thence coastwise to Cape St. Vincent 9½ knots. (F.O.C.N.A., 1146A/25 to N.A. Stn).
Area Z. 1. BURDOCK, ARMERIA Tanker ? ABBEYDALE 026° 56' 022° 46' 235° 9.
2. LAFOREY, LOOKOUT, PENN approx. 25.30, 16.10 through 23.01 18.50 thence 188° 15.
3. Fleet Units WIVERN, BRILLIANT, VANSITTART 016° 29' 019° 45' 008° 14. (F.O.C.N.A., 1228A/25 to N.A. Stn).

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25.8.1942.
Tuesday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic - conts:-

French Shipping. Your 1909/23. Confirm that all these ships passed Eastwards. Liner MARECHAL LYAUTEY last reported 24/7 passing Gibraltar Eastbound. (D.E.W.D., 1151A/25 to S.O.(I) Gib).

Damaged U/B. Aircraft reports damaged submarine within 60 miles of $042^{\circ} 30' N.$, $017^{\circ} 00' W.$, at 1010B/25. (F.O.C.N.A., 1201A/25 to S. & A. N.A.)

P.247, P.31. Onward route on the surface at C.O's. discretion through position J. $037^{\circ} 35'$, $009^{\circ} 49'$ at 1100A/1
K. 225° Cape St. Vincent 15 miles at 1700A/1
L. $036^{\circ} 42'$ $007^{\circ} 30'$ at 0100A/2 to R/V escort in M. 350° Cape Spartel 5 miles at 1000A/2.
2. Total bombing restrictions arranged.
3. If unable to comply within 2 hours report P.C. and S.
4. P.31 passing C, $039^{\circ} 01'$ $012^{\circ} 26'$ at 1800A/29 thence on the surface at 8 knots to D., $043^{\circ} 02'$ $013^{\circ} 29'$ at 0030A/31 thence as ordered by F.O.(S). *See previous page.*
(F.O.C.N.A., 1608A/25 to P.247 (R) Admty).

WOLVERINE. Your 1534/24. WOLVERINE can be taken in hand for permanent repairs by Portsmouth Dockyard.
2. Request you will sail the ship accordingly when ready calling if necessary at Plymouth for fuel.
(D.O.D. (H), 1636A/25 to F.O.C.N.A.)

MONBALDO. Italian vessel ? 60 sailing Bilbao 1500 G.M.T./25 (Consul Bilbao, 1725/25 to Admty (R) M. of E.W. S.O.(I) Gibraltar B.N.A. Madrid).
MONBALDO left Bilbao ? 1500 G.M.T. 25/8.
(Madrid, No T.O.O. Recd. 1833/25).

Tangier Intelligence. American ungraded report 24/8. Tanker LOT (*Naval*) arrived from Indo China at Casablanca 22nd with full cargo of Indo China oil. Fr. S/M FRESNEL left dock today repairs not completed. 10 S/Ms in port, about 6 still out. Tanker RHEA at Fedala unloading 4,500 tons peanut oil from Dakar.
(Consul Gen., Tangier 1931/25 to Admty for D.N.I., S.O.(I) Gibraltar).

U/B Wellington aircraft reported U-boat in $026^{\circ} 58' N.$, $013^{\circ} 55' W.$, at 1205Z/24.
(F.O.C.N.A., 2103A/25 to LAFOREY, WESTCOTT).

U/B S.L.119 Submarine dived in $034^{\circ} 04'$, $021^{\circ} 50'$, am rejoining convoy.
(LEITH, 2113Z/25 to Admty (R) C. in C. W.A., F.O.C.N.A., Escorts of S.L.119).
See previous page (24.8.42)

/U/B...

25.8.1942.
Tuesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic - ~~Leant~~

U/B
INDOMITABLE.

D/F at 2009Z suggest possibility of U-boat in your vicinity which may have reported you. (D.D.I.C., 2147A/25 to INDOMITABLE, LIGHTNING, ITHURIEL, BRAMHAM, LEDBURY (R) F.O.C.N.A., H.Q.C.C. C. in C. W.A.)

U/B S.L.119

German transmissions on Series A at 2009Z and 2156Z suggest that U-boat is in your vicinity and may be shadowing you. (D.D.I.C., 2315Z/25 to Escorts of S.L.119, (R) F.O.C.N.A., C. in C. W.A., H.Q.C.C.)

South Atlantic.

FLYING
KESTREL,
MARUDU.

Your 0928/22 which as received was addressed to Admty only. It is assumed that orders for sailing of FLYING KESTREL to Suez after she has finished with TEMPLE INN do not preclude her from calling at Pointe Noire to assist MARUDU southwards if still required. (D. of S.T., 0043A/25 to C. in C. S.A. (R) R.N.L.O.W.A., R.N.O. Lagos, R.A.W.A.F.)

MALAYA,
U/B.

Following H/F D/F Bearing obtained BRILLIANT.

Time	Bearing	Class	Position.
2012	028°	1st	011° 41' N., 018° 51' W.
0008	032°	1st	012° 27' N., 019° 25' W.
0409	030°	3rd	013° 13' N., 020° 05' W.

All believed to be a German submarine. Passed by BOREAS.

(MALAYA, 0911Z/25 to R.A.W.A.)

1. MALAYA's 0911Z/25 has been repeated to F.O.C.N.A. Admty.
2. Bearings from shore stations at 2011Z/24 and at 0007Z/25 do not give definite fixing in your vicinity.
3. Wellington aircraft sighted U-boats in 026° 58' N., 013° 55' W., at 1205Z/24. Course 250° speed 10 knots. Altered course to 270° on being sighted.

(F.O.I.C. W. Africa, 1501Z/25 to MALAYA, (R) F.O.C.N.A., Admty).

KEREN,
KARANJA,
SOBIESKI

Following for information:

1. KEREN, KARANJA and SOBIESKI have disembarked all landing craft and C. Ops, stores and personnel including the A.M.L.O. All lifting hooks and sea securing gear for craft and 2 Ardenite loud hailers belonging to ships also landed.
2. KEREN and KARANJA docked and had partial refit in July. Senior Eng. Off. assault ships and craft recommends 4 weeks refit of main and auxiliary machinery at next boiler cleaning as ships have not had steam off since last October and certain

/examination...

War Diary.25.8.1942.
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic.KEREN,
KARANJA,
SOBIESKI.
Contd.

examination and repair to machinery are becoming urgent. Present best speed of ships (?16) knots.
3. S.D.O. in KARANJA cannot be made watertight until deck head has been renewed. In heavy rain, water leaking through can short circuit radio equipment.

4. Present best speed of SOBIESKI 13 knots.
(KEREN, 0933B/25 to Admty for C.C.O and S.O. Assault Ships and Craft (R) C. in C. S.A., KARANJA)

LARGS.

Your 1319/24. Governor informs me gold forwarded Crown Agent London by Air Mail on 19/8.
(N.O.I.C. Bathurst, 1020Z/25 to R.A.W.A. (R) Admty, LARGS).

Situation
Report.

Area P.

SIRIUS, PHOEBE 002° 40', 011° 40' to 002° 01' 011° 21' thence 127° 15.

WOODRUFF with T.S.15 003° 35' 009° 25' 003° 35' 009° 25' 313° 7.

BENGALI, KELT 003° 20' 007° 20' 080° 7.

ALCANTARA about 000° 35', 003° 35' 276° 15.

RAJPUTANA 011° 35' S., 010° 22' E., 195° 7½.

(R.A.W.A., 1021Z/25 to S.A. Station Area P, S. of 8° N).

2 Fleet units 3 destroyers 017° 01', 019° 40', 008° 14' (corrupt group) with O.S.37 016° 30' 020° 40' to 013° 48' 019° 58' thence 115° 8¾.

BORDE 013° 50' 018° 59' (corrupt group) 7½ at 2000Z/25.

EGRET with S.L.120 009° 20' 016° 25' 275° 7½.

Fleet unit CALEDON 3 destroyers 008° 59', 015° 40' 294° 14' (?¾) (?until) leaving 010° 02' 018° 01' thence 343° 14.

D'ESTIENNE D'ORVES about 011° 01' 023° 05' (?124°) 9.

(R.A.W.A., 1031Z/25 to Ships in Area P. of S.A. Station North of 8° N., Admty. C. in C. S.A., N.O.I.C. Bathurst).

Movement
Summary.

2000Z/25 Area Q.

HAWKINS, RANPURA, PETARD, CATTERICK with W.S.

21 032° 15' S., 014° 45' E., 135° 12½ knots.

CHALLENGER 029° 40' S., 014° 05' E. to Capetown 10 knots.

HOTSPUR from Simonstown speed 19 knots E.T.A. Durban 0600Z/26.

AMARANTHUS sailed East London p.m./25 will R/V with K.14 and escort to East London.

Neth. S/M K.14 032° 30' S., 033° 10' E., 9 knots to East London.
(C. in C. S.A., 1158B/25 to S.A. Stn. (R) Admty).

SHROPSHIRE.

Sailed SHROPSHIRE to Simonstown by route R.5.,

S. of A 15 knots. E.T.A. 0500Z/28.

(N.O.I.C. Durabn, 1134Z/25 to Admty etc).

/VIMEIRA...

War Diary.25.8.1942.
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic. - Contd.VIMEIRA
(torpedoed
11/8).

My 1715Z/22/8. ⁻⁶⁹¹VIMEIRA attacked by U-boat resembling German 500 ton type at 1510 SAO/11 in 10° 5' N., 28° 55' W., with 1 torpedo which hit stern. At 1630 U-boat surfaced and shelled ship with foremost gun approx. 3" using tracer (R) shell. Lighter gun mounted aft. White Shield and device painted on C/T. Hull blue green. Captain and crew Italian type. VIMEIRA awash at 1900 and 1st officer believed she may continue afloat. Master taken prisoner. Chief Engineer and 6 others killed. 20 survivors arrived Freetown. 17 others in boat still adrift.
(S.O.(I) Freetown, 1205Z/25 to Admty (R) C. in C. S.A., Opanav, S.O.(I) Jamaica).

U.S. Shipping M.A.R.I. Sec. 2 para. 11. Several American ships
W/T Reports. have objected to and do not intend to comply on grounds that they have received instructions not to break W/T silence except in an emergency.

In some cases of army transports W/T transmitters are sealed before ship sails. Request I may be informed whether N.C.S.Os. are authorized to give necessary orders to such ships.
(C. in C. S.A., 1528B/25 to Admty (R) N.C.S.O. Capetown)
Reply: Admty, 1540/27.

SUMATRA,
convoy for
U.K.

Your 0302/30 and 1737/12. ^{/N.T.D.V.D.}As Dutch Cruiser SUMATRA will now be available for escort duty to U.K. intend to send CAMAROA, RANGITIKI, LARGS BAY, and CIRCASSIA in convoy. They will embark all service personnel and Poles awaiting passage plus as many Italian Prisoners of war as can be accepted.
2. Your 0254/25. ARUNDEL CASTLE can proceed independently on arrival Durban.
3. WESTERLAND not now expected Durban till end September when endeavour will be made to arrange escort homeward.
(P.S.T.O. Capetown, 1652Z/25 to D. S. T.) *See next page*

Force V.

R.A.W.Af. 1731Z/24. Route for Force V. has been amended as follows. From position D. to position F. 026° 00' S., 011° 00' E. G. 034° 30' S., 017° 30' E., thence by searched channel to Capetown.
(C. in C. S.A., 1819B/25 to C.T.F.23 (R) Admty, Cinclant, B.A.D., R.A.W.A., S.O. Force V).

M.A.R.I.

Pass to F.O.s. I.C. and N.C.S.Os. Amendment No. 70 to M.A.R.I., Sec. I. para. 16, first sub-para. add "and Sect. IV para. 10 sub-para 7".
(D.T.D., 1839A/25 to C. in C. S.A. etc).

M.A.R.I. Sec. IV para. 10 sub-para 7. Is it intended that ships should approach seaward end of Swept Channel keeping south of a line joining this position and position 034° 28' S., 017° 30' E? If so it is suggested that this intention should be made clearer in the text as existing wording of Q.G.A. 78 and M.A.R.I. does not necessarily ensure this object.
(D.T.D., 1840A/25 to C. in C. S.A.)

25.8.1942.
Tuesday.

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

- * SHROPSHIRE, CERES, DUNCAN, FOXHOUND, ALCANTARA, SUMATRA, CORFU.
- Your 2336/18. A. SHROPSHIRE will be taken in hand at Simonstown 31/8 to make good defects to 2 reserve feed tanks and 6 oil fuel tanks, undocking 19/9.
2. 1150 tons of uncontaminated fuel will be made available without oil from contaminated tanks.
3. (B) Completion date of CERES will be put back to 17/10 DUNCAN and FOXHOUND cannot be taken in hand until 1/10 completing about 21/11.
4. Docking of ALCANTARA must be deferred until mid-October.
5. To make good a further 4 oil fuel tanks in SHROPSHIRE giving 145 (V-50) tons uncontaminated fuel would entail occupation of dock for 5 weeks, ship undocking 3/10. In consequence completion of CERES would be delayed to 24/10 and that of DUNCAN and FOXHOUND to until end November and docking of ALCANTARA by one week.
6. Dry docks in South Africa are in great demand and it is most undesirable that SHROPSHIRE should occupy Simonstown dock for 5 weeks for oil tank defects which give employment to a certain part of one dockyard department only especially as she will have to be completed elsewhere later.
7. By limiting SHROPSHIRE's time in dock to 3 weeks for work indicated in para 1, general dislocation of dockyard work and delays to other refits and docking can be avoided other than in para 3 above.
8. Durban dock is already fully occupied by work on heavy ships of Eastern Fleet.
9. (C) As WESTERNLAND has been delayed in Australia it is intended that SUMATRA should escort remaining 3 or 4 ships to U.K. leaving Capetown about 10/9. CORFU has defects which should keep her till mid September. Intend to retain her to escort WESTERNLAND leaving for U.K. late September. (C. in C. S.A. 1901B/25 to Admty. (R) Com. Supt. Simonstown. SHROPSHIRE.) * See Memo page

ARUNDEL
CASTLE.
CIRCASSIA.
WESTERNLAND.

A.M. 2336/18 para. 2 (c) to C. in C. S.A. only. Although WESTERNLAND has been delayed, D. of S.T. wishes if possible to use ARUNDEL CASTLE and CIRCASSIA sailing from Durban early September to clear personnel given in D. of S.T.'s 1737/12 para. 3.

2. Could escort, possibly CORFU, be arranged?
3. Later escort will still be necessary for WESTERNLAND about 20/9.
- (D.O.D. (F) 1915A/25 to C. in C. S.A., (R) Com. i/c Durban, S.T.O. Durban, R.A.W.A., S.T.O. Freetown). See Memo page

Oil bunkers,
Freetown.

Until further notice it is essential that bunker oil liftings at Freetown be reduced to an absolute minimum. Troop transports must therefore leave South Africa fully bunkered or with sufficient in bunkers to reach alternate destination whichever is the less. P.S.T.O. Simonstown is requested to report by signal if possible before transports leave South Africa minimum bunker oil requirements at Freetown. (D. of S.T., 1927A/25 to P.S.T.O. Simonstown, D.S.T.O. Durban, S.T.O. i/c Freetown, C. in C. S.A., R.A.W.A.)

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25.8.1942.
Tuesday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic - Contd.?QUEEN
ELIZABETH
MALAYA.

My 1321/25 (N.T. in W.D.) Amend para. D. to read "and meeting them with your corvettes except that any repeat any oiler mentioned". (H.W.R., 1955A/25 to R.A.W.A., B.A.D., Washington C. in C. S.A., C.T.F., Connav, F.O.I.C. Trinidad)

HADIOTIS
suspicious
flare lights.

Following received from HADIOTIS. Spotted at dusk 007° 14' N., 036° 18' W., object showing sailing and (?red) flare lights. (Portishead Radio, 2050/25 to Admty C. in C. W.A.) No Passing action being taken by War Reg. Received 2258 G.M.T. from HADIOTIS. Urgent. Spotted white flare one hour after my last telegram. (Portishead Radio, 2250 G.M.T./25 to Admty).

Air Cover
Freetown
Approaches.

M.A.R.I. Sec. IV Para. 10. Request report whether you are able to provide adequate air cover on these two approach routes.

2. If not, we would consider modifying present plan by (a) shortening the approach lines and (b) abolishing fixed lines, leaving it to you to divert all shipping daily to the line of approach which you consider most desirable at the time. Under this system each ship would be given as the last position on her ocean route a position on the appropriate arc of a circle with Freetown as centre.

3. Disadvantage of para. 2 (b) is that complete reliance cannot be placed on all ships receiving or acting upon such diversion signals.

4. It is considered preferable (a) to maintain two lines of approach in order to avoid long detours by some ships and (b) that the length of the approach lines should be equivalent to about 36 hours steaming, namely two daylight and one dark period, but this might be reduced to 30 hours or about 300' if 36 hours is considered impracticable.

(D.T.D., 2213A/25 to R.A.W.A. (R) C. in C. S.A.) Replies: R.A.W.A., 1351/27, 2137/28.

Mediterranean.

ALBA JULIA

My 1539C/24 (?1535C/24. ALBA JULIA) Vessel sailed for Trieste via Piraeus, 17 G.M.T. 24/8 S.O.(I) Mediterranean informed.

(S.O.(I) Istanbul, 0951C/25 to D.N.I.)

My 2105C/24 and 0951C/25 ALBA JULIA entered Aegean 1115 G.M.T./25.

(S.O.(I) Istanbul, 1633C/25 to S.O.(I) Mediterranean S.I., (R) D.N.I.)

TURBULENT
P. 35

My 1550/24. Heavy A/S patrols expected. Until further orders keep to seaward in your areas. (Capt. S.I., 0955C/25 to TURBULENT M.P. 35 (R) C. in C. Med., Capt. (S) 10).

/Cositrep...

25.8.1942.
Tuesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean. - Contd.

- Cositrep No. 492. 3. Air. Night 23/24. British and American aircraft bombed Tobruk claiming one boat hit near misses other shipping. Some fires on waterfront. One F boat hit, near misses on another off Sidi Barrani.
4. 24/8. One R/C Ju. 86 damaged off Alexandria. (C. in C. M.E., 1050 G.M.T./25).
- UNA, Catania Bay defences. My 1857C/21 to Admty and F.O.C.N.A. only, UNA reported encountering 2 large buoys about 2500 yards from shore in Catania Bay: more may have been present. Description, can shaped 8 feet diameter with 4 prongs supporting upper hoop on insulator with 2 leads from hoop to centre of buoy. Impression was machine might be invasion warning.
(C. in C. Med., 1507C/25 to Admty (for D.N.I.)
(R) F.O.C.N.A., Capt. S.8., S.O.(I) Med.,
D.C.O. Middle East, S.O.(I) Gibraltar)
- Op. "Pedestal". Your 1142/16. This report is now being unloading. discontinued.
(V.A. Malta, 1610B/25 to Admty).
- A/C attack on tanker 24 /8. WX 7754. E.612/25/6 AX 185 23/8. A.1722 24/8. B. sea calm. Wind westerly, 5 knots, cloud nil, visibility 15 miles. C.1. tanker, 6,000 tons, 2 D/Rs, 272° Antipaxos 39 miles course 135° 11 knots. D.8 Beauforts 4 Mark 2 4 Mark 1 E 8 E 3 attacked on Port quarter 5 on starboard beam. G. tanker made slight turn to Port towards end of attack. H. intense and accurate A/A from D/Rs diverted by attack by 7 escorting Beaufighters. J. 50 1200 yards. K.20 feet. L, Duplex non contact. M. no hits claimed. O. 1 Beaufort slightly damaged another failed find Malta and is missing. P. nil.
(H.Q., R.A.F., Malta, 1630/25).
- Black Sea. Situation report.
1. Position at Novorossisk serious. Germans making determined efforts to force their way through to Black Sea between Novorossisk? and
- Tuapdruse.
2. Black Sea Fleet employed supplying Ormonde and Tuapdruse with men and material. Cruisers have also bombarded Feodocia. Russian submarines recently sank 3 merchant vessels.
3. Russian Naval Aircraft constantly bombing landing barges etc. in occupied ports.
4. An unsuccessful attempt was recently made by enemy to land on Russian occupied part of Taman Peninsula but I have no details of this.
5. No enemy torpedo aircraft observed recently in Black Sea.
6. Russian troops holding firm in foot hills of Caucasus Mountains south of Maikop. Russian reinforcements proceeding to region of Klukhor Pass.
(N.L.O. Black Sea, 1637/25 to Admty Adm. Miles).

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25.8.1942.
Tuesday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean - Contd.

Malta Air Report. I. 611 25/8. C.S.R. 24th. 2 afternoon alerts. 1143 hrs. 2 low flying enemy fighters using cloud cover approached Malta. Late R.D.F. information, 4 Spitfires up but raiders turned back 10 miles N. of Island.

1215 hrs. 25 Spitfires in 3 formations made offensive sweep over Southern Sicily at 20000 feet. 9 Spitfires swept Pachine Aerodrome to Sampieri, another 8 Spitfires patrolled 10 miles South of Pachine, third formation of 8 Spitfires patrolled 30 miles N. of Malta to 10 miles S. of Passese; no enemy aircraft seen, all Spitfires returned safely 1350. 10 Spitfires up intercepted and destroyed 1 He. 111 with Italian markings 40 miles N. of Malta course N. partial R.D.F. interference but no raid came near Island.

Night 24/25. 1830. 1 Beaufighter up on patrol no raiders approached. 25th. 0825 or 0805 (corrupt) 5 Spitfires up for raid which turned back before nearing Malta.

0930. Fighter sweep 36 Me. 109s approached at great height, 18 Spitfires up, 18 raiders turned back when 15 miles N. of Malta, others crossed Coast and were intercepted, 1 Me. 109 probably destroyed, 1 Spitfire shot down sea by Me. 109s up sun with height advantage.

(H.Q., R.A.F., Malta, 1800Z/25).

Part 2 C.S.R. I. 611. North Ionian Sea. 24/8. R/C photographed 1205 hrs. 1 tanker 6,000 tons 2 D/Rs 1 RS. 14 163° Otranto 37 miles, course 130° 7 knots. 9 Beauforts 3 Beaufighters carrying bombs and 5 Beaufighters fighter escort despatched to attack 1 Beaufort 1 Beaufighter returned early owing to engine trouble. Remainder attacked 1722 hours 272° Antipaxos 39 miles course 130° 11 knots. 8 torpedoes Duplex non contact pistol, setting 20 feet dropped from (?50) feet (?RANNF) 1200 yards, apparent explosion reported on tanker but no further results observed. Beaufighter dropped 4 250 lb. G.P. bombs from 1200 feet which overshot slightly. Tanker and D/rs. raked by machine gun and cannon fire. 4 Ju.88s escorting convoy engaged and 1 destroyed by Beaufighters. 1 Beaufort slightly damaged crew unhurt. 1 Beaufort missing. Search in progress. Corfu R/C photographed tanker torpedoed by Beauforts my I.601 now beached in Salada Bay.

Night 24/25 2 Wellington's 8s despatched to attack. 33 (?45) lb. fire bombs dropped in full moon from 3000 feet all falling within 400 yards of tanker causing small explosions and flames and setting fire to surrounding petrol and oil on water. Fire and smoke lasted for 11 minutes. No other results observed. Slight M/G fire from 3 small vessels in vicinity.

(H.Q., R.A.F., Malta, 1830/25).

VIENNA My 1754/2, VIENNA has been further delayed. Further signal will be made when her date of departure from U.K. is known.
(D.D.O.D. (C), 1801A/25 to R.A.D. Med., (R) C. in C. Med). *5-12-764*

P.46 You may have been sighted about 0800B today Tuesday (Capt. S.10, 1905B/25 to P.46).

M/V hit by P.43 20/8. My 1948/20/8 para. 3. Position of attack 38° 57' N., 20° 24' E.
(C. in C. Med., 1940C/25 to Admty)

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War Diary.25.8.1942
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies.

Enemy Cruiser Akyab. My 0650/19. Further R/C indicates cruiser no longer in vicinity of Akyab. (N.O.I.C. Calcutta 0420Z/25 to D. C. in C..E.F. F.O.C.R.I.N., F.O.I.C. Ceylon (R) S.O.(I) Bombay, Admty.)

Madagascar ports. Your 60328 (M.O.5) 24/8. In what position in your priority list given in your above quoted telegram are ports in Madagascar? (G.O.C. in C. E.A. 0715 G.M.T/25 to W.O.)

Ceylon Defences. Your 2218A/22. Is it intended to maintain present boom complete with gate as an inner boom?
2. Depth of water in middle of channel between Clappenburg and Elephant Point being 40 fathoms it would appear that special arrangements for boom will be necessary and assistance as regards specifications and drawings is requested. It is hoped that C.O. of Boom Carrier detailed to lay new boom may be provided with full details.
3. Ref. controlled minefield (A.M.1848B/31/7) as no date for commencement of laying new boom can be given until plans have been received and dates of arrival of material are known propose that plans and arrangements for lifting present guard loops and controlled minefield and laying new ones be progressed and operation completed before commencing to lay boom.
4. Ref A/T baffles in inner harbour. Intend that present berthing facilities should remain until shoal west of Pander Rocks has been cleared and sufficient mooring buoys have arrived. Berthing plan detailed in your 1901/3/7 then to be implemented. Do not intend to commence laying swivel A/T baffles until head and stern berths have been established Q. (F.O. Ceylon 0908Z/25 to Admty. (R) D. C. in C. E.F., T.R.I.N.C.)

BARBOURNE. Your 1012/15 (1015Z/15 intended) Intend sending BARBOURNE to Ceylon when she arrives on the station. C. in C. S.A. is requested to report E.T.D. Capetown. (C. in C. E.F. 1012Z/25 to F.O. Ceylon, (R) C. in C..S.A., Admty.)

"S" Report. SS TANDA reports having received at 0420Z/25 SSSS 001° 03' N. 077° or 078° 18' and at 1300Z/25 life boat S O S. Signal very weak. (RANCHI 1254Z/25 to D. C. in C. E.F., F.O. Ceylon (R) N.O.I.C. Addu Atoll.)

REVENGE. Your 1444/21st (re removal of 2 ~~for~~ 6" guns from 'R' class battleships for extra sleeping accommodation) Approved as regards REVENGE. Action on remainder of class awaits receipt of your letter. (Deputy 1st S.L. 1405A/25 to C. in C. E.F. (R) V.A.S.)

/Shipping ...

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War Diary.

25.8.1942
Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies - contd.

Shipping
Reports,
Mozambique.

We understand that it is the practice of the Portuguese to report movements of merchant ships from Port Captain's station at Mozambique Island. These signals are reported to be visible from some distance out to sea, and although no doubt made in good faith by the Portuguese, they appear to constitute a grave danger to our shipping. Enemy will almost certainly be aware of significance of signals and can obviously turn them to great advantage.

2. In view of recent U-boat activity in the area this practice must, if possible, be brought to an end.

3. Accordingly, if C. in C. E.F. confirms para 1, H.M. Consul is requested to take matter up urgently with port authorities. F.O. have been consulted and agree.

(M. Branch approved A.C.N.S.(F) 1504A/25 to Consul, Beira,
C. in C. E.F. (R) C. in C. S.A.)

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War Diary.25.8.1942.
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies.

ASLETTA
(sunk 5/8) Connav Serial 23 and 24. ASLETTA British tanker reported sunk 5/8 47.40 N. 60.00 W. cause not known, N.S.H.Q. please advise.
(Connav No T.O.O./25 to Comnav, (R) N.S.H.Q., S.O.(I) Kingston, Com. East, Carib, Gulf, Pa Sea Frons.)

GLASGOW. Norfolk sailed 1400Z/24 GLASGOW.
(N.S.H.Q., 0005Z/25 to Admty.)
Bermuda arrival GLASGOW.
(S.B.N.O.W.A., 2127P/25 to Admty., (R) B.A.D., N.S.H.Q., S.O.(I) Jamaica.)

KITCHENER defect. ^{11.5.24} My 0018/19 (re laying up to adjust thrust block and main engine bearings.) Work called for is satisfactorily completed but very bad knock still exists in H.P. engine. Request this may be taken in hand immediately.
(H.M.C.S. KITCHENER, 0025Z/25 to Capt. D. Halifax)

U/B. Intercepted from Curacao Radio (begins) S/M reported 010° 12' N. 076° 35' W. 2030 G.C.T. (ends).
(S.O.(I) Kingston Jamaica, 0105Q/25 to Admty. (for D.N.I.), B.A.D., C.P.S.F., Connav.)

Convoy O.N.S.122 attacked. Convoy heavily attacked at 2347Z. Estimated 5 U-Boats surround. At least 4 ships sunk.
(C.T. 24.1.4, 0131Z/25 to Connav, (R) C.T. 24, C.T. 24.7, Admty., C. in C. W.A., N.S.H.Q., F.O.N.F., C.O.A.C.)
Names: EMPIRE BREEZE, British, 7457 tons.
TROLLA, Norwegian, 1598 tons.
INGERFIRE, Norwegian, 3835 tons.
SHEAF MOUNT, British, 5017 tons.
(D.O.R., 1101, 26/8.)
(? VISCOUNT) will shortly reach limit of fuel endurance. Remaining escort inadequate to deal with present scale of attacks. Request EAGER R/V with local escort.
(C.T.U. 24.1.4, 0141Z/25 to C.T.F.24, (R) Connav, Admty., C. in C. W.A., N.S.H.Q., F.O.N.F., C.T.G. 24.7, C.O.A.C.)
C.T.U. 24.1.4, 0141/25.
Intend to sail ST. LAURENT with despatch a.m./26 to assist *VISCOUNT. Corvettes ROSTHERN and NAPANEE will be sailed a.m./27 to augment escort. Further signal re R/V.
(F.O.N.F., 1204Z/25 to C.T.24, (R) C. in C. W.A., Cominch, Admty., N.S.H.Q., C.T.U. 24.1.4.)
Intercepted 1119Z/24 S O S EMPIRE BREEZE. Am taking to boats approx. position 049° 45' N. 035° 10' W. at 1040Z/24.
(C.O.A.C., 1145Z/25 to C.T.U. 24.1.4., (R) C.C.N.F.)

* Imp. 762

/Your ...

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25.8.1942.
Tuesday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies.

Convoy O.N. 122 attacked. (Contd.) Your 1155/25 (? 1145/25 intended). Regret I cannot spare a ship to search. Are there any other ships in the vicinity? (C.T.U. 24.1.4, 1211Z/25 to C.O.A.C., (R) F.O.N.F.) Estimate 8 to 10 U-Boats operating in our vicinity 3 possibly damaged. Following ships sunk: EMPIRE BREEZE, TROLLA, KATVALDIS, SHEAF MOUNT. Rescue ship STOCKPORT away from convoy. Have altered course 210° to evade. VISCOUNT must probably leave 1600/26 at the latest. Weather report.

(C.T.U. 24.1.4, 1456Z/25 to 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. 24.7.) For position, see Connav 2108/25.

O.N. 122 is being heavily attacked. Request you will ask Admiral King if he would consider detaching one destroyer from A.T. 20 to go to the assistance of this convoy. (D.T.D. Approved 1st S.L., 1830A/25 to B.A.D.)

IVARAN, U/B. Barbados radio reported at 0530 G.M.T. intercept from IVARAN Norwegian 011° 40' N. 060° 20' W. followed by S/M. (S.O.(I) Kingston, 0235Q/25 to Admty. for (D.N.I.), B.A.D., C.C.S.F., Connav.)

U/B. A/C sighted S/M 1015Q/26 Kingston 130° 70 miles, course 190°, S/M submerged. (S.O.(I) Kingston, 1026Q/25 to Admty.)

A.T. 20. Movement summary 1800 G.M.T./25. A.T. 20, P.C.S. 44½° N. 40° W. 060° 13½. (D.O.D.(F), 1027Z/25 to Opnav, (R) Comnav.)

U/B. S/M sighted by British CROMARTY 1300 G.M.T./25 in 13° 28' N. 058° 02' W. (S.O.(I) Kingston, 1033Q/25 to Admty.)

Navigation. Following change in navigational (? aids) Argentina Newfoundland are in effect (details). (C.T. 24, 1045/25 to All Mid-ocean Escort Units at Sea, T.G. 24.19, (R) C.O.A.C., C. in C. W.A., C.T.G. 24.7, C.T.G. 24.6, F.O.N.F.)

Routeing, Cape Horn. My 1623/22 not to Connav or Balboa, these tankers and all other ships concerned should be routed round Cape Horn unless there are strong reasons in individual cases for routeing via Magellan. (D.T.D., 1329A/25 to B.R.O. Cristobal, (R) B.N.L.O. Balboa, N.S.H.Q., S.O.(I) Jamaica, Connav)

/MAURETANIA ...

War Diary.25.8.1942.
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies - Contd.

MAURETANIA, My 1731/23rd and N.A. Rio de Janeiro 0215/24
AQUITANIA. and 1420/24 (N.T. in W.R.) Since it is
undesirable that MAURETANIA should proceed with
troops to Middle East until boiler is repaired
AQUITANIA is now being prepared to take first flight of U.S.
Air Corps on 15/9.

2. Work on MAURETANIA's boiler cannot start until tubes are
available. Retubing would then take 2 to 3 weeks.

3. U.S. Navy consider in view of (a) substituting AQUITANIA
(b) boiler tubes probably not being available until mid-
September (c) Second flight of Air Corps probably not ready
until 30/9, safety of ship takes precedence over early date of
arrival.

Orders have therefore been given to dock ship at Rio de Janeiro.
Anticipate she will be ready to leave on 1/9.

4. Navy Dept. have decided that they cannot allow her in
Trinidad area and that fuelling at Fernando de Noronha is
impracticable: see first sentence of second para: C.B. 1655 (C)
Sect. 23.

5. Alternatives (details).

6. (a) seems preferable.

Request your views.

(B.A.D., 1405Z/25 to Admty., D.S.T.)

See 2247/28.

ZWARTE ZEE, My 1402/28/7. When ZWARTE ZEE arrives request
ROODE ZEE. you will sail Dutch tug ROODE ZEE to Bermuda in
convoys T.A.W. and A.H. It is important she
should catch A.H. 3 if possible. vide N.S.H.Q.

1707/13th.

(S.B.N.O.W.A., 1432P/25 to N.O.I.C. Trinidad, (R) Admty., etc.)

EMPIRE BEDE My 2124/19 (landing of survivors of EMPIRE BEDE.)
(torpedoed Ship torpedoed 0303 G.M.T./18th in 19° 35' N.
18/8.) 76° 25' W.
(S.O.I.) Jamaica, 1504Q/25 to Admty., S.B.N.O.W.A.,
B.A.D., Connav, N.S.H.Q., F.O.C. Trinidad.)

U.S. Cominch's 2101/24 (Serial 36) addressed to Admty.
Dispositions. and Comnav gives following changes in locations
given in his 2050/17:-

Pacific - RALEIGH due Samoa 25/8. JUNEAU and
SOUTH DAKOTA on 21/8 left the Canal Zone. CHICAGO is en route
to Sydney. BOISE on 26/8 is due Suva. TRENTON and RICHMOND
in S.E. Pacific on patrol. PHOENIX is at sea. CONCORD is
at Balboa. DETROIT is at San Diego.

Atlantic - WASHINGTON on 23/8 left N.Y. AUGUSTA and RANGER on
25/8 due Newport. OMAHA is at Montevideo. MEMPHIS on 25/8 is
due Trinidad. NEW YORK and PHILADELPHIA left with convoy on
22/8 from Halifax. WICHITA is at N.Y. CINCINNATI on 25/8 is
due Recife. SAVANNAH is at Norfolk.
(Comnav, 1514/25 to Admty.)

War Diary.25.8.1942.
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies - Contd.

AMAKURA.

My 1103/26 (sic) Ship straggled from W.A.T. 15 torpedoed sunk immediately 0835 G.M.T. 25th in 017° 40' N. 075° 52' W. 12 casualties. (S.O.(I) Kingston, 1534Q/25.)

ARLETTA,
AGWIDALE
collision.

Your 2147/24.
Date of collision ARLETTA and AGWIDALE (U.S.) 3/8. Report from Master of AGWIDALE forwarded Admty. and N.S.H.Q. through this office. Master of AGWIDALE states ARLETTA probably sustained stem damage only. AGWIDALE now at Halifax. (N.C.S.O. St. Johns N.F., 1611Z/25 to N.S.H.Q., (R) Admty., Connav.)

U/Bs.

S/M estimate 25/8 and U.S. Submarine Notice. (C. in C. U.S. Fleet, 1640/25, 1641/25, 1642/25, 1643/25, 1644/25.)

GIL EANES,
fuel.

My 1251/20. Ministry of Marine now request GIL EANES may take 2 or 300 tons of coal during visit to St. Johns N.F. (N.A. Lisbon, 1813A/25 to Admty.)

FRIMAIRE
(presumed
sunk 15/6)

Following is paraphrase of signal made by Opnav to Alusna, Vichy - Alusna, R. Lisbon, repeated Comcaribseafon, Alusnob, Fort de France, C.A.F.A.C, (begins): FRIMAIRE presumed sunk with all hands on 15/6 off Rio Hacha, Colombia, by Axis submarine, leaving no trace. Crew was two-thirds French, one-third Portuguese with Portuguese observer bound for Covenas. Believed German Admiralty has full report. (Ends). (B.A.D., 1935Z/25 to Admty., S.O.(I) Jamaica.)

U/B
Campaign.

Connav Serial 25. SEAGULL British Schooner shelled 19/8 60 miles S.E. Curacao, escaped. EMPIRE BREEZE, KATVALDIS, SHEAF MOUNT, TROLLA, all sunk 24/8 convoy O.N. 122 in 48.55 N. 35.10

W. FRIMAIRE French Tanker presumed torpedoed sunk 15/6 off Rio Hacha, Colombia.

(Connav, 2108/25 to Connaveu, (R) N.S.H.Q., Coms. East, Caribbean, Gulf, Panama Sea Frons., S.O.(I) Kingston.)

ROYAL
SOVEREIGN.

Your 0050/19 ROYAL SOVEREIGN can be accepted at Philadelphia Navy Yard. Job Number S.173. (B.A.R.M., 2202Z/25 to Admty., (R) C. in C. E.F., D. C. in C. E.F., C. in C. S.A., R.A.3.)

/Repatriations ...

War Diary.

25.8.1942.
Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies - Contd.

Repatriations. Connav 1556/25 addressed to all Coms. concerned with convoy movements between 26 and 55 W. and S. of 25 N. informs as follows: Italian tankers ARCOLA and TAIGETE under safe conduct 06.20 N. 26.01 W., 271°, 9.8.
(Comnaveu, 2232/25 to Admty.)

Australia and New Zealand.

Situation. Digest Serial No. 215, 24/8.
Reports indicate enemy shipping Shortland Island Area 24/8 included 3 cruisers or destroyers, 5 merchant ships, 2 unidentified vessels, 5 flying boats.
(2) R/C aircraft reported enemy convoy 3 light cruisers or destroyers, 2 transports, 2 tanker type vessels, 2 patrol boats or minesweepers Trobriand Is. area proceeding south, last sighted 09° 22' S. 151° 35' E. 0254Z/25, 10 knots course 200°.
(3) Unknown number Japanese reported landed Fona (approx. 09° S. 149° 12' E.) from 7 barges 0645Z/24. Barges reported departed later with 1 light cruiser. Barges last sighted 09° 25' S. 150° 10' E. course S.S.E. 2325Z/24.
(4) Allied aircraft observed 28 single engine aircraft Buka aerodrome 24/8. 1 destroyer or light cruiser one 10,000 ton M/V arrived Buka Passage 2125Z/23.
(5) Approx. 25 unidentified ships including 8 large sighted Rabaul Harbour by air R/C 24/8, 1 M/V escorted by destroyer off Huru Point (New Ireland). Possible identifications in photographs Rabaul Harbour 22/8 include TENRYU, TATSUTA, submarine depot ship ZINGEI, 1 destroyer 2 submarines, 1 converted seaplane tender (Kamoi type).
(6) One 2,000 ton cargo vessel, 1 launch, 1 flying boat reported Kavieng 24/8 by air R/C.
(7) 37 barges reported Buna 21/8.
(8) Over Milne Bay area 0500Z/24, 11 Zeros, 2 unidentified aircraft intercepted by 23 Kittihawks. 2 Zeros destroyed, 2 others probably destroyed.
(9) 2 aircraft raided Darwin 1125Z/24, 1 1153Z, no casualties or damage. 4 enemy bombers, 8 Zeros definitely destroyed in raid reported Serial 214 para. 6.
(G.H.Q. S.W.P.A., 1130Z/25 to Admty., etc.)

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Submarines Reported.

Estimated positions.
(D.D.I.C., 1342A/25, 1343A/25.)

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War Diary.

26.8.1942
Wednesday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

Arctic
Ocean.

At 2320A today a raider appeared off Port Dickson (? Dickson harbour, Gulf of Yenisei), shelled the hut and afterwards landed men near by and destroyed the W/T station. The tanker HOPEMOUNT is now about 100 miles to the eastward of Cape Chelyuskin and the Soviet destroyers coming from the Pacific are in about 170° E. they are expected to arrive at Kola Inlet between 17/9 and 20/9.

Operation
"Cheese"

MINERVE returned to Lerwick at 1133A today and reports the successful completion on night 20/21 August of an operation at Lister.

HOWE left Rosyth for Scapa at 1035 today, escorted by JAMAICA, INGLEFIELD, ECLIPSE and OFFA.

Further mines were found to the eastward of Lowestoft today.

Brightlingsea and Richborough are being prepared as bases for combined operational craft.

North Atlantic.

SS CLAN MACWHIRTER from Convoy S.L.119 reported that she had been torpedoed at 2300 in 35° 28' N. 19° 34' W. (about 160 miles N.W. of Madeira.)

South Atlantic.

SS BEECHWOOD was torpedoed and sunk by a U-boat at 0930Z today in 5° 30' N. 14° 4' W. (about 180 miles S.S.W. of Freetown.)

/R.A. West ...

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War Diary.

26.8.1942
Wednesday

SITUATION REPORT.

South Atlantic - contd.

R.A. West Africa reports that analysis of 14 sinkings of ships by U-boats west of Freetown since 21/7 reveals -

- A. All 14 ships were unescorted.
- B. 12 were beyond range of air protection.
- C. 4 were tankers.
- D. A total of 11 eastbound tankers have sailed in this period.

R.A.W. Africa considers that the early institution of through escort for all tankers between the West Indies and Freetown is highly desirable; the present system of escorting for part voyage is unsatisfactory. He states that his escort forces are being run to death. The reply of the Admiralty (30/8) was that the U-boat situation at Freetown is fully appreciated. No corvettes are available at home to reinforce him, but 2 A/S whalers are to be transferred from Capetown. Negotiations are in progress for 16-knot tankers to run between Trinidad and Freetown.

A Brazilian aircraft is reported to have sunk a submarine today and taken 3 prisoners, near Torres Light (29° 20' S. 49° 43' W.) (not yet confirmed.)

Mediterranean.

British and U.S. Liberators bombed the Corinth Canal last night; no definite results are reported. Tobruk harbour was also bombed.

ERIDGE and ALDENHAM carried out a bombardment of the Daba area last night. The results were not seen.

SS EMPIRE KUMARI in a southbound convoy was torpedoed in 31° 53' N. 34° 10' E. at 1840 today but reached Haifa in tow of BRIGAND on 27/8, but became a total loss.

War Diary.26.8.1942
Wednesday.SITUATION REPORT.East Indies.

F.O. Ceylon reports that the development of Gan Aerodrome has led to a considerable concentration of valuable ships in Addu Atoll. The only form of underwater protection remaining at the main Gan entrance is a controlled minefield, the efficiency of which, especially with regard to midget S/MS, must be impaired after exposure to swell during the S.W. monsoon. He intends sending HOXA from Colombo to Addu as A/S guard ship.

A Catalina sighted a submarine today 220 miles S.W. of Ceylon and made a second sighting about 200 miles S.W. of Ceylon. Three lifeboats were sighted.

The functions of Deputy C. in C. Eastern Fleet and of the V.A. Second in Command Eastern Fleet (short title V.A.E.F.) were promulgated by C. in C. E.F. today.

Australia and New Zealand.

Adverse weather has hindered air attacks on the enemy at Milne Bay, Papua, but attacks were made by aircraft who destroyed 6 landing barges and set fuel and stores dumps on fire, obtained a direct hit on a Transport which was seen to be sinking and reported that a cruiser was seen listing after 5 near misses.

A ship, possibly the Japanese cruiser NAGABA was reported approaching Ocean Island at 0500Z today. It is thought that the island has possibly been occupied by the enemy.

7 Marauders escorted by 14 Aircobras bombed Buna Aerodrome, Papua at 2115Z today; of 10 enemy Zeros which intercepted 4 were destroyed and 5 damaged.

In air fighting above Milne Bay the enemy suffered losses but no U.S. losses are reported.

War Diary.26.8.1942.
Wednesday.HOME COMMANDS.Defence of the U.K.

Brightlingsea and Richborough. Are being prepared as bases for combined operational craft. It is anticipated that upwards of 100 craft of all types will be accommodated at each.
2. Request consideration may be given to the provision of A.A. defences at an early date. (D. of L.D., 2000A/26 to Air Min., Fighter Command.)

Movements.LEDBURY & BRAMHAM. *See p. 209.*

RENOWN. Scapa departure RENOWN with PARTRIDGE, FUCKERIDGE, FARNDALE.
(A.C.O.S., 0602/26.)

SCOTT. *Approved / not approved.*
My 1001 and 1355/25 not to all addressees. Weather unsuitable for air transport. SCOTT proceeding in execution of previous orders. (C. in C. H.F., 0606A/26 to SCOTT, Supt. C.E. Invergordon, (R) R.A.(M))

ONSLow. My 1340A/25 code word "Smilay" passed Spurn Point outwards at 0650A/26.
(F.O. Humber, 0655A/26.)

SUTTON. *Approved*
Your 1655/25/8 not approved. SUTTON cannot be spared to refit until LYDD is operationally available.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 1001A/26 to N.O.I.C. Dartmouth.)

Reference your 1001A/26 my 1655/25/8 is cancelled. (N.O.I.C. Dartmouth, 1138/26 to C. in C. Plymouth.)
A.M. 1204A/25. SUTTON should be sailed so as to arrive at Sheerness on or after 14/9.
(D.M.S., 1523A/26 to C. in C. Plymouth.)

ACHATES. 1. ACHATES is to arrive Liverpool p.m./28th and will be required to embark C. in C. W.A. Liverpool, Vice Admiral Osborne, 2 Staff Officers, and 1 Scientific Officer a.m./29th to observe smoke trial off Londonderry.
(2) On completion party will disembark at Londonderry a.m./30th.
(3) N.O.I.C. Belfast 1753A/25th not to all addressees. H.M.S. ACHATES is to sail to overtake when ready.
(C. in C. W.A., 1021A/26.)

9th M/S. F. Admty. 1246/25. Request these vessels may be sailed so as to arrive Sand Head buoy astern of C.E. 116 tomorrow Thursday thence by swept channels and Q.Z.S. 117, 151, 351 and 263 to Harwich. S.A. and Oropesa sweep of Q.Z.S. 117 and 151 should be carried out whilst on passage.
(C. in C. Nore, 1026A/26 to C. in C. Portsmouth.)

/A.M. 1246/25 ...

War Diary.26.8.1942.
Wednesday.HOME COMMANDS.Movements - Contd.

A.M. 1246/25. Intend sail M/S 9 in SIDMOUTH with BANGOR, BRIDLINGTON and BUDE at 1915/26th by inshore route to Beachy Head thence by standard route to Sandhead arrive there 0515/27th and thence in accordance with C. in C. Nore 1020A/26th expected time of arrival Harwich 1500A/27th W/T 1700 k/cs until 0600A/27th thence 1930 k/cs until 1300 and then 1780 k/cs. Codeword "Object" mails to Harwich.
(C. in C. Portsmouth, 1303A/26.)
My 1303A/26 sailed 1915/26.
(C. in C. Portsmouth, 1932A/26.)

P. 221. Arrived.
(S.O. S/Ms Lerwick, 1031A/26.)

HOWE,
JAMAICA. Sailed HOWE escorted by JAMAICA, INGLEFIELD, ECLIPSE and OFFA passing May Island at 1035.
(C. in C. Rosyth, 1039A/26.)
Dense fog. My P.C. and S. at 1800 28 buoy course 020° 11 knots.
Intend remaining in Q.Z.S. 323 until conditions permit passage of Pentland Firth. Intend carrying out steaming trials when visibility allows.
(HOWE, 1742A/26 to C. in C. Rosyth, C. in C. H.F., (R) A.C.O.S., INGLEFIELD, OFFA, ECLIPSE, JAMAICA.)

BARDELL,
BARBRAKE. N.U. alter course forthwith to (G) 49.00 N. 13.50 W. thence to (C) omit (B).
(C. in C. W.A., 1047A/26 to BARDELL, BARBRAKE.)

A.F.D. XVII. My secret 2217A/23 for CHERBOURGEOIS III read SCHELDE Admiralty's 2026A/25 refers not to F.O.I.C. Cardiff.
(F.O.I.C. Milford Haven, 1053A/26.)
Anticipate Admiralty Floating Dock XVII will sail from Plymouth about 1300/2/9. Intend sweeping to 30 fathom lines with LL sweeper and thence with Oropesa to limit of Plymouth Command. Suggest sweeper from your Command should take in this vicinity and request I may be informed of your intended arrangements.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 1129A/26 to C. in C. W.A.)

Group
"Major". Reference A.M. 1320B/8. Weather permitting intend sail PETUNIA escorting 108th M.M.S., 117th H.D.M/L Flotilla, tugs PRUDENT and CHARON on 28/8. Codeword for group "Major".
(ii) Request long range weather forecast for route ordered to reach N.O.I.C. Milford Haven by 0800/28.
(N.O.I.C. Milford Haven, 1055A/26 to C. in C. W.A.)

/BERMUDA ...

26.8.1942.
Wednesday.

War Diary.HOME COMMANDS.Movements - Contd.

- BERMUDA. Am waiting off Torness until fog lifts.
 (BERMUDA, 1057A/26 to A.C.O.S.)
 Arrived Scapa.
 (A.C.O.S., 1738/26.)
- ARGUS. C. in C. H.F. 1843A/25.
 Intend to sail ARGUS escorted by ICARUS and INTREPID at 1515A/26 S. of A. 17½ knots to 21A buoy thereafter 9 knots. E.T.A. Tyne 0745A/28th and Boom 0845A/28th. Codeword "Keeper".
 (F.O.I.C. Greenock, 1116A/26 to C. in C. W.A., Admty., A.C.O.S., C. in C. H.F., C. in C. Rosyth, N.O.I.C. Newcastle, R.A.(D)., R.A.N.A.S., H.Q.C.C., (R) S.O. Force F, N.O.I.C. Belfast.)
 Sailed ARGUS escorted by ICARUS and INTREPID in accordance with my 1116A/26 codeword "Keeper".
 (N.O.I.C. Greenock, 1529A/26.)
 My 1118A/26 and 1116A/26 neither to all addressees.
 Delete reference proceed below 10 knots from 21A buoy. S. of A. 17½ knots is to be maintained throughout. Your E.T.A. is now to be 0445A/28th Boom 0545A/28th. 1.
 (N.O.I.C. Greenock, 1754A/26 to ARGUS.)
 My 1529A/26th. ARGUS will keep watch on 78 K/cs during passage.
 (N.O.I.C. Greenock, 1846A/26.)
- OPPORTUNE. W.P.34. Serial 75, H.M.S. OPPORTUNE at 20 Buoy Gutter Sound with steam at 1/2 hours notice.
 Assume exercise will not take place in existing visibility.
 (OPPORTUNE, 1131A/26 to SHEFFIELD.)
- JUNON. (1) Intend sailing JUNON escorted by LOCH MONTEITH from Dundee at 1400A/27th to carry out exercise on surface and submerged in Tay Sanctuary in area North of 56° 24' N. between 1600A/27th and 1800A/27th.
 (2) H.Q.C.C. is requested to arrange Tay Sanctuary from 1500A/27th until 1900A/27th.
 (3) On conclusion of exercise both vessels proceed in company to position 135° Bard Head 6 miles thence LOCH MONTEITH proceed to Lerwick E.T.A. 2300A/28th.
 (4) After detaching LOCH MONTEITH, F.S. JUNON proceed on the surface at C.O's discretion through position (A) 061° 02' N. 000° 05' E. (B) 061° 05' N. 002° 03' E. thence dive by day to patrol in Area K.104.
 (Capt. S.9, 1135A/26 to F.O.(S), C. in C. Rosyth, (R) C. in C. H.F., A.C.O.S., H.Q.C.C., S.O. S/Ms Lerwick.)

/Disposition ...

800

War Diary.26.8.1942.
Wednesday.HOME COMMANDS.Movements - Contd.

Disposition of operational units in N. Atlantic.	Area N. Russia	- TUSCALOOSA, 2 Destroyers (U.S) 3 Destroyers.
	Area Iceland (C)	- DUKE OF YORK, CUMBERLAND, LONDON, NORFOLK, SUFFOLK 1 Destroyer.
	Area Scapa	- KING GEORGE V, KENYA, SCYLLA, SHEFFIELD, 3 Destroyers.
	Area Rosyth	- JAMAICA, 3 Destroyers.
	Area Clyde	- NELSON, RENOWN, FURIOUS, AURORA, 4 Destroyers.
	Area Gibraltar (D.O.D.(H), 1207Z/26.)	- CHARYBDIS.

DESPATCH.

My 1330/25 sailed.
(N.O.I.C. Newcastle-on-Tyne, 1230/26.)
Leave harbour at 0600/27 and proceed by searched channel to Scapa.
(C. in C. Rosyth, 1713A/26 to DESPATCH.)
Your 1330/25 arrived.
(C. in C. Rosyth, 2000A/26 to F.O.I.C. Tyne.)

LONDON,
C.S. 1.

Intend to sail LONDON with C.S.1 embarked at 1645/26. E.T.A. Scapa 0830/28th. Gate 0915.
Request sleeve target and marking aircraft 23 miles 290° from Dunnet Head at 0730/28th.

A.C.O.S. acknowledge.

(C.S.18, 1250A/26 to C. in C. H.F., (R) A.C.O.S., A.C.I.C., C.S.1, Admty., C. in C. W.A.)
Sailed S.O. 18 C.S.'s 1250/26th at 1815/26th.
(A.C.I.C., 1903A/26.)

9th M.T.B. F.

The 9th M.T.B. Flotilla is temporarily re-allocated to the Plymouth Command.
V.A. Dover is requested to sail this flotilla to Dartmouth as soon as possible.
(D.D.O.D.(C), 1255A/26.)

KENYA.

Intend ^{*}VIVIEN to provide S.A escort for your passage between May Island and Tyne tomorrow.
Report E.T.A. at 22 Buoy.
(C. in C. Rosyth, 1303A/26 to KENYA.)* *See next page*

Your 1303.

At 1115/27.

(KENYA, 1707A/26 to C. in C. Rosyth.)

Scapa departure KENYA with ESKDALE.

(A.C.O.S., 2215A/26.)

→ ESKDALE.

Proceed passing Switha at 2000 tonight Wednesday to R/V KENYA at Hoxa and escort her until daylight/27.

2. On being detached return to Scapa via swept channels.

3. Fighter protection has been arranged from daylight/27th.
Codeword "Farthing".

4. Help message on 385 K/cs per sec. in accordance with A.F.O. No. 2/1942 orders nought 624.

(F.O.C. H.F., 1601A/26 to ESKDALE.)

/WORCESTER ...

26.8.1942.
Wednesday.War Diary.HOME COMMANDS.Movements - Contd.

VIVACIOUS, CAMPBELL, MACKAY, VESPER. Take CAMPBELL, MACKAY, VESPER under your orders and leave Sheerness at 0700/29 for Loch Ewe.
 (2) MACKAY has been ordered to R/V at 51 buoy at 0915/29th.
 (3) Speed on passage 20 knots subject to weather conditions. Route by normal searched channels and Q.Z.S. 287 and 277. All ships are to operate S.A. gear continuously until 22 buoy is passed.
 (4) Fighter protection arranged codeword "Tarrain". Help messages on 385 K/cs per second.
 (5) Report your E.T.A. to me only before sailing.
 (C. in C. Nore, 2138A/26 to VIVACIOUS, D.16, N.O.I.C. Aultbea,
 (R) MACKAY, CAMPBELL, N.O.I.C. Sheerness, VESPER, C. in C. W.A., S.O. 21st (D), R.A.(D) H.F., A.C.O.S., C. in C. H.F., C. in C. Rosyth.)

Operations.

ULM sunk. My P.C. and S. 074° 49' N. 019° 20' E. 271° 20
(Operation E.V.) knots. German ship ULM sunk at 2234A/25th.
 Captain 3 officers 57 ratings picked up. MARNE
 hit slight damaged aft 4 ratings killed 8 wounded. No engine
 failure damage or casualties.
 Weather report 4782 0466.
 (ONSLAUGHT, 0448A/26 to C. in C. H.F.)

Op: "Lhasa" *See 27/8 - p. 840.*
 (MINERYE)

Portsmouth 4 M.G.Bs patrolling to southward returning to
 patrols Portland.
 August 26/27. 3 trawlers patrolling in vicinity of E.A.5 buoy.
 (C. in C. Portsmouth, 1507A/26.)

ALEXANDER SIBIYAKOV Russians report that at 1317/25th in (?) 076° 12'
 attacked N. 091° 30' E. unarmed Russian Transport
 by raider. SIBIYAKOV 4500 tons bound eastward sighted an
(Unidentified ship) *unidentified ship who asked for an ice report and
 (S.B. 1815) gave her signal letters as SSMM subsequently
 opening fire. SIBIYAKOV later made S O S and has not since been
 heard of. *ADMIRAL SCHEER.

(S.B.N.O. North Russia, 1211A/26.)

HOPEMOUNT now 100 miles to eastward of Cape Chelyuskin.
 (2) Soviet destroyers now about longitude 170° E.
 (3) Naval Staff expect this Force to arrive Kola Inlet between
 September 17th and 20th. ALEXANDER
 (4) Soviet icebreaking ship SIBERYAKOV reported enemy auxiliary
 cruiser at 1300C/25 in position 76.12 91.25. Cruiser asked for
 ice information and said her name was SISIAMA. Naval Staff
 believe name false. SIBERYAKOV later made S O S but nothing
 heard since. Shore station Cape Chelyuskin reported sighting
 raider this morning.
 (5) 0500C/25 an enemy raider shelled and destroyed Meteorological
 station on Cape Zhelaniya (Novaya Zemlya). W/T station still
 working.
 (6) Admty. pass to C. in C. H.F.
 (Admiral Miles, 1301C/26.)

War Diary.26.8.1942.
Wednesday.HOME COMMANDS.Operations - Contd.Nore
destroyer
Patrol.

Destroyers on patrol are to keep $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles west of centre of channel while between 3 and 55A buoy. (II) They may proceed to the eastward if in contact with enemy but should avoid AMQZ X 798. (III) F.N. No. 97 is proceeding by AMQZ S 287 and 277.
(C. in C. Nore, 1630A/26 to WIDGEON, MEYNELL, LA MELPOMENE, CATTISTOCK, HAMBLEDON, Capt. D.21.)

DUKE OF YORK,
NORFOLK,
CUMBERLAND.

DUKE OF YORK 2 cruisers and 3 destroyers raise steam.
(C. in C. H.F., 1706A/26 to F.O. 18 C.S., DUKE OF YORK, MONTROSE, (R) A.C.I.C., U.S. Cruiser TUSCALOOSA, I.C.S., Admty.)
Your 1706 NORFOLK and CUMBERLAND detailed.
(C.S.18, 1837A/26 to C. in C. H.F.)

Dover
patrols.

For night of 26/27 August.
M.Ls 147 and 151 from Ramsgate patrolling between Dumpton and North East Spit Buoys. E.T.D. 2100.
E.TR. 0530/27.

The following anti E-Boat patrols from 2115.
M.Ls 140 and R.M.L. 513 from Newhaven near C.1 Buoy.
M.G.Bs S2 and 6 from Ramsgate near D Buoy.
MARETTA and YASHIMA near No. 10 Buoy.
M.Ls 102 and 213 near No. 7 Buoy.
NETSUKIS and SARPEDON near No. 4 Buoy.
(V.A. Dover, 1846A/26.)

Allied Air Operations.Attack on
vessel.

Four vessels off Cap Gris Nez at 2135 eastbound at 8 knots. Track E.23D. Two small vessels off Calais at 2145. These two tracks joined at 2220 and was investigated and attacked by one Hurri-

bomber of 174 Squadron off Cap Blanc Nez. One vessel claimed set on fire. Vessels entered Calais at 0230.
(V.A. Dover, 0927A/26.)

Mosquito
fired at.

S.B.N.O. North Russia reports that Mosquito arrived Vaenga 1010A/23 and was heavily engaged because it was not warned in and was not in corridor. Ref. my AX59Z 13/6 request you confirm instructions contained in S.B.N.O. North Russia's 1157B/9 remain in force are known to the defences and have not been amended. Reply urgently requested as further aircraft E.T.L. for Gryaznaya shortly.
(Air Min., 1205Z/26 to 30 Mission.)

War Diary.26.8.1942.
Wednesday.HOME COMMANDS.Enemy Air Activity.

ONSLAUGHT. Am being shadowed by one enemy aircraft position course and speed $74^{\circ} 54' N.$ $129^{\circ} 32' E.$ (sic) 245° , 18 knots.
(ONSLAUGHT, 0821/26.)
(? Shadower) (? making) homing signal on 365 K/cs in immediate vicinity of this force my P.C. and S. of A. $075^{\circ} 04' N.$ $011^{\circ} 15' E.$ $250^{\circ} 22.$ Weather conditions H 400 (?N) H 25% V 45000 yards W sky mostly cloudy P P (? 10 or 38) (?D) 7 F 4. Admiralty pass to ONSLAUGHT.
(? TUSCALOOSA, 1315A/26 to Address not give. Message has passing instruction for C. in C. H.F., ONSLAUGHT, and Admty.)

Mining.

Start Bay. Further to my 1646A/24. M/S Trawlers detonated one mine in sweep at 1123/25 in position $50^{\circ} 16' 30'' N.$ $03^{\circ} 09' 30'' W.$
(N.O.I.C. Dartmouth, 0922/26.)

Drifting mine. Following received:- On 23rd at 13 ? a drifting mine 15 miles to the N.N.W. of Cape Finisterre painted black and red.
(C. in C. Portsmouth, 1100/26.)

Off Hastings. Mines swept yesterday in Q.Z.X. 780. Five red in $50^{\circ} 49' 44'' N.$ $00^{\circ} 40' 15'' E.$
(V.A. Dover, 1124A/26, 1851A/26.)

Helgoy Fiord. It is reported that mines have been laid in Helgoy Fiord ($70^{\circ} 05' N.$ $19^{\circ} 25' E.$) Graded C.3.
(D.D.I.C., 1326A/26 to C. in C. E.F.(?), A.C.O.S., C. in C. Rosyth, F.O.[S])

Lowestoft. 2 mines exploded in sweep 180° 4 miles 4 buoy at 1813. Total number R mines swept today 5.
(Cdr. M/S & P Lowestoft, 2004A/26, 2142A/27.)

U-Boats.

Sinking of HATARANA. C. in C. W.A. 1813A/23.
1. No. 2 hold full to hatch coamings, No. 2 and 3 ballast tanks holed. No. 3 hold and stokehold making water. Vessel sinking slowly by head.
Considered opinion of Master who was present in PENTSTEMON and C.O. PENTSTEMON that vessel could not remain afloat and was incapable of salvage. Signal received from FOLKESTONE began - "Escort cannot be spared to stand by HATARANA after destruction of XX Secret documents remove crew and rejoin". Ends.
U-Boat present in close proximity.
2. Fore deck awash and four shot holes on waterline.
Sinking slowly.
(PENTSTEMON, 0900/26 to Capt. D. Liverpool.)

/ U/B ...

War Diary.26.8.1942.
Wednesday.HOME COMMANDS.U-Boats - Contd.

U/B near
P. 247. It is estimated that 2 U-Boats may be near you
this forenoon one bound outward the other
homeward.
(D.D.I.C., 0915A/27 to P.247, F.O.S.)

Attacks on Preliminary investigation of FOLKESTONE's Report
S.L. 118. shows that:
(1) On 16/8 a running fight started which lasted
until 1430/19: during this period five night
attacks and three day attacks were made on the convoy. The
U-Boats attacking by night were all detected by type 271 R.D.F.
and beaten off: the day attacks resulted in the loss of four
M/Vs and the torpedoing of CHESHIRE.
(2) At 2240Z/16 FOLKESTONE obtained an R.D.F. contact 6000 yards
ahead of 21. Escorts were in N.E. 4. U-Boat was then moving
rapidly away to port bow of convoy but was forced to dive by
starshell at 2315Z/16. FOLKESTONE carried out 4 attacks,
GORLESTON Two, until 0027. At 0035 both ships chased an R.D.F.
contact to the northward. It is not clear whether this was
the same U-Boat.
(3) Frequent H.F/D.F bearings on morning of 17th showed one
U-Boat on either bow and one astern of convoy. At 0706/17
GORLESTON on port quarter of convoy sighted 2 U-Boats 12 miles
from convoy. One dived, one may have followed GORLESTON back
to convoy later in the day.
At 1558 three escorts only being with convoy, No. 21 was hit
and sunk by two torpedoes fired from astern of No. 11.
PENTSTEMON and FOLKESTONE later attacked two doubtful contacts,
no results.
(4) At 2042Z/17 PENTSTEMON and WELLINGTON chased one U-Boat to
westward. At 2140Z/17 and 0240Z/18 FOLKESTONE intercepted 2
U-Boats by type 271 approaching broad on port bow of convoy,
and attacked first one four times, the second twice. Several
attacks were considered accurate.
(5) H.F/D.F bearings on morning of 18th fixed 2 U-Boats on port
beam and one on starboard bow of convoy. WELLINGTON and
PENTSTEMON swept on port beam, but one U-Boat escaped ahead of
convoy at 1656Z/18 numbers 41 and 63 were sunk and H.M.S.
CHESHIRE, number 51 was damaged by torpedoes, probably fired
from a position ahead of No. 21. FOLKESTONE and GORLESTON
searched without success.
(6) At 0004Z/19 FOLKESTONE intercepted by type 271 a U-Boat
broad on port bow of convoy and forced it to dive by gunfire.
No contact was gained.
(7) On morning of 19th U-Boats were fixed by H.F/D.F bearings
on port bow, starboard bow and port beam. At 0632Z/19
Liberator A/C attacked port beam U-Boat which surfaced later and
was fired on by A/C. At 1430Z/19 No. 41 was torpedoed through
a forward A/S screen of four ships. ZETLAND, who had joined
at 1240Z/19, FOLKESTONE and WELLINGTON all attacked contacts in
area which had been ahead of convoy at 1430. No visible results
but a heavy underwater explosion occurred 5 minutes after
WELLINGTON's second attack.
No further incident took place.
(Cdre. Londonderry, 1653A/26.)

/Attacks ...

War Diary.26.8.1942.
Wednesday.HOME COMMANDS.U-Boats - Contd.Attacks by
MACBETH and
INKPEN.C.A.F.O. 834/41.
(B) 2057 Zone - one on 20/8. (C) 62° 54' N.
19° 58' W. (D) MACBETH six. INKPEN not known.
(E) 2215.
(A.C.I.C., 1844A/26.)Casualties and Defects.LA
CAPRICIEUSE
SS.
STEERSMAN.LA CAPRICIEUSE was in collision with SS.
STEERSMAN at 2335A/24 in 54° 49' N. 05° 12' W.
STEERSMAN is believed to be at Douglas Isle of
Man at present. Damage to STEERSMAN apparently
superficial. Damage to LA CAPRICIEUSE bow
stove in above waterline. Time required for
repair approx. 14 days.
(S.3, 1147A/26.)

MANXMAID.

My 1325/25 postponed 24 hours owing to defect.
(F.O.I.C. Tyne, 1210/26.)
My 1325/25 and 1210/26 further postponement
probable duration five days. Further signal
will be made.
(F.O.I.C. Tyne, 2037/26.)Shipping and Convoys.

→ W.S. 22.

Barry Roads departure 26th August to Clyde
E.T.A. 0600/27th Bristol Channel section of
W.S.22 and T.A. 18 escorted by O.R.P. BLYSKAWICA.
Codeword "Protocol" and in company SS. PORT FAIRY escorted by
CAMELLIA to Liverpool E.T.A. 1000/27th Codeword "Protocol One".
Speed 9 knots to Helwick L.V. then 14.
Wireless watch on port wave.
(N.O.I.C. Cardiff, 0230A/26.)

E.N. 28.

My 0114/26 returned owing to fog.
(N.C.S.O. Lyness, 0703/26.)

BART.

Intend to sail M/V BART escorted by STELLA PEGASI
at 1900/26th to Kirkwall for onward routing to
Leith. Routed through 061° 48' N. 055° 20' W.
059° 28' N. 002° 18' W. and south of Auskerry speed 7 knots.
E.T.A. 0700/28th request air escort and codeword.
(N.O.I.C. Faroes, 1017A/26 to A.C.O.S.)

→ W.S. 22.

W.S.22. Intend sailing Clyde portion plus SS.
CANARA and SS. LEINSTER escorted by AURORA,
CARTHAGE, QUIBERON and PARTRIDGE pass Clyde Boom
1900A/28 to R/V with Liverpool portion and escort from London-
derry at 0600A/29 in 270° Oversay 6 miles thence in accordance
with A.M. 2312A/23rd. Codeword "Damson".
(N.O.I.C. Greenock, 1134A/26.)

/Irish ...

War Diary.26.8.1942.
Wednesday.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping and Convoys - Contd.Irish Sea
Convoys.

Consequent on special commitments no anti-aircraft ship from Group 1 or 2 of Irish Sea escort Force will be available for Irish sea convoys until about September 8th, when TYNWALD completes practices afterrefit.
(N.O.I.C. Belfast, 1453A/26 to C. in C. W.A.)

STRATHMORE
T.A. 20.

A.T. 20. A.M. 1722/23 para. 2.
Amend destination of STRATHMORE to read Clyde.
2. Ships for T.A. 20 could be ready to leave Clyde 5/9 earliest.

3. Request you will report date that you wish convoy to sail when reporting E.T.A.
(D.O.D.(H), 1503A/26 to C.T.F. 37.)

Identifi-
cation
signals.

Admty. 220A/1354/23. Some merchant vessels sailing just prior to date when signals were changed will be using out of date identification signals after 6/9. These vessels may be met at sea up to beginning of October.
(D.S.D., 1511A/26 to A Mge.)

C.E. &
C.W. Convoys.

Owing to shortage of escorts the existing cycle of C.E. and C.W. convoys cannot be maintained after C.W. 119 and C.E. 117 sailing on 30/8.
Para. 2. Follows under T.O.O. 1524.

3. M. of W.T. is requested to restrict number of merchant vessels in convoy when between Dover and Portsmouth to 22.
4. All available M.B.B. Vessels will sail with each convoy.
C. in C. Portsmouth is requested to arrange for normal full escort of M.Ls and M/S Trawlers.
5. Times of passing Sandhead and Dumpton Buoys will be issued by C. in C. Nore. C. in C. Portsmouth and N.C.S.O. Thames are requested to promulgate time tables of C.E. and C.W. respectively.
(C. in C. Nore, 1520A/26.)

A.T. 20,
N.A. 15.

A.T. 20 and N.A. 15 ref. A.M. 1724/23rd, 1743/23, 1758/23 and my 1026/23.

SKATE, SHIKARI and SABRE from Londonderry are to proceed as necessary to meet A.T. 20. (S.O. of Escort C.T.F.37 in U.S.S. PHILADELPHIA) at 1200Z/29th, and escorting ORMONDE, DUCHESS OF BEDFORD and POLARIS to Iceland. CHEMUNG has returned to Boston.

2. F.O. Greenock is requested to sail SARDONYX to arrive Reykjavik by August 31st.

3. (a) A.C.I.C. is requested to detail two destroyers for onward escort DUCHESS OF BEDFORD to Icelandic ports and return to U.K.

(b) Remaining two destroyers to escort ORMONDE to U.K.
(C. in C. W.A., 1633Z/26.)

/Signal ...

26.8.1942.
Wednesday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping and Convoys - Contd.

Signal
letters.

Repetition of 1340A/25.
(D.T.D., 1656A/26 to N.C.S.O. Oban, Liverpool,
Loch Ewe, Clyde, Milford Haven, Belfast, Cardiff,
Swansea, Newport, Avonmouth, C. in C. W.A.,
F.O.I.C. Greenock, Liverpool, Belfast, Milford
Haven, Cardiff.)

BARANDA,
SANDHILL.

Your 1054/24 Secret. BARANDA only arrived up to
the present. Visibility very poor.
(N.C.S.O. Kirkwall, 2135A/26 to N.O.I.C. Faroes.)

War Diary.26.8.1942
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.General.

Japanese Preliminary reports on action in Solomons show
Night that Japanese when attacking acted with great
Attacks. efficiency at night. Weather conditions very
dark, no moon, rain squalls. 2. Japanese used
following tactics:- (a) General illumination
of area by aircraft flares. (b) Used Searchlights, not starshell.
(c) Possibly kept close to land to confuse R.D.F.
3. A.M. 260A, timed 1720A/24/2/42 (? 1740A/24/2/42 intended)
is cancelled.
(D.T.S.D. 1220A/26 "A" Message 228A)

North Atlantic.

LORD NUFFIELD. "Not met", position 10 miles 210°. Cape Espichel
On R/V with SM's (a) course 173°.
off Lisbon - See (LORD NUFFIELD 0500A/26 to F.O.C.N.A. (R) Capt.
p. 778.) (D)13.) *See next page. (Situation 20013)*

LEDBURY P.C. and S. 043° 30' N. 016° 45' W. 021° 17
BRAMHAM. knots, BRAMHAM in company.
(LEDBURY 0601A/26 to C. in C. W.A. (R) R.A.(D)
Home Fleet.) *Should be under Home Command*
p. 797

VETCH. Onward route from position (L) to (M) 040° 01'
014° 59' (N) 36.46 10.01 (O) 35.57 05.59 thence
to Gibraltar.
(F.O.C.N.A. 1004A/26 to VETCH (R) C. in C. W.A.
Admty.) *See p. 811 - (Situation 20013)*

U/Bs. S/m sighted on surface 132° 6 miles. My
S.L.119. position 034° 53' N. 019° 48' W.
(ERNE 1023/26 to F.O.C.N.A. (R) Admty., C. in C.
W.A., ROCHESTER.)

My 1023. S/M dived in 034° 49' N. 019° 42' W. at 1057.
If no contact is obtained am. abandoning search at 1300.
(ERNE 1121Z/26 to F.O.C.N.A. (R) Admty., C. in C. W.A.,
ROCHESTER.)

Enemy Subs sighted (172° ?) distant 7 miles.
(SANDWICH 1030Z/26 to Admty. (R) ROCHESTER, F.O.C.N.A.)
S/M has dived bearing and distance 190° 6 miles.
(SANDWICH 1040Z/26 to Admty. (R) ROCHESTER, F.O.C.N.A.)
My 1030 and my 1040Z, add my position 034° 42' N. 020°

02' W.
(SANDWICH 1045Z/26 to Admty. (R) ROCHESTER, F.O.C.N.A.)
Have attacked confirmed S/M contact in 034° 32' N. 019°

56' W.
(SANDWICH 1230Z/26 to Admty. (R) ROCHESTER, F.O.C.N.A.)
My 1230Z/26. Have carried out 5 attacks. Contact fading
after last attack. Rejoining convoy. 40 depth charges
expended.

(SANDWICH 1545Z/26 to Admty. (R) Escort S.L.119, F.O.C.N.A.)

/S/M ...

War Diary.

26.8.1942
Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic - contd:-

U/Bs. S/M sighted on surface (7137°) 7 mls my position
→ S.L.119 04° 01' N. 019° 35' W.
(contd) (ERNE 1330Z/26 to F.O.C.N.A. (R) Admty.,
C. in C. W.A., ROCHESTER.)

S/M sighted 1300 bearing 010° 10 miles from my position
035° 22', 019° 56'. It disappeared over horizon after an
hour's chase. Am rejoining convoy.

(LEITH 1357Z/26 to Admty. (R) C. in C. W.A., F.O.C.N.A.
Escort S.L.119.)

ERNE sighted U-boat in 034° N. 019° 48' W. at 1023.
(F.O.C.N.A. 1406A/26 to S. and A. N.A.)

My 1330, S/M dived in 034° 46' N. 019° (36'?) W. at 1328,
contact gained early, 2 promising depth charge attacks pattern
14. Contact now lost.

(ERNE 1539Z/26 to F.O.C.N.A. (R) Admty., C. in C. W.A.
ROCHESTER.)

My position 35.47 19.11. Last shadowing U-boat sighted
1729. Drastic evasion being taken tonight. E.T.A. 037° 24'
018° 08' 1300Z/27 approach course 053°.

(ROCHESTER 2000Z/26 to C. in C. W.A. (R) Admty. F.O.C.N.A.)

P.31. Your 1006/25 not to H.Q.C.C.
See also next page
(Situation 2001B)
1. From position A. 043° 02' 013° 29' P.31 is to
proceed submerged by day through B. 045° 01' 012°
59'. C. 047° 01' 012° 31'. D. 049° 08' 011° 59'.
E. 049° 22' 009° 01'. F. 049° 36' 005° 02' thence R/V escort off
Portland Bill a.m./9/9 as ordered by Capt. (S) 5. *Cancelled 31/8-13-573.*
(2) H.Q. C. in C. is requested institute submerged bombing
restrictions 25 miles either side lines joining position as follows
(1) between A and B from 2200/30 to 0800/2.
(2) between B and C from 0200/2 to 2000/3.
(3) between C and D from 1200/3 to 1200/5.
(4) between D and E from 0001/5 to 2000/6.
(5) between E and F from 0001/6 to 1200/8.
(6) between F and R/V as ordered by Capt. (S) 5.
(F.O.S. 1024A/26 to F.O.C.N.A. (R) Admty., C. in C. W.A., H.Q.C.C.
C. in C. Plymouth, Capt. S.3., Capt. S.5.)

Movements. Arrival AVON VALE, PANTHER, British LLANSTEPHAN
CASTLE, Dutch SIBAJAK.
(F.O.C.N.A. 1956A/26 to Admty.)

→ Situation (1) S.L.119. ROCHESTER, LEITH, ERNE, SANDWICH
2001B/26. 35.51 19.22 through 37.03 18.02 thence 000° 7'.
(2) (SCOTTISH) patrol off Lisbon.
(3) LORD NUFFIELD escort 5 merchant ships 36.23

07.29 to Gibraltar 9½. *See previous page.*
(4) WESTCOTT, WISHART, ANTELOPE, PINDOS 27.41 13.48 224° 13½. *See next page.*
(5) SPIREA estimated escorting tanker ESSO GETTSBURG 31.28 17.40
through 31.40 16.40 thence 063° 12½.
(6) ST. NECTAN, LORD HOTHAM estimated 32.23 14.11 062° 9.

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26.8.1942
Wednesday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic - conts.:

Situation (7) GERANIUM expected escorting tanker DAVILA
2001B/26. 35.40 06.52 to Gibraltar 11½.
(contd) (8) P.31 sails 1600B/27 through 36.00 06.00 at
2100B/27. *See previous page.*
(9) VETCH, BARDOLF (convoy) 46.18 16.00 180° 8.
(F.O.C.N.A. 1142A/26 to A.I.G. 63.)
O.S.38. ENCHANTRESS, WALNEY, HARTLAND, ABERDEEN, CLARE,
45.35 21.45 through 45.00 22.02 thence 164° 8½.
(F.O.C.N.A. 1204A/26 to A.I.G. 64.)
(1) BURDOCK, ARMERIA escorting tanker ABBEYDALE 024° 57'
026° 01' 235° 9.
(2) *Fleet Unit LAFOREY, LOOKOUT, PENN 021° 59' 019° 00' through
023° 00' 018° 50' thence 044° 14. **MALAYA.*
(3) WESTCOTT, WISHART, ANTELOPE, PINDOS 027° 41' 013° 48' 224°
13½. PINDOS and *GANGES part company on meeting *Fleet Unit and
proceed Bathurst. *See previous page. *ANTELOPE intended. *MALAYA*
(F.O.C.N.A. 1258A/26 to A.I.G. 65.)

MIRROR. Your 1915/25/7. Docking of MIRROR completed.
(2) Repair of Lisbon - Madeira No.2 not completed
pending instructions from Cable and Wireless Ltd.
(3) Request instructions if programme laid down in your 1727/10/7
is to be proceeded with.
(V.A.C.N.A. 1156/26 to Admty.)

DOLIUS. Intend sailing DOLIUS 9½ knots (MF/DF) and
KOHISTAN. KOHISTAN 13½ knots (MF/DF) to join O.S.38 in
position (O) 36° 1' N. 18° 30' W. at 1730B/29
escorted by DELORADE and COLTSFOOT through
positions D. 36° 1' N. 6° 2' W. E. 36° 3' N. 14° 1' W.
Destination Capetown. Request dispersal routes may be passed to
O.S.38. KOHISTAN has H/F transmission. Both ships 3 operators
continuous watch.
(F.O.C.N.A. 1202A/26 to Admty. (R) O.S.38 Escorts for Cdre. etc.)
Sailed COLTSFOOT, JONQUIL escorting British ship KOHISTAN
(and) DOLIUS to join convoy O.S.38 thence to escort tankers
PETTER II, THORSHAVET, and ANNA KNUDSEN from convoy to Gibraltar.
(F.O.C.N.A. 1824A/26 to Admty., C. in C. W.A., F.O.I.C. ~~WEST~~
Africa, (R) Escort O.S.38.)

OMEGA. Ref. my 1648/24. At last moment it was necessary
to complete OMEGA crew with 3 Portuguese fishermen
and 1 Swedish A/B. Portuguese should be returned
to Lisbon by first means as their pay continues
until their arrival. C (corrupt group) edeis is
not required here.
(N.C.S.O. Lisbon 1219/26 to F.O.C.N.A. (R) Admty.)

IMLA F.O.I.C. Milford Haven's 1845/24 (Codeword "Bucket")
LAYTERI. Will IMLA LAYTERI enter Ponta Delgada? If so
request E.T.A. and status of ship.
(N.A. Lisbon 1253A/26 to Admty.)

/WOLVERINE ...

War Diary.26.8.1942
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic. - contd.

- WOLVERINE. A.M. 1636/25 not to A.S. Devonport. Repair Yard for WOLVERINE is Devonport and not Portsmouth.
(D.O.D. (H) 1356A/26 to F.O.C.N.A. (R) C. in C. W.A. etc.)
- LLANSTEPHAN CASTLE. D. of S.T. 1912A/25 (LLANSTEPHAN CASTLE to proceed to Clyde) Request immediate confirmation that LLANSTEPHAN CASTLE is to be sailed unescorted observing her S. of A. will be 11½ knots. She will have about 800 passengers.
(F.O.C.N.A. 1626A/26 to Admty.)
Reply: Admty. 1925/27.
- BESSEL (re-fuelling U/Bs.) My 1116/24 there is no guard in BESSEL. Spanish D. of N.I. says order given by Minister (my 1222/25/5) was never passed to operative division. In fact Minister who wrote it out in my presence then forgot it. When asked later if it had been carried out he said yes and again forgot it. He takes on so much that this sort of thing is understandable. I am fully conscious of my over confidence in this matter which is much regretted. Minister is on leave. I cannot get decision out of anybody else. Chief of Staff is emphatic that proximity of BESSEL to RIOS is sufficient guarantee. I hope to see Minister 28th and I am visiting Vigo next week after Ferrol. I will take action according to your 1830/13/3 as soon as I see Minister.
(N.A. Madrid 1700/26 to Admty.)
- NIGERIA torpedoes. Your 1112A/22. 21" Mark 9 torpedoes on board NIGERIA are to be absorbed in Gibraltar reserve. Other replacements will be sent from U.K.
(D.T.S.D. 1842A/26 to F.O.C.N.A.)
- MARECHAL LYAUTEY. My 1151/25. Washington reports MARECHAL LYAUTEY arrived Casablanca from Marseilles 15/8.
(D.E.W.D. 1851A/26 to S.O.I. Gib.)
Reply: S.O.I. Gib 1433A/28.

South Atlantic.

- OXFORDSHIRE. Sailed Hospital Ship OXFORDSHIRE to Freetown E.T.A. 7/9.
(N.O.I.C. Durban 0810Z/26 to Admty., C. in C. S.A. C. in C. E.F., Dep. C. in C. E.F., R.A. W.A., S.O.(I) Colombo, S.O.(I) Kilindini.)
My 1122Z/25, OXFORDSHIRE late 17 hours.
(N.C.S.O. Durban 0932Z/26 to Admty., S.O.I. Freetown, S.O.I. Capetown.)

/W.S.21 ...

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26.8.1942
Wednesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic - contd.

- W.S.21
 CORFU. Capetown departure 0900B/26 CORFU for escort of Durban portion W.S.21. (C. in C. S.A. 0939B/20 to Admty. Commodore Durban, HAWKINS, RANPURA.) *See next page. (No commitments Sunday)*
- BARBOURNE. Departed Capetown 1832/25 for Durban. Route R.9 S. of A. (?12 $\frac{1}{2}$) knots. E.T.A. p.m. on 31st. (C. in C. S.A. 0953B/26 to Admty., (R) C. in C. E.F. Cdre. Durban etc.) *See next page. (No commitments Sunday)*
- A/S and Escort Forces, Freetown. Analysis of 14 sinkings West of Freetown since 21/7 reveals :-
 A. All ships unescorted.
 B. 12 beyond range of air protection.
 C. 4 were tankers.
 D. Total of 11 Eastbound tankers have sailed in this period.
2. Consider early institution of through escort for all tankers between West Indies and Freetown is highly desirable.
 3. Present system of escorting for part voyage unsatisfactory for following reasons.
 A. Difficulties in making sea R/V consequent delays and waste of escorts. Note: MALMANGER was sunk on the day she should have met escort 751 miles West Freetown.
 B. U-Boats would concentrate on unescorted part of voyage.
 4. In the immediate future I shall have great difficulty in meeting commitments in Admty. 2348/18 as escort forces are being run to death and I am unable to find time for adequate maintenance.
 5. But if my corvette force could be re-established at 20 by return of 3 from the Cape and reinforcements from Home and an additional 110 feet Diesel M.L. Flotilla provided I could provide a Corvette for each pair of tankers or preferably 2 Corvettes for 4 tankers.
 6. The extra M.L. Flotilla would provide additional local escort in Freetown area.
 7. Allowing for refit and maintenance, consider minimum force necessary for through escort of tankers between here and West Indies is 10 Corvettes and 4 110 feet Diesel M.Ls.
 8. If, however British or American escort forces now operating from Trinidad could take part, this would be correspondingly reduced.
 9. A.M. 1321/25/8 received after this signal drafted. Much hope arrangements can be made to continue through escort. (R.A.W.A. 1115Z/26 to Admty., (R) C. in C. S.A., F.O.I.C.. Trinidad.) *Reply: Admty 0113A/30.*
- Brazil Navigation. Special warning No.189. Navigational aids on the coast of Brazil are now operating under War time restrictions and may be extinguished dimmed or removed without notice. (Navcom 1130P/26 to Admty.)

/Dispositions ...

814

War Diary.26.8.1942
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic - contd.

Dispositions. WIVERN 2 destroyers 21° (?20 or 51) 19° 01' to Bathurst 15 at 1958Z/26. *See next page*
1 sloop off Bathurst to rejoin O.S.37, 14.
LARGS 12° 45' (?17)° 50' to Bathurst, 8. CALEDON 12.58 18.55 to 15.01 (?19) (?30) thence 010° (?14). LONDONDERRY with O.S. 37, 12.(?15) 19.15 to Freetown through 09.45 18.01, 7½.
BORDE 10.55 18.05 to Freetown through 10.12 17.54, 7½.
Fleet Unit 3 destroyers, 11.10 20.55 to 13.01 24.59 thence 315° 14'.
D'ESTIENNE D'ORVES 11.50 22.45 to Freetown through 09.01 19.(?59) EGRET with S.L.120, 09.30 19.35 to 09.10 (?19).45 thence 350° 7½. 2 M.Ls 08.55 15.50 to Freetown, 6½.
SNOWDROP 08.40 14.40 291° 10.

(R.A.W.A. 1135Z/26 to A.I.G. 149.)

Situation report area "P". SPANIARD 007° 40' 014° 10' 181°
8. *ASTURIAS off Freetown to South, 14. PICT about 007° 15' 013° 55' to Freetown 8. CANNA 006° 30' 012° 40' to R/V with T.S.15, 8. WOODRUFF with T.S.15 005° 30' 011° 30' 313° 7.
KELT 003° 20' 007° 40' 080° 7 at 1957Z/26. BENGALI 003° 50' 004° 35' to Lagos, 7. *ALCANTARA 001° 15' 009° 05' to 001° 59' 014° 01' thence 359° 14. SIRIUS, PHOEBE 001° 15' S. 007° 15' 127° 15. KONKAN, ORISSA off Pointe Noire 190° 10. RAJPUTANA 014° 30' S. 009° 40' E. 195° 7½.

(R.A.W.A. 1151Z/26 to S.A. Stn.) * *See next page*

MARUDU. Your 0043B/25. MARUDU sailed from Pointe Noire escorted by RAJPUTANA 23/8. B.N.L.O. W.A. 1601/23 to Admty. refers.
RAJPUTANA. (C. in C. S.A. 1229B/26 to D.S.T.)

SCYTHIA. SCYTHIA sailed E.T.A. Capetown 29/8. Personnel on board for U.K.
(D.S.T.O. Durban 1424C/26 to N.S.T.O. Capetown)

U.S. Fleet Intelligence. Your 1737B/24. My signal officer is now in South America conferring with staff of C.T.F.23 and I hope to make satisfactory arrangements when I visit Adm. Ingram within next 10 days.
(R.A.W.A. 1525Z/26 to C. in C. S.A. (R) Admty., B.A.D.)

Movements Summary. 2000Z/26, Area Q. *CORFU, *RANPURA with W.S.21 Durban portion 036° 06' S. 018° 55' E. to Durban 12½ knots. CHALLENGER 033° 10' S. 016° 50' E. to Capetown 10 knots. POSTBOY, SPINDRIFT, EARL KITCHENER 032° 50' S. 017° 10' E. to Capetown 8 knots. AMARANTHUS K.14 033° 18' S. 029° 10' E. to East London 9 knots. ROCKROSE 034° 55' S. 020° 57' E. to East London 10 knots. SHROPSHIRE 033° 48' S. 028° 34' E. to Simonstown 15. BARBOURNE 034° 55' S. 021° 05' E. to Durban 7½. *See previous page*
(C. in C. S.A. 1532B/26 to S.A. Stn. (R) Admty.) * *See previous page*

* *See p. 820*

/Brazilian ...

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War Diary.26.8.1942
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic - contd.Brazilian
A/S Measures.

In view of S/M threat to large amount of shipping using Brazilian Ports request you will report by signal any information you can obtain about defensive measures being taken now or projected in future at Brazilian Ports either by Brazilians or Americans.
(D. of L.D. Approved by V.C.N.S. 1623A/26 to N.A. Rio de Janeiro (R) B.A.D., S.O.I. Montevideo)

BRILLIANT.
WIVERN.
VANSITTART.*See previous page (Dispositions)*

BRILLIANT detached. E.T.A. Bathurst (?13)45Z/27.
(2) WIVERN and VANSITTART anticipate arriving at Bathurst 0830Z/28th. (3) Request D/F beacon from (?17)25/27 and from 06(?35)/28.
(WIVERN 1731Z/26 to R.A.W.A., N.O.I.C., Bathurst, Gambia (R) BRILLIANT.)

Detach VANSITTART to arrive Freetown as soon as possible for boiler cleaning, fuelling at Bathurst if necessary.

(R.A.W.A. 1921Z/26 to WIVERN (R) VANSITTART, N.O.I.C. Bathurst.)

My 1731 and your 1921Z/26. VANSITTART proceeds direct to Freetown arrives early a.m./29.

(WIVERN 2146Z/26 to R.A.W.A. (R) N.O.I.C. Bathurst.)

Ascension.

Following is repetition of my 1740Z/26 addressed N.O.I.C. Ascension. My 1603Z/26 (N.T. in W.D.) Request immediate information on any ship leaving Ascension proceeding into patrol areas.

(R.A.W.A. 1741Z/26 to ASTURIAS, C. in C. S.A. Admty.) * *See previous page (Dispositions)*

ALCANTARA.

See previous page (Dispositions)

My P.C. and S. are 001° 07' N. 006° 25' W. 310° 12 knots, ORESTES in company, E.T.A. 0630/29.

(ALCANTARA 2000Z/26 to R.A.W.A.)

CECILE
MAPLESON.

Your 1612A/24. CECILE MAPLESON is (?proceeding) Durban where she is urgently required to (? off) lay degaussing range. On completion of this she will return to Capetown for (? maintenance) of (? present) systems as in your 2213/20/7. (C. in C. S.A. 2234/26 to Admty. (R) Cdre. Durban, N.O.I.C. East London.)

War Diary.26.8.1942.
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean.Cositrep
No. 493.

3. Air. 24/8. Malta aircraft attacked southbound tanker and 2 destroyers south-west Corfu. No hits claimed. All vessels attacked with machine gun and cannon fire and escorting Ju.88 shot down. 1 aircraft lost. Night 24/25 British and American aircraft bombed Tobruk. Results obscured by cloud. M.T. battle area bombed. Some hits claimed and fires started. Night fighter shot down a Ju.88 west of Delta.

4. Ref. Cositrep 489 Para 3. Tanker attacked by Malta aircraft on 21/8 was located 24/8 beached at Corfu and attacked following night by Malta Wellingtons which set fire to oil on surface round vessel. Flames extinguished after 10 minutes. (C. in C. M.E. 0950 G.M.T./26.)

Bi-weekly
Opsum
No.50.

Night 21/22. 11 Halifax, 5 Wellingtons bombed shipping and harbour installations Tobruk, small fire started on 1 small vessel, another fire on docks near main jetties remainder damage unobserved. 4 Wellingtons 11 Albacores bombed shipping in Matruh harbour 1 F-Boat set on fire near misses on others, several bombs on railway sidings Albacores also illuminated, 1 Albacore with engine trouble bombed Daba. Results unobserved. A Wellington on A/S patrol round convoy west of Haifa attacked S/M at dawn with depth charges scoring 1 direct hit, some near misses stern of S/M was forced out of water, following which vessel surfaced and opened fire but Wellington silenced gun with machine gun fire. S/M slowly settled in water and was completely submerged after 1 hour.

Night 22/23. 9 American Mitchells (B.25s) attacked tank workshops Matruh, direct hits followed by violent explosion and small fire. 1 Wellington illuminated. 3 ASV Wellingtons despatched to locate southbound convoy 1 tanker, 1 M/V, several barges, 3 destroyers. Convoy located about 75 miles N.N.E. Tobruk, possible hit with torpedo claimed on 1 destroyer. Two oil patches seen in wake after attack. Possible hit or near miss with bomb claimed on M/V. About 3 enemy aircraft operated against landing grounds south of Alexandria destroying 1 Spitfire on ground damaging 2 Spitfires 3 Hurricanes. One airman wounded. 4 Beaufighters unable to intercept.

23/8. At last light 5 R.A.F. 7 American Liberators bombed shipping and harbour installations Tobruk. Direct hits on jetty and small launch in vicinity believed sunk, good fire started north of waterfront. 1 R.A.F. Liberator missing.

Night 23/24. 13 Halifaxes, 9 American Mitchells bombed shipping and harbour facilities Tobruk. 1 vessel believed F-Boat near main jetties hit and shortlived fire started. Near misses other shipping in vicinity. Good fires started on docks, 1 Halifax, 1 Mitchell missing. 2 Swordfish attacked 5 eastbound F-Boats off Sidi Barrani one F-Boat hit with bomb and 2 near misses on another. 4 enemy aircraft operated over Delta some bombs dropped near Wadi Natrun, no damage.

24/8. A Bisley bombed enemy S/M about 160 miles N.E. of Sidi Barrani, results unobserved. A Spitfire on test flight chased R/C Ju.86 80 miles out to sea from Delta all ammunition expended at close range and enemy last seen diving away with starboard engine on fire. 10 Hurricanes 3 Fulmars protection of shipping off Port Said and in Gulf of Suez.

/Night 24/25...

War Diary.26.8.1942.
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean--contd.

Bi-weekly Night 24/25. 2 R.A.F. 10 American Liberators 11
Opsum Wellingtons bombed shipping and harbour
No. 50. installations Tobruk. Bombs burst in dock area
Contd. and near petrol installations to N.W. but low
cloud obscured results. 1 Liberator unable to
reach Tobruk bombed landing ground near Matruh,
results unobserved. About 7 enemy aircraft
operated against Western Delta area, landing ground at Wadi
Natrun bombed and machine gunned, 2 aircraft being damaged on
ground, photographic flares dropped on Alexandria Harbour but not
bombs. 3 Beaufighters 1 Hurricane up, Hurricane shot down 1 Ju.
88.
25/8. A Bisley attacked enemy S/M 55 miles N.E. Baltim? Depth
charges straddled enemy producing large oil patch no other results
seen. Second Bisley subsequently attacked another S/M in vicinity
possibly same vessel claiming 1 near miss, damage unknown.
(H.Q. R.A.F. M.E. 1026Z/26. 1046Z/26. 1106Z/26. 1126Z/26.
1146Z/26. 1157Z/26.)

Axis My 1633C/?25 and 1507C/24. ALBA JULIA and
Shipping. BLANKENESE have now returned Canakkale.
(S.O.I. Istanbul 1108C/26 to S.O.I. Med. (R) D.N.I.)
Reported ?4.4. Italian ? Tankers ALBARO and
CELENO arriving from Aegean today bound for
Constanza.
(S.O.I. Istanbul 1253C/26 to S.O.I. Med. (R) D.N.I.)

RORQUAL. RORQUAL will leave 036° 07' 015° 57' about 2030B/27
direct to arrive 039° 05' 019° 26' same time 29/8
to operate in Area C in accordance with C. in C.
Med's (?2359)/25.

C. in C. Med. pass to No. 201 N.C. Group.
(Capt. S.10 1347B/26 to Capt. S.1. (R) C. in C. Med.)
Sailed RORQUAL.
(R.A. Malta 1800B/26 to Admty. C. in C. Med. Capt. S.1.)

Enemy Air R/C reports. Southbound convoy leaving Gulf
Convoy of Athens. Establish patrol by 0300C/27 as
TURBULENT follows P.35 035° 39' 023° 07'. TURBULENT 035° 07'
P.35. 023° 27'. Every endeavour should be made to
remain unseen until in position. If nothing is
sighted by 0630C/27, TURBULENT dive towards

Antikithera Island.
(Capt. S.1. 1506C/26 to TURBULENT. P.35. (R) C. in C. Med.
Capt. S.10.)

Aircraft report 1 small merchant ship 1 destroyer leaving
Suda Bay. She may pass you between 2300C/26 and 0200C/27.
She should not be attacked as bigger targets have been sighted
coming south.

(Capt. S.1. 1603C/26 to TURBULENT. P.35. (R) C. in C. Med.
Capt. S.10.)
At 1130/26 P R U sighted 1 7000 ton tanker, 2 merchant ships,
5000 tons, 2 destroyers, on southern course 10 miles south of
Piraeus.
(S.O.S. Alexandria 1915C/26 to Capt. S.1. TURBULENT. P.35.)

/If you...

War Diary.26.8.1942.
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean.

Enemy Convoy TURBULENT P.35. Contd. If you get an attack or sight and fail to attack act as follows: P.35 retire S.E. to edge of your area. TURBULENT retire W at 3 knots but do not approach within 10 miles of edge of your area. Further southbound convoys have been sighted in Aegean and another chance of attack may develop p.m./27.
(Capt. S.1. 2052C/26 to P.35. TURBULENT. (R) C. in C. Med. Capt. S.10.)

Axis Shipping. Copy of a Fairmiss telegram:- From Barna. LISBOA German Genoa entered 25th p.m. ST. BRIEUC, French entered 26th a.m. (Barna 1814/26 to M.W.T.)

Tyrrhenean Sea Patrols. Request your (?views) on F.O.S. letter S.M. 00106 dated 10/4/1942.
(C. in C. Med. 1518C/20 to Capt. S.1. Capt. S.10. (R) F.O.S. F.O.C.N.A.)
Your 1518/20. S.M. 00106 now (?received)
Concur para 2 that Tyrrhenean Sea excellent area for blooding or periodical tonic, and point raised most important to morale.
2. Capt. S.1's 1110/21. Concur and consider initial success and experience of free lance patrol in this comfortable and productive area fully worth while even if torpedo situation at Malta meant subsequent passage Malta to Beirut with only 2 mark 2 torpedoes.
(Capt. S.10 1907B/26 to C. in C. Med. (R) F.O.S. F.O.C.N.A. V.A. Malta. Capt. S.1.)

Malta Air Report. MS. 1692 (Pt. 1) I.617 26/8. 25th. 1 afternoon alert. 1320 hr. 6 plus enemy fighters probably on R/C (approached?) at extreme height. 2 Spitfires provided cover to friendly shipping and 9 Spitfires despatched to intercept but raiders maintained height advantage avoided combat and returned at high speed. 1507 hrs. 3 Hurricane bombers despatched to attack Biscari aerodrome recalled owing to adverse weather. 1545 hr. 23 Spitfires despatched on offensive sweep southern Sicily. 1 burst tyre and collided with another Spitfire taking off. 1 aircraft destroyed other damaged pilots unhurt. Remaining 21 Spitfires swept Passero Comiso aerodrome and Pozzalo at 19,000 feet. No enemy aircraft seen except 2 Me.109s south of Passero at 20,000 ft. which immediately fled home. Another 10 Spitfires covered return of our sweep. 3 enemy aircraft approached but turned back 20 miles N.E. of Malta.
Night 25/26. 1840 and 1910 hrs. 2 Beaufighters up on patrol but no raiders approached Island.
26th. Alert 0717 hrs. 9 plus Me.109s on R/C approached at great height. Partial R.D.F. interference. 7 Spitfires up but enemy avoided combat and returned at speed. 0810 hrs. 5 Spitfires up to cover returning PR Spitfire. No raiders approached.
(H.Q. R.A.F. Malta 1930/26.)

/Situation...

26.8.1942.
Wednesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean - Contd.

Situation
report
No.257.

Western Desert. ERIDGE and ALDENHAM carried out bombardment of Daba area night 25/26. Results unobserved.

2. P.211 reported having sunk a 50 ton sailing vessel 16/8, 250 ton ammunition schooner 17/8 and 10,000 ton empty tanker on 18/8. Positions not yet known but patrol area was west of Sicily. (C. in C. Med. 1938C/26 to Admty. (R) C. in C. E.F. V.A. Malta. C.S.15. N.O.I.C. Alexandria. S.N.O.R.S. F.O.C.N.A.)

PAKENHAM.

Following has been read. Addressed S.O. Cruisers Med. Fleet. (R) GLOXINIA. Am close (?GLOXINIA) distant 23 miles. (PAKENHAM 2120C/26.)

26.8.1942.
Wednesday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies.Addu Atoll,
A/S protec-
tion.

The development of Gan aerodrome has led to considerable concentration of valuable ships in Addu Atoll. Today there are in harbour RANCHI, CLAN FORBES, ATHALOMONARCH, EMPIRE RANI and HAITAN. Although this is more than normal there will always be several ships there until work has been completed.

2. The only form of underwater protection remaining at main Gan entrance is controlled minefield, efficiency of which, especially with regard to midgets, must be impaired after exposure to swell during S.W. monsoon.

3. Consider threat from S/M attacks, especially that from Midgets, will increase. (A) When monsoon dies and swell disappears and (B) If enemy becomes aware of value of target in Addu.

4. In these circumstances intend sending HOXA to Addu as soon as possible operating under orders to N.O.I.C. as A/S Guard ship. This will leave me only BALTA, OKAPI, OVERDALE WYKE as A/S local defence vessels at Colombo but this can be accepted for present.

5. Consideration will be given to possibility of reinforcing HOXA by another trawler also sending 2 H.D.M.L. at present at Bombay to Addu in CLAN FORBES.

6. Request consideration may be given to basing temporarily 1 or 2 Catalinas from Ceylon or Walrus from some other source at Addu so dawn and dusk A/S patrols could be flown from time to time.

(F.O. Ceylon, 0546Z/26 to C. in C. E.F., (R) C. in C. Ceylon, Admty, Air O.C. Ceylon, N.O.I.C. Addu Atoll) Reply: C. in C. E.F., 1820Z/27.

U/Bs

My T.O.O. 1316/21, Japanese U-boats. U-boat attacked unknown merchant ship 002° 20' N., (078°) 05' E
(C. in C. E.F., 0846Z/26 to S. and A E.I. Station
(R) Admty C. in C. S.A., A.C.N.B., F.L.O., Delhi).

W.S. 21

Your 1700/24. (1) Intention for Escort W.S. 21 on E.I. Station. (A) RANPURA from Durban throughout to Aden. (B) HAWKINS from Durban to Lat.

Seychelles thence to Mombasa with VOLENDAM if endurance will permit.

(C)*ENTERPRISE to relieve HAWKINS in Lat. Seychelles and escort Bombay section. * See next page

(2) Convoy is routed East of Madagascar and West of Seychelles. My 0707/24 refers.

(3) HAWKINS anticipates difficulty in reaching Mombasa owing to shortage of fuel facts should be reported on passing Durban in order that arrangements for her to refuel at Seychelles may be made.

(C. in C. E.F., 1014Z/26 to C. in C. S.A., (R) Admty. C.S.4., Com i/c Durban).

/Ceylon....

War Diary.26.8.1942.
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies. - Contd.Ceylon
movements.

Summary number 13.

- (1) SHOREHAM left Addu Atoll 25/8 to investigate distress message in 001° 03' N., 077° 00' E. approx.
- (2) SCOUT. JUMNA and SUTLEJ left Colombo 23/8 due Bombay 26/8. SCOUT and JUMNA subsequently Escort Convoy B.P.53 leaving Bombay 27/8. SUTLEJ leaves Bombay 29/8 with MARGUERITE to escort B.A.31 and thence to R/V with ALAUNIA and W.S.21 P.G. escort to Hormuz.
- (3) MARGUERITE leaves Bombay 29/8 with SUTLEJ as above.
- (4) CLIVE left Colombo 25/8 due Bombay 29/8.
- (5) AYTER leaves Bombay 27/8 with JUMNA and SCOUT to escort B.P. 53. * *Kat id...*
- (6) BARMILL left Colombo 24/8 due Addu Atoll 29/8 to relieve JAN DE WAELE.
- (7) PUNJAB left Bombay 24/8 escorting Convoy B.P. 52 A to Hormuz due 30/8.
- (8) GERALDTON left Colombo 25/8 for Bombay, diverted to investigate distress message (as for SHOREHAM).
(F.O. Ceylon, 1147Z/26 to Admty (R) D.C. in C. E.F., Com. R.I.N.)

Repatriations. Steamships ELNIL and NARKUNDA will embark British Repatriates at Lourenco Marques. Sailing for U.K. about 7/9.
2. Ships will be marked as in my 1905Z/6 para. 2. (C.818).
(C. in C. E.F., 1149Z/26 to E.I. Stn (R) Admty).

Movements.

Arrival ^{/Kilindini} a.m. 26/8 DAUNTLESS, ARROW, FORTUNE, * ENTERPRISE, DUNCAN, CYCLAMEN.
(F.O.E.A. & Z., 1200Z/26 to Admty (R) C. in C. E.F., Cdre. Durban, N.O.I.C. Diego Suarez)

* *See previous page*

U/B hunt

→ GERALDTON,
→ SHOREHAM.

Catalina sighted U-boat on surface who submerged in 003° 35' N., 077° 59' E., at 1100Z/26. GERALDTON approx. 18 miles to eastwards of this position ordered to hunt with Catalina co-operating. SHOREHAM in estimated 000° 35' N., 075° 20' at 1230Z/26 ordered to proceed with all despatch to locate life boat sighted by Catalina with survivors from ship referred to in RANCHI's 1254/25 now in estimated position 002° 50' N., 078° 03' E., at 1230Z/26 course 000° speed 3 knots. One Catalina will proceed to locate boat at daylight 27/8 second Catalina will proceed to relieve Catalina hunting U-boat with GERALDTON dawn 27th. GERALDTON pass to BARMILL in company. (F.O. Ceylon, 1315Z/26 to SHOREHAM, GERALDTON (R) C. in C. E.F., Admty. A.C.N.B., F.O.C.R.I.N.) Later details of hunt, see F.O. Ceylon 0530Z/29.

/IRONCLAD...

26.8.1942.
Wednesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies. - Contd.

IRONCLAD,
GENERAL
FOCH.

Admty. 1317/20. 1. Para. (2) (A). It is intended to send BARFOAM and BARONIA to Diego Suarez when A/S boom is ready to lay. Propose latter should be renamed IRONCLAD.
2. Para. (2) (B). Back history of GENERAL FOCH for refit as follows:-

- (a) Local cattle ship (b) Requisitioned by French Navy for coastal patrol on outbreak of war.
 - (c) Released by French Navy in April 1941 and requisitioned by Government Trade Department. (d) When taken over by us she was carrying cargo and was about to be demilitarised.
 - 3. She is unsuitable for more than local work but is of great value to base.
- (C. in C. E.F., 1437Z/26 to Admty (R) C. in C. S.A., N.O.I.C. Diego Suarez).

Functions of Deputy C. in C. E.F. and V.A. Deputy C. in C. Second in Command E.F. are as follows.
E.F., and V.A. (A) Functions of Deputy C. in C. E.F. Second in Command E.F. (1) The function of the Deputy C. in C. E.F. is to act for the C. in C. E.F. in such matters as the C. in C. E.F., may from time to time direct (2) The staff and office organisation of the C. in C. E.F. and of the Deputy C. in C. E.F. is one. Whilst it is convenient and necessary for the Deputy to initiate signals from time to time and to transmit them under his own title e.g. during the absence of the C. in C., all incoming signals and correspondence should be addressed to the C. in C. E.F., even if in reply to A etc., originated by Deputy.

- (B) Functions of V.A. 2nd in Command E.F. The V.A. 2nd in Command E.F.
 - (1) Commands and Administers the E.F. Battle Fleet.
 - (2) Commands other units of the Fleet in his company when detached from or in the absence of the C. in C.,.
 - (3) Acts as S.N.O. afloat at Fleet Base whether the C. in C. is present or not.
 - (4) Co-ordinates Fleet Training and practice programmes.
 - (c) If the V.A. is present at the Fleet Base during the absence of the C. in C., the Deputy C. in C., consults the V.A. on major matters of policy and important operational movements which may require immediate action before the view of the C. in C. can be obtained.
 - (D) Should the C. in C. become incapacitated the V.A. 2nd in Command assumes Command of the Fleet and Station.
 - (E) For clarity and simplicity the V.A. 2nd in Command should in future be addressed as V.A. Eastern Fleet. (short title:- V.A.E.F.) Admty. is requested to notify the necessary change in call signs and D.G's.
 - (F) Correspondence and signals are to be addressed accordingly.
 - (G) Authorities to whom this message is repeated are requested to promulgate to their commands.
- (C. in C. E.F. , 1558Z/26 to East Indies Stn. (787c) B.A.D. Admty, C. in C. Med., F. C. in C. S.A., A.C.N.B., N.Z.N.B. F.O.C.R.I.N.)

Air Report.

A. 974 26/8 daily Intelligence Summary No. 164 to 1800 hours. 26/8; 2 Blenheims bombed police barracks and river craft Akyab 25/8.

26. 8. 1942.
Wednesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies - contd.

Air Report
Contd.

1 hit on barracks 3 on river craft.
Ceylon Catalina reports vessel torpedoed 380 miles
S.W. Colombo at 0420 G.M.T. 25/8. 3 Boats 60
survivors seen?
(A.H.Q., India, 1700Z/26).

SECRET

MESSAGE 1912/26 G.M.T. Aug. IN

From: C. in C. Middle East.

Date: 27.8.42

Recd: 0020

CIPHER

Addressed: The War Office, 9th Army, G.O.C.
 10th Army, H.Q. 2nd Ind. Div. I.G.C.N.
 25 Corps. repeated Maj. Gen. Comdg.
 Troops Sudan Main 8th Army.

IMMEDIATE

278206 0/41040 cipher 26 August.

1. G.H.Q. Iraq - Persia Command being formed and will be established Baghdad 15 Sep. Takes Command 10th Army 2 Ind. Div. and absorbs H.Q. I.G.C. with effect from 1200 hours G.M.T. 15 Sept.

2. Two Area H.Q.'s will be formed later. Persian Gulf Iraq L. of C. area and Persian L. of C. area. These will absorb H.Q. 2 Ind. Div.

3. Operational (? duty) not finally decided but for all Administrative purposes whole of Syria will remain in Middle East Command.

4. Syria and Palestine will remain under C. in C. Middle East. Detailed organisation these two Commands will be issued later.

5. G.H.Q. Iraq - Persia now forming at G.H.Q. M.E.F. (Brown) Pillars Bldg second floor.

6. Separate instructions follow giving details responsibilities, posting of personnel to various H.Q.

1912/26 G.M.T.

Recd. in War Reg. at 1710/28 August.

1st Lord
 1st S.L.
 Deputy 1st S.L.
 V.C.N.S.
 A.C.N.S. (F)
 N.A. 1st S.L.
 Ops. (3)
 O.D. (5)
 O.I.C.
 D. of P. (3)
 M. (2)
 D.N.I. (5)
 I.P. (3)
 W.D.

War Office circulation:

C.I.G.S.
 V.C.I.G.S.
 D.C.I.G.S.
 D.M.O.
 D.P. (2)
 D.D.M.O. (0)
 M.O. 1.5.
 D.M.I.
 D.D.M.I. (1)
 M.I. 2a. 3b.
 D.S.D.
 D.D.S.D.
 S.D. 2.
 D. Sigs.
 D.D. Sigs.

War Diary.26.8.1942
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America & West Indies

Convoy Positions. 26/8. O.N.123, 049° 49' N., 029° 44' W., 237° 9. A.T. 20, 046° 56' 034° 26' 060° 13.5. O.N. 122, position uncertain. (Connav, 0150/26 to All U.S. Canadian Escort Units at Sea All British Mid Ocean Escort Units at Sea F.O.N.F. etc).

O.N.122 (attacked 25/8). My 2133/25 C. in C. Atlantic Fleet has ordered U.S. ship BRISTOL now in approx. 045° 40' N., 054° 00' W., to join O.N.122.

(B.A.D., 0241Z/26 to Admty).

LUNENBURG will sail at 1030Z/26 to join escort of O.N.122. LUNENBURG has orders to steer 078° at 14 knots until reaching position (048°) 48' N., 045° 15' W. at 0830Z/27 and then steer 093°. Request R/V be amended by C.T.U. 24.1.4 as necessary. (F.O.N.F., 0315Z/26 to C.T.U., 24.1.4 (R) C.T. 24., Cominch, Admty etc).

Following intercepted on 500 k/cs. EMPIRE BREEZE engine room flooded, drifting in approx. 049° 45' N., 035° 10' W. requiring assistance, weather report.

(HURRICANE, 0945Z/26 to Admty (R) Cominch, C.T.F.24., (R) to Shore Authorities in U.K. concerned.)

ROSTHERN will (sail) at approx. 1400Z/26 to join escort of O.N.122. Estimated position O.N.122 at 1200Z/27 048° 16' N., 045° 08' W., 270° 7 knots has been passed to ROSTHERN. Request R/V may be amended by C.T.U. 24.1.4. as necessary.

(F.O.N.F., 1210Z/26 to C.T.U. 24.1.4 (R) C.T.24., C. in C. U.S. Fleet, Admty C. in C. W.A., N.S.H.Q., C.O.A.C., ST. LAURENT)

Following intercepted: EMPIRE BREEZE drifted from approx. 49° 45' N., 35.10 W., 249° engine room flooded, requires assistance. (Ends). Propose despatching LUNENBURG at daylight tomorrow if convoy situation permits.

(C.T.U., 24.1.4., 1233Z/26 to F.O.N.F. (R) Connav, C.T.F., 24., Admty, C. in C. W.A., N.S.H.Q., C.O.A.C., C.T.G. 24.7., LUNENBURG).

Your 1230Z/26 (1233/26 intended) approved.

(F.O.N.F., 1550Z/26 to C.T.U., 24.1.4).

EMPIRE BREEZE reported abandoned ship in 049° 45' N., 035° 10' W., at 1040Z (corrupt group). C.T.U. 24.1.4 reported unable to spare a ship to search.

(C.O.A.C., 1254Z/26 to C.T.24., (R) N.S.H.Q., C.C.N.F., C. in C. W.A., C.T.U. 24.1.4).

BRISTOL 1100Z/26 047° 40' N., 046° 55' W., 063° to 048° 55' N., 043° 10' W., thence 090°. Speed 25 knots. Request R/V be amended as necessary.

(BRISTOL, 1310Z/26 to C.T.U., 24.1.4. (R) C.T. 24., C. in C. U.S. Fleet, Admty. C. in C. W.A., N.S.H.Q., C.O.A.C., ST. LAURENT, C.C.N.F.)

(1) C.T.U. 24.1.4 1230Z/26 (1233/26 intended?) FRISKY sails unescorted p.m./26 for approx. position 49.45 N., 35.10 W., to salvage EMPIRE BREEZE. Speed 12 knots.

(2) LUNENBURG at discretion of C.T.U. 24.1.4 is to assist FRISKY to locate EMPIRE BREEZE and is to screen her when towing.

(F.O.N.F., 1636Z/26 to LUNENBURG C.T.U. 24.1.4 (R) C. in C. U.S. Fleet, Admty. C. in C. W.A., N.S.H.Q., C.T.24., C.O.A.C.)

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Wednesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies - Contd.

O.N. 122 (attacked 25/8). Contd. W.A.C.1 part 102. Following in amplification of my 0131Z/25 and my 1445Z/25. First attack 5 U-boats at high speed trimmed down. U-boats came in 2 waves 15 minutes apart. RASPBERRY 97 disclosed 2nd wave coming in. Subsequent attack single U-boat trimmed down. Survivors 71 LFN (?P) (unidentifiable) out of 22. 91 YLCT (KATVALDIS) 39 out of 42. Number 94 GKXF (SHEAF MOUNT) 21 out of 51, one since died. Number 41, EMPIRE BREEZE still standing by ship. 8 from Number 94 seriously injured. (C.T. 24.1.4., 1845Z/26 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). Cancel my 1550Z/26. Your 1230Z/26 (1233/26 intended?) Request you retain LUNENBURG with Convoy. You may detach ROSTHERN to EMPIRE BREEZE after joining you if attacks and shadowing appear to have discontinued. (F.O.N.F., 2025Z/26 to C.T.U. 24.1.4., (R) C. in C. U.S. Fleet, C.T. 24., Admty. C. in C. W.A., C.O.A.C., N.S.H.Q., C.T.G. 24.7., LUNENBURG). Connav Serial 26. Substitute INGERFIRE for KATVALDIS. Serial 25.3.3. GLOXINIA also believed torpedoed this convoy. STAF AMSTERDAM sinking 25/8 16.39 N., 73.15 W., cause not known. (Connav, No T.O.O. (R) 2348/26 to Connaveu).

R.9. U.S. S/M Notice U.S. Sub. R.9 leave patrol station 27.41 N., 62.45 W., at 1320Z/26 toward 32.12 N., 64.39 W., speed 100 miles per day submerged daytime surfaced in dark. (C. in C. U.S. Fleet, 0518/26 to Admty)

W.S.C. 97 Sailing telegram. (2) 0815Z/26 (3) 1300Z/26 047° 54' N., 051° 44' W., (6) POLYANTHUS. (N.C.S.O. St. Johns N.F., 0830Z/26, 0831Z/26 to Admty).

S/M Attack and Sighting Summary. Cominch's 241216. Para. A. ALEXIA. 1 torpedo. 1 torpedo miss. 4 shells miss. 4 hits claimed on S/M. Patrol craft sights S/M on surface 44.18 N., 68.10 W., 2015Z/25. Para. B. Plane sights S/M on surface 39.41 N., 69.52 W. 1120Z/25. Para. C. Patrol craft attacks sound contact 29.21 N., 93.02 W. 0038Z/25. S/Ms sighted 13.28 N., 58.02 W., 1300Z/25 17.10 N., 75.50 W. 1415Z/25. 18.55 N., 67.45 W., 2020Z/24. Motor vessel sights S/M 42.56 N., 69° W. 1800Z/24. S/M reported 10.12 N., 76.35 W., 2030Z/24. S/M sighted about 27.30 S., 48.25 W., 1100/23. Plane attacks S/Ms 60.13 N., 19.12 W., 0454Z/21; 59.20 N., 21.16 W., 1710Z/21. (Connaveu, 0952/26 to Admty).

CIMBOCO passengers. Admty's 2320B/18/7*. Request permission for CIMBOCO 178 tons to sail for Grand Cayman on 29/8 unescorted with 17 passengers. This is the only means of communication and distress is caused by limiting to 12. (B.R.O. Kingston, 1023Q/26 to Connav (R) Admty). *Limits No. of passengers carried in merchant ship

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Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America & West Indies. - Contd.

A.T. 20

Movement summary 1800 G.M.T./26.
P.C.S., 47° N., 33½° W. 060°, 13½.
(D.O.D. (F), 1040Z/26 to Opanav (R) Comnav.)

U/Bs

San Juan Radio reports as follows: S/M attack
017.40 N., 068.15 W., at 2200 G.C.T., also S/M
sighted 016.14 N., 073.13 W., at 2155 G.C.T.
(S.O.(I) Jamaica, 1110/26 to Admty for D.N.I.,
B.A.D.)

Attacks on
U/Bs

Cominch's 0015/26 in reference to your 1059B/22/7
for action Admty; information Comnav and B.A.D.
16/8 Army aircraft attacked U-boat off Cuba
possible damage, oil and air bubbles, prolonged
disturbance for 90 minutes.

18/8 Navy aircraft off Brazil exchanged machine gun fire with
U-boat, bombs released when half submerged and U-boat rolled over
and was apparently sinking as it attempted to dive. Oil slick
followed.

19/8. Army B.18 A off Cayenne straddles S/M on surface with
second and third bombs from 50 feet and machine gunned. S/M
turned 90° before diving. One survivor seen swimming in oil
slick.

20/8 Navy aircraft bombed and sank German S/M off Iceland.
British destroyer recovered 53 prisoners.

6/6. U.S.S. GILLIS off Aleutians made 3 attacks on sound
contact. After second attack reported S/M surfaced capsized and
sank. 59 attacks reported week ending 2400/23.
(Comnav, 1227/26 to Admty). **Not confirmed*

Towage of
BRITISH
MERIT.

My 1231 (N.T. in W.D.) JH 12. Tug SECURITY
found inadequate for tow and put into Bay Bulls.
Left Bay Bulls 0830Z/26 assisted by TENACITY.
• (N.C.S.O. St. Johns N.F., 1248Z/26 to Admty (R)
Connav, N.S.H.Q., C.O.A.C., C.T.F. 24).

H.M.R.T. TENACITY departed St. Johns 0407Z/25 to assist Com-
mercial Tug with tow of BRITISH MERIT to repair port.
(F.O.N.F., 1304Z/26 to Admty for C.C.R.T.)

U/Bs

Dutch plane sighted S/M on surface bearing 122°
180 miles 1240Q today course 030° speed 10 knots.
(S.O.(I) Kingston, 1249Q/26 to Admty B.A.D, Opanav
C.G.S.F., C.P.S.F., C.C.S.F., S.B.N.O.W.A.
N.O.I.C. Trinidad, N.O.B. Guantanamo).

My 1249/26 Plane reports 1310Q another S/M 30 miles S.E.
from first proceeding at full speed in direction of first
submarine.

(S.O.(I) Kingston, 1313A/26 to Admty C.P.S.F., B.A.D.,
Opanav, C.C.S.F., S.B.N.O.W.A., C.G.S.F., N.O.I.C. Trinidad).

/U/B...

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Wednesday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.America & West Indies. - Contd.

U/B sighting My 1851/28/5. Utility of sighting and action
Reports. reports as an aid in formulating daily submarine
estimates has been greatly reduced due to consis-
tent failure of both Fleet and Shore Based
Reporting Units to furnish adequate description

of object sighted or target attacked. Essential that such
reports mention:

- A. Contacting or attacking unit.
- B. Altitude or distance from object or target.
- C. Type of contact, sighting, sounding, radar.
- D. If sounding whether propeller or echo.
- F. Whether contact or attack was on fully surfaced submarine,
conning tower, Periscope, fully submerged submarine or swirl
or propeller wash.
- G. Course and speed.
- H. Position (latitude and longitude).
- I. Evidence of damage inflicted.

Reports should not be arranged in paragraph sequence outlined
above and should omit letter tion (as received ? captions)
to avoid compromising codes.

(C. in C. U.S. Fleet 1351/26 to all command Atlantic area).

U/B Fishermen sighted S/M in 046° 50' N., 063° 57' W.
at 0800Z/26.
(C.O.A.C., 1405Z/26 to Admty for Information).

24.1.11 U-boat estimated in your vicinity has made
U/B sighting report of a convoy or important unit
at 0918Z/26. 12° 260 K/cs, ENIGMA.
(Cominch, 1407/26 to C.T.U., 24.1.11. (R) C. in C.
Lant, C.T.F.37, C.T.U. 24.1.4., C.T. 24., Admty
N.S.H.Q., C.O.A.C.)

ORILLIA ORILLIA returning to St. Johns N.F. with minor
defect. leakage of rivets at frame 79 and 89 requires
docking for repairs. Recommend this be done on
return to Home waters if practicable.
(C.T.G. 24.7., 1455/26 to F.O.N.F. (R) N.O.B.,
Londonderry (T.U. 7.11.1) C.T.F.24).

ILEX ILEX will be ready to leave Charleston p.m. 5/9
and proceed Key West leaving for Guantanamo 13/9
On completion of working up practices there she
will sail for Trinidad on 30/9 to proceed in
accordance with Admty 1548/22/7.
(B.A.R.M., 1508Z/26 to Admty (R) Connnav,
C. in C. U.S. Fleet, S.B.N.O. W.A., etc).

/Shipping...

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Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America & West Indies. - Contd.Shipping
Caribbean,
Cape Horn,
reports.

Ref. MA.R.I. Amendment No. 60. In the case of British Managed Ships routed independently 1 for U.K. via Passages east of Cuba or (2) for Capetown via Cape Horn, will it be sufficient to make their first report 3 days after clearing Caribbean Sea or Cape Horn as the case may be, observing that in the former case such passage is approx. 3 days run from Cristobal and vessels will be under air observation.
(B.R.O. Cristobal, 1515R/26 to Admty (R) C; in C. A.W.I., S.O.(I) Jamaica, B.A.D., Connav).

Destroyers &
Convoy
Escorts.

Your 1940/18 and B.A.D. 1547/20 (N.T. in W.D.) Arrangements should be made for these ships to be escorted from St. Johns N.F. via Iceland (C) to U.K. by 2 Vee class destroyers from W.L.E.F. on relief by Towns from Western Approaches.

2. Neither VANQUISHER nor VERITY should be retained for this purpose.
3. VANOC on relief by SALISBURY and one other to be nominated by C. in C. W.A., on relief by CHELSEA about mid September may be employed but every effort should be made to sail the convoy from St. Johns as soon as ready.
(D.O.D. (H), 1549A/26 to N.S.H.Q, (R) Cominch, F.O.N.F., B.A.D. A.C.I.C., N.M.C.S. Washington, C. in C. W.A., C.O.A.C., C.E.S.F. B.R.O. New York).

GLASGOW.

Leave Bermuda at 1300Z/27 and proceed to Portsmouth through following positions.

- A. 32.50 N., 48.10 W. B. 41.10 N., 39.10 W.
C. 43.45 N., 27.30 W. D. 50.25 N., 25.15 W. E. 50.10 N., 14.30 W. F. 49.40 N., 06.20 W., S. of A. 19 knots.
2. Communications (details).
(S.B.N.O.W.A., 1552Z/26 to GLASGOW, (R) Admty etc).

Dispositions.

Section South West. O.N. No. 120 (E) Task Unit No. 24.18.3., 044° 05' 062° 15' 296° 7. altering in 044° 20' N., to 270° and in 088° 24' W., to 220°

O.N. No. 121 Task Unit No. 24.18.2 042° 18' 069° (?corrupt group) to Cape Code Bay, 9.

H.S. 44, CAMROSE, QUINTE, 045° 45' 059° 45' 7.5.

CHAMBLY sailed Halifax 1900Z/26 to St. Johns N.F. 13.

NAPANEE towing aircraft en route for Sydney from 045° 29' 057° 45' (C.O.A.C., 1603Z/26 to Admty).

U/B
Positions.

Sub estimate 26th (Cominch 1644/26).

/attacks...

26.8.1942.
Wednesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies - Contd.

Attacks on
U/Bs.

Request N.S.H.Q., may be included in the address of any signalled summaries of A/S attacks in addition to the reports of final assessments. Admty 1059/22/7 and Cominch's 1936/12/8 refer. (N.S.H.Q., 1645Z/26 to Admty (R) N.M.C.S., Cominch)

A.V.Gs.
completion
date.

My 0041/22. Latest completion dates for A.V.Gs. now given by Navy Dept. as follows:-
A.V.G. 7 - ATTACKER - 1/10. A.V.G. 6 - BATTLER - 20/10. A.V.G. 15 - STALKER - 20/10. A.V.G. 14 - FENCER - 1/11. A.V.G. 8 - TRAILER - 15/11. A.V.G. 6 - TRACKER - 15/11. A.V.G. 19 - STRIKER - 21/11. A.V.G. 10 - CHASER - 15/12. A.V.G. 22 - SEARCHER - 27/12. A.V.G. 17 - PURSUER - 30/12. A.V.G. 24 - RAVAGER - 27/12. (B.A.D., 1747Z/26 to Admty).

CALDWELL

CALDWELL expected to be ready to sail by midnight Friday 5/9. (B.A.R.M., 1820Z/28 to N.S.H.Q., C.O.A.C.)

U/B

Aircraft sighted S/M bearing 000° 20 miles. My position 048° 53' N., 051° 18' W. Proceeding with BROADWAY to hunt. (BURNHAM, 1900Z/26 to Connav (R) C.T.F., 24 Admty etc).

My 1900Z. Rejoining convoy, area searched without result. Aircraft's fuller account indicates whale and not S/M. (BURNHAM, 2033Z/26 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).

AWATEA

Your 1537Z/28 (1537/24 intended, Repairs of AWATEA) Complete survey indicates repairs will not be completed before 25/9. You will be further advised as work progresses. (C.O.A.C., 1901Z/26 to N.S.H.Q., (R) Admty. D. of S.T. Cominch, B.A.D.) *See next page*

Movement.

Kingston Jamaica arrivals U.S.S. POLLUX, U.S.S. KILAUEA escorted by U.S. Destroyers DALLAS BELKNAP. (S.O.(I) Kingston, 2001Q/26 to Admty Opanv).

REGENT.

Subject to successful completion of trials REGENT will be ready to leave New London p.m. /31/8 for Bermuda. Certain defects require to be made good at Bermuda. Separate signals will be made to S.B.N.O.W.A., (B.A.M.R., 2028Z/26 to Admty (R) S.B.N.O. W.A., N.S.H.Q., F.O.(S), REGENT, F.O.C.N.A., Cominch, Cmdre. S/Ms Atlantic Fleet).

War Diary.

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Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America & West Indies.- Contd.

N.A. 16 Unless unforeseen improvement in present firm estimate occurs repairs to AWATEA cannot be completed before 25/9; she will, therefore, not be ready to sail in N.A. 16 on 20/9. *In Marine Page*

2. In view of this accommodation will be required in N.A. 16 for a total of 14171 personnel made up as follows:
 A. 11414 as in my 1512/18. B. 2557 carry over from N.A. 15 ex AWATEA. C. Reduction in accommodation in PASTEUR by number of guards for U.K. estimated at 200.

3. To assist movement control make necessary advance arrangements request very early reply giving details of fitted accommodation in ships to be allocated for N.A. 16 including PASTEUR as no reply to My 1850/24 has been received from P.S.T.O. Simonstown. B.A.D. pass in P/L to B.M.W.T., New York and N.M.C.S. (N.S.H.Q., 2045Z/26 to D. of S.T. (R) C.O.A.C., B.A.D., Cominch B.M. of W.T. New York. N.M.C.S. Washington)

SEAWOLF Philadelphia arrived 1930/22.
 (N.S.H.Q., 2131Z/26 to Admty (R) C.O.A.C., B.A.D., F.O.N.F., F.O.S.)

Midway Island Battle. My 2145/31/7 para. 5.
 1. All units stationed 1 mile from U.S.S. YORK-TOWN.
 2. Dispositions round YORKTOWN at time of attack assumed course 000°.
 3. Cruisers bearing 045° 090° 270° 315° destroyers bearing 015° 117° 143° 170°, 203°, 237° 345°.
 (B.A.D., 2219Z/26 to Admty (R) C. in C. E.F.)

BERING My 0947/24. (re U.S. BERING and British DALHOUSIE, overdue). First ship arrived.
 (S.O.(I) Jamaica, 2346Q/26 to Admty. S.B.N.O.W.A., B.A.D. etc).

U/B Coast watches report sighting S/M in vicinity of 047° 35' N., 057° 35' W., at 1925Z/26.
 (C.O.A.C., 2359Z/26 to Admty).

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War Diary.26.8.1942
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Australia and New Zealand.

Ocean Island (shelled 22-23/8) No. 326. My telegram No.318 Of 8/8. Ocean Island attacked by 9 enemy aircraft forenoon of 22/8, and again by single aircraft early afternoon of same day. Bombs dropped in Roman Catholic Mission compound where one building was destroyed, and in vicinity of Residency, part of remaining portion of which was demolished. Minor casualties only. 2. Commencing just after midnight 22nd/23, Island was shelled by warship, probably cruiser. Result of shelling not yet reported. Thinking shelling was prelude to enemy landing, Cartwright destroyed I.D. Cypher which was only remaining secure means of communication held by him. Now possible to communicate with Island only by Playfair Code which is of questionable security. C. in C. Pacific and Comsopac informed. 3. High Commissioners. Please pass copy to Prime Ministers of Australia and New Zealand. (High Commissioner for Western Pacific (Sir P. Mitchell) 1122/26 to S. of S. for Colonies.)

Situation. Digest Serial No.216 25/8. Enemy convoy reported my Serial 215 para 2. last sighted approaching Milne Bay evening 25/8. Latest reports indicate composition of force 2 light cruisers, 1 light cruiser or large destroyer, 2 destroyers, 2 8,000 ton transports, 2 gunboats. 12 Kittihawks attacked convoy during afternoon with 300 lb bombs. 1 gunboat probably sunk, 2 transports strafed.

(2) 6 vessels reported Faisi Buin area 25/8 include probably 1 cruiser, 1 destroyer.

(3) Vunakanau Lakanai aerodromes (Rabaul) also Gasmata attacked by Fortresses night 24/25, causing large fires Vunakanau.

(4) Sightings Rabaul Harbour 25/8 include, 3 possible cruisers, 4 destroyers, 9 M/Vs, 1 minesweeper, 1 whaling factory vessel Nissin Maru type, 1 large tanker.

(5) 16 Aircobras attacked Buna Aerodrome 2945Z/24 silencing AA position, destroying 1 zero probably 2 others. 7 Aircobras attacked same area 0110Z/25, 10 zeros reported left burning.

(6) 4 Hudsons made 2 attacks Dilli Area night 25/8, several fires started.

(7) Small unknown number enemy aircraft raided Darwin early morning, 25/8, no damage.

(G.H.Q., S.W.P.A. 1931Z/26 to Admty. etc.)

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.Submarines Reported.

Approx. positions.
(D.D.I.C. 1409A/26, 1434A/26.)

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Wednesday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Submarines Attacked.

Comaveu 1227/26. See America and
West Indies.

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27.8.1942
Thursday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

A raider shelled Dickson Harbour again at 1320 today, damaged the guardship, one merchant vessel and the W/T Station. The Soviet Staff at Archangel suggest that two raiders may be at large.

Enemy aircraft dropped mines in the Dvina Estuary at 1730A today. The approaches to Molotovsk have been mined (see 29/8).

HOWE arrived at Scapa at 1527 today with 3 destroyers.

At 0153 today 2 M.T.Bs and 4 M.G.Bs from Portsmouth engaged 4 E-boats about 10 miles north of Pointe de Ver (Baie de la Seine). Hits were scored but the E-boats escaped under cover of smoke. Our vessels were undamaged. The E-boats used British challenge.

Rosyth was closed from 0630 to 0830 on account of fog.

SS PORT JACKSON (Montevideo 9/8 for Clyde) reported at 0142 today that she was being shelled by a submarine in 51° 42' N. 22° 21' W. The ship escaped, however, (apparently in fog) with only slight damage.

Hurricane bombers attacked and severely damaged 4 small merchant vessels off Dieppe today. Seven U.S. B.17s carried out a high level attack on ship building yards at Rotterdam, obtaining 2 hits or near misses on ships.* A single Mosquito bombed Vegesack shipbuilding yards.* Believed to be aux. M/L COBRA (direct hit) and liner NOORDAM(near miss damage).

22 R. mines have been found in the minefield 12 miles east of Lowestoft and others near by.

South Atlantic.

On account of recent local U-boat activity R.A. West Africa intends to shift the approach routes of shipping to Freetown.

War Diary.

27.8.1942
Thursday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Mediterranean.

Photographic R/C today shows that a third LITTORIO battleship has arrived in the outer harbour of Taranto, where there are now 3 LITTORIOS and 3 CAVOURS present.

Malta torpedo and bomber aircraft sunk a south-bound 7000 ton merchant ship today and damaged the escorting destroyer, north west of Appollonia. Last night 4 torpedo bomber and 8 bomber Wellingtons made an offensive sweep for shipping off Crete and apparently set on fire a southbound tanker or large merchant ship escorted by a destroyer off Antikithera Island. A Garibaldi class cruiser was attacked west of the island but results were not seen.

U/B off
Berbera.

C. in C. Eastern Fleet today sent out a warning that an enemy U-boat was sighted off Berbera (10° 26' N. 45° 1' E.) on 24/8. C. in C. Med. reported on 28/8 that a coast watcher in British Somaliland sighted a submarine near Siyara 10° 35' N. 45° 17' E. p.m./24. This was substantiated next day by a patrol with a British Officer. POOLE was sent to search. On 30/8 C. in C. Med. reported that local appreciation was that the submarine was Vichy French picking up escapers or agents: C. in C. E.F. however, on 31/8 gave his reasons why he does not consider the S/M was Vichy French.

America and West Indies.

Attacks on
Convoy S.G.6:
3 ships
torpedoed.

U.S. hired transport CHATHAM which left Sydney C.B. as part of Convoy S.G.6 but had apparently proceeded ahead of the rest of the convoy was torpedoed and sunk at 1255Z today in 51° 52' N. 55° 30' W. (in the eastern end of the Straits of Belle Isle). SS ARLYN in the same convoy was torpedoed at 0052Z/28 (and is believed to have sunk later), and U.S. tanker LARAMIE was torpedoed on 28/8 in 51° 52' N. 55° 46' W., and the convoy was ordered to return to Sydney. The day was marked by the unusually large number of submarines sighted. LARAMIE reached port successfully.

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Thursday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Australia and New Zealand.

D/F indicates greatly increased submarine activity in the area between the Equator and 19° S, 154° to 166° E, where it is believed that at least 10 enemy S/MS are operating.

It is believed that the enemy effected further landings north of Milne Bay, Papua, last night. (Not confirmed by 29/8.)

War Diary.27.8.1942.
Thursday.HOME COMMANDS.Policy.

M.M.S. 90,
203, 212. Your 0042/25. Your objections are fully appreciated but these craft have been promised to the Russians and it is very desirable that they should be sent if possible.

2. Request arrangements be made for them to be towed for part of the voyage. Should towing prove impracticable owing to adverse weather conditions, they should be directed to return to Seidisfiord. Towage by merchant ships in convoy should be possible if desired.

3. A.C.I.C., is requested to arrange that all possible measures to fit M.M.S. for passage are made while waiting at Reykjavik. (D.O.D. (H), 2258A/27 to C. in C. H.F.)

ESCAPADE

Owing to heavy commitments of destroyer refits which must be met, regret ESCAPADE cannot be spared until relieved at Scapa by O.R.P. PIORUN on completion of refit.
(C. in C. H.F., 2345A/27 to C. in C. W.A.)

Movements.JAMAICA,
HOWE.

Scapa arrivals JAMAICA. HOWE carrying out steaming trials to westward.
(A.C.O.S., 0658/27).

H.34,
Z.5

H.34 and D.S., Z.5. departures. D.S., Z.5 for Tobermory.
(A.C.O.S., 0912/27).

RENOWN

Arrived RENOWN escorted by PARTRIDGE, *PUCKERIDGE and FARNDALE.
(N.O.I.C. Greenock, 0924A/27). * See next page. (NELSON)

AVENGER

My P.C. and S. are 58.12 N., 02.20 W., 326° 16 knots at 1030.
(AVENGER, 1030A/27 to WHEATLAND).
Arrived Scapa.
(A.C.O.S., 1335A/27).

SHIPPIGAN,
QUALICUM.

E.T.A. 0600A/28 with QUALICUM. 055° 38', 012° 22' Weather report 4862 2053.
(SHIPPIGAN, 1201Z/27 to N.O.I.C. Londonderry).

WORCESTER

My 1602A/26 sailed E.T.A. 2000A/28.
(R.A.(D) H.F., 1204A/27 to A.C.I.C.)

INDOMITABLE

Route forecast 54.32 N., 10.42 W., to Aldergrove and Machrihanish period 1300 - 1700.
Fighter protection has been arranged from 055° 37' N., 007° 31' to destination, weather permitting.
Codeword Sheik.
(C. in C. W.A., 1209A/27 to INDOMITABLE).

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HOME COMMANDS.

Movements - Contd.

- NELSON Sailed NELSON escorted by ESKIMO, PUCKERIDGE and FARNDALE for Scapa in accordance with NELSON 1601A/26. E.T.A. Hoxa Gate 1300A/28. Codeword Crescent.
(N.O.I.C. Greenock 1216A/27.) ** See previous page (REHOWN)*
- 4 M.T.B.F.
22 M.T.B.F. Available M.T.Bs of 4th and 22nd Flotillas are to be sailed for Yarmouth a.m./28. Probably duration of stay 7 days.
(C. in C. Nore 1244A/27 to BEEHIVE, MIDGE.)
- INTREPID
ICARUS. On arrival at Tyne request you detail INTREPID and ICARUS to return to Scapa.
(ii) INTREPID should report E.T.A. Scapa on parting company.
(iii) Fighter protection arranged codeword Frank.
(R.A.D. H.F. 1253A/27 to ARGUS.)
- WILTON. Your 1238A/26/8. Request you will sail WILTON for Scapa on completion of repairs.
See p. 843
(R.A.D. 1254A/27 to F.O.I.C. Glasgow.)
- WHEATLAND. Return to Scapa forthwith. Acknowledge.
(C. in C. Rosyth 1312A/27 to WHEATLAND.)
- TIGRIS. Sailed TIGRIS escorted by HATANO to Cumbraes E.T.A. Holy Loch 1530.
(N.O.I.C. Ardrossan 1330/27.)
Arrived Clyde.
(N.O.I.C. Greenock 1528A/27.)
- JUNON. My 1135/26 add one day to all dates mentioned.
(Capt. S.9. 1445A/27.)
- HOWE. Scapa arrivals HOWE, INGLEFIELD, FOWEY and OFFA.
(A.C.O.S. 1527/27.) ** ? ECLIPSE intended - see p. 778*
- LEDBURY
BRAMHAM. My P.C.S. are 051° 42' N 012° 04' W 021° 14 knots
BRAMHAM detached to Londonderry at 21 knots.
(LEDBURY 1601A/27.)
- OFFA. My 1631A/25 sailed E.T.A. 0001Z/29.
(R.A.D. H.F. 1627A/27 to A.C.I.C.)

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Thursday.HOME COMMANDS.Movements - Contd.

GLASGOW. Ref. S.B.N.O. Western Atlantic 1552Z/26/8.
Adjust speed to arrive position F at 1530/3.
Thence through position

G. 180° The Lizard 6.
H. 180° Start Point 10.
J. 050° 10' N 003° 00' W thence by A.M.Q.Z.S. 293 and 284 to
Needles.
Speed up Channel to be adjusted to arrive Needles before dark.
A destroyer escort will meet you in position F if possible
escort you to Portsmouth. Fighter protection (C.A.F.O. 183/42)
arranged from daylight. Codeword Occasion. Help message on
385 K/cs category 2. Bishop Light will be shown for 5 minutes at
0430, 0500, 0530 on 3rd Paravanes are to be run up Channel.
(C. in C. Plymouth 1705A/27 to GLASGOW.) *See p. 858*

A.F.D. Your 1913/22. Essential that A.F.D. XVII leave
XVII. Devonport 2/9 as stated in A.M. 1913/19.
2. Additional B.Vs have been allocated vide A.M.
1923/24 & A.M. 1915/24.
3. Request immediate information that dock can be securely
berthed on arrival.
(D.O.D. H. 1715A/27 to A.C.I.C.)
A.M. 1913/19 and C. in C. Plymouth's 1129/26.
Berthing arrangements for A.F.D. XVII cannot be suitably
arranged at Stornoway and exchange of tugs is to take place at
Loch Ewe, arrangements should be made accordingly.
2. C. in C. Plymouth is requested to sail A.F.D. XVII on 2/9
and to arrange suitable escort to Loch Ewe with C. in C. W.A.
3. C. in C. W.A. is requested to provide trawler escort and to
arrange onward passage to Iceland (C).
(D.O.D. (H.) 1717A/27.)

ACHATES. Intend to sail ACHATES at 0730A/28 to comply with
C. in C. W.A. 1021A/26 E.T.A. Bar L.V. 1715A/28.
(F.O.I.C. Greenock 1734A/27.)

KENYA. (?Arrived)
(N.O.I.C. Newcastle 1740/27.)

9th Your 0932A/27 arrived.
M.T.B.F. (HORNET 1753/27 to V.A. Dover.)

15th My 0851. Have now returned to harbour.
M/S F. (N.O.I.C. Lochalsh 1755/27.)

SKATE,
SHIKARI,
SABRE. C. in C. W.A., 1633Z/26. Sailed SKATE, SHIKARI,
SABRE. (Cdre. Londonderry, 1822A/27).

MIGNONETTE MIGNONETTE is to proceed forthwith to refit
at South Shields fuelling at Merville if
necessary. A.C.O.S. is requested to signal onward
route instructions from Cape Wrath.
(C.in C. W.A., 1834/27).

/Sailed...

27.8.1942.
Thursday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Movements - Contd.

MIGNONETTE
Contd. Sailed to comply with C. in C. W.A., 1834/27.
(Cdre. Londonderry, 2240A/27).

WHITEHALL Your 1559/21. Intend to sail WHITEHALL for
Tobermory on 1/9.
(C. in C. Nore, 1834A/27).

CHESTERFIELD Sailed for Liverpool E.T.A. Bar L.V. 0800A/28.
2.11.44 (F.O.I.C. Greenock, 2014A/27).
(W.S.22)

WOLSEY Your 1744 not to N.O.I.C. Harwich. Endeavour not
to pass No. 3 buoy until 0400/28. Reduce speed as
requisite and consistent with safety. Attention
is called to R.E.F. 511.
(C. in C. Nore, 2057A/27 to WOLSEY).

DESPATCH Arrived Scapa.
(A.C.O.S., 2128/27).

Operations.

DUKE OF My 1707/26*keep steam half hours' notice.
YORK. (C. in C. H.F., 0007A/27 to F.O.C. 18 C.S.)
* Presume 1706/21 intended DUKE OF YORK, 2 cruisers
and 3 Destroyers.
My 1706/26 revert to usual notice for steam.
(C. in C. H.F., 0830A/27 to R.A. 18 C.S.)

Operation C. in C. H.F., 2356/26 route: from
E.U. A. 064° 01' N., 014° 10' W., to B. 060° 58',
011° 48', C. 059° 00' 007° 30'. thence via
Minches to Clyde.
(C. in C. W.A., 1009Z/27 to TUSCALOOSA).

Your 0956/25. ONSLAUGHT has on board seven (corrupt group)
diplomats and officers with diplomatic mail. Courtney of Naval
mission in Russia with Admty and Air Ministry mail and 7 prisoners
of war in addition to survivors. MARTIN has 54 prisoners of war
additional passengers. Suggest ONSLAUGHT and MARTIN accompany
TUSCALOOSA to Clyde in order to land a passenger.
(TUSCALOOSA, 1633A/27 to C. in C. H.F.)

Coastal craft At 0153/27 M.T.Bs. 234, 233 Motor Gunboats 50,
Engagement. 51, 52, 57 engaged 4 E-boats about 10 miles north
of Pointe de Ver. Hits were scored but E-boats
escaped in smoke one rating slightly wounded no
damage to own vessels. E-boat used British
challenge.
(C. in C. Portsmouth, 1127A/27).

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Thursday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operations - Contd.

Operation "Cheese". MINERVE arrived.
(S.O. S/Ms Lerwick, 1133A/26).
My 1659/13 operation successfully completed night 20/21.
(F.O.S., 1401A/26). *Show 13 below p. 802.*

Patrol off Barfleur. Tonight 27/28 August. M.G.Bs. 316, 312, 326
M.T.Bs. 55, 49, *50 patrolling off Barfleur.
(C.in C. Portsmouth, 1217A/27, 0035A/28).
** 2 below.*

Portsmouth patrols. Night 27/28 August. (1) 3 trawlers patrolling off
E.A. 5 buoy. (2) M.G.Bs. 316, 312, M.T.Bs. 55,
49, 53 patrolling to Southwards.
(C. in C. Portsmouth, 1427A/27).

Dover Patrols. Night 27/28 August. M.Ls. 146 (S.O.) and 151
from Ramsgate patrolling between Dumpton and North
East Spit buoys. E.T.D. 2055. E.T.R. 0530/28.
The following Anti-E-boat patrols from 2115
M.L. 138 and R.M.L. 495 from Newhaven near C.1.
buoy. M.G.Bs. 46, and 7 near D. buoy. LOIS near
No. 4 buoy. M.G.Bs 329 and 331 near No. 7 buoy.
UT PROSIM and BROCK near No. 10 buoy.
(V.A. Dover, 1807A/27).

Allied Air Operations.

Instructions for C.A.M. Ship Pilots. Unless flown off operationally machines will be
flown off as ordered as close as possible to
Dvina Light Ship as conditions permit to land on
Keg Ostrov Aerodrome 064° 32' 30" N., 040° 28' E.
Admty Chart, 2280. Details.
(S.B.N.O. Archangel, 0728A/24 to A.C.I.C.)
S.B.N.O. 0728/24 passed to A.C.I.C. NR10/161
request Admty inform ships concerned in U.K.
(A.C.I.C., 1335A/27 to Admty).

Mosquito at Vaenga. Air Min. 1205/26 (?This is) confirmed. Admty
pass to Air Min.
(S.B.N.O. North Russia, 1919 A/27).

Spares for Hurricanes Ref. your 1639A/17 and C. in C. H.F., 1537A/24.
All available piston rings were despatched in
TUSCALOOSA on 13/8. Additional spares required
to make Russian Hurricanes serviceable are being
flown to North Russia leaving U.K. about 28/8.
Regret delay in replying to your signal.
(Air Min. D.O.N.C., 1932A/27 to Admty).

War Diary.

27.8.1942.
Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Enemy Air Operations.

Thames Estuary. There was some enemy activity in the Thames Estuary between 2157/26 and 2243/26. There were three or four enemy plots in the Edinburgh Channels area and some also in the northern end of the Barrow Deep. Planes were engaged by ships and also by Tongue Sand Fort which was itself fired on by one of the planes. Enemy aircraft were generally flying low and one ship reports that it seems as if planes were taking avoiding action on passing ships. There is no evidence that any minelaying occurred. (S.O.T.L.D.F., 1714/27).

Mining.

Sheerness One Ground mine detonated 1311/25 as follows. (Capt. M/S Sheerness 0955/26).

Operation S.N.89. Your 1104/25 JAMAICA. (C. in C. H.F., 1126A/27 to JAMAICA, R.A.M.)

M/S 9. Your 1026A/26/8/42 S.A. sweep and 62½% Oropesa Search completed. No mines swept. (M/S 9, 1315A/27 to C. in C. Nore).

Lowestoft. 1 R mine swept in 029° 3.2 miles 3C buoy at 1435. Mine sunk by gunfire. (Cdr. M/S & P Lowestoft, 1520A/26, 1630A/26). My 1537/25 position in which 2 mines were fouled should read "3 cables 260° 3C Buoy". Investigation shows one further mine exploded in position 1 mile 308° 3C buoy. Total number of R mines exploded or cut and subsequently sunk by Lowestoft sweepers is 22. 2 further mines fouled sweep in position ¾ miles 176° 4 buoy. Sweep parted in 3.3 miles 178° 4 buoy and mines were not seen again. (Cdr. M/S and P Lowestoft, 1535A/27) Amendment to 2004/26. (Cdr. M/S and P Lowestoft, 2142A/27).

S.N.65 A. Admty 1538/16 para. 3 (b). A proposal to back up S.N.65 with new field S.N.65 A. B.S.N. 65 A to be 37 miles long with centre line running from 061° 25' N., 007° 00' W., to 060° 49' 36" N., 006° 37' 36" W. C. Density to be as follows: Northern 9.2 miles at 86 to the mile, remainder at 55 to the mile. D.23, 33 Mark XXII One Star unit to be laid. (R.A.M., 1730A/27).

Milford Haven. Request A message The port of Milford Haven will be closed for sweeping from 0400 to 0700 daily during the month of September. (F.O.I.C. Milford Haven, 1857A/27 to Admty).

War Diary.27.8.1942.
Thursday.HOME COMMANDS.Mining - c. 15/25.

R. Crouch. 1 ground mined detonated by M.M/S at 1400 in 51° 37' N., 00° 54' 12" E. River Crouch.
(F.O.I.C. Harwich, 1957A/27).

Enemy Intelligence.

Arctic Ocean. Preliminary Russian reports state raider shelled W/T station at Cape Jelaniya north end of Novaya Zemlya at 0330A/25.
(2) Raider 2 funnels 2 masts passed Cape Chelyuskin bound east at high speed 2340A/25 not seen to return.
(3) 2320A/26 raider 2 funnels 2 masts appeared off Port Dickson shelled hut afterwards landed men in vicinity and destroyed W/T station.
(4) My 1211A/26 also refers.
(5) Further reports will be forwarded when received.
(6) Russian (?Naval) staff urgently request Catalinas expected here Aug. 28th may be augmented in order to search. Russians mean to lend Navigators with local knowledge also to replace crews if required. Only one Catalina operated by Russians now available in North Russia.
Admiralty pass to C. in C. Home Fleet.
(S.B.N.O. North Russia, 1040A/27).

Main Units Photographic R/C 1400/27 shows
(1) Swinemunde: LEIPZIG present, LUTZOW and NURNBERG departed since 16/8.
(2) Kiel: ^{21.15} EUGEN still present.
(D.D.I.C., 2238A/27).

U-boats.

PORT JACKSON. Distress (?bearing) 240° Class 1.
° (Gallon Head Radio, 0127 G.M.T./27 etc).
Intercept 0147 G.M.T. De GCK (Valentia Radio)
SSSS Position 51.42 N., 22.21 W., PORT JACKSON
being shelled by Submarine 0142/27. (Not rebroadcast, Should this be done).
(North Foreland Radio, 0247/27 to Admiral Chatham, (R) 11 Group R.A.F., V.A. Dover).
Slight damage only. Shelling ceased. Position R 18 D 0530 G.M.T. Fog.
(PORT JACKSON, 0614/27).

U/B Report. The following has been read. Am over enemy submarine in 59° 47' N., 15° 44' W., Sub. on surface and observed to submerge, course 240°. (A/C of 15 Group, 1040Z/27).

U/B attacked. Have attacked enemy with depth charges.
(A/C 2 VPB 1055/27).

War Diary.27.8.1942.
Thursday.HOME COMMANDS.Navigational.

No. 28 Buoy. FORFEIT reports No. 28 buoy light extinguished. (F.O.I.C. Aberdeen, 0014/28 to C. in C. Rosyth).

Rosyth Port closed 0630/27 owing to visibility. (C. in C. Rosyth, 0656/27).
My 0656. Port open 0830. (C. in C. Rosyth, 0906A/27).

No. 8 L.B. Hvalfjord. Extinguished. Request Q.Z.H. (A.C.I.C., 1138A/27 to Admty).

Technical.

Recognition Signals. Aircraft recognition signals and minor war vessel single letter flashing signals are believed compromised up to 6/9. They should be used sparingly and treated with reserve. (D.S.D., 1807A/27 to A., Mge. H. & A.)

Casualties & Defects.

WOOLSTON. Have developed cloud in port condenser. Proceeding on one engine. (WOOLSTON, 0225A/27).

ADRIAS My 2207A/25. Para. 1 Delayed indefinitely. (R.A.D., 0925A/27 to F.O.I.C. Tyne).

SS. NGAROMA W.P. 202 5th NGAROMA sank at 0530/15 apparently after striking the Seven Stones Rocks. TYNEDALE is to forward track of convoy near Seven Stones. All ships are to report by signal whether they know anything about the incident. (G. in C. Plymouth, 1015A/27 to TYNEDALE, JASPER, ELLESMERE, RUBY, (R) Comdr.A/P Capt. (D)

JAMAICA Following received from JAMAICA begins:
Addressed C. in C. from JAMAICA.
At 1750/26 in dense fog JAMAICA's Port P.V. fouled the mooring of No.28 Channel Buoy Aberdeen Area. P.V. was lost and it is possible that light on Buoy was damaged as buoy bumped ship's side. 0701A/27.
(C. in C. H.F., 1206A/27 to C. in C. Rosyth Admty)

WILTON R.A.D., 1010/25. WILTON it is hoped to complete repairs to deck cracks by 1600/31 when ship will be undocked. Boiler cleaning is being carried out concurrently, so far as time permits, completing in time to enable ship to light up and raise steam on leaving dock. It is anticipated ship will be ready to sail at approx. 2100/31. Request confirmation that this meets requirements. 1238A/26 ends.
(F.O.I.C. Glasgow, 2021/27 to Admty).

War Diary.27.8.1942.
Thursday.HOME COMMANDS.Casualties & Defects. - Contd.

- BURNHAM** Port Propeller damaged, excessive vibrations at all speeds. Request arrangements for docking on arrival. Spare propeller type group (C) A.F.O. 567 1941 probably required. (BURNHAM, 1931Z/27 to C. in C. W.A.)
- ARGUS** ARGUS 1101/25. Owing to short time available for refit it is improbable that any alterations and additions can be undertaken, Proposals will however be discussed at Conference to be held on board a.m./29. Any alterations and additions must depend upon availability of labour and material. (D.O.D. (H), 2049A/27).
- MARNE** Details of damage by enemy shell fire. (MARNE, 2130A/27).
Details of defects. (MARNE, 2135A/27).
- H.50** Cancel my 1838/26. Ship delayed by defects. Further signal will be made. (C. in C. Nore, 2219A/27 to S.7).
- Shipping & Convoys.
- W.S.22** Arrived Bristol Channel section of W.S.22 and
T.A.18. T.A. 18 escorted by BLYSKAWICA codeword Protocol. (N.O.I.C. Greenock, 0804A/27).
W.S.22. Intend sailing ANDES, ORCADES, NIEUW HOLLAND, ORDUNA, SUFFOLK escorted by CHESTERFIELD 1230Z/28 for R/V 270° ~~to~~ Oversay light 6 miles in accordance with Admty. 1245A/18 and 2312A/23 and C. in C. W.A., 1604/24.
E.T.A. 0500Z/29 speed 14 knots. * ~~See~~ p. 83g
(N.O.I.C. Liverpool, 1050A/27).
T.A.18. My 1058A/25 sailed Lerwick (?less omitted) ARGENTINA, BRAZIL and URUGUAY. Codeword Profit. *See next page*
Amend my 1638A/25 to read Commodore's 1300A R/V 28/8 055° 31' N., 009° 42' W., 29/8 253° 51' 019° 10'.
(N.O.I.C. Greenock, 2224A/27).
T.A.18 sailed 2220/27 01,06 and 07 did not sail. (D.S.T.O. Greenock, 2240/27).
W.S.22. My 1604/24 para. 2 (C) delete VENOMOUS defective. (C. in C. W.A., 2243A/27).
- E.N.** Your 1901/26 concur.
programme. (C. in C. Rosyth, 0936A/27 to Admty (R) N.C.S.O. Methil).
- M.V. SANDHILL** M/V SANDHILL and escort now arrived. (N.C.S.O. Kirkwall, 1000A/27).

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Thursday.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping & Convoys. - Contd.

- Q.P.14 A.C.I.C's 1801/25. Concur with proposal.
(C. in C. H.F., 1031A/27 to Admty).
- H.X.203 Fast. H.X.203 fast. *INDOMITABLE escorted by 2
destroyers enters Q.Z.S. 298 at 0745A/28. Convoy
not to enter Q.Z.S. 298 before INDOMITABLE
and is to keep astern when entering harbour.
(N.O.I.C. Liverpool, 1239A/27 to CAMPANULA)
**See A.836*
- BRAZIL, ARGENTINA, URUGUAY. A.M.1254A/18. U.S. Transports BRAZIL, ARGENTINA,
and URUGUAY are not to sail with Convoy T.A.18
2. They should remain in Clyde pending further
instructions.
See Message page
(D.O.D. (H), 1354A/27).
- Convoy B.B.14. F.O.I.C. Belfast's 1140A/27. ROSEMARY has
instructions to leave O.N.M.125 on meeting B.B.14.
(F.O.I.C. Milford Haven, 1625A/27).
- ?S.L.119 CLEVELAND proceed to convoy 140° Land's End 7'
bound Bristol ports 7 knots. Disposition 19 57
(C. in C. Plymouth, 1639A/27).
- P.Q.18 My 2236/14/7 (N.T. in W.D. ? 2237/14 intended)
and 34 S.M.Z. For P.Q.18 para. (A) and (F) 6,000
k/cs throughout 24 hours. Pass to S/Ms A.C.O.S.
pass to H.M. Sub. P.614.
(F.O.C. S/Ms 1656A/26).
- P.Q.18. Request you will sail AMAZON, COWDRAY and BRAMHAM in
accordance with para. 3 and 4 of my 1111/23.
(C. in C. W.A., 2313A/27 to N.O.I.Cs. Greenock and Londonderry).
- ALYNBANK Present intention is that ALYNBANK should
transfer from P.Q.18 to Q.P.14 and not proceed
North Russia.
(C. in C. H.F., 1929A/27).
- A.T.20 A.T.20. My 1633Z/26 Convoy has been diverted
through A. 047° 20' N., 028° 30' W. B. 054°
45' 021° 20' thence to X.056° 30' 016° 10'.
(ii) Amended R/V 055° 44' N., 018° 30' W., at
1200Z/29.
(iii) On being met Iceland portion proceed Reykjavik passing
through M. 060° 01' N., 020° 19' W.
(C. in C. W.A., 2054Z/27 to Cdre. Londonderry).
T.A. 18 sailed composed and escorted as in A.M.1254A/18
less URUGUAY BRAZIL and ARGENTINA. Cdre. is Captain Kelly U.S.N.
in U.S.S. WEST POINT. Latest Message Q.J.A. 614, Q.J.B.70.
(N.O.I.C. Greenock, 2226A/27).

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27.8.1942.
Thursday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic.

- SCOTTISH A/C. One unidentified aircraft course unknown distance $\frac{1}{4}$ mile my position 347° Cape St. Vincent 38 miles, speed 3 knots. Visibility $\frac{1}{2}$ cable.
(SCOTTISH 0615A/27 to F.O.C.N.A.).
Your 1001A/27 (N.T. in W.D.). P.C. and S. 180° Sagres 3 miles 110, 7 knots.
(SCOTTISH 1401A/27 to F.O.C.N.A.(R) JAUNTY).
- CLAN MACWHIRTER torpedoed
(S.L.119). Following has been read Whitehall from ROCHESTER X.329. SSSS 35.28 N. 19.34 W. CLAN MACWHIRTER torpedoed at 2300(V GZZR) 0758 0759/27 8290 K/Cs.
(No. T.O.O. Received 0825/27).
- KAOLACK. Escort. Chief of Naval Staff has suspended order for escort of SS.KAOLACK because Spanish trawlers PRIMERO and SEGUNDO ENRIQUE at Gibraltar now wear British colours. Decision of (corrupt group) passed to us officially until Minister of Marine confirms it. He returns to Madrid tonight.
(N.A.Madrid 0927/27 to Admty (R) Gibraltar).
- P.222. Intend sail S/M P.222 a.m/1/9 for patrol in Gulf of Genoa North of $042^{\circ} 50'$ routed north of Balearic Is. and to retain operational control of P.222 east of 009° E.
(F.O.C.N.A. 1006A/27 to C. in C.Med.(R) Admty., V.A.Malta, Capt. (S) 1. Capt.(S) 10).
- S.L.119. Expect Catalina U.A.1 C anti-submarine escort from 1600A to 2359A/27..
(F.O.C.N.A. 1009A/27 to Ships Escorting Convoy S.L. 119, (R) Admty, JONQUIL. COLTSFOOT, C. in C.W.A.).
D/F bearings at 1000Z indicate U-Boat in contact with convoy. Other bearings at 0740Z and 0934Z indicate at least two U-Boats in vicinity of convoy.
(D.D.I.C. 1229A/27 to Escorts of S.L.119. F.O.C.N.A. C. in C.W.A. H.Q.C.C.).
D/F Bearings at 1535Z, 1547Z, and 1550Z, indicate at least 3 U-Boats in vicinity of Convoy.
(D.D.I.C. 1806A/27 to Escorts S.L.119, F.O.C.N.A. C. in C.W.A. H.Q.C.C.).
- OMEGA. Sailing H.M.Tug JAUNTY to R/V and tow OMEGA to Gibraltar.
(F.O.C.N.A.1101A/27 to Admty (R) SCOTTISH).
See next page. (Liberation)
- Escort of KOHISTAN & DOLIUS. My 1824A/26th. Sailed GERANIUM as additional escort.
(F.O.C.N.A. 1102A/27 to Admty, C. in C.W.A., R.A.W.A. (R) Escort O.S.38. JONQUIL).
My 1102/27 GERANIUM returned defective 2015A/27 and sailed again. *See next page. (Liberation)*
(F.O.C.N.A. 2312A/27 to Admty, C in C. W.A. R.A.W.A.F.(R) Escorts O.S.38. JONQUIL).

/Your...

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Thursday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic--conts:-

Escort of KOHISTAN & DOLIUS. Contd. Your 1202A/26. Request confirmation that S.P.02388 No.251 was handed in by DOLIUS and KOHISTAN. (D.T.D. 1520A/27 to F.O.C.N.A. as amended 2304A/27).

SIBAJAK. Admty, 1929A/23. Intend to sail Dutch SIBAJAK at 2300B/27 escorted by DERWENT, AVON VALE, routed through. (R) 334 Spartel 7. (S) 34.17 08.32. (T) 29.15 14.47. (U) 28.04 14.47 (V) 20.47 18.33 (W) 19.01 18.33. S. of A. 15 knots. (2) Request you will signal onward from position (W).
3. Destroyers will require to fuel at Bathurst. (F.O.C.N.A. 1116A/27 to R.A.W.A. Admty, N.O.I.C. Bathurst, C. in C. S.A., DERWENT, AVON VALE.).
→ My 1116A/27. Sailed DERWENT, AVON VALE, escorting Dutch SIBAJAK. (F.O.C.N.A. 2220A/27 to R.A.W.A.).

Situation 1959B/27th. Area X. (1) P.31 sails 1600B/27 through 36.00. 06.00 and 225° Cape St. Vincent 20 thence 311° 8 knots. On the surface. *See next page.*
→ *MALAYA & KAMILLES* (2) Fleet Units LAFOREY, LOOKOUT, PENN, WESTCOTT, WISHART 26.18 15.18 through 28.02 13.27 thence 030° 14. (3) JONQUIL, COLTSFOOT 36.01 10. (?22) thence 272° 9½. (4) S.L.119 ROCHESTER, LEITH, ERNE, SANDWICH 37.58 16.50 through 38.40 16.00 thence 000° 7½. (5) O.S.(?38) ENCHANTRESS, WALNEY, HARTLAND, ABERDEEN, CLARE, 42.18 20.50 163° 8½. (6) Convoy VETCH, BARDOLF 43.(?22) 15.59 through 43.02 15.59 thence 165°. 8. */OMEGA*
See p. 846 (7) SCOTTISH towing one merchant ship 36.35 07.52 to Gibraltar 7 knots.
See p. 846 (8) SPIREA, escorting tanker ESSO GETTYSBURG 32.28 14.40 063° 12½.
See p. 846 (9) ST NECTAN, LORD HOTHAM, 34.05 10.28 062° 9.
See p. 846 (10) Tug JAUNTY sailed 1230/27, 12 knots to R/V with SCOTTISH and towing merchant ship. *OMEGA*.
See p. 846 (11) GERANIUM sailed 1200/27 through 36.01 06.02 thence 271° 13. (12) LOCH OSKAIG sailing 0900/28 to patrol Huelva Bight. (13) ALOUETTE sailing 0900/28 coastwise to patrol off Lisbon 10 knots.
→ (14) DERWENT, AVON VALE, 1 M/V sailing 2300/27 through 34.17 08.32 thence 226° 15. (F.O.C.N.A. 1328A/27).

Area Z. (1) CALEDON 17.48 19.01 through 23.00 18.00 thence 039° 14.
→ (2) Fleet Units LAFOREY, LOOKOUT, PENN, WESTCOTT, WISHART 26.18 15.18 through 28.02 13.27 thence 030° 14. (3) ANTELOPE, PINDOS, 23.28 17.26 through 22.01 18.02 thence 194° 13½. (4) BURDOCK, ARMERIA, escorting tanker ABBEYDALE 22.52 29.10 235° 9. (F.O.C.N.A. 1444A/27 to A.I.G. 65).
**MALAYA & KAMILLES*

→ MALAYA. E.T.A. Gibraltar 1800A/29. Zero hour for exercise 1500A, S. of A. 16 knots. (MALAYA 1441A/27 to F.O.C.N.A.).
See p. 849

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War Diary.27.8.1942.
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic - Contd.

O.21. Intend sailing O.21 p.m./30th for Freetown for fuel and onward passage to Simonstown. Route through X.360° 5 miles, Y.034° 59' 008° 35' thence through T.U and V as in my 1116/27. (Sailing of SIBAJAK escorted by DERWENT & AVON VALE), pass V at 0200B/4/9. R.A.W.A. is requested to arrange onward routing and bombing restrictions. S. of A. 11½ knots. O.21 is painted grey with P.21 in Light grey painted on C/T. (F.O.C.N.A. 1508A/27 to R.A.W.A.).

DOLIUS Your 1202A/26. Request confirmation that S.P. KOHISTAN. 02388. No.251 was handed in by DOLIUS and KOHISTAN. (D.T.D. 1520A/27 to F.O.C.N.A.) Confirmed (F.O.C.N.A. 1419A/29).

P.212. My 1036/(? 25th) (intend sailing S/M P.212 for working up patrol). Sailed P.212. (F.O.C.N.A. 1521A/27 to C. in C.Med.Admtly, V.A. Malta, Capt.(S) 10).

P.31. My 1006A/25. Departure 1510 S/M P.31. (F.O.C.N.A. 1632A/27 to Admtly(R) C. in C.W.A. F.O.S., C. in C.Plymouth, Capt.(S) 3, Capt.(S) 5). My 1024/26 (N.T. in W.D.)

Para.1 for 9/9 read 8/9. Para.2. amend time to read as follows:-
 1. Between (a) and (b) from 2200/30th to 0800/1st.
 2. Between (b) and (c) from 0200/1st to 2000/2nd.
 3. Between (c) and (d) from 1200/2nd to 1200/4th.
 4. Between (d) and (e) from 0001/4th to 2000/5th.
 5. Between (e) and (f) from 0001/5th to 1200/7th.
 6. Between (f) and R/V as ordered by Captain (S) 5.
 (F.O.(S) 1743A/27 to F.O.C.N.A.(R) Admtly, C. in C.Plymouth C. in C.W.A. H.Q.C.C. Captain (S) 3, Capt.(S) 5 P.31).
 W.D.Note. Cancelled by F.O.(S) 1716A/31.

NIGERIA. Your 1802/16. Request that the further report (damaged in Op. "Pedestal") referred to in your para. (c) may be made. It is anticipated that NIGERIA will be repaired in U.S.A. in which case it is necessary to give the maximum of prior notice to U.S.A. Authorities. (A.C.N.S.(H) 1713A/27 to F.O.C.N.A.).

French Shipping. Gibraltar 1003 Armed trawler LA BONOISE, Ships IMERETHIE II laden and civilian passengers, MONT-VISO laden deck cargo crates, NANCEEN laden deck cargo timber and motor lorries, trawler TATIANA, Westbound. (S.O.(I) Gib, 1729A/27 to Admtly, R.A.W.A., S.O.(I) Kingston, Jamaica).

/U/B at.....

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War Diary.27.8.1942.
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic - Contd.

U/B at
Valencia
13/14/8. Your 1916/20th. Following received from British
Consul Valencia, under T.O.O. 1717/26th.
"S.O.(I) Gibraltar British N.A.Madrid. Your 0542/21
I confirm nationality of S/M was Italian. Am
trying to verify numbers. Source of information
was person who effected minor repairs. T.O.O. 1717/26."
(S.O.(I) Gibraltar 1814A/27 to Admty).

DERNA.
(Italian) Arrived Barcelona 27th .
(Barcelona 1828/27 to M.W.T.).
August 27th Italian vessel 60 did not leave
Bilbao as reported and in at anchor in outer harbour
(H.M.Consul Bilbao 1830/27 to Admty,(R) Ministry
of Economic Warfare, B.N.A.Madrid S.O.(I) Gib.).

LLANSTEPHAN
CASTLE. Your 1626/26. Confirmed that LLANSTEPHAN CASTLE
Troop should sail unescorted but in view of her slow
Movements. speed total numbers on board should be limited to
200.
2.War Office state that in addition to the 800
passengers a battalion of about 950 strong requires
passage to U.K.

3. LEINSTER total capacity about 883 on her return voyage may
carry up to 250 of each service. Maximum use should be made
of accommodation in RAMILLIES and her escorts.

4.Priority should be given to personnel of the battalion.

5.There may be a further opportunity of moving some of the
remaining personnel about end of September.

(A.C.N.S.(F) 1925A/27 to F.O.C.N.A.).

Your 1925/27. Master of LLANSTEPHAN CASTLE very averse to
sailing unescorted in view of low speed.

2. I fully concur and suggest following possible alterations.(A)
sail with H.G.88 (B) sail with RAMILLIES.

(F.O.C.N.A. 2314A/27 to Admty).

(A) Approved (A.C.N.S.(F) 0142A/28).

IMLA
LAYTERI. Your 1253/26. M.V.IMLA LAYTERI is a submarine
(A.C.D.1815) attendant lighter for delivery in Turkey. She
will not require fuel at Ponta Delgada and will
proceed via Horta with ships in company.
(D.O.D.(H) 2054A/27 to N.A.Lisbon).

* MALAYA. R.A.W.Af's 1041/26.(Re Wellington aircraft forced
PENN. to land in sea). Crew reported standing by A/C at
PANTHER. 2200/26 approx.

* *See p. 847*
(2) Detach PENN to endeavour to rescue crew
weather permitting and to report situation at
2000B/28. *See p. 850*

(3) Co-operating Hudson call sign W. D.3 E will use 330 K/Cs
between 1000B and 1600B. PENN should be prepared to D/F on 330
K/Cs and use R/T on 2410 codeword "Sandy".

(4). PANTHER being sailed to join you as additional escort 28th.
(F.O.C.N.A. 2216A/27 to MALAYA (R) Admty, R.A.W.Af.PENN).

Bombing A/C 579 27/8. Serial No.G.184. From 0100/29.until
Restrictions. 0800/31 institute submerged bombing restrictions 25
miles either side of line joining positions 43° 01'
N.12° 30'W. and 46° 01'N. 12° 31' W.
(H.Q.C.C.2307A/27 to R.A.F.Gibraltar,(R) F.O.C.N.A. S.8).

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Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic.

ILLUSTRIOUS Your 0905/22. Programme in para.4 can be arranged.
WARSPITE. Request earliest information any alteration.
REVENGE. (C. in C.S.A. 1119B/27 to C. in C.E.F.).
RESOLUTION.

Dispositions. CALEDON 17.50 18.59. to 23.01. 17.(?59) thence
 40.14 WIVERN 15.10 18.59 to Bathurst 15.
 At. 1957Z/27. VANSITTART about 14.01 18.25 to
 Freetown 17. Fleet unit 3 destroyers 13.55 25.55 315° 14. EGRET
 with S.L.L.11.15 20.01 350° 7. LARGS off Bathurst to join S.L.120.
 *LONDONDERRY with O.S.37 09.45 18.01 to Freetown 8. SWALE about
 11.20 17.30 to rejoin O.S.37. SNOWDROP 09.20 18.40 281° 10.
 D'ESTIENNE D'ORVES 10.35 21.10 to Freetown through 09. 01
 19.59. 9. BORDE 09.20. 15.50 to Freetown. 7½.
 (R.A.W.A. 1141Z/27 to A.I.G. 149).
 WOODRUFF with T.S. 15. 07.20 (?13).40 to Freetown 7.
 CANNA from T.S.15 to Marshall.
 (R.A.W.A. 1159Z/27 to Ships in Area 'P' of S.A.Stn.
 South of 8° N. Admty C. in C.S.A. N.O.I.C.Takoradi, R.N.O.
 Lagos).

* See next page. (O.S.37 - S.T.32)

KEREN Left Capetown 0530Z/27 for Freetown. Route.
KARANJA. S. of A. KEREN 14 knots. KARANJA 15 knots. E.T.A.
 1400Z/7/9 and 0600Z/7/9.
 (C. in C.S.A. 1235/27 to Admty, R.A.W.A.).

See next page. (Movement Intake)

SHROPSHIRE. Your 1901/25. SHROPSHIRE is to be sent to
 Chatham for refit as soon as she can make the
 voyage. Request your proposals.
 (A.C.N.S.(F) 1244A/27 to C. in C.S.A.).

See next page. (Movement Intake)

Air Cover Your 2213A/25 (Re air cover for approach route).
for Freetown On account of recent local U-Boat activity
Approaches. intend shifting to both approach routes 3 of
 M.A.R.I. Sect.4 Para.6 forthwith. Shipping will be
 diverted by me to conform with this. To provide
 better air cover approach times are being reduced to 320 miles
 in length.
 Further signal follows.
 (R.A.W.A. 1351Z/27 to Admty.(R) C. in C.S.A.).

LEOPARD R.A.W.Af.Ref.0915/Z/22. Departure from Pointe
MENELAUS. Noire 1400Z/27 for Cape F.S.LEOPARD as A/S
 escort to SS.MENELAUS S. of A. 13½ knots. Shift
 to Area Q. W/T Organization at 1400Z/28th.

Admiralty pass to C. in C.E.F.
 (L.O.W.Africa 1500C/27 to Admty).

LARRANAGA Following has been received: From: S.B.N.O.ARCOLA,
survivors. Have picked up survivors from LARRANAGA liner.
 2 more boats adrift last seen heading S.W. from
 10.30 N.33.00 W on the 14th.
 (Freetown W/T 1510/27 to Admty, C. in C.S.A.).

/U/S....

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War Diary.27.8. 1942.
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic - Contd.

U.S. Shipping Your 1528B/25 which is being passed to Connav
W/T Reports. Navy Dept has agreed to this procedure which is
fully laid down in A.M. 1905A/21. It is considered
that such matters as these should be referred to the
U.S.N.L.O. at ports in British Strategic areas.
(D.T.D. 1540A/27 to C. in C.S.A.(R) N.C.S.O. Capetown, Connav).

Movement Summary. 2000Z/27th CORFU, RANPURA, with W.S.21 Durban portion
037° 10' S. 020° 40' E. to Durban.
SHROBSHIRE 036° 14' S. 019° (12') E. knots 15 to
Simonstown. E.T.A. 0500Z/28.
BARBOURNE 034° (43'?) S. 024° 45' E. to Durban. 7½.
* KARANJA 030° 50' S. 016° 00' E. 333° 16½.
* KEREN 031° 12' S. 016° 15' E. 333° 14.
H.M.S. RAJPUTANA escorting MARUDI 017° 40' S. 008° 40' E. to
Capetown 7½.
(C. in C.S.A. 1556B/27 to S.A.Stn.(R) Admty).

W.S.21. Arrivals Simonstown 26th PETARD, CATTERICK. *See next page.*
Capetown 27th HAWKINS with W.S.21.
(C. in C.S.A. 1746B/27 to Admty, D.C. in C.E.F.
R.A.W.A.).

H.M.S. My 1645Z/20 and my 1445Z/24.
QUEEN If U.S. escort is not met in position A. QUEEN
ELIZABETH ELIZABETH is to continue towards position B.
Escort. On being detached from QUEEN ELIZABETH all
destroyers are to proceed as follows.
If fuel permits proceed to Port of Spain, Trinidad,
estimated time of arrival a.m./4th/9.
If fuel does not permit destroyers R/V again with ABBEYDALE
and then proceed Trinidad.
If conditions are not suitable fuel from ABBEYDALE all
destroyers returning St. Vincent.
Destroyers are required to proceed to Trinidad to provide
escort to tanker convoy to Freetown, 1 tanker being fitted
for fuelling at sea.
Further orders will be passed for ABBEYDALE and corvette escort.
(R.A.W.A.F. 1949Z/27 to QUEEN ELIZABETH, PATHFINDER).

O.S.37. Your 1421Z/27 (N.T. in W.D.) My E.T.A. position
S.T.32. (K) 1700Z/28. Commodore of convoy requests S.T.32
may be sailed as early as possible in order to
ensure meeting before dark, and to avoid having to
anchor O.S.37 to await ebb tide.
*(LONDONBERRY 2025Z/27 to R.A.W.A.F.(R) BOREAS, VELOX).

* *See previous page - (dispositions)*

Shipping M.A.R.I. section 4 para 10 sub para 7. Confirmed.
Capetown. Request following be substituted A.M. 1840/25.
Ships proceeding to or from Capetown or ports E.
thereof are to be routed S and W. of a position
034° 28' S. 017° 30' E. and given a lettered position on their
route in this vicinity.
(C. in C.S.A. 2103B/27 to Admty).

/Shipping...

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Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic - Contd.

Shipping M.A.R.I.Sect. 4 para.6. As a temporary measure
Freetown. all ships proceeding Freetown are to be given
double reference letters for both alternative
approach positions. All positions are to be moved
80 miles towards outer end of searched channels. Masters are
to be warned to be prepared for diversions.
(C. in C.S.A. 2143B/27, to N.C.S.O.Capetown, Port Elizabeth,
Durban,Walvis Bay.(R)R.A.W.A. Admty).

CATTERICK
PETARD.

Sailed 2235/27. CATTERICK,PETARD, for Durban
route R.8,S. of A. 22 knots, E.T.A.1400/29.
(C. in C.S.A. 2335B/27 to Admty, N. O.I.C.Durban,
D.C. in C.E.F. N.O.I.C.Port Elizabeth, N.O.I.C.East
London). *See previous page*

Mediterranean.Cositrep
No.494.

Night 25/26 August. Tobruk Harbour bombed. Good
fires started. British and American liberators
bombed Corinth Canal. Results mainly unobserved.
Photos being examined.
(C. in C.M.E. 0935 G.M.T./27).

Movements.

26th Port Said arrival JERVIS,KELVIN, JAVELIN,
Departure SNAPDRAGON, BURRA, PAKENHAM, KELVIN,
JERVIS,JAVELIN,SOUTHERN ISEE, SOUTHERN MAID, CUMBRAE,
Tugs^{*}REVERT, BRIGAND. * *not identified*.
(N.O.I.C.Port Said 0948C/27 to Admty, C. in C.Med.Fleet).

Enemy Convoy
P.35.
TURBULENT.

Capt.(S) 1's 2032/26(2052C/26 intended?). Beaufort
(?torpedo) aircraft from Malta hope to attack about
1600B/27.

(Capt.S.10. 1018B/27 to S/M. P.35 TURBULENT (R)
C. in C.Med. Capt.(S) 1. S.O.S/Ms Alexandria).

If nothing has been sighted leave patrol 2100C tonight
proceed through.1.034° 32' 024° 25'.2.033° 14' 029° 42'
3.031° 58' 032° 41', thence direct to arrive outer end Port Said
searched channel 0530C/1/9.

(Capt.S.1.1245C/27 to TURBULENT, (R) C. in C.Med. Capt.(S) 10
S/M on Patrol. No.201 N.C.Group).

6 torpedoes expended, have one defective torpedo. One 5,000
ton southbound ship sunk in 035° (739') 023° 05'. One 10,000
ton ship escorted by 2 destroyers in 035° 36' 023° 03' at 1430B/27
course (?210°) 12 knots. Am returning to base through 035° 36'
023° 00' direct to 025° 22' 015° 13'.

(P.35 1606B/27 to Capt.(S) 1.Capt.(S) 10.(R) C. in C.Med.
S/Ms on patrol. No.201.N.C.Group.S.O. Subs.Alexandria).

/Aircraft....

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War Diary.27.8.1942.
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean - CONTS.

Enemy Convoy Aircraft report merchant vessel on fire at
P.35. 1105/27 in 035° 48' 023° 15'E.
TURBULENT. (Capt.S.1. 1630C/27 to P.35 (R) C. in C.Med).
Unless otherwise ordered by Capt.(S) 1 leave
patrol as requisite p.m. 7/28th and proceed 035°
22' 019° 59' 035° 22' 014° 12' and 035° 32' 014° 12' to R/V with
sweepers (?end) of searched channel about 09 (? 29)B/2/9. C. in C.
Med. pass to No.201.N.C.Group.
(Capt.S.10. 1806B/27 to P.35 (R) Capt.S.1. C. in C.Med,
S.O.(S) Alexandria, No.201.N.C.Group, Subs. on Patrol).

Malta.Air I.618. 27/8 C.S.R.Malta.
Report. 26/8. 0945 Hours. 2 Hurricanes, Bombers with 10
Spitfires close escort and 16 Spitfires high cover
attacked Biscari Aerodrome. Hurricanes dropped bombs
from 6,000 feet and attacked Military Barracks with machine guns
and cannons from ground level, close escort Spitfires swept
across Aerodrome at ground level and when leaving Sicily attacked
Blockhouse on coast. High cover Spitfires over Biscari at 17,000
feet for 15 minutes but no enemy aircraft seen. All aircraft
returned safely.
1054 Hours. Enemy retaliated with raid of 47 aircraft probably
including bombers. Partial RDF and VHF interference. 23 raiders
turned back when 20 miles N. of Malta remaining 24 intercepted
10 miles N.E. of Island by 17 Spitfires and forced to return.
Enemy had height advantage and 2 Spitfires missing probably
shot down by ME.109s. 2 Spitfires gave cover to friendly shipping.
17 Spitfires searched for 2 missing Spitfires found nothing. 1
Spitfire damaged landing pilot unhurt.
1617 Hours. 5 Spitfires up for raid which returned before reaching
Malta.
Night 26/27. 2 Alerts 1840 hrs. 1 Beaufighter up but no raiders
approached.
(H.Q.R.A.F.Malta 1730/27).
(Pt.1.Sec.2). 2039 Hours. 7 raiders approached but only
2(?) JU 87s (?) crossed coast. Partial RDF interference.
Beaufighter fired short burst at 2 JU 87s 20 miles north of Malta
but makes no claims. Few bombs on land caused no damage.
2208 Hours. 11 raiders approached 2 Beaufighters up and in spite
of partial RDF interference 1 incoming JU 88 destroyed 5 miles
north of Malta, 2 prisoners taken. 4 illuminations. 1 bomber
destroyed another probably destroyed by A/A. At Luqa D.A.bombs
on dispersals, 1 transit Beaufort slightly damaged. Hal Far,
superficial damage to offices. Elsewhere 6 civilians wounded
few houses destroyed.
2230 Hours 1 Beaufighter up but no raiders approached.
27th 0850 Hours. Fighter sweep 9 ME.109s approached great
height. 6 ME.109s intercepted off the coast by 8 Spitfires.
2 ME.109s damaged, 1 Spitfire slightly damaged pilot unhurt.
(H.Q.R.A.F.Malta, 1741/27).
Second part of Part 2 CSR.I. 618 27/8.
Night 26/27. 1 Beaufighter made successful attack Marsala
Flying Boat Station, 1 M/V with chance light attacked and
light extinguished, 1 Do.18 shot down in flames.
(A.H.Q. Malta 1759/27).

/UTMOST.....

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War Diary.27.8.1942.
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean - Contd.

- UTMOST. Concentrate your patrol in Levkas area L keeping South of $039^{\circ} 00'$ until further orders. (Capt.S.l. 1735C/27 to UTMOST, (R) RORQUAL, C. in C.Med. Capt.(S) 10.).
- RORQUAL. On completion minelaying operation proceed to dive by day through following position
(1) $038^{\circ} 53' 019^{\circ} 10'$. (2) $036^{\circ} 57' 020^{\circ} 04'$
(3). $034^{\circ} 36' 023^{\circ} 12'$. (4) $033^{\circ} 42' 034^{\circ} 16'$. thence direct to Beirut. When South of $038^{\circ} 00'$ report your position distance run per 24 hours and exact position of lay.
(Capt.S.l. 1815C/27 to RORQUAL. (R) UTMOST, C. in C.Med. No.201 N.C.Group, Capt.(S) 10).
- NEREUS. Following is a repetition of my 1858/27 (N.T.in W.R) (begins)- DULVERTON (R) BELVOIR G.S.NEREUS, A.I.G. 76, A.I.G. 79 from S.N.O.L.A. At dusk steer 180° with ROBERT BRIDGES to join Levant route B and thence to Port Said.
(S.N.O.L.A. 1901C/27 to G.S.NEREUS).
Following is a repetition of my 2045/27 (begins):-
In view of your 1845/27th (N.T.in W.R.) cancel my 1858/27. (Ends).
(S.N.O.L.A. 2049C/27 to NEREUS).
- Italian Battleships Taranto. Photographic R/C today shows the arrival in Marcost Grande, Taranto, of a third "Littorio". Now 3 "Littorio" and 3 "Cavour" present.
(V.A.Malta.2121B/27 to Admty (R) C. in C.Med).

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27.8.1942
Thursday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies.Loan of
Indian
Flotilla.

Your 0629/15 Government of India have agreed to release of vessels in para 1. Programme will be reported.
(F.O.C.R.I.N. 0423Z/27 to C. in C. E.F. (R) Comrin, Dep. C. in C. E.F., Admty., S.N.O.P.G., N.O.I.C. Karachi, F.O.I.C. Ceylon, Com. Aden.)

M.N.B.D.O.
ship
Addu Atoll.

Your 0929/26 (re CLAN FORBES to be replaced by MATIANA as M.N.B.D.O. accommodation ship - N.T. in W.D.) Following are alternatives.
A. CLAN FORBES due Colombo 1/9 and MATIANA 16th. CLAN FORBES could therefore be released end September and MATIANA arrives Addu Atoll 1/10. B. CLAN FORBES arrive Bombay 8/9 to load stores for Addu Atoll and two H.D.L.S. Return Colombo to embark M.N.B.D.O. personnel and arrive Addu Atoll 25/9. Complete unloading 10th and transfer of equipment to MATIANA 20th and be available for release at Colombo by 25/10. All dates approximate.
2. Alternative A will delay development work at Addu Atoll due to late arrival of M.N.B.D.O. and fact that 14,000 tons of equipment and stores now in India are held up for lack of suitable shipping. Also arrival H.D.L.S. will be delayed for at least another month.
3. For above reasons strongly recommend that further delay of four weeks in release of CLAN FORBES be accepted. Request approval.
(F.O. Ceylon 0708Z/27 to C. in C. E.F. (R) D.S.T., P.S.T.O.)

RIZWANI
Repatriates.

Your 2320/18 para 3 and 4. (1) 600 Indian passengers are being embarked at Kilindini in SS RIZWANI for repatriation as undesirables to India at special request of Kenya Government.
(2) Request approval for RIZWANI to proceed independently observing her speed is only 9 knots.
(C. in C. E.F. 0756Z/27 to Admty.)
Your 0756/27 Approved.
(D.O.D.(F) 1629A/27 to C. in C. E.F.)

Navigation.

Australian Investigator, Althorpe Is. light has been re-exhibited. Tunnelled sectors are discontinued. White light showing from 093° through South to 023°. Obscured elsewhere. Visibility reduced to 10 miles.
(S.O.I. Colombo 0908C/27 to All concerned Q C A 548.)

SCOUT
JUMNA
ASTER.

Left with B.P. 53.
(S.O.(I) Bombay 0946Z/27 to Admty., F.O.C.R.I.N., S.O.(I) Colombo, S.O.(I) Kilindini, N.O.I.C. Karachi, N.O.I.C. Basra, S.N.O.P.G.)

See next page

/U/B off ...

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War Diary.27.8.1942
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies. - contd.

U/B off British Somaliland. Sitrep 19/8 to 25/8. Somalibrit coast watchers report having seen S/M near Siyara KZA 38. (G.O.C. in C. E. Africa 1005/27 G.M.T.) W.D. Note.- Siyara 10° 35 N. 45° 17 E. Berbera 10° 26 N. 45° 01 E.

Troop Movements. Cancel my 1301/7th. Following is revised and up to date programme of proposed troop movements. Details. (P.S.T.O. Bombay 1035Z/27 to Dep. C. in C. E.F.)

B.P.53 Sailing telegram.
2. 1030Z/27.
3. E.T.A. position (Q) 024° 14' 066° 25' off Karachi 0800Z/30.
3A. E.T.A. R/V with HINDUSTAN and H.M.S. TULIP at 024° 33' 059° 33' 0800Z/1/9.
3B. E.T.A. Rooka if convoy not dispersed 0300Z/5.
6. JUMNA, SCOUT, ASTER.
(N.C.S.O. Bombay 1115Z/27, 1117Z/27 to Admty.) *See previous page.*

Shipping from South Atlantic. Your 0109/1 of 29/6 para 5. Not to Admiralty. Request chop dates for northbound shipping may be either 3 days after leaving port or date of passing station limits whichever is later. (2) EF 4004/12 of 21/7 para 3. Do you concur please?
(C. in C. E.F. 1156/27 to C. in C. S.A. (R) Admty.)

Officers for Kilindini. C. in C. Med. 1248C/15 not to S.N.O.P.G. These Officers were supplied for separate requirements. The urgent requirements in S.N.O.P.G.'s 0845Z/9th and my 1831/15th still remained unfulfilled. (C. in C. E.F. 1232Z/27 to Admty. (R) S.N.O.P.G.)

Air Report. A.979 27/8 Daily Intelligence Summary No.165 to 1800 hours 27/8. Catalina sighted S/M 220 miles S.W. Meylon (? Ceylon)
(A.H.Q. India 1446Z/27.)

Movements. Colombo arrival 27/8. 0435Z FROBISHER. Departure 1015Z D.S. WILLEM VAN DER Zaan. (S.O.I. Colombo 1510Z/27 to Admty. etc.)

ROBERTS. ^{INT. 27/8} Commodore Aden's 0616/24, and A.M. 1539/16. Request S. of A and confirmation that ROBERTS is proceeding at best speed.
2. Deputy C. in C. E.F. is requested to expedite her passage as much as possible and to report programme. (A.C.N.S.(F) 1607A/27 to Commodore Aden, D. C. in C. E.F. (R) C. in C. E.F., C. in C. S.A. ROBERTS.)
Reply: Cdre Aden. 1331Z/28.

/Addu Atoll ...

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War Diary.

27.8.1942
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies - contd.

Addu Atoll
A/S
Protection.

Your 0543Z/26 (?0546/26 intended re protection of Addu Atoll). Regret no Catalinas available now. Consideration will be given to send Walrus from ALBATROSS when they can be spared. (C. in C. E.F. 1820Z/27 to F.O. Ceylon (R) C. in C. Ceylon, Air O.C. Ceylon, Admty. (?N.O.I.C. Addu Atoll.)

Army
Situation
Report 54.

Burma. 2 ships from Rangoon reliably reported arrived Akyab 4/8 or 5/8 with 400 troops. Unloaded alongside jetty and left after 3 days with unspecified number troops on board. Internal India. General improvement maintained. (C. in C. India T.O.D. 2150/27.)

U/B,
Berbera.

Enemy U-Boat sighted off Berbera 24/8. (C. in C. E.F. 2235Z/27 to Merchant shipping in Area 7A.)

War Diary.

27.8.1942.
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies.

INGRAHAM
Sunk.

Washington, Aug. 27. The Navy Department announces that the U.S. destroyer INGRAHAM has been sunk in a collision during fog in the Atlantic.
(The Times, 28/8/42.)

U/B.

Barbados Radio reports as follows: 0730 G.M.T. intercept NMR S/M on surface 10.57 N. 60.13 W. (S.O.I. Kingston Jamaica, 0425Q/27 to Admty.)

Movement
Summary.

1800 G.M.T./27.

Ship	Position	Course	Speed
ARMERIA	23½° N. 28½° W.	235°	9
BURDOCK			
with Oiler			
QUEEN	13° N. 25° W.	315°	14
ELIZABETH			
3 Destroyers			
GLASGOW	32½° N. 63° W.	088°	19
A.T. 20	49½° N. 26½° W.	032°	13½

(D.O.D.(F), 1015Z/27, 2107Z/27 to Opnav.)

Reporting
by merchant
ships with
H/F.

Your 1515R/26. No Admiralty objections but (1) is largely and (2) entirely a matter for Connav. A.M. 1905A/21 refers.
(D.T.D., 1022A/27 to B.R.O. Cristobal.)

O.N.5122,
EMPIRE BREEZE.

FRISKY sailed St. Johns 2136Z/26. To search for EMPIRE BREEZE ex O.N.5122.
(F.O.N.F., 1105Z/27.)

My 2025/26. Detach ROSTHERN on joining to locate EMPIRE BREEZE in 49.45 N. 35.10 W. Estimate FRISKY will be in approx. 048° 10' N. 048° 30' W. at 1200/27 course 079° speed 12. ROSTHERN is to report her P.C. and S. when well clear of convoy and also position of O.N.5122.
(C.C.N.F., 1205Z/27 to C.T.U. 24.1.4.) *See A 861*

30th M.L. F.

Intend to sail 30th M/L Flotilla escorted by THIRLMERE for Narsarssuak at 1100/29th.
(A.C.I.C., 1137A/27 to Cominch.)

GLASGOW.

Left Bermuda in accordance with my 1552/26. Expects to cross 018° W. 050° 15' N. at 0730Z/2/9 and to pass Needles Light bound up Solent at 1630Z/3rd.
(S.B.N.O.W.A., 1233Z/27 to Admty.)

/Dispositions ...

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War Diary.27.8.1942.
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies - Contd.

Dispositions Admty. telegram 1928/19.
 U.S. Forces WASHINGTON - left New York 23/8.
 in the NEW YORK with convoy left Halifax 22/8.
 Atlantic. RANGER - due Newport 25/8!
 AUGUSTA - due Newport 25/8.
 WICHITA - at New York.
 OMAHA - at Montevideo. PHILADELPHIA with convoy left Halifax
 22/8. MEMPHIS - due Trinidad 25/8. CINCINNATI - due Recife
 25/8. SAVANNAH - at Norfolk.
 (D.O.D.(F), 1241A/27 to C. in C. H.F., S.B.N.O.W.A., N.S.H.Q.
 Ottawa.)

ST. FRANCIS. Intend to sail ST. FRANCIS at 1330Z/28 to
 (? relieve) BROKE in 045° 08' N. 042° 49' W. at
 1500Z/29. Speed (? 20) knots.
 (F.O.N.F., 1410Z/27 to C.T.U. 24.1.11 as amended
 1220Z/28.)
 My 1410Z/27. Sailing of ST. FRANCIS delayed
 further signal will be made.
 (F.O.N.F., 2040Z/27.)

ZWARTE ZEE. Detained for temporary repairs to patent stern
 propeller. Estimated ready for sea 30th.
 Vessel will require docking in near future for
 complete repair. Curacao dry dock not suitable.
 (B.S.N.O. Curacao, 1430QR/27 to Admty.)

MOUNT Left New York.
 EVEREST (New York, 1504/27 to M. of W.T.)
 (French)

Convoy 2 ships sunk by mine or torpedo in 051° 52' N.
 S.G. 6 055° 30' W. at 1255Z/27.
 CHATHAM. (C.O.A.C. Halifax, 1523Z/27 to Admty.)
 Two ships torpedoed in 051° 51' N. 055° 30' W. at
 1255Z/27.

(N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 1543 G.M.T./27 to VIBRAN.)
 Following has been received from A.O.C. E.A.C. begins.
 Botwood (R) No. One Group Command Control from No. 116 B.R.
 Squadron. 2 ships sunk 51.51 N. 55.30 W. more lifeboats with
 survivors. Getting H.M.C.S. TRAIL to pick up survivors.
 1343Z/27. Ends.
 (N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 1603Z/27 to Admty., Cominch, (R) C.O.A.C.,
 F.O.N.F., C.T.F. 24.)
 My 1523/27th amend to read one ship sunk by torpedo.
 (C.O.A.C. Halifax, 2105Z/27.)
 My 1603Z/27. Aircraft amended report to one transport
 sunk. Escort safe. Survivors being rescued. T.O.O. 1531Z/27.
 (N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 2240Z/27.)

/Submarine ...

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War Diary.27.8.1942.
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies - Contd.

Submarine (C. in C. U.S. Fleet, 1544/27, 1631/27, 1633/27,
Estimate 27/8. 1634/27, 1635/27.)

HADIOTIS. Your 2033/26 HADIOTIS has been sold to Switzerland and is now Swiss EIGER. She sailed from Beira for Gibraltar and Genoa on 14/8 speed about $9\frac{1}{2}$ knots. A.M. 1819/26 refers. (D.T.D., 1600Z/27 to Connav.)

Dispositions. Cable ship LORD KELVIN, U.S. BERNADOU $045^{\circ} 25' 056^{\circ} 15' 260^{\circ} 10.5$.
U.S.S. MATTOLE, U.S. Destroyer OSMOND INGRAM $045^{\circ} 20' 058^{\circ} 45' 243^{\circ} 9$.
(C.O.A.C. Halifax, 1601Z/27 to Admty.)

CRIPPLE CREEK,
BESHOLT. Survivors from CRIPPLE CREEK state your diversion 1714/1 not received.
2. Your 1901/17 BESHOLT had not received new signal letters and therefore had no war call sign, but was using signal letter LJGL.
3. It is anticipated that A.M. 1340A/25 will obviate uncertainties as to signal letters in future.
(D.T.D., 1602Z/27 to Connav.)

Shipping,
W/T reports. C. in C. S.A. 1528B/25 is being passed to you for information.
(D.T.D., 1646Z/27 to Connav.)

CHAMBLY,
NAPANEE
O.N. 123. Intend to sail CHAMBLY and NAPANEE at 1330Z/28 to operate in vicinity of O.N. 123. Ships have been ordered not to join escort but to co-operate with them.
(F.O.N.F., 1756Z/27 to C.T.U. 24.1.11.)

S/M sighted. Aircraft sighted submarine 47.29 N. 63.17 W. at 1745Z/27 aircraft call letters M C 5 H 4 IMI MC 5 H4.
(C.O.A.C. Halifax, 1810Z/27 to Admty.)

MAURETANIA,
AQUITANIA. Your 1405/25. Agree alternative 5(a) is preferable. (b) cannot be accepted. (c) will be investigated by D. of S.T. If (a) is impracticable but considerable delay and interference with other important Military movements would be entailed.
(D. of S.T., 1849A/27 to B.A.D.)

ESLEDINE Left Curacao.
(French) (Curacao, 1930/27 to M.W.T.)

/Giro ...

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War Diary.27.8.1942.
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies - Contd.

Giro. Amendment 13.
(Connav, 1954Z/27.)

ARLETTA. ARLETTA sunk by torpedo 1220 G.M.T./5 in 044° 44' N. 055° 22' W. Submarine not sighted. C.Bs sank with ship. 5 survivors picked up 20th August by U.S.A. Coast Guard MENEMSHA now in hospital Boston. My 1959/27th follows giving names. 7 known drowned and 29 missing believed drowned, names unknown. (Boston, 2012Z/27.)

ROSTHERN. F.O.N.F's 1205Z/27th. ^{A.855} My P.C. and S. 2000Z/27 48.57 N. 46.40 W. 084° 13.5. O.N. 122 P.C. and S. 1200Z/27 48.49 N. 47.24 W. (? 266°) 7.5. Weather report follows: 9190 1872. (ROSTHERN, 2012Z/27 to Connav, (R) C.T.F. 24, Admiralty, C. in C. W.A., N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, F.O.N.F., C.O.A.C. Halifax, C.T.G. 24.7, FRISKY.)

Attacks on U/Bs. Your 1811/15. Request amplification of attacks stated to have taken place on following dates: 1435Z 1st May; 0343Z/28th May; 2139Z/20th June; 1704Z/23rd June; 1810Z/27th July. 2. Request that future signals giving assessments may include particulars of time and date, ships or aircraft concerned and position for each attack. (D.A/S.W., 2041Z/27 to Cominch.)

U/B sighted. Barbados W/T reports submarine sighted 1845Z/27 in 007° 51' 251° 251° (as received) 054° 06' W. course 160°. (S.O.(I) Kingston Jamaica, 2051Q/27.)

MOENA (Dutch) Torpedoed and sunk 0920 G.M.T./24 013° 30' N. 057° 30' W. 4 missing 86 survivors landed at Trinidad. (S.O.(I) Kingston Jamaica, 2053Q/27 to Admty., S.B.N.O.W.A., B.A.D., N.S.H.Q.)

STAD AMSTERDAM (Dutch) Torpedoed 0400/24 85 miles S. Ilea Vache. 3 casualties Master and 34 arrived Aux Cayes. (S.O.(I) Kingston Jamaica, 2054Q/27 to Admty., S.B.N.O.W.A., B.A.D., C. in C. U.S. Fleet (C and R), N.O.I.C. Trinidad.)

/Reporting

War Diary.27.8.1942.
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies - Contd.Reporting
by ships
fitted
with H/F.

A.M. 1905/21.

The situation regarding the Pacific is not
satisfactory as:-(A) There are practically no W/T Stations on
British ship shore frequencies.

(B) U.S. do not allow merchant ships to employ

U.S. Naval 4235 K/cs series except in emergency and are unlikely
to agree to its use for this purpose unless they are very anxious
to receive this information which for the Pacific area they are
not at present.(C) U.S. Commercial Station frequencies have not yet been
promulgated to British ships.2. In view of Pacific being entirely in U.S. strategic area
propose that instructions given in A.M. 1905/21 should not
apply to the Pacific for the present.

3. Navy Dept. concurs with above.

(B.A.D., 2059Z/27 to Admty.) View of N.Z.N.B. see 1210M/28.

ABBEKERK.

62 survivors from Dutch ABBEKERK torpedoed in
052° 05' N. (030°?) 50' W. at 2359Z/24th picked
up at 1600Z/27th. Chief Officer and cook missing
10 Naval 4 Military ratings now in escort remainder
in merchant ships.

(C.T.U. 24.1.15, 2136Z/27.)

VERITY.

Admty. 1811/5. Intend to sail VERITY on
completion of boiler cleaning and defects at
1200Z/1/9 routed through -

A. 044° 30' N. 059° 00' W.

B. 043° 33' N. 050° 00' W.

C. 041° 32' N. (?040°) 00' W.

D. 038° 30' N. 030° 00' W thence to Ponta Delgada to fuel
thence through -

E. 037° 30' N. 019° 00' W.

F. 036° 50' N. 011° 00' W. to Gibraltar.

S. of A. 12 knots E.T.A. Ponta Delgada 1200Z/17.

(C.O.A.C. Halifax, 2146Z/27.)

Periscope
sighted.Periscope sighted in 045° 54' N. 063° 40' W.
at 1600Z/27 and in 046° 02' N. 063° 27' W. at
1900Z/27. Duty ship PICTOU pass to S.N.O.
Pictou N.S.

(C.O.A.C. Halifax, 2224Z/27.)

War Diary.

27.8.1942
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Australia and New Zealand.

Situation. Digest Serial No.117 (?217) 26th. Enemy landed Hioma Beach (Milne Bay) 1540Z/25 from convoy reported my Serial Number 216 Para 1. Adverse weather conditions hindered air attacks. Convoy departed Milne Bay approx. 2130Z/25 and 3 cruisers 2 destroyers 2 transports reported at 0216Z/26 9° 45' S. 151° 32' E. course 30° enemy convoy 1 cruiser 2 destroyers 3 transports reported 10° 10' S. 151° 20' E. at 0635Z/26 course 200°.

2. 3 attacks by Kittyhawks made on enemy landing operation S. Hioma Beach area. 6 landing barges destroyed large fuel and stores dumps set afire. Marauders B.25s and Hudsons bombed and machine gunned foreshore destroying fuel dump in water and causing large fires ashore. 11 sorties made against enemy shopping by Fortresses scoring direct hit on 1 transport which observed sinking. 5 bombs paralleled side cruiser at 10 feet. Reported listing.
3. 1 cruiser 2 destroyers 2 medium cargo vessels 1 smaller vessel other small craft 4 floatplanes reported Faisi Tonolei harbour area by air R/C 0001Z/26.
4. 2 unidentified A/C reported Derby heading towards Broome at 1220Z/26.
5. 5 Hudsons attacked Dilli Area night 25/26 fires started buildings area. Reference my Serial Number 216 para 6 for night 25/8 read 24/8.
6. 6 Aircobras attacked Buna aerodrome 2125Z/25 destroying 6 Zeros and probably 2 others while taking off. (G.H.Q. S.W. Pacific 0955Z/27 to Admty. etc.)

Dispositions. A.M. 1909/19. U.S. Forces in Pacific.

SOUTH DAKOTA	Left Canal zone 21/8.
→ CHICAGO	En route Sydney.
RALEIGH	Due Samoa 25/8.
JUNEAU	Left Canal zone 25/8. ? 21/8 - 2 - P-791
BOISE	Due Suva 26/8.
TRENTON	} On patrol South East Pacific.
RICHMOND	
PHOENIX	
CONCORD	
DETROIT	
(D.O.D.(F) 1240A/27 to C. in C. E.F., N.Z.N.B., A.C.N.B., N.S.H.Q. Ottawa.)	

Movements. → Arrivals Sydney 0148Z/27 CHICAGO, MUGFORD and STUART. (A.C.N.B. 1552Z/27 to Admty., C. in C. E.F., N.Z.N.B., C.O.I.S.)

/Situation ...

War Diary.

27.8.1942
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Australia and New Zealand - contd.

Situation Report. Maori 27. Ocean Island. One A/C sighted 24th, 3 on 25th, 2 on 26th. Island shelled few minutes 1530Z/25. Ship possibly NAGARA reported approaching Island at 0500Z/26 nothing further heard possibly occupied by enemy. Enemy R/C Gilbert Islands continues. Greatly increased S/M activity indicated by D/F at least ten enemy S/Ms operating between Equator and 19° S. 154° to 166° E. My 0411Z/24 para 3. Ship reports believed attacked by S/M 17th two flashes and report of gunfire heard no fall of shot observed S/M not identified. (N.Z.N.B. 2337Z/27 to Maori, C.O.I.S.E.F. B.A.D. Washington, Admty., Dep. C. in C. E.F., A.C.N.B., F.O. Colombo, Port Director, Fiji, C. in C. Pacific, Comsopac, Comsouwepac, Comairsopac Cominch, S.O.(I) Call.)

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Submarines Reported.

Approx. positions.
(D.D.I.C. 1440A/27, 1448A/27.)

War Diary.28.8.1942
Friday.SITUATION REPORT.Home Commands.

A U-boat bombarded Hodavariba lighthouse (68° 53' N. 53° 38' E) South of Novaya Zemlya) this morning and then proceeded eastwards.

Coastal forces from Felixstowe, Lowestoft and Yarmouth operated unsuccessfully tonight against a convoy off Vlieland. About 2200 M.T.B.87 was damaged and returned to port. There were no casualties.

NELSON arrived at Scapa at 1308A today, escorted by 3 destroyers.

INDOMITABLE arrived at Liverpool at 1214A today with LIGHTNING and ITHURIEL.

ARGUS arrived at Newcastle on Tyne at 0945 today, to refit.

Certain first line squadrons of the R.N.A.S. are now rearming. Hurricane bombers and Fulmar bombers are entering into the Naval Service.

Seven out of 9 Lancaster aircraft detailed to attack naval objectives at Gdynia last night dropped their bombs but cloud prevented anything being seen of the target. The arrival of a floating dock at Gdynia and the reported transference of personnel and equipment from Kiel, with the presence of the SCHARNHORST, GNEISENAU and GRAF ZEPPELIN suggests the development of this port as a naval base at safer bombing distance from the U.K. than Kiel.

North Atlantic.

Attack
on S.L.
119.

Convoy S.L.119 was attacked at 1713Z today in 40° 2' N. 16° 2' W. (about 330 miles west of Cape Roca) Two ships were torpedoed; one of them (ZUIDERKERK) rejoined the convoy but sank on 30/8. The other, CITY OF CARDIFF was abandoned, with rudder and propeller blown off; tugs were sent from Gibraltar and an adjacent convoy, to bring her in, but she sank during the night 29/30 August.

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War Diary.

28.8.1942
Friday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Mediterranean.

Wellingtons last night report torpedoing a ship in a southbound convoy north of Derna, Another or the same vessel was bombed, and after the attack the vessel was not visible and much oil was seen on the surface. The bombing of Tobruk harbour continues.

Move
"Roberts-
bridge"

The move of troops into and out of Cyprus which commenced on 17/8 was completed today.

East Indies.

SHOREHAM picked up 71 survivors of SS HARMONIDES located by a Catalina in 2° 22' N. 78° 37' E. p.m. today.

America and West Indies.

Attacks
on S.G.6.
and S.C.94.

and T.A.W.
15.

Sinking of ARLYN see 27/8. Survivors have been picked up from SS VENI; the ship was apparently lost in convoy S.C.94 which was attacked from 5/8 onwards, making a twelfth ship sunk in this convoy. Convoy T.A.W.15 was attacked at 0540 today off the S.W. coast of Haiti and British Tanker SAN FABIAN (13031 tons) and Dutch tanker ROTTERDAM (8968 tons) were torpedoed and sunk.

U/B
sunk.
(U.94)

The U.S. Naval Authorities report (2/9) that about 0430 today R.C.N. Corvette (OAKVILLE) rammed and sank a U-boat off Cape Tiburon (south coast of Haiti). Twenty six prisoners were taken. OAKVILLE was damaged and proceeded to Guantanamo.

War Diary.

28.8.1942
Friday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Australia and New Zealand.

6 Marauders escorted by 17 Aircobras attacked Buna Aerodrome (Papua) at 2150Z/28. Four Catalinas attacked Buka Aerodrome (Bougainville I., Bismarck Archipelago) at 1635Z.

War Diary.28.8.1942.
Friday.HOME COMMANDS.Policy.

GLASGOW. GLASGOW is needed for service as soon as she can be made ready consistent with giving of leave.
2. Ship should arrive Portsmouth a.m./5/9.
3. On conclusion of leave, about 27/9, GLASGOW should be sailed to Scapa to work up.
4. During leave period essential items of dockyard work should be undertaken subject to no delay in the sailing date.
(A.C.N.S.(H), 0211A/28.)
My 0211/28 and C. in C. Plymouth's 1705/27. GLASGOW should arrive Portsmouth p.m./3/9.
(D.O.D.(H), 1328A/28 to C. in C. Portsmouth.)

M.M.S. 90, Admty. 1825/21st, my 0042/25th and Admty. 2258/27.
203, 212. All being passed to R.A.D.H.F.
See pp 869 & 872 Weather permitting suggest M.M.S. should be towed during first part of passage.
2. No delay in passage of convoy can be accepted.
3. Diesel oil in Ranger class oilers is suitable for these (? ships)
(C. in C. H.F., 1156A/28 to A.C.I.C.)

Defence of the U.K.

Richborough. Damage caused by bombs on 24/8 shows the susceptibility of Kitchener Camp, Richborough to effect of blast. Request you will re-examine and report on whole question of protection of camp and personnel to be accommodated in it.
(F.O.C. Dover, 1154A/28 to S.C.E. Chatham.)

Movements.

CUMBERLAND. CUMBERLAND will be detached off Skagi about 1530/28 to proceed to Scapa passing through 058° 44' N. 006° 30' W. E.T.A. 0500/30. Request A.L.T. and E.F.A. at dawn 30th. Request A/S air escort may be provided during daylight.
(C.S.18, 0026A/28 to C. in C. H.F., A.C.I.C., Admty., H.Q.C.C., C.S.1, C. in C. W.A., (R) CUMBERLAND.) *See p. 874*

OAKLEY. Sailed E.T.A. 1115/28th.
(N.O.I.C. Invergordon, 0725A/28 to A.C.O.S.)

LONDON. Arrived Scapa.
(A.C.O.S., 0910/28.)

P. 614. Scapa departure 0708 P.614 and SCALBY WYKE.
(A.C.O.S., 0932/28.)

/ARGUS ...

War Diary.

28.8.1942.
Friday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Movements - Contd.

ARGUS, ARGUS arrived. ICARUS and INTREPID proceeded.
ICARUS, (N.O.I.C. Newcastle-on-Tyne, 0945/28.)
INTREPID.

TIGRIS, 1. Intended sailings TIGRIS, STURGEON and ULUC ALI
STURGEON, REIS escorted by WHITE BEAR at 0700A/31st via
*ULUC ALI REIS, searched channels and Little Minch for Loch Ewe,
WHITE BEAR. E.T.A. 0900A/1st.
* P.615 2. Thence WHITE BEAR, TIGRIS and STURGEON via
See next page West of Orkneys for Lerwick, E.T.A. 0900A/2nd.
3. N.O.I.C. Greenock is requested to arrange fighter co-
operation. S. of A. 10 knots help message on 385 K/cs.
4. Wireless watch.
(Capt. (S) 3, 1009A/28 to C. in C. Rosyth, N.O.I.C. Aultbea,
S.O. Subs. Lerwick, F.O.C.(D) H.F., Clyde Sub. Movements
Northabout.)

ACHATES. My 1734A/27 sailed ACHATES 2 hours late. E.T.A.
See next page will be signalled when known.
(F.O.I.C. Greenock, 1024A/28 to A.I.G. 203
Negative, H.Q.F.C., H.Q.C.C., Comdre. Londonderry.)
Arrived.
(F.O.I.C. Liverpool, 1858A/28.)

M.M.S. 90, A.M. 1825/21 route for motor minesweepers to
203, 212. Reykjavik (P) 270° Cape Wrath 18 miles.
See pp 868 7872 (Q) 059° 50' N. 010° 01' W. (R) 062° 30' N.
020° 01' W. thence Reykjavik. Request you
sail these craft when ready.
(C. in C. W.A., 1027A/28 to N.O.I.C. Greenock.)

Disposition of operational units in N. Atlantic.	Area Iceland (C)	- DUKE OF YORK, CUMBERLAND, NORFOLK, SUFFOLK, TUSCALOOSA, 2 Destroyers (U.S.) 4 Destroyers.
	Area Scapa	- KING GEORGE V, NELSON, JAMAICA, SCYLLA, SHEFFIELD, LONDON, 7 Destroyers.
	Area Clyde	- FURIOUS, AURORA, 1 Destroyer.
	Area Gibraltar (D.O.D.(H), 1030Z/28.)	- CHARYBDIS, 3 Destroyers.

MIGNONETTE. Route for refit.
(A.C.O.S., 1104/28.)

30th M.L. F. My 1137/27th. Routed through (x) 063° 05' N.
029° 59' W. (y) 061° 40' N. 037° 01' W. to 5
miles south of Cape Farewell thence to Narsarssuak.
(A.C.I.C., 1110A/28 to Cominch.)

War Diary.28.8.1942.
Friday.HOME COMMANDS.Movements - Contd.

- P. 615. My 1009/28th and F.O.S. 0958/23.
(include Ali Reis) (A) Request P. 615 may be sailed U.R. convoy
See previous page leaving on 2/9 as far as 015° W. whence P. 615
 will proceed independently on the surface as routed by Capt.
 (S) 3 for Seidisfjord.
 (B) Request I may be informed of latitude in which P. 615 will
 be detached and time and date this will take place.
 (Capt. (S) 3, 1137A/28 to N.O.I.C. Aultbea.) *Cancelled 30/8.*
See p. 931
- ACHATES. Intend sailing ACHATES 1100A/29th for approx.
See previous page. 055° 40' N. 008° 06' W. in accordance with
 W A X O 2 appendix 3 not to all addressees E.T.A.
 2300A/29th by normal route. Speed 20 knots.
 (N.O.I.C. Liverpool, 1157A/28 to Com. Londonderry.)
- INDOMITABLE, Arrived INDOMITABLE code "Siege" LIGHTNING,
 → LIGHTNING, ITHURIEL.
 *ITHURIEL. (F.O.I.C. Liverpool, 1214A/28.)
 * See next page
- NELSON. Scapa arrival NELSON with ESKIMO, PUCKERIDGE,
 and FARNDALE.
 (A.C.O.S., 1308A/28.)
- TUSCALOOSA. (? Time of) departure from Seidisfjord 1530Z/28
 with destroyer screen. Request air coverage on
 departure from Iceland and prior to arrival at
 Greenock. E.T.A. Greenock 1230A/30th and request Gate for that
 time. Acknowledge for Gate.
 (TUSCALOOSA, 1358/28 to A.C.I.C., F.O.I.C. Greenock.)
- SALISBURY. SALISBURY is to sail to Hvalfjord at best speed
 after calibration 31/8.
 (2) After fuelling A.C.I.C. is requested to sail
 SALISBURY at best speed to St. Johns to join
 Western Local Escort Force.
 (C. in C. W.A., 1424Z/28.)
- INGLEFIELD. Proceed on completion of screening duties and
 when released by HOWE tomorrow 29/8 to Hull for
 refit at Messrs. Brigham and Cowan.
 2. Fighter protection arranged. Codeword "Flunkey".
 3. Mails have been diverted.
 4. Report expected time of arrival to be on proceeding.
 (R.A.(D), 1427A/28 to INGLEFIELD.)
- LIGHTNING. Intend sailing LIGHTNING for Scapa 1900A today
 speed 21 knots. E.T.A. 1900A/29.
 2. After disembarkation of Commander Russel of
 MALCOLM at Scapa A.C.O.S. is requested to sail LIGHTNING, for
 Chatham for refit.
 (F.O.I.C. Liverpool, 1452A/28.)

/ITHURIEL ...

War Diary.28.8.1942.
Friday.HOME COMMANDS.Movements - Contd.

ITHURIEL. Intend sailing ITHURIEL at 1030A/29 for Portsmouth for refit in accordance with A.M. 1824A/24 (1834A/24 intended) not to all addressees. E.T.A. Needles 0600A/30. Speed 25 knots to Longships. E.T.A. 2359A/29 thence 21 knots. Codeword "Funnel" (F.O.I.C. Liverpool, 1516A/28.)
My 1516A. Amend speed to 25 knots throughout passage E.T.A. Needles 0700A/30.
(F.O.I.C. Liverpool, 1831A/28.)

WHITEHALL. My 1834/27. Sailing of WHITEHALL postponed 24 hours.
(C. in C. Nore, 1542A/28 to C. in C. W.A.)

PETUNIA, 1. Sailed PETUNIA escort, rescue tugs PRUDENT and M.S.F. 108, CHARON, M.M/S F. 108, comprising M.M.S. 133, 135 H.D.M.Ls. &c. 184, 20, 33, H.D.M.L. F. 117 comprising M.L. 1221, 1127, 1128, 1139, 1142, 1152, 1225. S. of A. 8 knots. All ships hold Q.K.As to 65 PETUNIA and Motor M/S.s hold also Q.G.Bs to 165. M.Ls hold also Q.G.Bs to 165 and Q.J.As to 69.
2. Communications.
4. Mails PETUNIA and tug to Freetown, M.M/S to Gibraltar, M.L. to Trinidad.
(N.O.I.C. Milford Haven, 1551A/28.)

CAMELLIA, Intend sail 1730A/29th for Hvalfjord via R/V BRYONY, position.000° Altacarry 6 miles in accordance BERGAMOT, with C. in C. W.A. 1121A/23 and N.O.I.C. Belfast BLUEBELL. 1753A/25* E.T.A. R/V 1130A/30th speed 12 knots. Mails to continue at Liverpool.
(N.O.I.C. Liverpool, 1720A/28 to A.C.I.C., (R) Admty., N.O.I.C. Belfast, N.O.I.C. Greenock, A.C.O.S., C. in C. W.A., A.I.G. 36, C. in C. H.F., Capt. (D) Liverpool, R.A.(D) H.F., CAMELLIA, BRYONY, BERGAMOT, BLUEBELL.)
* re intended sailing of ULSTER QUEEN and ALYNBANK.

ONSLAUGHT, Following in destroyers expected a.m./30.
MARTIN, British Officers, ratings, Russian diplomats, MARNE. prisoners of war, etc.
2. MARNE has 8 wounded.
(C. in C. H.F., 1844A/28.)

E.T.A. Scapa 0600A/30. Included in survivors and passengers from North Russia, P.O.W. and British casualties already reported have following hospital cases.
(ONSLAUGHT, 2000/28 to C. in C. H.F.)
Seidisfjord (Ic.) departure of ONSLAUGHT, MARTIN, MARNE at 2105/28th.
(A.C.I.C., 2259A/28.)

/M.M.S. ...

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War Diary.28.8.1942.
Friday.HOME COMMANDS.Movements - Contd.

M.M.S. 212, A.M. 1825A/21. Intend sailing M.M.S. 212 (S.O.),
203, 90. M.M.S. 203, and M.M.S. 90 at 1045A/29th routed
See pp 868 & 869 through Minches in accordance with C. in C.
W.A. 1027A/28. E.T.A. Reykjaik a.m./2/9
constant watch will be kept on 1740 k/cs changing at 060°
N. to 1570 k/cs.
(N.O.I.C. Greenock, 1916A/28 to A.C.I.C.)

WORCESTER. Arrived Hvalfjord.
(A.C.I.C., 2205A/28.)

Operations.

Patrols. Secret code patrols tonight Friday. 1. MALLARD.
2. HAMBLEDON. 3. LA MALPOMENE. 4. MENDIP.
5. GARTH. 6. CATTISTOCK.

(C. in C. Nore, 0936A/28.)

Tonight 28/29 August. BLEASDALE and FERNIE patrolling
approximately 50° 20' N. 00° 30' W.

(C. in C. Portsmouth, 1117A/28.)

Dover dispositions for night 28th/29th August.

M.Ls 146 and 147 from Ramsgate patrolling between Dumpton and
North East Spit Buoys. E.T.D. 2050. E.T.R. 0530/29.

The following anti E-Boat patrols from 2115.

M.L. 138 and R.M.L. 516 from Newhaven near C.1 Buoy.

M.G.Bs 41 and 13 at D Buoy.

M.Ls 213 and 102 at No. 10 Buoy.

M.G.Bs 46 and 6 at No. 7 Buoy.

YASHIMA at No. 4 Buoy.

(V.A. Dover, 1822A/28.)

Bombardment of Dickson. Enemy raider bombarded Dickson 0120/27.
(S.B.N.O. Archangel, 1057A/28 to LOTUS.)

Operations against convoy off *Vinland*.
(*See p. 865*)

(1) Carry out the following offensive operations
against enemy southbound convoy tonight Friday,
forces will be recalled if no suitable target
is available.

(2) Force A consisting of 22nd M.T.B. 5th and 7th
M.G.B. Flotillas are to sail in company to reach 53° 18' N. 4°
46' E. as early as conditions permit. M.T.Bs and one unit
M.G.Bs to remain in this vicinity until enemy is located,
remaining M.G.Bs are to search to the North and eastward to
locate enemy and shadow until M.T.Bs attack.

(3) Force B consisting of 4th M.T.B. and 8th M.G.B. Flotillas
are to R/V at 55A buoy and proceed to 53° 8' N. 4° 36' E. as
early as conditions permit and are to act on information gained
by Force A.

/(4) ...

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War Diary.28.8.1942.
Friday.HOME COMMANDS.Operations.

Operations (4) Air. It is hoped that 16 Group will carry out a bombing attack about one hour before against Coastal Forces attack. Arrangements will be made with 12 Group to keep down enemy R/C at last light and to provide cover for returning forces at daylight.

(5) One unit M.G.B (L) R.B.23 and one unit M.G.B (L) R.B.24 these units are to stand by to render assistance to returning units.

(6) All units to be 30 miles off shore by daylight.
(C. in C. Nore, 1130A/28 to BEEHIVE, MANTIS, MIDGE, (R) F.O.I.C. Harwich, F.O.I.C. Yarmouth, N.O.I.C. Lowestoft, 16 Group, Admty., 12 Group.)

Your 1130/28. M.G.Bs 77 (S.O.) (Type 252), 74, 76, 79 M.T.B. 241 E.T.D. 55A buoy 1800.

(BEEHIVE, 1247A/28, 1420A/28 to C. in C. Nore.)

Your 1130/28 Force A.M.T.B. 87 (S.O.) Type 252 - 230 M.G.Bs (Unit 1) 21 (S.O.) Type 252 - 1718 (Unit 2) 88 (S.O.) Type 252 - 84, 82 (Unit 3) 91 (S.O.) Type 252 - 86, 89 E.T.D. No. 4 buoy 1830A. S.O. Force A M.G.B. 21.

(MANTIS, 1609A/28 to C. in C. Nore.)

Your 1130 para. 5.

M.G.B (L) 321 (S.O.) 327, 319 (Type 252) R.B. 23. E.T.D. 1730.

M.G.B (L) 325, 355, 332 (Type 252) R.B. 24. E.T.D. 1830.

Para. 3 Force B M.T.Bs 34 (S.O.), 70 leave Harbour 1800. R/V M.T.B. 241 (Type 252) M.G.B. (S) 77, 74, 76, 79 55A buoy 1900 commencing patrol approx. 2300.

(MIDGE, 1616A/28 to C. in C. Nore.)

Harwich 28/8 departure M.G.Bs 77, 76, 79, 74. M.T.B. 241.

(F.O.I.C. Harwich, 1705/28.)

My 1247/28. M.G.B. 77 returned to harbour propeller lost on centre engine. M.G.B. 76 returned with defective water cooling on one engine.

(BEEHIVE, 1743A/28 to C. in C. Nore.)

My 1609A/28th sailed. (Lowestoft.)

(MANTIS, 1808A/28.)

Great Yarmouth 28/8 departure M.G.Bs 321, 319, 327.

M.T.Bs 34, 70, 87, 230 at 1810, 325,*335,*332 at 1845.

(F.O.I.C. Gt. Yarmouth, 1915A/28.) *These M.T.B.s at Trinidad. (Pink list.)*

JUNON. F.S. JUNON sailed for patrol.
(Capt. (S) 9, 1505A/28.)

Operation TUSCALOOSA's 1358A/28 which has been passed to you. Request you will make necessary arrangements regarding air cover.
E.U. (F.O.I.C. Greenock, 1624A/28 to C. in C. W.A.)

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28.8.1942.
Friday.War Diary.HOME COMMANDS.Allied Air Operations.Attack on
Gdynia.

Night 27/28 August.

9 aircraft left to bomb warships at Gdynia. Seven Lancasters dropped their load, but the operation was hampered by 8 to 10/10ths cloud over the target and nothing was seen. (H.Q.B.C., 1450A/28.)

Hurricane
bombers,
Fulmar
bombers.

Consequent on the entry into Naval Service of Hurricane bombers and Fulmar bombers, low level bombing is introduced as the standard method of bombing for these aircraft.

2. If armed for bombing these aircraft must be regarded as bombers not as fighters with consequent greater vulnerability to enemy fighter attacks.

3. Loads. Hurricanes two 500 lb. S.A.P., M.C., or G.P. bombs. Fulmars one 500 lb. S.A.P. or G.P. bomb.

4. The following general instructions on low level bombing are promulgated and will be amplified in writing later.

13. Recommended targets are transports, merchant vessels, tankers and small craft. Until the 500 lb. M.C. bomb is available the 500 lb. G.P. bomb is the preferred bomb and the 500 lb. S.A.P. second in preference. Small cruisers, destroyers and auxiliary aircraft carriers are also vulnerable to low level attack, but for these ships the 500 lb. S.A.P. bomb should be used.

15. The Fulmar shows promise as a dive-bomber and trials are in progress on this and the Hurricane II B to ascertain their ability to carry out a form of dive-bombing or shallow dive attack. (D.N.A.D., 1814A/28 to R Message.)

FURIOUS.

There is an urgent requirement for a carrier for deck landing training of certain 1st line squadrons now re-arming. Total number of pilots involved 64 Seafire 25 Hurricane 28 Martlet. Can FURIOUS be made available to carry out this training preferably in the Clyde from about the 15/9 onwards. Estimated duration 10-14 days. (A.C.N.S.(H), 1845A/28 to C. in C. H.F.)

CUMBERLAND.

Your 0026A/28. ^{1/p. 868} I regret that shortage of aircraft and heavy commitments makes it impossible to provide air escort for CUMBERLAND 29/8. (C. in C. W.A., 2219A/28 to C.S.18, (R) C. in C. H.F., CUMBERLAND.)

W.S. 22.

Expect air escort of one Fortress from 1445A/29th till 2135A/29th. (C. in C. W.A., 2246A/28 to Escort W.S. 22.)

28.8.1942.
Friday.War Diary.HOME COMMANDS.Enemy Air Activity.Enemy A/C
crashed in
Jan Mayen.From Jan Mayen. At 1445 aircraft from north
crashed against Beerenberg.
(A.C.I.C., 0018A/28.)

→ BRIDLINGTON.

Enemy A/C bombing position 52° 3' N. 1° 32' E.
(BRIDLINGTON, 1905/28.)

Archangel.

Your 0733/25 pumps waiting shipment will be
despatched earliest opportunity.
(D. of D., 1933A/28 to S.B.N.O. Archangel.)Mining.Report by
RETRUDO.Trawler RETRUDO GY.952 reports while fishing 10
miles N.E. of Butt of Lewis in 60 fathoms heard
explosion at 0645/27 and on hauling in trawl at
0730 found mine with thin horns. Trawl was let
go and mine exploded putting engine out of
commission. No casualties.
(N.O.I.C. Thurso, 0950/28.)

A.F.D. XVII.

C. in C. Plymouth 1129/26 and my 1012A/28.
N.O.I.C. Milford Haven is to arrange to take over
at limit of Plymouth Command and sweep through
Irish Sea. F.O.I.C. Greenock is to arrange with N.O.I.C.
Milford Haven to take over sweep at a point mutually agreed upon
and sweep to Loch Ewe. F.O.I.C. Greenock is to call upon
Liverpool and Belfast for sweepers to assist if required.
Admty. 1913/19 refers.
(C. in C. W.A., 1014A/28.)Milford
Haven.The Port of Milford Haven will be closed for
sweeping from 0400 to 0700 daily during the
month of September. Pass to N.C.S.Os.
(D.M.S., 1039A/28 to General.)

Brighton.

Details of detonated red magnetic mine in 226°
Brighton East Pier 8.4 miles and 228° Brighton
E. Pier 8.7 miles.
(N.O.I.C. Newhaven, 1226/28, 1623/28, 1946/28,
1956/28.)

9th M/S.F.

Intend sailing 1700/28 by inshore route anchoring
at 2030 in Lowestoft Roads. Then proceeding
0600/29 establish N.W. corner of area by taut
wire from No. 4 buoy and commence sweeping 0730 finish sweeping
1730 and anchor Yarmouth roads 1900. As SIGNA can only maintain
→ 8.5 knots, BRIDLINGTON and SPINA will be used for danlaying.
SIGNA to assist with weighing.
(M.S. 9, 1240/28 to C. in C. Nore.)

/SS. KYLOE ...

War Diary.28.8.1942.
Friday.HOME COMMANDS.Mining - Contd.SS. KYLOE
(mined 25/8)

SS. KYLOE refloated. Intend sailing vessel in tow of one tug escorted by trawler to repair port. Further signal will be made as soon as tug arrives Yarmouth and sailing time arranged. (F.O.I.C. Gt. Yarmouth, 1255A/28.)

Enemy Intelligence.Dover
Straits.

Enemy shipping plotted by R.D.F. in Dover Strait from 0900/27 to 0900/28. (V.A. Dover, 0910A/28.)

Portsmouth
report.

Enemy shipping plotted by Portsmouth R.D.F. night of 27/28 August. (C. in C. Portsmouth, 1037A/28.)

Sabotage by
attached
mines.

Pass to N.C.S.Os and D.E.M.S. Staff Officers. Further to A.G.M. A.M. 42A, of 23rd and A.M. 9A of 18th July, information received indicates that other sabotage devices may also be attached to merchant ship bottoms by enemy agent divers at

neutral ports notably Spanish or Portuguese including their colonies.

2. Masters of British and Allied vessels trading to these ports should be warned of the above and instructed to set vigilant anti-sabotage watches to prevent approach of boats or divers attempting to attach these devices.

3. Both known types may be detached by diver, either by puncturing the rubber belt, or by unscrewing bilge keel clamps. Both mines have time firing devices.

4. Masters of such vessels calling at Gibraltar should be instructed to enquire of D.E.M.S. Staff Officer for further information.

5. It is under consideration to provide D.S.E.A. equipments to vessels trading to ports as in para. 1, with a view to preventing attachment of these devices, for their removal if found or for repair of damage caused by them.

(A.C.N.S.(T), 2215A/28 to A Mge.)

U-Boats.

U/B.

Am over enemy S/M position 46° 55' N. 8° 0' W. S/M was on surface and dived on a course 280° speed 8 knots. (19 Gp., 1555/28.)

Hedovariha
Lt. House
bombarded.

U-Boats bombarded Hedovariha lighthouse 068° 53' (?N.) 053° 38' E. at 0700(?C) today and then proceeded to eastwards. (S.B.N.O. Archangel, 2103A/28.)

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28.8.1942.
Friday.War Diary.HOME COMMANDS.U-Boats - Contd.

PORT JACKSON. Please convey to the Captain, Officers and crew of PORT JACKSON my warmest congratulations on successfully fighting off the U-Boat which attacked her.
(C. in C. W.A., 2314A/28 to F.O.I.C. Liverpool.)

Navigational.

Iceberg. Iceberg 30 feet in diameter 15 feet out of water reported in 066° 35' N. 023° 20' W. drifting westward at 1548A/28.
(A.C.I.C., 2306A/28 to Admty., (R) C. in C. H.F., C.S.18.)

Casualties and Defects.

Capt. D.8. My position at 1100 number 20C buoy. Port stern tube bearings are running hot at present speed limited to 15 knots. New E.T.A. will be made later.
(Capt. (D) 8, 1120A/28 to F.O.C.D.F. H.F.)

M.T.B. 236. Your 1837/27 arrived M.T.B. 236 with defects.
(F.O.I.C. Portland, 1417A/28 to HORNET.)

MAGNOLIA, Intend to sail tug CHERBOURGEOIS^{III} with MAGNOLIA
CHERBOURGEOIS, in tow with convoy W.P. 209 on 29/8 to Dartmouth.
III. (C. in C. Plymouth, 1644A/28.)

M.M.S. 174. M.M.S. 174 Brixham during operations 28/8/42
? trial
engine room bulkhead collapsed and vessel sank. Lifting craft now required to salve this casualty.
(Risdon Beazley Southampton, 1835/28 to Admty.)

ARGUS. A.M. 1325/21. Cancel para. 1. ARGUS is to be ready for service 5/10. Ship is to be ready to sail for working up port on 26/9.
2. As many As. and As. as possible should be undertaken.
ARGUS 1101/25 refers.
(D.O.D.(H), 2313A/28.)

LIVERPOOL. I anticipate that LIVERPOOL will be in hand for repairs for approx. 17 months. Proposals re paying off.
(A.S. Rosyth, 1054A/28, 0021A/29, C. in C. Rosyth, 1938A/28.)

War Diary.28.8.1942.
Friday.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping and Convoys.

TJALDUR. A.C.O.S. 1725/25th. In order to expedite turn round of TJALDUR request ship may be routed direct to Thorshavn.
(N.O.I.C. Faroes, 1105A/28 to C. in C. Rosyth, A.C.O.S.) *See next page - (LAST OF MADRE)*

P.Q. 18, P.Q. 18 and Q.P. 14. Request maximum air co-operation in following order of importance.
Q.P. 14, (A) A/S escort of both convoys to limit of Air endurance. P.C. and S. of convoys and weather Co-operation. (B) Ice R/C while convoys are west of Jan Mayen.
(C) A/S Patrols off Akureyri while battle fleet is present and fighter cover.
(D) A/S escort of battle fleet and cruisers while within range.
(2) If U-Boats are dispersed (sic) north east of Iceland A/S patrols before passage of convoy may be also necessary.
(C. in C. H.F., 1142A/28 to A.C.I.C., (R) Admty., C. in C. W.A. V.A.2, R.A.D.H.F.)

Your 1302/24. The following is a summary of air operations in connection with P.Q. 18 and Q.P. 14.

2. A/S R/C during passage of convoy from U.K. to vicinity of Jan Mayen will be provided by a co-ordinated effort by 15 Group, 18 Group and Iceland (C). Depending on the surface threat Catalinas in North Russia may be available to provide A/S R/C in the Barents Sea.

3. Anti-Surface Ship Patrols: Cross-over patrols from Norwegian coast the centre lines of which extend from 69 N. 10 E. to 71 N. 36 E. have been laid down. These will be flown as ordered by the Admiralty, at first by Catalinas from Sullom Voe, followed by 8 Catalinas in transit to North Russia and then by these 8 Catalinas based in North Russia. Catalinas from North Russia will also provide the visual link between P.Q. 18 and Q.P. 14 as required.

4. P.R.U. Three Spitfires fly to Vaenga on 2/9, these will carry out visual and photographic R/C of fiords west and south to Narvik, supplemented as necessary by Mosquitoes from U.K.

5. T/B Striking Force: Two squadrons of Hampdens to be operational in North Russia by 8/9.

6. Coastal Command have been requested to forward copies of the operation orders to C. in C. H.F.

(A.C.N.S.(H), 2013A/28 to C. in C. H.F., (R) C. in C. W.A., A.C.I.C., C. in C. Rosyth, H.Q.C.C.)

SANDHILL. Your 1230/27 M/V SANDHILL arrived.
(N.C.S.O. Aberdeen, 1301/28 to N.C.S.O. Kirkwall.)

W.S. 22. My 1050A/27 and 1330A/27 (not to AURORA) sailed codeword "Damson I".
(F.O.I.C. Liverpool, 1335A/28.)

W.S. 22 sailed less SILVERTEAK plus CANARA and LEINSTER.
Commodore Strutt R.N.R. sailing in CALIFORNIA. Codeword "Damson".
(N.O.I.C. Greenock, 2012A/28, 2014A/28.)

War Diary.

28.8.1942.
Friday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping and Convoys - Contd.

H.X. 204.

Convoy Sailing telegram as amended by Admty.
(D.T.D. 1654A/28.)

LADY OF
MANN.

It is intended to use SS. LADY OF MANN in place of *TJALDUR for conveyance of R.A.F. and Army personnel to Sorvaag and Thorshavn on 15th and 29th September. ** See previous page.*

2. LADY OF MANN should be sailed unescorted from Clyde p.m./15 so as to arrive off Cape Wrath at daylight on 16/9 to R/V with escort.

3. After disembarkation ship should return to Invergordon.

4. A.C.O.S. is requested to confirm that escort will be available.

(D.O.D.(H), 2012A/28 to A.C.O.S., F.O.I.C. Greenock.)

ARCTIC.

It is considered that ARCTIC which is too slow for convoy should have some means of transmission and reception placed onboard before being sailed independently for Iceland (C).

2. Can ship be supplied with the following equipment on loan for passage.

(a) Lifeboat portable transmitter suitcase type.

(b) Broadcast receiver capable of receiving B.B.C. transmission.

(D.T.D., 2101A/28 to F.O.I.C. Greenock.)

28.8.1942.
Friday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

LLANSTEPHAN
CASTLE.

Your 2314/27. Approved to sail LLANSTEPHAN CASTLE with H.G.88. Total number of passengers should not exceed 400. (A.C.N.S. (F), 0142A/28 to F.O.C.N.A.)

PANTHER

My 2216A/27, sailed PANTHER. (F.O.C.N.A., 0156A/28 to MALAYA (R) Admty, R.A.W.A.F., PENN)

→ LAFOREY
(Search for cause of Wellington A/c. See p. 844)

LAFOREY not PENN detached 01412/28 for reasons of endurance. (Weather report). (MALAYA, 0746A/28 to F.O.C.N.A. (R) LAFOREY).

P.31

My 1632/27 (Departure of S/M P.31) No Q.Z.H. messages are held Q.Z.H. 703, 723, 730 and 737 are being passed to P.31. (F.O.C.N.A., 1006A/28 to Admty P.31). F.O.C.N.A.'s 1006/28. Request you will take necessary action to keep P.31 informed. (F.O.S., 1614A/28 to S.5. (R) Admty).

Situation
Report
2004B/28

Area X.

1. O.N. 31. 36.59, 04.35 through 39.01, 12.26 thence 348° 8.
2. *Fleet units PENN, LOOKOUT, PANTHER, WESTCOTT, WISHART 31.58, 10.43 through 33.01, 10.03 thence 047° 16. LAFOREY searching the vicinity of 26.31 14.00. *MALAYA RAMILLIES
3. S.L.119 ROCHESTER, LEITH, ERNE, SANDWICH 040° 40' 015° 59' 000° 7½.
4. O.S.38 ENCHANTRESS, WALNEY, HARTLAND, ABERDEEN, CLARE, 038° 56' 019° 36' through 36.01, 18.30 thence 188° 8½
5. Convoy VETCH, BARDOLF 40.57, 15.15 through 40.01, 14.59 thence 129° 7.
6. SPIREA escorting tanker ESSO GETTYSBURG 34.48, 09.12 to Gibraltar 12¾.
13. H.G.88, STORK, DEPTFORD, MARIGOLD, SAMPHIRE, CONVULVULUS sail 1930 through 36.31 11.30 thence 298° 7½. (F.O.C.N.A., 1058A/28).

Area Z. (1) CALEDON 023° 18', 017° 50', 040° 14.

- (2) BURDOCK, ARMERIA tanker ABBEYDALE 020° 48' 032° 20' 235° 9.
- (3)* Fleet unit VIMY, BRILLIANT 017° 10' 029° 14' through 020° 35' 032° 56' and 020° (035') 034° 18' thence 303° 14. (F.O.C.N.A., 1201A/28 to A.I.G. 65). *See p. 885*

*QUEEN ELIZABETH

NIGERIA
fire

Small oil fuel fire broke out in a boiler room of NIGERIA at 0950 today. Fire caused by use Acetylene Plant in use for cutting away damaged plating, extinguished by 1115. No casualties and no question of sabotage. (F.O.C.N.A., 1126A/28 to Admty).

War Diary.

28.8.1942.
Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic. - Contd.

→ U/B S.L.119 Enemy S/M sighted 260° 5 miles, my position 039° 25', 016° 08'.
(LEITH, 1213Z/28 Admty (R) F.O.C.N.A., C. in C. W.A., Ships Escorting Convoy S.L.119).
My 1213Z. Submarine dived 4 miles 260° from me at 1223Z. Am searching the area.
(LEITH 1254Z/28 to Admty (R) F.O.C.N.A., C. in C. W.A., S.L.119)
German S/M made sighting report at 1510 G.M.T. on 11068 k/cs per sec. to 296° A.
(F.O.C.N.A., 1621A/28 to Ships escorting convoy S.L.119, VETCH, BARDOLF, (R) Admty).

MARECHAL LYAUTEY. Your 1151/25 and 1851/26. Possibly ship may have passed Straits Westbound prior to 15/8 unobserved by Patrols or Shore Station due bad visibility.
(2) Only alternative explanation is MEDIE II reported Westbound 30/7 may in fact have been MARECHAL LYAUTEY as ships are somewhat similar in appearance. Patrol Vessel however claims ship was MEDIE II.
(S.O.(I) Gib., 1433A/28 to Admty).

Bombing Restrictions. Request total of bombing restrictions in following areas:-

Area	From	Until
G.26	2000	30th
	1200	31st
G.27	0100	31st
	0001	1st
G.16	1600	31st
	1300	1st
G.15	0500	1st
	0500	1st
G.14	1200	1st
	0300	2nd

All time zone minus 1.
(F.O.C.N.A., 1436A/28 to Admty H.Q.C.C., (R) F.O.S.)
Request total bombing restrictions in following areas:-

Area	From	Until
G.14	0001/31	1100/31
G.01	0300/31	2000/31
G.02	1200/31	0830/1
G.03	0030/1	1530/1

all times Zone minus 1.
(F.O.C.N.A., 1438A/28 to Admty. H.Q.C.C. F.O.S.)

*See Next Page.

→ S.L.119 attacked. Convoy attacked in 040° 02' N., 016° 02' W., at 1713Z/28. 2 Ships torpedoed.
(ROCHESTER, 1800Z/28 to Admty (R) C. in C. W.A., F.O.C.N.A.)

One torpedoed ship rejoining at 9 knots. Other hit aft abandoned but still floating, further signals follow.
(ROCHESTER, 1851Z/28 to Admty C. in C. W.A., F.O.C.N.A.)
ROCHESTER 1851/28. Tug SALVONIA escorted by LORD NUFFIELD being sailed to endeavour to salvage.
(F.O.C.N.A., 2148A/28 to Admty (R) C. in C. W.A., Ships escorting S.L.119).

882

28.8.1942.
Friday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic

S.L.119 My 2148/28. Departure LORD NUFFIELD, SALVONIA.
 attacked (F.O.C.N.A., 2326A/28).
 Contd. My 1851Z/28. Reference W.A.C.I. Part 102 No. 1.
 (A) 1713Z/28 40, 20, 16, 02. (B) One submerged
 (C) Nil. 66 survivors of CITY OF CARDIFF on
 board ROCHESTER. (D) CITY OF CARDIFF. Master
 considers ship will float. Tugs should be sailed. No rudder or
 screws. (E) Nil. (F) (2 corrupt groups) weather report.
 (ROCHESTER, 2200Z/28 to C. in C. W.A., (R) Admty. F.O.C.N.A.
 etc).

A Rescue Tug is to be detached to assistance of ship of
 Convoy S.L.119 torpedoed at 1713Z/28 in 40° 02' N., 16° 02' W.,
 F.O.C.N.A. is requested to take any action possible to provide
 escort.

(D.O.D. (F), 2332A/28 to F.O.C.N.A., VETCH (R) ROCHESTER).

OMEGA Arrival A.M. Tug JAUNTY, SCOTTISH escorting
 SS. OMEGA.
 (F.O.C.N.A., 1823A/28 to Admty).

H.D.M.Ls. A.M.1320/8. H.D.M.L. Flotilla No. 117 is re-
 allocated to Gibraltar.
 2. Corresponding number of H.D.M.Ls. for
 Trinidad will be provided from those building in
 U.S.A.,
 (D.D.O.D. (C), 2332A/28 to F.O.C.N.A. PETUNIA,
 BAD., R.A.W.A., (R) F.O.I.C. Trinidad Cominch,
 R.A.C.F., C. in C. S.A., S.B.N.O.W.A.)

*U/B Capt. of Pan American Clipper from Lisbon reports
 Portuguese 1206 GMT/28 sighting S/M on surface speed about
 SS. 12 knots course 265° true 038° 20' N 020° 25' W.
 1212 GMT sighted large Portuguese steamer course
 85° true 038° 17' N 020° 37' W. heading for S/M.
 (R.O. Fayal, 1643/28 to Admty (for D.N.I., (R)
 S.O.(I) Gibraltar).

South Atlantic.

SOBIESKI. Your 1130/26. As she is very urgently required
 in U.K. SOBIESKI should not call Capetown. Tail
 shaft should be shipped to U.K. by first alterna-
 tive opportunity.

2. What is her anticipated date of arrival Clyde?
 3. Could she arrive earlier by omitting call at Freetown?
 (D.S.T., 0324A/28 to P.S.T.O. Capetown (R) R.A.W.A. S.T.O.
 Freetown, D.S.T.O. Durban).

HAMLA Overdue Shipping. HAMLA sailed Rio de Janeiro
 11/8 due Freetown 25/8 not arrived.
 (S.O.(I) Freetown, 1039Z/28 to Admty).

/Dutch...

War Diary.28.8.1942.
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic.- Contd.Dutch M/V
Repairs,
Durban.

Following for Lord Leathers, M.W.T. from Wurtzburg Representations by Union Controller of Repairs and British naval authorities in respect of apparent deliberate policy most Dutch vessels use Durban as regular base all major overhauls and repairs causing gravest delays repair all classes Allied Shipping.
(D.S.T.O. Durban, 1114C/28 to D.S.T. (R) P.S.T.O. Capetown).

MENDANAU
(sunk 14/8).

Your 1922P/17. MENDANAU (Dutch) did not receive Connav's Diversion.
(R.A.W.A., 1116Z/28 to Admty).
R.A.W.A.'s 1915/16/8. Dutch ship MENDANAU torpedoed sunk at 1907/14 4° 45' N., 18° 00' W. W/T destroyed no distress signal made. Poor description indicates German 500 tons type. One survivor states U.35 on C/T. Believe Chief Engineer and W/T operator picked up by U.boat. Total survivors 16.
(S.O.(I) Freetown, 1204Z/28 to Admty (R) C. in C. S.A., Opnav)

HOTSPUR

Sailed HOTSPUR to Kilindini routed as in N.C.S.O. Durban 1324/14 S. of A. 16½ knots, E.T.A. 0600Z/2/9. (2) Shift to W/T organisation V at 0215Z/31. (N.O.I.C. Durban, 1119Z/28 to Admty etc).

Dispositions. ALCANTARA, 007° 20' 013° 50' to Freetown 12 at 1957Z/28 KELT, BENGALI, 003° 59' 002° 10' to Lagos, 8 TURCOMAN on passage Takoradi to Lagos, SIRIUS, PHOEBE 008° 30' S., 002° 10' E., 154° 15. ORISSA 006° 01' S., 011° 50' E., 190° 10. ASTURIAS about 002° 38' S., 012° 38' W., to 004° 02' S., 011° 29' W., thence 298° 14.
(R.A.W.A., 1133Z/28 to Ships in Area P. of S.A. Station, S. of 8° N., Admty. C. in C. S.A., N.O. in C. Takoradi, R.N.O. Lagos).

BEECHWOOD
(torpedoed
26/8).

British ship BEECHWOOD torpedoed sunk 0930Z/26/8 in 5° 30' N., 14° 04' W., by U-boat type unidentified but crew appeared Italian. Shield with device on C/T Master taken prisoner, W.P.S. destroyed, no distress signal made.
(S.O.(I) Freetown, 1206Z/28 to Admty (R) C. in C. S.A.)

KEREN,
KARANJA.

Your 1655/27 (War Reg. message requesting varification of best speed of KEREN and KARANJA given in KEREN's 0933/25). 16 knots.
(C. in C. S.A., 1215/28 to Admty).

War Diary.

28.8.1942.
Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic. - Contd.

SHROPSHIRE. Your 1244A/27. Intend to make good defects in SHROPSHIRE as in my 1901B/25 para. 1. Ship is not considered to be sufficiently reliable for voyage to U.K. without these repairs.
2. SHROPSHIRE would then be available for onward escort to U.K. of WESTERLAND about end of September. (C. in C. S.A., 1219B/29 to Admty (R) Com. Supt. Simonstown, SHROPSHIRE).

PASTEUR. P.S.T.O. Capetown's 1712/25 and N.S.H.Q. Ottawa's 1850/24. PASTEUR is expected to sail 0400Z/30 E.T.A. Rio de Janeiro Monday 7/9. Requirements.
2. Approx. E.T.A. Halifax 19/9. N.C.S.O. Rio de Janeiro is requested confirm date to N.S.H.Q. Ottawa.
3. Personnel on board.
(D.S.T.O. Durban, 1242Z/28 to B.A.D., N.C.S.O. Rio).

Escort of Tankers. R.A.W.A.'s 1414/26. ABBEYDALE is to proceed to Gibraltar after loading at Trinidad. *See next page*
2. Norwegian tanker BRAJARA is due to load Curacao 26/8 for Gibraltar. CLIONA is due Curacao 28/8 to load for Gibraltar. WINNAMAC is waiting opportunity at Trinidad to sail for Ponta Delgada.
3. R.A.W.A. is requested to arrange for at least two of the corvettes BURDOCK, ARMERIA and SNOWDROP to escort these tankers to Ponta Delgada and Gibraltar.
4. Connav is requested to arrange with N.O.I.C. Trinidad for BRAJARA and CLIONA to assemble at Trinidad.
(A.C.N.S. (F), 1351A/28 to R.A.W.A., Connav (R) S.B.N.O.W.A. etc)

W. S. 21

Sailed AMARANTHUS, THYME, to R/V with CORFU, RANPURA and W.S.21 in 033° 00' S., 029° 40' E., at 0800Z/29.
(N.O.I.C. Durban, 1447Z/28 to Admty etc).

Movements summary 2000Z/28.

Area Q. CORFU, RANPURA with W.S.21 Durban portion 034° 33' S., 027° 18' E., to Durban 12½ knots.
BARBOURNE 033° 33' S., 028° 04' E., to Durban 7½ knots.
*KARANJA 024° 30' S., 013° 15' E., 344° 16½ knots.
*KEREN 026° 10' S., 013° 45' E., 344° 14 knots. *See previous page*
RAJPUTANA escorting MARUDU 020° 25' S., 009° 40' E., to Capetown 7½ knots.
French LEOPARD escorting MANELIUS 016° 00' S., 010° 00' E., to Capetown 13½ knots.
PETARD, CATTERICK, 034° 00' S., 026° 50' E., to Durban 22 knots, E.T.A., 1200Z/29.
AMARANTHUS, THYME, from Durban to (R/V) with W.S.21 in 033° 00' S., 029° 40' E., at 0800Z/29.
(C. in C. S.A., 1456B/28 to S.A.S. (R) Admty).

War Diary.28.8.1942.
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic. - Contd.

FORMIDABLE. Arrived FORMIDABLE, NORMAN, NIZAM.
(N.O.I.C. Durban, 1517Z/28 to Admty. C. in C. S.A., C. in C. E.F., etc).

BURDOCK, After escorts of H.M.S. QUEEN ELIZABETH have been
ARMERIA, fuelled, BURDOCK, ARMERIA and ABBEYDALE proceed
ABBEYDALE, about position 021° 59' N., 036° 38' W., direct
SNOWDROP. to R/V with SNOWDROP in position
imp. 880. 784 (c) 013° 10' N., 038° 08' W., at 1300Z/28
SNOWDROP is escorting U.S. Cruiser COLUMBIA and
EXAMINER routed (b) 011° 39' N., 030° 00' W., (c) 013° 10' N.,
038° 08' W., (d) 012° 22' N., 046° 00' W. (e) 011° 00' N.,
056° 30' W. thence to Port of Spain Trinidad, S. of A. 9 knots.
2. BURDOCK, SNOWDROP and ARMERIA (?further) continuing escort
of ABBEYDALE, U.S. Cruiser COLUMBIA, and EXAMINER to Trinidad.
3. BURDOCK and ARMERIA boiler clean on arrival at Trinidad if
local labour available and provide escort to Freetown as
ordered by N.O.I.C. Trinidad.
4. SNOWDROP will escort ABBEYDALE to Gibraltar.
(R.A.W.A., 1625Z/28 to BURDOCK, SNOWDROP (R) H.M.S. QUEEN
ELIZABETH, PATHFINDER, ARMERIA, C. in C. S.A., Cominch,
N.O.I.C. Trinidad, C.T.F. 23., S.B.N.O.W.A., Admty. B.A.D.)
P.C. and S. 10.09 N., 21.43 at 2001Z (?28) 9½. Weather
report.
(SNOWDROP, 1830Z/28 to R.A.W.A.)

LARGS LARGS sailing 0800Z/28 on completion A/S and
S.L.120. watering. Estimated joining S.L.120 at 1100/29.
(N.O.I.C. Bathurst, 1803Z/28 to R.A.W.A. (R)
Admty. F.O.C.N.A., C. in C. W.A., C. in C.
S.A., EGRET, Escorts S.L.120).

U/B U.S. Aircraft reports sighting U-boat in 02° 47' S
08° 53' W., A 1254Z/28. Course 270°.
(R.A.W.A., 1954Z/28 to Admty).

MAURETANIA Presume you do not intend docking MAURETANIA here.
Have made no further arrangements since 23rd.
(N.A. Rio de Janeiro 1956Z/28 to B.A.D., (R)
Admty) Reply: 1541/29.

Defensive Your 1623A/26. C. of N.S. informed today that
measures in all navigation lights on Brazilian coast were out.
Brazilian light cruiser RIO GRANDE DO SUL and
ports. Minesweepers at present at Pernambuco to be in
future under orders of Adm. Ingram for operational
duties. Tugs and small craft are patrolling
entrance to Rio de Janeiro Harbour day and night and C. of N.S.
is organizing boarding vessels outside all harbours. In Rio
de Janeiro itself and harbour approaches lights are being gradually
dimmed or extinguished. Destroyers and small craft now in dock
will be added to this patrol when repairs are completed. Small

/convoys...

War Diary.28.8.1942.
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic. Contd.Defensive
measures in
Brazilian
ports. Contd.

convoys being arranged between Santos and Laguna to keep Brazil coal industry constantly moving. Air coverage is being established between Santos and Rio de Janeiro, also between Florianopolis and Rio Grande du Sul
(N.A. Rio de Janeiro, 2031Z/28 to Admty (R) B.A.D)

Air Cover,
Freetown,
Approaches.

Your 2213A/25. Adequate air cover cannot be maintained and surface patrol is very thin.
2. ? Concur with A and B. Propose following detailed arrangements. 1. Reduce length to 320 miles equivalent to 36 hours at 9 knots which is average speed of advance. 2. Last position given on ocean route to be anywhere on circle centre Freetown and radius 600 miles exception are between 210° and 260° from Cape Sierra Leone. This arc is not to be used in order to avoid long detours in onward routeing to approach line. 3. R.A.W.A. will route ships onward to the end of chosen approach line. 4. No fixed approach lines will be laid down but R.A.W.A. will bring new lines into use as expedient. The lines will generally be between these limits. Northern line in sector enclosed by 11.00 N., 18.00 W., 7.45 N., 18.35 W., and 8.30 N., 13.39 W. Southern line. In sector enclosed by 3.50 N., 15.05 W., 4.59 N., 11.15 W., and 7.50 N., 14.15 W. The lines are confined to these sectors in order to make the best use of aircraft based on Bathurst and later at Marshall.
3. Experience has shown that great majority of ships will receive and act upon inward routeing signals.
4. Concur that two lines of approach are necessary. In some cases when patrol forces permit, special routeing along a third line may be desirable for South American Ships.
(R.A.W.A., 2137Z/28 to Admty (R) C. in C. S.A.) Reply: D.T.D., 2017A/29).

AVON VALE
W.S. 22.

A.M. 1959/24. AVON VALE will not now accompany W.S. 22 to Capetown. From date of arrival in Freetown she is to operate under R.A.W.A. till further orders.
2. Request you will arrange for shipment of 36 cases of bullion to Durban. A.M. 2032/17 to C. in C. S.A. only refers.
(D.O.D. (F) 2242A/28 to R.A.W.A., C. in C. S.A., (R) F.O.C.N.A., AURORA, D.C. in C. E.F., C. in C. E.F., C. in C. Med).

War Diary.28.8.1942.
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean.

Movements. 27/8 Port Said arrivals. JERVIS, JAVELIN, PAKENHAM, KELVIN, WHITEHAVEN, ANTWERP, T.L.C. 13, FALK, ISLAY, R.F.A. ATID, KLO, SOUTHERN SEA. Departures HYACINTH, ANTWERP, WHITEHAVEN, NEREUS, (see next pg.) BELVOIR, PAKENHAM, KELVIN.
(N.O.I.C. Port Said 1006C/28 to Admty. C. in C. Med.)
(Departure?) 27/8 BOSTON, SEAHAM, M.L.349.
(S.O.I. Alexandria 1020C/28 to Admty. C. in C. Med.)

THRASHER. Request information when it is intended to take THRASHER in hand docking slip. Full power trial and deep diving have been satisfactorily completed following repairs after recent bombing accident and is now going on patrol.
(Capt. S.l. 1045C/28 to F.O.S.)

→ P.35. My 1806/27 and your 1606/27. Proceed direct to 035° 06' 015° 01' thence as previously ordered to arrive 1001B/1/9. Only if unable to comply make E.T.A. during night 29-30, but you are not to arrive end of searched channel after 1730B. C. in C. Med. pass to No. 201 N.C. Group.
(Capt. S.10. 1046B/28 to P.35. (R) C. in C. Med. etc.)

Cositrep 3. Air. Night 26/27. Torpedo Wellingtons No. 495. attacked escorted southbound tanker or large M/V off N.W. coast Crete. Probable hit caused smoke and oil to issue from stern and vessel to reduce speed. R/C following day reported a vessel on fire same area. 27/8. American Liberators attacked escorted M/V south of Crete. No hits claimed. One R/C Ju.88 damaged by fighters west of Delta. (C. in C. M.E. 1050/28.)

Situation Levant. My 1616/18 para 5. Move "Robertsbridge" Report completed 28/8 without further incident.
No. 258. 2. In southbound convoy SS. EMPIRE KUMARI was torpedoed in 31.53 N 34.10 E at 1840/26 but reached Haifa in tow of BRIGAND following morning.
3. Alexandria. 2 Hunts have carried out sweeps to westward last 2 nights. Nothing sighted.
4. Dodecanese. P.R.U. of Leros did not confirm presence of cruisers (see my 2054/26)
→ 5. Submarines. P.35 sank 5000 ton southbound ship in 35.39 N 33.05 (? 23.05 intended) E at 1530/27.
6. Red Sea. S/M sighted by coast watcher off Siyara (20 miles N.E. of Berbera) p.m./24 and substantiated following day by patrol with British Officer. S/M 800 yards from shore and seen to move out and submerge. No shipping at present at Berbera. (C. in C. Med. 1212C/28 to Admty.)

War Diary.28.8.1942.
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean - Contd.

ROBERTS. Your 1607/27. ROBERTS making good 5½ knots maximum speed for fuel endurance. (Cdre. Aden 1331Z/28 to Admty. (R) D.C. in C. E.F.)

Malta Air I.621 28/8. C.S.R. ? 27/8.
Report. 1100 hrs. Successful fighter sweep over Comiso Biscari and Gela Aerodromes by 31 Spitfires. 2 high flying Spitfires made independent R/C and offensive patrol of Battle Area while 22 Spitfires in 3 formations made ground level sweep over Aerodromes and 7 Spitfires patrolled south of Sicily at 15000 feet to cover return of sweep. (details) Returning Spitfires attacked and damaged 3 schooners. Total of at least 10 enemy aircraft destroyed 9 probably destroyed 5 damaged, for loss of 2 Spitfires and pilot missing and 1 Spitfire slightly damaged hit by flak. Search of missing Spitfire by 4 other Spitfires found nothing.

1437 hours. 8 Spitfires up but no raiders approached.
1642 hours. 2 raiders approached but turned back before nearing coast. 8 Spitfires up, saw no enemy aircraft.
1750 hours. 2 Spitfires on dusk patrol but no raiders approached.

27/8. Ionian Sea R/C sighted 1159 hours, 1 M/V 7000 tons, 2 D/Rs 1 MC200, 183° Sapienza 95 miles course 230° 12 knots. 9 Beauforts 5 Beaufighters carrying bombs 5 Beaufighters fighter escort despatched to attack. 1 Beaufort returned owing to engine trouble, 1 Beaufighter returned with mechanical trouble. Remainder made successful attack.

1640 hours 1 M/V escorted by 1 D/R, 1 Ju.88 and 1 Cant 1007 329° Cape Amer 73 miles course 190° 10 knots. Beaufighters attacked first, dropping 7,250lb GP bombs from 300 feet, scoring 1 hit on stern of M/V and raking M/V and D/R with machine guns and cannons from deck level, D/R left smoking from stern. Beauforts then attacked with 7 duplex non contact torpedoes, depth setting 20 feet, range 600 yards, height 60 feet, scoring 3 hits on M/V which blew up and was left ablaze and sinking with decks awash and back broken. Meanwhile fighter Beaufighters destroyed escorting Cant 1007 and damaged 1 Ju.88.
(H.Q. R.A.F. Malta 1804/28.)

Polish Senior Officer required for operational move of
Troop 10500 Polish troops ex Suez to Basra as soon after
Transport. 7/9 as possible. Propose allocating DUCHESS OF
ATHOLL ex Suez 7th, KOSCIUSZKO ASCANIUS 8th,
BANFORA, SALWEEN 9th, request concurrence.

2. D.C. in C. E.F. requested advise whether escort will be available.

3. Agreed G.H.Q. M.E. S.N.O. P.G. pass to Movements 10th Army.
(P.S.T.O. Egypt 1755C/28 to Admty. (R) D.C. in C. E.F. etc.)

NEREUS. Report your P.C.S. and E.T.A. Beirut.
See Movements
Page - (Movements) (Capt. S.1. 2301C/28 to Greek S/M NEREUS. (R)
C. in C. Med. N.O.I.C. Palestinian Ports. etc.)

MANCHESTER. Re repatriation of survivors in Tunis.
(Admty. 2346A/28.) See East Indies.

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War Diary.28.8.1942.
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies.

Akyab. Following received. (Begins) - F.O.C.R.I.N. from
Enemy N.O.I.C.Chittagong. On 4th or 5/8 2 ships arrived
Intelligence. Akyab from Rangoon with 400 Japanese soldiers.
These ships were smaller than SS.BARODA. The
Japanese general was withdrawn and some troops
(number not known) were sent back to Rangoon. Ships were
unloaded at jetty one at a time. One crane is working. Ships
stayed at Akyab 3 days. This information is reliable. Pass to
C. in C. E.F. T.O.O. 1510Z/?26) - (Ends).
(F.O.Ceylon 0341Z/28 to Admty, N.B.Melbourne).

Motor Your 0535/19th. I am most reluctant to approach
Minesweepers. Govt. of India with a request to deplete still
further the very slender naval defences of their
major ports.

(2) The 2 M.M.S. referred to are now completed and are earmarked
for training further crews. To lose them at this juncture would
be a further setback to training programme.

(3) Could not the 3 M.M.S. now building in Ceylon be used for
this commitment? Although Admty have suggested tentatively
that they should be taken over by R.I.N. vide their 0214/19 to
me only I am prepared to waive my claims to them temporarily if
this will help.

(F.O.C.R.I.N. 0542Z/28 to C. in C. E.F.(R) Admty).

Addu Atoll Admty Message 2113/3/2. para.4. Question of R.D.F.
R.D.F. policy as regards sets earmarked for Addu Atoll.
I have now received a survey report from Air H.Q.
India which differs slightly in equipment required
to that laid down by Admiralty.

(2) In view of (?altered) policy as regards defence at Addu Atoll,
request I may be informed of following.

(a) If it is still the intention to erect R.D.F. at this base.

(b) Whether proposal as laid down in Air H.Q.India's report
which is being forwarded to you should be adopted.

(c) That fitting and manning of R.D.F.equipment ashore is an
R.A.F. commitment.

(F.O.Ceylon 1121Z/28, to C. in C.E.F.(R) Admty, etc).

Raider (1) No further information of German or Japanese
Situation. raiders.

No.4. (2) Raider situation No.3. para.3."Altmark" type
tanker returned Bay of Biscay port.

(3) Vessel resembling (?ERMLAND) 6528 G.T. believed
out-bound blockade runner, left Bordeaux about (?17th), vicinity
Cape Ortegat 20th may have since continued its onward passage.
(C. in C.E.F. 1143Z/28, to E.I.Stn.Admty etc).

Japanese Estimated one near 003° 19' N. 077° (?) 48' E, one
U-Boats. possibly Gulf of Aden, one possibly N.E. Coast of
Ceylon.

(C.in C.E.F. 1231Z/26 to E.I.Stn.(R) Admty,etc).

/GAMBIA.....

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War Diary.28.8.1942.
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies - Contd.

GAMBIA. Can you accept GAMBIA for quick docking on completion of SHROPSHIRE? If so please inform me when dock will be ready.
(C. in C.E.F. 1251Z/28 to C.S.Simonstown (R) Admty, C. in C.S.A. C.S.4).

RATNAGIRI K.11. Departure from Port Okha, RATNAGIRI with S/M K.11 in company. S.O.(I) Bombay requested to pass message to authorities outside India.
(N.O.I.C.Kathiawar 1300Z/28 to Admty, F.O.C.R.I.N. S.O.(I) Colombo, S.O.(I) Bombay S.O.(I) Kilindini). (S.O.(I) Bombay 1734Z/28).

Air Report U/B. Daily Intelligence Summary No.166 to 1800 hours 28/8. 26/8. Second sighting of Submarine by Catalina approx. 200 miles S.W.Ceylon. 3 Life boats again sighted.
(A.H.Q.India 1308Z/28).

Navigation. Nr.W.C. 140, Persian Gulf, W.O.C. 140. Shatt al Arab Light Vessel has been temporarily replaced by unwatched float painted red with name Shatt al Arab in white, exhibiting white light flashing every ten seconds, height 30 feet visible 6 miles, no fog signal. 0912 G.M.T./26.
(Colombo 1349/28 to A.C.N.B.etc).

Escort of U.S.16. Your 0139/28 (See Australia).
1. The only recently unlocated Japanese heavy cruiser is ASHIGARA who flies the flag of Commander (?N) E.I.Squadron and is therefore unlikely to be operated in Indian Ocean.
(2) No additional escort is available from Eastern Fleet and MAURITIUS endurance will not permit a M.O.M.P. further east than 090° which as it stands will give her a bare 10 per cent remaining on arrival at Colombo.
(3). Suggest that U.S. 16 and 17 should sail in company from Fremantle with double escort of Netherland Cruiser TROMP, ADELAIDE and 2 A.M.Cs.
(4) DEVONSHIRE could then meet the combined convoy in 029° S. 095° E. escorting with both A.M.Cs to 025° S. 080° E. whence convoy would split.
(5) Endurance makes it preferable for MAURITIUS to meet the convoy in about 080° E. shortly before convoy splits and escort U.S.16 to (?Colombo) with KANIMBLA.
(6) MAURITIUS is now on a special patrol and must refuel at Mauritius. Request early remarks so that MAURITIUS programme may be adjusted and route amended.
(C. in C.E.F. 1535Z/28 to A.C.N.B.Melbourne, (R) F.O.Ceylon, Admty, Cdre, Western Australia.).

/Diego Suarez...

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War Diary.

28.8.1942.
Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies - Contd.

Diego Suarez. Your 1924/24. 1. We have communicated with Vichy on this subject but have received no reply. For your personal information we are proposing to Vichy an exchange of Madagascar prisoners for our merchant seamen and some Service personnel detained in Vichy territories. Repatriation of Madagascar prisoners therefore depends on reciprocity.

As negotiations have to be carried out only through chosen friends in Vichy, you are not to inform French N.A. at this stage. 2. Full lists of all prisoners held in U.K. and West Africa were given to Vichy Consul-General in London and sent simultaneously by air mail to Geneva Red Cross. If lists are not all getting through, we are fully prepared to cable at once information about selected cases upon request.

Naval prisoners total 38 Officers and 499 other ranks and include survivors from BOUGAINVILLE, D'ENTRECASTEAUX, BEVEZIERS and HEROS. No survivors were picked up from MONGE but a few supernumerary members of crew were captured ashore.

3. In view of the above, it is urgently hoped that there will be no further delay in transmitting names of MANCHESTER survivors. (M. Branch 2346A/28 to N.A. Madrid).

0242G.M.T./28th August.

SECRET.

MESSAGE.

IN

From M.A.China.

Date 22.8.42.
Recd. 0100.CYPHER.

Addressed War Office, Repeated C. in C.India.

070261 0569 cipher 28 August.

Bona fide American journalist recently escaped from Shanghai reports that British Prisoners of War are being very badly treated. She states worse than in Hong Kong though having of course no basis for comparison. Can only suggest representative International Red Cross be asked to inspect.

0242G.M.T./28.

Received from War Office at 0635/2.

War Office circulation.INTERNAL.

1st Lord.

1st S.L.(2).

2nd S.L.

V.C.N.S.

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

Sec.

Naval Sec.

N.A.1st S.L.

P.A.S.(O).

P.A.S.(S).

O.D.(5).

Ops.(3).

O.I.C.(3).

D. of P.(3).

D.P.S.(2).

C.W.(Cas.)(3).

N.

D.N.I.(5).

M.(2).

N.L.

D.P.D.

U.S.N.(3).

I.P.(3).

W.D.

P.W.2.(for action), F.M.
D.A.G.(A), A.U.S., D.F.(d),
Cas. (P.W.), M.I.2(c) 9.(J.I.C.)
M.O.12.D.P.W., D.D.P.W.
P.W.2., A.C.Secretariat.

External:

Admiralty, Air Ministry,
Foreign Office (P.W. Dept.),
India Office, Dominions Office,
Colonial Office.
High Commissioners:-
Australia, Canada,
New Zealand, South Africa,
Southern Rhodesia.
Ministry of War Transport.
Treasury (Mr.Pitblado).

War Diary.

28.8.1942
Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies.

Ship Sunk. One ship sunk by torpedo north end Belle Isle Straits at 0052Z/28.
(C.O.A.C. 0125Z/28 to Admty., All ships area 7A)

Oil Patch. Following has been read (via Iceland W/T)
Am investigating suspicious oil patch in
60° 35' N. 30° 6' W.
(A.O.C. 15 Group C.C. 0805/28)
Circling fresh oil patch any instructions.
(A.O.C. 15 Gp. 0835/28.)

U/B sunk. Reported by U.S. Naval Authorities, surface craft rammed and sunk a U/boat off St. Coast of Haiti at about 4.30 a.m. 28/8. 21 prisoners taken.
(D.O.R. 1105, no signal in W.D.)

Shipping, Caribbean, Cape Horn, reports. Ref. my 1515/26 and A.M.1022/27 in reply repeated Cominch. May I know for information of British Masters if you concur with Admiralty in having no objection to the proposed modification in procedure.
(B.R.O. Cristobal 1010R/28 to B.A.D. for Connav
(R) Admty., C. in C. A.W.I., S.O.(I) Jamaica.)

Movement Summary. 1800 G.M.T. 28/8.

Ship	Position	Course	Speed
GLASGOW	32½°N. 53½°W.	088°	19
ARMERIA BURDOCK with Oiler.	21½°N. 31½°W.	235°	9
QUEEN ELIZABETH 3 destroyers			
(D.O.D.(F) 1029Z/28 to Opnav (R) Commaveu.)	17° N. 29° W.	315°	14

See p. 880
(See also: 2004B diary)

U/B. Barbados radio reported S/M sighted 1322Z/28 in 011° 01' N. 061° 40' W. course 090°.
(S.O.I. Kingston 1122Q/28 to Admty., B.A.D., Opnav, C.C.S.F.)

Air Report. A.674 28/8 Z 542. Operations 27/8. All times G.M.T. Botwood 1 Catalina 116 Br. Squadron on O.A.S for HX.204 from 0645 to 0256/28/8. 1 Catalina 116 Br. Squadron on OAS for Ln.6 from 0700 to 0055/28. At 1343 received W/T message that ship sunk position TRJQ 52.30 and that A/C was contacting H.M.C.S. TRAIL to pick up survivors. Later message that A/C did not see sinking which occurred at 1230. Ship has since been identified as transport CHATHAM departed Sydney as part of SG.6 but apparently had proceeded ahead of the rest of convoy. 1 Catalina on patrol 2030/27 to provide escort for Ln.6 during hours of darkness. * See next page (U/B Campaign)

War Diary.28.8.1942
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies. - contd.

Air Report. (contd) Day marked by unusual number of submarines sighted both by A/C and by civilian shore watchers a total of 4 in our area as well as 2 ships torpedoed from convoy SG.6 SS ARLYN being torpedoed at 0052 North End of Belle Isle Strait. Convoy has now been ordered to return to Sydney. (E.A.C. H.Q. 1128/28.)

Convoy T.1. T.2. Your 1242Q/26 and 1456Q/26. Has a convoy T.I. been sailed? Particulars thereof cannot be traced. Has T been substituted for E. as convoy title. (D.T.D. 1131A/28 to B.R.O. Trinidad.)

U/Boat Campaign. Cominch's 2110/27 informs as follows:
Para B. Plane attacks S/M on surface 28.06 N. 61.27 W. 1739Z/16/7. Surface craft attacks S/M 11.00 N. 67.23 W. 0804Z/26.
Para C. STRABO, 20 shells, crest on C/T. MALDONADO U-16, 19 or 27 reported on C/T U-88 type. FLORE U-45 type. Surface craft attacks echo sound contact 24.28 N. 82.43 W. 2000Z/14. Plane sights wake 08.43 S. 34.44 W. 1600Z/26. Plane sights S/M 26.50 S. 48.20 W. 1200Z/26. Fishing boat sights S/M on surface 29.05 N. 91.50 W. 2040Z/26. Plane sights periscope 38.45 N. 74.40 W. 1330Z/27.
(Comnav 1141/28 to Admty.)
Connav Serial 27. EMPIRE BREEZE Serial 25 not sunk possible salvage. Survivors AMAKUBA reported ashore Jamaica. No further information. *CHATHAM and additional unknown ship sunk by mines or torpedoes 27/8 51.(??) N. 55.30 W. in Convoy S.G.6. MORNA torpedoed sunk 24/8 (?13) 30 N. 57.36 W. STAD AMSTERDAM Serial 26 torpedoed sunk 35 survivors Haiti.
(Cominch C. and R. No T.O.O./28.) * See previous page (see report)

VERITY. VERITY arrives Ponta Delgada at 1200Z/7/9. Request 260 tons of Admiralty fuel oil may be supplied. (C.O.A.C. 1433Z/28 to F.O.C.N.A. B. Consul Ponta Delgada for C.S.A.)

BURNHAM. BURNHAM's 1931/27. Ship should arrive U.K. about 1st week September. (C. in C. W.A. 1507A/28 to Admty.)

Dominica, lifeboat suspicious. R.O. Island Dominica reported lifeboat 6 white men off the coast approx. 015° 29' N. 061° 28' W. 0800 local time today. Police put to sea but boat made off despite signals to come in. (S.O.I. Kingston 1516Q/28 to Admty., S.B.N.O. W.A., B.A.D., Opanav, C.C.S.F., N.O.I.C. Port of Spain.)

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28.8.1942
Friday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies - contd.

U/B Positions. S/M Estimate 28/8.
(C. in C. U.S. Fleet 1619/28.)

Shipping, New York. With convoys assembled and arriving New York suggest Mari section 1 para 5 and N.C.S.I. 53/54 be amended accordingly. Stragglers should proceed to New York or to Halifax according to which is nearer and if proceeding to New York route should join coastal route Vidi Macri. (Connav 1646/28 to Admty., (R) N.S.H.Q., C.O.A.C., C.E.S.F.)

Size of S.C. Convoys. S.C. Convoys. If it is necessary to stop sailing of certain ships on account of abnormal size of convoy suggest the small ships carrying lumber should be first to be excluded. (D.T.D. 1740A/28 to C.O.A.C.)

Shipping St. Lawrence. Is it intended that St. Lawrence ships shall assemble at Sydney C.B. and join S.C. Convoys from New York at sea? (D.T.D. 1816Z/28 to Connav.)

D.W.I. Oil Ports, Defences. Information referred to in C. in C. A.W.I. 2152/11/7 regarding net defences of D.W.I. oil ports has been received.
2. At Caracas Bay nets have been laid from Point Juba, but the extent is not known, nor whether protection is proposed for the gap which will remain between Likhoek and the full projected extent of the net.
3. At Bullen Bay protection has been given only to No.2 loading berth, No.1 and No.3 being without protection.
4. At Arend jetty is an improvised net defence, the efficacy of which is not known.
5. A special convoy of 30 tankers is now due at Curacao and Aruba, but through lack of sufficient protected loading points it is most unlikely that this number will be able to obtain cargo in the four or five days available before the escort is due to return. Similar group of tankers must be expected to arrive in the islands from time to time taking advantage of momentary conditions.
6. S.B.N.O. Curacao and Aruba are requested to report on the position referred to in paras 2, 3, 4.
7. It is requested that you will then discuss with U.S. Authorities the need for all loading points in the two Islands to be rendered secure as soon as possible in order to quicken and turn-round.
(D.T.D. 1831A/28 to B.A.D. as amended 1434A/29.)

/Attacks ...

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War Diary.

28.8.1942
Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies - contd.

Attacks on U/Bs. My 1811/15 your 2041Z/27. F-353 Serial Number 9. Army 'plane B.18 B 2nd Bomb Group ? Langley Field, Virginia, attacks sub on surface 34.08 N. 72.41 W. 1435Z/1/5. D. Patrol Bomber PBY 5 A 92.P.10 of VP92 San Juan attacks sub on surface 19.56 N. 73.57 W. 0343Z/28/5. Sub. fired machine gun before submerging E. Army 'plane B.24 D93 RD Bomb Group Fort Myer, Florida, attacks sub on surface 23.51 N. 88.19 W. 2139Z/21.E. Patrol Bomber PBY 32.P.9 of VP32 Canal Zone attacks sub on surface 12.28 N. 80.21 W. 1704Z/23/6. E. No attack 1810Z/27/7. Assume you intend attack reported my 1811Z/15/7 at 1810Z/07/7 on U.701. Ref. your 1932Z/24/7 request date departure on C.A. (Cominch 1854/28 to Admty. for O.I.C.)

SS QUEEN ELIZABETH. Sailed QUEEN ELIZABETH A.T.21 to R/V 54.14 N. 14.30 W. at 0600Z/5/9 via following points.
(C) 39.30 64.45. (D) 40.10 53.05.
(E) 43.10 40.45 (F) 47.15 28.30.
(G) 55.40 23.30 (H) 56.20 12.45.
Chop 1200Z/4. Com 3 pass to R.O. New York for action.
(Connav 1902/28 to R.O. New York.)

GLASGOW information. My 0435/28 to GLASGOW report 4 merchant ships likely to be encountered West of 040° W. Request GLASGOW may be informed of what she may encounter East of 040°. (N.S.H.Q. 1907Z/28 to Admty. (R) GLASGOW.)

RIO COLORADO (Argentine) Overdue New Orleans since 20/8 from Buenos Aires. (N.S.H.Q. 2019Z/28 to Admty., Connav, S.B.N.O. W.A., S.O.(I) Kingston, S.O.(I) Freetown.)

U/B Campaign. Connav Serial 28. B.A.D. correction believe KATVALDIS sunk, INGERFIRE safe. Serial 26. Survivors VENI (Nor) picked up, ship apparently lost S.C.94. N.S.H.Q. Ottawa please advise. Unknown ship Serial 27 was ARLYN U.S. LARAMIE U.S.S. Tanker also torpedoed same convoy 28/8 51.52 N. 55.46 W. ARLETTA Serial 24 torpedoed sunk 44.44 N. 55.22 W. 5/8. 5 survivors, 36 believed lost. (Connav 2045/28 to Commaveu.)

U/B. Guantanamo radio reports S/M sighted submerging 019° 20' N. 074° 30' W. at 2100 G.M.T./28 course 350° Key West radio reported S/M sighted 018° 06' N. 064° 57' W. at 1415 G.M.T./20. (S.O.I. Kingston 2141Z/28 to Admty.)

U/B. Following has been read. S/M sighted 43.10 N. 68.34 W. at 1925 G.C.T. (Halifax W/T 2235Z/28.)

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War Diary.28.8.1942
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies - contd.

MAURETANIA. Further report received from Master, stating ship can steam 4750 miles at 18 knots with two days fuel remaining which Austin considers safe estimate. In view of this and your 1849/27, Navy Dept. have decided to act as in para 5(a) of my 1403/25 (1405/25 intended) (B.A.D. 2247Z/28 to Admty., D.S.T.)

Decision has been taken to sail MAURETANIA on completion of docking to Bermuda for fuel. Alusna Rio de Janeiro has been asked to arrange for as much underwater repair as possible to be carried out during docking, to report completion date and if future docking will be required in U.S.A. Her final destination in U.S.A. will depend on this last report.

(B.A.D. 2251Z/28 to N.A. Rio de Janeiro (R) C. in C. A.W.I. Admty., D. of S.T.)

NYDIA Overdue San Juan Dominican schooner NYDIA AMELIA.
AMELIA. (S.O.I. Jamaica 2323B/28 to Admty. etc.)

Australia and New Zealand.

U.S.16. Owing to paucity of intelligence of enemy surface
Escort. forces in Indian Ocean and weakness of Neth.
see p. 890 Cruiser TROMP and KANIMBLA as escort Australian
Govt. is concerned for safety of U.S.16.

2. Request that (A) MAURITIUS join as far to eastward as endurance will allow. Request proposed longitude of R/V.

(B) Additional escort be provided from Eastern Fleet.

3. Owing to operation in Solomon Is. Area no Western escorts are available from Sovespac.

(A.C.N.B. 0139Z/28 to C. in C. E.F. (R) D. C. in C. E.F.

F.O. Ceylon, Commandant U.S. Destroyer Base, San Diego, Admty.)

Reply: C. in C. E.F. 1535Z/28, see East Indies. *p. 890*

Situation. Serial No. 218 27/8.

Enemy believed effected further landings N. of Milne Bay night 26/27. 2 cruisers 1 destroyer sighted off entrance Milne Bay 1615Z/26 heading E. Our land forces in contact with enemy.

2. Photographs of Convoy reported my Serial No. 215 para 2. Indicate 2 Irenryui Class light cruisers 1 other probable light cruiser, 2 destroyers, 2 merchant ships, 2 probable A/S vessels.

3. 2 Kittihawks machine gunned enemy barges stores and fuel dumps Milne Bay 2030Z/26 destroying fuel dump.

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War Diary.28.8.1942
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Australia and New Zealand. contd.

- Situation (contd) 5 dive bombers 10 Zeros attacking Milne Bay intercepted by 6 Kittihawks, 2 dive bombers. 2 Zeros destroyed 1 Zero, 1 dive bomber probably destroyed, 1 bomber damaged.
5. Approx 10 enemy fighters intercepted 12 Marauders Milne Bay area. 2 Zeros destroyed 2 others probable.
6. Enemy barges reported Goodenough Island 25/8 were 50 feet long, 10 feet M E with square bow and stern.
7. Darwin Area raided by probably 2 heavy bombers early morning 27/8. Some damage to civil radio and Naval Stores.
8. 2 aircraft believed seaplanes dropped bombs Broome 1840Z/26. Damage negligible. My serial No.117 para 4 refers.
9. Indications enemy S/M 8° 10' S. 127° 11' E. 25/8. Also possible enemy S/M 35° 30' S. 151° 05' E. 27/8.
10. Natives report Japanese base near Hollandia (New Guinea), also possible air base Vanimo (33 miles east Humboldt Bay.)
11. 5 small warships 2 supply vessels reported arrived Tonolei Harbour a.m. 27/8.
12. 1 Cruiser 2 floatplanes 10 destroyer 1 tanker 2 M/Vs reported off Buin 1030Z/27.
13. Ref. my Serial No.116 para 4. Photographs show 1 possible light cruiser, 2 possibly, 3 destroyers, 1 tanker 1 seaplane tender, 2 probable military landing craft carriers, 8 transports, 5 unidentified vessels approx. 75' landing craft.
14. 2 Unidentified vessels reported entered Salamaua Harbour 0541Z/27.
15. 7 Marauders escorted by 14 Air Cobras attacked Buna Aerodeome 2115Z/26. Bombs dropped along runway and dispersal areas. Interception by 10 Zeros, 4 Zeros destroyed 5 damaged. (G.H.Q., S.W.P.A. 0850Z/28 to Admty. etc.)
- Reporting by ships fitted with H/F. Concur with B.A.D. Washington's 2059/27.
2. Japanese D/F Stations are numerous and well situated from D/F point of view on flank of ships tracks across the Pacific. It is feared that if ships break W/T silence regularly, tracks and turning points will soon be revealed.
(N.Z.N.B. 1210M/28 to Admty. (R) B.A.D., A.C. N.B.) See 2020A/28.
- Convoy B.T.1. (A) B.T.1. (B) 1530Z/28. (C) M.Vs SEA WITCH, MONTORO, SWARTENHONDT, TAROONA, ANSHUN. All Townsville.
(N.O.I.C. Brisbane 1555Z/28 to Admty. (R) Connav)
- Reporting by ships fitted with H/F. Pass to N.C.S.Os. The instructions contained in my 1905/21, paras. 1 and 2 are not to apply to the Pacific for the present and these paragraphs are to be amended accordingly.
(D.T.D. 2020A/28 to Cs in C. etc.)

/Torpedo ...

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War Diary.

28.8.1942
Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Australia and New Zealand. - contd.

Torpedo
from
Midget S/M.

Japanese midget S/M torpedo examined at Torpedo School was manufactured at Kure Naval Arsenal 1929 and apparently converted to run on vehicle. Over all length less warhead 12 feet 5 $\frac{3}{8}$ inches. Warhead length 68 inches. Full technical report will be forwarded. Do you desire one torpedo forwarded U.K. for further examination?
(A.C.N.B. 2301Z/28 to Admty., (R) N.O.I.C. Sydney, N.S.W., N.O.I.C. Flinders Naval Depot, Victoria.)

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Submarines Reported.

Approx. positions.
(D.D.I.C. 1423A/28, 1454A/28.)

War Diary.29.8.1942.
Saturday.SITUATION REPORT.Home Commands.

The details of Russian co-operation which has been promised for the passage of convoys P.Q.18 and Q.P.14 is given in a telegram today from S.B.N.O. North Russia who reports that the promised air escort (from the meridian of Bear Island and to Archangel) appears optimistic.

The Russian Authorities have assumed an obstructive attitude at Archangel and refuse to allow mails and hospital units in BLANKNEY and MIDDLETON to come ashore. Other minor incidents have occurred recently, and the Ambassador is taking the matter up.

R.A.F. Bostons heavily escorted by fighters bombed Ostend docks today.

Further minelaying by enemy aircraft occurred last night in the Dvina approaches and Archangel and Molotovsk are closed until further notice. Sweeping continues.

North Atlantic.

Two cases occurred today of unprovoked attack by Vichy aircraft on British aircraft flying outside Moroccan territorial waters. In one case the possibility arises that the French aircraft was on patrol with the object of intercepting our aircraft in transit south.

Mediterranean.

Two ships were hit by bombs and set on fire in Tobruk harbour last night.

Operation
M.G.6.

ERIDGE, CROOME and HURSLEY carried out a bombardment of the Daba area at 0415 today, ALDENHAM acting as E-Boat cover. About 30% of the rounds fell in the immediate vicinity of the targets. At 0501 the force was attacked by E-Boats and ERIDGE was hit and disabled in 31° 7' N 28° 26' E, apparently by a one man torpedo boat which it is believed was sunk by CROOME and ERIDGE, the latter was towed to Alexandria by ALDENHAM.

*E/ADLt. C.B. 4273 (52)

/A Swordfish...

War Diary.

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Saturday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Mediterranean.

Operation
M.G.6.
Contd.

A Swordfish from 815 Squadron sank one of the E-Boats. In spite of fighter protection enemy aircraft attacked from 0615 to 1305 and HURSLEY sustained slight damage from near misses.

America and West Indies.

The first Trinidad - Aruba - Guantanamo convoy (T.A.G.1) sailed today.

U.S. Coastguard Cutter 489 recovered, cork, soap, oil and feathers after a depth charge attack today near the Mississippi delta: no wrecks are charted in the neighbourhood.

Australia and New Zealand.

SS. MALAITA is reported to have been torpedoed by an enemy submarine off Port Moresby at 0300Z today.

There has been no communication with Nauru since 25/8.

The total Japanese forces now in the Solomon Is - New Guinea area are estimated at 2 or 4 battleships, 3 or 4 aircraft carriers, 12 heavy cruisers, 7 light cruisers, 40 to 60 destroyers and more than 20 to 30 S/Ms and eight seaplane carriers, exclusive of casualties reported on 24/8 and 25/8.

War Diary.29.8.1942
Saturday.HOME COMMANDS.Policy.Task Force
99.

The following is Comnavu's 1158/29 addressed to C.T.F. 99 (R) Cominch, Cinclant and Admty. You will report with TUSCALOOSA, EMMONS and RODMAN to Cinclant for duty and routing upon being detached by C. in C. Home Fleet. Task Force 99 will be considered dissolved after reporting.

(Comnavu 1202/29 to Admty.) *See p. 903*Obstructive
attitude
of Russians.

Narkomindel and frontier guards (green hats) have assumed obstructive attitude at Archangel and refuse to allow mails and hospital units in BLANKNEY and MIDDLETON to come ashore.

(2) Ambassador is taking matter up today am registering my indignation to Naval Staff over this and other minor incidents that have occurred recently.
(Admiral Miles 1329C/29 to Admty.)

BRIGADIER.

Your 1231/28. BRIGADIER is allocated for service with C.C.O. on completion of refit.

2. N.O.I.C. Hartlepool is requested to sail her to Portsmouth to come under orders of C. in C. Portsmouth for working up.

(D.O.D.(H) 1345A/29 to C. in C. Rosyth.)

25th M.L.F.

It has been approved for the 25th M.L. Flotilla to be withdrawn forthwith from operational duties in order to be fitted for foreign service.

2. R.A.C.F. in conjunction with Admiralty Departments is requested to arrange for boats to be taken in hand as soon as possible.

3. On completion boats are to be sailed to Milford Haven.

4. R.A.C.F. is requested to report as soon as possible the date by which all boats will be completed.

(D.D.O.D.(C) 1759A/29 to R.A.C.F.) *See p. 931*M.M.S.90
203, 212.*See next page*

S.B.N.O. North Russia 0958/29th. ^{14.5.42} Concur with S.B.N.O. North Russia as to desirability of return of M/S.s. Intend those proceeding with P.Q.18 shall continue to Archangel and that 3 should return with Q.P.14 leaving 4 for preliminary Mine Sweeping in North Russia.
(C. in C. H.F. 1955A/29 to Admty.)

War Diary.

29.8.1942
Saturday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Defence of U.K.

Richborough. Your 1151A/28/8/42. Work to protect camp and personnel is being put in hand immediately. (Supt. C.E. Chatham 1336/29 to V.A. Dover.)

Movements.

OFFA. Arrived Hvalfjord at 0150A/29th. (A.C.I.C. 0225A/29.)

VIVACIOUS. Sheerness 29/8. Departure VIVACIOUS and
CAMPBELL. CAMPBELL at 0753 to R/V with MACKAY and VESPER
MACKAY. at 51 Buoy thence by QZS 287 and 277. Speed
VESPER. 20 knots E.T.A. 1735/30.
See next page
7/29/42 (C. in C. Nore 0904A/29 to N.O.I.C. Aultbea.)

ACHATES. C. in C. W.A. left Liverpool at 0930 in
ACHATES to witness smoke trial returning p.m./30.
(C. in C. W.A. 0959A/29.)

RUPEE. ^{*1/11.2.42*} My 1740/28 and your 1522/28 (which please repeat
to Admiralty for D.S.V.P.) Sail RUPEE if
Ostervold satisfied.
^{*1/11.2.42*} (A.C.O.S. 1000A/29 to F.O.I.C. Aberdeen.)
My ^{*1/11.2.42*} 1225/29. RUPEE delayed engine room defects. Anticipate
sailing a.m. 31/8.
(F.O.I.C. Aberdeen 1845/29.)

P.54 Intend sailing P.54, UREDD, and TRIBUNE escorted
UREDD by LOCH MONTEITH for Lerwick passing Bell Rock
TRIBUNE. 1400A/31st E.T.A. Lerwick 1800A/1/9.
(2) C. in C. Rosyth is requested to arrange
fighter protection.
(3) Communications.
(S. 9. 1055A/29 to C. in C. Rosyth (R) F.O.S.
A.C.O.S. C. in C. H.F. S.O. Subs Lerwick.)

ITHURIEL. My 1516A/28 and 1831A/28. Sailed codeword
"Funnel".
(F.O.I.C. Liverpool 1030A/29.)

M.M.S. Sailed M.M.S. 212, 203, 90 in accordance with
212, 203, my 1916A/28.
90. (F.O.I.C. Greenock 1114A/29 to A.C.I.C.)

See previous page

30 M.L.F. My 1132/27 delayed 24 hours on account of
weather.
(A.C.I.C. 1130A/29 to Cominch.)

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War Diary.29.8.1942
Saturday.HOME COMMANDS.Movements - contd.

Situation CUMBERLAND 059° 05' 007° 32' to Scapa 18.
Report 2000. TUSCALOOSA, RODMAN, EMMONS off Butt of Lewis
southbound to Clyde 18. ONSLAUGHT, MARTIN,
MARNE 059° 23' 006° 48' to Scapa 18.
(C. in C. W.A. 1310A/29.) *See p. 901*

Chasseurs 1. A.M. 1823/26. C. in C. Portsmouth is
42, 43. requested to sail Chasseurs and PILOTE 3 to
*PILOTE 3. arrive Milford Haven 14/9.
**Not Despatched* 2. C. in C. W.A. and F.O.C.N.A. are requested
to sail and route EMPIRE WARLOCK who will be towing
Chasseurs 42 and 43 in accordance with A.M. 1743/20.
3. F.N.F.L's 1000/27 proposing to sail PILOTE 3 under her own
power in company to Freetown is approved.
4. Action is in hand to fit Oerlikon in PILOTE 3.
(D.O.D.(H) 1403A/29 to C. in C. Portsmouth, C. in C. W.A.,
F.O.C.N.A., F.N.F.L.)

LIGHTNING. */N.T. v.D.*
My 1450. When ready proceed to Chatham.
Arrangements.
(A.C.O.S. 1532A/29 to LIGHTNING.)
See next page

DURBAN. A.M. 1914A/13. Intend to sail DURBAN from
Needles 0700/31st for Scapa.
(2) Route. Partial repair trials will be
carried out down on channel.
(3) Air escort will be arranged codeword "Artful". If A/C
are grounded due to weather movements will be postponed and
further signal will be made.
(4) Surface escort will be provided by GLAISDALE as far as
Longships returning to Yarmouth (I.O.W.) on completion.
(C. in C. Portsmouth 1613A/29.)

FERNIE. Your 1233. Request FERNIE may be instructed
to proceed to Harwich from B.2 Buoy. She will
be operated by D.16.
(C. in C. Nore 1710A/29 to C. in C. Portsmouth)
Comply with C. in C. Nore's 1710A/29th.
(C. in C. Portsmouth 2038A/29 to FERNIE.)
My 1233/29 sailed 2036. Instructed to comply with your
1710A/29.
(C. in C. Portsmouth 2054A/29 to C. in C. Nore.)

Movements VIVACIOUS, CAMPBELL, MACKAY and VESPER 18 E.
at 1957/29. Buoy northwards 20 knots.
(C. in C. Rosyth 1757A/29.) *See next page*
9 p. 904

904

War Diary.29.8.1942
Saturday.HOME COMMANDS.Movements - contd.

H.44. My 1130A/28 ^{18.7.29} amend E.T.D. 2230/29 E.T.A. 1330/30.
(N.O.I.C. Campbeltown 1840A/29.)

VIVACIOUS. My 1757 VIVACIOUS, CAMPBELL, MACKAY and VESPER
CAMPBELL. anchored 62 D owing fog. Add LIGHTNING 36
MACKAY. buoy 2101 20 knots South.
VESPER. (C. in C. Rosyth 1955A/29. *See M 902 1903*)
LIGHTNING.

A.F.D. My 1717/27 and C. in C. W.A. 1012/28. Concur.
XVII. that A.F.D.XVII should not be sailed from
Devonport until 5/9.
(D.O.D.(H) 2005A/29.)

LIGHTNING. Arrived Scapa 1657 sailed 1958.
(A.C.O.S. 2129/29.) *See previous page.*

INGLEFIELD. My 1427A/28 ^{10.470} sailed E.T.A. 1500A/30.
(R.A.D. 2205/29.)

Operations.

Operations against enemy convoy ~~off~~ ^{Violent} Lowestoft arrival M.G.Bs 88, 82, 84 from patrol.
(MANTIS 0730A/29.)
Lowestoft arrival M.G.Bs 21, 17, 18, 91, 86, 89 from Patrol.
(MANTIS 0739/29.)
Lowestoft arrival M.T.B. 87, 241 from patrol.
(MANTIS 0854A/29.)
My 1130/28 (not to R.A.C.F.) M.T.B.87 reports that at 2150/28 contact was lost with M.G.B. escort due to stiff steering and defective throttle controls. Efforts to regain touch by M.G.Bs were unsuccessful and M.T.B.87 proceeded to her patrol position alone, M.T.B.230 having returned with defects. In estimated position 53° 18' N. 04° 44' E. she sighted 2 M/Vs escorted by E/R Boats and 1 Flak ship steering south at 6 knots. She attacked on silent engines but was sighted and engaged before torpedoes could be fired. The first shot hitting disabling steering gear. Attempts to attack steering by engines were unsuccessful and as more hits put the W/T out of action and caused flooding M.T.B.87 disengaged and steered for Lowestoft. Enemy report was made but was undecypherable. S.O.8th M.G.Bs with M.T.Bs 34, 70 and 241 sighted this action to the E.S.E. and detected a single boat proceeding S.W. by hydrophone. Assuming this to be M.T.B.87 a search was carried out to the eastward using R.D.F. and closing to within sight of shore but nothing was found. Units turned to the westward at 0405/29. Details of damage to M.T.B.87 are not yet available but there were no casualties.
(C. in C. Nore 1642A/29.)

/Patrols

905

War Diary.29.8.1942
Saturday.HOME COMMANDS.Operations - contd.Patrols.

Patrols tonight Saturday No.1 PUFFIN, No.2 SOUTHDOWN, A/A escort for F.N. No.99 and No.3 HAMBLEDON, No.4 COTTESMORE, No.5 PYTCHLEY, No.6 MEYNELL.
(C. in C. Nore 0930A/29.)

Patrol tonight Saturday.

1. M.G.Bs 334, 315 Z 18.
2. 4 M.G.Bs vicinity W J B R 0515 returning Harwich daylight.
(C. in C. Nore 1727A/29.)

14th M.G.B.F. M.G.Bs 316, 312 and M.T.Bs 55, 49, 53 are to
11th M.T.B.F. proceed to Yarmouth before dark and be at
immediate notice during the night, returning
to Harbour at daylight.
(C. in C. Portsmouth 1140/29 to S.O. 14th M.G.B.
Flotilla, S.O. 11th M.T.B. Flotilla, (R) Admty.,
HORNET, C. in C. Plymouth D 1, F.O.I.C. Portland
X.D.O.E. and W.) *I.O.W.

Raider.

My 1301C/26. Raider shelled Dickson Harbour
at 1320/27 damaged guardship one merchant vessel
and W/T station. Bits of shell picked up
reputed to be 11" but this unreliable as no service personnel
there. 6" coast defence guns manned by God knows whom claimed
three hits but this also very doubtful.
2. North Russia's 1040A/27 paras 2 and 3 Mast reported to be
raked.
3. Admiralty pass to C. in C. H.F.
(Admiral Miles 1752C/29.)

Allied Air Activity.

Catalinas
for North
Russia.

My 1040/27 para 6. If this is implemented
Russians suggest basing Catalinas at Cape Dickson
and at (?Amderma) in 69.45 N. 61.40 E. at which
latter there is adequate A/A defence. During
transit of P.Q. and (?W) P convoys Catalinas based
on (?Amderma) would be transferred to Belushva 71.26 N. 52.25 E.
which also has adequate A/A defences. Admiralty pass to C. in C.
H.F.

(S.B.N.O. North Russia 1029A/29.)

Your 1040A/27 para 6. Owing to proximity of P.Q.18 and
necessity for conserving the aircraft required for this operation,
regret additional aircraft cannot be sent.

(D.O.D.(H) 1842A/29 to S.B.N.O. North Russia.)

AP574 29/8. Your 0044/28* Confirmation telephone con-
versation Naval Staff this H.Q. to D.D.O.D.(H) 0930/28. No more
than eight Catalinas already arranged for ORATOR will be available.
Anticipate transit flights carrying out patrols on route will
commence about 7th September.

(H.Q.C.C. 1931A/29 to Admty.) *repetition of S.B.N.O. North
Russia's 1040/27, report of ship opening fire on SIBIYAKOV.

/Operation ...

War Diary.29.8.1942
Saturday.HOME COMMANDS.Allied Air Activity - contd.Operation
M.S.N.3.

Request your views as to whether air escort should be provided during sweeping of S.N.3. I consider this is probably undesirable as presence of aircraft may draw undue attention to area and cannot provide any very great A/S protection during an operation of this nature. (R.A.(M) 1052A/29 to Admty.)

FURIOUS.

Admiralty report:- There is an urgent requirement for a carrier for deck landing training of certain 1st line squadrons now re-arming. Total number of pilots involved 64 Seafire, 25 Hurricanes, 28 Martlets. Can FURIOUS be made available to carry out this training preferably in the Clyde from about the 15/9 onwards. Estimated duration 10 - 14 days T.O.O. 1845/28. Ends. Request early remarks. (C. in C. H.F. 1111A/29 to FURIOUS.)

Enemy Air Operations.2 German
airmen.

Have on board 2 German airmen picked up at 2330/28th by ships of F.S. (7899) off Sunderland. (QUANTOCK 1300A/29.)

Enemy A/C
crashed in
Jan Mayen.

Request further details and Type if Aircraft reported in your 0018A/28. (D.D.I.C. 1602A/29 to A.C.I.C.)

M.Ls 102,
213
attacked.

At about 0545/29 M.Ls 102 and 213 returning from patrol were attacked by two F.W.190s when southward of Folkestone. Enemy aircraft were engaged by both boats without definite result although one was probably hit and no second attack was made. Aircraft dropped bombs in addition to using cannon and machine gun fire. Near misses by bombs caused some engine trouble in both boats. M.L.102 was hit several times and had two slightly wounded. (V.A. Dover 1741A/29.)

Iceland.

Hostile aircraft sighted flying high Northward Budareyri West at 1000A/29th. F.W. sighted by Northrop in 067° 10' N. 020° 30' W. at 1255A course North. (N.O.I.C. Iceland 2055A/29.)

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War Diary.29.8.1942
Saturday.HOME COMMANDS.Mining.Mining of
Archangel
& Molotovsk.3 enemy A/C based on Loouchi dropped mines in
Dvina estuary 1730A/27th. 4 mines believed
dropped all of which lie in vicinity of Mudyuga
Light. (? Extended) minelaying in approaches
to Molotovsk. One enemy A/C destroyed. 14Junkers 88 from Banak approached Archangel 2000A/28th but
turned back without dropping bombs.

(S.B.N.O. Archangel 0942A/29.)

Archangel and Molotovsk closed till further notice due
to minelaying from enemy aircraft. One magnetic mine exploded
by HAZARD 279° 2.3 miles from Mudyusa light 0800A/29th.

Sweeping continues.

(S.B.N.O. Archangel 0947A/29.)

Beachy
Head.That portion of Q Z X 753 contained within lines
joining the following positions has been swept
100 per cent for moored and ground mines:-

- (A) 50.43.00 N. 0.20.30 E.
- (B) 50.43.57 N. 0.30.00 E.
- (C) 50.40.00 N. 0.30.00 E.
- (D) 50.40.00 N. 0.20.30 E.

Request this portion of Q Z X 753 may be cancelled.
(C. in C. Portsmouth 1023/29 to Admty.)Operation
M.S.N.3.Intend to carry out sweeping of S.N.3 in four
parts. Following is programme for M.S.N.3 part 1.(a) SCOTT, on completion of S.N.89 and PLOVER
are to R/V in 059° 00' N. 005° 40' W. at 0700/4/9and are then to lay beacons and marking buoys in manner
previously arranged.(b) On completion SCOTT and PLOVER are to R/V with 15 M.S.F. in
Broad Bay at 2000/7 and are to transfer ?charts and any useful
data obtained.(c) While the force is in Broad Bay an A/S patrol is to be
maintained.

(d) The force is then to sail so as to commence the sweep at 0800/8

(e) When necessary return to Port Z.A. fuel and when ready
continue with operation.

(f) Raise steam and proceed as necessary to comply.

(R.A.M. 1050/29.)

Liverpool.

Your 1829A/13/1/42. Details of mine exploded
by ANTIOCH II in 53° 29' 07" N. 03° 32' 47" W.
(F.O.I.C. Liverpool 1240A/29.)E. of
Lowestoft.2 "R" mines detonated and 1 swept near position
036° 3.1 miles from number 3 E Buoy. M.L.
has mine in tow. Have extended area 1 two miles
to southward.

(M/S 9 1645A/29 to C. in C. Nore.)

/No mines ...

War Diary.29.8.1942
Saturday.HOME COMMANDS.Mining. - contd.E. of
Lowestoft.
(contd)

No Mines swept in last lap. One sweep partly on wreck in position 2.7 miles 055° from number 3 C buoy. Intend to proceed 0700/30th commence sweeping 0830 and continuing for at least 1 mile to Eastward of last mine encountered. Returning to Yarmouth on completion.
(M/S 9 1830A/29.)

Bristol
Channel.

Details of mine detonated 1136A/29, 244° Worms Head 2 miles 024°.
(Capt. M/S Bristol Channel 1702A/29 and 1510A/30)

Off
Brixham.

PANGBOURNE reports 2 mines detonated in Sweep at 1447 in 050° 20' 42" N. 003° 24' 12" W.
(N.O.I.C. Dartmouth 1722A/29.)

Humber.

Following mine exploded 0744/29 in 266° Spurn Point 2.6 miles.
(F.O. Humber 2029/29.)

Enemy Intelligence.Dover
Strait.

Details of enemy shipping plotted by R.D.F. in Dover Strait from 0900/28 to 0900/29. All vessels presumed minesweeping or patrols.
(V.A. Dover 0933A/29.)

Unidentified
Ships.

1 unidentified ship bearing 160° distant 9 miles approx. Course 165°. My position 060° 12' 009° 53'.
(KINGSTON AGATE 1055A/29 to NORTHERN SUN (R) S.O.N.P.(T) Kirkwall.)

2 unidentified ships bearing 060° distant 10 miles steering S.E. 2 aircraft believed Catalina in company. My position 059° 35' 009° 27'.
(NORTHERN SUN 1200A/29 to S.O.N.P. Trawlers (R) KINGSTON AGATE.)

Portsmouth
R.D/F.

Enemy shipping plotted by Portsmouth R.D.F. night of 28/29th August.
(C. in C. Portsmouth 1307A/29.)

U-Boats.

U/B reports.

Am over enemy submarine. In 62° 15' N. 1° 56' E. periscope only sighted.
(A/C 7 DR 0335/29.)

Am over enemy submarine in 45° 53' N. 12° 6' W. Periscope only sighted. Course 270°.
(A.O.C. 19 Gp. 1516/29, F.O.(S) 1716A/29 to P.247 (R) C. in C. Plymouth, Admty.)

War Diary.29.8.1942
Saturday.HOME COMMANDS.Casualties and Defects.

LIVERPOOL.

Amendment to his 1054A/28.
(A/S Rosyth 0021A/29.)

NEWARK.

E.R. 1519 completed repairs and proceeded to
Greenock 28/8.
(F.O.I.C. Glasgow 1002/29.)Alexandra
Docks
Newport.Will be closed for repairs to Lock Gates
between 0730 and 1530 1/9 N.O.I.C. Barry is
requested to inform incoming shipping.
(N.O.I.C. Newport 1305A/29.)SS KYLDE
(mined
25/8.)Intend sailing in tow of tug PRIZEMAN escorted
by M.T.B. ✓ BEN BHRACKIE at 0430/30 by inshore
route to Harwich for onward passage to London
S. of A. 6 knots. F.O.I.C. London is requested
to sail H.M.T. BEN BHRACKIE to Lowestoft as
convenient on completion of escort. Request
fighter protection.
(F.O.I.C. Gt. Yarmouth 1531A/29 to C. in C. Nore.)

NELSON.

Should you so desire NELSON can be taken in hand
at Rosyth after RODNEY has unbasined on 15/9.
A.S. Rosyth's 1120/28 refers.
(D.O.D. H. 1610A/29 to C. in C. H.F.)JERNFJELD
(Nor.)In ballast damaged enemy action today. Now
beached Mylor Creek engine room tidal No.2, 3
and 4 holds leaking badly. Position in hand
with salvage pumps and directly damage patched
and considered safe vessel will be refloated.
(Chief Salvage Officer, Falmouth 2113A/29.)Shipping and Convoys.

LEVENWOOD.

Straggling badly. Has been instructed to
proceed Lowestoft.
(N.S. SLEIPNER 0100A/29 to C. in C. Nore.,
N.O.I.C. Lowestoft (R) WESTMINSTER.)N.A.15
A.T.20.Code numbers of ships of N.A.15 and A.T.20 are
as follows:-P.1 SIBONEY. P.2 WINCHESTER CASTLE.
P.3 REINA DEL PACIFICO. B.80 LETITIA.
B.81 STRATHMORE.

(D. of S.T. 0230A/29.)

Details of personnel on board.
(D. of S.T. 0229A/29.)

War Diary.29.8.1942
Saturday.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping and Convoys - contd.

W.S.22. Sailed BULLDOG, BEVERLEY, KEPPEL, BICESTER, ZETLAND, BLYSCAWICA for W.S.22. (N.O.I.C. Londonderry 0340A/29.)
The following troops embarked W.S.22. Total 2374. (D.S.T.O. Glasgow 1821/29.)
W.S.22 sailed 2000/28th. D.2 and D.15 including above delayed but sailed 2205/28th. LEINSTER sailed 1958/28th in company with W.S.22. (D.S.T.O. Greenock 2210A/28.)

A.T.21 Convoy A.T.21 is due Clyde 5/9.
T.A.21 2. Total of approx 15,000 personnel will disembark 6/9.
3. Numbers to embark in T.A.21 will be about 1,500. They will embark 8/9. (M.S.W.T. 0530A/29.)

? P.Q.18. Your 1433/21st para 4A. Minesweepers Group (?and), I consider air escort in 74 30 would be very difficult owing to low searching speed and weather likely to be met. Also considered desirable that all available minesweepers be used for minesweeping. I concur that desirability for this is increased by recent laying of mines by aircraft in White Sea.
(2) It is also for consideration that 3 or more minesweepers accompanying P.Q.18 should continue to Archangel and relieve equivalent number who would accompany Q.P.14 to U.K. Owing to suspension of convoys minesweepers have spent longer than in Russian waters and require relief chiefly for boiler defects. (S.B.N.O. North Russia 0958A/29 to C. in C. H.F. (R) S.B.N.O. Archangel, M.S. Group 1, Admty., R.A.(D) H.F.)

P.Q.18. Your 1431/21 para 4 B and your 0339/24.
Q.P.14. Following Russian co-operation promised here.
(A) 3 large destroyers will meet P.Q.18 in 72 or 73 N. and escort to Archangel.
(B) 2 small? destroyers will escort Q.P.14 to 70 N. and after returning fuel at Iokanka 68.04 N. 39.42 E. will reinforce escort for P.Q.18 to Archangel.
(C) Air escort will be provided for P.Q.18 from meridian of Bear and to Archangel.
(D) Submarines will occupy areas 2A, 3, 4 and 6 during passage of both convoys.
(2) Promised air escort appears optimistic and I am endeavouring to obtain further details. Admiralty pass to C. in C. Home Fleet, R.A.(D) (S.B.N.O. North Russia 1011A/29.)
P.Q.18. (1) S/M in the covering zone who are forced to leave patrol through lack of fuel or other circumstances are to proceed through 072° 02' N. 015° 01' E. thence direct to Lerwick.
(2) S/Ms are to report their P.C. and S. as soon as practicable but not until they are at least 60 miles clear of other S/Ms. (F.O.(S) 1249A/29 to Capt.(S) 3, S.O.(S) Lerwick, Capt. (S) 9, (R) C. in C. H.F., Admty.)

/Admty. ...

911

War Diary.29.8.1942
Saturday.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping and Convoys - contd.

- P.Q.18
Q.P.14.
(contd) Admiralty 2018/18th. Under worst conditions it might be necessary for destroyer covering force to enter north Russian ports for fuel after surface action. If so maximum requirements would be about 7000 tons.
(C. in C. H.F. 1930A/29 to S.B.N.O. North Russia, Archangel.)
- S.C.97. Task Unit 25.6.3 joined up with S.C.97.
(C.T.U. 24.6.3 1018/29 to C. in C. Western Approaches, (R) Connav, Comtask Force 24, Admty., N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, F.O.N.F., C.O.A.C. Halifax, Comtask Group 24.7, C.T.G.24.6.)
- W.P.209. Leave convoy at Eddystone and proceed to Plymouth escorting MARIE LOUISE MACKAY.
(C. in C. Plymouth 1049A/29 to KRAKOWIAK.)
Cancel my 1049.
(C. in C. Plymouth 1123A/29.)
- Slave 3. Cancel sweeping "Ounce 4." Proceed immediately to meet eastbound convoy and sweep ahead to Dartmouth "Slave 3". TREVO TERCEIRO, COMMANDER EVANS, BILSDEAN and BRECON CASTLE co-operating. Acknowledge.
(C. in C. Plymouth 1125A/29 to NIGHTHAWK (R) BEN URIE, KRAKOWIAK, N.O.I.C. Dartmouth.)
- ARCTIC. Your 2101/28 to F.O.I.C. Greenock Marconi can supply spark type portable lifeboat transmitter and type 394 F receiver. Gear will take about one week to fit owing to short supply of batteries. Marconi state they will not supply on loan. Intend to requisition and fit under Marconi maintenance contract.
(Capt. D. Greenock 1213A/29 to Admty.)
- ALDERAMIN. Security Control Officer Leith states 2 passengers disembarked at Methil this morning from Dutch ALDERAMIN 7, 886 tons have reported that Master is pro-Nazi. Passengers suspect Master may attempt to take vessel to Holland.
(N.O.I.C. Leith & Granton 1253/29, to Capt (D) Rosyth, Escort Force, N.O.I.C. Hull (R) C. in C. Rosyth, Admty.)

War Diary.

29.8.1942
Saturday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping and Convoys - contd.

- A.T.21 Convoy A.T.21 comprising SS QUEEN ELIZABETH
T.A.21 carrying U.S. Troops will leave New York on
A.T.22 30/8 for Clyde unescorted.
T.A.22 2. Local escort is to R/V at 0600Z/5/9 in 56°
 14' N. 14° 30' W.
 3. C. in C. W.A. is requested (a) to sail
CURAÇOA to provide A/A escort from the R/V (b) to arrange A/S
screen of 6 destroyers (c) to provide onward route from
position H ref Connav 1902/28.
4. H.Q.F.C. is requested to provide maximum fighter protection
and to arrange that fighters are sighted by the convoy from time
to time.
5. Air Min. is requested to arrange for special protection
whilst at the anchorage in accordance with A.M. 1045/18 April.
6. QUEEN ELIZABETH is expected to arrive Clyde p.m.5/9 and
to sail thence as T.A.21 p.m./8.
7. QUEEN MARY will sail from New York on 5/9 as A.T.22 and
Com. East Sea Fron. is requested to sail ship to R/V in
12.00 W. at daylight 10/9.
8. T.A.21 will be sailed from Clyde to R/V with A.T.22 in
order that change over of local escorts may be effected.
9. QUEEN MARY will leave Clyde as T.A.22 p.m./15/9.
10. R.A.(M) is requested to assist with para 3(b) as much as
possible.
(D.O.D.(H) 1732A/29 and 0130A/30.)

LADY OF
MANN.

Your 2012A/28. Antipate that escort will
be available.
(A.C.O.S. 1952/29 to Admty.)

ORMONDE.

A.T.20 (C) A.M.1758A/23. ORMONDE should
return to Clyde provided she can arrive at
Tail of the Bank not later than 0600A/5/9.
If she cannot arrive Clyde by this time she
should proceed to Liverpool.
(D.O.D.(H) 2002A/29.)

War Diary.29.8.1942.
Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic.

O.S. 38 D/F bearings on Series A at 1955Z/28 and 2041Z/28
U/B. indicate that a U-Boat is in your immediate
vicinity.
(D.D.I.C., 0144A/29 to Escorts of O.S.38, (R)
F.O.C.N.A., C. in C.W.A., H.Q.C.C.)

U/B attacks Ref. A.M. 2332B/28. Rescue Tug SALVONIA
on S.L.119. escorted by LORD NUFFIELD sailed from Gibraltar
at 2332/28. Report what action you have taken.
(F.O.C.N.A., 0802A/29 to VETCH, (R) Admty.)
Your 0802A/29 and A.M. 2332A/28. Despatched BUSTLER at
0340A/29 from 40.44 N. 14.46 W. Sea slight, visibility good,
wind N.W. force 03, barometer 1013.
(VETCH, 1100A/29 to F.O.C.N.A., (R) Admty.)
Full name of ship is CITY OF CARDIFF. Report when met.
Ship is to be towed to Gibraltar. SALVONIA escorted by LORD
NUFFIELD sailed from Gibraltar at 2326/28 to assist. *See next p. (21/74)*
(F.O.C.N.A., 1242A/29 to BUSTLER, (R) Admty., SALVONIA,
LORD NUFFIELD.)

STORK, 2nd Spanish trawler incapable of 7½ knots in flat
ALRESFORD, calm and is returning to Gibraltar from 035° 55'
Spanish N. 006° 56' W. s. s. ALRESFORD stopped with defective
Trawlers. boiler in 035° 53' N. 006° 45' W. and has been
ordered to return to Gibraltar on completion of
repairs expected to be completed by 1300.
(STORK, 0835A/29 to F.O.C.N.A.)* *See p. 686*

BARDELL, Pass following onward route to BARDELL, BARBRAKE:
BARBRAKE. (k) 035° 01' 028° 02'
(1) 017° 59' 021° 30' thence as routed by R.A.W.Af.
(2) ALGARNA is to be sailed in company.
(3) Request you will signal estimated S. of A.
(4) R.A.W.Af. is requested to signal onward route from (1)
(F.O.C.N.A., 1058A/29 to R.O. Fayal, (R) Admty., etc.)

OTUS. Intend sailing OTUS for U.K. p.m./1/9 passing
042° 59' N. 012° 31' W. at 0930A/4 shifting W/T
watch at that time.
(2) OTUS is painted dark blue.
(3) (W/T watch).
(4) (S.Ps carried.)
(5) F.O.S. 1149/8/1 (a) 2 mark (ii) aft. (b) (i) 9½ knots.
(ii) 110 miles diving by day. (c) unfit. (d) (i) nil.
(ii) 12.
(F.O.C.N.A., 1106A/29 to Admty., (R) F.O.S., C. in C. W.A., etc.)

Hudson, Hudson aircraft on sweep reports sighting French
French S/M. submarine No. 154 on surface in 33° 43' N. 07°
38' W. at 0804. At 0845 Hudson reported
returning base as result of air combat.
(S.O.I. Gib., 1133A/29 to Admty.)

/Situation ...

War Diary.29.8.1942.
Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic - Contd.

Situation 1. P. 31 039° 09' 012° 30' to 43.02 13.29 at
2000B/29. 0130B/31, 8.
2. S.L.119, ROCHESTER, LEITH, ERNE, SANDWICH,
043° 01' 015° 59' 000° 7½.

→ 3. O.S.38, ENCHANTRESS, WALNEY, HARTLAND, ABERDEEN, CLARE,
035° 40' 018° 36' 188° 8½.
4. Convoy VETCH, BARDOLF, 38.49 13.01 129° 7.
5. H.G.88, STORK, DEPTFORD, MARIGOLD, SAMPHIRE, CONVULVULUS,
036° 20' 009° 01' through 36.31 11.30 thence 298° 7½.
6. CALEDON, 027° 29' 013° 57' through 30.00 11.37 thence 025° 14.
7. JONQUIL, COLTSFOOT escorting 3 tankers approx. 36.03 17.(?59)
90° to Gibraltar 9. GERANIUM expected to join.
8. LOCH OSKAIG patrolling Huelva Bight.
9. ALOUETTE patrolling off Lisbon.
10. DERWENT, AVON VALE, 1 merchant ship 28.38 14.46 through
28.04 14.47 thence 205° 15. *SIBAJAK.
11. LAFOREY approx. 33.57 08.51 to Gibraltar 18.
12. D.S. 0.21 sailing 1600/30.
13. LORD NUFFIELD, Tug SALVONIA 36.40 09.07 301° 10.
(F.O.C.N.A., 1214A/29 to A.I.G. 63.)

Axis Enemy vessels 53 (LESSEE) and 54 (DREPANUM)
Shipping. arrived Bilbao 29th to load iron ore.
(Consul Bilbao, 1250/29 to Admty.)

→ O.S. 38. D/F bearings at 1059Z/29 indicate U-Boat possibly
U/B. in vicinity O.S.38.
(D.D.I.C., 1256A/29 to Escorts O.S.38, (R)
F.O.C.N.A., C. in C. W.A., H.Q.C.C.)

DOLIUS, Your 1520/27. S.P. 02388 handed in.
KOHISTAN. (F.O.C.N.A., 1419A/29 to Admty.)

S.L. 120. (1) It is intended to divert S.L.120 for air
protection from position (V) through (A) 37°
32' 18° 00' to (Y).
(2) Your 0958A/29. If escort available it is requested that
DAVILA and BRITISH PRESTIGE be sailed to join convoy,
destination of both ships Clyde.
(D.T.D., 1756A/29 to V.A.C.N.A.)

MALAYA, Arrival MALAYA, RAMILLIES, WESTCOTT, LOOKOUT,
RAMILLIES. PENN, PANTHER, WISHART.
(F.O.C.N.A., 2046A/29 to Admty., (R) R.A.W.A.)

P. 212. Am returning to Gibraltar with one rating sick
suspected fever. E.T.A. position Q 0100B,
Europa Point 1200/30. Request total bombing
restrictions. Weather report.
(P. 212, 2047Z/29 to F.O.C.N.A.)

/Vichy ...

914^A

No. T.O.O. 29th Aug.

SECRET

MESSAGE

From: Governor & C. in C. Gibraltar

Desp. 2305/29/8/42
Recd: 0025/30/8/42

CYPIER

Addressed: The War Office

Attacks by Vichy Aircraft off Gibraltar.

MOST IMMEDIATE

070410. 16584.

Following for Air Ministry.

1. The following two cases of unprovoked attack by Vichy aircraft on British aircraft flying outside territorial waters are reported in order that appropriate action may be taken to prevent a recurrence of such incidents.

2. On 29/8/42 at 0730 hours G.M.T. a transit Wellington from Gibraltar to Bathurst was attacked without warning by one Curtiss 75A 20 miles N.N.W. of Casablanca on a true bearing of 242 degrees. The Wellington had kept about 20 miles out to sea along the coast and was flying at approximately 2000 feet. Visibility was about 30 miles. Curtiss carried out five attacks closing to about 150 yards. Several hits were scored on Wellington in first attack and subsequently Wellington returned fire and suffered further damage. Combat continued until 0746 hours G.M.T. by which time Wellington must have been 45 miles off coast. At 0749 hours G.M.T. Wellington was in position 34 degrees 22 minutes North 08 degrees 19 minutes West possibility arises that Curtiss was on patrol North East of Casablanca with the object of intercepting our aircraft in transit south. No casualties were suffered by Wellington crew.

3. 29/8/42 Hudson in search of survivors Wellington lost previous day and flying five miles from French Moroccan coast and turning out 20 miles from Casablanca and returning to 5 mile limit South of Casablanca encountered submarine surfaced 33 degrees 51 minutes N in 07 degrees 45 minutes W and dived to attack. Recognising French submarine aircraft continued 20 miles circle of Casablanca. At 33 degrees 24 minutes N 08 degrees 25 minutes W at 0732 hours G.M.T. was attacked by one Curtiss 75A. Attack was opened by French plane. Although Hudson turned out to sea attack was continued by Curtiss closing to 200 yards and Hudson was damaged. No casualties. Hudson replied to attack.

No. T.O.O.

0.6 tels. To M.O.4 (for action)

Circulated by War Office to:-		Admiralty (H.W.R)
S. of S.	D.M.O.	D.M.I. Air Ministry (C.A.S)
C.I.G.S.	D.D.M.O.(O)	D.D.M.I.(O) Air Ministry (A.M.C.S.)
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D.C.I.G.S.M.O.1.4.		Admiralty (C.N.3.) (Brig.Hollis)

1st Lord		
1st S.L.(2)	Ops (3)	Capt. Wharton
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A.C.N.S.(W)	D.N.I.(5)	W.D.
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P.A.S.(S)	D.A.C.D.	
P.A.S.(O)	Air Br.	
N.A.1st S.L.	D. of P.(3)	

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attached by one of the ...

War Diary.

29.8.1942.
Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic - Contd.

Vichy
attacks on
aircraft.

On 29/8, off Casablanca, 2 cases of unprovoked attack, reported for appropriate action to be taken to prevent recurrence.
(Govr. Gib., 070410, 16584, to W.O. no T.O.O.)
See Lion Copy.

South Atlantic.

Shipping via
Punta Arenas.

Should ships routed to west coast of South America via Punta Arenas call at that port for onward routing? N.C.S. instruction No. 9 refers.

(N.C.S.O. Capetown, 0721Z/29 to Admty., (R) C. in C. S.A., Connav.)

N.C.S.O. Capetown's 0721/29.

Request you will reply direct to N.C.S.O. Capetown.

(D.T.D., 1638A/29 to Connav.)

Your 0721/29 Admty. 1638A/29. Affirmative. N.O.I.C. Capetown pass to N.C.S.O. Capetown.

(Connav, 2001/29 to N.C.S.O. Capetown, (R) C. in C. S.A., Admty.)

Dispositions. BRILLIANT about 006° 30' 018° 01' to Freetown, 13 at 2001Z/29.

→ BOREAS with O.S.S.36 007° 35' 014° 05' to 005° 41' 013° 30' thence 166° 8.

→ RUMBA 005° 55' 011° 45' to R/V with O.S.S.36.

MORRIS DANCE with T.S.16 003° 45' 004° 10' 255° 7½.

BENGALI, KELT, 004° 58' 000° 59' E. to Lagos (Nigeria) 6½.

SIRIUS, PHOEBE 014° 05' S. 004° 58' E. 154° 15.

ASTURIAS 002° 10' S. 014° 55' to 001° 52' S. 015° 30' thence 142° 14.

(R.A.W.A., 1115Z/29 to A.I.G. 150.)

Weekly state 29/8.

(R.A.W.A., 1157Z/29 to Admty., etc.)

→ RUMBA.

RUMBA arrived as in RUMBA's 0830Z/28.

Request instructions for RUMBA.

(N.O.I.C. Takoradi, 1402Z/29 to R.A.W.A.F., (R) Admty., N.O.I.C. Lagos.)

→ S.T. 32.

Departure 29/8 BOREAS, VELOX, M.L. 266, 251, 279, 281 with S.T. 32.

(S.O.I. Freetown, 1511Z/29 to Admty., N.O.I.C. Takoradi, N.O.I.C. Lagos.)

War Diary.29.8.1942.
Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic - Contd.

- MAURETANIA. Your 1956/28. MAURETANIA will be docked Rio de Janeiro, see my 2251/28.
(B.A.D., 1541Z/29 to N.A. Rio de Janeiro, (R) Admty.)
- A.H. SCOTT. Overdue shipping A.H. SCOTT due Lourenco Marques 23/8 from Aden not arrived.
(S.O.(I.) Capetown, 1625B/29 to Admty., etc.)
- O.S. 37. Arrivals 29/8 LONDONDERRY, LANDGUARD, HASTINGS, BIDEFORD, SWALE with O.P.37 (O.S.37 intended); VANSITTART.
(S.O.(I.) Freetown, 1627Z/29 to Admty., etc.)
- STEPHEN HOPKINS. Overdue shipping, STEPHEN HOPKINS due Durban 24/8 from Port Lincoln not arrived.
(S.O.(I.) Capetown, 1629B/29 to Admty., etc.)
- GENERTON. Overdue shipping GENERTON due Lourenco Marques 21/8 from Port Sudan not arrived.
(S.O.(I.) Capetown, 1633B/29 to Admty., etc.)
- O.21. F.O.C.N.A.'s 1508A/27/8.
1. Onward route from position V through W 15° 00' N. 19° 30' W., X 11° 03' N. 17° 37' W. Thence to Freetown.
2. F.O.C.N.A. pass to D.S. O.21.
(R.A.W.A., 1903Z/29 to F.O.C.N.A., (R) Admty. etc.)
- ROBERTS. If any boilers are not in use carry out boiler cleaning while on passage if practicable in order to reduce stop in S. Africa to minimum required for docking.
(A.C.N.S.(F), 1922A/29 to ROBERTS, (R) C. in C. E.F., C. in C. S.A.)
- Air Cover, Freetown Approaches. Your 2137/28. Concur with proposals. M.A.R.I. will be amended in conformity.
(D.T.D., 2017A/29 to R.A.W.A., (R) C. in C. S.A.)

917

29.8.1942.
Saturday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean.

Bi-weekly Night 25/26. 17 Halifaxes bombed shipping and
Opsum No. 51 harbour installations Tobruk.
Good fires started on docks near main Jetties and
in town, very large oil fire started near petrol
installations N.W. of Harbour. 1 Halifax
machine gunned about 30 CR.42s on (?Buaymud) landing ground
Southeast Tobruk. 4 R.A.F.11 American Liberators bombed Corinth
Canal, Greece. 2 near misses claimed on M/V in Canal, many
bombs along banks and in water. Near misses on Railway Bridge
over centre of Canal. 1 American Liberator bombed shipping
Suda Bay, Crete, claiming near misses on 1 M/V.
26/8. A Wellesley on convoy escort off Delta attacked enemy
S/M with depth charges N.W. of Port Said.

Bursts seen rising for 40 mins. after attack but no (?sign)
wreckage visible. Night 26/27. 4 torpedo 8 bomber Wellingtons
made offensive sweep for enemy shipping off Crete. 1 bomber 4
torpedo Wellingtons attacked a southbound tanker or large M/V
escorted by a destroyer off Antikithera Island. 1 probable hit
on stern followed by cloud of steam and trail of oil in wake.
Vessel reduced speed from 10 to 5 knots. Following day R/C
Marylands reported ship on fire off S.W. corner Crete. 1 bomber
Wellington attacked "Garibaldi" class cruisers west Antikithera
Island with unobserved results.

27/8 10 American Liberators despatched to make dusk attack
on medium merchant ship with one escort vessel off Gados
Island, south of Crete. 2 Liberators only located and bombed.
No hits claimed. Night 27/28 18 Wellingtons bombed shipping
and harbour installations Tobruk claiming near misses on one
ship. Other bombs on waterfront, but damaged unobserved.

2 R.A.F. Liberators 3 A.S.V. 7 torpedo 5 Bomber Wellingtons
despatched to attack southbound convoy previously reported by
R/C off S.W. Coast of Crete. A.S.V. Wellingtons located 1
Tanker 3 destroyers and 1 M/V 1 destroyer 8 miles N. of Derna
and 100 miles N.N.E. Derna respectively. Homing was rendered
difficult by interference and 6 Wellingtons of striking force
were unable to locate. 1 A.S.V. Wellington bombed M/V. Results
obscured by smoke screen but vessel believed hit as explosion
resulted. 1 Wellington claimed 2 hits with torpedoes on Merchant
Ship causing explosions and clouds of smoke.

*Istria, amend
5416 hours* Vessel had disappeared when smoke cleared leaving large
patch of oil on surface. 3 destroyers another M/V attacked by
remaining Wellingtons with bombs and torpedoes, no hits claimed
1 Liberator bombed 1 medium M/V escorted by 2 destroyers 55 miles
N.W. Appollonia, no hits. Second Liberator bombed 1 M/V with
escort 2 destroyers about 85 miles N.W. of Derna results
unobserved.

(H.Q., R.A.F., ME. 1027Z/29, 1048Z/29, 1109C/29, 1143Z/29,
1152/29, 1210Z/29).

TURBULENT.

Your 2251/28 acknowledged. Ref. my 1245/27
amend second position to read 032° 46' 031° 40'
and time of arrival 0530C/31.
(Capt. S.l., 1217C/29 to TURBULENT (R) C. in C.
Med., 201 N.C.G.) (Cancelled by 1730C/29).

/Suez... *next page*

918

29.8.1942.
Saturday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean - Contd.

Suez Re administration.
Canal. (C. in C. Med., 1221C/29) See Lion Copy.

Re supply C. in C. Med., 1241C/29.
of Torpedoes 1. Expenditures to be expected are
to Malta. (A) Submarine 40 torpedoes per month. (B)
Aircraft 30 torpedoes per month.
This can be increased above the present allowance
of 50 per month.

2. Methods of supply are (A) By PARTHIAN and REGENT 26 torpedoes
per month (B) By submarines joining and leaving 1 S/M.F. 12
torpedoes per month. (C) By air transport (aircraft torpedoes)
only (D) By warships.

3. 38 torpedoes per month will therefore be sent to Malta by
submarine, leaving 32 or more to go by aircraft or surface
warship. Losses in convoys and shortage of torpedoes precludes
shipment by M/V at present.

4. Request 10 submarine and 10 aircraft torpedoes from
Mediterranean allocations may be sent to Gibraltar each month
for onward shipment to Malta, as opportunity offers.
Cancel my 1236/28/6.

5. Present shipments under way or projected (A) CLYDE sailed
from Gibraltar 22/8 with 13 aircraft torpedoes.
(B) PROTEUS sails from Beirut about 10/9 with 12 S/M torpedoes.

6. H.Q., R.A.F., M.E. are requested to send aircraft torpedoes
to Malta whenever air transport is available.

7. V.A. Malta, in consultation with A.O.C. Med. is requested
to allocate priorities for air and submarine torpedoes to
F.O.C.N.A. and S.I.

8. If WELSHMAN operation is to be repeated see your 0159/22/7
request that the maximum number of submarine and air torpedoes
may be shipped.
(C. in C. Med., 1241C/29 to Admty).

TURBULENT

My 1245/27 my 1217/29 are cancelled. Proceed *through page*
through 033° 24' 029° 04' at 0500C/30. Thence
direct to arrive Beirut searched channel at 0530C
/1/9. You may proceed on surface on 30/8 so as to
cross longitude 033° 20' at 0500C/31 N.O.I.C.
Palestinian Ports Haifa pass to EURYALUS.
(Capt. S.I., 1730C/29 to TURBULENT (R) Subs on
Patrol etc).
Capt. (S) I 1730/29 safety route arranged.
(S.O. S/M Alexandria, 2107C/29 to TURBULENT (R)
Capt. (S) I. 201 N.C.G.)

CELENO,
ALBARO.

My 1253C/16. A. CELENO arrived 27/8 from
Aegean for Black Sea and is still here.
B. Reported B.4., ALBARO delayed Piraeus owing to
engine trouble and is due to arrive shortly.
(S.O.(I) Istanbul, 1234C/29 to S.O.(I) Med.,
(R) Beirut, D. N.I., and Malta)

MOST SECRET

MESSAGE

IN

MOST SECRET

1221C/29th August

From C. in C. Mediterranean.

Date 30/8/42
Recd. 2103

Naval Cypher XD by W/T

Addressed Admiralty. Repeated F.O.R.S.C.A. 818,
A.S. Alexandria.

443.

Your 0201/15/7. Reply has been deferred until completion of negotiations with Canal Company.

2. Agreement has now been reached as follows -

(a) Certain non-co-operative officials at Port Fouad including the manager Escourrou have been relieved at our request other changes may follow by agreement.

(b) Following on (a) a joint operational committee of control will be formed at Port Fouad to include new works manager, Roca and staff. Establishment of a similar committee to control Suez and possibly Ismailia works is now under discussion.

(c) Policy of dilution of labour is accepted by Canal Company to include both dockyard labour and workmen not up to Canal Company normal standard.

(d) A reduction is accepted in the peace time standard hitherto maintained by Canal Company in repair of their craft (?also this) scheme should lead to considerable increase in output of Canal Company works and thereby improve the maintenance facilities which can be made available for Canal Company craft, as well as H.M. ships. It may be capable of further expansion but success is largely dependent on port facilities. Proposal to acquire full control has been dropped, due to many financial and technical details, involved, including (?such) as Port Said water and power supplies.

Dredging of Port Said roads is being carried out by S.C.C. with their own dredger PELUSE, and at their expense. In addition ST. DAVIDS is being operated at Admiralty expense and Risbain Port Said roads in accordance with S.C.C. requirements and at a price per cubic foot dredged chargeable to company. This price being now under discussion.

5. No capital expenditure is involved and improvements to equipment are unnecessary, plant being in excellent condition. Details of wages, costs, and

financial /

financial arrangements still under discussion.

6. Rocas Stafoakia organisation will require strengthening but this can be done in present circumstances from Alexandria dockyard and other sources. It is under consideration to divorce Roca from A.S. Alexandria and form an independent organisation in Canal area. Irrespective of this but with particular reference to (?para.) ten it is considered very desirable for ROCA to (?hold) rank of Captain in order to be on proper level with Canal Company officials. It is most undesirable to relieve Commander Peloe at this juncture and it is earnestly requested that Their Lordships may reconsider their decision given in Admiralty's 1434/14/8.

7. The success of these negotiations has been (?mainly) due to able handling by F.O.R.S.C.A. and to personal goodwill of Baron Benoist as a result of whose efforts a most helpful attitude has been adopted throughout by Canal Company.

1221C/29.

1st Lord	D. of P.(2)
1st S.L.(2)	D.C.(2)
Deputy 1st S.L.	Head of M.(30) (M.051311/42)
2nd S.L.	D.O.D.(F)(2)
3rd S.L.	I.P.(2)
Vice Controller	W.D.
4th S.L.	N.A. 2nd S.L.
V.C.N.S.	Head of C.W. for action
A.C.N.S.(F)(2)	(C.W.23125)
Civil Lord	D. of S.T.
Naval Sec.	E. in C.
Finan. Sec.	D.T.D.(3)
Parl. Sec.	A.S.(CL)
A.S.(C)	D. of D.
N.A.(T)	C.E. in C.
D. of L.D.	Admiral Blake
N.A. 1st S.L.	Deputy Controller)
P.A.S.(S)	D. of D.)
P.A.S.(O)	E. in C.)
P.A.S.(F)	Hd. of Labour Br.) Bath
D.N.I.(4)	C.E. in C.)
A.C.N.S.(T)	Hd. of S.W.R.)
Sec.	Asst. Under Sec.)

War Diary.29.8.1942.
Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean - Contd.

P.46 Proceed with all despatch to establish patrol off Apollonia and endeavour to reach $033^{\circ} 05' 022^{\circ} 05'$ by dawn 31st. Important you are not sighted East of 020° .
(Capt. S.10, 1335B/29 to P.46, C. in C. Med., Capt. (S) 1., 201 Group).

My 1335/29 mines have been laid within 1 miles of $032^{\circ} 42' 023^{\circ} 26'$. Further orders and any other information will be passed by Capt. S.1. under whose operational control you will be when East of 019° .
(Capt. S.10, 2123B/29 to P.46 (R) C. in C. Med., Capt. S.1., S.O.S. Alexandria)

ORION. Departure.
(Cdre. Aden, 1415Z/29 to Admty (R) C. in C. Med., F.O.R.S. and C.A. S.O.(I) Kilindini, S.O.(I) Colombo, S.O.(I) Bombay). *See next page (Sit. 7-10)*

Malta Air Report. I. 627 29/8 C.S.R. 28th 0755 and 1130 hrs. 8 and 4 Spitfires respectively up for raids which did not approach close to Malta. 1 Alert 1426 hours 14 plus enemy fighters on sweep crossed coast great height partial R.D.F. interference, 17 Spitfires up 1 section sighted 6 Italian fighters damaging 1 MC. 202, enemy however avoided combat and fled home. 1600 hours, 16 Spitfires airborne on offensive patrol but no interception. 1635 hours 9 Spitfires up for raid which did not approach Malta. Night 28/29. 3 Alerts. 1912 hours, 2 raiders approached to within 5 miles W. of Island dropped bombs in sea and returned, effective R.D.F. interference, 1 Beaufighter up saw nothing. 2022 hours, partial R.D.F. interference, 1 Beaufighter up for raid which did not approach close to Malta saw nothing. 0156 hours, for raid which turned back 25 miles from Malta. 29th. 0615 hours 0745 hours, 5 Spitfires up for raids which did not approach close to Malta.

(Air H.Q., Malta, 1530/29).

Part 2 of part 1 C.S.R. I. 627. 29/8. 1 Alert, 0925 hours, 15 Me. 109s crossed coast great height, 12 Spitfires up later intercepted enemy 20 miles north of Island destroying one Me. 109, probably destroying 2 Me. 109s damaging 2 Me. 109s 1 Spitfire missing, another damaged in combat, pilot unhurt. 16 Spitfires were up on offensive patrol off south coast of Sicily to intercept returning enemy aircraft, these were sighted but avoided combat.

(A.H.Q., Malta, 1547/29).

Vichy Repatriations. Your 45922 of 20/8. Negotiations now in progress with Vichy through Washington for exchange certain detained persons in various parts world. Discussions include 100 non-military persons at Jibuti needing removal medical grounds. You should reply to Col. Pastore or if you consider more appropriate to French authorities Jibuti that H.M.G. are in touch with Vichy regarding repatriation unfit women and Children from Jibuti. Important neither Italians nor French authorities Jibuti are given inkling that repatriation being made on reciprocal basis. If anything comes of proposals no difficulty seen in increasing number to 150. They would of course embark Berbera.
(W.O., 1815/29 to G.O.C. in C. E. Africa).

/Situation...

920

War Diary.29.8.1942.
Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean. - Contd.

Situation report 259. My 2326/16 para. 3 and my 1937/23. PORPOISE laid mines 0805/11 N., E. of Derna. 2 miles West of minefield torpedoed and sank one merchant ship.

2. My 1212/28 para. 6, *POOLE has been sent to hunt submarine. Air R/C was blank. W.S. 21 P. is due Aden 29/8.

3. Operation M.G.6., ERIDGE, CROOME, HURSLEY carried out bombardment of the Daba area 0415/29. ALDENHAM acted as E-boat cover. About 30% of rounds fell in immediate vicinity of targets. One large fire 1000 yards west of stores dump, several others in target area. Many rounds fell amongst dispersed M.T. At 0501 force attacked by E-boat and ERIDGE hit and disabled in 31° 7' N., 28° 26' E. This E-boat afterwards sunk by Swordfish from 815 Squadron. Enemy aircraft attacked from 0615 till 1305 in spite of fighter protection. Some heavy at 0935 13 Stukas. ERIDGE in tow of ALDENHAM with force arrived 1700. Casualties believed slight. *(see 1908C/30 and 1949C/31)*

4. ORION has arrived at Aden. *See previous page.*
(C. in C. Med., 1929C/29 to Admty). * *See p. 834.*

Malta Naval Air Sqdns. Your 1306/22. Your arguments are fully appreciated but there are insufficient Albacore reserves in hand or in sight to permit maintaining 9 in Malta.

2. The present shortage is accentuated by the need to retain sufficient reserves at home for immediate needs.

3. Malta's claims on future types will be borne in mind.

(D.N.A.D., Approved V.C.N.S., 1939A/29 to C. in C. Med., (R) V.A. Malta, A.O.C. in C. M.E., 201 N.C. Group).

UTMOST Cape Bukatto may be as good as anywhere at present.
(Capt. S.1., 2306C/29 to UTMOST, (R) RORQUAL, C. in C. Med., Capt.(S) 10).

Enemy Units Following has been read via Malta W/T from A/C using Call Sign Q.Z. 7 J.
P.C. and S. of one enemy M/V 2 destroyers
33.43 N., 23.56 E., 135° 10 knots.
(2400/29).

War Diary.29.8.1942.
Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies.

U/B hunt My 1515/26. (?1315/26 intended)
26-28/8 1. Catalina attacked U-boat sighted at 1100Z/26
HARMONIDES but depth charge hung up.
survivors. 2. A further possible sighting by same Catalina
of submerging U-boat following A.S.V. contact
occurred at 1415Z/26 in 003° 19' N., 077° 48' E.
No attack made.
3. Continuous Catalina search in co-operation with GERALDTON and
SHOREHAM in this area maintained until 1800Z/28. No further
sighting or contact and hunt abandoned.
4. SHOREHAM picked up 71 survivors ex HARMONIDES located
by Catalina in 002° 22' N., 078° 37' E. p.m./28. SHOREHAM
GERALDTON due Colombo 0300Z/30.
(F.O. Ceylon, 0530Z/29 to C. in C. E.F., (R) Admty etc).

→ FROBISHER, Amend last sentence of my 1249/28 (re FROBISHER
MAURITIUS. and MAURITIUS due for 6 monthly docking - N.T. in
W.D.) to read: "Request you will arrange if
possible quick docking of both ships".
(C. in C. E.F., 0600Z/29 to F.O. Ceylon (R)
Admty etc).

Enemy Unit. By D/F at 1345Z/28, position of unknown enemy
unit was 000° N., 091° E. Unreliable fix. Call
sign M.A.N.I.
(C. in C. E.F., 0754/29 to S. & A. E.I. Stn).

Destroyer Organization. The following revised destroyer organization is to
come into force at 0800/25. NAPIER Cdre. (D)
2nd D.F. DUNCAN (Capt. (D) 2), HOTSPUR, GRIFFIN,
DECOY, ARROW, ANTHONY, ACTIVE, HURSLEY, BELVOIR,
BLACKMOORE, CATTERICK. 7th D.F. NEPAL (Capt. (D) 7), NORMAN,
NIZAM, EXPRESS, FORTUNE, FOXHOUND, INCONSTANT, D.S. ISAAC SWEERS,
VAN GALEN, R.N.N. TJERK HIDDERS. 12th D.F. PAKENHAM (Capt. (D) 12)
PALADIN, PANTHER, PENN, QUENTIN, ITHURIEL.
(C. in C. E.F., 0923Z/29 to Eastern Fleet, 107Y. (R) F.O.E.A. &
Z.)

Dispositions Eastern Fleet weekly disposition summary number 8.
Following change on number 7 (A) ROYAL SOVERIGN
leaves Kilindini 1/9 to refit in U.S.A.
(C) DEVONSHIRE to escort convoy in Indian Ocean.
→ (D) FROBISHER at Colombo, HAWKINS join Eastern Fleet about 3/9,
MAURITIUS to escort convoy in Indian Ocean. ENTERPRISE at
Kilindini.
(C. in C. E.F., 0940Z/29 to C. in C. S.A., F.O. Ceylon, C. in C.
Med., F.O. 3rd B.S., A.C.N.B., Melbourne, F.O.C.R.S.F., C.A. (R)
Admty).

Striking Force. Use of Dhows in Persian Gulf etc.
(F.O.C.R.I.N., 1008Z/29 to Admty (R) C. in C.
E.F., Dept. C. in C. E.F., F.L.O. Delhi, S.N.O.
Persian Gulf) See Lion Copy.

MESSAGE.

10082/29 August

IN

Most Secret.

RECEIVED:— 1047

DATE 30 8 42

TIME

SECRET.

From F.O.C.R.J.N.

Naval Supplies 'd' By W/T.

Persian Gulf Striking Force (Dhow)

Addressed Admiralty, Repeated C in C Eastern Fleet
rep C in C Eastern Fleet F.L.O. Delhi,
S.N.O. Persian Gulf.

Important Advice.

264 (1) Your para (A) exhaustive search has been made for suitable ship & only ship found is ISPIINGO.
As already pointed out essentials are ability to remain away from large port for very long period, oil fuel or diesel ship most desirable, good water tankage, accommodation for crews of small craft, refrigerating space to store supplies, tankage for petrol & oil for craft, good electric power for running small maintenance workstop & in view of very hot climate, entire lack of amenities in operation of craft & need to visit DHOW crews from time to time reasonable amenities & space must be provided. Request your early concurrence to send of this ship P.S.T.O. India's 07302/29 refers as (? assigned) craft are now dispersed and proceeding with purchase & hire of suitable craft. Intend using LIMBAK & BLINJOE as submarine repair supply ships for craft in Eastern end of Gulf of Oman. These ships were taken up as lightships & water ships for Port F. But are not at present required. Am also taking up one lightship for use as fuel barge in suitable anchorage.

(2) your para (b) Does this refer to reconnaissance DHOWs as well as motor DHOWs. Craft selected as motor DHOWs will carry 12 pounder gun.

(3) your para (c) in view of large area & necessity of frequent personal contact with DHOWs. If successful results are to be achieved, base ship must spend some periods at sea & as much time as possible will be spent in harbour.

(4) your para (F) battery operated sets required. To some time arranging for improvised sets which will be replaced by T.W.12's on arrival. Request 50 petrol or diesel driven generating sets suitable for T.W.12's be shipped Bombay immediately for use with improvised sets. Please submit details of shipment to enable early clearance to be made.

(5) your para (h) confirmed.

MESSAGE.

IN

SECRET.

Great Secret

RECEIVED:—

From

DATE

TIME

Addressed

(6) You para (1) require immediately 16, 250 HP Diesel engines with stern mechanism. Gear starting, gear + engine driving circulating water ludge pump and washup for propeller to skin freely under water seal (then screws installation) for motor DHOWS (length of main + intermediate shafting required will be signalled later). 8 acetic sets type 134 B complete, one acetic set type 12 CC for base ship, 8 7½ Kilowatts 110 volt petrol or diesel driven generating sets, 8 searchlights suitable for small craft, 16 7½ cubic feet electric refrigerators, one searchlight for base ship. Round + depth charge throwers for craft will be provided from current stock but replacements will be required. Details of these + other requirements will be signalled later.

(7) Intend to fit a few reconnaissance dhows with small auxiliary motors where such can be made available locally or are already fitted.

(8) Intend allocating FAIRMILES numbers 474, 475, 476, 477 + 72 feet G.L. numbers 1114, 1116, 1117, 1118, as striking force to support dhows.

Z
1008/29

Note: These are parts 1, 2 + 3 of 40.C. RINS
1013/29 Aug. Part 4 not yet received - sent
back to court. (Part 4 is on page 921D)

Reference omitted message referred to appears to
be Admiralty 1606 A/10.

MOST SECRET

From: War Registry

Date: 3.9.42.

Correction to 1008Z/29 Aug. from F.O.C.R.I.N.

Paragraph (1) line 18. For "lightships" read "bases"

- 1st Lord.
- 1st S.L. (2)
- Dep. 1st S.L.
- 2nd S.L.
- 3rd S.L.
- Vice Contr.
- 4th S.L.
- V.C.N.S.
- A.C.N.S.(F)(2)
- A.C.N.S.(T)
- A.C.N.S.(W)
- N.A. 1st S.L.
- D.O.D.(F)(2)
- D.O.(2)
- D. of P.(2)
- D. of P.(Q)
- D.N.I.(4)
- D.S.D.
- D.D.L.C.(2)
- Hd. of M.
- D. of L.D.(2)
- Ad. Blake.
- D.D.O.D.(C)
- D.A/S.W.(2) for action.
- D.G.D.
- D.S.V.P.
- D. of S.
- Hydrog.(2)
- E. in C.
- D. of D.
- D.N.C.
- D.T.S.D.
- I.P.(2)
- W.D.
- Dep. Contr.
- E. in C.
- D. of D.
- D.N.G.
- D.E.E.(3)
- R.I.N.L.O.
- D.A/S.W.
- EJ. Hd. of S.W.R.

Intended use of LIMBAK and BLINJOE as repair supply ships in Gulf of Oman.

Bath. by courier.

MOST SECRET

MOST SECRET MESSAGE 1013Z/29th August. IN

FROM: F.O.C.R.I.N. DATE: 4.9.42.
RECD: 1224
NAVAL CYPHER (D) BY W/T

ADDRESSED: Admiralty Repeated C. in C. Eastern Fleet.
Dep. C. in C. Eastern Fleet, F.I.C. Delhi S.N.O.P.G.

IMPORTANT AIDAC

My 1013Z/29 Part 4 final

(9) Intend to appoint Cdr. Nott R.I.N. as S.O. of this Force. He will be responsible for purchase and fitting out of craft, administration and operation of classification organization. He will submit proposals as regards operation of force to S.N.O. Persian Gulf and C. in C. Eastern Fleet in due course.

(10) Intend Cdr. Nott should proceed by air to Persian Gulf to consult with S.N.O.P.G. as soon as fitting out work has been set in motion.

(11) Request a "letter" may be allocated to force to facilitate signalling. For security reasons it is not desirable to include word Dhow in title of force.

(12) For reference purposes this scheme will be known as scheme N.A. repetition N.A.

1013Z/29

NOTE: First 3 parts of this signal have been circulated with T.O.O.1008/29.

Advance copies D.C. D.O.D.(F) D.D.I.C.

1st Lord		
1st S.L.(2)	Hydrog(2)	E. in C.
Dep. 1st S.L.	D. of S.	D. of D.
2nd S.L.	D. of P.(2)	D.N.C.
3rd S.L.	D.N.I.(4)	D.T.S.D.
Vice Contr.	D.S.D.	I.P.(2)
4th S.L.	D.D.I.C.(2)	W.D.
V.C.N.S.	Hd. of M.	Dep. Contr.
A.C.N.S.(F)(2)	D. of L.D.(2)	E. in C.
A.C.N.S.(T)	Ad. Blake.	D. of D.
A.C.N.S.(W)	D.D.O.D.(C)	D.N.C.
N.A. 1st S.L.	D.A/S.W.(2) for action	D.E.E.
D.D.D.(F)(2)	D.G.D.	D.A/S.W.
D.C.(2)	D.S.V.P.	R.I.N.L.O.
2nd D. of P.(2)	D. of S.	S.W.R.

} Bath.

War Diary.

29.8.1942.
Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies. conts.

- B.A. 31 2. 1000Z/29.
 3. E.T.A. position B. 018° 18' 061° 38' 1730Z/1.
 3A. E.T.A. Aden ERINPURA 0430Z/5 SANTHIA 0900Z/6
 KAROA 1530Z/5 CAP ST. JACQUES 0230Z/7.
4. 8 knots. 5. (Route)
6. SUTLEJ, MARGUERITE.
(N.C.S.O. Bombay, 1012Z/29, 1014Z/29).

Pacific
Fleet
Liaison.

The present system of permanent liaison officers in Eastern and Pacific Fleets does not meet requirements in respect of a rapid exchange of up to date information on technical and tactical matters.

(2) Consider that this can only be achieved by an exchange of visits by selected staff and technical officers, duration being limited to a week or 10 days.

(3) At the moment the Pacific Fleet has battle experience which the Eastern Fleet lacks and I should in consequence welcome and visit by Aus. Air Staff Officer qualified to give full information on air tactics, carrier operation and fighter direction and co-operation with land-based air forces. I would also like to have included an R.D.F. officer who can give me most recent experience of Radar in all its applications.

(4) These officers will of course be afforded full opportunity to obtain information on methods employed and experience gained in Eastern Fleet.

(5) I consider the retention of a permanent liaison officer is necessary in order to ensure the presence of someone fully informed of our organization and methods should it be necessary for the two fleets to work in close co-operation. It would be difficult for anyone temporarily attached to acquire this knowledge.

(C. in C. E.F., 1504Z/29 to Admty (R) R.A.A., A.C.N.B.)

CITY OF
CANTERBURY.

It is important that military guard on CITY OF CANTERBURY should not go ashore at Lourenco Marques. Request CITY OF CANTERBURY be informed accordingly.

(M. Branch, 1839A/29 to C. in C. E.F., (R)
Consul General, Lourenco Marques, A.C.N.B.)

War Diary.29.8.1942.
Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies.

ST. FRANCIS. My 1410Z/27 and 1140Z/28. *N.T. & W.D.*
ST. FRANCIS returning St. Johns N.F. with defects.
(F.O.N.F. 0546Z/29 to C.T.U. 24.1.11. (R) Admty.
etc.)

Movement Summary. 1800 G.M.T./29.

Ship.	Position.	Course.	Speed.
GLASGOW.	35° N 46° W.	040°	19
<i>H.M.S.</i> QUEEN)	20½° N 33½° W.	270°	14
ELIZABETH)			
3 destroyers)			
2 corvettes)	(D.O.D. F. 1105Z/29 to Opanav. (R) Commaveu.)		

ROODE ZEE. Sailed ROODE ZEE in T.A.G.1 for onward convoy in
A.H.3 in accordance with your 1432/25.
(N.O.I.C. Trinidad 1122Q/29 to S.B.N.O. W.A. (R)
Comcarib. Admty. etc.) *See next page - (T.A.G.1)*

Dispositions. Situation 1856Z/29 A.T.20. C.T.F.37 56° 30' 16" 10'
to 56° 10' 08" 30' 13½".
T.A.18. C.T.F.38. 52° 52' 22" 16' to 49° 45'
31° 35' 15".
O.N.125. C.T.U.24.1.3. 55° 42' 07" 11' to 55° 42' 12" 38' 9½".
(C. in C. W.A. 1127Z/29 to C.T.F.37. C.T.F.38. C.T.U. 24.1.3.)

EMPIRE
BREEZE,
(O.N.122.) Passing through 049° 45' N 035° 10' W at 0950Z
today, am searching area with 60 miles radius
beginning with arc 045° to 135°. EMPIRE BREEZE
nor FRISKY not yet sighted. My P.C.S 1300Z are
050.12 N 034.23 W 045° 13.2 knots. Weather report.
(ROSTHERN 1315Z/29 to A.I.G.301. (R) FRISKY.)

SCHENCK.
S.C.97. At 1600Z/30 proceed to 057° 40' N 030° 00' W
thence proceed to intercept S.C.97 and comply
with my escort order 72 - 42. Estimated S.C.97
will arrive at 030° 00' W at 0700Z/1st.
(C.T.G. 24.6. 1315Z/29 to U.S. Destroyer SCHENCK.
(R) C.T.U. 24.6.3. C. in C. W.A.)

THELMA
(sunk
26/8.) 31 survivors ex THELMA Norwegian arrived Barbados
in GEMMA 0745 Zone time 29th. Vessel attacked by
2 submarines at 1925 G.M.T./26 in 013° 20' N
058° 10' W 3 torpedoes hit and vessel subsequently
shelled. Last seen on beam end and on fire
amidships believed certainly sunk. Casualties 1 Chinese mess boy
1 Consular passenger signed on hand galley boy presumed killed
by explosion 1 O/S slight injuries and in hospital. Secret
documents left in chart room in weighted bags, consider
compromise impossible. Survivors abandoned in 2 life boats.

/Owing...

War Diary.29.8.1942.
Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies - contd.

- THELMA
(sunk
26/8.)
Contd. Owing to silence no information obtainable re size or type of S/M but believe armed with 4 inch guns. No flares or colour lights seen except tracers, name survivors my 1121/29 to Admty. only. (Harbour Master, Barbados 1330/29 to Admty. (R) S.B.N.O. W.A. etc.)
- Convoy
T.A.G.1. Departure WARWICK. BUTTERCUP. COLUMBINE. U.S. ship S.C.525 escorting T.A.G.1. U.S. destroyer ROWAN. (N.O.I.C. Trinidad 1402Q/29 to S.B.N.O. W.A. (R) Admty.)
List, cargoes, destinations.
(B.R.O. Trinidad 1443Q/29 to Admty.)
See previous page (ROODE ZEE)
- O.N.125. C.T.U. 24.1.3. in ^{JOHN A.} SPENCER plus U.S. destroyer BABBITT, TRILLIUM, MAYFLOWER, COLLINGWOOD, BITTERSWEET, NASTURTIUM*sailed for O.N.125. (C.T.G. 24.7. 1408/29 to C.T.F.24. (R) Connav. Admty. C. in C. W.A. N.S.H.Q. F.O.N.F. C.O.A.C. C.T.G.24.6. Capt. D. Greenock. Capt. D. Liverpool. N.C.S.O. Mersey.) *London diary.
- ALEXIA. My 1812/14. Temporary repairs being effected which it is expected will be completed middle Sept. Please inform owners. (B.C. San Juan 1428/29 to Admty.)
- Navigation. W.J.A.125. Shelborne replacements. Church in (?position) 043° 42' 37" 065° 21' 48" has been destroyed by fire. Correct Canadian chart 482 accordingly. (C.N.S. Ottawa 1431Z/29 to all S.Os. etc.)
- U/Bs. GB7A. Intercept 1410 G.M.T. 2 submarines sighted about 90 miles N.E. of Cape Harrison Labrador heading due north 2 miles apart at 1320 G.M.T. VVCS. (C.O.A.C. 1435Z/29 to Admty.)
- H.X.205. C.T.U. 24.1.4 in VISCOUNT (H/F D/F) plus ACANTHUS, *(?BOR)AGE*?POTENTILLA. EGLANTINE. MONBRETIA designated to escort H.X.205. (C.T.24. 1515Z/29 to Connav. (R) C. in C. W.A. C.T.U. 21.1.4. C.T.U. 24.18.8. C.T.G. 24.7. C.O.A.C. Admty. N.S.H.Q. F.O.N.F.)
** Completed by Conway's*
- S.C.96. Average speed 6.99 knots. Intermittent fog until 16/8 and moderate S.W. gale on 22nd. No stragglers, all ships now reported. (D.T.D. 1534A/29 to Connav. N.S.H.Q. (R) C. in C. W.A. C.O.A.C. N.O.I.C. Sydney C.B.)

War Diary.29.8.1942.
Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies - Contd.

MAURETANIA. Your 1956/28. MAURETANIA will be docked Rio de Janeiro, see my 2251/28.
(B.A.D. 1541Z/29 to N.A. Rio de Janeiro. (R) Admty.)
My 2251/28. Request confirmation that you are arranging the necessary small quantity of fuel oil to be available.
(B.A.D. 1901Z/29 to S.B.N.O. W.A. (R) Admty.)

VERITY. Admty. 0355/29 (re - owing to shortage of Naval observers it is not possible to lend Liaison officers.) and my 2146/27. Intend that Cdr. Thompson and Lieut. Horncastle exchange commands at Halifax about 3/9. Sailing of VERITY for Gibraltar will be delayed accordingly. Further signal will be made.
(C.O.A.C. 1548Z/29 to N.S.H.Q. VERITY. WITHERINGTON.)
My 1433/28. (sailing of VERITY to Ponta Delgada.) Sailing delayed. Further signal will be made.
(C.O.A.C. 1557Z/29 to B.C. Ponta Delgada. F.O.C.N.A.)

Overdue ship. Greek ELIAS G. KULUKUNDIS overdue Trinidad.
(S.O.I. Jamaica 1611Q/29 to Admty. S.B.N.O. W.A. B.A.D. Connav.)

Dispositions. Section south west. S.C.98 T.U.24.18.7. 044° 30' 063° 07' 090° 7' alter in 062° 48' W 075°.
B.X.35 B. T.U. 24.18.2. 043° 35' 064° 43' to

Halifax 10.5.

H.S.45. UNGAVA. LACHINE. Q.O,77. Q.O,78. Q.O,80. 045° 55' 059° 35'. 7.

J.H.12. GEORGIAN, due Halifax p.m./29.

U.S.S. MATTOLE, OSMOND, INGRAM. 042° 35' 068° 15' to Boston 9.
QUEBEC sailed Halifax 0200Z/30 to Yarmouth, Nova Scotia. MELVILLE patrols vicinity Cape Sable.

DOMINION HALSYD 043° 43' 068° 00' to Yarmouth 6.
(C.O.A.C. 1616Z/29 to Admty. as amended 1956Z/29.)

Tankers for Gibraltar. Hold Norwegian tanker BRAJARA and British tanker CLIONA in steam at Trinidad pending escort arrangements by R.A. West Africa. Admty. 1351/28 not to C.A.F.A.C. applies.
(Connav 1641/29 to N.O.B. Trinidad. (R) R.A.W.A. Admty. C.A.F.A.C.)

U/B Positions. S/M estimate 29/8.
(C. in C. U.S. Fleet 1644/29.)

3 auxiliary cruisers. Request you obtain an expression of opinion from Admty. as to most effective employment of three auxiliary cruisers (A) after re-arming with four inch HA/LA and (B) with present armament. Second their possible use as infantry assault ships should be discussed and if considered desirable by Admty. what armament do they recommend. Third.

/Alternatively...

War Diary.29.8.1942.
Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies. *cont.*

- 3 auxiliary
cruisers. Alternatively we feel they might be of value to Admty. as A/A ships able also to carry a fair number of infantry for short distances. Fourth. In any case it is my intention that they continue to be manned by R.C.N. (C.N.S. Ottawa 1701Z/29 to C.C.C.S.)
- Attacks on O.N. 5122. VISCOUNT's 1222Z/28 (N.T. in W.R.) Request information of part played by H/F D/F and M/F D/F against U-Boat attacking O.N. 5122. (N.S.H.Q. 1735Z/29 to C.T.F. 24. (R) VISCOUNT. C.O.A.C. F.O.N.F. C. in C. U.S. Fleet. Admty.)
- Shipping instructions. Ref. Convoy Sailing Instructions issued to H.X. and S.C. convoys, Sect. D. page 1 sub. para (d) suggest amplification to make clear that this refers to stragglers from convoy and not to ships detached to Loch Ewe for onward convoy.
2. Sect. D page 3, directions for approach to Loch Ewe should include an approach route from south through Little Minch, this being route usually followed at present by Loch Ewe sections of H.X. and S.C. convoys.
3. Request that every endeavour be made to see that all ships have full set of charts necessary. In H.X. 202 LIBERTY GLO had no U.K. charts and ROSARIO, whose destination was changed, had none of the Minches. (D.T.D. 1741A/29 to C.O.A.C.)
- TROLLA (sunk 24/8.) (1) TROLLA (Nor.) (2) A/S Thorkilsen. (3) 2200/24 50° N 36° W. (6) S/M not seen. (7) Torpedo in number 4 hold, ship sank in 1 minute. (11) All C.B.s and S.B.s went down with ship. (N.C.S.O. St. Johns N.F. 1752Z/29 to Admty. (R) N.S.H.Q.)
- Allocation of H.D.M.Ls. H.D.M.Ls. 1171-1182, 1338-1347 and 1352-1367 building on Eastern Seaboard of U.S.A. are allocated as follows:-
(a) First 8 boats to complete to Trinidad forming 118th Flotilla.
(b) Next 12 to complete to Jamaica or as required by S.B.N.O. W.A. forming 116th Flotilla.
(c) Next 8 boats to complete to Australia or New Zealand as shipping opportunities permit.
(d) Last 10 boats to complete, further signal will be made.
2. H.D.M.Ls. 1183-1194 and 1348-1351 building on Western Seaboard of U.S.A. are allocated as follows:-
(a) First 12 boats to complete to New Zealand, of these the first 8 to form 124th Flotilla, the next to form part of 125th Flotilla.
(b) Last 4 boats to complete, further signal will be made.
3. Crews from U.K. will be provided for 1(a) and (b).
4. Crews for 1(c) and 2 (a) will be provided by A.C.N.B. and N.Z.N.B.
5. The above allocation supersedes any previous allocations.
6. Request you will report pendant numbers of boats allocated to various localities. (D.D.O.D. (C) 1814A/29 to B.A.D. (R) S.B.N.O. W.A. etc.)

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War Diary.29.8.1942.
Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies - Contd.MOENA
(sunk
24/8.)

There would appear to have been special reasons for routing SS. MOENA independently outside Caribbean. Should be grateful for information on this point.
(D.T.D. 1953A/29 to Connav. (R) F.O.I.C. Trinidad. S.O.I. Kingston. N.S.H.Q.)
W.D. Note: S.O.I. Kingston 2053Q/27 refers.

Calls at
Punta
Arenas.

Connav 2001/29 to N.C.S.O. Capetown.
See South Atlantic.

U/Bs.

Shore watcher sighted S/M surface in 051° 26' N 056° 50' W at 1730Z/29.
(C.O.A.C. 2040Z/29 to Admty.)
S/M sighted 042° 52' N 068° 48' W at 0630/29.
(C.O.A.C. 2040Z/29 to Admty.)
S/M sighted at 2200Z/29 in 048° 26' N 064° 13' W.
(C.O.A.C. 2330Z/29 to Admty.)

Australia and New Zealand.U.S.16.
Escort.

Your 1535Z/28 concur.
2. Commodore Western Australia, report intended
(a) date of sailing.
(b) route to R/V.
(c) E.T.A. R/V position 029° 00' S 095° 00' E.
3. Cancel my 1429Z/26. (N.T. in W.D.)
(A.C.N.B. 0329Z/29 to Commodore Western Australia. C. in C. E.F. (R) Admty. D.C. in C. E.F. F.O.I.C. Ceylon.)
Your 0329/29.
(a) 5/9.
(b) direct to R/V.
(c) 0400Z/9.
(Cdre. W. Australia 0721Z/29 to A.C.N.B. (R) C. in C. E.F. Admty. D.C. in C. E.F. F.O. Ceylon.)

Digest
Serial
No.219
28/8.

Air R/C 28 /8 reported 2 cruisers, 1 destroyer Nachi Class, 7 destroyers, 3 cargo vessels, 2 unidentified vessels, 4 flying boats Faisi Buin area. 1 cruiser, 1 destroyer, 1 possible seaplane tender, 1 cargo vessel Buka Passage.
2. Photographs taken same R/C show 11 Zeros, 1 twin engined bomber Buka aerodrome. 14 fighters observed taking off later same day.
3. Reported 9 Zeros 5 dive bombers on Lae aerodrome 28/8.
4. 250 Japanese reported moving inland from Salamaua 27/8.

War Diary.29.8.1942.
Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Australia and New Zealand - contd. -

Digest
Serial
No. 219.
28/8.
Contd.

5. No confirmation further landings reported serial 218 para 1. Forces in contact 1 mile West G L G L (North coast Milne Bay.)
Commander reported situation quiet evening 28/8 and further attacks expected that enemy reported using light tanks and Mortars.

6. 6 Marauders attacked enemy positions Milne Bay 28/8. Numerous small fires started.

7. 3 aircraft attacked Darwin 1858/27Z. Damage slight. Same aircraft later attacked Port Patterson (30 miles S.W. Darwin) no damage.

8. 2 enemy vessels reported off Finschafen (New Guinea) at 2230/27Z. Course N.
(G.H.Q. S.W.P.A. 0925Z/29 to Admty. etc.)

Movements. Arrivals Vila 27/8 U.S.S. BOISE, U.S.S. KITTYHAWK, U.S.S. LAFHEY, and U.S. Army transport HINDS.
(D.N.I. Wellington 0933M/29 to Admty.)

Nauru,
Ocean
Island,
communication
stopped.

No. 412. Addressed to Secdo No. 412 (R) High Commissioner for Western Pacific No. 81 and Prime Minister of New Zealand No. 231.
No communication with Nauru since 25/8. Reports prior that date indicated enemy air attacks made on Island from 3rd to 22/8 resulted in extensive damage to Residency and adjacent buildings, some damage to trade store and native married quarters, and 2 natives were slightly wounded. On night of 22/8 enemy cruiser intermittently bombarded Nauru from 2310/22 to 0100/23. No details received. Administrator reported on 23/8 that he considered enemy occupation of Island might be expected. Have been advised that there has been no communication with Ocean Island since 25/8 and have been supplied by High Commissioner, Western Pacific, with information regarding enemy air and warship attacks on that place on 22/8.
(Australian Govt. 2130/29 to D.O.)

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.Submarines Reported.

Approx. positions.
(D.D.I.C. 1316A/29, 1341A/29.)

War Diary.30.8.1942
Sunday.SITUATION REPORT.Home Commands.

VESPER and VIVACIOUS on passage to Aultbea were in collision off Hartlepool in the early hours of this morning; both ships were damaged and proceeded to the Tyne.

With the return of TUSCALOOSA from North Russia Task Force 99 (U.S. fleet units reinforcing the Home Fleet) has been dissolved. (The ships did not, however, leave U.K. until 1740/1/9)

D/F bearings at 0144Z/30 and 0153Z/30 indicated a surface unit in approximate position 72° N. 26° E, probably TIRPITZ or SCHEER.

North Atlantic.

D/F bearings at 2316Z today indicate a German blockade breaker in approx. 40° 40' N. 17° 20' W. (midway between the Azores and the coast of Spain), probably homeward bound and making for Finisterre. (P.247 was ordered at 1236A/31 to proceed to intercept.)

Mediterranean.

CLYDE arrived at Malta today with petrol and aircraft torpedoes.

P.R.U. of Tobruk Harbour showed a total of 54 E-boats present.

Our aircraft operated effectively last night against Tobruk harbour and ships in convoys off the coast of Cyrenaica. At least 3 ships were hit, 2 of them being set on fire. At 1210 a large enemy tanker was left blazing from stem to stern in the Gulf of Taranto.

30.8.1942
Sunday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT.

America and West Indies.

An aircraft today sighted a submarine on the beach and much oil about in 11° 15' N. 73° 25' W. (near Sta. Marta, Colombia.)

U.S. High Speed (Destroyer) Transport LITTLE attacked, and it is believed damaged, a submarine at 1630Z today in 10° S. 160° E.

Australia.

No shipping was observed in the Milne Bay area today. There are indications that the enemy withdrew from the area last night.

I.123 sunk
28/8.
(Dr: Rowbottom
22m3:6843)

It was reported on 4/9 that U.S. Light Minelayer GAMBLE attacked a Japanese U-Boat similar to I.56 in 9° 20' S. 160° 45' E. (Solomon Is. area) after which wreckage and debris were seen. It is believed the attack took place today.

* Same position: 9° 20' S. 160° 45' E.

War Diary.30.8.1942.
Sunday.HOME COMMANDS.Policy.

T.F.99.

Please pass the following to Admiral King. Now that Task Force 99 has been dissolved I should like to thank you for the great help they have been and to say how much we shall miss them. (1st. S.L. 1450A/30 to B.A.D. Washington.)

North Atlantic dispositions.

A.M. 1030/28.
Area Iceland. delete CUMBERLAND. TUSCALOOSA. 2 Destroyers (U.S.)
Area Scapa. add CUMBERLAND.
Area Clyde. add TUSCALOOSA. 2 destroyers (U.S.) (D.O.D. (H.) 1630A/30 to C. in C. U.S. Fleet.)

Movements.

M/S.9.

My 1830/29. Remaining at Yarmouth until visibility improves. (M/S.9 0650A/30 to C. in C. Nore.)

→ CUMBERLAND.

Scapa arrival CUMBERLAND. (A.C.O.S. 0712/30.)

ACHATES.

Arrived ACHATES. (Cdre. Londonderry 0750A/30.)
F.O.I.C. Belfast's 1753A/25. Sailed ACHATES. (Cdre. Londonderry 2130A/30.)

30th.
M.L.F.

My 1137/27 and 1130/29. Sailing delayed a further 24 hours on account of weather. (A.C.I.C. 0936Z/30 to Cominch.)

25th.
M.L.F.

A.M. 1759A/29. ^{/A.201} Request M.Ls may be allocated to yards and taken in hand. Authorities concerned are requested to hold M.Ls 283, 295 and 336 on the Clyde and to sail M.Ls 238, 273, 280, 338 and 444 for Falmouth as soon as possible. M.L.237 is not required to fit out for foreign service. (R.A.C.F. 0942A/30 to Admty.) * from Mil/12/24/42.

P.615.

Cancel my 1137/28. ^{p.670}
(Capt. S.3. 1008A/30 to N.O.I.C. Aultbea.)

BLYSKAWICA
BICESTER
~~for from~~
W.S.22.

76. My 1604A/24 para 4. ^{p.741}
(1) BLYSKAWICA is to arrive Londonderry 3/9.
(2) BICESTER is to arrive Plymouth not later 4/9. C. in C. Plymouth is requested to give any necessary routeing instructions. (C. in C. W.A. 1036A/30 to AURORA.)

War Diary.30.8.1942.
Sunday.HOME COMMANDS.Movements - Contd.

- A.F.D. My 1012A/28, Admty. 2005A/29. Only BICESTER and
XVII P.C.74 are now available as escort from Plymouth.
(C. in C. W.A. 1039A/30 to C. in C. Plymouth.)
C. in C. W.A. 1039/30. Route through (A) 049° 51'
N 011° 01' W (B) 180° Bishop 10 (C) 180° The Lizard 6, and by
Q Z S 278 to Plymouth. Adjust speed to pass position (A) at
0530A (?24th) September.
(C. in C. Plymouth 1644A/30 to BICESTER.)
A.M. 1717/27 and C. in C. W.A. 1012/28.
Concur that A.F.D. XVII should not be sailed from Devonport until
5/9.
(D.O.D. (H.) 2005A/29.)
- ROYAL Request ROYAL ULSTERMAN may be sailed for Greenock
ULSTERMAN. immediately on completion of refit.
(C.C.O. 1055A/30 to F.O.I.C. Cardiff.)
- BACHAQUERO. Request BACHAQUERO may be sailed for Greenock
immediately on completion of refit.
(C.C.O. 1101A/30 to F.O.I.C. Falmouth.)
- UNBEATEN. On completion of refit and trials request you will
sail UNBEATEN for Portsmouth.
(F.O.S. 1201A/30 to C. in C. Nore.)
- TUNA On completion of refit and trials request you will
SEALION. sail TUNA and SEALION for Holy Loch for working up.
TUNA and SEALION will rejoin 3rd S/M Flot.
(F.O.S. 1202A/30 to N.O.I.C. Newcastle-on-Tyne.)
- DURBAN. My 1613A/29. Add mails to Scapa.
(C. in C. Portsmouth 1233/30 to Admty.)
- SCYLLA. After embarking F.O.C. D/F H.F. and staff about
0900/1 you will be required to proceed to Loch
Ewe arriving p.m./1/9.
(R.A.D. H.F. 1419A/30 to SCYLLA.)
- HARRIER S.O.6 M.S. in HARRIER with GLEANER proceed passing
GLEANER Switha 1400A/1 to Hvalfiord routed through 058°
50' N 007° 02' W thence through Reykjanes Passage.
Ships will be required to attend escort conference
at Hvalfiord a.m. 5/9, thence proceed in accordance
with E.V.
(R.A.D. H.F. 1421A/30.)
- P.552. Admty. docket M.08242/42. *Intend to sail P.552
when ready for Bombay via Gibraltar and the Cape.
(F.O.S. 1452A/30 to Admty.) *from *Northway*

War Diary.30.8.1942.
Sunday.HOME COMMANDS.Movements - Contd.

ONSLAUGHT Following arrived Scapa this forenoon in ONSLAUGHT,
MARNE MARNE and MARTIN and were transferred direct to
MARTIN Scrabster for landing formalities.
Russian, 2 couriers 2 naval officers 2 engineers.
British, 15 officers, 165 ratings. Also German

58 P.O.Ws.

2 German prisoners cot cases transferred hospital ship AMARAPOORA.
(A.C.O.S. 1530A/30.)

GLASGOW. *etc.*:- C.C.O. 1919/25 and 1301/27. Intend sailing
QUEEN EMMA S.O., GLENGYLE, PRINCE LEOPOLD,
PRINCESS ASTRID, PRINCE ALBERT, PRINCE CHARLES
in company from Needles 0700/3 for Greenock.

(2) Route.

(3) Group will be escorted by 2 destroyers of 1st. D.F.

(4) Propose R/V in 050° 08' N 3° 13' W at 1200/3 with GLASGOW
(vide C. in C. Plymouth 1705/27) Plymouth escort take L S I
and Portsmouth destroyer escorting GLASGOW to Needles.
(C. in C. Portsmouth 1533/30.)

MALCOLM. Request you will sail MALCOLM p.m. 31st to Loch
Ewe. MALCOLM is subsequently to act under orders
of C. in C. H.F.
(C. in C. W.A. 1658A/30 to N.O.I.C. Liverpool.)
Intend sailing MALCOLM 1600A/31 for Loch Ewe in accordance with
C. in C. W.A. 1658A/30. E.T.A. 1300A/1. Speed 17 knots.
(F.O.I.C. Liverpool 1920A/30.)

P.614. F.O.S. 2237A/29. P.614 should be sailing for
Seidisfiord (Iceland) at 1000/2 routed through:
A. 100° Out Skerries 6 miles.

B. 061° 00' N 000° 30' W.

C. 063° 15' N 005° 25' W.

D. 066° 03' N 012° 08' W.

E. 066° 03' N 012° 55' W.

F. 065° 43' N 013° 38' W. thence destination.

(2) Submarine should proceed on the surface at C.Os. discretion.
(A.C.O.S. 1715/30 to S.O. S/M Lerwick.)

VIRGINIA. Admty. 1803B/6/6/42 and C. in C. W.A. 1755B/7/6.
Subject to satisfactory trials propose sailing
VIRGINIA with O.S.41 on 19/9 for Freetown for
onward routeing to Kilindini.
(F.O.I.C. Liverpool 1855A/30.)

P.54. R/V with P.54 Tay N.W. Approaches buoy at 1030A/31
and proceed according to your orders from S.O.
Subs Lerwick.
(Capt. S.9. 2231A/30 to LOCH MONTEITH.)

FURIOUS. Propose FURIOUS remain Clyde until 5/9 inclusive
to complete deck landing training of 807 Squadron.
(R.A.A. H.F. 2231A/30 to C. in C. H.F.)

War Diary.30.8.1942.
Sunday.HOME COMMANDS.Operations.Faroes
M.L.
Patrol.

Weather permitting establish an M.L. Patrol on a line 330° distant from 5 to 55 miles from Fuglo from 1600/30 until 0400/31.
(A.C.O.S. 0600/30 to N.O.I.C. Faroes.)
Your 0600/30. Thorshavn departure M.L.445, 452, 467, 252, H.M.T. EAR-RAID.
(N.O.I.C. Faroes 1305A/30 to A.C.O.S.)

M.L.
Patrol
off
Portland.

1. M.Ls 153 (S.P.) 159 and 229 from Dartmouth, are to patrol on a line between positions:
(A) 50° 04' N 3° W and (B) 50° 12' N 2° 40' W from 2200/30 till 0600/31.
2. Object. To intercept and destroy enemy light craft attempting to lay mines in Lyme Bay.
3. On completion M.Ls to return to base.
(C. in C. Plymouth 1337/30 to N.O.I.C. Dartmouth.)
Your 1337/30. Sailed M.Ls 153. 159.
(N.O.I.C. Dartmouth 2008A/30 to C. in C. Plymouth.)

Patrols.

- 2 A/S trawlers patrolling in vicinity of E A 5 buoy.
(C. in C Portsmouth 1517A/30.)
- Tonight M.G.Bs 316, 326, M.T.Bs 55, 53, 49 patrol Cherbourg Area.
(C. in C. Portsmouth 1557A/30.)
Add to my 1517A/30. 2 M.G.Bs and 3 M.T.Bs patrolling to southward of E A 5 buoy.
(C. in C. Portsmouth 1607A/30.)
M.Ls 146 and 151 from Ramsgate patrolling between Dumpton and North East Spit buoys E.T.D. 2050 E.T.R. 0535/31.
The following anti-E.Boat patrols from 2115.
M.L.138 and R.M.L.500 near C One Buoy.
M.G.Bs S2 and S3 near D buoy.
M.Ls 213 and 128 near No. 10 buoy.
M.G.Bs 329 and 331 near No. 7 buoy.
WATERFLY and MARETTA near No. 4 buoy.
(V.A. Dover 1814A/30.)

Exercises.NORFOLK
SUFFOLK

Intend to exercise NORFOLK and SUFFOLK west of Iceland for 24 hours from a.m. on 1/9. If available, A/C from Iceland will take part.
(C.S.18 1516A/30 to C. in C. H.F.)

Allied Air Activity.Air/Sea
Rescue.

Sqd. Leader Jay and Sgt. Kent landed at Immingham at 0830. Beaufighter from Oulton Nr. Norwich. Both uninjured picked up at 0910A/29 position S 80° E S S 35 miles. A Ju.88 circled the dinghy and then a Dornier Flying Boat attempted to alight on the water. Huns were driven off by Hudson A/C

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War Diary.30.8.1942.
Sunday.HOME COMMANDS.Allied Air Activity - Contd.

Air/Sea Rescue. Contd. to enable R.M.Ls 512, 498 to close in and rescue the airmen. Several enemy A/C circled over the launches for some time but made no attempt to molest them, and launches arrived back without further incident.
(F.O. Humber 0930A/30.)

Bombing restrictions. Institute surface vessel bombing restrictions 20 miles either side of a line drawn 310° true 60 miles from Round Island, Scilly Isles from 1500/30 to 1000/31.
(H.Q.F.C. 1215A/30.)

Request total bombing restrictions as follows:
30 miles each side of a line from Lerwick to position -
(B) 061° N 000° $31'$ W from 1000/2 September until 1800/2. From (B) to (C) 063° $15'$ N 005° $25'$ W from 1700/2 until 2000/3.
From (C) to (D) 066° $03'$ N 012° $08'$ W from 1500/3 until 0600/5.
From (D) through (E) 066° $03'$ N 012° $55'$ W and (F) 065° $43'$ N 013° $38'$ W to Seidisfiord from 1800/4 until 2000/5.
(A.C.O.S. 1740A/30 to H.Q.C.C.)

Enemy Air Activity.

Crashed enemy A/C at Jan Mayen. Your 1602/29. Patrol has been sent out and report is awaited.
(A.C.I.C. 0017A/30 to Admty.)

RAVENSCRAIG. Air attack at about 2330/28 on Fishing Vessel RAVENSCRAIG fishing in company with three others three miles east of Seahouses. No damage to ships which did not open fire.
(C. in C. Rosyth 0035/30 to 13 Group.)

Mining.

Sweep in QZX.799. Your 1830/29. In addition area east of QZS.350 in QZX.799 is to be reswept, sweep being extended one mile to southward of area.
(C. in C. Nore 0939A/30 to M.S.9.)
Your 0939A/30 and my 0658A/30. Intend proceeding 1145 and sweeping whole area eastward of centre line extending one mile south commencing sweeping 1315 leaving area 1900 and return to Yarmouth 2015.
(S.O. M/S.9. 1108A/30 to C. in C. Nore.)
3 laps completed no mines swept. Enlarged area clear for 1.3 miles to eastward of convoy channel centre line.
(2) Intend sailing 0700/31, commence sweeping 0830 and sweep 3 laps. If no mines swept will leave area 1300 and proceed by convoy channel to Harwich to replenish gear arriving 1700.
(3) If mine is swept will continue sweeping till 1800 and then return to Yarmouth.
(S.O. M/S.9. 1847A/30 to C. in C. Nore.)

/My 1847A/30...

War Diary.30.8.1942.
Sunday.HOME COMMANDS.Mining - Contd.:Sweep
in
QZX.799.
Contd.

My 1847A/30. If first 2 laps swept tomorrow are clear of mines intend carrying out 50% search with double Oropesa from No.4 Buoy to No.54 A Buoy. Centre of search 3 miles to eastward of Eastern edge of QZX.799. Arrive Harwich 1800.
(M/S.9. 2138A/30.)

Operation
M.S.N.3.

Your 1052A/29. Air escort not considered necessary.
(C. in C. W.A. 1032A/30 to R.A.M.)
My 1050/29. 1 Minesweeper is to be detailed as Rescue ship. She is to sail with PLOVER and on arrival in the area of operations is to remain clear of S.N.3 and in the vicinity of the Safety Beacon.
(R.A.M. 1154/30 to S.O. M/S.15.)

S.N.89.

Operation S.N.89. Can you carry out A/S escort between 1200A and 2200A Sept. two. 18 Group will provide A/S cover for remainder of operation.
(18 Group 1120A/30 to R.A.F. Iceland.)
Your 1120A/30. Can carry out A/S escort 1200A and 2200A (Sept.?) 2.
(R.A.F. Iceland 2240Z/30 to 18 Group.)

Proposed
minefield.

It is under consideration to lay a minefield extending in a direction 163° from position 61° 25' N 07° W.
2. Request your remarks with regard to local fishing interests.
(A.C.N.S. H. 1242A/30 to N.O.I.C. Faroes.)

Enemy Intelligence.Main
Unit.

D/F bearings at 0144Z/30 and 0153Z/30 indicate a surface unit in approx. 72° N 26° E.
From R.F.P. evidence and W.T.I. this is probably TIRPITZ or SCHEER.
(D.D.I.C. 0901A/30.)

Altmark
Tankers.

A.M. 1841A/21/8. 1 Confirmed by P.R.U. on 28/8 that both Altmark tankers were still present in Biscay Ports.
2. Vessel which may be ERMLAND was seen at Bordeaux on 28/8 but PORTLAND left St. Nazaire between 24th and 28th August and has not since been seen at other Biscay Ports.
(D.D.I.C. 1628Z/30.)

Unknown
vessels.

Two unidentified vessels bearing 240° distant 3 miles C 160°, speed 8 knots.
(Port Patrick 2237A/30 to F.O.I.C. Belfast.)

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War Diary.30.8.1942.
Sunday.HOME COMMANDS.Enemy Intelligence - Contd.

E-Boats. 2 enemy war motor-boats bearing 100°, course 080°.
My position Orfordness 11.
(PYTCHLEY 2333/30.)
Still in contact (077°, F N 18) ?
(PYTCHLEY 2346/30.)
My 2337. Believed minelaying.
(PYTCHLEY 2347/30.)
1 enemy war motor-boat 123° Southwold 15.
(COTTESMORE 2358/30.)

U-Boats.

U-Boats By D/F at 2006Z/29 U-Boat within 20 mins of a
reported. line joining 61° N 2° 30' E and 59° 30' N 0° 30' E.
(D.D.I.C. 0515A/30 to S/MS.)
Following is a repetition of DIANELLA 0758C/30
begins. At 0745/30 position 070° 50' N 052° 16' E, S/M on surface
course 145° speed 17. Request air assistance ends. Air assistance
sent.
(S.B.N.O. Archangel 1006A/30.)
Am over enemy S/M in 45° 15' N 14° W. Was on surface and
dived on a course 270°, 8 knots.
(A/C 19 Group 1245/30.)
Am over enemy S/M in 61.08 N 06.25 W. Enemy was sighted on
surface and observed to submerge. When first sighted was on
course 170°, estimated speed 10 knots.
(A/C LP6N 1324/30.)
O.T.U. Sunderland reports submarine on surface 061° 08' N
006° 25' W at 1324/30, course 170°, 10 knots. S/M seen to
submerge.
(C. in C. Rosyth 1414A/30 to ships.)
My 1414/30. Report considered doubtful, as S/M not actually
sighted only wake which terminated in swirl.
(C. in C. Rosyth 1724A/30.)
D/F bearings at 2017Z indicate U-Boat in area 61° to 62° N
2° to 3° E.
(D.D.I.C. 2220A/30.)

Technical.

M.Ls for Experience in operation "Jubilee" has shown that
Landing a craft of M.L. type is essential as leader for
Craft each group of landing craft tanks; it is further
Training. considered most desirable training should be
carried out by Landing Craft tanks with the craft
with which they will work in action and that the
Flotilla Officers should be permanently accommodated in craft. It
is therefore requested 3 harbour defence motor launches be
allocated a Landing Craft tank Squadron for training of first
fourth and fifth flotillas.
(C. in C. Portsmouth 1353A/30 to C.C.O.)

War Diary.

30.8.1942
Sunday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Casualties and Defects.

KINGCUP. KINGCUP now successfully salvaged and dry docked in Mount Stuart Eastern Dry Dock Newport. Flooding of dock was commenced at 0630A/29 and ship righted herself spontaneously on becoming waterborne at 0900A/29. Owing to impossibility of retaining sufficient water in the dock whilst trimming an 8 degree list to starboard, vessel could not be dry docked on same tide. Ship was shored up as a precaution and sufficient water to keep her afloat was maintained with difficulty. Dock was again flooded on p.m. tide and ship was moved to a position over the blocks. She finally settled on the blocks at 0100A/30.
(N.O.I.C. Newport 0200A/30.)

VIVACIOUS. VESPER has been in collision with me in 050°
VESPER. 47' N. 001° 05' W. VESPER can proceed stern first. VIVACIOUS hole in port side magazine and Coxswain's store flooded. Port shaft out of action. Intend both ships proceed Tyne. Request tugs meet on arrival.
(VIVACIOUS 0447A/30 to Admty.)
Both ships proceeding under own steam. VESPER's speed 4 knots. E.T.A. Tyne 0900.
(VIVACIOUS 0546A/30.)
VIVACIOUS and VESPER arrived.
(F.O.I.C. Tyne 1040/30.)

KYLOE. Southend arrived and proceeded up river SS KYLOE accompanied by tug PRIZEMAN.
(N.C.S.O. Thames 1811A/30.)

ORCHIS. M.T.U. A/S 35 out of action, unable to repair. Request permission to return to Moville to have defect made good.
(ORCHIS 1850A/30 to C. in C. W.A.)
Your 1850/30. Approved.
(C. in C. W.A. 2022A/30 to ORCHIS.)
Cancel my 1850A/30. Defect made good.
(ORCHIS 2058A/30.)

Shipping and Convoys.

A.T.21. My 1732/29 para 2. Correct latitude to read
(QUEEN 56° 14' N.
ELIZABETH) (D.O.D.(H.) 0130A/30.)
WELLS A.M. 1732A/29. WELLS from Tobermory and NEWARK
NEWARK. from Port Z.A. can be made available for A.T.21 and as far as can at present be foreseen for T.A.21, A.T.22, and D.S.32 sailing from Clyde on 14/9. Propose ships should remain at Clyde between T.A. 22 and D.S.32.
(R.A.M. 0946A/30 to C. in C. W.A.)
A.M. 1732/29. Fighter protection codeword "Corncrake".
(D.O.D.(H.) 1253A/30.)

/Your 0946/30 ...

War Diary.

30.8.1942
Sunday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping and Convoys.

- A.T.21
(QUEEN
ELIZABETH)
WELLS
NEWARK
(contd)
- Your 0946/30. Request WELLS and NEWARK may arrive Londonderry p.m. Sept.3rd and that they may be made available for T.A.21 and A.T.22, remaining Guard as proposed by you.
(C. in C. W.A. 2241A/30 to R.A.M.)
A.T.21. Admiralty 1732/29. BLYSKAWICA, ZETLAND, NEWARK, WELLS, and 2 "S" Class if available will be required in accordance with paragraph 3 (b).
(C. in C. W.A. 2322A/30 to N.O.I.C. Londonderry.)
- P.Q.18. Sailed my 1753A/25. ULSTER QUEEN and ALYNBANK.
(N.O.I.C. Belfast 0608A/30.)
Sailed my 1139A/29, KING SOL, HUGH WALPOLE, PAYNTER, ARAB, DUNCTON.
(N.O.I.C. Belfast 0929A/30.)
Your 2016A/28. I have now taken 7600 tons of boiler fuel for escorts from Russia on understanding that amount would be repaid out of balance to be sent in P.Q.18. In view of unlikelihood of further arrivals of supplies from South Russia consider it imperative for tanker to be included in P.Q.18. Tanker could return to U.K. in following Q.P.
(S.B.N.O. Archangel 1010A/30 to Admty.)
Operation E.V. para 12 (a). Request you will sail ESKDALE and FARNDALE to Loch Ewe to replace VESPER and VIVACIOUS in escorting P.Q.18 to Iceland. (ii) FARNDALE and ESKDALE to return to Scapa after P.Q. escort joins off Hvalfjord.
(C. in C. H.F. 1751A/30 to R.A.D. H.F.)
Operation E.V. para 21. A.C.O.S. is requested to sail Force P less WORCESTER but with BRAMHAM in company at 0600/3.
(II) C.S.18 is requested to sail WORCESTER to fuel at Seidisfjord and then proceed R/V force P on day 4 at time and position to be signalled.
(III) When WORCESTER joins Force P, BRAMHAM is to return to Scapa.
(C. in C. H.F. 2237A/30 to A.C.O.S., C.S.18.)
- A.T.20. Position (?0600Z) 056° 25' N. 10° 38' W.
PHILADELPHIA, NEW YORK, *SEAL, SWANSON, EDISON, and Clyde portion of A.T.20, E.T.A. 2230Z/30.
Liverpool portion E.T.A. 0600Z/31 escorting LUDLOW, WOOLSEY, thence proceed Londonderry. Destroyers NICHOLSON, COLE TO Londonderry, E.T.A. 1930Z/30.
(C.T.F. (?37) 0700Z/30 to Admty.) *Not ident. file - see pp 729, 951, 968
- Convoy
"Compound"
- My 2201/18. "Compound" anchored Humber L/F in fog and entering Humber owing to stress of weather when visibility permits.
(F.O. Humber 0951/30.)
My 0951 arrived. Intend to sail on completion of repairs to minor defects at about 1000/31.
(F.O. Humber 2256A/30 to F.O.I.C. Yarmouth.)

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War Diary.30.8.1942
Sunday.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping and Convoys. - contd.

- E.N.31
TJALDUR Your 1725/25. Intend sailing 0930/1st to join E.N.31, SS TJALDUR (kite balloon). Destination Faroes. R/V 28 Buoy 1400/1 leaves Convoy off Dunnet Head 0815/2. Thence Q Z. S.15 to 061° 54' N. 005° 45' W, thence destination. E.T.A. Thorshavn 0700/3. Request fighter escort from Dunnet Head.
(N.O.I.C. Aberdeen 1123/30 to A.C.O.S.)
- T.A.18. A.M. 2306/22. "Chop" 1600Z/30.
(D.O.D.(H.) 1152Z/30.)
- D.S.32. Convoy D.S.32 consisting of one troopship will leave Clyde p.m. 16th. Future D.S. Convoys will be at approximately 4 weekly intervals.
(D.O.D.(H.) 1252A/30.)
- A.T.20 L. Situation report at 2000. A.T.20 (L), SKATE, SHIKARI, SABRE 62° 34', 21° 55' to Reykjavik, 13½.
(C. in C. W.A. 1345A/30.)
- F.N.1
F.S.93. CATTISTOCK is required to act as escort to F.N. No.1 tomorrow which is due to sail at 0800. On meeting F.S. No.93 escorts are to transfer.
(C. in C. Nore 1458A/30.)
- Visibility permitting F.S.93 is to proceed and anchor in swept channel between B.7 and B.8 buoy proceeding at daylight tomorrow. These Buoys to be lit from 2359/30 until daylight 31st. VIVIEN is to proceed Harwich for fuelling when convoy has weighed, subsequently proceeding to overtake F.N.1 before dark.
(C. in C. Nore 1526A/30.)
- O.N.126.
LOBELIA. On completion of exercises at Londonderry on 2/9 LOBELIA should be sailed to overtake O.N.126.
(C. in C. W.A. 1556A/30 to Cdore, Londonderry.)

War Diary.

30.8.1942
Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

CITY OF
CARDIFF.
(torpedoed
28/8)

Master reports convoy papers amended stragglers route, R/V for Saturday and Sunday left in drawer in cabin. (Envelope "W" left in safe possibility of envelope possibly volume ? Mersigs Volume 2 not sunk). Ship abandoned at dusk and left unattended. Escort rejoined convoy T.O.O. 1410/29th ends. (F.O.C.N.A. 0102A/30 to Admty., BUSTLER, LORD NUFFIELD.)

BUSTLER reports CITY OF CARDIFF sank last night. Returning Gibraltar.
(SALVONIA 1225A/30 to F.O.C.N.A.)

PALADIN. Arrival 0700.
(F.O.C.N.A. 0820A/30 to Admty.)

LAFOREY. Arrival 0700.
(F.O.C.N.A. 0820A/30 to Admty.)

JONQUIL
COLTSFOOT. Escorting 3 tankers parted O.S.38 at 2145B/29 35.26 N. 18.40 W.
(F.O.C.N.A. 0904A/30 to GERANIUM.)

Bombing
restrictions. Request total bombing restrictions in following area.

Area	From	Until
G.14	0300 2nd	2030 2nd
G.15	1200 2nd	0330 3rd
G.16	1930 2nd	1700 3rd
G.27	0900 3rd	1100 4th
G.26	2300 3rd	1330 4th

All times zone minus one.

(F.O.C.N.A. 1010A/30 to Admty. H.Q.C.C.)

Serial No. G 186. From 0200A/1 until 2000A/2 institute submerged bombing restrictions 25 miles each side of line joining 45° 01' N. 12° 59' W. and 40 (47*)° 01' N. 12° 31' W. (H.Q.C.C. 2256A/30 to R.A.F. Gibraltar) * as received.

Escort of
RAMILLIES. Comply with A.M.1245/18 para 6 (B) and C. in C. W.A. 1604/24 para 3 not to all addressees so that BEVERLEY, CHESTERFIELD R/V RAMILLIES escorted by WISHART, WESTCOTT, PENN, PANTHER in position 41.20 20.01 at 1000Z/5. RAMILLIES is routed through (F) 38.01 16.02 (G) 40.30 20.01 (H) 46.30 20.01 S. of A. 14 knots. (F.O.C.N.A. 1012A/30 to AURORA.)

Intend to sail RAMILLIES at 0200B/3 escorted by WESTCOTT WISHART, PENN, PANTHER routed to 180 Lizard Head 6 thence by Q.Z.S 278 to Plymouth S. of A. 14 knots. BEVERLEY, CHESTERFIELD relieve WESTCOTT, WISHART, PANTHER in 41.20 20.01 at 1000Z/5. WESTCOTT, WISHART, PANTHER then return to Gibraltar.
(F.O.C.N.A. 1758A/30 to Admty.)

942

War Diary.30.8.1942
Sunday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic - contd.MIRROR
Cables.Your 1455/28 intend to sail escorted by 1
A/S Trawler on 3/9 to carry out programme
given in your 1727/10/7.
(V.A.C.N.A. 1014A/30 to Admty.)

OTUS.

Your 1106/29.
(1) Onward route from (A) 042° 59' 012° 31'
through (B) 045° 01' 012° 30' (C) 046° 59' 012°
29' (D) 049° 10' 011° 59' (E) 049° 30' 009° 44' (F) 049° 50'
007° 30' thence R/V escort off Trevoze Head a.m. 10/9 as ordered
by Capt. (S) 3.
(2) H.Q.C.C. is requested to institute submerged bombing
restrictions 20 miles either side line joining (A) and (B) from
0500/4 to 2200/5 (B) and (C) from 0700/5 to 0001/7 (C) and (D)
from 0800/6 to 0400/8 (D) and (E) from 1000/7 to 0400/9 (E) and
(F) from 0900/8 to 1800/9 (F) to R/V from 0400/9 to 1200/10.
F.O.C.N.A. pass to OTUS.
(F.O.(S) 1207A/30 to F.O.C.N.A.)KAULDI
(Spanish)Left Bilbao 1715 G.M.T./29.
(N.A. Madrid No T.O.O./30 to Admty.)LLANSTEPHAN
CASTLE.Your 1925/27 para 3.
(1) Total passengers for U.K. excluding army
under 100.
(2) In order to move battalion home essential
to exceed army figure by at least 200.
(3) Request early approval.
(F.O.C.N.A. 1356A/30 to Admty.)

Movements.

1958B/30. Fleet unit VIMY, BRILLIANT 22.13
37.01 through 24.00 40.00 thence 290 14.
ARMERIA, BURDOCK, tanker ABBEYDALE 21.45 36.16
through 21.59 36.38 thence 190 9. GLASGOW 41.30 37.38 73.19.
DERWENT, AVONVALE, one M/V 23.04 17.20 through 20.47 18.33
thence 180 15. * SIBATAK.
(F.O.C.N.A. 1402A/30 to Sit. Report for Area Z. of N.A.S.)
P. 952.

P.212.

Arrived 1208 landed sick rating sailed.
(F.O.C.N.A. 1528A/30 to Admty.)Bombing
Restrictions.Cancel my 1438/28.
(F.O.C.N.A. 1536A/30 to Admty., H.Q.C.C.)

War Diary.

30.8.1942
Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic.

- U-boat situation at Freetown. *See p. 945* Your 1115/26. The situation at Freetown is fully appreciated and is under continual review. No corvettes are available at home to reinforce you at present. There are no 110' Diesel M.Ls being produced and apart from the 123rd H.D. M.L. Flotilla no further reinforcements of M.Ls are available at the moment. In view, however, of recent sinkings off Freetown C. in C. S.A. is requested to transfer *SOUTHERN GEM and *SOUTHERN PRIDE from the Cape to Freetown. Negotiations are in progress for 16-knot tankers to run between Trinidad and Freetown.
(D.O.D.(F) 0113A/30 to R.A. West Africa, C. in C. S.A.)
** See next page*
- PINDOS. E.T.A. Bathurst 1000Z/30 ANTELOPE in company. Request D/F Beacon from 0500Z.
(PINDOS 0310Z/30 to N.O.I.C. Bathurst, Gambia.)
- PASTEUR. My 1242/28 PASTEUR sailed 0445Z/30 E.T.A. Rio de Janeiro 1700Z/6/9. Personnel.
(D.S.T.O. Durban 0646/30 to D. of S.T., B.A.D. Washington, N.C.S.O. Rio de Janeiro)
- W.S.21. Arrived CORFU, RANPURA, AMARANTHUS (corrupt group) with Durban portion W.S.21. Sailed CORFU to East London.
(N.O.I.C. Durban 0653Z/30 to Admty., C. in C. S.A. C. in C. E.F., S.O.(I) Colombo, S.O.(I) Kilindini, N.L.O. East London.)
- A.H. SCOTT. Overdue shipping. My 1625/29 cancel, A.H. SCOTT arrived.
(S.O.I. Capetown 0915B/30 to Admty., C. in C. S.A. D. C. in C. E.F., S.O.(I) Colombo, S.O.(I) Kilindini, S.O.(I) Aden.)
- PRESIDENT DOUMER. Sailed 28th. E.T.A. Matadi 3rd/9. Passengers for Lagos (Nigeria). Request Matadi be advised.
(S.S.T.O. Capetown 0946Z/30 to Admty. for D. of S.T., N.O.I.C. Lagos.)
- Visit of M.L. to Bissao. Request Portuguese Govt. may be informed it is proposed 1 M.L. shall visit Bissao for less than 24 hours arriving about noon 3/9 and that I may be informed early if there is any objection to this visit.
(R.A.W.A. 1201Z/30 to B.N.A. Lisbon.)

/LADY ...

944

War Diary.30.8.1942
Sunday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic - contd.LADY
DENNISON
PENDER.

A.M. 0112A/30/8 para 4. *SOUTHERN PRIDE and *SOUTHERN GEM commence boiler cleaning a.m. 31st. They will be sailed about 4/9 to escort cable ship LADY DENNISON PENDER to Freetown calling at St. Helena en route.
(C. in C. S.A. 1232B/30 to R.A.W. Africa.)

** in previous page.*Movement
summary
2000Z/30.

Area Q. HAWKINS with W.S.21 Capetown before dark 035° 38' S. 018° 40' E. to Durban 12½ knots. ROCKROSE with S/M K.15 035° 05' S. 021° 00' E. to Simonstown 9. SIRIUS, PHOEBE 020° S. 007° 50' E. to Capetown 15.
(C. in C. S.A. 1303B/30 to S.A. Station.)

Boom defences
of Freetown
& Takoradi.

Advancement of Boom defences at Freetown and Takoradi are being seriously delayed by heavy maintenance work on existing defences for which there is an insufficient number of Boom defence vessels at each port.

(2) The Socony - Vacuum Oil Company propose laying submarine pipe lines at Port Marshall and Accra, with the object of supplying petrol to shore installations from Tankers, and have requested that a Boom defence vessel may assist in this operation which will take a few days at each port.
(3) Notwithstanding the instructions contained in C.A.F.O. 1121/41 I consider this work be sufficient importance to justify the employment of a Boom defence vessel as no other suitable vessel is available and it is therefore requested that BARBRAKE may be retained at Takoradi for two months - A.M. 1953A/24 refers. This would enable her to assist with the maintenance work and also to carry out the work required by the Socony - Vacuum Oil Company.
(R.A.W.A. 1307Z/30 to C. in C. S.A.)

W.S.21 A.

W.S.21 A. Sailed a.m./30.
(S.T.O. Capetown 1400Z/30 to Admty. for D. of S.T.)

Attacks on
Convoy E.7
&c.

ANNE HUTCHINSON (U.S) reports witnessing torpedoing of SAN EMILIANO 8th in 7° 37' N. 54° 22' W. Tanker blew up instantly and hulk was covered with flames from stem to stern. Master considers there were no survivors. Same day second ship torpedoed near 8° 52' N. 52° 30' W. could have been either BRITISH PRESTIGE, MINISTER or WEDEL. ANNE HUTCHINSON 10th in 005° N. 042° W. passed within 300 yards U-boat and escaped attack in darkness. Master states Convoy (E.7 from Trinidad) consisting 19 ships dispersed 340 miles from Trinidad at 0300/8. Ships were still together at dawn thereby enabling U-boat to select target and attack at leisure. He considers dispersal time should have been immediately after dusk to give ships in convoy chance to spread.
(S.O.I. Capetown 1406B/30 to Admty., C. in C. S.A., R.A. W.A. S.O.(I) Kingston, B.A.D. Washington, N.S.H.Q. Ottawa.)

/FORMIDABLE ...

War Diary.

30.8.1942
Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic - contd.

FORMIDABLE Sailed FORMIDABLE in accordance with C. in C. S.A.'s
NORMAN 1125/23 and R.A.W.Af's 1710/24. NORMAN and
NIZAM. NIZAM in accordance with C. in C. E.F.'s 1215/22
See p. 949. para (iii) not to all addressees. FORMIDABLE
E.T.A. Freetown 1700Z (?8th)/9. S. of A. 22
knots shifting to W/T Group F T at 1800Z/4/9.
(iii) NORMAN, NIZAM E.T.A. Diego Suarez 5/9 shifting to W/T
group V 1415Z/4/9 N.O.I.C. Diego Suarez is being informed
accordingly.
(N.O.I.C. Durban 1543Z/30 to Admty., C. in C. E.F., C. in C. S.A.)

Operations of U/Bs in Freetown area. *See p. 943.* It would be most helpful if Admiralty were able to issue periodically deductions of method of operation of U-boats in Freetown area including time spent on patrol. Local information is insufficient to decide which of following is being used. (A) U-boats operate direct from Biscay ports without refuelling. (B) Supply ship is used. (C) U-boats operate (?in this area) on passage to and from South American coast where they refuel.
2. Can probability of (corrupt group) regarding 5,000 ton submarine supply ship operating in South Atlantic from end of August be assessed.
(R.A.W.A.F. 1737Z/30 to Admty.) *Reply: 1703A/2/9.*

Reporting by ships fitted with H/F. A.M. 1905/21 para 4. Daily summary of ships positions. My 1748/27. The usefulness of these signals is lost because complementary signals are not being received regularly. A.M. 1100/28 and 1309/29 cannot be plotted for lack of ships names. Request both names and positions be given in same signal.
(C. in C. S.A. 1811B/30 to Admty.)

KOHISTAN F.O.C.N.A's 1202A/26 refers. Details of routes.
DOLIUS. (D.T.D. 1821A/30 to Escorts O.S.38.)

C.T.G. Patrol along 5° South to longitude of Ascension.
23.3.4. (C.T.F. 23 2200Z/30 to C.T.G. 23.3.4.)

946

War Diary.30.8.1942.
Sunday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean.

- Orders to
UTMOST. My 2306/29th this area (? very) important
(corrupt group).
(Capt. (S) 1, 0640C/30 to UTMOST.)
- TRAVELLER. TRAVELLER leaves end of Beirut searched channel
at 2000C/30 routed through (a) 034° 39' 028° 32'
(b) 034° 40' 024° 27' thence operating in
Kithera area K. TRAVELLER will be run on surface during
daylight 31st passing through position (a) at 0300C/1st.
(Capt. (S) 1, 1025C/30, 1441C/30 to C. in C. Med., (R) No. 201
Co-op. Group, S/Ms on Patrol, Capt. (S) 10, S.O. S/Ms Alexandria.)
Note. Cancelled by 1922C/30. *next page*
- Enemy
Tanker. One tanker, one destroyer 040° 22' 017° 16' 180°
7 knots at 0830B/30th.
(Capt. (S) 10, 1025B/30 to UTMOST, RORQUAL, (R)
C. in C. Med., Capt. (S) 1, S/Ms on Patrol.)
See next page
- UNA,
CLYDE. (? H.M.S. UNA) leave Malta p.m./30th approx.
P. and C. 0530B next day 035° 22' 015° 21' 087°.
CLYDE may leave (? Marsaxlokk Marsa Scirocco) to
follow you up searched channel on September 1st.
(Capt. (S) 10, 1037B/30 to P. 35.)
- UNA, P.42. UNA and P.42 will leave 035° 22' 015° 19' about
0530B/31st and September 1st respectively.
Former direct 035° 37' 020° 59' and Ionian Sea
area K unless otherwise ordered by you. Latter through 037° 11'
015° 54' to area X 036° 40' 015° 09' - 320° - 62 - 180.
(Capt. (S) 10, 1055B/30 to Capt. (S) 1, (R) C. in C. Med.,
201 Naval Co-op Group, S.O. (S) Alexandria, S/Ms on Patrol.)
- W.S. 21P,
C.M. 31. Following is anticipated programme of returning
vessels W.S. 21P and C.M. 31.
(P.S.T.O. Egypt, 1100C/30.)
- CLYDE. Arrived CLYDE.
(V.A. Malta, 1150B/30.)
- Alexandria
bombed. During air raids on Amiryra 28/29 August stray
enemies dropped 15 bombs in Alexandria area
without damage.
(R.A. Alexandria, 1238C/30.)

/C.S.R. ...

947

War Diary.30.8.1942.
Sunday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean - Contd.

C.S.R. 1920/29 single raider approached to within 8
Malta. miles North of Gozo Island dropped bombs in
sea and returned, partial R.D.F. interference
and special equipment of Beaufighters becoming
unserviceable prevented an interception.
30th. No alerts but 0845 and 0905 hours 4 and 10 Spitfires
respectively up for raids which did not approach close to Malta.
Night 29th/30th. No operations.
30th. R/C sighted 0630B hours 1 D/R 1 Tanker 4/5000 tons 132°
Taranto 20 miles coast crawling south 8 knots Beaufort and
Beaufighter strike despatched to attack.
(H.Q. R.A.F. Malta, 1341/30.)

STARYAVOLK Sailed for Burgos 30th.
(Bulgarian) (S.O.(I) Istanbul, 1446C/30.)

Black Sea. (1) Position around Novorossisk slightly improved.
Situation (2) Enemy advance on Tuapse halted.
Report. (N.L.O. Black Sea, 1447C/30.)

2 M/Vs 2 merchant ships one armed merchant cruiser
1 A.M.C. P.C. and S. of enemy are 039° 15' 20° 20' E.
120° 8 knots.
(RORQUAL, 1545B/30 to Capt. (S) 1.)

Tanker and My 1025/30th ship sunk by R.A.F.
destroyer. (Capt. (S) 10, 1745B/30 to UTMOST, RORQUAL,
See previous page (R) C. in C. Med., Capt. (S) 1, S/Ms on Patrol.)

UNA. Departure.
(N.O.I.C. Malta, 1820B/30.) *See previous page*

Operation Situation report No. 260. My 1929/29 para. 3
M.G. 6. ERIDGE was hit in engine room and damage aft is
(Bombardment of Daba) extensive. Casualties were five ratings killed
U/B off five wounded. HURSLEY sustained slight damage
Berbera. from near misses.
2. My 1212/28 para. 6 and 1929/29 para. 2.
Local appreciation is that submarine was probably
Vichy picking up escapers or agents. POOLE
was unable to contact patrol but has resumed search.
3. CLYDE has arrived Malta with petrol and aircraft torpedoes.
(C. in C. Med., 1908C/30.) *See previous page*

TRAVELLER. Cancel my 1025/30th. *See previous page* TRAVELLER leaves end of
Beirut searched channel at 2000C/30 routed
through (i) 034° 11' 033° 20'. (ii) 033° 47'
028° 42'. (iii) 032° 42' 024° 26' thence operating in Tobruk
area T. TRAVELLER will be running on surface (? in daylight)
August 31st passing through second position 0300C/1/9.
(Capt. (S) 1, 1922C/30 to C. in C. Med., (R) 201 Naval Co-op.
Group, Capt. (S) 10, S/Ms on Patrol, S.O. S/Ms Alexandria.)

/THRASHER ...

MOST SECRET

MOST SECRET

1852/30th August

IN

From Governor Malta

Date 30/8/42
Time 2230

C I P H E R

Addressed Air Ministry

Malta: Supply Situation.

COSUP 2273. SNOCE 308. 30.8.1942.

IZ 1296.

Please pass to Secretary of State for the Colonies and Chiefs of Staff Mideast please pass to Minister of State Cairo.

Unloading and dispersal of supplies from convoy is now complete: except for aviation and benzine. Fortress can hold out until early December. Aviation spirit position has been reported separately to Chiefs of Staff in H.Q. Med. Sig. Q726 of 25/8. Benzine consumption has been reduced to 15,200 gallons per week but even so stocks will only last until mid-November. Benzine can be made to last until target date by drawing on 77 octane but this is likely to be required for blending with aviation spirit. We have 600 tons of 77 octane available, of which 250 tons are held as fortress reserve of M.T. spirit and 100 tons are needed for consumption by naval and R.A.F. craft.

2. Target date of early December allows for following adjustments of consumption on civil side -

- (1) Bread ration for men between 16 and 60 will be increased by 3½ ounces per day to 14 ounces.
- (2) Fat ration will be at half normal ration level during September but I hope to increase it to normal level at beginning of October.
- (3) Regular issues of edible oil will be made at normal ration rates.
- (4) There will be regular issues of coffee with possibly one period skipped.
- (5) Regular weekly issues of kerosene will be made as from 1st October but at summer rather than higher winter rate.
- (6) Domestic electricity supply will be restored on 1st October.
- (7) Brewing will be resumed as soon as possible.
- (8) Present reduced rations of sugar and soap will be maintained, sugar being issued twice every three half-monthly periods and soap once every two periods.

3. Victory kitchens now have 60,000 persons registered and 170 kitchens are in operation. Further rapid expansion is possible but supply of vegetables

cannot be further increased while potatoes are now almost unobtainable and meat supply is not as great as was expected and is already falling off. In future it will be possible to provide meat on only two days a week instead of five, and this may later have to be reduced to one if registration increases as expected. In this situation I have been carefully considering the future of the Victory Kitchens. Allowing for small increases in rations now being made, calory value of rationed foods per day for man between 16 and 60 who is member of average size family, is 1500, or 200 calories below figure normally taken as a minimum. Outside ration very little food is obtainable. Fresh meat, fish and vegetables are all too scarce to be rationed, even if this were possible from other points of view. Marketing of meat and vegetables is now under control of Government and no meat except poultry and rabbits and small amount only of vegetables is being sold on open market. Victory kitchens provide only satisfactory method of distributing evenly what meat and veg. are available and if we were now to revert to old arrangement under which kitchens provide meals only on surrender of rations allowing majority of meat and veg. supply to return to open market effect would be that poorer classes would get very little while those who are prepared to pay any price would obtain what they wished.

4. I am satisfied that in our present food situation it is essential to continue existing policy of providing one meal a day through kitchens outside rations so as to raise calory value of diet to about 1800 calories. This can only be done by introducing considerable quantities of imported supplies into menus. I have decided accordingly that all civil supplies of dried vegetables, dried eggs and cheese shall be allotted to communal feeding department and that paste(?) shall be issued through kitchens on substantial scale estimated to absorb 230 tons of flour per month on an average registration of 150,000 persons. This allotment of flour has been allowed for in calculation target date. Menu will then consist of macaroni and cheese on two days, minestra on two days, meat and veg. on two days and an egg dish on one day. I anticipate that effect of policy will be to encourage rapid increase in registration.

5. In spite of increased issues described above, the civil food situation is still causing me considerable anxiety. Rates of rations and general scale of diet remain low. No signs of serious malnutrition have yet appeared but prolonged continuance of present food shortage must have its effect both on health and morale and shortage will be more seriously felt in winter. Anything which can be done by special means at any time before another convoy is run to supplement diet by importing concentrated foodstuffs or food of small bulk will help greatly. I will telegraph our immediate requirements of these types of food in course of next two days in case any special opportunity occurs to send such supplies.

6. Colonial Office please pass to Chiefs of Staff.

1632/30.

Received in War Registry at 0725/31.

Circulated/.

MOST SECRET

-3-

Circulated by Air Ministry to:-

Secretary of State for Colonies,
Col. Jacob.
Foreign Secretary
War Registry.
C.6. Telegrams.
A.N.C.S.

1st Lord.
1st S.L. (2)
Dep. 1st S.L.
4th S.L.
V.C.H.S.
A.C.N.S. (W)
A.C.N.S. (F) (2)
N.A. 1st S.L.
P.A.S. (S)
D.O.D. (F) (2)
D. of P. (2)
D.N.I. (5)
D. of P. (0)
Hd. of H. (2)
I.P. (2)
W.D.
E.C. (2)
D.D.I.C. (2)
Ad. Blake.
D. of H.D.

948

30.8.1942.
Sunday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean - Contd.

THRASHER.

N.O.I.C. Port Said 1026/27. *N.T.K.W.D.*
Amend your route through the following positions
1. 032° 47' 028° 32'. 2. 033° 30' 024° 22'
thence operating in area T keeping north of 033°
20'. Endeavour to enter your area before
0500C/2nd.
(Capt. (S) 1, 2051C/30 to THRASHER, (R) S/Ms on
Patrol, C. in C. Med., Capt. (S) 10, 201 Naval
Co-op. Group.)

War Diary.30.8.1942.
Sunday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies.K. 11
RATNAGIRI.Arrived.
(S.O.(I) Bombay, 0201Z/30.)

B.P. 53.

Karachi portion sailed 0300Z/30th to R/V.
N.C.S.O. Bombay 1115Z/27th refers. (Ships)
(N.C.S.O. Karachi, 0429Z/30.)NIZAM
defect.Had arranged to sail with NORMAN and NIZAM at
1815 today. Capt. Supt. now reports wear down
not excessive but bush 3/16" loose in NIZAM's
recovery "A" frame. Most desirable remedy but
not essential. If taken in hand NIZAM will not complete until
p.m./2nd. In view of future commitments for NIZAM request
immediate instructions. *Sailed - See p. 945*
(FORMIDABLE, 0531C/30 to C. in C. E.F., (R) N.O.I.C. Durban.)Transports
for Basra.Transports (names) sail for Basra 30/8. Details.
(S.T.O. Karachi, 0541Z/30.)

FORMIDABLE.

Your 0531/30 addressed C. in C. E.F., delay to
FORMIDABLE can be accepted.
(A.C.N.S.(F), 0800A/30 to FORMIDABLE.)
A.M. 0800/30 sailing should not be delayed.
(C. in C. E.F., 1313Z/30 to FORMIDABLE.)
*Sailed - See p. 945.*SS.
RAGNILDHOLM
(Swedish)Due Colombo 27/8 from Capetown was sighted by
Catalina at 0230Z/27 in 003° 20' N. 078° 49' E.
steering 203°. She has not yet arrived and
nothing more has been seen or heard of her,
although a signal was made to her demanding reply.
(F.O. Ceylon, 1100Z/30 to C. in C. E.F.)

MAURITIUS.

Left Kilindini 26/8 for patrol (west) of Reunion
Island due Mauritius 2/9.
(C. in C. E.F., 1142Z/30.)India Air
Report.To 1800 hours 30/8.
3 Mohawks dive bombed Mawaik 30 x 20 lb. bombs
2 direct hits houses and boat. 6 Hurricane
sorties. Shipping patrol Vizagapatam Harbour
29/8. 29/8 Bay of Bengal R/Cs. Curtailed by
weather.
(A.H.Q. India, 1496/30.)

BARMILL.

Arrival 1423Z/30.
(N.O.I.C. Addu Atoll, 1427Z/30.)

/ZAMBEZIA ...

950

30.8.1942.
Sunday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies - Contd.

ZAMBEZIA.

N.O.I.C. Mauritius 0740/14.

D. C. in C. E.F. is requested to consult M.W.T. Representative as to provision of a more suitable means of transport.

2. Every effort should be made to keep the numbers within the limits set by A.M. 2320/18th July.

3. Essential passengers only are to be carried.

4. Subject to the above it is approved as a temporary measure for ZAMBEZIA to carry passengers up to the Board of Trade complement.

(D.O.D.(F), 1555A/30 to C. in C. E.F., N.O.I.C. Mauritius.)

MOST SECRET

MOST SECRET

MESSAGE

0330/30th Aug.

IN

From: C. in C. India.

Date 31.8.42.

Recd: 0745

Cipher

Addressed: War Office., repeated G.H.Q. Australia
C. in C. Ceylon. C. in C. Eastern Fleet.

279061 21123/1 cipher 30 Aug.

First of two parts.

From D.M.I. for D.D.M.I. (P/W)

One. Lieut. M.M. Pilai Bombay S and M and Lieut. V. Redharkrishnan of Singapore Volunteers who left Singapore on May 7 with Capt. Natarajan I.M.S. reached Delhi Aug. 26. No news latter Offr. who parted at Prome to try Akyab route Krishnan was able to live in own bungalow as civilian from night of capitulation and was able move about freely in Singapore. Others escaped from internment camp with his help.

Two. Route taken Penang Renong Rangoon Monywa Phkalawa by train boat bus cart and on foot disguised as Tamil coolies.

Three. In Singapore British Australian and Indian troops all segregated. Former in Chang Prison and Barracks Australians in Selemar and Indians chiefly in New Soon Tyersall and Bidaricamps. Reliably reported that H.K. and Singapore R.A. were moved to Andamans 17 Fd. Coy to Borneo 3 Cav. to Siam 1219 Aux. Pioneers to FIC (? Hanoi) a Sapper Unit to Sarawak some Sikhs to Bangkok and units to Kluang Aerodrome which is to become of increasing importance. British civilians incl. Ming Gov. and wife in Chiang Prison Bishop free.

Four. Rations for Indians two meals of rice and dhal a day with occasional cigarettes and fish and small quantities rolled flour no vegetables or sugar. Rations for British believed same. Krishnan states general shortage of food in Singapore Japanese having moved much of stocks. Describes condition British troops as emaciated but commented on spirit they still displayed at beginning May.

Five. Troops used to clear debris for dock work and burying corpses. Indians on aerodromes. Technical personnel repairing M.T.

Last. Part.

Six. In all camps some Cholera, Typhoid and Smallpox with much Dysentery. Plenty of doctors but no medicines or essential foods for sick.

Seven/.....

950 B

Seven. Neither Offr. witnessed or heard of atrocities to Europeans or Indians except the beheading of a British Major who refused to work for Japanese. Mass executions by sword of Chinese men and forced prostitution of Chinese women.

Eight. Australians employed on road making in groups of 400 at Victoria Point Mergui Tavoy and Ye. Rations black tea and sardine tin of boiled rice with occasional vegetables.

Nine. 200 Dutch prisoners building suspension bridge between Tavoy and Ye.

Ten. Enemy strength Singapore estimated 20000 (? unde Yamashite. Located in private houses Government quarters Naval Base Tengah Aerodrome Jurong Wireless Station Alexandra Barracks.

Eleven. Odate appointed Mayor with wide powers early May.

Twelve. Attempts to refloat dock abandoned. Estimated parts of Naval Base would be in working order by June and Graving Dock end August. Development of wharves and jetties in Seletar Creek. Minefield off Singapore swept end February. Two submarines reported Penang mid April and possibly one on May 10.

Thirteen. Main troop concentrations Moulmein 1000 Rangoon 5000 Prome Area 3000 Pakokku 1000 Diy. H.Q. Monywa 2000 troops not (?in) but outside Mandalay. Aerodrome construction at Mergui Tavoy and Mingaladon.

Fourteen. General feeling in enemy occupied countries becoming one of disillusionment.

Fifteen. Report follows by Air Mail.

War Office pass India Office.

0530/30.

Recd: in War Reg. 1504/5 Sept.

1st Lord.
1st S.L. (2)
Dep. 1st S.L.
2nd S.L.
Controller.
Vice Controller.
Dep. Controller.
4th S.L.
C.N.A.S.
V.C.N.S.
A.C.N.S. (W)
A.C.N.S. (H)
A.C.N.S. (F)
A.C.N.S. (T)
Parl Sec.
Fin. Sec.
Civil Lord.
Controler.
(MS.R.Lord)

Secretary
Naval Sec.
N.A. 1st S.L.
P.A.S. (S)
D of P (2)
D.O.D. (F) (2)
D.N.A.D.
D.M.A.S.
D.N.I. (4)

War Office Circulation
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India Office.
A.M.L.O. (G.S.)
Australia House.

D.D.I.C. (2) Ad. Colvin.
D of D.
Hd of M.

ADDITIONAL CIRCULATION BY
Head of Historical Section

War Diary.30.8.1942.
Sunday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America & West Indies.

TRAIL E.T.A. 1600Z/30 boiler hours (corrupt group) and that including repairs to R.D.F. and D/C rail. (TRAIL, 0010Z/30 to N.O.I.C. Gaspe).

Escort for A.T.23, N.A.16. Information is requested whether U.S. escort will be available for A.T.23 and/or N.A.16. If no escort is available for A.T.23, can U.S. escort of 2 destroyers be made available for N.A.16. Request early reply so that D. of S.T. can arrange the movement of his troopships. (D.O.D. 0014A/30 to Cominch).

Regret unable answer questions your 0014A/30 until general plan becomes more definite. (Cominch, 1842/30 to Admty).

U-boat attacks on O.N.122. Your 1735/29. H/F D/F essential. M/F D/F valuable contribution. Commander Weymouth Staff of C. in C. W.A., understood to be visiting N.S.H.Q. is fully informed. (VISCOUNT, 0200Z/30 to N.S.H.Q.)

NORFOLK Left Ottawa 1344/29 B.Y.M.S. 1 and 29. (N.S.H.Q., Ottawa, 0450Z/30 to Admty).

*Not unique -
letter in /com/and
area.*

S/M reported Intercept received from Norfolk Va. Radio 0827 S/M vicinity 15° 50' N., 64° 59' W. (S.O.(I) Kingston, 0455Q/30 to Admty).

U/B San Juan radio advises ship attacked by S/M 10° 53' N., 54° 17' W., at 0745 G.C.T./30. (S.O.(I) Kingston, 0505Q/30 to Admty).

S/Ms sighted 2359Z/29 in Blanc Sablon harbour 051° 22' 30" N. 057° 11' 37" W. (C.O.A.C., Halifax 0620Z/30 to Admty).
1948Z/30 by A/C in 47° 30' N., 64° 00' W. (C.O.A.C. Halifax, 2101Z/30 to Admty).
1227 G.M.T./30 in 015° 50' N., 060° 59' W. (S.O.(I) Kingston, 1543Q to Admty etc).

A.T.20 Admty. acknowledge. Position (?0600Z) 056° 25' N.
T.A.20. 010° 38' W. PHILADELPHIA, NEW YORK, WILKES
See p. 939 SWANSON, EDISON and Clyde portion of A.T.20 E.T.A. 2230Z/30. Liverpool portion E.T.A. 0600Z/31 escorting destroyers LUDLOW, WOOLSEY thence proceed Londonderry. NICHOLSON, COLE to Londonderry E.T.A. 1930Z/30. Request navigation lights. Admty's 1503A/26 repairs to NEW YORK and COLE require 5 days, request sailing of T.A.20 conform to general plan. (C.T.F. (?37) 0700Z/30 to Admty).

/JACK GARNES...

War Diary.

30.8.1942.
Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies. - Contd.

JACK CARNES Intercepted 0818 G.M.T. SSSS 45.55 28.14 N.W.
JACK CARNES being shelled 0800.
(Burnham-on-Sea Radio, 0814/30 to Admty Adm.
Liverpool R.A.F. Rudloe).
SSSS 41.35, 29.01 N.W. JACK CARNES torpedoed.
(JACK CARNES, 2347/30).

Movements. 1800 G.M.T./30.

Ship	Position	Course	Speed
GLASGOW	41° N. 39° W.	073°	19
H.M.S. QUEEN ELIZABETH 3 destroyers	22° N. 36½° W.	302°	14
ARMERIA BURDOCK with oiler			
SNOWDROP 2 ships	11½° N. 28½° W.	280°	8½

(D.O.D. 1016Z/30 to Opnav).

* ANNEVDALE

VARDAAS Sailed Tug BUSY escorted by M.T.B. 335 to tanker
torpedoed abandoned in 011° 15' N., 060° 55' W.
30/8. (N.O.I.C. Trinidad, 1102Q/30 to Admty).
** 1101 - 2111 - 1101 - D.I.C.*

?T.A.G.I. T.A.6 1 (?T.A.G.1 intended) My 1443/29 and my
1451/29 delete ALGENIB Dutch did not sail ALEX
British put back with engine trouble KEYHOLT
British put back unable maintain convoy speed.
(B.R.O. Trinidad, 1103Q/30 to Admty).

O.N.123 When relieved by Western Local escort proceed with
your unit to St. Johns N.F. unless otherwise ord-
ered by F.O.N.F.
(C.T.24., 1115Z/30 to C.T.24.1.11).

MENDANAU Survivors report your diversion 1911Z/3 not
received.
(D.T.D., 1125Z/30 to Connav).

ELIAS G. My 1611/29. Arrived.
KULVIKUNDIS. (S.O.(I) Jamaica, 1206Q/30 to Admty S.B.N.O.
W.Atlantic B.A.D. Connav).

U/B attack S/M attack 45.55 N., 28.14 W. at 0800 G.C.T./30,
301041. Navcom.
(Cominch, No T.O.O. to Admty Recd. 1257/30).

DASHER etc. WITCH, ANNAPOLIS, REGINA, ALGOMA, MONCTON
returned from escort duty. DASHER in company.
** 1101 - 2111 - 1101 - D.I.C.*
(S.O.(I) Halifax, 1304Z/30).

War Diary.

30.8.1942.
Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies. - Contd.

FORT VILLE Overdue St. Thomas.
MARIB. (S.O.(I) Jamaica, 1344Q/30 to Admty S.B.N.O.
W.A., B.A.D., Connav, F.O.C. Trinidad).

3 Auxiliary Your 1701Z/29. Subject has already been discussed
Cruisers. and it is hoped to obtain a recommendation before
Wednesday. Passage to U.S.A. in Clipper has been
arranged for approx. Sept. 7th.
(V.C.N.S., 1405A/30 to C.N.S. Canada).

Movements. Your 1815/29. EXHIBITOR, TARN, ZAANDAM, HAWAIIAN
SHIPPER, EMPIRE ORIOLE due Suez 3/9. SANTA CRUZ
due Suez 6/9 SEATRIN TEXAS due Suez 9/9.
(D.O.D. 1511A/30 to B.A.D. Washington).

S/M estimates C. in C. U.S. Fleet, 1628Z/30, 1629/30, 1630/30,
and notices. 1631/30, 1632/30, 2031/30.)

M.A.R.I. Your 1646/28 concur. Amendments to Section 1.
and N.C.S.I. 53/42.
(D.T.D., 1639Z/30 to Connav).

N.A.16 Re amended sailing date.
(N.S.H.Q., Ottawa, 1644Z/30 to D. of S.T.)

EMPIRE BREEZE My 1205Z/27. Thorough search carried out by
(torpedoed). ROSTHERN and FRISKY. Results nil ships now
returning in company to St. Johns. Admty please
pass to C.C.R.T.
(F.O.N.F., 1857Z/30 to Cominch, Admty. C.O.A.C.,
N.S.H.Q., C.T.F. 24., C. in C. W.A.)

My 1857/30. Consider EMPIRE BREEZE has sunk. Following
intercepted by Commodore O.N.122 at 1258/26 begins. E.I.N.L.
"How long can you hold out" EMPIRE BREEZE "Hope to be able to
hold out for six hours if weather holds good". E.I.N.L. "We
will be with you in about five hours. Have you fog. EMPIRE
BREEZE yes, thick E.I.N.L. "What set are you working" EMPIRE
BREEZE "Emergency" E.I.N.L. "Will call you later for D/F test"
EMPIRE BREEZE "We are on all the time" Ends.
(F.O.N.F., 2040Z/30 to Cominch, Admty C.O.A.C., N.S.H.Q., C.T.F.
24., C. in C. W.A.)

GLASGOW Reference N.S.H.Q. Ottawa 1907/28 E.W. SINCLAIR
routed to cross your route in longitude 32.20
about 1000Z/31 and ESSO WILLIAMSBERG in longitude
31.40 about 2030Z/31 both on course 200°
(D.T.D., 1921A/30 to GLASGOW).

/River...

War Diary.

30.8.1942.
Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies. - Contd.

River
Steamers
for U.K.

My 1940/18 para. (i) B.R.O. Philadelphia reports one of these 11 ships JOHN CADWALLADER totally destroyed by fire and later sank. Sabotage investigation being held.
(N.S.H.Q., Ottawa, 1926Z/30 to Admty).

DASHER

See p. 952

Sailed in convoy H.X. 205 destination Clyde.
(C.O.A.C. Halifax, 2015Z/30 to Admty).

Wheat for
Greeks.
Swedish
YARRAWONGA
and AKKA.

Sailed Montreal 29th for Piraeus Greece routed in accordance with Admty 2014/10*? July not to all addressees.
(N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 2032Z/30 to Admty Cominch, S.B.N.O. W. Atlantic, C.O.A.C., F.O.N.F., N.O.I.C. Gaspe, N.O.I.C. Sydney, S.O.(I) Gib).
*Ships to sail for N. American ports.

S/M attacked

Trinidad report S/M attacked in 013° (?000') N. 057° 39' W. 1130Z/29.
(S.O.(I) Kingston, 2034Q/29 to Admty S.B.N.O.W.A. B.A.D. Washington, Connav, Com Caribbean Sea)

A.T. 21

Sailing telegram.
(Port Director, New York, 2334/30).

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30.8.1942.
Sunday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.Australia & New Zealand.

Digest Serial My 1004Z/30 part one. Reports Faisigtuin Tonolei No.220 harbour area 29/8 indicate minimum enemy force one August 29th. heavy cruiser seven destroyers two tankers four transports or cargo vessels two M. T.Bs one unidentified vessel possibly M.L.C.C. Air R/C noon/29/8 indicated majority of units Tonolei harbour. Five destroyers observed moving S.E. at high speed when sighted. Heavy cruiser described "Nachi" type departed northerly direction 2030Z/28.

(2) 18 bombers 22 fighters reported flying over Buka passage course S.E. at 2230Z/28.

(3) 4 Catalinas attacked Buka aerodrome 1635Z/28 six hits on runway other bombs runway and dispersal area. One large merchant, one destroyer observed off Sohanaeis. (Buka passage).

(4) Air R/C Rabaul area 29/8 reported one destroyer one 8,000 ton merchant ship St. George's channel course N.W. one destroyer one 10000 ton merchant vessel St. George's channel course S.E. 32 vessels from 2,000 to 10,000 tons including one large unidentified type reported Rabaul harbour 0005Z/29. Interception by five Zeros two shot down.

(5) B.17s attacked Vunakanau aerodrome 0010Z/29 bombs fell among buildings and dispersal area - interception by approx. six Zeros one believed destroyed three probably damaged.

(G.H.Q. S.W.P.A. 0930Z/30).

6. 1 destroyer 1 7,000 ton merchant vessel sighted 4° 40' S. 150° 10' E. at 2315Z/28 course 45°.

7. 6 Marauders escorted by 17 Aircobras attacked Buna Aerodrome 2150Z/28. All bombs target area. 3 Zeros 1 twin engined bomber believed destroyed (?on) ground 1 Zero badly damaged. 3 Large fires seen dispersal areas.

8. 1 Cruiser 9 destroyers reported 10° 25' S. 150° 55' E. approaching Milne Bay at 0830Z/29. Unspecified number ships later reported moving towards north coast Milne Bay approx. 8 miles West Gili Gili at 1240Z/29. Land position obscure believed improved since previous day.

9. Kittyhawks strafed enemy shore positions north coast Milne Bay night 29/8 after failing locate approaching enemy convoy due poor visibility.

10. British vessel MALAITA torpedoed by enemy submarine off Port Moresby at 0300Z/29.

11. 1 4,000 ton cargo vessel reported Ambon Bay air reconnaissance 29/8.

12. My serial No.211 cancel para.7.

(G.H.Q. S.W.P.A. 1004Z/30.).

Enemy Intelligence. KASUGA MARU in Marshalls (probably Taroa) escorted by units of Destroyer Division 7, having delivered planes for First Air Fleet. There are indications that enemy is strengthening defences of Gizo (seaplane base). Part of Bihoro air may move to Marshalls, from Third Air Attack Force in Northern Area. Estimate RYUJO, SHOKAKU, and ZUIKAKU remain North Solomons. Other carriers indicated in Japanese waters by D/F. Apemana will probably be used as a seaplane base. There are no indications of presence of combatant surface units now in Aleutians. Believe shore based aircraft operating from Kiska. Commander. Submarine Squadron 8 plus one division at Yokosuka. By D/F S/M 149.E. 006 N. (Comnavel 1418/30).

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War Diary.

30.8.1942.
Sunday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Submarines Reported.

U/B position estimates.
(D.D.I.C. 1445A/30, 1505A/30).

War Diary.31.8.1942
Monday.SITUATION REPORT.Home Commands.

A report graded B.2 states that ^{ADMIRAL} SCHEER was off Vengsay (69° 50' N. 18° 29' W.) at 0700 G.M.T. yesterday, passing out to seaward escorted by two destroyers. Later she was reported to be southward bound.

The ports of Rosyth and Methil were closed early this morning owing to low visibility.

E-boats were active off the coast of Suffolk last night, probably minelaying. Conditions of visibility enabled the E-boats to sight our destroyer patrols before the latter could close to decisive range, and only PYTCHLEY was able to engage (at 1133/30 off Orfordness). The enemy retired under a smoke screen. 9th M.S.F. are now sweeping the War Channel.

*2330 - Samp. 463

Archangel city was attacked by aircraft from 2130A to 2330A today and large fires were started and fanned by the high wind.

Minelaying by enemy E-boats in Lyme Bay is suspected.

North Atlantic.

Night flying in the Bay of Biscay during August was ineffective owing to the large number of fishing vessels which gave "non-sub" echoes to the radar, resulting in searchlight exposures. Steps are being taken to overcome this.

War Diary.31.8.1942
MondaySITUATION REPORT.Mediterranean.

It is intended shortly to reorganize M.T.Bs, Fairmile and harbour defence M.L. Flotillas and bases in the Eastern Mediterranean under one command termed Captain, Coastal Forces.

RORQUAL hit and probably sank a 4000 ton merchant ship today south of Corfu. She laid mines in 39° 17.2' N. 20° 18' E.

Enemy attack in the Western Desert began at 0030 today. Early this morning strong enemy columns approached the position held by our army in Egypt, in the southern sector and fighting continued in this area throughout the day. An enemy attack in the early morning in the central sector was repulsed.

East Indies.

Outward-bound trade convoys from the Persian Gulf, as foreshadowed by C. in C. Eastern Fleet on 2/8 are not yet to be started on a regular cycle owing to the undesirability of causing delay to this urgent traffic until a threat actually develops. But when sailing escort vessels to Bombay in readiness to bring back troop convoys to the Persian Gulf (B.P. Convoys) occasional important ships or tankers may be held back to form a convoy.

America and West Indies.

Convoy
S.C.97
attacked.

Convoy S.C.97 was attacked by U-boats at 0805Z today in 57° 13' N. 33° 40' W. SS BRONXVILLE and CAPIRO were torpedoed and sunk.

U/B sunk
in north
Pacific.

An aircraft and U.S. destroyer REID sank Japanese S/M BRO 61 and took 5 prisoners at 2231Z today in 52° 10' N. 174° W. (Aleutians area).

/U/Bs. ...

War Diary.

31.8.1942
Monday.

SITUATION REPORT.

America and West Indies - contd.

U/Bs off
British
Columbia.

A notification was issued at 0239 today that a submarine was reported off Cape Chacon (approx 54° 40' N. 132° 42' W.)
A submarine was sighted and attacked (apparently today) by a U.S. aircraft in 48° 12' N. 125° 42' W.

Australia and New Zealand.

Papua.

The ground position at Milne Bay is reported to be well in hand today. Three Fortresses attacked Buna today.

Solomon Is.
U/B sunk.

Nine Marauders and 6 Bostons today attacked Gizo Harbour where the enemy landed troops on 25/8. U.S. destroyer MONSSEN sank a U-boat at 1000Z today in 2° 40' S. 160° 18' E.

Not confirmed.

Australia.

There were two minor air attacks on Darwin early this morning. No damage was caused.

Ocean I.

There has been no W/T communication with Ocean Island since a ship was reported approaching at 0500 G.M.T/26. No "enemy landing" signal was received.

31.8.1942.
Monday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Policy.

T.F.99 Your 0302/30. Am taking no action on Comnaveu's 1202/29 until a reply is received to Admty. 2046/28.

(C. in C. H.F., 1131A/31 to Admty).

Request you will sail TUSCALOOSA, EMMONS, and RODMAN in accordance with Comnaveu's 1202/29. (1158/29 to Cominch and C. in C. Lant, 0302/30 to C. in C. H.F.)

(D.O.D. (H), 1315A/31 to C. in C. H.F.)

Obstructive attitude of Russians. Your 1329/29. If satisfaction is not obtained in near future through action as your para. (2) request you will report full details of difficulties so that matter can be taken up here. (Hd. of M., 2208A/31 to Ad. Miles).

Movements.

DURBAN Your 1613/29 part one, para. 2. Owing to suspected minelaying by E-boats in Lyme Bay request route for DURBAN be amended as follows from position P. 180° Portland Bill 3.5' through position Q. 180° Portland Bill 10'. R. 050° 01' 15" N., 003° W. S. 180° Start Point 12'. T. 180° Lizard Head 03', thence as previously ordered. (C. in C. Plymouth, 0411A/31 to C. in C. Portsmouth).

TIGRIS, STURGEON, P.615. Sailed* TIGRIS, * STURGEON, & P.615 escorted by WHITE BEAR in accordance with Captain (S) 3 1009A/28. (N.O.I.C. Greenock, 0744A/31). * 2-10-42

FRANKLIN My 1938/28 ^{/N.T. H.D.} and 0909/30 ^{/N.T. H.D.}. Departure FRANKLIN escorted by GOATFELL to vicinity Dudgeon Shoal returning to Humber L/F for night anchorage. This programme continuing daily till further notice. Codeword "Tinsmith". (F.O. Humber, 0750A/31).

EL COSTON, ENSIGN, MEDINA. U.S. Flags EL COSTON, ENSIGN, MEDINA arrived from S.C.97. (U.S.N.O.B., Iceland 1000/31).

FURIOUS. Your 2231/30. Approved. (C. in C. H.F., 1032A/31 to R.A.A.)

SOMALI, WILTON. My 1032/31. Request you will sail SOMALI and WILTON for Scapa to arrive a.m./2nd. (C. in C. H.F., 1107A/31 to N.O.I.C. Greenock). Your 1107A/31. Intend to sail SOMALI and WILTON in company at 1200A/1, for Scapa. E.T.A. 0900/2. (N.O.I.C. Greenock, 1956A/31 to C. in C. H.F.)

War Diary.31.8.1942.
Monday.HOME COMMANDS.Movements. - Contd.

- SHERWOOD Intend sailing SHERWOOD 1400A/2 for Invergordon in accordance with R.A.N.A.S., 2015B/31. E.T.A. 2030A/3. (F.O.I.C. Liverpool, 1111A/31). *W.T. W.D.*
- 30th M.L.F. Sailed my 1132/27 at 1145Z/31, routed as in my 1110/28. E.T.A., 0800Z/3. (A.C.I.C., 1301Z/31 to Cominch).
- ACHATES Situation report at 2000. ACHATES, 4 corvettes, 2 A/A ships 058° 58', 013° 17' to Reykjavik, 9½. (C. in C. W.A., 1336A/31 to Ships).
- ADRIAS R.A.D.1550/30. Request you will arrange towage by MARAUDER or FREEBOOTER or ABEILLE XXI as convenient. No other Tug available. (C.C.R.T., 1500A/31 to A.C.O.S.)
- BASSET and 5 L.C.Ts. On arrival at Methil take L.C.Ts. 388 (S.O.), 330, 358, 389, 390 under your orders and escort them by searched channels to Troon. 2. Leave Methil at 0600/2. Spend the first night in Peterhead, thereafter proceeding without stop but taking shelter if necessary. (C. in C. Rosyth, 1604A/31 to BASSET).
- L.C. 20 Intend to sail L.C. 20 in tow of tug QUEEN'S CROSS escorted by ARNOLD BENNETT at 0600 tomorrow by inshore route to Harwich, ARNOLD BENNETT acting as escort for ~~3/12/28~~ Overfalls Buoy whence F.O.I.C. Yarmouth is requested to arrange relief for escort. E.T.A. ~~BLAKENEY~~ *Blakeney* Overfalls Buoy 1430/1. (F.O. Humber, 1816/31).
- SCYLLA On leaving Harbour at 0900 tomorrow SCYLLA will keep constant watch on H.D. and B.N. broadcasts until further notice. (R.A.D. H.F., 1845A/31 to C. in C. H.F.) *h-1964-(P.Q.18)*
- MINERVE (1) Intend to sail MINERVE escorted by LOCH MONTEITH 0600A/2 for Scapa routed (A) 089° Sumberg Head 5 miles (b) 093° Fair Isle 4 miles, thence to Scapa. E.T.A. Switha Gate 2000A/2. (S.O. S/M Lerwick, 2055A/31 and 1055A/1).
- SALISBURY Sailed SALISBURY in accordance with C. in C. W.A., 1424Z/28. Pass Cumbrae 1830A/31. E.T.A. destination A.M. 3rd. (N.O.I.C. Greenock, 2154A/31 to A.C.I.C)

31.8.1942.
Monday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operations.

Faeroes My 1305/30. Thorshavn arrivals:- M.Ls. 445, 452,
M.L. Patrol. 467, 252, ERRAID.
(N.O.I.C. Faeroes, 0745A/31).

North F.O.(S)'s 1859/24, as amended by 1034/25.
Lofoten S/M 1. S/Ms are to proceed to their zones after
Patrol. 'passing 091° Out Skerries 6 miles leaving Lerwick
on 2/9 as follows. *UREDD at 0600A through position
A. 068° 01', 007° 30' B. 070° 09', 011° 49'
thence keeping north of 070° N., zone K.154.
*STURGEON at 1000A through positions C. 068° 35', 007° 31'.
D. 069° 55', 010° 04'. to zone K.153.
P.54 at 1300A through position E. 069° 35', 009° 30' to zone K.152
*TIGRIS at 1700A through position F. 068° 50', 008° 29' to
zone K.151. TRIBUNE at 2100A through position G. 068° 21', 007°
35' to zone K.150.
2. S/Ms are to proceed on surface at discretion of C.O. to
positions (b) (d) (e) (f) and (g) respectively, thence diving by
day, and should adjust their speed to arrive at western limit
of their zone at 0600A/7.
(Capt. S.9., 1011A/31 to S.O. S/M Lerwick. * 12-460

Offensive Weather permitting carry out the following
Patrol off offensive operation against enemy convoys tonight.
Texel. (1) Force A. 7th M.G.B. Flotilla to act as
searching, force. Force is to sail to reach
position 53° 14' N., 4° 43' E. at 2300/31. Force
is then to search in direction 043° for 20 miles
at low speed, unit spreading to cover possibility of enemy being
between 4 and 10 miles off shore. If a convoy is encountered
contact is to be maintained until M.T.Bs. attack, engaging
enemy escorts as conditions allow.
(2) Force B. 5th M.G.B. Flotilla and available M.T.Bs. Force
to be sailed to reach 53° 10' N., 4° 38' E., at 2359/31
Force is to act on information gained by Force A and may work
to the N.E'ward after arrival at discretion of senior officer.
(3) Air. 12 Group will be asked to cover units proceeding and
returning. Result of air R/C will be signalled by I method if
forces have left harbour.

(C.in C. Nore, 1150A/31 to MANTIS, MIDGE).
Your 1150/31. Force A., M.G.Bs. 88 (S.O.) Type 252, 84,
82, 91, 86, 89. E.T.D. 54 G Buoy 1915A.
Force B., M.G.Bs. 21 (S.O.) Type 252, 18, 17, M.T.Bs. 34.234,
70, 29. E.T.D. 55A buoy 1915A.
(MANTIS, 1456A/31 to C. in C. Nore).
My 1456/31 sailed.
(MANTIS, 1817A/31).
My 1817/31. M.G.B., 91 returned with engine defect.
(MANTIS, 1924A/31).

Engagement Preliminary Report of E-boat activity last night.
with E-boats. 1. Inference and Destroyer reports indicate 2
groups each of 3 E-boats minelaying. No. 1 group
between Nos. 3 and 54 B Buoys and No. 2 near 3A
Buoy. Visibility enabled E-boats to sight
destroyers before latter could close to decisive
range.

31.8.1942.
Monday.War Diary.HOME COMMANDS.Operations -contd:-

Engagement 2. At 2330 PYTCHLEY on No. 6 patrol engaged No.1
with E-boats. group with 4-inch armament. No direct hits claimed
Contd. but shells were seen to burst close to E-boats
which retired under smoke.

3. At 2358 COTTESMORE on No. 5 patrol moving south
to try and intercept No. 1 group passed through E-boat smoke
about 3 miles S.E. of 3A Buoy, but did not sight anything.

4. 9th M.S.F. now sweeping western half of Channel.
No result so far reported.
(C. in C. Nore, 1214A/31).

Patrol off St. Albans Head. Two trawlers patrolling in vicinity of E.A.5 Buoy
(C. in C. Portsmouth, 1510A/31).
M.G.B. 4 is to carry out anti E-boat patrol
tonight in vicinity of 050° 20' N., between 001°
35' W., and 002° 10' W. ALBRIGHTON at immediate
notice at Yarmouth (I.O.W.) 2 Trawlers patrolling near E.A.5 buoy
(C. in C. Portsmouth, 1610/31 to N.O.I.C. Portland).
Intend M.G.B. 52 (S.O.) 57 and 50 to patrol on latitude
50° 20' N., between 1° 35' W., and 2° 10' W., from 2200 tonight
till 0600/1. E.T.D. Weymouth 2100/31. E.T.R. approx. 0700/1.
Request air protection be arranged.
(F.O.I.C. Portland, 1620A/31 to C. in C. Portsmouth).

Western Channel Patrols. M.T.Bs. 236 (S.O.) 229, 203, and 240 and M.Ls. 118
and 155 from Dartmouth, code word "Wheel I"; are to
patrol on a line between positions (A) 50° 04' N.
3° W., and (B) 50° 12' N., and 2° 40' W., from
2200/31 till 0600/1, returning to Dartmouth on
completion.

2. M.Ls. 181 (S.O.) 488, and 259 from Falmouth, Code word
"Wheel II"; are to patrol on a line between positions (C) 49°
55' N., 4° 05' W., and (D) 49° 55' N., 3° 40' W., from 2200/31
till 0600/1, proceeding to Plymouth on completion.

3. Object. To intercept and destroy enemy light craft
attempting to lay mines in Lyme Bay or Plymouth Approaches.

4. M.T.Bs. should not hesitate to ram.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 1521A/31 and 1625/31).
Your 1521/31. "Wheel" sailed.
(N.O.I.C. Dartmouth, 2042/31 to C. in C. Plymouth).

P.31 Proceed with all despatch towards Cape Villano
total bombing restrictions arranged.
(F.O.S., 1548A/31 to P.31).

My 1808/31. (i) Estimate your approx. position at 0800A/1 will
be (X) 043° 21' N., 010° 28' W.

(ii) If nothing is sighted by this time proceed to dive by day
through position (B) to (F) inclusive given in my 1024/26 to R/V
with escort off Portland Bill a.m./10 as ordered by Capt. (S) 5.

(iii) H.Q.C.C., is requested to institute submerged bombing
restriction 25 miles either side of line joining positions as
follows. Details.

(iv) Total bombing restrictions in my 1610/31 are cancelled as
from 0800/1.
(F.O.S., 1906A/31 to P.31).

31.8.1942.
Monday.War Diary.HOME COMMANDS.Operations - Contd.

G.K. VAN HOGENDORP. Dutch Motor Fishing Vessel G.K. VAN HOGENDORP Port of Registry Katwuka-Zee, surrendered to steam trawler PERSIAN EMPIRE and is now anchored Scarborough Bay flying white flag. Station Officer Coast Guards has been sent aboard and reports crew of 14, no refugees. Security Control Officer from Middlesbrough now proceeding Scarborough. Coast Artillery, local police, and Military informed. Vessel is being brought into Scarborough at 1900 approx. and placed under armed guard. Trawler is being sent A.M. tomorrow to escort vessel to Hartlepool. (N.O.I.C. Tees-Hartlepool, 1742/31).

Dover Patrols. M.Ls. 146 and 147 from Ramsgate patrolling between Dumpton and N.E. Spit buoys. E.T.D. 2045. E.T.R. 0535/1. The following anti-E-boat patrols from 2100. M.L.140 and R.M.L. 513 from Newhaven near C one buoy. M.G.Bs. 7, 13, and 6 at D buoy. NETSUKIS and SARPEDON at No.7 buoy. M.G.Bs. 41, S.2., and S.3 at no 7 Buoy. BROCK at No. 4 buoy. M.T.Bs. 219, 221 and 48 leave Dover at 2100 and R/V with M.G.Bs. 7, 13 and 6 then patrolling to Bassurelle Shoal returning via D buoy, where M.G.Bs. resume patrol. M.T.B.s E.T.R. Dover 0100/1. (V.A. Dover, 1817A/31).

Exercises.

PENYLAN My 1135/31. Sailed PENYLAN for exercises with aircraft. Returning Lightning Knoll Buoy on completion. (N.O.I.C. Barrow, 1427A/31).

NORFOLK, SUFFOLK. Cancel my 1516/30. (C.S.18, 2011A/30 to C. in C. H.F.)

Allied Air Activity.

U.S.A. Aircraft. Position of U.S.A. aircraft as at a.m./30/8. Fighters (P.38) U.K. 132, Iceland 21, B.W.1. 1 B.W.8 Nil, Goose, Presque Isle Nil. Transport (C.47 and C.53) U.K. 99, Iceland 5, B.W.1. 3, B.W.8 Nil, Goose 5, Presque Isle 3. Bombers (B.17) U.K. 109, Iceland 1, B.W.1 2, B.W.8 Nil, Goose 1, Presque Isle 2. (Air Ministry, 0820A/31 to 44 Group). Position of U.S.A. aircraft as at a.m. 31/8. No change and no further movements reported for today or 1st September. (Air Ministry, 1530/31).

Bombing restrictions. My 1740/30. Amend to read from C to D from 1200/3 to 0600/5 and from D through E and F to destination from 1200/4 to 2000/5. (A.C.O.S., 1645A/31 to H.Q.C.C.)

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31.8.1942.
Monday.War Diary.HOME COMMANDS.Allied Air Activity - Contd."Seafire"
Trials.

Owing to bad weather and short time available for training 807 Squadron, request "Seafire" trials in BITER may be deferred until 807 Squadron has embarked.
(R.A.A. H.F. 1742A/31 to Admty.)

Operation
of 841
Squadron.

A meeting will be held at fighter Command H.Q. at 1100/3 to discuss operation of 841 squadron in attack on E-Boats off East Anglia. Request representative of groups addressed, C.O. 841 Squadron and such representatives as

C. in C. Nore may desire, will attend this meeting.
(H.Q.F.C. 1755R/31.)

Propose an Albacore of 841 Squadron should with concurrence No.11 Group be used to co-operate with coastal craft when latter are on patrol at Berck Buoy in readiness to attack East bound enemy vessels which will be outside normal range permissible R.D.F. plotting. Procedure in place to be as follows

- (a) Aircraft under ground control of Swingate searches westward and reports by R/T approach of enemy force and its composition.
- (b) Information is passed to M.T.Bs by Dover W/T.
- (c) If torpedo target is present M.T.Bs report intended time of attack.
- (d) This time is passed by R/T to aircraft which immediately prior to M.T.Bs attack drop line of flame floats across (corrupt group) of enemy convoy.
- (e) At discretion of pilot and providing enemy vessels are clearly visible aircraft makes simultaneous attack with bombs.
(F.O.C. Dover 1855A/31 to Admty.)

Projected
attack on
Raider.

Request confirmation that strike asked for by H.Q.C.C. will be ready at dawn to take off to attack enemy raider or supply ship suspected in area of Cape Finisterre.
(A.C.N.S. H. 2253A/31 to Air Ministry.)

Enemy Air Activity.Convoy
attacked.

Am being attacked by enemy aircraft Condor 49° 6' N., 9° 23' W.
(A.O.C., 19 Group 1759/31).

Raufarhofn
attacked.

4 Engined Aircraft circled Raufarhofn at 0930A/31 and proceeded N.E. after dropping 2 bombs on farm land 2 miles north of Raufarhofn. No casualties.
(N.O.I.C. Iceland, 2030/31).

Convoy
S.L.119.

You were probably sighted and reported by enemy A/C at 1955.
(D.D.I.C., 2131A/31 to Escorts S.L.119).

War Diary.31.8.1942.
Monday.HOME COMMANDS.Mining.

Sweep in Q.Z.X. 799. Your 0049A/31. Clearance ordered is 21 miles long. Have insufficient Dans for 2 lap. Propose high percentage search westward of Merchant line to locate minefields, then clearance of more limited areas.

(2) If danger to all sweepers cannot be accepted, propose 21 miles lap in (G) but only Danning when mines are discovered. (M.S.9., 0242A/31 to C. in C. Nore).
Your 0242/31. Sweep in "G" Formation danning when mines are discovered. (C. in C. Nore, 0421A/31 to M.S.9).
On completion of today's operations return to Harwich. (C. in C. Nore, 1204A/31 to M.S.9).
Passing number 3 buoy. No mines found as yet. Will return to Harwich at end of this lap. (M.S.9., 1435A/31 to C. in C. Nore).
My 1435A/31. Lap completed. No mines found. (M.S.9., 1550A/31 to C. in C. Nore).

Operation S.N.89 Proceed to R/V with R.A.M. in accordance with R.A.M. 1104 25 para. (I).
When detached by R.A.M. return Scapa. (C. in C. H.F., 1047A/31 to JAMAICA).
Your 1047A/31. Intend passing Hoxa 0815A/1 and carry out A/A practice en route to R/V. (JAMAICA, 1607A/31 to C. in C. H.F.)

M.S.N.3 Your 1052/29 and C. in C. W.A., 1032/30. Concur that air escort is not necessary. (D.D.O.D. (M.), 1215A/31 to R.A.M.)

Off Harwich Following received from STELLA LEONIS:-
Heavy explosion with broad column of water observed at 0045/31 in 51° 55' N., 01° 43.5' E.
Position off ship 1 mile S.E. of 52 Buoy. (F.O.I.C. Harwich, 1526A/31).

Enemy Intelligence.

Rocket White rocket reported 330 Gurnard's Head 7 to 8 miles between 2346 and 0005. (C. in C. Plymouth, 0037A/31 to S.E.C. W.P., 110)

ADMIRAL SCHEER A report graded B.2. states that SCHEER was off Vengsay 69° 50' N., 18° 29' W., at 0700/30 G.M.T. passing out to seaward. She was escorted by two Destroyers. (D.D.I.C., 0354A/31 and 0748A/31).
My 0354A/31. Vessel now reported southward bound. (D.D.I.C., 1039A/31).

Merchant Ship. My 1548/31. German merchant ship in approx. 040° 40', 017° 20' at 2316Z/30, probably making for vicinity Finisterre. (F.O.S., 1808A/31 to P.31).

War Diary.31.8.1942.
Monday.HOME COMMANDS.U-boats.U-boat
attacked.Am over enemy submarine in 46° N., 9° W., 55 X
331 - 6 - 6. Enemy was sighted on surface and
observed to submerge. When first sighted was
on course 090° estimated speed 12 knots.

(A.O.C., 19 Group, 1350/31).

Have attacked enemy with depth charges. No hits
estimated (correct group) 0.21 P.48 enemy course
and speed are 90° 12 knots.

(A.O.C., 19 Group, 1848/31).

Navigational.

Nore

B.8. Buoy is unlit.

(C. in C. Nore, 0017A/31 to VIVIEN, QUANTOCK).

Rosyth,

Port closed owing to low visibility.

(C. in C. Rosyth 0645A/31).

Cancel my 0645/31.

(C. in C. Rosyth, 0928/31).

Methil

Port is closed owing to low visibility.

(N.O.I.C. Methil, 0750/31).

Casualties & Defects.

R.M.L. 535.

Sailing of my 2324A/30 ^{1 N.T. in W.D.} delayed at least 24 hours
owing to defect in port engine.

(F.O. Humber, 1153A/31).

DURBAN

My 1613A/29. Postponed due to engine defects.

(C. in C. Portsmouth, 1235A/31).

134th
M.L.F.A.M. 2042A/14 /8. Completion dates of all M.Ls.
of 134th M.L.F. now dependent upon delivery of
fresh water tanks. Request all possible
hastening action may be taken.

(R.A.C.F., 1252A/31 to Admty).

DESTINN

Following has been read. Intercept. from Lands
End Radio. 1336 G.M.T. DESTINN to Valentia P.O.
Message to Gordon Palgrave Dublin. Due (unread)
3 p.m. Tuesday have 47 ? survivors (rest unread)
Reception doubtful heavy atmosphere.

(C. in C. Plymouth, 1439A/31 to Admty).

HILL

SS. HILL arrived Holyhead 1110A/31, and reports
having had collision with unidentified vessel in
a Northbound Convoy 8 miles N.W. by N South Stack.
Wooden Hull, Stem badly damaged and making water
fast. At present alongside beach. Have fire
pumps working and seem to be gaining on water.
(N.C.S.O. Holyhead, 1446A/31 to Admty).

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War Diary.31.8.1942.
Monday.HOME COMMANDS.Casualties & Defects. - Contd.

LOBELIA

Simp. 970
(D.N. 5128
H.X. 208)Request LOBELIA who sails and returns with B.2. for next turn may be given a quick boiler clean at Argentina.
(C. in C. W.A., 1516Z/31 to C.T.F. 24).Newport
Dock.Repairs to Loch Gate Alexandra Dock Newport enabling ships of over 340 feet in length to enter the port are estimated to be completed on 8/9.
(N.O.I.C. Newport. 1546A/31).
Cancel my 1305/29. Repairs to lock gates will not necessitate closing of docks.
(N.O.I.C. Newport, 2019A/31).

M.T.B. 79

Arrived M.T.B. 79 Engine damaged and receiver out of action.
(N.O.I.C. Larne, 1715A/31).

NELSON

Your 1610/29. Intend NELSON should arrive Rosyth on 19/9 for repairs.
(C. in C. H.F., 1928A/31 to Admty).Shipping & Convoys.Convoy
"Trigo"."Trigo" anchored near 20 T Buoy. Convoy may be both sides Channel. Dense Fog.
(VERSATILE, 0135A/31).
"Trigo" proceeding, visibility 3 miles.
(VERSATILE, 0335A/31).A.T. 20,
N.A. 15Arrived Clyde portion A.T. 20 and N.A. 15 escorted by C.T.F. 37 in PHILADELPHIA, NEW YORK, WILKES, SWANSON, and EDISON.
(N.O.I.C. Greenock, 0456A/31).
N.A. 15 (Two ships) arrived 0435 and 0500X
A.T. 20 (Two ships) arrived 0425 and 0443.
(D.S.T.O. Greenock, 0505/31).Convoy
ST. ABBS HEAD
SOUTHPORT.After casting ahead and astern for 10 miles no signs of SS. ST. ABBS HEAD and SS. SOUTHPORT at morning muster.
(WOLSEY, 0904A/31 to C. in C. Rosyth).

A.T. 21

Request you will sail WELLS in accordance with my 0946A/30 and C. in C. W.A., 2241/30 and not as in your 1832/30.
(R.A.M., 0953/31 to WESTERN ISLES).

/T.A...

War Diary.

31.8.1942.
Monday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping & Convoys. - Contd.

T.A. 22 Your 2241/30 and my 0952/31. In view of altered sailing vide Admiralty 1252/30 propose CASTLETON and WELLS also carry out T.A. 22 and then return to Londonderry until required for D.S. 32. (R.A.M., 0954/31 to C. in C. W.A.) Your 0954A/31. Many thanks. I. will arrange accordingly. (C. in C. W.A., 1807A/31 to R.A.M.)

CHANNEL QUEEN Intend sail CHANNEL QUEEN escorted by STOKE CITY and HORTEN to Kirkwall at 1900 today for onward routing. HORTEN for onward passage to Aberdeen. E.T.A. 1900/1. Routed through 061° 40', 005° 33' 060° 06' 004° 44', Q.Z.S., 164. (N.O.I.C. Faeroes, 1011A/31 to A.C.O.S.) My 1011/31 as amended by my*1128/31. Sailed. (N.O.I.C. Faeroes, 1903A/31 to A.C.O.S.)

P.Q.18, Q.P.14 C. in C. W.A., 1111A/23 para. (3). Intend sailing BRAMHAM from Lough Foyle 1800A/1st arriving Scapa 0800A/2nd. (N.O.I.C. Londonderry, 1021A/31 to C. in C. H.F.)

Destroyers addressed proceed passing Switha 0900 tomorrow and R/V with R.A.(D) H.F., in*SCYLLA off Switha at 0915A. *2nd p 361*
2. When met proceed in company to Loch Ewe where you will be required to provide additional escort for convoy P.Q.18 to Iceland. ESKDALE will be S.O. close escort.
4. When relieved by onward escort off Hvalfiord S.O. MALCOLM, ESKDALE, FARNDALE are to return to Scapa entering Hvalfiord for fuel if required.

(R.A.D. H.F., 1130A/31 to ESKDALE, FARNDALE).
Your 1055A/30 (ROYAL ULSTERMAN) and my 1225A/20. A provisional date of completion (ex trials) was given as 15/9. This date can be maintained provided all spare machinery parts are received within next 5 days.

(F.O.I.C. Cardiff, 1725A/31 to C.C.O.)
P.Q.18 and Q.P. 14. C. in C. H.F., 1142/28. Following arrangements are proposed.
(A) Will be provided to limit of 73° N., on track. Type of aircraft will be signalled daily.
(B) Will be carried out daily, aircraft permitting.
(C) This will be difficult. Suggest ship's aircraft might undertake. If possible assistance by Northrops will be provided. Fighter cover will be provided by U.S. Army Air Force.
(D) Will be provided for Battle Fleet on passage to Akureyri. On other occasions only when convoy (?A/S) escort is not in force. Cruisers can be provided under same conditions (D).
2. This will be done subject to availability of aircraft. (N.O.I.C. Iceland, 2035A/31 to C. in C. H.F.)

A.T. 21 Cancel A.M. 1253/30. Fighter protection code word "Favour". (D.O.D.(H), 1250A/31).

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31.8.1942.
Monday.War Diary.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping & Convoys. - Contd.

- O.S. 38 Pass to Commodore O.S.38. Ship for South America is to be detached p.m. today. From dispersal ship is to proceed to position (K) thence to (L) which is being amended by B.A.M.S. Commodore is requested to report dispersal position through Escort when next W/T silence has to be broken. (D.T.D., 1338A/31 to Escorts O.S.38).
- P.W. and W.P. convoys. My 1227/23 para. 2. Schedule (B) will be brought into force with P.W. 212 sailing from Portsmouth on 3/9 direct Bristol Channel ports.
2. W.P. convoys will continue to call Dartmouth as at present.
3. W.P. 213 is to be sailed on 4/9 to Dartmouth and thereafter every two days.
4. P.W.D. 212 is to be sailed Falmouth on 3rd September and P.W.F. 212 to be sailed to join P.W. 212 at D. One buoy at 0930 fourth September.
5. Escorts (A) Destroyers. Portsmouth destroyer escorting P.W. 212 will be relieved by H.M.S. TYNEDALE at D. one buoy in a.m. Q.Z.S. 347 and on relief proceed to Dartmouth codeword Nation 5 W.P. 212 sailing from Dartmouth on 5th September will be escorted by Portsmouth destroyer. (B) Trawlers. Trawler group will operate from Plymouth as in D.C.I. 28 para. six. i.e. group sails from Portsmouth being relieved at D. one buoy and proceeding Plymouth.
6. C. in C. Portsmouth is requested to provide a destroyer escort for W.P. 213 sailing from Dartmouth on 6th September and thereafter for W.P. convoys every two days.
7. Routes P.W. and W.P. convoys are to use route N between Dart buoy (seaward end of A.M. Q.Z.S. 174) and Portland. P.W. convoys to proceed Dart Buoy to 180° Start Point 6 miles thence as in D.C.I. 33 Route A.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 1431A/31).
- TJALDUR Your 1123/30. LEICESTER CITY and SCALBY WYKE will R/V off Dunnet Head and provide escort.
(A.CO.S., 1456/31 to F.O.I.C. Aberdeen).
- Convoy. *S.C. 97.*
See p. 923. Upon arrival position designated Comtask Group No. 24.6. despatch 1315Z/29 at 2000Z/31, will turn down track, attempt contact prior to darkness. If failure will alter course until daylight hours. Present position 058° 48' N., 028° 49' W.
(SCHENCK, 1600Z/31 to C. in C. W.A.)
See p. 985
- O.N.S.128, H.X.208. My 2243A/30. (1) As VANESSA is defective ^{*}LOBELIA is to join B.2. for escort of O.N.S. 128 and H.X. 208.
(C. in C. W.A., 1613A/31). ** See p. 968*
- 25.* 8 C.97 *25.* 8 C.97 to obtain full air support from Iceland (C) recommend alter course immediately to V.5830 2900 W., 58.29, 14.01 then to U.
(D.T.D., 1642Z/31 to Connav).

31.8.1942.
Monday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping & Convoys - Contd.

O.N. and O.N.S. Convoys. O.N. and O.N.S. convoys will shortly run to New York instead of Halifax (2) M.A.R.I. Section 1 para. 5 (c) is to be amended as follows for ships sailing in the first and subsequent convoys to run to New York. "Stragglers from O.N. and O.N.S. convoys unaffected by N.C.S.I. 53/42, para (1) and 2 B. should proceed to Halifax from the nearest point on the Straggler's Route or to New York whichever is nearest. If proceeding to New York, coastal route should be joined vide M.A.C.R.I. Stragglers bound for ports east of Halifax should proceed to destination from the nearest point on the Stragglers Route".
(D.T.D., 1721A/31).

H.X. 203 Average speed 9.3 knots. Fog until 19/8 followed by good weather. No stragglers. All ships now reported.
(D.T.D., 1825A/31 to Connav).

C.A.M. Ship Signals. C.A.M. ships sailing in future convoys will employ Flag Q international with signification "C.A.M. ship is operating her aircraft".
To be used as follows:-
(A) Hoisted close up by the C.A.M. ship when about to launch her aircraft. (B) Hauled down when aircraft is airborne. This procedure will supersede the existing use by C.A.M. ships of Flag F international when operating aircraft. Mersigs. Vol.1 will be amended.
(C. in C. W.A., 1930A/31).

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War Diary.31.8.1942.
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.

Manning. Urgent operations are absorbing a very large number of officers causing an acute shortage of all ranks of all branches including R.N.R. and R.N.V.R.

2. Many withdrawals without relief from ships and establishments at home have been necessary.

3. It will therefore be difficult to effect foreign reliefs and to meet new requirements abroad for several months.

5. The drafting of ratings is also affected.

(Admty. 2046A/31 to C. in C. Med. C. in C. E.F. C. in C. S.A. S.B.N.O. W.A. B.A.D. A.C.I.C. R.A.W.A.)

North Atlantic.

MONBALDO Sailed 0500 G.M.T. 31st.
(Italian) (H.M.C. Bilbao 1015/31, N.A. Madrid 1230/31 to Admty.)

Blockade D/F bearings at 2316Z/30/8 indicate German
breaker. blockade breaker midway between Azores and Spanish coast probably homeward bound.
(D.D.I.C. 1015A/31 to C. in C. Plymouth. F.O.S. H.Q.C.C. S and A, N.A.)

VETCH Estimated time of arrival 0200A/1. T.L.C. with
etc. engine defect in tow DECISION. M.L. with engine defects and foul propeller in tow of BARDOLF.
M.L. with steering gear defect in tow of
(?minesweeper). All ships in company. DECISION requires 48 hours in harbour for engine defects.
(VETCH 1030A/31 to F.O.C.N.A.)

SUBELA. Following message received by Marconi W/T Station Madeira at 0925 G.M.T./31 from Portuguese Congo begins British SUBELA asking assistance in 40 miles N of Pargo Point. end.
Portuguese Sloop*PEDRO NUNES left Funchal at 1030/G.M.T. in search.
(N.C.S.O. Funchal 1135/31 to Admty.)* *p. 974 (CLAN MALWHIRTER)*

Ship Ship torpedoed at 0059 G.M.T./31 in 041° 35' N
torpedoed. 029° 01' W. Thought to be Dutch War Vessel call sign P A B K (N.T. in W.R.)
Air search being made. A 1 P U F.
(N.C.S.O. Ponta Delgada 1145/31.)

P.247 German merchant ship in approx. 040° 40' 017° 20'
to at 2316Z/30/8. Probably making for vicinity
intercept Finisterre estimated speed 14 knots.
blockade 2. Proceed as necessary to intercept.
breaker. 3. Total bombing restrictions arranged.
p. 974 (F.O.C.N.A. 1236A/31 to P.247.)
My 1236 only neutral ships eastbound in vicinity

/tanker...

War Diary.31.8.1942.
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic.

P. 247
to
intercept
blockade
breaker.
Contd.

tanker CASTILLO ALMENARA 5387 tons 8 knots from Curacao to Corunna and Spanish ROMEU 3070 tons 12 knots cargo and passenger vessel Curacao to Corunna.
(F.O.C.N.A. 1440A/31 to P.247, Admty. F.O.S. C. in C. Plymouth.)

Bombing
restrictions.

Request total bombing restrictions in area G 25 G 26 G 27 and G 28 until further notice.
(F.O.C.N.A. 1240A/31 to Admty. A.O.C. C.C.C. (R) F.O.S.)

Sailing
arrivals
and
overdue
shipping.

Your 1625B/29. See my 1720B/29. (1720/28 intended)
(C.S.A. Lourenco Marques 1350B/31 to S.O.I. Capetown.)

PETUNIA.

Route from position (D) to (E) 040° 01' 016° 02' (F) 036° 45' 009° 12' (G) 035° 57' 005° 57' thence Gibraltar.
(F.O.C.N.A. 1546A/31 to PETUNIA.)

*BARDELL
*BARBRAKE
and IMLA
LAYTERI.

Arrived 1300 G.M.T./31. S.N.O. says unable to decypher C. in C. W.A. 1047/26 0942/28 1707/28. Only codes held Loxo and Mersigs.
(V.C. Fayal 1626A/31 to Admty.)
My 1626/31. Ships left harbour 1300 G.M.T. with AL GARNA in company. F.O.C.N.A. please advise R.A.W.A. of routeing instructions received.
S of A 7½ knots.
(R.O. Fayal 1638/31 to Admty.)

* See p. 976

CHARYBDIS
CALEDON
S/Ms.

Re. exercises.
(F.O.C.N.A. 1636A/31.)

P. 31.

Cancel my 1743/27 and para 2 of my 1024/26.
(F.O.S. 1716A/31 to F.O.C.N.A. (R) Admty. C. in C. Plymouth. C. in C. W.A. H.Q.C.C. S.3. S.5. P.31.)

See pp 9634
974

Bombing
restrictions.

Cancel my 1436/28 and my 1240/31 Finish total bombing restrictions in area G 27 and G 28 extend to 044° North and 008° West forthwith until further notice.
(F.O.C.N.A. 1738A/31 to Admty. H.Q.C.C. (R) F.O.S.)

Escort of
LEINSTER.

Sailed 1500 LAFOREY, LOOKOUT to R/V with SS. LEINSTER and escort to Gibraltar.
(F.O.C.N.A. 1742A/31.)

War Diary.31.8.1942.
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic - Contd.LE TRAIT
(French)Arrived.
(Lisbon T.O.O. 1803/31.)GIL
EANESYour 1251/20 and your 1813/25. Visit approved and supply of coal being arranged.
Your 1804/25. Supply of gas oil being arranged.
(Admty. 1943A/31 to N.A. Lisbon.)

P. 247

My 1236.

*P. 31.

*Re-ly: blockade**blockade - 2. p. 979.*

1. Patrol within 30 miles of Cape Finisterre keeping in neutral territorial waters.
 2. If enemy not sighted by 1600A tomorrow (?Tuesday) report your P.C.S. and proceed on surface at discretion through 040° 20' 010° 31' thence position J in my 1608/25.
 3. H.M.S.P. 31 proceed to Cape Villano.
 (F.O.C.N.A. 1906A/31 to P. 247 (R) Admty. F.O.S. C. in C. Plymouth. P. 31.) * 3. p. 973

ESSO
GETTYSBURG.

/N.T. in W.D.
 My 1346/31. Sailed SPIREA escorting Tanker ESSO GETTYSBURG.
 (V.A.C.N.A. 2002A/31.)

SS. CONGO,
 CLAN
 MACWHIRTER
 torpedoed
 27/8.

My 1135/31. (N.T. in W.D.) Portuguese SS. CONGO now arrived Funchal reports message was received from a lifeboat from CLAN MACWHIRTER.
 (N.C.S.O. Funchal 2055/31.)

NIGERIA.

Your 1713/27/8 to F.O.C.N.A. Damage report. Hull. 2. Machinery. 3. Electrical defects will be reported as soon as possible.
 (C.S. Gibraltar 2132A/31 to Admty. F.O.C.N.A. NIGERIA.)

SS. CLAN
 MACWHIRTER.

Portuguese Sloop*PEDRO NUNES received SOS from SS. CLAN MACWHIRTER 40 miles North of Madeira 1000/31. Picked up p.m./31 one boat containing 31 survivors including one wounded. Searching for 2 further boats.
 (2) Horta picked up SOS from unknown ship 200 miles north of Horta 0001/31. Aircraft sent out but nothing found.
 (Lisbon 2245A/31 to Admty. (R) S.O.I. Gibraltar.)

* 3. p. 972 - (SUBELA)

War Diary.31.8.1942.
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic.

DERWENT. My P.C.S. at 0600Z/31 019° 45' N 018° 34' W 180° 15 on reaching position 019° 01' N 018° 33' W intend steer 180° 15 knots pending further route instructions.
(DERWENT 0601Z/31 to R.A.W.A.) *See next page.*

CORFU. Arrival 0647 G.M.T./31.
(N.O.I.C. East London 0658Z/31.)

VIKING
STAR
(British) Torpedoed sunk 1745Z/25 36 survivors landed Coast Sierra Leone report 12 survivors on raft last seen 26/8 in 006° N 014° W.
(S.O.I. Freetown 1046Z/31.)

DELFSHAVEN. Overdue shipping DELFSHAVEN due Capetown 23/8 not arrived.
(S.O.I. Capetown 1116B/31.)

→ NORDANGER. Overdue shipping NORDANGER due Capetown 23/8 from Abadan not arrived.
(S.O.I. Capetown 1120B/31.)

FERNMOOR Intend to sail FERNMOOR for Simonstown 0800/1/9
BRILLIANT. E.T.A. a.m. 17/9. Route.
Escort will be provided by BRILLIANT as far as position (C)
All signals to FERNMOOR will be passed via BRILLIANT until 0800/5/9 then FERNMOOR will be treated as a single operator M/V secret call sign BALV. Time of crossing 15° S. B.A.M.S. area 3 B is 1900Z/10/9.
(R.A.W.A. 1135Z/31 to C. in C. S.A.)

→ W.S. 21. Sailed 30/8 D.S.T.O. Durban is requested to advise addressees E.T.A. Aden.
(?P.S.T.O. Simonstown 1313Z/31 to Admty.)
Following ships sailed in W.S.21 30/8. for Persian Gulf. Names.
(S.T.O. Capetown 1401Z/31 to Admty.)
Following vessels sailed in W.S.21 30/8 for Bombay. Names.
(S.T.O. Capetown 1416Z/31 to Admty.)

→ NORDANGER. Have your any news of NORDANGER (Norwegian) due Capetown 22/8 from Abadan?
(D.T.D. 1217A/31 to S.O.I. Capetown.)

→ W.S. 21. Following ships sailed in W.S.21 30/8 for Persian Gulf. D.S.T.O. Durban is requested advise addressees E.T.A. Abadan. CHINA MAIL. AMERICAN PRESS.
(S.T.O. Capetown 1401Z/31 to Admty.)

War Diary.31.8.1942.
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic - Contd.

- * DERWENT
AVON VALE
SIBAJAK.
** See previous page.*
- Your 1355A/31. If fuel permits DERWENT and AVON VALE should proceed Bathurst singly one destroyer remaining as escort to SIBAJAK. If fuel does not permit DERWENT and AVON VALE escort SIBAJAK to vicinity of Bathurst one destroyer providing screen while other fuels.
(R.A.W.A. 1441Z/31 to DERWENT.)
- Cable repairs.
- Your 1202B/30. Request LADY DENISON PENDER and escorts proceed from St. Helena to Accra.
(R.A.W.A. 1531Z/31 to C. in C. S.A.)
- VIKING
STAR
sunk
25/8.
- Overdue ship. VIKING STAR sailed Montevideo 9/8 due Freetown 26/8 not arrived.
(S.O.(I.) Freetown 1647Z/29.)
- BARDELL
BARBRAKE.
See p. 973
- F.O.C.N.A.'s 1058A/29. Onward route from position (L) through (M) 011° 03' N 017° 37' W thence Freetown.
(R.A.W.A. 1749Z/31 to R.O. Fayal.)
- Visit of
C. in C. S.A.
to Pretoria.
- Intend to fly to Pretoria 1/9 to see Prime Minister returning to Capetown 3/9.
(C. in C. S.A. 2037B/31 to Admty.)
- A.H.SCOTT.
- Your 1350/31. My 0915/30 cancel my 1625/29.
(S.O.(I.) Capetown 2115/31 to C.S.A. Lourenco Marques)
- Approach to
Freetown.
- Pass to F.Os I.C. and N.C.S.Os.
Amendment No. 72 to M.A.R.I. Section IV para. 6., cancel and substitute.
"(1) All shipping proceeding to Freetown is to be routed diversely to a point on the arc of a circle with centre Freetown and radius 600 miles, and thence direct to seaward end of searched channel.
(2) For shipping approaching from north of 8° north the point may be anywhere on the arc between 260° from Freetown and the coast to the northward. For shipping approaching from south of 8° north the point may be anywhere on the arc between 210° from Freetown and the coast to the southward.
(3) Masters are to be warned to expect diversion signals from Freetown directing them to an amended line of approach".
(D.T.D. 2145A/31 to C. in C. S.A. R.A.W.A. N.S.H.Q. Ottawa. C.O.A.C. Halifax. F.O.C.N.A. S.B.N.O. W.A. A.C.I.C. S.O.I. Jamaica. (R) Connav. B.A.D. Washington.)

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War Diary.31.8.1942.
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic - Contd.

Amendment No.73 to M.A.R.I. Pass to F.Os I.C and N.C.S.Os. Section IV para. 8.
(1) amend last sentence to read "Ships plying between West African Ports east of Freetown and West Indies to follow these instructions between positions (1) and (4)
(2) Cancel sub. para (3) and renumber remaining sub. paras. accordingly.
(D.T.D. 2158A/31 to as 2145A/31.)

Chop Dates. Your 1156/27. Division dates. Concur. Propose following instructions forthwith to N.C.S.Os. (A) Chop date, C. in C. E.F. to C. in C. S.A. (and vice versa) to be noon G.M.T. on date of crossing longitude 035° east or on third day out from port of departure whichever is the later.
(B) Chop date to be included in route signals and amended by N.C.S.Os if sailing is delayed.
(2) C. in C. S.A. will signal a Chop date for ships proceeding from Atlantic to E.I. Station without an intermediate call at Cape ports.
(3) Ships sailing westbound from Australia to be given 1st and 2nd Chops to C. in C. E.F. and C. in C. S.A. respectively. C. in C. E.F. is requested to state desired Chop date line between A.C.N.B. and himself.
(4) Reference A.M. 1733/16. It is presumed reminder signal from Admty. will be unnecessary and that C. in C. E.F. will reply.
(C. in C. S.A. 2249B/31 to C. in C. E.F. (R) Admty.)

Mediterranean.

Joint War Communique 31/8. IZ 1300 PR/42748 31/8/42.
On night of 29/30 our medium bombers, light bombers and naval aircraft continued their raids over the battle area and on the Tobruk harbour installations. On the same night our bombers and torpedo carrying A/C successfully attacked enemy shipping off the coast of Cyrenaica. At least 3 ships were hit, 2 of them being set on fire. Yesterday a successful attack was made on a large enemy tanker in the Mediterranean. The ship was left blazing from stem to stern. Escorting vessels were attacked with cannon and machine gun fire. (Mideast 0900Z/31.)

Information for P.46. Capt. S.10's 2123/29 not to S/Ms on patrol. Position of mines should read 032° 42' 023° 06'. (S.O.S. Alexandria 1009/31 to P.46. (R) C. in C. Med. Capt. S.1. Capt. S.10. S/Ms on patrol.)
See next page

P.42. Will pass through 035° 22' 014° 12' on course 90° about 2230B/31.
See next page (Capt. S.10. 1048B/31 to P.35.)

/Italian U/B...

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31.8.1942.
Monday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean - Contd.

- Italian U/B. When suitable opportunity occurs request you will convey by means other than W/T the congratulations of T.L. to HYACINTH on the capture of an Italian U-Boat. (1st. S.L. 1104A/31 to C. in C. Med.)
PERLA - attached
9/7 ~ 35° 50' N. 35°
191E. (Dr: Ras-
-bottom ? cm. 2500.)
- PAPANICOLIS. Leave position 000° Ras Beirut five at 1930C/31 through
 (1) 034° 30' 031° 54'
 (2) 035° 37' 028° 20'.
 (3) 035° 55' 028° 10' thence operate in area north of a line joining
 (A) 035° 15' 027° 05'
 (B) 038° 00' 024° 10' and between lines 055° from
 (A) and (B). Estimate PAPANICOLIS will pass position (1) at 0200C/2 and (2) at 2200C/3.
 She will be run on surface p.m. 1/9 and 2/9.
 (Capt. S.L. 1113C/31 to C. in C. Med. (R) No. 201 N.C. Group. S/Ms on patrol. Capt. S.10.)
- Cositrep No. 498. 6. Air. Night 29/30. Wellingtons attacking Tobruk harbour started good fires on docks M.T. central sector and camps along coast bombed. Some direct hits scored and fires started.
 7. Merchant ship in southbound convoy torpedoed and believed set on fire north of Tobruk. A vessel seen stationary with large oil streak near position of attack three hours later. Hit with bomb claimed on another merchant ship. 30th.
 (C. in C. M.E. 1145/31 G.M.T. to W.O.)
- P.46. *See previous page.* Capt. S.10 1335/29. Patrol within 20 miles of this position until 0500C/1 by which time you should be within 5 miles of it.
 (Capt. S.L. 1145C/31 to P.46.)
- Movements. EMPRESS OF JAPAN and (?ORION) E.T.A. 0930Z/1/9. Acknowledge.
 (ORION 1419Z/31 to N.O.I.C. Suez.)
- Enemy convoy. P.C.S. of (enemy type denoted) 2 TR(?) 1 M/V 3 destroyers 35° 38' N 23° 59' E 290° 8 knots.
 (Malta W/T 1608/31.)
- UTMOST
 * RORQUAL
 * *See p. 979* Cancel my 1501/31 ^{/N.T.W.D.} you have freedom of action in area C and L keeping outside Paxo Island. Do not attack S/Ms.
 (Capt. S.L. 1650C/31 to UTMOST. (R) RORQUAL C. in C. Med. Capt. S.10.)
- P.42. *See previous page.* Left 31st.
 (N.O.I.C. Malta 1730B/31 to Admty. (R) C. in C. Med. Capt. S.1.)

/Enemy...

MOST SECRET

~~MESSAGE~~ No T.O.O./31st August.

MOST SECRET

IN

From Governor (General Viscount Gort)
Malta.

Date 31.8.42.
Recd. 1600.

CYPHER.

Addressed Secretary of State for the Colonies.

No. 406 Most Secret
My telegram No. 370.

Malta, Education Report.

During the month ended 30th August, there were 144 alerts, 96 by day, 48 by night. Bombings 39 by day, 20 by night. 41 people were killed (15 men 12 women 14 children) and 33 seriously injured (10 men 14 women 9 children). 58 buildings were seriously damaged.

2. The principal events of the period were connected with supply situation, notably the control of local resources which have been fully reported separately.

3. On 13th August and succeeding days, 5 ships including a tanker arrived from the United Kingdom, the largest number to reach us since September 1941. They were enthusiastically welcomed, and there is widespread appreciation of the sacrifice made to get these ships through. They were unloaded in seven days without further molestation by the enemy.

No T.O.O./31.

Advance copy D.C., D.O.D.(F), D.D.I.C. D. of L.D.

Recd. in War Registry P.M.1/9/42.

+ 1400/14.

- 1st Lord.
- 1st S.L.(2)
- Dep. 1st S.L.
- 4th S.L.
- V.C.N.S.
- A.C.N.S.(F)(2)
- A.C.N.S.(T)
- C.N.A.S.
- A.C.N.A.S.
- N.A. 1st S.L.
- Sec.
- Nav.Sec.
- D. of P.(2)
- D.C.(2)
- D.O.D.(F)(2)
- D.D.I.C.(2)
- D.T.D.(3)
- D.T.D.(M)
- D.N.A.D.
- Hd. of Air.
- Hd. of M.

Circulation:

- Admiralty (Mil Branch.) Mr. S.Gilmour.
- Admiralty (N.I.D.) Lt.Cdr.RB.Leggatt
- Air Ministry S.4 (O.G.)
- War Office M.C.5.
- W.C.O. Mr. W.A.K.Hopkin.
- " Lt. Col. Capel Dunn
- 10 Downing Street. Mr. J.M.Martin.

- D.N.I.(5)
- D.P.D.
- D. of L.D.
- D. of S.
- I.P.(3)
- W.D.

War Diary.31.8.1942.
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean - Contd.

Enemy shipping. At 1530/31 P.R.U. Spitfire sighted 3 destroyers 2 M/Vs and one tanker. P.C.S. 034° 35' 024° 01' 270° 12 knots.
(S.O. Subs Alexandria 1755C/31 to P.46. (R)
Capt. S.l. S/M Flot.)

Malta Air Report. 30/8 Taranto 1 tanker 4/5000 2 D/Rs left same tanker escorted by 1 D/R sighted 0630 hours 132°. Taranto 20 miles course S. 8 knots 8 Beauforts 4 Beaufighters carrying bombs 4 Beaufighters fighter escort made successful attack 1210 hours on convoy now escorted by 7 MC.200s and Ju.88s 120°. Ugento 10 miles course 180° 8 knots. Beaufighters attacked first raking tanker and D/R with machine guns and cannons and dropping 6 250 lb. GP bombs from 900 ft. on tanker scoring near misses Beauforts then dropped 4 torpedoes scoring 1 direct hit amidships and 1 probable hit. No other torpedoes dropped as tanker immediately blew up. Photographs 1240 hours show whole tanker ablaze emitting dense clouds of black smoke.
(A.H.Q. Malta 1812/31.)

Enemy M/V. A/C sighted a M/V aground in 039° 32' 019° 53' daylight 31st.
(Capt. S.l. 1823C/31 to UTMOST. RORQUAL. (R)
C. in C. Med. Capt. S.l0.)

Situation Report 261. Enemy attack in Western Desert began 0030/31/8. My 1929/29/8 para 3 ERIDGE was attacked by what appeared to be a one man torpedo boat. This craft was hit by CROOME and ERIDGE and believed to have sunk. E-Boat sunk by Swordfish was in addition. P.R.U. of Tobruk Harbour 30th showed total of 54 E-Boats present. My 1212/28/8 para 2 this ship now considered to be a total loss engines completely wrecked and only bows afloat.
(C. in C. Med. 1949C/31 to Admty.)

Re-organisa- It is intended shortly to re-organise M.T.Bs, tion of M.T.Bs Fairmile and harbour defence M.L. Flotillas and M.L. Flotillas bases in Eastern Mediterranean under one Command etc. in E. Captain Coastal Forces. Captain A.G.V. Hubback Mediterranean. R.N. has been selected and will supersede Acting Captain G. Herbert and Commander R.H. MacBean. Detailed organisation is being worked out.
(C. in C. Med. 1951C/31 to Admty.)

RORQUAL. Mines have been laid 039° 17' 20" 020° 18' E extending 8 cables in direction 200°. Owing to mechanical failure only 15 mines laid. My position 2000B/31 037° 35' N 019° 39' E.S.O.A. 130 miles daily. Have hit and probably sunk 4000 ton merchant ship. M.S.846 not received.
(RORQUAL 2029B/31 to Capt. S.l. (R) C. in C. Med. Capt. S.l0.)

War Diary.31.8.1942
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies.

RAGNILDSHOLM My 1100/30. Arrived Madras p.m. 30th.
(Swedish) (F.O.I.C. Ceylon 0541Z/31 to C. in C. E.F.)

Opening fire A.M. 2132A/12. Concur in proposed additional
on single rules.
A/C. (C. in C. E.F. 0823Z/31 to C. in C. S.A. (R)
Admty., Air Min. R.A. West Africa, B.A.D.)

S/M off Your 0843Z/29 not to Admty. All French S/Ms base
Berbera. Madagascar prior Suarez operation thought sunk
or returned to France. French S/M PEGASE located
Saigon in May. Consider unlikely Siyara report
referred to Vichy S/M.
(C. in C. E.F. 0908Z/31 to Cdre. Aden.) Comment by O.I.C.
Refers to the sighting of a S/M off Berbera on 24/8. PEGASE is
the only French S/M known to be east of Africa.

ROYAL Admiralty have decided that DUNCAN, GRIFFIN, DECOY
SOVEREIGN. and ANTHONY should proceed to U.K. for refit now.
DUNCAN. Escort for ROYAL SOVEREIGN from Kilindini to
DECOY. Durban will be provided by DUNCAN, GRIFFIN and
ANTHONY. DECOY. Onward escort until clear of the Cape
GRIFFIN. by DUNCAN and ANTHONY. Request you will sail
GRIFFIN and DECOY onward to U.K. at best speed
from Durban. Retain ANTHONY and DUNCAN at Durban
as necessary. On completion of docking sail ROYAL SOVEREIGN to
Philadelphia escorted by ANTHONY and DUNCAN until clear of the
Cape. Sail ANTHONY and DUNCAN direct to U.K. at best speed after
leaving ROYAL SOVEREIGN. Request acknowledgment.
(C. in C. E.F. 1014Z/31 to C. in C. S.A.)

Pacific My 1504/29 paragraph (F) for U.S. air staff
Fleet officer read U.S. Air N.O.
Liaison. (C. in C. E.F. 1112Z/31 to Admty.)

Air Intelligence Summary No.169 to 1800 hours 31/8.
Report. 1 Blenheim bombed Satyogya Creek Akyab from 100
feet 30/8. 2 bursts between moored steamers.
4 sea R/Cs curtailed by weather 30/8.
(A.H.Q. India 1302/31 to Air Min.)

Persian Gulf Programme of B.A. and B.P. Convoys in the
Shipping. immediate future is given in P.S.T.O. India's
1035/27 to which must be added A.P.2 leaving
Aden about 12/9. (2) Escort policy at present. (A), Personnel
ships must be given absolute priority when carrying numbers in
excess of those allowed for an unescorted ship and must be
formed into convoys. (B) A.P. and B.A. convoys will have Ocean
escort as arranged by C. in C. E.F. If none is available an
escort vessel may be required for full passage. Local A/S
craft assisted by escort vessels from Ceylon escort group or
Persian Gulf Division will be required to provide A/S escort
in the F.O.C.A.L. area. C. in C. E.F. will provide routes.

War Diary.31.8.1942
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies - contd.

Persian Gulf Shipping (contd) (C) B.P. convoys are to be given A/S escort from Bombay as far as close Westward of Hormuz. Escort vessels are to be drawn from Persian Gulf Division as it becomes augmented and S.N.O. Persian Gulf is to request loan of additional vessels from F.O. Ceylon if necessary. N.C.S.O. Bombay is to provide routes observing any special directions issued by S.N.O.P.G.

(D) Outward-bound convoys from Persian Gulf to be known as P.O. in the earlier stages where convoys will disperse i.e. stage 19 (sic) my 0953/2. It is not intended to start these convoys on a regular cycle yet. S.N.O.P.G. when sailing escort vessels to Bombay in readiness for B.P. convoys is to use his discretion in holding occasional important ships or tankers to form a convoy but until the threat actually develops it is undesirable to cause delay to this urgent traffic.

(E) It should be the aim gradually to work (C) and (D) into a system and as more escort vessels become available include Commercial convoys in the system aiming at the development of stage two of my 0953/2. In this manner the impression of a complete system may be given to the enemy before in fact it becomes a possibility.

(3) Following programmes of escorts has been arranged to date -

(A) B.P.53 due Khor Kawai p.m.1/Sep. (R) p.m. 1st Sept.

JUMNA, SCOUT and ASTER return on completion, former to Bombay, latter two to Ceylon all for boiler cleaning or repairs.

(B) B.A.31. Due Aden 8/9 SUTLEJ continues to Aden subsequently escorting A.P.2. MARGUERITE joins W.S.21 P.G. at sea 1/9 returning to Bombay.

(C) B.P.53 A. Sailing 1/9. RATNAGIRI joins P.G. Div.

(D) B.P.54. Sailing 5/9. PUNJAB and GERALDTON. Latter joins P.G. Div.

(E) B.P.55. Sailing 10/9. MARGUERITE on return from W.S.21 P.G. to Bombay on completion. INVESTIGATOR to join P.G. Div. (SUTLEJ will not now be available from A.P.2.)

(F) It is not at present intended to escort INDRAPOERA and NOVA SCOTIA containing Poles, not to give KUTSANG more than local escort from Bombay unless F.O. Ceylon can arrange to suit escort programme.

(4) The foregoing should leave BATHURST, LISMORE, SHOREHAM, SONAVATI, WILLEAM VAN DER ZAAN and SCOUT and ASTER on completion of repairs in Ceylon area for escorted sailings to Island bases.

(5) It is intended to send some A/S vessels to Aden as soon as possible in order that A/S escort in the Gulf of Aden can be provided for all convoys.

(6) Admiralty concurrence is requested for convoy title P.O. in para 2 (D).

(C. in C. E.F. 1350Z/31 to S.N.O. P.G. Cdre Aden, Cdre. R.I.N., F.O.C.R.I.N., F.O. Ceylon (R) Admty.)

War Diary.

31.8.1942
Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies - contd.

Wellingtons
for India.

Owing to increased need for A/S R/C in Home Waters in coming winter it has been decided to form an additional Wellington VIII Squadron in Coastal Command by end of 1942. This can only be done at expense of one of the two Wellington VIII Squadrons which were due to be formed in Indian Ocean by December 1942. (Air Min. 1620Z/31 to A.O.C. in C. India.)

Enemy
A/C.

N.O.I.C. Addu Atoll reports sighting unidentified A/C at 1303Z/31 340° distance 15 miles. A/C disappeared in N.N.E. direction. No friendly A/C known to be in area. (F.O.I.C. Ceylon 1811Z/31 to C. in C. E.F.)

War Diary.

31.8.1942.
Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies.

"S" Signal. Following received on Lands End Radio begins:-
intercept 2359 G.M.T. 500 k/cs. De JACK CARNES
SSSS 4135 2901 NW JACK CARNES torpedoed.

Controlling Station GCK.

(C. in C. Plymouth, 0102/31 to Admty.)

Following from JACK CARNES SSSS 4135 2901 JACK CARNES torpedoed
2347/30. Would it be possible to detach destroyer from T.A. 18
to assist.

(D.T.D., 1118Z/31 to Connav, Cominch 1501/31 to Cinclant.)

U/B off
British
Columbia.

Following from N.O.I.C. Prince Rupert B.C.
Received from KETCHIKAN. S/M reported off Cape
Chacon heading towards Hetta Inlet. Planes and
ships notified 0239/31.

(C.O.P.C., 0456Z/31 to Admty., N.S.H.Q., (R)
Opnav, S.B.N.O.W.A., Cdr. N.W.S.F., G.O.C. in C.
Commandant 13th U.S. Naval District Seattle, Air
Officer Cmg. Western Air Command.)

S.C. 97.

Attacked position 057° 13' 033° 40' 0805Z/31,
SS. BRONXVILLE and CAPIRA torpedoed and sunk.

(C.T.U. 24.1.12, 0830Z/31 to Admty., Connav.)

My 0830/31 entire crew of steamship BRONXVILLE in SS. PERTH.
16 survivors SS. CAPIRA in H.M.S. MORDEN. 38 missing, ship
sank immediately.

Consider one U-Boat attacked convoy. BRANDON, DRUMHELLER
attacking sub. contacted astern of convoy. No other contacts
obtained. Remainder of escort screening convoy.

(C.T.U. 24.1.12, 1243/31 to A.I.G. 303, C. in C. W.A., T.G.24.6,
A.C.I.C., Connav, Admty., C.O.A.C. Halifax, C.T.24, N.S.H.Q.,
F.O.N.F., C.T.G. 24.7.)

U-Boat
Campaign.

Cominch's 1910/30. informs as follows:-
Para. (B). Unidentified ship reported attacked
10.53 N. 54.17 W. 0735Z/30. Plane attacks S/M
on surface 46.15 N. 49.50 W. 1815Z/11/6 possible

damage.

Para. (C). Surface craft attacks sound contact 35.34 N. 73.45 W.
0225Z/27/7. Surface and A/C attack submerged S/M 27.23 N.
63.40 W. 1657Z/29/7. Surface and A/C attack at 0749Z and

1300Z/23/5 my 1811/15/8 assessments possibly on U.45 type.

Para. (D). Surface craft attacks sound contact 39.13 N.
73.55 W. 1642Z/10/6. 39.36 N. 69.43 W. 0412Z/25/7, and
38.14 N. 68.27 W. 1239Z/25/7.

(Comnaveu, 0837/31 to Admty.)

S/M Estimate
0800/31.

(Comnaveu, 0841/31 to Admty.)

/MAURETANIA ...

984

War Diary.31.8.1942.
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies - Contd.

MAURETANIA. Your 1901/29 confirm fuel is available.
(S.B.N.O.W.A., 0923P/31 to B.A.D.)

Convoy Ships.
T.A.G. 1. (B.S.N.O. Curacao, 0935QR/31.)

Movements. 1800 G.M.T./31.

Ship	Position	Course	Speed
GLASGOW	43½ N. 29 W.	073	19
*H.M.S. QUEEN	24½ N. 42 W.	292	14
ELIZABETH			
with U.S. Escort.			
PATHFINDER	23 N. 41 W.	236	14
VIMY			
QUENTIN			

(D.O.D.(F), 1018Z/31 to Opanav.)

* See p. 986

S.C. 98. 58 ships from Halifax and 7 from Sydney have now sailed with no returns. None from St. Johns N.F. can be included.

See p. 986

(C.O.A.C. Halifax, 1227Z/31 to F.O.N.F., N.O.I.C. Sydney, C.B.)

Your 1227/31. 4 ships already organised W.S.C.98 of which 2 have waited here 15 days for convoy. Earnestly request consideration including these 4 ships in S.C. 98. Also St. Johns harbour becoming increasingly congested. Request very early reply.

(F.O.N.F., 1429Z/31 to C.O.A.C.)

Request you reply to F.O.N.F.'s 1429/31.

(C.O.A.C., 1654Z/31 to C.T.F. 24.)

S/M sightings. 020° 49' N. 084° 50' W. at 1423/31.
(S.O.I. Kingston, 1306Q/31 to Admty., B.A.D. Washington.)

020° 49' N. 084° 50' W. at 1423/31.
(S.O.I. Kingston, 1306Q/31 to Admty., B.A.D. Washington.)
45.40 N. 57.45 W. at 1030Z/31.
(Halifax W/T, 2037Z/31, 2109Z/31, 1655Z/1/9.)

VARDAAS Torpedoed and shelled by two S/Ms 0412Z/30 in 011°
(Norwegian) 35' N. 060° 40' W. Crew at Tobago.
Heart attendant (S.O.(I) Jamaica, 1429Q/31 to Admty., S.B.N.O.W.A.,
Diler. Opanav, B.A.D.)

My 1102/30. BUSY and*escort returned. VARDAAS broken up and wreckage sunk to avoid danger to navigation.
(N.O.I.C. Trinidad, 1532Q/31 to Admty.)

* M.S.D. 335

/ILEX ...

War Diary.31.8.1942.
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies. - Contd.

ILEX. Ref. my 1508/26. Owing to delay in river trials ILEX will now leave Charleston p.m./9/9 and proceed to Key West leaving for Guantanamo 17/9 and sailing for Trinidad on 4/10.
(B.A.M.R. Washington, 1450Z/31 to Admty.)

Coaling Restrictions. Owing to necessity for conserving stocks of coal both ends of Panama Canal stringent regulations are now being applied whereby vessels will only be allowed to bunker here sufficiently to reach next coaling port en route. Also price going to be largely increased.
(B.R.O. Cristobal, 1455R/31 to Admty. for Trade Div.)

S.C.L. 97,
S.C. 97. U-Boat estimated in your vicinity by D/F has made a first sighting report of a convoy or important unit 1207Z/31st. 10510 k/cs ENIGMA.
(C. in C. U.S. Fleet, 1529/31, Cominch 1731/31 to C.T.U. 24.6.3., C.T.U. 24.1.12, (R) C. in C. Atlantic Fleet (U.S.), C.T.F.24, Admty., C.O.A.C. Halifax, N.S.H.Q.)

REGENT. My 2028/26 and 1322/30. Defects developed in tanks preventing deep diving. Necessary to return her to Philadelphia for repair. Sailing delayed indefinitely. Further signal will be made.
(B.A.R.M. Washington, 1612Z/31 to Admty.)

U.S.S.
MOHAWK. 049° 35' 058° 45' northbound p.5.
(C.O.A.C. Halifax, 1620Z/31 to Admty.)

S/M Estimate 31/8. (Cominch, 1621/31, 1622/31, 1623/31, 1624/31, 1625/31.)

SCHENCK
(U.S.S.)
See p. 97 Left 1630Z/30 augment escort unit 24.6.3 for S.C.L. 97.
(Comtask 24.6, 1635Z/30 to Comtask 24.)

Towage of A.F.D. 24,
BOLD. Your 1545Z/20 and 2125Z/3 and 1809Z/15 not to all addressees. Tugs should proceed in U.S. convoy to Trinidad and thence via Freetown to the Cape. Route must be agreed with Connav. BOLD should be retained at Trinidad in view of activity in adjacent waters as in para. 2 of your 1545Z/20.
PRUDENT to be sailed onward to Mayotta.
(Admty., 1645A/31 to B.A.D. Washington.)

/S.C. 97 ...

War Diary.31.8.1942.
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies - Contd.

- S.C. 97. *See p. 983* BROADWAY sighted 2 S/Ms 15 miles starboard beam of convoy, am joining hunt. My position 057° 25' 031° 37' at 1700Z.
(BURNHAM, 1710Z/31 to Connav.)
2 U-Boats on surface my position 057° 24' N. 031° 30' W.
(BROADWAY, 1714Z/31 to Whitehall W/T.)
My 1720 S/Ms dived. No contact obtained, BURNHAM and BROADWAY rejoining convoy.
(C.T.U. 24.1.12, 1916Z/31 to Connav.)
U/B on surface bearing N. position 057° 37' N. 030° 15' W.
(BROADWAY, 2131Z/31 to Admty.)
- P.555. My 1645/22. Now ready for sea 7/9.
(B.A.D. Washington, 1813Z/31 to Admty., Cinclant, Cmdr. S/Ms Atlantic Fleet, R.A.W.A., N.S.H.Q., F.O.C.N.A., S.B.N.O.W.A., F.O.(S), C. in C. S.A.)
- S.C. 98. *See p. 983* Due congestion St. Johns Harbour F.O.N.F. authorise sail four motor vessels from that port to join S.C. 98 unless directed otherwise by Cominch (C-R.)
(C.T.F.24, 1923Z/31 to F.O.N.F.)
- O.N.S.122. Master ^{S.S.}GLOXINIA reports attack by S/M 0350/25/8 convoy time. I.D. Form S.A. being completed. Torpedo passed ahead clear 8 feet. S/M on starboard side one half mile. First shot from ship in line 25 yards short. Second shot in line over as S/M apparently crash dived visibility poor and deteriorating. Convoy lost by GLOXINIA whose determined action possibly forestalled further attack on GLOXINIA.
(C.O.A.C., 2026Z/31 to Admty.)
- H.M.S. QUEEN ELIZABETH. *See p. 984* Onward route from point (B) through (C) 037° 07' N. 074° 05' W. to Norfolk (Vir.) Pass to H.M.S. QUEEN ELIZABETH.
(Connav, 2029Z/31 to Com. Destroyer Sqdn.)
- CHILLIWACK. *(Defects - see A. 827.)* E.T.A. 0830Z/1st. (? Ships in company.) CHILLIWACK (corrupt group) leak in condenser bottom end H.P. engine connection rod hand steering. Weather.
(ORILLIA, 2030Z/31 to C.C.N.F.)
- Sinkings. Connav serial 30 and 31. THELMA Nor. Tanker torpedoed sunk 26/8 13.20 N. 58.10 W. VARDAAS Nor. Tanker torpedoed sunk 30/8 11.30 N. 60.40 W. JACK CARNES U.S.A. Tanker torpedoed 30/8 41.35 N. 29.01 W.
(Connav, 2045/31 to N.S.H.Q., S.O.(I) Kingston, C.C.S.F., C.P.S.F., C.G.S.F., C.E.S.F., Comnav.)

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31.8.1942.
Monday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies - Contd.

- ? U/B damaged. S/M attack and sighting summary para. A. Plane attacks S/M on surface 20.44 N. 84.52 W. 1839Z/30. Plane attacks S/M 20.49 N. 84.50 W. 1252Z/31 and again 20.40 N. 84.58 W. 1630Z/31.
- Para. C. Plane pilots sight S/M on beach and much oil about 11.15 N. 73.25 W. 30th. Eastern Airlines plane sights suspicious wake course 165° 25.20 N. 79.21 W. 2054Z/29. United States addressees informed by other dispatch. (C. in C. U.S. Fleet, 2108/31 to Admty. for O.I.C.)
- Convoy K.G. Special 1. Will proceed Key West at 1200 G.M.T./1/9. Details. (B.R.O. Key West, 2134Z/31.)
- U/B ? Barranquilla reports from U.S. sources depth charges dropped on oil trail 1800/29 in 011° 23' N. 072° 33' W. approx. Results undetermined. No bubbles seen. (S.O.(I) Jamaica, 2147Q/31 to Admty., S.B.N.O.W.A., B.A.D. Washington, F.O.C. Trinidad.)
- STAR OF OREGON (U.S.) Trinidad report U.S. STAR OF OREGON torpedoed shelled sunk 0628Z/30 in 011° 48' N. 059° 45' W. (S.O.(I) Jamaica, 2151Q/31 to Admty., S.B.N.O.W.A., B.A.D. Washington, Connav, S.O.(I) Freetown, S.O.(I) Capetown, S.O.(I) Montevideo, S.O.(I) Callao.)
- GIL EANES, MARTINS HOMEM. Portuguese cod fishing vessel GIL EANES will visit St. Johns N.F. middle of September. You should accord usual facilities and give every assistance to ensure supply of two to three hundred tons of coal. Request you will also give every assistance to facilitate supply of about three hundred tons of gas oil at Halifax for trawler MARTINS HOMEM required any day now. (Admty., 2203A/31 to N.S.H.Q. Ottawa.)
- U/B off Pacific coast. My 0932/31 (N.T. in W.R.) to N.S.H.Q. Ottawa only. Report received from Commander N.W. Sea Frontier S/M sighted and attacked by U.S. A/C 048° 12' N. 125° 42' W. Area now being covered by U.S. and R.C.A.F. aircraft. 2 U.S. Patrol Vessels from Neah Bay, 2 ships P.C.487 and 539 diverted from passage San Francisco to Seattle, also P.C. 571 and 572 from Seattle. H.M. Canadian ships SANS PEUR, BAYFIELD, GUYSBOROUGH Q.066 Q.068 also joined hunt. (C.O. Pacific Coast, 2217Z/31.)

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- Situation. Digest Serial 221/30th. Enemy destroyer escorting probable seaplane tender CHITOSE type reported entering ? Buna Passage from West 2204Z/29 joining destroyer and merchant vessel already there.
- (2) Two large armed destroyers two small destroyers two supply ships one small armed vessel reported off Buin 2200Z/29. Enemy party landed Buin for food supplies morning 29/8 returned to ship afternoon 30/8.
- (3) Air R/C 30/8 reported 15 to 25 unidentified vessels Rabaul harbour. One enemy cruiser St. Georges Channel one transport 5° 50' S. 152° 25' E. course 152°.
- (4) Continued enemy activity Salamaua Area. One 6,000 ton merchant vessel with destroyer unloaded several hundred troops and stores including motor trucks night 28/8. 200 Japanese reported moved South to Lokanauk (8 miles from Salamaua) 29/8. 400 Japanese with native carriers on Komiatum Wau track 30/8.
- (5) Strong enemy pressure Okoda area 29/8.
- (6) Indications possible enemy S/M Murray Is. area (Torres Strait) 30/8.
- (7) Four small vessels 200 to 1000 tons reported Koepang area air R/C 30/8.
- (8) Darwin bombed 1710Z/29 by six A/C damage light.
- (9) Photographs shipping Faisi area 29/8 indicate unidentified vessel either seaplane tender or M.L.C. My serial No.220 para.1 refers.
- (10) 12 Zeros joined larger force heavy bomber and fighters over Buka Sound. Force returned over Buka at 1527Z/29 when approx 12 A/C landed while others continued on course. My Serial No.220 para.2 refers.
- (11) No shipping observed Milne Bay area 30/8. Indications enemy withdrew from area night 29/30. Scattered enemy parties remain in foot hills to North and N.E.
(G.H.Q.S.W.P.A. 0907/31 to Admty etc).

U.S.16. My 0721/29. In view of delay in arrival (?of) convoy Escort. at Fremantle combined convoy cannot reach R/V before 0600Z/10. and may be later. Further signal will be sent.
(Cmdre.W.Australia. 1007Z/31 to A.C.N.B.Melbourne).

Situation. My telegram No.326.
Ocean Island. At 0500 G.M.T. 26/8 Officer in Charge reported ship approaching Island since when Ocean Island Radio has been silent. As "enemy landing" signal has not been received it may be that wireless equipment was destroyed by shell fire, or enemy may have landed and for some reason the wireless station was unable to send "landing signal".
2. Have suggested to C. in C. Pacific that air R/C necessary to find out what the situation really is.
(High Com Sir.P.Mitchell 1315/31 to S. of S.Colonies).

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U/BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Submarines Reported.

U/B positions Estimates.
(D.D.I.C. 1417A/31, 1413A/31 to A.I.G.).